

The Crown Jewels

A Wikipedia Compilation

by

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Chapter 1

Crown Jewels of the United Kingdom

This article is about the Crown Jewels of England, and those added since the Union of the Crowns in 1603. For the Scottish Crown Jewels, see [Honours of Scotland](#). For the Welsh Crown Jewels, see [Honours of Wales](#).

The collective term **Crown Jewels** denotes the regalia and vestments worn by the sovereign of the United Kingdom during the coronation ceremony and at other state functions. The term refers to the following objects: the crowns, sceptres (with either the cross or the dove), orbs, swords, rings, spurs, *colobium sindonis*, dalmatic, armills, and the royal robe or pall, as well as several other objects connected with the ceremony itself.^[1]

Many of these descend directly from the pre-Reformation period and have a religious and sacral connotation. The vestures donned by the sovereign following the *unction*, for instance, closely resemble the alb and dalmatic worn by bishops, although the contention that they are meant to confer upon the sovereign an ecclesiastical character is in dispute among Christian scholars.

1.1 History

1.1.1 Early history

The earliest known use of regalia in England was discovered by archaeologists in 1988 in Deal, Kent and dates to between 200 and 150 B.C. Inside the tomb of the “Mill Hill Warrior” was a bronze crown, a sword, a scabbard, a brooch and a ceremonial shield. Further finds in a Norfolk field near Ely and Thetford, at Hockwold cum Wilton revealed a large number of circlets and a bronze crown adorned with human faces.^[2] Following the conquest of Britain by the Roman Empire in AD 43 crowns and other symbols of authority continued to be used by the governors of Britannia.^[3]

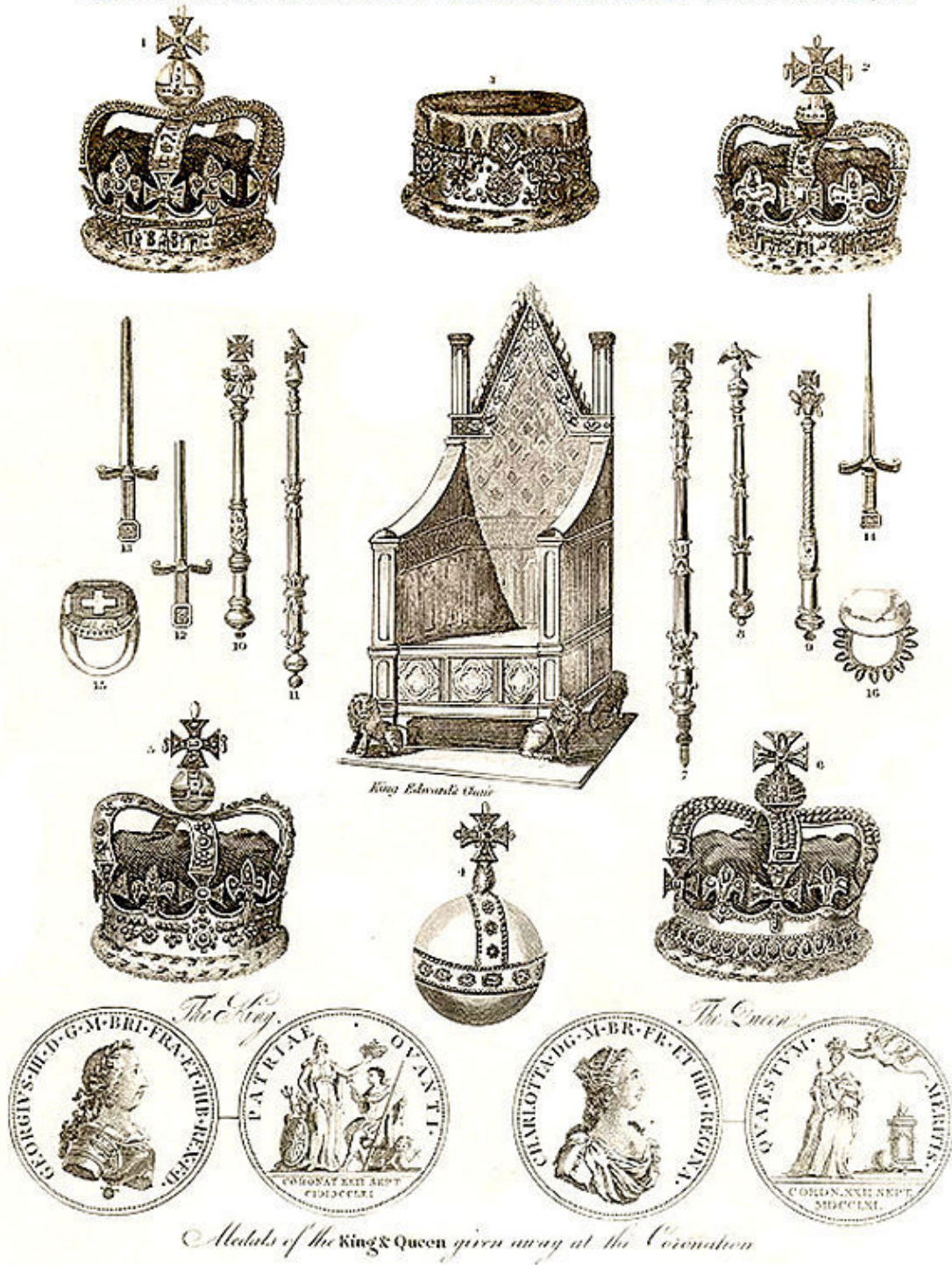
By the 5th century AD, the Romans had withdrawn from Britain and the Angles and the Saxons settled. Following the immigration, a series of new kingdoms emerged. One of the methods used by regional kings to solidify their authority over their territories was the use of ceremony and insignia. Contemporary evidence of Anglo-Saxon regalia is difficult to come by as the kings didn't communicate in writing. However, the tomb of an unknown king (dative evidence suggests it is Rædwald of East Anglia)^[4] provides a unique insight into the regalia of a pre-Christian Anglo-Saxon king. Buried with him is an ornate helmet covered in bronze, decorated with detailed facial features and set with garnets.^[5] The king was also buried with a sceptre, a decorated sword and a shield.^[6]

1.1.2 Middle Ages

See also: [History of England § Norman England](#)

In 1066 Edward the Confessor died without an heir; in the first scene of the Bayeux Tapestry he is depicted enthroned and wearing a crown. William, Duke of Normandy emerged as king of England following his victory over the English at the Battle of Hastings. William worked hard to solidify his authority over his subjects, and his frequent 'crown-wearings' were an important part of this. The *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle* reports that: “He wore his crown three times a year as often as he was in England... On these occasions the great men of England were assembled about him... He was so stern and relentless a man that no-one dared do anything against his will.”^[7]

THE ANCIENT CORONATION CHAIR AND REGALIA OF ENGLAND, &c.



Coronation Chair and Regalia of England

A crown known specifically referred to as St Edward's Crown is first recorded as having been used for the coronation of Henry III in 1220^[8] and it would appear most likely that this was the same crown as the one worn by King Edward and then by his successor William the Conqueror. This crown was used in many subsequent coronations until its eventual destruction by the English Republic four hundred years later. One of the few surviving descriptions of this crown states that it was a "gold crown decorated with diverse stones".^[9]

An inventory of relics drawn up by Richard Sporley, a monk at Westminster Abbey (1430- 1480) contained a note



King Aethelstan (924–39) presenting a copy of Bede's Life of St Cuthbert to the saint himself. This is the earliest known depiction of a crowned English king.

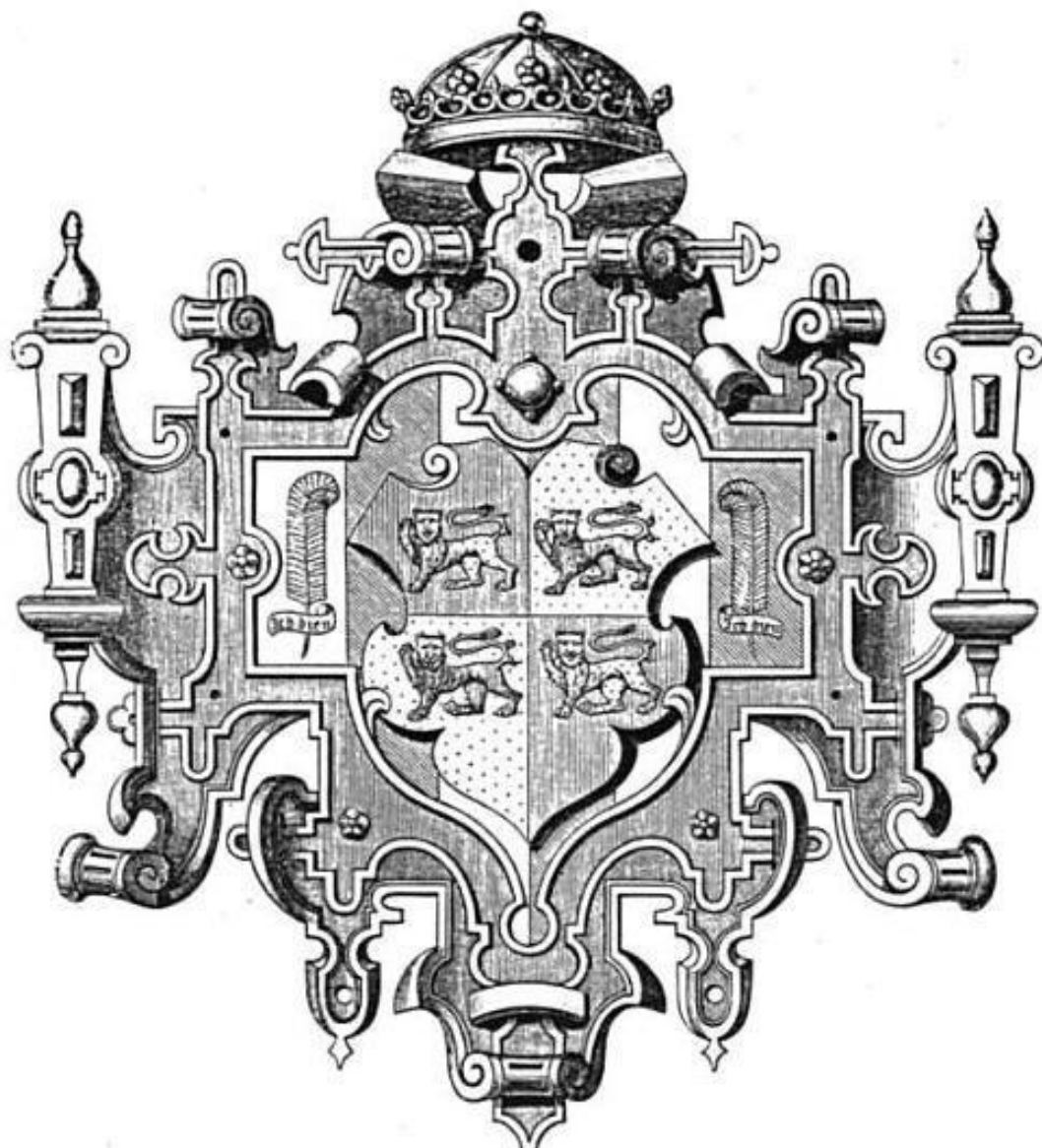
saying, "Saint Edward king and confessor for future memory and for the dignity of the king's coronation commanded to be kept in that church all the royal ornaments wherewith he was crowned." The ornaments mentioned were recorded



William I of England.

as “a tunic (and other vestments), an excellent golden crown, golden comb and spoon, for the Queen’s coronation a crown and two rods, and for the Communion a chalice of onyx stone and a golden paten.”^[10]

Also among the original crown jewels was an item called “Alfred the Great’s State Crown” described as “*Gould wyerworke set with slight stones and two little bells*”^[11] In the diary of Sir Henry Spelman, a parliamentarian at



The Arms of Wales.

A 16th century illustration by Lewys Dwnn of the “Arms of Wales” which shows the Crown of the Principality surmounting the Arms. In this illustration the “crown” is clearly a coronet and of a curious design. Given that Llywelyn’s crown was still in existence at this time and in the possession of the English monarch then this may be a representation of what that original Welsh crown looked like as seized by Edward I in 1283.

the time, he says of this crown, “It was of very ancient work, with flowers adorned with stones of somewhat plain setting”.^[12]

It is not clear whether the crown which in 1649 was said to be that of King Alfred was, in fact, the Crown of St Edward the Confessor and was renamed thus following the Reformation. It is possible they were separate items because the descriptions are different and the inventories made by the agents of Oliver Cromwell indicate they uncovered various crowns in the Upper Jewel Tower, the Palace of Whitehall and Westminster Abbey. There are also conflicting legends that one of these ancient crowns of England still exists; that it was secreted by some Royalist and its hiding place was never revealed, although official sources state that the gold from the crown of St. Edward was recovered and used to make the present *St Edward’s Crown*.^[13]

In the 12th century the silver gilt anointing spoon was commissioned, probably for Henry II; it is the oldest surviving piece of regalia used in the Coronation ceremony.



The Stone of Scone in King Edward's Chair at Westminster Abbey, 1855.

Following the defeat of the Welsh prince Llewelyn ap Gruffydd in 1282 by Edward I the Welsh regalia was surrendered. According to one source, the Welsh “gave up [to Edward I] the crown of the most famous Arthur, the former king of Britain. And thus the glory of Wales and the Welsh was given over to the kings and lords of England.”^[14]

See also: Llywelyn's coronet

Meanwhile, following the 1296 invasion of Scotland, the Stone of Scone was sent to the Tower of London “in recognition of a kingdom surrendered and conquered”.^{[15][16][17]} King Edward’s Chair was commissioned to house the stone; although not built as such the chair was soon being used for the investiture of the kings of England, earning its reputation as the “Coronation Chair”.^[18] In Edward II’s treasury, in 1324, there were no fewer than ten crowns, the most extravagant has been valued at approximately a million pounds in today’s money.^[19] At some point in the 14th century the crown jewels were moved from the jewel house at Westminster Abbey, following a series of successful and attempted thefts, to the Tower of London.^{[20][21]}

1.1.3 Early modern period



The State Crown of Henry VII of England included in a portrait of Charles I of England by Daniel Mytens prior to its destruction in 1649.

The crown-wearing traditions established in the medieval period continued later.^{[22][23]} By the middle of the 15th century the crown was formally worn on six religious feasts every year: **Christmas, Epiphany, Easter, Whitsun, All Saints** and one or both of the feasts of St. Edward. The crown was also displayed and worn at the annual **State Opening of Parliament**.^[24] At about this time swords, symbols of kingship since ancient times, were introduced into the coronation ceremony. Three swords were used to represent the king's powers in the administration of justice; they were the sword of spiritual justice, the sword of temporal justice and the **sword of mercy**.

