

Green Drawing Room

This magnificent space is the first of the palace's State Rooms designed by Nash for George the Fourth. Nearly 16 metres long, 12 metres wide and 10 metres high, the style is theatrical, with pale green and gold silk wall-coverings, elaborate plaster ceilings and ornate gold detail. Three tall windows to the right, with green and gold curtains, overlook the Quadrangle - directly above the Grand Entrance.

In the wall to the left of the room, mirrored double doors are flanked by white marble fireplaces, above which hang rectangular mirrors, some 3 metres tall and framed with gold.

The furniture is gilded around the backs, arms and legs, and upholstered in deep green, decorated with gold. A Grand piano, its polished wooden surfaces covered in gilded ornament, stands on a triangular pedestal base to the right of the room.

The walls are divided at regular intervals by white half-pillars, or pilasters - each with a wide central strip of gilded latticework. Within every diamond of the lattice, a single white flower with gilded centre, makes them seem encrusted with jewels.

The pilasters are topped by a gilded frieze which consists of a single row of circular leaf garlands, beneath which is a continuous line of swags.

Above this is an ornate gold and white ceiling. The decoration on the wide coving around the room echoes the encrusted golden lattice of the pillars. Three squares down the centre each contain a circle whose outer circumference is made up of pairs of leaves, like a delicate golden garland. In the centre is a large flower.

Four cut-glass chandeliers, evenly spaced, hang down from the ceiling. Each has four cylindrical tiers, increasing in size like a wedding cake.

The bottom tier branches out to create individual stems where white candles are held above small clusters of glittering crystal.

Designed as a backdrop to the public work of the monarchy, the State Rooms are furnished with chairs, desks, paintings and other works of art from the Royal Collection.