

Lecture 41
History of Gardens:
Formalism and the Western Tradition



Garden: as old as civilization
*from Anglo-Saxon *grydon*,*
“to enclose”

Paradise: Persian word for garden

Gardens and Gardening



Garden of Eden, 19th century

Formalism in Landscape Architecture

Ancient Egypt

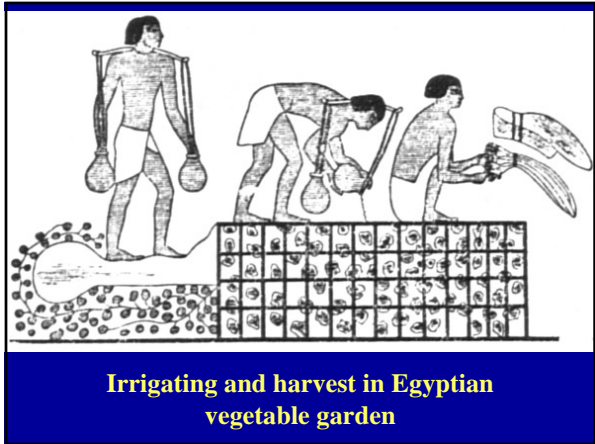
Egyptian gardens:
Represent human domination over plants

Formalism originated in Egyptian gardens
Originated at edge of desert where natural
vegetation sparse
No natural landscape to copy except natural oasis
Pools to supply “oasis feeling”
Plantings ordered in straight lines for irrigation

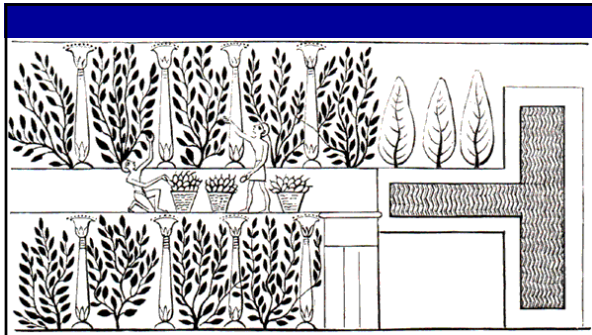
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Irrigation canals common feature
Gardens enclosed on flat land
Fences and walls to protect plants
Plants treated architecturally:
Arbor, bower, pergola: lattice work
covered with vines for shade
Plants originally placed on random but
became ordered and symmetrical
Statuary and columns





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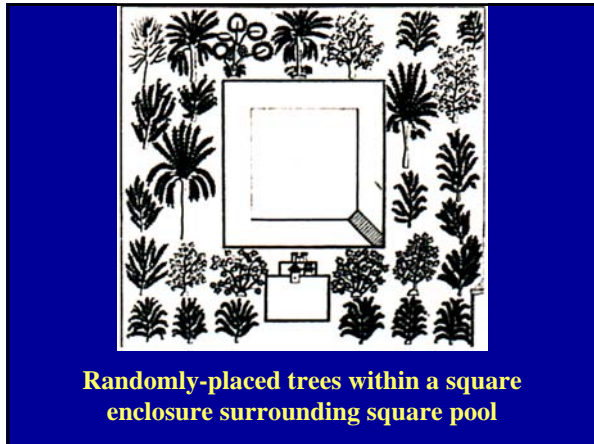
Harvesting pomegranates in formal planting interspersed with ornamental columns next to a T-shaped pool