With increasing political and dynastic stability regalia was beginning to pass increasingly from one king to the next. The first example of this was the sovereign's state crown. When the crown was manufactured is unknown but it is likely that it was created at the beginning of the **Tudor dynasty**. The frame of the crown was gold and it was embedded with **pearls, rubies, sapphires and diamonds**; the crown was decorated with **fleur de lys** and **crosses** each of which was decorated with images of Christian religious figures and former monarchs of England.^{[25][26]} Another emerging item of regalia was the orb, 'a Rounde ball with a cross of gold', being mentioned in several Tudor inventories.^[27] The concept of the state regalia as entirely hereditary was solidified in law when **James I** decreed that named 'Roiall and Princely Ornaments and Jewells' were 'to be indyvidually and inseparably for ever hereafter annexed to the Kingdome of this Realme'.^[28]

1.1.4 Interregnum

Following the death of James I, **Charles I** came to the throne. His many conflicts with parliament, stemming from his belief in the **divine right of kings** and the many religious conflicts that permeated his reign, triggered the **English Civil War**. After six years of war, Charles was defeated and executed by the parliamentarians. **Oliver Cromwell** became the **Lord Protector** of England and less than a week after the king's execution the monarchy was abolished. The newly created English republic found itself in a desperate financial situation following the war.

In order to raise funds the 'Act for the sale of the personal estate of the King, Queen and Prince' was promulgated and trustees were appointed to value the jewels and sell them to the highest bidder.^[29] The most valuable of these objects was the Tudor State Crown, valued at £1,100 (£2,740,000 in 2011);^[30] it was set with 28 diamonds, 19 sapphires, 37 rubies and 168 pearls.^[31]

1.1.5 Restoration to present day

In preparation for the 1661 coronation of the **restored Charles II**, new regalia were commissioned based on descriptions of the lost items.^[32] The Coronation Chair did not have to be replicated, however, as it had been retained and used for Cromwell's installation as Lord Protector.^[32] A few other pieces – such as the Coronation Spoon – had been sold intact and were returned to the king.^[32]

Since then there have been many additions and alterations to the regalia,^[32] although often temporarily. Starting with Charles II's successor, **Queen Anne**, many of the pieces were temporary: jewels would be hired for the coronation (after which the settings would be changed to **paste** or **crystal** for permanent display), or the crown would be entirely dismantled.^[32] This practice continued until the early 20th century.^[32]

During **World War II** the crown jewels were hidden in a still-secret location.^[32]

1.2 Crowns

The collection of Crown Jewels contains various crowns, some of which are used by every Sovereign, others being made personally for Sovereigns or for the Queen's Consort. Typically the crown of a King has a slightly pointed arched top, while that of a Queen has a slightly bowed top.

- **St Edward's Crown** was made in 1661. Made of gold, its design consists of four crosses pattée and four fleurs-de-lis, with two arches on top. Surmounting the arches is a jewelled cross pattée. The Crown includes 444 precious stones. It is used through most of the coronation ceremony and is said to be made of the melted gold from King Edward's Crown. It is noted by a number of British monarchs to be extremely heavy and difficult to wear. **Queen Elizabeth II** opted to use a stylised representation of this crown in images of the **Royal Coat of Arms of the United Kingdom**.



Oliver Cromwell, Lord Protector of England from 1653 to 1658, who ordered the abolition of the monarchy and the sale of the crown jewels.

- The Imperial State Crown was made in 1937 for King George VI, an exact copy of that made in 1838 for Queen Victoria, which had worn out and had an unsteady frame. This discarded frame can now be seen in the Museum of London. The 1937 crown was altered in 1953, when it was sized to fit Queen Elizabeth II and the arches lowered by about one inch to give it a more feminine appearance. The present Crown is made of gold and includes four crosses pattée and four fleurs-de-lis, with two arches on top, surmounted by a cross pattée. The Crown includes many jewels: 2,868 diamonds, 273 pearls, 17 sapphires, 11 emeralds, and five rubies. Among the stones are several famous ones, including the Black Prince's Ruby (actually a spinel) and the Cullinan II diamond, also known as the Lesser Star of Africa. Two of the four pearls dangling from the crown were once worn by Queen Elizabeth I. It is worn after the conclusion of the Coronation ceremony when the monarch leaves Westminster Abbey and at the annual State Opening of Parliament.



A copy of St Edward's Crown

- The Imperial Crown of India was created when King George V visited Delhi as Emperor of India. To prevent the pawning of the Crown Jewels, British law prohibited the removal of a Crown Jewel from the country. For this reason, a new crown was made. It has not been used since. The Imperial Crown of India is not a part of the British Crown Jewels, though it is stored with them.
- The Crown of Queen Mary can be seen as the consort crown of the Crown of India. It has a very similar design,



Profile of the Imperial State Crown from the right, the crown's left

including the eight arches, reserved for imperial crowns. It was manufactured for the coronation of George and Mary in 1911. The crown was made by Garrard & Co and contains some 2,200 diamonds. It contained the Koh-i-Noor diamond as well as Cullinan III and Cullinan IV. In 1914 they were replaced by crystal models.

- The George IV State Diadem was made in 1820 for the coronation of King George IV. He was the only man ever to wear it. Since then, it has been used exclusively by Queens, and was worn by Queen Victoria and Queen Elizabeth II as they journeyed to the Abbey, and for the first part of their coronations, up to the Anointing.
- Queens consort, the wives of Kings, traditionally wore the Crown of Mary of Modena, Queen of King James II. By the beginning of the 20th century, that small crown was in a decrepit state. A new European-style crown, flatter and with more arches than was traditional in British crowns, was manufactured for Queen Alexandra, consort of King Edward VII. A new crown, more akin to traditional British crowns, was manufactured for Queen Mary, consort of King George V, who was crowned in 1911. The final new consort's crown in the 20th century was manufactured for Queen Elizabeth, consort of King George VI, who along with her husband was crowned in 1937. All three consorts' crowns in turn included the famous Koh-i-Noor diamond.
- The Crown of Queen Elizabeth is the platinum consort crown manufactured for, and worn by, Queen Elizabeth, the former Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon, the queen consort of King George VI at their coronation at Westminster Abbey in 1937. It is the first crown for a British consort to be made of platinum. The crown was made by Garrard & Co in London, the long term manufacturer of British royal crowns, and modelled partially



Copy of the Imperial Crown of India

on the design of the Crown of Queen Mary, wife of King George V. It consists of four half-arches, in contrast to the eight half-arches of Queen Mary's crown. As with Queen Mary's crown, its arches are detachable at the cross-pattee, allowing Elizabeth to wear the crown as a circlet. The crown is decorated entirely with diamonds, most notably the 105-carat (21 g) Koh-i-Noor diamond in the middle of the front cross (the diamond was most recently acquired by the East India Company and became part of the British Crown Jewels when Queen Victoria was proclaimed Empress of India in 1877.). It also contains the Lahore Diamond (22.48 carats) from the Treasury of Lahore given to Queen Victoria by the East India Company in 1851^[33] and a 17-carat (3.4 g)



Copy of the new cut of the Koh-i-Noor

diamond given to Queen Victoria by the Sultan of the Ottoman Empire in 1856. Queen Elizabeth wore the crown minus the arches on a number of occasions, including State Openings of Parliament by her husband. She wore it thus also at the coronation of her daughter, Queen Elizabeth II, in 1953 (as Queen Mary had worn her own crown at the coronation of her son, King George VI, in 1937). In its complete form, the crown rested on top of Queen Elizabeth's coffin during her funeral in 2002. It is now on display along with the other British Crown Jewels in the Tower of London.^[34]

1.3 Mary of Modena's crowns

State Diadem—Worn by her on the way to her coronation and worn in such a way by Queens Consort down to the nineteenth century.

Coronation Crown—The crown with which she was actually crowned. Now in the Museum of London.

State Crown—Worn for the procession out of the Abbey and put to other uses subsequently.

1.4 The orbs and sceptres

Two sceptres used by the Sovereign form a part of the regalia:

- The King's Sceptre with the Cross was made in 1661, and is so called because it is surmounted by a cross. In 1910, it was redesigned to incorporate the Cullinan I, also known as the Great Star of Africa, which at over 530 carats (106 g) is the largest cut clear diamond in the world. During the coronation, the monarch bears the Sceptre with the Cross in the right hand.
- The Sceptre with the Dove was also made in 1661, and atop it is a dove symbolising the Holy Spirit. While the

Sceptre with the Cross is borne in the right hand, the Sceptre with the Dove is borne in the left. At the same time as the Sovereign holds both Sceptres, he or she is crowned with St Edward's Crown.

The royal regalia includes two sceptres made for **Mary of Modena**, the second wife of **James II**:

- A second sceptre with a cross is known as 'The Queen's Sceptre with the Cross.'
- A second scepter topped by a dove is known as 'The Queen's Sceptre with the Dove', or sometimes 'The Queen's Ivory Rod.' It is the only sceptre within the royal regalia made of ivory.

The **Sovereign's Orb**, a type of *globus cruciger*, is a hollow golden sphere made in 1661. There is a band of jewels running along the centre, and a half-band on the top hemisphere. Surmounting the orb is a jewelled Cross symbolising Christ's dominion over the world and the Sovereign's role as **Defender of the Faith**. It is delivered to the Sovereign during the Investiture rite of the coronation and is borne later in the Sovereign's left hand when proceeding from the Abbey.

The **Small Orb**, a smaller *globus cruciger* made in 1689 for **Mary II** due to her joint coronation with **William III**. Both the Small Orb and its larger counterpart rested on Queen Victoria's coffin in 1901.

1.5 Swords

Five swords are used during the coronation.

The **Jewelled Sword of Offering** was made for the Coronation of **King George IV**. It is the only sword actually presented to the Sovereign during the Coronation (by the Archbishop of Canterbury, to signify that the royal power is at the service of the church); the others are merely borne in front of the Sovereign. It was described by Lawrence Tanner as the most beautiful and valuable sword in the world; the hilt and the scabbard are both encrusted with jewels (which include diamonds, rubies and sapphires) and the blade is of the finest **Damascus steel**. During the procession in the Abbey it replaces the **Great Sword of State** because that is too heavy to be easily carried.^[35]

The **Great Sword of State** is the largest sword in the collection, and is borne in front of the Monarch both at the coronation (at the **previous coronation** by the **Marquess of Salisbury**, who delivered it to the **Lord Great Chamberlain**^[36]) and at the **State Opening of Parliament** (by a peer who is usually a retired senior military officer). The gilt handle has crosspieces representing the lion and unicorn and the scabbard is decorated with jewels in the shapes of the floral symbols of the United Kingdom: the rose for England and the thistle for Scotland.^[35]

The other three swords are **Curtana**, or the **Sword of Mercy**; the **Sword of Justice to the Temporal**, and the **Sword of Justice to the Spiritual**. **Curtana** is associated with the sword of the legendary figures **Tristan** and **Ogier the Dane**. It has a blunt, squared end, said to represent mercy. The others represent the monarch's relationship with the state and the church; the **Spiritual sword** is obliquely pointed and the **Temporal sword** is sharply pointed, characteristics said to indicate that only temporal courts have power over death.^{[37][38]}

1.6 Other items

The **Ring** was made for **William IV's** coronation in 1831. Previously, each Sovereign received a new ring to symbolise "marriage" to the nation; but this ring has been used at every subsequent coronation, with the exception of **Queen Victoria's**, whose fingers were too small to retain it. A petite and exact copy of the Ring was made for her, which is also housed with the Regalia.

When the Sovereign is anointed by the **Archbishop of Canterbury**, the anointing oil is poured from the **Ampulla** into the **Anointing Spoon**. The **Ampulla** is a hollow gold vessel shaped like an eagle, and the **Spoon** is silver-gilt set with pearls. The **Ampulla** is believed to be the one first used in the coronation of **Henry IV** in 1399. According to legend it was made to contain the oil presented by the **Virgin Mary** in a vision seen by **St Thomas of Canterbury**. It is accompanied by a golden spoon which is certainly of the 13th century. It is likely though not certain that the **Ampulla** escaped destruction in 1643 when most of the regalia were destroyed or sold.^[35] The **Spoon** was bought by **Clement Kynnersley**, **Yeoman of the Removing Wardrobe**, for sixteen shillings when **Cromwell** ordered the destruction of the new regalia.^[39] The **Spoon**, probably dating from the thirteenth century, is thus the oldest element of the Regalia. The ceremony of the anointing derives from the coronation ceremony of France (see **Holy Ampulla** for further details).

The Armills are gold bracelets said to symbolise sincerity and wisdom. Upon Queen Elizabeth II's coronation, a new set of gold armills were produced and presented on the behalf of various Commonwealth governments, namely: the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Pakistan, Ceylon, and Southern Rhodesia.

There is a collection of altar plate, comprising chalices, patens and altar dishes that are used or displayed during coronations. One of the most striking pieces is a large silver-gilt altar dish, the centre of which depicts the Last Supper in relief. It was made by the goldsmith Henry Greenway in 1664 for James, Duke of York, and later acquired by Charles II.^[40]

1.7 The Tower of London

Main article: Jewel House

The Crown Jewels have been kept at the Tower of London since 1303 after they were stolen from Westminster Abbey. It is thought that most, if not all, were recovered shortly afterwards. After the coronation of Charles II, they were locked away and shown for a viewing fee paid to a custodian. However, this arrangement ended when Colonel Thomas Blood attempted to steal the Crown Jewels after having bound and gagged the custodian. Thereafter, the Crown Jewels were kept in a part of the Tower known as Jewel House, where armed guards defend them.

1.8 Crown Jeweller

In 1843, Queen Victoria appointed Garrard & Co to the position of Crown Jewellers, leading to the production of numerous pieces of silverware and jewellery for the Royal Family, as well as the upkeep of the Crown Jewels. Garrard dealt with a number of famous jewels, such as the Cullinan diamonds (including Cullinan I, "The Great Star of Africa"), and created such pieces as the Imperial Crown of India in 1911, the crown of Queen Mary for her coronation, and the Crown of Queen Elizabeth in 1937. In 1852, Garrard were given the responsibility of re-cutting the famous Koh-i-Noor diamond into a brilliant.

On 15 July 2007 an announcement was made in the Court Circular, under Buckingham Palace, that Garrard & Co's services as crown jeweller were no longer required, with the reason cited being that it was simply 'time for a change.'^[41] G. Collins and Sons were appointed the new Crown Jewellers.

1.9 See also

- Crown Jewels
- The Theft of the Crown Jewels
- Crown Jewels of Ireland
- Honours of Scotland
- Honours of the Principality of Wales
- The Personal Jewel Collection of Elizabeth II

1.10 References

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- [3] Twining, *European Regalia*, p. 7; *Byzantium 330 – 1453*, cat. no 5.
- [4] Newton, *The Origins of Beowulf and the Pre-Viking Kingdom of East Anglia*, p. 44
- [5] "Sutton Hoo ship-burial helmet". *British Museum*. Retrieved 4 November 2011.



A Coldstream Guards sentry outside the Jewel House

[6] Bruce-Mitford, *Sutton Hoo Ship-Burial*, vol. 2

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[8] Lightbown, 'The English coronation regalia before the Commonwealth', in Blair, *Crown Jewels*, vol. 1, pp. 257 – 353

[9] See Carpenter, 'The Burial of King Henry III, the regalia and royal ideology', in *Reign of Henry III*; for the appearance of the medieval St Edward's Crown, see Lightbown, 'The English coronation regalia before the Commonwealth'.

