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Introductory Remarks

The ascent of Georg Ludwig, Elector of Hanover, to the throne of England as George I in 1714 was commemorated 300 years later by a series of exhibitions and conferences. Although there had been many double monarchies throughout European history, this Personal Union stirred people's feelings right from the start, as two disparate political, historical and social systems were united under one person. 300 years after this memorable event, several conferences were held to reflect on the similarities, differences and consequences of this unique relationship. While the focus was on traditional questions of historical scholarship concerning political, courtly and religious divergences, other cultural and history of science topics such as aspects of cartography or music were touched upon. The various conference proceedings have in the meantime been published.¹

The symposium organised by the Centre for Garden Art and Landscape Architecture (CGL) of Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz University Hanover and the Institute of Landscape Architecture at TU Dresden “Hanover and England – a garden and personal union? German and British garden culture between 1714 and today” did not primarily take the critical approach of historians but concentrated on the

1 Andreas Gestrich and Michael Schaiach (eds.), *The Hanoverian succession: dynastic politics and monarchical culture*, Ashgate, Farnham, Surrey, 2015.

Arnd Reitemeier, *Kommunikation und Kulturtransfer im Zeitalter der Personalunion zwischen Großbritannien und Hannover: „to prove that Hanover and England are not entirely synonymous“*, Universitäts-Verlag, Göttingen, 2014. On the occasion of the Lower Saxony State Exhibition “Als die Royals aus Hannover kamen” a four volume catalogue was published: Jochen Meiners (ed.), *Reif für die Insel – das Haus Braunschweig-Lüneburg auf dem Weg nach London*. Andreas Urban (ed.), *Eine Kutsche und zwei Königreiche: Hannover und Großbritannien 1814–1837*. Gisela Vetter-Liebenow (ed.), *Königliches Theater! – Britische Karikaturen aus der Zeit der Personalunion und der Gegenwart*. Katja Lembke (ed.), *Hannovers Herrscher auf Englands Thron 1714–1837*.

Rainer Ertel (ed.), *300 Jahre Personalunion*, Wissenschaftliche Gesellschaft zum Studium Niedersachsens, Hannover, 2014.

Ronald G. Asch, *Hannover, Großbritannien und Europa: Erfahrungsraum Personalunion 1714–1837*; [International conference on the history of the Hanoverian-British Personal Union, March 29–31 2012 Universität Osnabrück], Wallstein-Verlag, Göttingen, 2014.

Anorthe Kremers (ed.), *Loyal subversion? Caricatures from the Personal Union between England and Hanover (1714–1837)*; [Symposium “Loyal Subversion? ...” was held in the rebuilt Herrenhausen Palace in Hanover from February 21–23, 2013], Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, Göttingen, 2014.

Steffen Hölscher (ed.), *Kommunikation im Zeitalter der Personalunion (1714–1837): Prozesse, Praktiken, Akteure*; [... documents the results of the two-day workshop “Kommunikation im Zeitalter der Personalunion – Prozesse, Praktiken, Akteure”, held in April 2013 ...], V & R Unipress, Göttingen, 2014.

Malte-Ludolf Babin (ed.), *Brief und Siegel für ein Königreich: die Prunkurkunden zur hannoverschen Thronfolge in Großbritannien*, Wallstein-Verlag, Göttingen, 2014.

Dominik Collet, Creative Misunderstandings: Circulating Objects and the Transfer of Knowledge within the Personal Union of Hanover and Great Britain, in: *German Historical Institute London Bulletin*, vol 36, No. 2, (November 2014), pp. 3–23.

popular topos of the “English garden”, a fitting approach as Hannover is usually regarded as the gateway to this triumph. This meant that novel interdisciplinary aspects could be included in the existing discourse; indeed this is in the very nature of garden art or garden culture.²

Next to the conferences there were three remarkable exhibitions in Hannover, Celle and London, whereby the presentation of the Royal Collection in Buckingham Palace was probably the only British event to commemorate the historical occasion in a suitable setting. It concentrated on the figures of George I and George II and their patronage of the arts, about which little was then known. The symposium “Hanover and England – a garden and personal union?” consequently placed two lectures, one providing a local history and the other an art history introduction to the topic, at the beginning.³

Subject Matter

The first part of the symposium was devoted to garden cultural exchanges between England and the Electorate of Hanover between 1714 and 1837, while the second part traced German-British garden relations and ties through to the present day.

