



A Shrubbery

A shrubbery is a garden feature which is planted predominantly with shrubs both blooming and evergreen. In the Regency era the landscaped manor house very often boasted a planting of shrubberies.

"Mr Rushworth," said Lady Bertram, "if I were you, I would have a very pretty shrubbery. One likes to get out into a shrubbery in fine weather."

-Jane Austen, Mansfield Park (1814)



No matter the size of the house its occupants enjoyed a place to stroll. Creating a strolling area could be accomplished by planting a shrubbery. The shrubbery would often contain a walkway made up of gravel and laid out in elaborate patterns very near the house. Why gravel? Gravel proved the best medium for keeping a lady's skirts dry.

Currant bushes and raspberries adorned a shrubbery. The shrubbery very likely merged

into a small orchard.

If you enjoy strolling through the shrubbery, you are not alone. You share one of the favorite amusements of the ladies and gentlemen of the Regency era.



This Regency Resource

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Romance that Speaks to the Soul

References and Further Reading

The Annotated Pride & Prejudice, David M. Shapard, editor, 2003, Pheasant Books

Mansfield Park, by Jane Austen, 1814

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