- [10] *Coronation Exhibition*, 1902, citing *Cotton MS. Claud. A. viii., f. 31 b.*
- [11] “The Crown Jewels of England Exhibit at Houston Jewelry”. Houstonjewelry.com. Retrieved 2012-08-20.
- [12] *Regal Records, or a Chronicle of the Coronations of the Queens regnant of England*, James Robinson Planche, Chapman & Hall, 1838, p.64
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- [14] British Library, MS Harley 3725, fol. 50r (Chronicle of Aberconwy Abbey).
- [15] Prestwich, *Edward I*, pp. 473 – 74
- [16] Morris, *Great and Terrible King*
- [17] Binski, 'A “sign of victory”: the Coronation Chair, its manufacture, setting and symbolism', in Welander, Breeze and Clancy, *Stone of Destiny*, pp. 207 – 22.
- [18] Welander, Breeze and Clancy, *Stone of Destiny*, p. 148: on 18 June 1297 'the regalia of the kingdom of Scotland' was given to St Edward’s shrine, including a 'large stone on which the kings of Scotland were wont to be crowned'.
- [19] *Ancient Kalendars and Inventories of the Treasury of His Majesty’s Exchequer*, vol. 3, pp. 138 – 39. This figure is based on the average earnings index, as cited in Lawrence H. Officer, 'Purchasing Power of British Pounds from 1264 to 2007', <http://www.measuringworth.com/ppoweruk/>
- [20] Tout, 'A medieval burglary', in *Bulletin of the John Rylands Library*, 2 (1915), pp. 348 – 69, and Jeremy Ashbee, personal communication.
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- [24] Cobb, 'Description of the state opening of parliament, 1485 – 1601: a survey', in *Parliamentary History*, 18:3 (1999), in Hoak, *Tudor Political Culture*, pp. 243ff.
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- [26] Lightbown, 'The English coronation regalia before the commonwealth'.
- [27] Hoak, 'The coronations of Edward VI, Mary I, and Elizabeth I', in *Westminster Abbey Reformed*, p. 123, list of regalia to be 'prepared owte of the jewelhouse' for Elizabeth’s coronation.
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- [29] MacGregor, Arthur, *The Late King’s Goods: Collections, Possessions and Patronage of Charles I in the light of the Commonwealth Sale Inventories*. Oxford, 1989.
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- [32] Royal Household (2008). “The Crown Jewels”. The official website of The British Monarchy.
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- [38] Legg, Leopold George Wickham (1901). *English Coronation Records*, p. xxv. A. Constable & Company.

[39] The Unofficial British Royal Family Pages

[40] *Altar dish* at the Royal Collection.

[41] KOSTER, O: “Queen hires new Crown Jeweller – after 160 years of Garrard” *Daily Mail*, 15 July 2007

1.11 External links

Media related to Crown Jewels of the United Kingdom at Wikimedia Commons

- Official Tower of London website
- The Crown Jewels at the English Monarchs website
- The Crown Jewels on the Official Website of UK Monarchy (with photo gallery)
- Lady Mountbatten’s Tiara on the Royal-Magazin Jewels
- The Sword of State on the Royal Exhibitions Web site

Coordinates: 51°30′29″N 0°4′34″W﻿ / ﻿51.50806°N 0.07611°W﻿ /

Chapter 2

Black Prince's Ruby

The **Black Prince's Ruby** is a bead-shaped **spinel** weighing roughly 170 carats (34 g), approximately the size of a chicken egg. It is currently set in the cross pattée above the 317.40 carats (63.480 g) **Cullinan II** in the front of the **Imperial State Crown**. The Black Prince's Ruby is one of the oldest of the **Crown Jewels of the United Kingdom**, with a known history dating back to the middle of the 14th century and having been in the possession of the rulers of England since it was given in 1367 to its namesake, **Edward of Woodstock** (the “Black Prince”).

2.1 Spinel

Until fairly modern times, all red gemstones were referred to as “rubies”. It was only relatively recently that the rarer **ruby** has been differentiated from the more common **spinel**. The two **gemstones** can be distinguished on the basis of hardness and density, namely that a ruby is slightly harder and denser than a spinel. The two stones can also be told apart by their optical properties: a true ruby is **dichroic** while a spinel is **singly refractive**. The rarity of the spinel in this case though, makes it the biggest, uncut spinel in the world, given that it has only been polished slightly, but it hasn't received a proper cut, **gemologically** speaking.

2.2 History

2.2.1 Don Pedro of Seville

The Black Prince's Ruby enters the “stage of history” in middle of the 14th century as the possession of **Abū Sa'īd**, the Moorish Prince of **Granada**. At that time, the rule of Castile was being centralized to **Seville** and the Moorish **Kingdom of Granada** was being systematically attacked and reverted to Castilian rule as a part of the **Christian Reconquest of the Iberian peninsula**. **Abū Sa'īd** in particular was confronted by the belligerency of nascent Castile under the rule of **Peter of Castile**, also known to history as **Don Pedro the Cruel**. According to historical accounts, **Abū Sa'īd** wished to surrender to **Don Pedro**, but the conditions he offered were unclear. What is clear is that **Don Pedro** welcomed his coming to **Seville**. It is recorded that he greatly desired **Abū Sa'īd's** wealth. When **Abū Sa'īd** met with **Don Pedro**, the don had **Abū Sa'īd's** servants killed and may have personally stabbed **Sa'īd** to death himself. Upon searching **Sa'īd's** corpse, the spinel was found and added to **Don Pedro's** possessions.

In 1366, **Don Pedro's** illegitimate brother, **Henry of Trastámara**, led a revolt against **Don Pedro**. Lacking the power to put down the revolt unaided, **Don Pedro** made an alliance with the **Black Prince**, the son of **Edward III** of England. The revolt was successfully put down and the **Black Prince** demanded the ruby in exchange for the services he had rendered. While historians speculate that this was contrary to **Don Pedro's** desires, he had just suffered a costly civil war and was in no position to decline. It can be assumed that **The Black Prince** took the Ruby back to England, although it is absent from historical records until 1415.

2.2.2 Origin

It is possible that the gem originates from the historic ruby mines in **Badakshan** – present day **Tajikistan**.^[1]



Portrait for the Coronation of Queen Victoria by George Hayter (detail), wearing the new Imperial State Crown made for her by the Crown Jewellers Rundell and Bridge, with 3093 gems, with the Black Prince's Ruby at the front.

2.2.3 A wartime adornment

During his campaign in France, Henry V of England wore a gem-encrusted helmet that included the Black Prince's Ruby. In the Battle of Agincourt on October 25, 1415, the French Duke of Alençon struck Henry on the head with a battleaxe, and Henry nearly lost the helmet, along with his life. However, the Battle of Agincourt was won by Henry's forces, Henry did not die, and the helmet was preserved along with the Black Prince's Ruby. Richard III is reported to have also worn the Black Prince's Ruby in his helmet at the Battle of Bosworth Field where he died.

2.2.4 Crown jewel

James I had the Black Prince's Ruby set into the state crown near the turn of the 17th century, where it remained until the time of Oliver Cromwell. With the exception of The Coronation Chair, and several other minor items, Cromwell had the principal symbols of the king's power within the Crown Jewels disassembled and sold, having the metal melted down and made into coins. A British jeweller bought the Black Prince's Ruby in the days of the Commonwealth, but sold it back to the crown (Charles II) when the monarchy was restored in 1660. At the Coronation of Queen Victoria in 1838 she was crowned with a new Imperial State Crown made for her by the Crown Jewellers Rundell and Bridge, with 3093 gems, including the ruby at the front. This was then remade in 1937 into the current, lighter, crown.

2.3 References

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2.4 Further reading

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Chapter 3

Coronation Crown of George IV

The **Coronation Crown of George IV** was the coronation crown of King George IV of the United Kingdom. It was used in the coronation in 1821. It has remained unworn since 1823.

3.1 Origins

As the **Prince of Wales** and as **Prince Regent** George had been an extravagant figure, with controversial artistic tastes. When he became king, George planned an innovation in **British** coronations. Instead of having separate coronation and **state crowns**, he decided to have one **crown** with which he would both be crowned and would use on state occasions such as the **State Opening of Parliament**.

Alongside a change of crown, he also planned to redesign the crown. Traditionally **English** and **British** crowns were decorated with **fleurs-de-lis**, symbolising the previous claim of **English monarchs** that they were also *King of France*. George decided to abandon the fleurs, and replace them with symbols representing **Scotland** (the thistle), **England** (the rose) and **Ireland** (the shamrock). Part of his ongoing use of symbols of each of the kingdoms was to see him wearing a kilt in Scotland and to pay the first visit to Ireland of a reigning monarch since kings **James II** and **William III** fought for the crown in Ireland in 1690.

However the plan to remove the fleur-de-lis and introduce the thistle, rose and shamrock, was abandoned after objections from the College of Heralds.

3.2 Design

The crown, as finally made, followed closely the standard shape and design of **English** and **British** crowns. It contained four half-arches, each joined to the band with a **cross pattee** into which diamonds were set. The four half-arches met together at a jewelled monde, on top of which a cross sat. Like the **State Crown of George I**, but unlike **St. Edward's Crown**, the four half-arches were pulled upright rather than allowed to curve downwards at the monde.

The gold and silver crown frame was designed by **Philip Liebart of Rundell, Bridge and Rundell**. It contained an innovative design that made the frame almost invisible behind the crown's jewels. 12,314 jewels diamonds were set in the crown.

3.3 Usage

George IV was determined to have his crown made the official crown of England, in preference to **St. Edward's Crown**. However two years of pressure on his government failed to ensure that the hired jewels that decorated the crown were bought outright by the state. In 1823 he conceded defeat. The hired jewels were returned and the crown left an empty shell. It was never again worn by him or by any future monarch.

After standing empty of jewels for nearly 180 years it has now been rejewelled with diamonds loaned by **De Beers**. It is on display in the **Tower of London**.



*George IV
with his crown.*

Chapter 4

Coronet of Charles, Prince of Wales

The **Coronet of Charles, Prince of Wales**, is a coronet and part of the Honours of Wales and Crown Jewels of the United Kingdom. It was made for and first used by Prince Charles at his investiture as Prince of Wales in 1969.

4.1 Background

When the former King Edward VIII went into exile as the Duke of Windsor in 1936 (following his abdication), he took with him the Coronet of George, Prince of Wales, a highly controversial—and illegal—act. This coronet had been specially created for King George V, then Prince of Wales, and he wore it at his father's coronation in 1902. Edward, then Prince of Wales, wore it at the coronation of his father in 1911. When Edward was invested as Prince of Wales a new coronet was designed and used. The coronet, as part of the British Crown Jewels was protected under the law of the United Kingdom, which forbids removal of the British Crown Jewels from the United Kingdom *under any circumstances*. Even seemingly legitimate uses of the Crown Jewels outside of the United Kingdom were precluded because of this law. For example, a new crown – Imperial Crown of India – had to be manufactured for King George V to wear as Emperor of India at the Delhi Durbar because the Imperial State Crown, which he might normally have worn, could not be removed from the UK.

However, it was judged impractical to charge the ex-king with in effect stealing part of the crown jewels. The coronet was only returned to the United Kingdom following his death in 1972 and is now part of the Honours of the Principality of Wales.

4.2 Creation of the new coronet

The traditional coronet being unavailable, and with the older Coronet of Frederick, Prince of Wales being viewed unusable due to age, the only option was the creation of a new Prince of Wales coronet to be used for the investiture of the current heir apparent to the throne as *Prince of Wales*. (Charles had actually been created *Prince of Wales* in 1958 when he was nine years old, but the formal investiture ceremony was not held until a few months short of his 21st birthday.) ^[1]

4.3 Design

The new princely coronet followed regulation laid down by King Charles II in having just two half arches, rather than the traditional four half-arches of British crowns. In the centre of the single arch a globe is attached, over which a cross stands. Within the frame, which is made of gold, is a velvet cap lined with ermine fur. The coronet has one arch on comparison to the two arches of the sovereigns crown i.e. the Imperial State Crown or St Edward's Crown, to show that the Prince of Wales is inferior to the sovereign but outranks the royal dukes and princes.

The frame itself, though based on traditional design, has a futurist look that was popular in 1960s design. It was designed by the eccentric designer, Louis Osman.



His mother, HM Elizabeth II formally invests Charles with the Coronet of the Prince of Wales

Leslie Lewis the Managing Director of BJS Company (Kilburn, London) the leading UK precious metal electroformers was commissioned by the City of London livery company, the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths to make a plastic mould of the wax coronet model that Louis Osman had made on a wooden base. BJS involved Engelhard Industries (Cinderford, Glos.) to assist with the electroforming of the coronet.

David Mason was the Head of Research at Engelhard and was assigned the task of electroforming the gold coronet at the laboratories at the company's chemical headquarters in the Royal Forest of Dean. Research was being conducted on producing gold electroforms to be used in the electronics industry. When David Mason was asked by Louis Osman to attempt to electroform such a three-dimensional item as a coronet, nothing of such a size had every been attempted before anywhere in the world. The first coronet eventually produced was delivered to Louis Osman some weeks prior to the Investiture but disintegrated when the hallmark was stamped on the inside of the coronet. David Mason had to oversee a second coronet in pure gold which was used at the investiture. The orb atop the coronet was gold plated over

a ping pong ball and the coronet still contains the ping pong ball inside a thick gold layer which Malcolm Appleby engraved prior to the orb being attached to the coronet.

The Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths presented the coronet to Queen Elizabeth II as a gift for the investiture, which was conducted at Caernarfon Castle on July 1, 1969.

4.4 Usage

The coronets or crowns of Princes of Wales are rarely used. It is unknown if the Coronet of Frederick, Prince of Wales, was ever actually worn by Frederick, and the Coronet of George, Prince of Wales, was only worn rarely by George, later King George V, and Edward, later King Edward VIII and then the Duke of Windsor. The current Prince of Wales has not worn his coronet since his investiture, though he could at any stage opt to do so.

The coronet was given on loan to the National Museum and Gallery of Wales by Queen Elizabeth II in 1974. It has also been seen on display in Cornwall.

4.5 Princess of Wales

While Queens consort wear a crown alongside the King, the wife of the Prince of Wales does not do so. So neither Diana, Princess of Wales, first wife of the current Prince of Wales, nor his current wife Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall, possessed crowns.

A princess who is the heir presumptive to the British throne when there is no heir apparent, is not created *Princess of Wales* and so does not wear any of the *Honours of the Principality of Wales*. King George VI did though allow the heiress presumptive, Princess Elizabeth, to wear a coronet at his coronation in 1937.

4.6 Possible future usage

Since 1831, successive Queens consort of the United Kingdom have each had a new consort crown created for them. In contrast, only three Prince of Wales coronets exist. The 1911 coronet was worn by two Princes of Wales, and would probably have been used in 1969 had the Duke of Windsor (the previous holder of the title) not removed the crown from the United Kingdom and kept it among his private possessions. The future investiture of Prince William as the next Prince of Wales could possibly use the *Coronet of George, Prince of Wales* (given that its relative youth and rare usage means that it is still suitable to be worn), the current *Coronet of Charles, Prince of Wales*, or a new coronet.

4.7 Footnote

1. ^ The Queen decided, in deference to public opinion regarding the late Diana, Princess of Wales, that Camilla would not be referred to publicly as Princess of Wales, but only as Duchess of Cornwall.
2. ^ The only possible exception occurred in 1525 when King Henry VIII gave his only surviving child to that point, Mary Tudor, certain Royal Prerogatives due to a Prince of Wales, including a Royal Court, and called her *Princess of Wales*. There is no record of either the existence of a Prince of Wales' coronet at that time, nor of a formal patent granting the title.^[2]

4.8 References

- [1] The Prince of Wales - Biography
- [2] Mary I of England#Style and arms

Chapter 5

Coronets of Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret

The **Coronets of Princess Elizabeth and Margaret** were two coronets commissioned by **King George VI** and **Queen Elizabeth** in 1937, so that his children could also take part in their coronation.