Science and Technology

The scientific and technical discourse between the two states offers exemplary insights into how a European network of scholars evolved in the 18th century in the spirit of the Enlightenment. This research focus is currently revealing numerous gaps in our knowledge in the fields of garden sciences, art and culture. Scholars such as Jakob Friedrich Ehrhart (1742–1795) and Albrecht von Haller (1708–1777) were leading figures in exchanges on botany, establishing contacts between Göttingen, Hanover, London and Oxford. Institutional and cultural exchange promoted by the Georgia-Augusta University or between the Gesellschaft der Wissenschaften (Academy of Sciences) zu Göttingen and the Royal Society in London were generally discussed in various places in 2014, but we should not forget that the Herrenhausen Gardens were also involved in this transfer of knowledge – for example, construction of the Great Fountain at Herrenhausen in 1718

2 These publications paid little attention to topics of garden culture or history. Particularly in: Michael Schaich, Sprache, Kommunikation, Netzwerke. Kulturtransfer in der Personalunion, pp. 79–91, in: Katja Lembke (ed.), *Hannovers Herrscher auf Englands Thron 1714–1837*, p. 79–91, here p. 88.

3 cf. footnote 1, s.a. Desmond Shawne Taylor (ed.), *The First Georgians, Art and Monarchy 1714–1760*, Royal Collection Trust, London, 2014. The exhibition touches fields like military, sciences, music, botanic and zoologica collections.

benefited from English technical expertise.⁴ Furthermore, from the late 18th century on, Herrenhausen's court gardeners were sent to London. Several gardener's passports, some reports and even a certification by Charles Bridgeman for the young apprentice "Matthew Charbonnier" have survived in the Archive of the Royal House of Hanover.⁵ Remarkably there are three generations of Wendlands who were in close communication and exchanged plants with Kew Gardens. The first research findings on this were published recently.⁶

Agriculture, Forestry and Husbandry

Older research frequently emphasized the positive influence of George III on agriculture in the Electorate of Hanover, often linked with the "Landwirtschaftsgesellschaft" (Agricultural Society) in Celle (1764) and the "Patriotische Gesellschaft" (1765) in Harburg.⁷ More recent investigations show, however, that this requires more differentiated study and thus further research, especially as the Hanoverian agricultural reformers like Johann Beckmann (1739–1811) and Albrecht Daniel Thaer (1752–1828) – though influenced by English examples such as those set by Arthur Young – had connections to an international web of reformers. Research on Hanoverian aristocrats such as Ernst Ludwig Julius von Lenthe (1744–1814), Friedrich von Kielmansegg (1728–1800) and Jobst Anton von Hinüber (1718–1784), who travelled extensively in England and studied its agricultural practices very carefully, was published in 2012 in the CGL Studies series.⁸

4 Carole Fry, *Spanning the Political Divide: Neo-Palladianism and the Early Eighteenth-Century Landscape*, in: *Garden History* 31.2 (Winter 2003), pp. 180–192. Cf. also Bernd Adam in this volume, "The great fountain at Herrenhausen – innovations from England enabled the creation of the highest water jet in Europe."

5 Relevant material is located in: Nds. StA Han Dep. 103 XXIV Nr. 684 und Nr. 691 (Königliches Hausarchiv [Royal Archive]).

6 See Katharina Peters, *Die Hofgärtner in Herrenhausen. Werk und Wirken unter besonderer Berücksichtigung der „Gärtnerdynastie“ Wendland*, CGL-Studies, vol. 12, Akademische Verlagsgemeinschaft München, München 2013, and Sophie von Schwerin, *Der Berggarten. Sein wissenschaftliche Bedeutung und sein Stellenwert als botanischer Garten im (exemplarischen) Vergleich*, CGL-Studies, vol. 13, Akademische Verlagsgesellschaft München, München 2013, and Katharina Peters und Sophie von Schwerin, *Eine Reise ins Paradies. Bericht über einen Forschungsaufenthalt in den Royal Botanic Gardens in Kew (London) im Juli 2010* (brochure), Hanover 2011.

