

MID SUMMER OUTING

Tuesday 13th June 2023

Haslemere
Gardening
Society

Sezincote Gardens, Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire, GL56 9AW

Sezincote or Seasoncote is a settlement and civil parish comprising Sezincote House and its estate, situated about 3 miles from Stow-on-the-Wold in the Cotswold district of Gloucestershire, England. Neglected during the Second World War, the garden was restored in 1968 by Sir Cyril and Lady Kleinwort, who were advised by Graham Stuart Thomas. Their work includes the canals and Irish yews in the South Garden, evocative of Moghul paradise gardens, a curving conservatory, home to many tender climbing plants, and a little pavilion also in Indian style, and all the exceptionally fine planting of the water garden, where many rare plants can be seen.



This garden was open for the Society to have an exclusive private viewing. We were lucky to have the garden specially opened for the Society and were given a tour around the house in small groups. The house was built in the late 18th century, having been a whim of Col. John Cockerell on his return from years in India. Sadly, he died before it could be done, but his wishes were carried out by his brother Charles who inherited the property. It is said to be the inspiration for the Brighton Pavilion after the Prince Regent's visit in 1807. The garden was divided into two separate areas with the formal Persian garden and orangery at one side of the house, and to the other a water garden with streams planted with rare damp-loving plants and stepping stones under the drive bridge to grassy mounds and more trickling streams. On a very hot day, it was quite enchanting. We were sad to leave such a lovely spot, but were very grateful to Georgina for arranging it all and to Steve, our driver, for the smooth and comfortable journey.

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