Once King George VI and **Queen Elizabeth** had decided that they would allow their children, Princesses **Elizabeth** and **Margaret**, to participate in the coronation, they decided to commission two golden coronets for them. The royal jewellers at the time came up with an elaborate design of golden coronets with crimson velvet and ermine edges. Replicas of the design were brought to the palace for the princesses to try on and their parents to approve. The King and Queen, along with **Queen Mary**, decided that the designs were too decorative to be appropriate for children of their age. Queen Mary then came up with the idea of simple gold coronets, without jewels, ermine or velvet and in the style of medieval crowns. **Crosses pattée** and the **fleur de lys** were used in the design, as is traditional in British crowns.

The princesses were said to have placed the coronets upon their heads at the same time as their mother had her crown placed upon her head during the ceremony. Queen Mary later wrote in her diary, 'Lilibet and Margaret looked too sweet in their lace dresses and robes, especially when they put on their coronets'. Marion Crawford, the governess to the princesses, noted in her memoirs that Princess Margaret bounced around out of excitement that her coronet fell down over one ear, at which point Princess Elizabeth reprimanded, 'Be quiet, Margaret'.^[1]

The current whereabouts of the coronets is unknown. It has been speculated that they are kept in the royal vault.

5.1 See also

- Queen Elizabeth II
- Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon

5.2 References

- [1] Fields, Leslie (2002). *The Queen's Jewels: The Personal Collection of Elizabeth II*. London: Harry N. Abrams, Inc ISBN 0-8109-8172-6.

Chapter 6

Crown of Mary of Modena

The **Crown of Mary of Modena** was the consort crown of **Mary of Modena**, queen consort of England, Scotland and Ireland, wife of **James VII & II**.

6.1 Origins

Traditionally, where a monarch is married, his queen consort is crowned with him at his coronation. Under **Oliver Cromwell's** rule, all of the ancient **English crown jewels** had been destroyed. When **Charles II** was crowned in 1661 he was not married, so there was no need to create a new **consort crown**. When however his younger brother, the **Duke of York** became **James II & VII**, it was necessary to make a new crown for his queen, **Mary of Modena**.

In fact, three items of royal headgear were created; a

- coronation crown
- state crown, and a
- diadem or headcovering.

Mary of Modena's coronation crown no longer exists. However her state crown and diadem still are held in the **Tower of London**.

6.2 Description of Mary's state crown

Mary of Modena's state crown, which was manufactured in 1685 by goldsmith **Richard de Beauvoir**, was, as was the norm, decorated with hired jewels: 38 very large diamonds, 523 great and small diamonds and 129 large pearls. The circlet of gold, set with pearls at both edges, is decorated with 20 large diamonds. 4 crosses and 4 fleurs-de-lis, all made of diamonds, alternate above the upper row of pearls. It contains four half arches above the crosses: one row of pearls on each arch is framed on both sides by two rows of diamonds. A globe sits at the centre, on which sits a cross made of 5 diamonds and 3 pearls.

6.3 Usage

Though not the coronation crown of its original wearer, it was used for the coronation of all subsequent queens consort until 1831, and was worn on occasion by queens regnant **Mary II** and **Anne**, **Mary of Modena's** stepdaughters.

In 1831, however the crown fell out of favour, and was replaced by the **Crown of Queen Adelaide** for the latter's coronation alongside her husband, **King William IV**. In 1838, as planning was in process for the coronation of **Queen Victoria**, the **Modena crown** and diadem were described as "extremely small, and by reason of their age and disuse are in a State of upper decay." One official in the **Lord Chamberlain's** office later wrote of the crown's "very tawdry and theatrical appearance".



Mary of Modena, wife of James VII of Scotland and II of England, with her crown. This crown was made for her coronation.

6.4 No longer used

It is no longer used in royal ceremonial, but in 1938-9 had its mock pearls replaced with cultured pearls.

6.5 Footnote

1. ^ Anna Keay, 'The Crown Jewels (*Official handbook*) *Historic Royal Palaces*, 2002, p27.

Chapter 7

Crown of Queen Adelaide

The **Crown of Queen Adelaide** was the consort crown of Adelaide of Saxe-Meiningen, wife and Queen consort of King William IV of the United Kingdom. It was used at the coronation of William and Adelaide in 1831. It was emptied of its jewels soon afterwards, was not worn again by Queen Adelaide, and has never been worn since.

7.1 Reasons for creation

Since the 1690s English and British queens consort had been crowned with the Crown of Mary of Modena, first made for the wife of King James II. However criticism of the continued use of this crown had mounted, for reasons of age, size, state of repair and because it was seen to be too theatrical and undignified. In the preparations for the coronation in 1831 it was ruled that the Modena crown was “unfit for Her Majesty’s use”. Plans were made for the creation of a new consort crown.

7.2 Design

The new crown followed British crown tradition in having four half arches, meeting a globe, on top of which sat a cross. The Queen had objected to the standard practice of hiring diamonds and jewels for a crown prior to its use. Instead diamonds from her own private jewellery were installed in her new crown. Following the coronation, the diamonds were all removed, and the crown stored as a shell.

7.3 Subsequent history

Since Queen Adelaide, all British queens consort have had their own special consort crown made for them, rather than wearing the crowns of any of their predecessors. Later consort crowns were made for Alexandra of Denmark (1902), Mary of Teck (1911) and Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon (1937).

The formal portrait of Queen Charlotte, the queen consort of George III, in her coronation robes by Allan Ramsay show her with a similar diminutive crown with which she had also been crowned and had had set with her own jewels, diamonds which George IV later had set into the famous insignia of the Order of St. Patrick which were later stolen from Dublin Castle.

7.4 Footnote

1. ^ Anne Keay, *The Crown Jewels* (Historic Royal Palaces, 2002) p. 58.



Lithograph of the crown of Queen Adelaide.

Chapter 8

Crown of Queen Alexandra

The **Crown of Queen Alexandra** was the consort crown of Alexandra of Denmark, the queen consort of King Edward VII. It was manufactured for the 1902 coronation.

8.1 Background

Queen Victoria's death in January 1901 brought to an end a gap of sixty-four years when the United Kingdom had been without a crowned queen consort, nor had Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha been crowned as a consort. Traditionally, queens consort had been crowned with the 17th century Crown of Mary of Modena. However in 1831, Adelaide of Saxe-Meiningen, consort of King William IV of the United Kingdom, was crowned with a 4 half-arched new small crown, the Crown of Queen Adelaide, because the Modena crown was judged too poor in quality, too old and too theatrical.

In 1902 it was decided to use neither the Modena nor Adelaide crowns for the first coronation of a queen consort in seven decades. Instead it was decided to create a brand new consort crown, to be named after Queen Alexandra.

8.2 Style

The crown itself departed from the standard style of British crowns, and was more akin to European royal crowns. It was less upright than the norm in British crowns, and more squat in design, with an unprecedented eight half-arches. Its front arch joined a jewelled cross into which was set the Koh-i-Noor diamond. As with the later Crown of Queen Mary and Crown of Queen Elizabeth, the arches were detachable, allowing the crown to be worn as a circlet.

The Crown of Queen Alexandra was not worn by later queens, with new crowns being created for Mary of Teck in 1911 and Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon in 1937. The major stones have been replaced with artificial ones referred to as paste.



Queen Alexandra wearing her crown in her coronation photograph. The European-style crown contained more half arches than was usual in British crowns, and had its cap placed lower, allowing a clear view through the crown.

Chapter 9

Crown of Queen Elizabeth



The Crown of Queen Elizabeth was placed atop the Queen Mother's coffin during her funeral procession in 2002.

The **Crown of Queen Elizabeth** is the platinum crown of Queen Elizabeth, the wife of King George VI. It was manufactured for her coronation in Westminster Abbey in 1937. It is the first crown for a British consort to be made of platinum.

The crown was made by Garrard & Co in London, the long term manufacturer of British royal crowns, and modelled partially on the design of the Crown of Queen Mary, the crown of Mary of Teck, wife of King George V. It consists of four half-arches, in contrast to the eight half-arches of Queen Mary's crown. As with Queen Mary's crown, its arches were detachable at the cross-pattee, allowing it to be worn as a circlet.

The crown is decorated with precious stones, most notably the 105-carat (21.0 g) Koh-i-Noor diamond in the middle of the front cross, which was confiscated by the East India Company from Duleep Singh after the Anglo-Sikh Wars.^[1] The stone became part of the British Crown Jewels when Queen Victoria was proclaimed Empress of India in 1877.^[2]

After the death of her husband, Queen Elizabeth (known thereafter as Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother) did not

wear the full crown, but wore it minus the arches as a circlet at the coronation of her daughter, Queen Elizabeth II, in 1953.^[3]

The crown was placed in position on the coffin of the Queen Mother for her funeral in 2002.^[4]

The crown is now on display along with the other British Crown Jewels in the Tower of London.

9.1 References

- [1] Edge, Simon (30 July 2010). "The Crown Jewels: The Queen's cursed diamond". *The Sunday Express*. Retrieved 15 February 2015.
- [2] "The Crown Jewels". The Royal Household. Retrieved 2013-07-27.
- [3] "Coronation guests and their jewels". The Royal Order of Sartorial Splendor. 2 March 2012. Retrieved 2013-07-27.
- [4] "PHOTOS—funeral pageantry of Britain's Queen Mother". *The Tribune* (Chandigarh, India). Reuters (photos). 6 April 2002. Retrieved 17 November 2011.

9.2 External links

- *Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother's Crown* at the Royal Collection.

Chapter 10

Crown of Queen Mary

The **Crown of Queen Mary** was the consort crown of Mary of Teck, wife of King George V. It was manufactured for the coronation of George and Mary in 1911.

The crown was made by Garrard & Co and contains around 2,200 diamonds. It contained the Koh-i-Noor diamond as well as Cullinan III and Cullinan IV. In 1914 they were replaced by crystal models. It contained eight half-arches.

Unlike many earlier coronation crowns, it was specially constructed so that its arches could be removed, allowing it to be worn as a circlet.

Many of the stones from the crown were used in the 1937 Crown of Queen Elizabeth, the wife of her son, King George VI.

Queen Mary used her crown in circlet form at the coronation of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth and at state ceremonies involving her granddaughter, Queen Elizabeth II.

Since Queen Mary's death on 24 March 1953 her crown has remained unworn.

Queen Mary's Delhi Durbar diadem was inherited by Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother and is now the personal property of Queen Elizabeth II. This tiara with all the major stones removed, was loaned by the Queen to the Duchess of Cornwall during a state dinner at Buckingham Palace.

10.1 External links

- *Queen Mary's Crown* at the Royal Collection.



Queen Mary wearing her crown, minus its arches, as a circlet.

Chapter 11

Crown of Scotland

For the hill in Dumfries and Galloway, see Crown of Scotland (hill).

The **Crown of Scotland** is the crown used at the coronation of the monarchs of Scotland. Remade in its current



Crown of Scotland. Stylised version used in heraldry.

form for King James V of Scotland in 1540, the crown is part of the Honours of Scotland, the oldest set of Crown Jewels in the United Kingdom. The crown dates from at least 1503 when, in an earlier form, it was depicted in the portrait of James IV of Scotland in the Book of Hours commissioned for his marriage to Margaret Tudor.

11.1 Manufacture

In January 1540, King James V commissioned the royal goldsmith, John Mosman, to refashion the Crown of Scotland. The existing crown was delicate and had been repaired at least twice in the previous 30 years, and a 1539 inventory showed further damage, including the loss of one fleur-de-lis. Mosman dismantled the old crown and removed its stones and pearls. The crown was melted down and Mosman added 41 ounces of gold mined at Crawford Moor in Lanarkshire.

Constructed of solid gold, the crown consists of a base, with four fleur-de-lis alternating with four strawberry leaves. The four arches of the crown are decorated with gold and red oak leaves. At the intersection of the arches is a golden monde, painted blue with gold stars. The monde is surmounted by a large cross decorated in gold and black enamel and pearls. The crown is encrusted with 22 gemstones, including garnets and amethysts, 20 precious stones and 68 Scottish freshwater pearls.

James V ordered a purple and ermine bonnet from tailor Thomas Arthur of Edinburgh to fit inside the crown. James VII ordered the colour of the bonnet be changed to red. The bonnet had to be replaced several times, and the present bonnet was made in 1993. The completed crown weighs 1.64 kg (3 lb 10 oz).

11.2 Usage

The crown was first worn by James V to the coronation of his second wife, Mary of Guise, as queen consort at Holyrood Abbey, Edinburgh, in the year of its manufacture. It was subsequently used in the coronations of the child monarchs Mary, Queen of Scots, in 1543 and her son James VI, King of Scots, in 1567.

In the absence of a resident Scottish monarch following the Union of the Crowns in 1603, when James VI inherited the throne of England and moved his Royal Household from Edinburgh to London, the Honours were carried to sittings of the Parliament of Scotland to symbolise the sovereign's presence and the Royal Assent to legislation.

The crown was used for the Scottish coronation of both Charles I in 1633 and Charles II in 1651. However, no subsequent Scottish monarchs were crowned with the crown.

During the Civil War, having already destroyed the ancient English Crown Jewels, Oliver Cromwell sought to destroy the Scottish Crown Jewels. However, the Honours were secretly buried until the monarchy was restored in 1660.

Following the Act of Union of 1707, which unified the Kingdom of Scotland and the Kingdom of England to form the Kingdom of Great Britain, and having no ceremonial role to play in the proceedings of the new Parliament of Great Britain in London, the Honours were locked away in Edinburgh Castle. There they remained all but forgotten in a chest until 1818, when a group of people including Sir Walter Scott set out to find them. Since 1819 they have been on display in the Crown Room of Edinburgh Castle from where they are removed only for state occasions. The first was when presented to King George IV, at the Palace of Holyroodhouse in 1822, during his visit to Scotland (the first visit to Scotland by a reigning monarch since 1651).

On 24 June 1953, following her coronation at Westminster Abbey, the crown was carried before Queen Elizabeth II in a procession from the Palace of Holyroodhouse to the High Kirk of St Giles, Edinburgh, where the Honours of Scotland, including the crown, were presented to The Queen during a National Service of Thanksgiving.

More recently, the crown has been present at the Official Opening ceremonies of sessions of the Scottish Parliament, including the first meeting of the modern Parliament in 1999^[1] and the official opening of the new Scottish Parliament Building in 2004.^[2] On such occasions the crown, carried by the Duke of Hamilton, the hereditary bearer of the Crown of Scotland, immediately precedes Her Majesty The Queen in the custom of the ancient opening ceremonial procession known as the *Riding of Parliament*.

As well as appearing in Scottish versions of the Royal Cypher and Royal Coat of Arms, including the version of the arms used by the Scotland Office, stylised versions of the crown appear upon the badges of the Royal Regiment of Scotland, The Royal British Legion Scotland, the Scottish Ambulance Service, and upon the logos of the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service, RCAHMS, and General Register Office for Scotland. A version of the crown is used upon Royal Mail premises, vehicles and Scottish pillar and wall boxes. Although perhaps not intentional, Scottish Police Forces feature an inaccurate depiction of the crown in that the four fleur-de-lis alternating with four strawberry leaves are out of sequence.