7 Otto Ulbricht, *Englische Landwirtschaft in Kurhannover in der zweiten Hälfte des 18. Jahrhunderts. Ansätze zur historischen Diffusionsforschung*, Duncker und Humblot, Berlin 1980. Walter Achilles, *Georg III. als Königlicher Landwirt: Eine Bestätigung als Beitrag zur Personalunion*, in: *Niedersächsisches Jahrbuch für Landesgeschichte*, 73 (2001), pp. 351–408.

8 See Marcus Köhler, *Gärten, Äcker und Fabriken – Englandreisen hannoverscher Adliger im ausgehenden 18. Jahrhundert*, in: Hubertus Fischer, Sigrid Thielking and Joachim Wolschke-Bulmahn (eds.), *Reisen in Parks und Gärten. Umriss einer Rezeptions- und Imaginationsgeschichte*, CGL-Studies, vol. 11, Martin Meidenbauer, Munich, 2012, pp. 393–406.

Literature and Garden Travellers

So far, research into literary reflections on Hanoverian-British garden culture transfer has been content to mention a few case studies; there is a general lack of either an overview or of comprehensive exemplary analysis. Conceiving “literature” as a wide-ranging term would include both scientific and prosaic writings by such authors as Justus Möser (1720–1794) and Johann Georg Zimmermann (1728–1795) as equally worthy studies.⁹ Translations and collections of German and English literature could provide further points of reference for studying the mutual perceptions in both countries. The genre of literary reflection must include letters and lyrical travellers’ journals; the latter are characterized by a wide spectrum of authors and their reasons for travelling. Along with aristocrats such as the above-mentioned Lenthe, Kielmansegg, Hinüber and Karl Friedrich von Hardenberg (1696–1763), who travelled out of interest in garden design and agriculture, there were farmers’ sons such as Claus Brüggmann, who went to England in search of training.¹⁰ A treasure chest of information, especially on Kew and George III, can be found in Georg Christoph Lichtenberg’s (1724–1799) travel notices and letters that he wrote on his trips to London in 1770 and 1774/75.¹¹ The function of garden culture intermediary as fulfilled by such Hanoverian residents in London as Hans Caspar von Bothmer (1656–1732) has also been hitherto largely disregarded by research. Even less attention has been paid to the impressions of German garden landscapes formed by travellers from England.¹²

The Culture of the Court and Aristocracy

The situation created by an itinerant or absentee court, as was the case in 18th-century Hanover and Saxony, has long been the subject of historical studies. It is only recently, however, that the connection with garden and architectural cultural transfer has received scholarly attention. The prevailing dynastic, political

9 Zimmermann, court physician to George III is known through his writings on melancholy (“Betrachtungen über die Einsamkeit” (1756), “Von der Einsamkeit” (1773), “Über die Einsamkeit” (1783/84), and the statesman Justus Möser because of his satire “Das englische Gärtgen” (1773) and essays on British-German topics like literature and politics.

10 On English-German garden relations and particularly on the journeys to England by the Lower Saxony nobility, see also Marcus Köhler, *Frühe Landschaftsgärten in Rußland und Deutschland. Johann Busch als Mentor eines neuen Stils*, Aland-Verlag, Berlin 2003, including among other contributions the chapter ‘Deutsche Adlige auf England-Reise’ (pp. 70ff.).

11 Hans-Ludwig Gumbert (ed.), *Lichtenberg in England: Dokumente einer Begegnung*, Harrassowitz, Wiesbaden, 1977, 2 vols.

12 See Gert Gröning, Zur Rolle der Gärten in Thomas Nugents ‘Travels through Germany’ in: Fischer/Thielking/Wolschke-Bulmahn (eds.), *Reisen in Parks und Gärten* (as note 8), pp. 375–392. See also Franz Bosbach and Gert Gröning, *Landschaftsgärten des 18. und 19. Jahrhunderts. Beispiele deutsch-britischen Kulturtransfers / Landscape Gardens in the 18th and 19th Centuries. Examples of British-German cultural transfer*. Prinz-Albert-Studien. Prince Albert Studies, vol. 26, K. G. Saur, Munich.