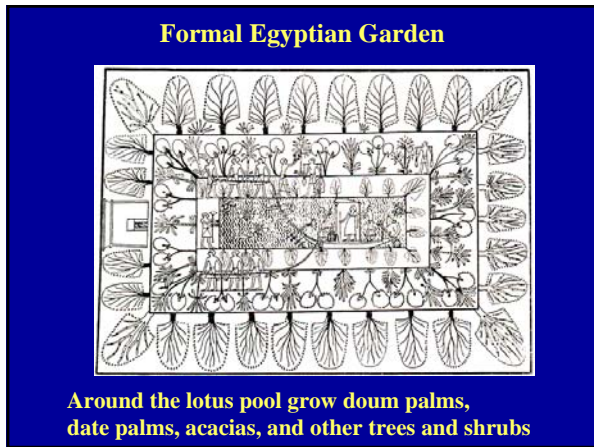


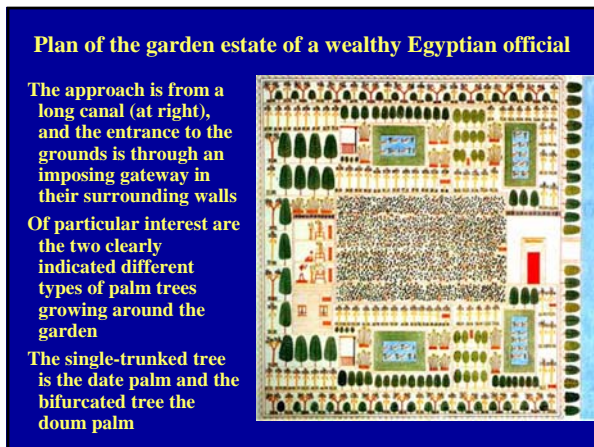
Garden planted with fig, olive trees and flowering plants containing a pavilion with steps leading down to the water, being irrigated by a row of shadufs



Four workers transporting trees







Assyria and Persia: Pleasure Gardens

Hanging gardens of Babylon:
one of the ancient wonders.

Walled gardens
predominate, irrigation
from canals and wells,
flowers enter.

Gardens become
synonymous with
relaxation and pleasure.



Hellenic Gardens and Utilitarianism

Planted courts associated with buildings
Gymnasia: public areas used for sport and
recreation
Palestra—playing field
Flowers used for decoration
After Alexander fusion of Greek spirit of
utilitarianism with Persian sense of pleasure

Plato Teaching Geometry



Roman mosaic, 1st century BCE

Roman Gardens

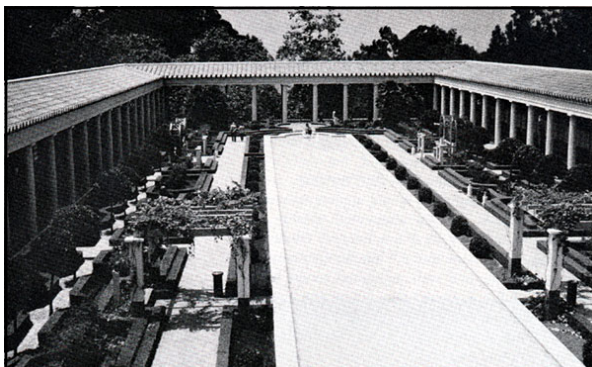
Great advances in gardens
Combination of order with great wealth
Quincunx formation (persists in cemeteries)



Villa Rustica: country estates
Villa Urbana: urban estates
Academies: grassy enclosures

Garden Elements in Roman Gardens

Porticos: colonnaded or covered ambulatory walks
Groves of trees (plane & cypress predominate)
Grottos (artificial caves)
Water and water work, fountain
Terraces
Topiary (heavy pruned shrubs)
Sculpture
Colonnades



Getty Museum reconstruction of the Villa of the Papyri, large peristyle garden.

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Peristyle garden, House of the Little Fountain



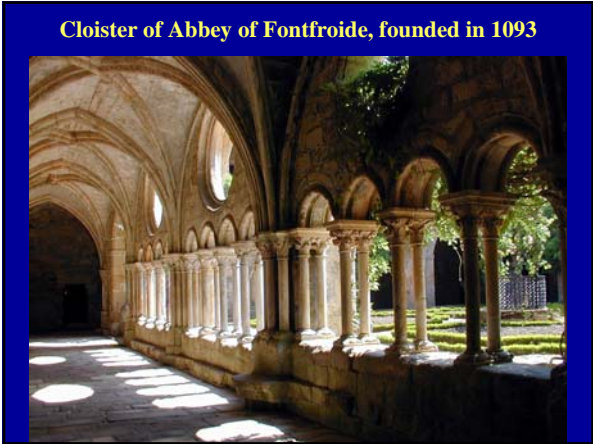
Peristyle garden, House of Venus Marina

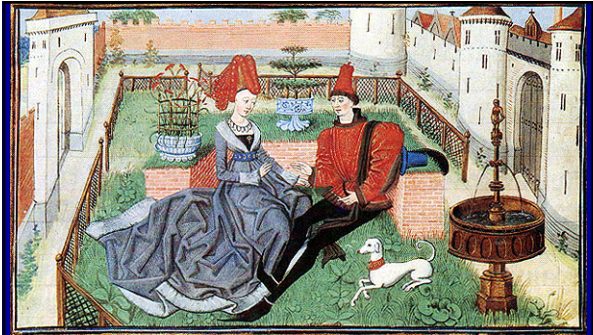
Medieval and Renaissance Gardens

Medieval gardens originated in the monastery. Gardens were a combination of the villa rustica and the academy.