From 1927 until its abolition in 1975, the crown, together with the sword and sceptre, appeared on the coat of arms of the Scottish county of Kincardineshire, where they were all kept hidden in the 17th century during the Civil War.^[3]



The Royal Arms of the United Kingdom used in Scotland, with the Crown of Scotland in prime position on the helm, upon the lion sejant affronté on the crest and upon the unicorn supporter. The crown upon the lion supporter is St. Edward's Crown, which has been a symbol of Royal Authority throughout the Commonwealth since 1953.

11.3 References

- [1] The Scottish Parliament Parliamentary News Release
- [2] The Scottish Parliament Media Briefing Note
- [3] The Coat of Arms of Kincardineshire

11.4 See also

- Pillar Box War

11.5 External links

- Royal website

Chapter 12

Cullinan Diamond

This article is about the diamond called the Star of Africa. For the board game called the Star of Africa, see [Afrikan tähti](#). For the WWII service award, see [Africa Star](#).

The **Cullinan diamond** is the largest non carbonado and largest gem-quality diamond ever found, at 3106.75 carat (621.35 g, 1.37 lb) rough weight.^[3] About 10.5 cm (4.1 inches) long in its largest dimension, it was found on 26 January 1905, in the Premier No. 2 mine, near [Pretoria](#), South Africa.

The largest polished gem from the stone is named **Cullinan I** or the **Great Star of Africa**, and at 530.4 carats (106.08 g)^[4] is the largest polished white diamond in the world. It was the largest polished diamond of any colour until the 1985 discovery of the [Golden Jubilee Diamond](#), 545.67 carats (109.134 g), also from the Premier Mine. Cullinan I is now mounted in the head of the [Sceptre with the Cross](#). The second largest gem from the Cullinan stone, **Cullinan II** or the **Second Star of Africa**, at 317.4 carats (63.48 g), is the fourth largest polished diamond in the world. Both gems are in the [Crown Jewels of the United Kingdom](#).

12.1 Discovery

Captain Frederick Wells, superintendent of Premier Mine, one of South Africa's most productive mines, near Pretoria, found the diamond, during his daily inspection of the mines, on 26 January 1905. During his rounds he saw a flash of light, reflected by the sun on the wall of the shaft. As he got closer, he could see a partially exposed crystal, embedded in the rock, however he initially believed it to be a shard of glass, placed by one of the miners as a practical joke. Using just his pocket knife he managed to release the diamond. At approximately 1 ¹/₃ pounds (600 grams), 3 ⁷/₈ inches (98 mm) long, 2 ¹/₄ inches (57 mm) wide and 2 ⁵/₈ inches (67 mm) high the diamond was twice the size of any diamond previously discovered. Wells immediately took it for examination.

Sir [William Crookes](#) performed an analysis of the Cullinan diamond, ascertaining a weight of 3,106 carats (621.2 grams). The stone was immediately named after [Sir Thomas Cullinan](#), the owner of the diamond mine, who had discovered the mine after many years of unsuccessful searching.^[5] Crookes mentioned its remarkable clarity, but also a black spot in the middle. The colours around the black spot were very vivid and changed as the analyser was turned. According to Crookes, this pointed to internal strain.^[6] Such strain is not uncommon in diamonds. Because one side of the diamond was perfectly smooth, it was concluded that the stone had originally been part of a much larger diamond, that had been broken up by natural forces. Crookes commented that "a fragment, probably less than half, of a distorted octahedral crystal; the other portions still await discovery by some fortunate miner."^[7] Naturally the discovery became a global sensation, with the developments being followed avidly by the press.

Wells was awarded £3,500 for his find and the diamond was purchased by the [Transvaal Colony](#) government for £150,000 and insured for ten times the amount. Prime Minister [Louis Botha](#) suggested that the diamond be presented to [King Edward VII](#) as "a token of the loyalty and attachment of the people of Transvaal to his throne and person". A vote was staged in order for the government to find out what should be done with the diamond. Oddly enough, in the aftermath of the [Boer Wars](#) the Boers voted in favour of presenting the King with the diamond and the English settlers voting against such a move. The final vote was 42 against and nineteen in favour. In the wake of the vote, the British Prime Minister of the time [Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman](#) decided to leave the decision of whether to accept the gift up to the King himself. However, later prime minister, [Winston Churchill](#) eventually managed to persuade

the king to accept, to which Edward VII finally agreed. Churchill was presented with a replica of the diamond, which he allegedly delighted in showing off to friends and displaying it on a silver plate.^[8]

12.2 Journey to England



Glass copies of the nine diamonds cut from the Cullinan

In 1905 due to the immense value of the Cullinan, the authorities in charge of the transportation were posed with a huge potential security problem. Detectives from London were placed on a steamboat that was rumored to carry the stone, where a parcel was ceremoniously placed in the Captain's safe and guarded throughout the entire journey. However this was a diversionary tactic. The stone on that ship was a fake, meant to attract those who would be interested in stealing it. The actual diamond was sent to England in a plain box via parcel post, albeit registered.^[9] Upon receiving the stone safely in England Sir Francis Hopwood and Mr. Richard Solomon (the Agent-General of the Transvaal government in London) travelled from London to Sandringham, Norfolk by train, accompanied by just two experienced Scotland Yard policemen. They reached their destination safely, despite reports of a potential robbery looming. King Edward would later that day present Solomon with the KCVO.^[10]

12.3 Arrival in England and cutting process

The diamond was presented to the king on his birthday, in the presence of a large party of guests, including the Queen of Norway, the Queen of Spain, Bendor Westminster and Lord Revelstoke.^{[7][11]} The King had the secretary of state, Lord Elgin, announce that he accepted the precious gift “for myself and my successors” and that he would ensure that “this great and unique diamond be kept and preserved among the historic jewels which form the heirlooms of the crown”.^[10]

It was cut into three large parts by Asscher Brothers of Amsterdam, and eventually into 9 large gem-quality stones and a number of smaller fragments. At the time, technology had not yet evolved to guarantee quality of the modern standard, and cutting the diamond was considered difficult and risky. To enable Asscher to cleave the diamond in one blow, an incision was made, half an inch deep. Then, a specifically designed knife was placed in the incision and the diamond was split in one heavy blow. The diamond split through a defective spot, which was shared in both halves of the diamond.^[12]

The story goes that when the diamond was split, the knife broke during the first attempt. “The tale is told of Joseph Asscher, the greatest cleaver of the day,” wrote Matthew Hart in his book *Diamond: A Journey to the Heart of an Obsession*, “that when he prepared to cleave the largest diamond ever known, the 3,106 carats (621.2 g) Cullinan, he had a doctor and nurse standing by and when he finally struck the diamond and it broke perfectly in two, he fainted

dead away.” Lord Ian Balfour, in his book “Famous Diamonds” (2000), dispels the fainting story, stating it was more likely Joseph Asscher would have celebrated, opening a bottle of champagne.

12.4 Principal diamonds cut from the Cullinan

The Cullinan was split and cut into 9 major stones and 96 smaller stones. Edward VII had the Cullinan I and Cullinan II set respectively into the *Sceptre with the Cross* and the *Imperial State Crown*, while the remainder of the seven larger stones and the 96 smaller brilliants remained in the possession of the Dutch diamond cutting firm of Messers I. J. Asscher of Amsterdam who had split and cut the Cullinan, until the South African Government bought these stones^[13] and the High Commissioner of the Union of South Africa presented them to *Queen Mary* on 28 June 1910.^[14]

12.4.1 Cullinan I

Cullinan I is a 530.2 carat, pear cut diamond and the largest of the Cullinan diamonds. It is also known as the Great Star of Africa, and was set in the head of the *Sceptre with the cross* which was reworked for this purpose. It may also be hung as the pendant, on its own or from Cullinan II in a brooch.^[15] For this purpose the diamonds have both been fitted with two tiny platinum loops on the edges.

12.4.2 Cullinan II

Cullinan II, the Second Star of Africa, weighing 317.4 carats and having a rectangular cushion cut, was set in the front of the circlet of the *Imperial State Crown*. It may also be used together with Cullinan I as a brooch.^[15]

12.4.3 Cullinan III

Cullinan III is a pear cut, 94.4 carat diamond known as one of the Lesser Stars of Africa (along with Cullinan IV). *Queen Mary*, the queen consort of *George V* had Cullinan III set in the surmounting cross of her newly acquired crown for her coronation in 1911. In 1914, however they were replaced by crystal models. After that, *Queen Mary* mainly wore the crown as a circlet, meaning Cullinan III was not needed. Since *Queen Mary's* death on March 24, 1953 her consort crown has remained unworn and it is thus unknown if Cullinan III will ever be used again to surmount the Crown of *Queen Mary*. Presently Cullinan III is most frequently worn as a brooch, in combination with Cullinan IV.

12.4.4 Cullinan IV

Cullinan IV is square cushion cut and weighs 63.6 carats. It was also set in the *Crown of Queen Mary* originally, as part of the circlet, however it too was removed in 1914. Since then it has been worn as a brooch along with Cullinan III. Collectively the two diamonds are affectionately known as 'Granny's Chips', by *Queen Elizabeth II*. This was revealed by *Queen Elizabeth II* on the 25th of March 1958, while she and *Prince Philip* were on a state visit to the Netherlands. As part of their tour of the country, the couple visited the Asscher diamond works, where the diamond had been cut fifty years earlier. The occasion marked the first time the Queen had publicly worn the brooch. During the event, the Queen unpinning the brooch and offered it for examination by *Louis Asscher*, the brother of *Joseph Asscher*, who had originally cut the diamond. Elderly and almost blind, Asscher was deeply moved by the fact the Queen had brought the diamonds along with her, knowing how much the gesture would mean to him, seeing the diamonds after so many years. The Queen has worn the brooch no more than six or seven times in public during her reign.

12.4.5 Cullinan V

Cullinan V is heart cut and weighs 18.8 carats. It is set in the center of a brooch forming a part of the stomacher of the diamond and emerald *Delhi Durbar Parure*. The brooch was designed to show off Cullinan V and has a large number of smaller stones set around it. The brooch can also be attached to Cullinans VI and VII to become a large

stomacher, often worn by Queen Mary. Queen Elizabeth II has worn this brooch many times, perhaps making it her most worn piece of jewelry, and perhaps her favorite

12.4.6 Cullinan VI

Cullinan VI is marquise cut and weighs 8.8 carats. It hangs from the brooch containing Cullinan VIII and forming part of the stomacher of the Delhi Durbar Parure. Cullinan VI along with Cullinan VIII can also be fitted together to make yet another brooch, surrounded by some 96 smaller diamonds. The design was created around the same time that the Cullinan V heart shaped brooch was designed, with them both having a similar shape.

12.4.7 Cullinan VII

Cullinan VII is also marquise cut and weighs 11.5 carats. Originally given by Edward VII to Queen Alexandra. After his death she gave this stone to Queen Mary, who had it set as a pendant hanging from the diamond and emerald Delhi Durbar Necklace, of the Delhi Durbar Parure.

12.4.8 Cullinan VIII

The Cullinan VIII is set in the center of a brooch forming part of the stomacher of the Delhi Durbar Parure. It is cushion cut and weighs 6.8 carats. Together with the Cullinan VI it forms a brooch. Queen Elizabeth II inherited this brooch in 1953, however in contrast to the Cullinan V heart brooch, she has never been seen wearing it in public, claiming that 'it gets in the soup'.

12.4.9 Cullinan IX

The Cullinan IX is the final large diamond to be obtained from the Cullinan. It is pear cut and weighs 4.4 carats. It is set in a platinum ring, known as the Cullinan IX Ring.

12.5 See also

- List of famous diamonds

12.6 References

- [1] <http://beforeitsnews.com/alternative/2014/03/top-10-largest-diamonds-of-the-world-2925032.html>
- [2] <http://www.shzell.com/most-expensive-diamonds>
- [3] A carbonado found in Brazil weighed more than 3,600 carats (720 g), but no gem-quality material could be extracted from it.
- [4] Overview of the different Cullinan diamonds
- [5] History of the Cullinan in the Crown Jewels
- [6] Crookes, William (1909). "Diamonds". p. 78.
- [7] Crookes: Diamonds (1909) Page 77 (A photo of the rough Cullinan, marked as number 17, is facing page 80.)
- [8] Fields, Leslie (2002). *The Queen's Jewels: The Personal Collection of Elizabeth II*. London: Harry N. Abrams, Inc. ISBN 0-8109-8172-6.
- [9] Dickinson, Joan Y. (1965). *The Book of Diamonds*. New York City: Crown Publishers, Inc. p. 110. ISBN 978-0-486-41816-2.
- [10] Fields, pp. 72

- [11] Goodchild: Precious Stones (1908) Page 140
- [12] Crookes: Diamonds (1909) Page 79
- [13] With the exception of the Cullinan VI which Edward VII bought and gave to Queen Alexandra in 1907 and who on his death gave it to Queen Mary
- [14] "The Queen's Jewels. The Personal Collection of Elizabeth II." Leslie Field. Harry N. Abrams, Incorporated, @ 1987. Times Mirror Books. ISBN 0-8109-1525-1. p. 72.
- [15] Dickinson, Joan Y. (1965). *The Book of Diamonds*. New York City: Crown Publishers, Inc. p. 111. ISBN 978-0-486-41816-2.

12.7 External links

- The top of The Sovereign's Sceptre with Cross featuring the Cullinan I, image from The Jewelry Editor
- The Cullinan – a detailed account with pictures
- The Monarchy Today: The Crown Jewels
- *Daily Mail* article with many photographs
- "Jewellery from world's largest diamond to go on display". BBC News Online. 15 May 2012. Retrieved 2012-05-18. *So incredible was its discovery that the moment it was found at the Premier Mine it was thrown out of the window of the mine manager's office because it was thought to be a worthless crystal.*
- Royal Collection page showing the nine principal diamonds in their settings



Portrait of King George VI by Sir Gerald Kelly, painted sometime between 1938 and 1945. He is holding the Sceptre with the Cross, containing the 530-carat Cullinan I Diamond. The Imperial State Crown is on the right.