and social conditions should be included in such studies: the provision of royal mistresses with their own properties under George I and George II (e.g., Emckendorf, Marble Hill) but also the ideas that the Dukes of Mecklenburg-Strelitz gathered at the court of their sister, Queen Charlotte, play a role here: As governor of Celle, Ernst von Mecklenburg-Strelitz (1742–1814) laid out the Prinzen Garten in the natural style.¹³ Furthermore, it was Johann Ludwig Wallmoden-Gimborn (1736–1811), illegitimate son of George II by Amalie Sophie von Wallmoden (1704–1765), who is said to have combined his English experiences in his celebrated Georgengarten in Hanover.¹⁴ This in turn directs our attention to the inner circle of the royal court, for instance Minister Gerlach Adolph von Münchhausen (1688–1770), the representatives of the German Chancellery in London, or the eminent English politicians who travelled to Hanover in their official capacity. While it is known that they played a part in cultural transfer, there is a dearth of specific investigations.

Iconography

Iconographies of national character such as are necessary for legitimising a claim to rule can be found in the garden cultures of both England and Germany from the beginning of the Personal Union until well into the 20th century. In the course of the 18th century a clear divergence emerged between the notion of Empire determined by Antique principles and the idea of autonomous nationhood, a divergence that could be located and expressed in the landscape. Its correlations with pro- and anti-Hanoverian connotations in the period up to 1837 offer a fruitful research field. Profound and continuous contributions are published by Michael Niedermeier.¹⁵

13 Rolf Kirsch, *Frühe Landschaftsgärten im niedersächsischen Raum*, phd-thesis, Göttingen 1988 (published 1994), pp. 43f.

14 „Zurück zur Natur“, *Idee und Geschichte des Georgengartens in Hannover-Herrenhausen*, eds. Wilhelm-Busch-Gesellschaft and Landeshauptstadt Hannover, Wallstein-Verlag, Göttingen, 1997.

15 Michael Niedermeier, Archäologie, Genealogie und Politik in der europäischen Gartenkunst des 18. Jahrhunderts, in: *Monumente im Garten – der Garten als Monument*. International Symposium März 31–April 2 2011, Schloss Schwetzingen, Arbeitsheft 25, eds. Regierungspräsidium Stuttgart and Landesamt für Denkmalpflege, Konrad Theiß Verlag, Stuttgart, 2012, pp. 103–117. „Gartenrevolution“. Die Entwicklung des frühen „Englischen“ Gartens zwischen Repräsentation und Aufklärung, in: *Jahrbuch der Stiftung Thüringer Schlösser und Gärten*, Schnell & Steiner, Regensburg, vol. 15/2011, pp. 27–41. With Annette Dorgerloh: Desire for Origins. Archäologie und inszenierte Abstammung in Gärten des europäischen Adels, in: Constanze Baum und Martin Disselkamp (eds.), *Mythos Ursprung: Modelle der Arché zwischen Antike und Moderne*, Königshausen & Neumann, Würzburg 2011, pp. 95–122. Die Spur der Steine. Grabhügel, Urnenfunde, Steinkreise und „Heldenbetten“ in ihrer Bedeutung in Adelsgenealogien und Landschaftsbetrachtung um 1700. Mit einigen Mutmaßungen in Bezug auf Leibniz und die Herren von Alvensleben, in: Bertholt Heinecke and Hartmut Hecht (eds.), *Leibniz und die Herren von Alvensleben auf*

German-British Garden Relations in the 19th and 20th Centuries

In response to the modern differentiation between areas of knowledge in the 19th and 20th centuries, points of view were conceptionally broadened in the second part of the symposium. Along with the continuity and reception of the Personal Union, more recent developments in garden culture exchanges between the two countries were observed and discussed. An exemplary list of possible research fields must suffice here: the transfer of knowledge, specimens and apprentices between botanic gardens, for instance between Hanover's Berggarten and the Royal Botanic Gardens, continued after 1837, the end of the personal union.¹⁶ This is also adaptive for the concept of the ornamental farm, borrowed from England, whose importance for German towns has not yet been systematically investigated. Conversely, a garden artist like Fürst Pückler-Muskau, also an exceptional connoisseur of English garden art and culture, was widely regarded and read in England in his day.¹⁷

Following the establishment of the middle class in the 18th century, new forms of a public garden culture arose; both the English public park and the German *Volksparke*, and the nature of their respective allotment garden/Kleingarten movements, demand further investigation regarding the English – German interdependencies.