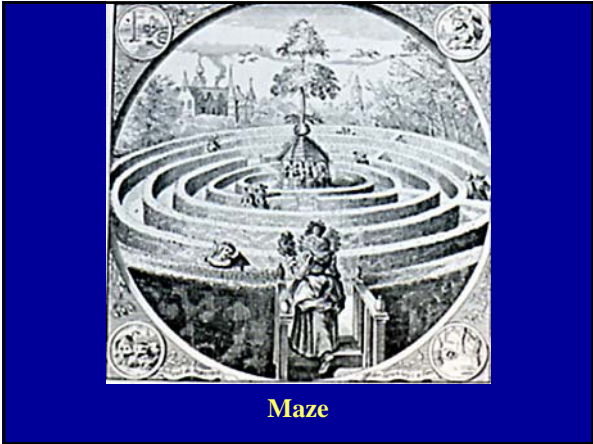
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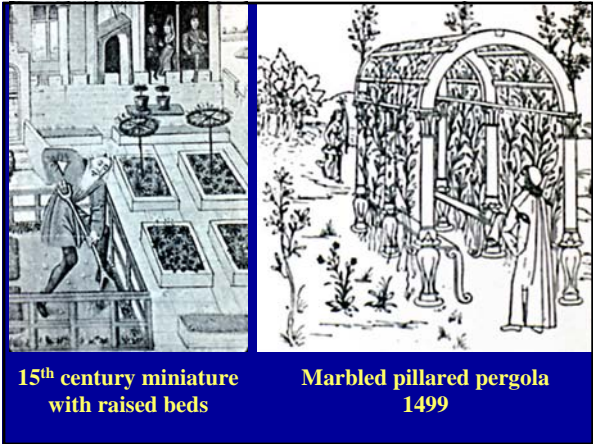


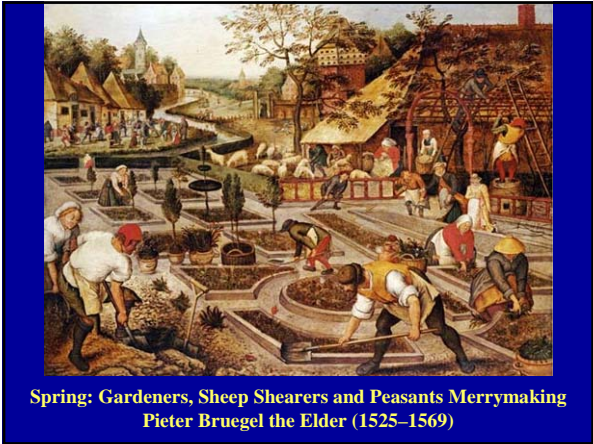
This miniature, in the *Roman de Renaud de Montauban* of c 1475, shows Maugis and La Belle Oriande seated in a garden of rather formal design.