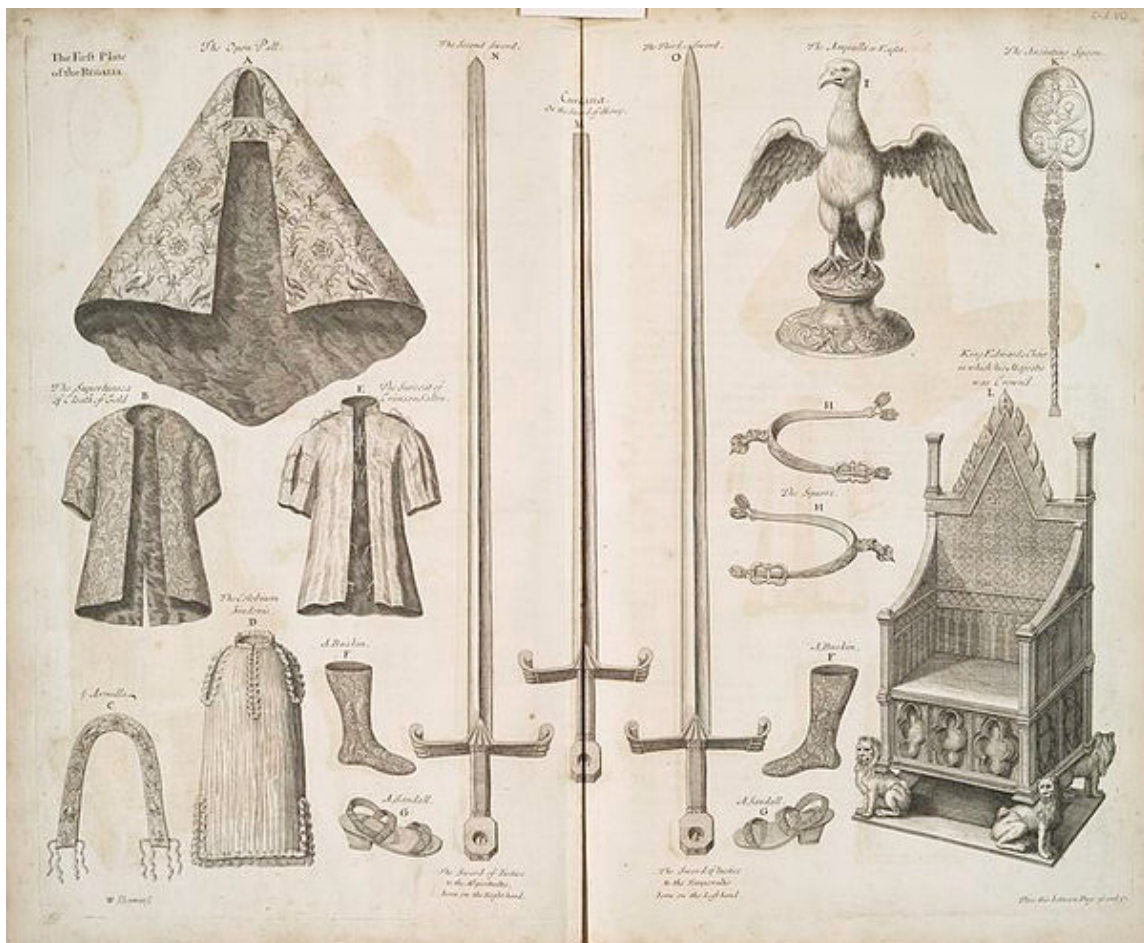
Chapter 13

Curtana

This article is about the sword. For articles with related names, see [Cortana \(disambiguation\)](#).

Curtana, also known as **Cortana** and the **Sword of Mercy**, is a ceremonial sword used in the coronation of the British monarchs. One of the Crown Jewels of the United Kingdom, its end is blunt and squared, said to symbolize mercy. It is linked to the legendary sword carried by Tristan and Ogier the Dane.

13.1 History



Curtana, the Sword of Mercy (center), with a portion of the other Crown Jewels

A coronation sword named “Curtana” is first documented during the reign of **Henry III of England**, and was used in the coronation of his wife **Queen Eleanor of Provence** in 1236.^{[1][2]} The name is probably intended to imply “shortness”, as the end is cut off. The coronation tradition involving three swords dates back at least to **Richard I**, though their meanings changed over time.^[3]

Henry III’s Curtana was said to have been the sword of the legendary knight **Tristan**. This connection may have come about due to its broken end, as **Tristan** was said to have left a piece of his sword in the skull of **Morholt**.^[4] A sword named “Cortana”, “Curtana”, etc., was also attributed to **Ogier the Dane**, one of **Charlemagne’s** paladins in the **Matter of France**. According to the legend, it bore the inscription “My name is Cortana, of the same steel and temper as **Joyeuse** and **Durendal**.”^[5] The 13th-century Prose *Tristan* states that **Ogier** inherited **Tristan’s** sword, shortening it and naming it *Cortaine*; this suggests the author knew the tradition connecting Henry’s Curtana to **Tristan**.^{[1][6]}

The meaning attributed to Curtana and the other two British coronation swords shifted over time. During the coronation of **Henry VI**, Curtana was evidently considered the “Sword of Justice”, while a second sword was the “Sword of the Church”. Eventually, however, Curtana’s blunt edge was taken to represent **mercy**, and it thus came to be known as the **Sword of Mercy**. **Henry VI’s** coronation featured Curtana as the **Sword of Mercy** along with two other swords: the sharply pointed **Sword of Justice** to the **Temporality** and the more obtuse **Sword of Justice** to the **Spirituality**. These designations remain today.^[3]

Curtana and its legendary predecessors have entered into popular culture. The artificial intelligence character **Cortana** in the *Halo* video game franchise is named for the historical and legendary sword.^[7]

13.2 References

- [1] Harper-Bill, Christopher, and Ruth Harvey (1990). *The Ideals and Practice of Medieval Knighthood III*, p. 134. Boydell Press. ISBN 0851152651.
- [2] Legg, Leopold George Wickham (1901). *English Coronation Records*, p. xxiii. A. Constable & Company.
- [3] Legg, Leopold George Wickham (1901). *English Coronation Records*, p. xxv. A. Constable & Company.
- [4] Harper-Bill, Christopher, and Ruth Harvey (1990). *The Ideals and Practice of Medieval Knighthood III*, p. 132, 134. Boydell Press. ISBN 0851152651.
- [5] Bullfinch’s Mythology, Legends of Charlemagne, Chapter 24
- [6] Gardner, Edmund Garratt. *Arthurian Legend in English Literature*. -- Temple Press, Letchworth, Hertfordshire. 1930. -- p. 172. Retrieved 6 December 2010.
- [7] MacKay, Jill (2006). “The Modern Mythos”. In Yeffeth, Glenn (ed.). *Halo Effect: An Unauthorized Look at the Most Successful Video Game of All Time*. Dallas, Texas: BenBella Books. pp. 92–93.

Chapter 14

Coronet of Frederick, Prince of Wales



Coronet of Frederick, Prince of Wales (replica)

The **Coronet of Frederick, Prince of Wales**, is a coronet manufactured in 1728 for Frederick, Prince of Wales, Heir

Apparent of King George II of Great Britain. The solid gold single arched coronet was manufactured probably by royal goldsmith Samuel Shales at a cost of £140 5/- (one hundred and forty pounds and five shillings), or approximately £12,000 in today's money. The coronet is sometimes referred to (even by official sources) as a crown.

It is not known if Prince Frederick ever wore it. He died before he could inherit the throne. It was used both by his son, **George III** and his grandson, **George IV** when each was **Prince of Wales**. However it was not worn after the 18th century, instead being carried on a cushion ahead of the Prince in procession.

It was replaced by the **Coronet of George, Prince of Wales** (later **King George V**), in 1902. It was used when he took his seat in the House of Lords, where it was placed on a cushion in front of him. It was used by subsequent Princes of Wales in the same fashion, but rarely worn.

The coronet was last used by King Edward VII when he was Prince of Wales.

The single arch coronet is only worn by a Prince of Wales.

Chapter 15

George IV State Diadem

Part of the The Personal Jewel Collection of Elizabeth II, the **George IV State Diadem** or **Diamond Diadem** was made in 1820 by the firm Rundell, Bridge and Rundell for the coronation of King George IV. It was designed to encircle the King's velvet Cap of Estate that he wore in the procession to Westminster Abbey.

The diadem includes 1333 diamonds weighing 325.75 carats (65.150 g), and 169 pearls along its base. Its design features roses, thistles and shamrocks, the symbols of England, Scotland and Ireland respectively. It is on display at the Queen's Gallery, Buckingham Palace. ^[1]

The diadem was worn at the Coronation of Queen Victoria during the procession returning from Westminster Abbey, and later by Queen Elizabeth II. It is also worn by Queen Elizabeth II in the procession to the State Opening of Parliament. It has featured in many portraits of the Queen, including one painted by Lucian Freud in 2001, and one by Raphael Maklouf that appears on Commonwealth coinage and on British Machin series stamps. It has also featured on the banknotes of the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, Bermuda, Hong Kong, British Honduras, the British Caribbean Territories currency board (consisting of Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, Anguilla, Saba, St Kitts and Nevis, Antigua, St Lucia, Dominica, St Vincent and the Grenadines, British Guyana and the British Virgin Islands), Mauritius, Southern Rhodesia, Cyprus, Rhodesia and Nyasaland, Fiji, Belize, the Bahamas, Malta, Malaya and North Borneo, and Jamaica.

15.1 External links

[1] Official Royal Family website <http://www.royal.gov.uk/LatestNewsandDiary/Pressreleases/2003/50factsaboutTheQueensCoronation.aspx>

- The Diamond Diadem on the Royal Collection website.



The George IV State Diadem, here worn by Queen Alexandra (centre). This image shows Queen Alexandra, consort of Edward VII, with her daughters Louise and Victoria.

Chapter 16

Coronet of George, Prince of Wales



Heraldic depiction of the coronet of George, Prince of Wales.

The **Coronet of George, Prince of Wales**, manufactured in 1901–1902, is a single-arched silver-gilt coronet made for the then Prince of Wales (the future King George V) to wear at the coronation of his father, King Edward VII, in 1902. The coronet is sometimes referred to as a crown, even by official sources.

At George's own coronation in 1911, the crown was worn by his son, Edward, the next Prince of Wales. After

becoming King Edward VIII in 1936, he abdicated in December that year, and, as the Duke of Windsor, went into exile in France, taking the coronet with him; it remained abroad until his death in 1972. A new Prince of Wales' coronet had to be manufactured for the investiture of Charles, Prince of Wales, in 1969. After Edward's death, the Coronet of George, Prince of Wales, was returned to the United Kingdom, where it is now on display in the Jewel House at the Tower of London.

16.1 See also

- Coronet of Charles, Prince of Wales

Chapter 17

Imperial Crown of India

The **Imperial Crown of India** was the crown of three British sovereigns as Emperors of India during the final decades of the Indian Empire. The crown is housed with, but is not part of, the Crown Jewels of the United Kingdom.

17.1 History

The crown was created for George V, in his position as Emperor of India, to wear at the Delhi Durbar of 1911. The need for the new crown lay in the tradition that the British crown jewels do not leave the United Kingdom.

King George and Queen Mary travelled to Delhi for the Durbar ceremonies, at which they were proclaimed as Emperor and Empress of India to the princes of India. George and Mary were not crowned as emperor and empress during the ceremonies because the Archbishop of Canterbury, Randall Davidson, did not think it suitable for a Christian religious service to take place in a country where the people were predominantly Hindu or Muslim. Also because, theoretically, the monarch's coronation in the United Kingdom suffices as a coronation for all his or her realms and territories simultaneously. Instead, George simply wore the crown as he entered the arena where the durbar took place, and the durbar was styled as an announcement of the coronation which had already taken place.

The Crown Jewellers, Garrard & Co, created the crown at a cost of £60,000 (£5,331,374 as of 2015).^[1] It weighs 34.05 ounces (0.97 kg) and is set with emeralds, rubies, sapphires, 6,100 diamonds, and one large fine ruby. The weight of the crown led King George to complain after the durbar that his head hurt.^[2] The crown has not been worn since by any British sovereign.

17.2 Design

Similar to other British crowns, the Imperial Crown of India consists of a circlet topped by four crosses pattée and four fleurs-de-lis. However, the arches on top, which join at a typical monde and cross, point upwards in an Asiatic manner instead of curving downward as do other British crowns.

It is also the only crown of a British sovereign with eight half-arches, in the style of Continental European crowns, departing from the British tradition of crowns having four half-arches. This difference is emblematic of the distinction between the crown of an emperor or empress and that of a king or queen. It may be viewed in the Jewel House at the Tower of London, alongside the British Crown Jewels.

17.3 See also

- Imperial crown



The Imperial Crown of India

17.4 References

- [1] UK CPI inflation numbers based on data available from Gregory Clark (2014), "What Were the British Earnings and Prices Then? (New Series)" MeasuringWorth.
- [2] London Online - Imperial Crown of India

17.5 External links

- *The Imperial Crown of India* at the Royal Collection.

Chapter 18

Imperial State Crown



Current, 1953 version viewed in profile, front at the left, with hint of magnificent sparkle effect that is often overwhelmed by photographic lighting

The **Imperial State Crown** is one of the Crown Jewels of the United Kingdom and symbolises the sovereignty of the monarch. The crown has existed in several versions since the 15th century. The modern version of the Imperial State Crown is of a design somewhat similar to that of St Edward's Crown, but shorter and encrusted with jewels: it includes a base of four crosses pattée alternating with four fleurs-de-lis, above which are four half-arches surmounted

by a monde and cross. Inside is a purple velvet cap with an ermine border. The Imperial State Crown includes many precious gems, including 2,868 diamonds, 273 pearls, 17 sapphires, 11 emeralds, and 5 rubies.^[1]

The crown includes several famous jewels: the cross at the top is set with a stone known as St. Edward's Sapphire, a sapphire taken from the ring (or possibly coronet) of Edward the Confessor; the Black Prince's Ruby (actually a spinel) is set on the front cross pattée; the famous Cullinan II, or Second Star of Africa, is set on the front of the band, replacing, in 1909, the 104-carat (20.8 g) Stuart Sapphire, which now sits at the back.^[1] The crown also contains Queen Elizabeth's Pearls.

The Crown is 31.5 centimetres (12.4 in) tall and weighs .91 kilograms (2.0 lb).^[2] When not in use, it is kept with the other Crown Jewels on display at the Jewel House in the Tower of London.^[2] The frames of the old Imperial State Crowns of Kings George I, George IV, and Queen Victoria, among others, are also kept in the Tower.

18.1 Historic versions

The original St. Edward's Crown, used at the coronation of English monarchs, was considered a holy relic, kept in the saint's shrine at Westminster Abbey, and therefore not worn by sovereigns at any other time. Instead, a "great crown" comprising a circlet of gold with crosses and fleurs-de-lys atop its rim, but without arches (an open crown), was a king's usual headgear on state occasions until the time of Henry V, who is depicted in statuary and illustrations with an "imperial crown", i.e., the great crown with gold arches added (also called a closed crown). Arches were a symbol of sovereignty, and by this point in history, the King of England was being celebrated as *rex in regno suo est imperator* (an emperor within his own domains), owing obedience to no one but God (unlike some continental rulers, who owed fealty to more powerful kings, or to the Holy Roman Emperor).^[3]

Either Henry VII or his son and successor Henry VIII may have caused a somewhat more elaborate version of the imperial crown to be made, which is first described in detail in an inventory of royal jewels in 1521, and again in 1532, 1550, 1574, and 1597, and was carefully depicted in a painting by Daniel Mytens of King Charles I in 1631.^[4] This Tudor version of the imperial crown had more pearls and jewels than are indicated in illustrations of the medieval version, and the centre petals of each of the five fleurs-de-lys were carved with medallions representing Christ, the Virgin Mary, and St. George.^[4] The gold in the crown weighed 7 pounds, 6 ounces.^[5]

After the execution of Charles I in 1649, the Tudor crown was destroyed and its valuable elements sold by parliamentary officers of the Commonwealth government. They received 180 pounds sterling for the gold, and about 1,000 pounds for the jewels, which included 58 rubies, 28 diamonds, 19 sapphires, 2 emeralds, and 168 pearls.^{[5][6]} Upon the restoration of the monarchy in 1660, a new imperial crown was fashioned for his son and successor Charles II, and other versions were created for succeeding monarchs.^[7] Yet another version was created for the coronation of the young Queen Victoria in 1838, which became the basis for the present crown.^[7]

18.2 Modern version

The current Imperial State Crown was manufactured for the coronation of George VI in 1937 by the Crown Jewellers Garrard & Co.^[8] It is a replica of the earlier Imperial State Crown (the illustration at right) manufactured for Queen Victoria, but is of a more lightweight design and more comfortable to wear. The same crown was remodelled for Queen Elizabeth II's coronation^[8] to give it slightly more feminine appearance and its total height lowered by about 1 inch (25 mm).