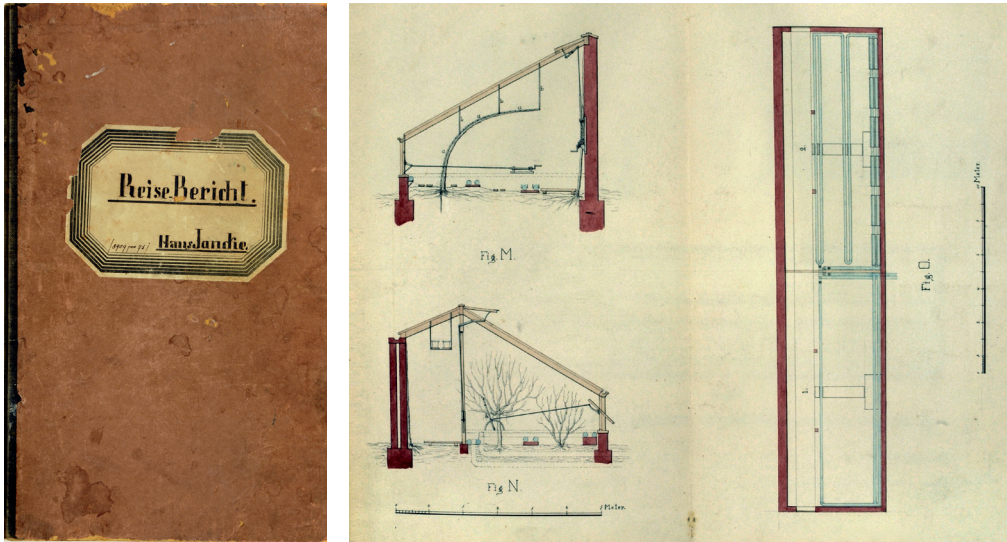
Many German gardeners, garden artists and garden architects of the latter half of the 19th and early 20th centuries not only viewed the finest gardens of England but also and above all travelled to English tree nurseries and gardening and landscaping companies such as Veitch Nurseries, one of the largest family-run plant nurseries in 19th century-Europe, Fisher, Son & Sibray and Handsworth Nurseries or Conrad Loddiges, Nursery and Seedsman, at Hackney – a family originally from Hertzberg (Hanover).¹⁸ There and in other institutions in England such as Kew Gardens they often spent considerable time and recorded their experiences and newly-won knowledge in written reports. As one excellent example we draw the reader's attention to the extensive report by Hans Jancke on his time

Hundisburg, Hundisburg, 2006, pp. 97–126. "Ancient Saxon Architecture... called Gothic". Batty Langley's *Ancient Architecture Restored and Improved* (1742) und die politische Begründung der Neogotik, in: Generaldirektion der Stiftung Preußische Schlösser und Gärten Berlin-Brandenburg (ed.), *Wege in den Garten. Festschrift für Michael Seiler*, Köhler&Amelang, Leipzig, 2004, pp. 98–106.

16 See, for example, Peters/von Schwerin, *Eine Reise ins Paradies ...* (as note 6).

17 See Peter James Bowman, *Die zeitgenössische Rezeption des Gartenkünstlers und Gartenschriftstellers Fürst Pückler-Muskau in Großbritannien*, in: Fischer/Thielking/Wolschke-Bulmahn, *Reisen in Parks und Gärten ...* (as note 8), pp. 345–358.

18 Regarding German gardeners and garden architects travelling to England see also Gert Gröning and Joachim Wolschke-Bulmahn, *Grüne Biographien. Biographisches Handbuch zur Landschaftsarchitektur des 20. Jahrhunderts in Deutschland*, Patzer, Berlin and Hannover, 1997.



Travel report Hans Jancke about his stay in Knowsley (Dumbarton Oaks, Trustees for Harvard University) at Knowsley, Seat of the Earl of Derby, in 1874–75.¹⁹ The concomitant transfer of knowledge and exchanges between the countries has also to a large extent not yet been researched.

