

Buckingham Palace





Queen Victoria

Buckingham Palace
has been the
London residence
of British kings and
queens since
Queen Victoria
came to the throne
in **1837**.

Buckingham Palace built in **1703** by **John Sheffield, Duke of Buckingham.**

King **George III** bought the house in **1762** as a town dwelling for **Queen Charlotte**, and they occupied it as a private residence.

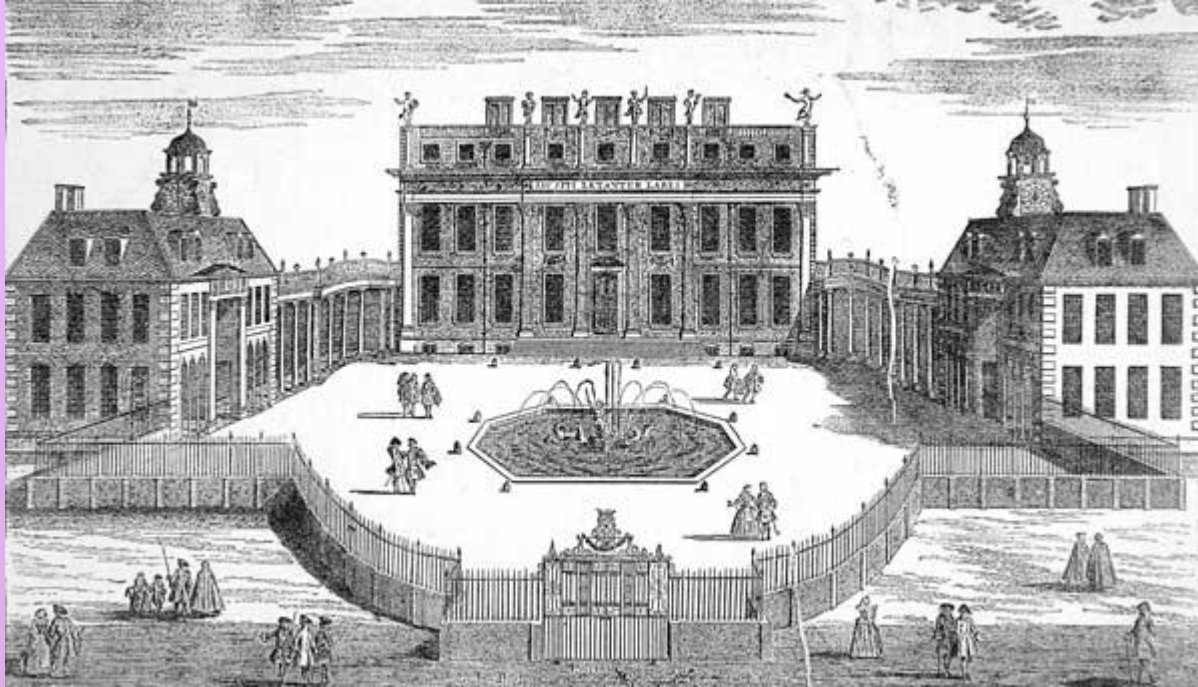


John Sheffield



George III

Buckingham House, 1710

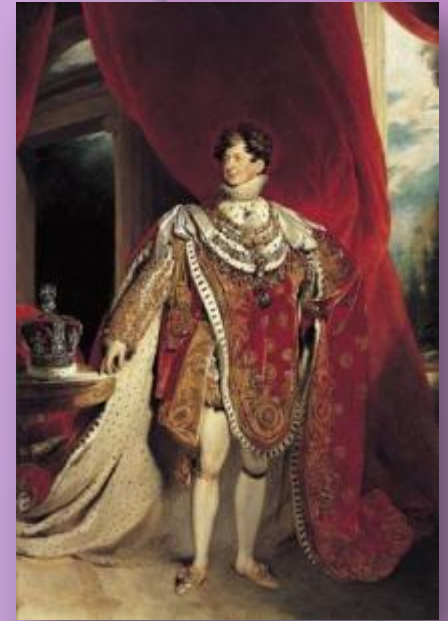


Buckingham Palace panorama, 1909



The present palace – building work started **in 1825** – was designed by **John Nash**, who commissioned by King **George IV**.

The east- or front-wing of the palace, the part most familiar to the public today, was built in **1847** and refaced in Portland stone in **1913**.



George IV



The west facade of Buckingham Palace



Buckingham Palace seen from Green Park



The Royal Family on the balcony in 1986



- The balcony of Buckingham Palace is one of the most famous balconies in the world. The members of the Royal Family appear on the balcony on special occasions to greet the people.



Buckingham Palace has **775** rooms. These include **19** State rooms, **52** Royal and guest bedrooms, **188** staff bedrooms, **92** offices and **78** bathrooms.



Grand Hall

The State apartments are in the west wing of the palace and are approached by the **Grand Hall** and **Grand Staircase**.

- When the Queen is in the residence, you can see the Royal Standard flag above the palace . When she is away, the Union Jack flies instead.



Grand Staircase



Guests ascending the Grand Staircase in 1870.

The **Ballroom**, the largest of the apartments, built for Queen Victoria in the 1850s, is used for State banquets and investitures.



The Throne Room





The **Queen's private apartments** are in the north wing and on the opposite side is **Queen's Gallery**, which since **1962** has been open to the public, showing works of the art from the royal collection.



The State Dining Room



The Queen's Breakfast Room

Nash Gallery





- When the Queen is on holiday in summer, the Palace opens to the public. You can visit it and see a lot of interesting things.

The Pennethorne Gallery



The White Drawing



The Blue Drawing Room



The Green Drawing Room



The Gold State Coach



There are always crowds of people waiting patiently outside Buckingham Palace. They come to see the ceremony of Changing the Guard.

Being a Queen's guard is not an easy job. You can't scratch your nose, you can't cough or sneeze.

This ceremony hasn't changed since 1660, believe it or not!