Monarchs often choose to wear the Imperial State Crown in their private apartments on and off for a couple of hours prior to the State Opening of Parliament so they can get used to the weight and feel comfortable with it on. Paul Burrell reported witnessing, the night before a State Opening, the Queen working on the red government dispatch boxes while wearing it.^[9]

As the most frequently worn royal crown, the Imperial State Crown has often been replaced, due to age, weight, the personal taste of the monarch, or the unavoidable damage that comes with use. It is also the crown that most often requires repair, which is normally done by the Crown Jeweller.



Worn by Queen Elizabeth II after her Coronation in 1953

18.3 Use

The Imperial State Crown is generally worn at the end of a coronation when the new monarch departs from Westminster Abbey^[7] and is not normally the crown used to crown the monarch. However, its predecessor (of the same name) was used to crown Queen Victoria and King Edward VII during their coronation ceremonies.

It is also worn annually by the Queen at the State Opening of Parliament.^[7] Traditionally, the crown and other jewels

leave in their own carriage and arrive at the Palace of Westminster prior to the Queen's departure from Buckingham Palace. They are then transported to the Robing Room, where the Queen dons her robes and puts on the crown.

18.4 See also

- Imperial crown
- State crown

18.5 Notes

- [1] De Lacey, Martha (8 May 2013). "Two crowns, 3,000 gems, an 18ft robe... and a recycled dress: Queen Elizabeth II looks regal alongside Prince Philip at her 60th State Opening of Parliament". *MailOnline (The Daily Mail)*. Retrieved 19 July 2013.
- [2] The Royal Household 2008, Gallery.
- [3] Hoak 2002, p. 54.
- [4] Hoak 2002, p. 86.
- [5] Hoak 2002, p. 86 footnote 76.
- [6] Hoak 2002, p. 87.
- [7] The Royal Household 2011, The Crown Jewels.
- [8] Garrard & Co staff 2012, heritage.
- [9] Burrell, P., *A Royal Duty*, Penguin Books (Australia), 2004. p.17

18.6 References

- The Royal Household (September 2008). "The Crown Jewels: Gallery". The Official Website of the British Monarchy. Retrieved June 2012.
- Garrard & Co staff (2012). "Heritage". Garrard & Co. Retrieved June 2012.}
- Hoak, Dale (2002) [1995]. "The Iconography of the Crown Imperial". *Tudor Political Culture*. Cambridge University Press. pp. 54, 8. ISBN 9780521520140.
- The Royal Household (8 August 2011). "The Crown Jewels". The Official Website of the British Monarchy. Retrieved June 2012.

18.7 External links

- *The Imperial State Crown* at the Royal Collection.



Portrait of King Charles I painted by Daniel Mytens in 1631, with a detailed depiction of the Tudor imperial crown at the side.



Illustration of the Imperial State Crown in the configuration, with the Stuart Sapphire in front, used from 1838 to 1909, when Cullinan II was set, by Queen Victoria and King Edward VII. It now exists as a bare frame, with its stones removed, since being replaced in 1937.

Chapter 19

Jewel House

Coordinates: 51°30′29″N 0°4′34″W﻿ / ﻿51.50806°N 0.07611°W﻿ /

The **Jewel House** in the Tower of London is both a building and an institution. Until 1782 it was the Department of the Jewel Office, under the Master of the Jewel Office, who was generally a senior politician.

19.1 History

A Keeper of the **Crown Jewels** was appointed in 1207. Over the subsequent centuries his title varied, from Keeper of the King's Jewels, Master of the Jewel House, Master and Treasurer of the King's Jewels and Plate, or Keeper of the Jewel House. He was also **Treasurer of the Chamber**, a division of the **Royal Household of the Sovereign**. In this position he was also called Keeper of the Court Wardrobe, Keeper of the **Privy Wardrobe**, or Receiver of the Chamber. In this capacity he represented the **Lord Treasurer's** interests in the regalia, and the wardrobe and privy wardrobe. Because of this the Receiver of the Chamber exercised delegated authority over the Crown Jewels, especially those kept at the Tower of London. These two positions were separated in 1485.

In 1378 the Keeper gained control over at least a part of the royal jewels, and had a box in which he kept them, with two keys, one for himself and the other for the Lord Treasurer. This was the beginning of the Jewel House Department.

The royal treasure was usually kept in the Tower of London, and at the Great Treasury, Westminster. Additionally, coronation regalia was over the centuries kept in the Chamber of the **Pyx** in Westminster Abbey. From the foundation of the Abbey in c. 1050 until 1303 the Chamber of the **Pyx** also held the general royal treasury. Most crowns were kept in the Tower of London from the time of King Henry III, as were coronation regalia from 1643, except for some items which were in the Abbey during the time of King James II.

The first Keeper (however styled) after the **Restoration** of the monarchy in 1660, Sir Gilbert Talbot, was the last to exercise day-to-day control over the Jewel House. At that time he was styled Master and Treasurer of the Jewels and Plate. Spare plate was at this time kept at **Whitehall**, and later, probably, at **St James's Palace**. Very large quantities of spare plate were melted down and sold in 1680, and thereafter the Jewel House held comparatively little besides that which was held at the **Tower of London** - though much was out on loan.

In 1782, as part of a wider rationalisation of the **Royal Household**, the Jewel House Department was abolished, the **Lord Chamberlain's Office** taking over the accounting functions, with an official called the "Officer of the Jewels and Plate".

Although a treasury had been found in the **Tower of London** from the earliest times (as in the sub-crypt of **St. John's Chapel** in the **White Tower**), from 1255 there was a separate Jewel House for state crowns and regalia, though not older crowns and regalia, which remained at **Westminster Abbey**. This Jewel House stood by the (now demolished) **Wardrobe Tower**.

Following **Richard de Podnecott's** attempted robbery of the Chamber of the **Pyx** in 1303 the coronation regalia (such as **St. Edward's Crown**) were moved to the **Tower of London** for safekeeping. A new Jewel House was built near the **White Tower** in 1378, and by the 1530s the reserve of jewels and plate was brought together in the rebuilt Jewel House, on the south side of the **White Tower**. The upper floor was for the regalia, and the lower for the plate.



A Coldstream Guards sentry outside the Jewel House

From 1660, as the Privy Wardrobe no longer remained at the Tower of London, a caretaker was appointed as watchman for the Master of the Jewel House. He later became known as the Keeper of the Regalia or Keeper of the Jewel Office at the Tower. From this appointment a separate branch of the Jewel House Department developed. When the latter was closed down the Tower of London Jewel House alone remained. From 1665 the regalia were on show to the public, and over time this activity of the Jewel House became increasingly important.

From 1782 until 1814 there was only the resident caretaker to guard the regalia and other jewels at the Tower of



The Jewel House

London. In 1814 a Keeper of the Jewel House was appointed. He had a servant as “exhibitor” - renamed Curator in 1921 - who was responsible for the day-to-day custody of the jewels.

The Keeper of the Jewel House gradually grew in standing, to approximate that of the pre-1782 Keeper. In 1852 he was recognised as a member of the **Royal Household**, though this ended in 1990 when the Tower of London became the responsibility of the new **Historic Royal Palaces Agency**. The post was combined with that of Resident Governor of the **Tower of London** in 1968, and a Deputy Governor (Security) assumed much of his responsibilities.

An assistant curator was appointed in 1963, and a second in 1968, when a new independent body of wardens and senior wardens was created to replace the former detail of **Yeomen Warders** of the Tower of London who had been responsible for the outward protection of the jewels.

The wardens, who wear royal livery, numbered 20 in 1990.

19.2 Removal of the regalia

The regalia are removed from the Jewel House on the authority of the **Lord Chamberlain**, head of the **Royal Household**, exercised by his deputy the **Comptroller** of the Lord Chamberlain’s Office. He signs a chit on receipt of the items from the Deputy Governor (Security). Only the **Crown Jeweller** can handle the regalia and it is customary for a team of armed policemen to be present. The Curator, now renamed Chief Exhibitor, reports directly to the Deputy Governor, who is responsible to the Resident Governor and Keeper of the Jewel House. The Constable and Governor of the Tower of London, and his Lieutenant, are senior retired officers, who have some element of oversight, though no specific authority over the Jewel House.

In 1917 some items were removed for safekeeping away from German bombing, and in 1939-47 a similar precaution was taken.

In 1669 the regalia were moved into a new chamber in the Martin Tower, where they remained until the construction of a new structure adjacent to the Martin Tower in 1842. Unfortunately the new Jewel House, although designed for the now-primary purpose of showing the regalia, was not suitable, and a new chamber was constructed in the upper floor of the Wakefield Tower in 1869. Apart from their temporary removal during war, or for ceremonial use, the **Crown Jewels** remained there until 1967.

19.3 Current structure

The 1967 Jewel House was built in the west wing of the Waterloo Barracks. It contained a combined strongroom/display area in the basement extending out into the Broad Walk (parade ground) in front of the Barracks, and an upper floor displaying plate. The entrance was in the west front of the barracks, with the basement chamber entered through the ground floor chamber, down 49 steps, past untreated concrete walls, and through a massive strongroom door. The vault was said to be nuclear bomb proof, and to contain electronic beams and steel shutters for security. The items were displayed in a series of glass cases arranged in a circle, around which visitors proceeded clockwise, under the supervision of the wardens. There was a raised gallery at a distance of 2-3 yards from the cases, for viewing at a more leisurely pace.

The Jewel House was built 1966-67 and designed to cater for one million visitors annually. However, as by the 1980s the Jewel House was regularly visited by twice that number of people, a new Jewel House was planned. This was constructed 1992-94, also in the Waterloo Barracks, which was fortunately large enough, having been built to accommodate 1,000 men. The new Jewel House is single-level, on the ground floor of the barracks - doubtless because the threat of nuclear attack having receded, the need for a subterranean vault was less. The Jewel House was funded from the visitor receipts, and cost £10m. The display area is three times the size of the old Jewel House, and more efficient crowd management techniques meant that it is capable of handling four times the number of visitors, at 2,500 an hour. This is achieved largely through the use of a moving pavement.

New security and display technology was also incorporated, including fibre optics to light the displays, and the jewels are protected by 2-inch-thick (51 mm) shatter-proof glass. The cases are of brass and contain inert materials, and filtered air. The jewels rest on French velvet.

A dedicated control room was constructed in the barracks, from which soldiers monitored the Jewel House and the wider Tower of London. Improvements to the Tower of London, especially covering fire safety and security, cost an additional £4.5m, and took three years to complete.

The Jewel House and control room occupy the whole ground floor of the Waterloo Barracks. The jewels were moved 9 January 1994, and the new Jewel House was opened by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 24 March 1994.

The current Keeper of the Jewel House is Colonel Richard Harrold, OBE, who was appointed in 2011. The Chief Exhibitor of the Jewel House is Keith Hanson, and the Deputy Chief Exhibitor Lyn Jones, RVM.

The security of the Tower of London as a whole is entrusted to the Tower Guard, which is provided by the whichever unit is charged with providing the Queen's Guard at Buckingham Palace at the time. The Guard has been based in Waterloo Barracks since 1845, and is 22 strong, under an officer. The Tower Guard mounts sentries throughout the Tower of London.

The Yeomen Warders of the Tower of London also provide security, though their day-time role is more concerned with the management of the large number of visitors to the Tower of London. Unlike the soldiers of the Tower Guard, who rotate, the Yeomen Warders are permanent, and live in the Tower of London. The present body dates from 1485, and they wear very similar uniforms to the Sovereign's bodyguard of the Yeomen of the Guard, of which they have been extraordinary members since 1550. There are currently about 38 Yeomen Warders.

19.4 External links

- The Crown Jewels at royal.gov.uk



The old sentry is from the Coldstream Guards, the new sentry is from the Queen's Colour Squadron

Chapter 20

Nizam of Hyderabad necklace

Nizam of Hyderabad necklace is a 38 diamond studded necklace owned by the British Royal Family.^[1] The necklace was designed and made by Cartier.^[2]

20.1 History

The necklace was originally crafted in 1930s by Cartier. It was a wedding gift to Queen Elizabeth II, who was still a princess, on her wedding to Prince Philip from the Last Nizam of Hyderabad, Mir Osman Ali Khan in 1947.^{[3][4]} The Nizam of Hyderabad asked the Queen to choose two pieces from Cartier to mark her wedding, and she chose a tiara and a matching necklace based on an English rose.^[5]

20.2 The necklace

The necklace was made by Cartier with 38 diamonds, with a diamond-encrusted snap. It has a detachable double-drop pendant, made of 13 emerald-cut diamonds and a pear-shaped drop, forms the pave-set center of the necklace. The design was based on English roses.

It was worn by the Duchess of Cambridge, after she was lent it by Queen Elizabeth II, for a charity fundraiser on 12 February 2014.^[6]

20.3 References

- [1] Sir Osman Ali Khan: The billionaire royal behind Princess Kate's necklace | Royal | News | Daily Express
- [2] Kate Middleton seen with famous Nizam of Hyderabad diamonds | NDTV.com
- [3] Kate Middleton dazzles in Nizam of Hyderabad diamonds | The Indian Express
- [4] Kate Middleton amazes in Nizam of Hyderabad necklace | Business Standard
- [5] "The Nizam of Hyderabad Rose Brooches and Necklace". From Her Majesty's Jewel Vault.
- [6] Duchess Kate wears Nizam of Hyderabad necklace borrowed from Queen Elizabeth II at fundraiser : Mad Mad World, News - India Today

Chapter 21

The Personal Jewel Collection of Elizabeth II



The First of May by Winterhalter, 1851, showing Queen Victoria wearing the George III tiara; also pictured are (l-r) the Duke of Wellington, the Prince Consort, and baby Prince Arthur.

The Queen's Jewels (or the **King's Jewels**, when the monarch is male) are a historic collection of jewels owned personally by the monarch of the Commonwealth realms; currently Queen Elizabeth II. The jewels are separate from the British Crown Jewels. The origin of a royal jewel collection distinct from the official crown jewels is vague, though it is thought that the jewels have their origin somewhere in the sixteenth century. Many of the pieces are from far away lands and were brought back to the United Kingdom as a result of civil war, coups and revolutions, or acquired as gifts to the monarch.^[1]

The official Crown Jewels of the United Kingdom are worn only at coronations (St. Edward's Crown being used to crown the monarch) and the State Opening of Parliament (the Imperial State Crown). On other formal occasions tiaras are worn. When the Queen goes abroad, she wears a tiara from her personal collection at formal events.