In Knowsley, Jancke worked in the glasshouses, in the orchid collection and in the orchards, among other places. He wrote a highly informative, more than 100 pages covering report on his experiences. This report, which is now in the possession of the Research Institute Dumbarton Oaks / Trustees for Harvard University, has been transcribed and translated into English recently. It was published in the Dumbarton Oaks series “ex horto” together with an extensive introduction.

A lecture on Jancke’s stay in Knowsley was also part of the symposium program in Hanover. As the text has meanwhile been published in a similar form in the Dumbarton Oaks series “ex horto”, we draw attention to this publication as well as to an article on Hans Jancke published in the journal “Studies of the History of Gardens and Designed Landscapes”, “German gardeners and their travels as part of professional training in the second half of the nineteenth century: the example of Hans Jancke”.²⁰

Concerning the design of gardens, important influences coming from England have been researched to different degrees. This transfer of ideas ranged from the adoption of modern notions from England on the design of architectonically

¹⁹ See Joachim Wolschke-Bulmahn (ed.), *Hans Jancke. Travel Report. An Apprenticeship in the Earl of Derby’s Kitchen Gardens and Greenhouses at Knowsley, England*, ex horto, Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection, Washington D.C., 2013

²⁰ Joachim Wolschke-Bulmahn, German gardeners and their travels as part of professional training in the second half of the nineteenth century: the example of Hans Jancke, in: *Studies in the History of Gardens & Designed Landscapes*, 336 (2016), 3, pp. 194–218.

and functionally structured gardens from around 1900 onwards, for which the architect Hermann Muthesius (1861–1927) may be mentioned as an example,²¹ as well as the possible influence of garden writer and designer Gertrude Jekyll on developments in Germany around the herbaceous plant breeder Karl Foerster (1874–1970). Further examples include William Robinson's concept of the 'Wild Garden' (1870) and the development of ideas on the 'Naturgarten' in Germany, which were first promulgated from 1900 by garden architect Willy Lange (1864–41) in numerous publications and continued to have a marked influence throughout Germany.²²

During the 20th and beginning of the 21st centuries, the garden cultural inter-relationships between England and Germany have given rise to numerous questions. It was in the 21st century that the concept of the 'Offene Pforte' (open gate) was borrowed from England's 'National Gardens Scheme', starting in and spreading from Hanover.²³ Relations between gardens and the media are also touched upon; the development of garden journalism may be explicitly mentioned here as a desideratum. With the growth of garden tourism, moreover, a modern counterpart to the journeys of the 17th and 18th centuries may be introduced; exchanges in these areas and in garden heritage conservation would be of both academic and practical relevance.

Our thanks go to the Lower Saxony Ministry of Science and Culture for funding the symposium. The opening of the proceedings by the British Ambassador, Simon McDonald, and the Lord Mayor of the City and State Capital of Hanover, Stefan Schostok, demonstrates the particular importance with which this academic exchange of experience and knowledge on garden culture is regarded also at the political level, for which we are very grateful. The discussions with Gert Gröning, Sigrid Thielking and Sarah Michaelis were invaluable for drawing up the programme of the symposium; Sabine Albersmeier, Manager of the CGL, did an excellent job to ensure the professional running of the symposium.

21 See in more detail Uwe Schneider, *Hermann Muthesius und die Reformdiskussion in der Gartenarchitektur des frühen 20. Jahrhunderts*, Wernerscher Verlagsgesellschaft, Worms, 2000; Uwe Schneider, Hermann Muthesius and the Introduction of the English Arts & Crafts Garden to Germany, in: *Garden History*, 28 (Summer 2000), 1, pp. 57–72.

22 See e.g., J. Wolschke-Bulmahn, The »Wild Garden« and the »Nature Garden« – Aspects of the Garden Ideology of William Robinson and Willy Lange, in: *Journal of Garden History*, 12 (1992), vol. 3, pp. 183–206; see the various contributions in J. Wolschke-Bulmahn (ed.), *Nature and Ideology. Natural Garden Design in the Twentieth Century*, Dumbarton Oaks Colloquium on the History of Landscape Architecture, Bd. XVIII, Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection, Washington D.C., 1997.

23 See, e.g., Gesa Klaffke-Lobsien and Kaspar Klaffke, *Streifzüge durch die Gartenregion Hannover*, Verlag Hinstorff, Rostock 2009.