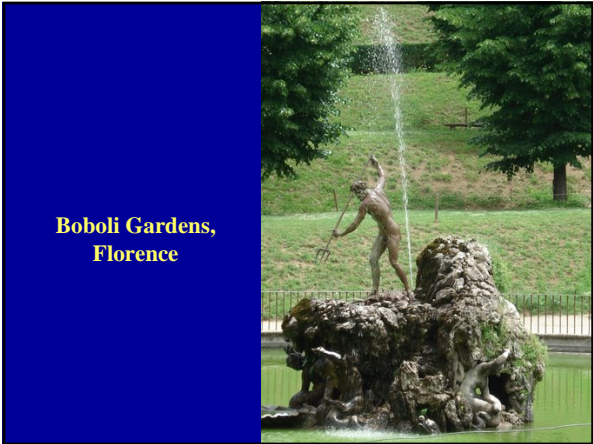












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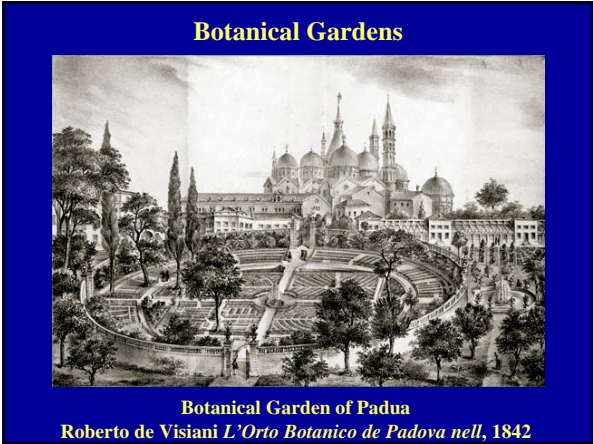
Vizcaya Italianate Garden, Miami, Florida



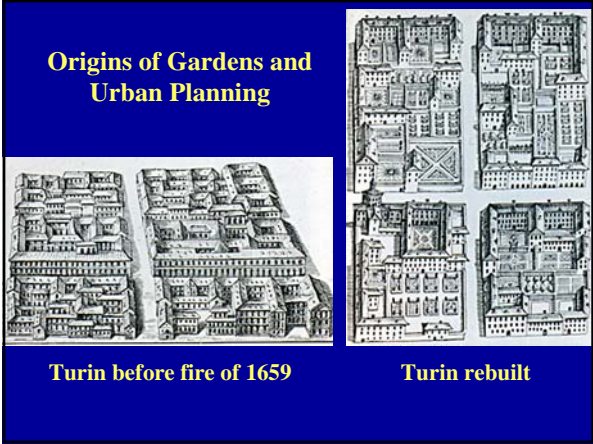
**Gardens of the Renaissance Villa La Gamberaia
outside Florence**



**Box hedging, makes a pattern of enclosed beds set
in gravel walkways**







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**French Renaissance
(1500–1600: The French Century)**

Accent on elegance, vistas, promenades,
rushing waters and fountains



LeNôtre, master gardener of Louis XIV
Gardens of Versailles, supreme
achievements (1800 workman)
Grand Canal

Gardens of Versailles



Gardens of Versailles

The North Parterre



The South Parterre



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**Le Temple
De L'Amour**



**Le Pavillon
De Musique**

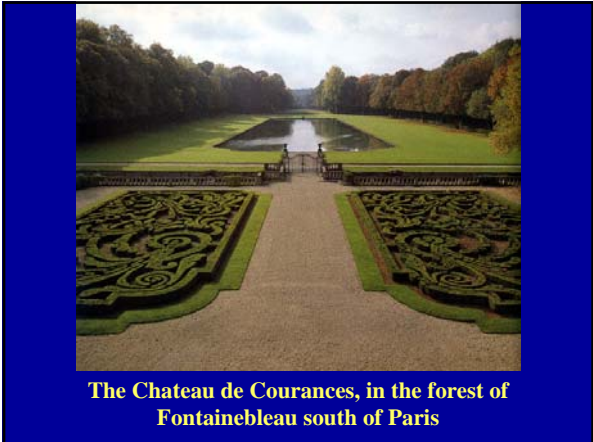




The Orangery **The Ornamental
Lake of Latone**

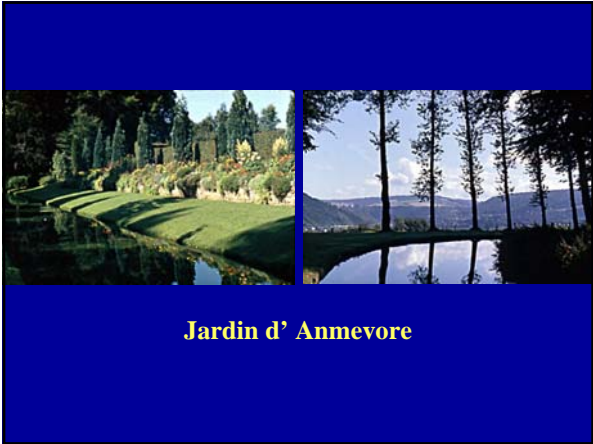


Le Notre's Masterpiece, Vaux-le-Vicomte















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Portugal

Parque Eduardo VII, Lisbon




Sculptured Hedge, Braga





Blenheim water parterre



Labyrinth Garden, The Van Buuren Museum, Brussels