21.1 Value

There has never been a large-scale valuation of the royal family's personal collection of jewels. In 1989, Mr Laurence Krashes, for sixteen years the senior assessor to Harry Winston, attempted to make one. Its worth is dubious as he was denied access to any of the jewels and his valuations of their worth are strictly guesswork. The Queen has never allowed any gemological study of her collection. Krashes' assessment was based on the cut, setting and quality of the stones from pictures and records. Sales of jewellery from the estate of the late Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon fetched higher than expected prices due to their royal connection.^[2]

21.2 History

21.2.1 General history

Unlike the British Crown jewels—which mainly date from the accession of King Charles II—the jewels in the Queen's personal collection are not crown regalia, or insignia of state. Most pieces in the collection were designed for female monarchs or consorts, although some male monarchs have also contributed to the collection. Some of the pieces were brought to the United Kingdom from the colonies and far away lands as war booty and summary colonial expropriation, and occasionally from other European or western lands as a result of civil war or revolution. In more recent years, the monarch has worn pieces of the collection in her capacity as Queen of Australia, Canada and New Zealand. Queen Elizabeth II can be seen wearing jewels from her personal collection in official portraits for these realms (see external links).^[3]

21.2.2 The House of Hanover dispute

In 1714, with the accession of George I, the Kingdom of Great Britain and the Kingdom of Hanover both came to be ruled in personal union by the House of Hanover. Early Hanoverian monarchs were careful to keep the heirlooms of the two realms separate. King George III gave half his British heirlooms to his bride, Charlotte of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, as a wedding present. In her will, Charlotte left the jewels to the 'House of Hanover'. The Kingdom of Hanover followed the Salic Law, whereby succession descended only through males. Thus, when Queen Victoria acceded to the throne of the United Kingdom, her uncle Ernest Augustus, Duke of Cumberland and Teviotdale became King of Hanover. King Ernest demanded a portion of the jewelry, not only as the monarch of Hanover but also as the son of Queen Charlotte. Victoria flatly declined, claiming that the jewels had been bought with British money. Ernest's son George V of Hanover continued to press the claim. Victoria's husband, Prince Albert, suggested she make a financial settlement with the Hanoverian monarch to keep the jewels, but the Parliament of the United Kingdom informed the Queen they would neither purchase the jewels nor loan funds for the purpose. A Parliamentary commission was set up to investigate the matter, and in 1857 they found in favour of the House of Hanover. On 28 January 1858 the jewels were handed to the Hanoverian Ambassador, Count Kielmansege.^[4]

21.3 Diadems and tiaras

21.3.1 The King George IV State Diadem

Main article: [George IV State Diadem](#)

The George IV State Diadem (also known as the "Diamond Diadem") was made in 1820 by the Royal Goldsmiths Rundell, Bridge and Rundell for the coronation of George IV. It was designed to encircle the King's velvet Cap of Estate that he wore in the procession to Westminster Abbey. The diadem includes 1333 diamonds weighing 325.75



Queen Alexandra (centre) wearing the George IV State Diadem

carats (65.15 g), and 169 pearls along its base.^[5] Its design features roses, thistles and shamrocks, the floral symbols of England, Scotland and Ireland respectively.^[6]

The diadem was also worn during the coronation procession of Queen Victoria, and later Queen Elizabeth II. It is also worn by Elizabeth II in the procession to the State Opening of Parliament. It has been featured in many portraits

of the Queen, including one by Raphael Maklouf. The diadem featured on the world's first postage stamp, the "Penny Black" of 1840.^[7] Even now, the diadem can be seen on banknotes and coins throughout the Commonwealth realms. In her will, Queen Victoria left the diadem to the Crown, not only ensuring the diadem would be worn by future monarchs but thereby also making the diadem part of the British Crown Jewels.^[6]

21.3.2 Delhi Durbar Tiara

The Delhi Durbar Tiara was made in 1911 by the then Royal Jewellers, Garrard & Co., for Queen-Empress Mary (wife of King-Emperor George V) to wear at the 1911 Delhi Durbar.^[8]

This tiara is made of platinum and gold, and set with diamonds. It was part of the Queen Mary's parure of emeralds and diamonds made for the 1911 Durbar, which also included a necklace, stomacher, brooch and earrings. While King George V wore a crown for the Durbar (the newly commissioned Imperial Crown of India), his Consort Queen Mary did not wear a crown for the occasion; instead, Queen Mary wore the Durbar Tiara, together with the other items of the Delhi Durbar parure.

The Delhi Durbar Tiara takes the form of a tall circlet of lyres and S-scrolls, linked by festoons of rose and brilliant-cut diamonds. The upper border was originally set with ten of the Cambridge emeralds, acquired by Queen Mary in 1910 and originally owned by her grandmother the Duchess of Cambridge, but these were removed by 1922 for use elsewhere. In the year following the Delhi Durbar, the tiara was altered to take either or both of the two Lesser Stars of Africa – Cullinan III and IV; the drop-shaped stone was held at the top of the jewel and the cushion-shaped stone hung in the oval aperture below.^[8]

In 1946, Queen Mary lent the tiara to the then Queen Consort Elizabeth (later Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother) for the 1947 South African Tour and it remained with her until her death in 2002, when it passed to Queen Elizabeth II. In 2005, it was lent by the Queen to Camilla, the Duchess of Cornwall.^[8]

21.3.3 The George III Fringe Tiara

The George III tiara is a circlet incorporating brilliant diamonds that were formerly owned by George III. Originally commissioned in 1830, the tiara has since been worn by many Queens Consort. Originally it could be worn as a collar or necklace or mounted on a wire to form the tiara. Victoria first wore it as a tiara during a visit to the Royal Opera in 1839. In Franz Xaver Winterhalter's painting 'The First of May', made in 1851, Victoria can be seen wearing it as she holds Prince Arthur, the future Duke of Connaught and Strathearn. In a delicate veiled reference to the adoration of the Magi, The Duke of Wellington can be seen presenting the young prince with a gift, while Prince Albert looks on.^[9]

21.3.4 Queen Mary Fringe Tiara

This tiara (which can also be worn as a necklace) was made for Queen Mary in 1919. It is not, as has sometimes been claimed, made with diamonds that had belonged to George III but re-uses diamonds taken from a necklace/tiara purchased by Queen Victoria from Collingwood & Co as a wedding present for the then-Princess Mary in 1893. In August 1936, Queen Mary gave the tiara to Queen Elizabeth.^[10]

When Queen Elizabeth, consort of King George VI, first wore the tiara, Sir Henry "Chips" Channon called it 'an ugly spiked tiara'. The Queen later lent it to her daughter, Princess Elizabeth, as "something borrowed" for her wedding in 1947.^[10] As Princess Elizabeth was getting dressed at Buckingham Palace before leaving for Westminster Abbey the tiara snapped. Luckily, the court jeweller was standing by in case of emergency, and was rushed to his work room by a police escort. The Queen reassured her daughter that it would be fixed in time, and it was. Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother later also lent it to her granddaughter, Princess Anne, for her marriage to Captain Mark Phillips in 1973.^[9] It was put on show with a number of other royal tiaras in 2001.^[11]

21.3.5 The Vladimir Tiara

The Vladimir Tiara, sometimes referred to as the Diamond and Pearl Tiara, was purchased along with a diamond rivière in 1921 by Queen Mary from Grand Duchess Elena Vladimirovna of Russia (mother of Princess Marina, Duchess of Kent), for a price of £28,000^[12] (£1,091,300 in 2015^[13]). Grand Duchess Elena Vladimirovna (known



Portrait of Maria Pavlovna of Russia (1854-1920) wearing the Vladimir Tiara, now in the British royal collection.

after her marriage as Princess Nicholas of Greece) had inherited it from her mother Grand Duchess Maria Pavlovna. The tiara had been smuggled out of Russia by Albert Stopford, a British art dealer, during the 1917 revolution.^[14]

Over the years Princess Nicholas of Greece sold various pieces of jewellery from her personal collection to support her refugee family and various charities.^[15]

Queen Mary had the tiara adapted to accommodate the attachment of fifteen of the Cambridge cabochon emeralds. The original Teardrop pearls, originally in the Vladimir Tiara, could be replaced easily as an alternative to the emeralds. Queen Elizabeth II inherited the piece directly from her grandmother. The Diamond and Pearl Tiara is almost exclusively worn with the Cambridge and Delhi Durbar Parure, which also features large emeralds. Elizabeth II wore this tiara for her official photograph as Queen of Canada, as none of the Commonwealth realms besides the United Kingdom has its own crown jewels.^[15]

21.3.6 The Burmese Ruby Tiara

The Burmese Ruby Tiara was ordered by Elizabeth II in 1973. The design is in the form of a wreath of red roses and like many other pieces in the collection, made by Garrard & Co. Clusters of rubies and gold form the centre of each flower while diamonds and silver form the petals. A total of 96 diamonds are set into the tiara. Both the rubies and the diamonds came from Elizabeth's private collection. The rubies were a wedding present by the Burmese people, after whom the tiara was named. The number of rubies represent the number of diseases that the people of Burma believe can affect the human body. They credit the rubies with having the ability to protect their owner from sickness and evil. The diamonds were also a wedding present by the Nizam of Hyderabad and Berar who at the time also possessed a vast jewellery collection.^[16]

21.3.7 The Girls of Great Britain and Ireland Tiara

Main article: [Girls of Great Britain and Ireland Tiara](#)

The Girls of Great Britain and Ireland Tiara was a gift from the girls of Great Britain and Ireland to the future Queen Mary in 1893. The diamond tiara was purchased from Garrard, the London jeweller, by a committee organised by Lady Eve Greville. In 1947, Mary gave the tiara to her granddaughter, the future Elizabeth II, as a wedding present.^[17]

The tiara was described by Leslie Field as “a diamond festoon-and-scroll design surmounted by nine large oriental pearls on diamond spikes and set on a bandeau base of alternate round and lozenge collets between two plain bands of diamonds”. Elizabeth II has usually worn the tiara without the base or pearls, but in recent years the base has been seen to have been reattached.^{[17][18]}

Over the years this tiara has become one of the most familiar of Queen Elizabeth II's tiaras through its appearance on British banknotes and coinage.^[19]

21.3.8 The Russian Kokoshnik Tiara

The Russian Kokoshnik Tiara was presented to Princess Alexandra, Princess of Wales, in 1888 by Lady Salisbury on behalf of 365 peeresses of the United Kingdom. Alexandra had requested that the tiara be in the fashionable design of a Russian girl's headdress, a *kokoshnik*. She knew the design well from a similar tiara belonging to her sister Marie Feodorovna, the Empress of Russia. The tiara was made by Garrard Jewellers and supervised by Lady Salisbury. It is made up of 61 platinum bars and encrusted with 488 diamonds, the largest of which being 3.25 carats (0.650 g) each. Princess Alexandra wrote to her aunt, the Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz “The presents are quite magnificent. The ladies of society gave a lovely diamond spiked tiara”.^[20]

21.3.9 Cambridge Lovers Knot Tiara

Garrard was commissioned by Queen Mary in 1914 to create a copy of a tiara owned by her maternal grandmother Princess Augusta of Hesse-Cassel. The design for the tiara was changed by Queen Mary slightly. The tiara was made using diamonds and pearls already in the Queen's possession. Extremely French in its neo-classical design, the tiara consists of 19 openwork diamond frames each with a large oriental pearl drop. Each arch is below a lovers knot bow each centred with a large brilliant. The design is based on the tiara owned by Mary's grandmother, Princess Augusta of Hesse-Cassel, who married Prince Adolphus, Duke of Cambridge (the seventh son of George III). In her will Queen Mary left the tiara to her granddaughter Elizabeth II. The Queen later gave it to Princess Diana as a wedding present. She wore it often during her marriage, but on her divorce from Prince Charles it was returned to The Queen.^[21]



Queen Elizabeth II wearing the Girls of Great Britain and Ireland tiara

21.3.10 Princess Andrew of Greece's Meander Tiara

This tiara was a wedding gift to then Princess Elizabeth from her mother-in-law Princess Andrew of Greece and Denmark (born Princess Alice of Battenberg). The Meander Tiara is in the classical Greek 'key pattern' featuring a large brilliant cut diamond in the centre surrounded by a diamond wreath. It also incorporates a central wreath



Queen Elizabeth II wearing the Kokoshnik Tiara during a dance with US President Gerald Ford

of leaves and scrolls on either side. The Queen has never worn this item in public and it was given to Princess Anne around 1972. Princess Anne has frequently worn the tiara in public, notably during her engagement to Mark Phillips^[22] and for an official portrait marking her 50th birthday. In July 2011 the Princess Royal lent the Meander Tiara to her daughter Zara Philips for her wedding to Mike Tindall.^[23]

21.3.11 1936 Cartier Halo Tiara

This tiara was purchased by the Duke of York (later King George VI) for his wife (later Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother) three weeks before they became King and Queen. It is a rolling cascade of scrolls that converge in a central ornament surmounted by a brilliant diamond. The tiara was then presented the future Queen Elizabeth II on the occasion of her 18th birthday.

The tiara was borrowed by Princess Margaret, before she was given the Persian Turquoise Tiara for her 21st birthday in 1951. Princess Margaret wore the Halo Scroll Tiara to the 1953 coronation of Queen Elizabeth II.^[24]

Queen Elizabeth II later lent the tiara to her daughter Princess Anne before giving her the Greek Meander Tiara in 1972.

The Halo Scroll tiara was lent to Catherine Middleton to wear at her wedding to Prince William on 29 April 2011.^{[25][26]}

21.4 Earrings

21.4.1 Queen Victoria's Stud Earrings

A pair of large, perfectly matched brilliant cut diamonds which Queen Victoria had set as ear studs. ^[27]

21.4.2 Diamond Pear Drop Earrings

A set of gold and diamond earrings consisting of two large brilliant diamonds as the studs, below a smaller brilliant followed by a large pear shaped diamond drop. The diamonds were family stones. Diana, Princess of Wales borrowed them from Queen Elizabeth in 1983 during her first official visit to Australia. At a banquet she wore the earrings along with a tiara of her family's collection.^[28]

21.4.3 The King George VI Chandelier Earrings

These earrings are long chandelier earrings consisting of every cut of diamond. The earrings end in three large drops displaying every known modern cut of diamond. They were a wedding present in 1947 to Princess Elizabeth from her father and mother, the King and Queen. Elizabeth was not able to wear them until she had her ears pierced. When it was noticed that she had had her ears pierced doctors and jewellers found themselves inundated with women anxious to have their ears pierced too.^[29]

21.5 Necklaces

21.5.1 Festoon Necklace

In 1947, George VI commissioned a three strand diamond necklace containing over 150 brilliant cut diamonds to get rid of some of the loose diamonds he had inherited. The necklace consists of three small rows of diamonds with a triangle motif. The minimum weight of this necklace is 170 carats (34 g).^[29]

21.5.2 The Queen Mother's Collet Necklace

For the coronation of her husband, Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother wore Queen Victoria's collet necklace along with a much larger one. The necklace's carat weight has never been disclosed, but it is clear from photos that it contains approximately 45 large diamond collets.

21.5.3 King Faisal of Saudi Arabia Necklace

Given to the Queen in 1967 by King Faisal of Saudi Arabia, the necklace is a fringe necklace in design and is set with brilliant and baguette diamonds. Made by Harry Winston, King Faisal bought the necklace and presented it to her on a state visit to the United Kingdom in 1967. The Queen wore this necklace when King Faisal gave a banquet in honour of Elizabeth in the Dorchester hotel before his departure. The Queen also lent this necklace to Diana, Princess of Wales during a state visit to Australia in 1983.^[30]

21.5.4 The King Khalid of Saudi Arabia Necklace

Another gift from Saudi Arabia this necklace was given to the Queen by King Khalid of Saudi Arabia in 1979, the necklace is of the sunray design and contains round and pear shaped diamonds. The necklace was also made by Harry Winston and often lent to Diana, Princess of Wales by the Queen.^[31]

21.5.5 The Queen Anne and Queen Caroline Pearl Necklaces

The pearls together are estimated at over £4,000,000 for the pair. Both necklaces consist of a single row of large graduated pearls with pearl clasps. The Queen Anne necklace is said to have belonged to Queen Anne, the last British monarch of the Stuart dynasty. Horace Walpole wrote in his diary: "Queen Anne had but few jewels and those indifferent, except one pearl necklace given to her by Prince George". Queen Caroline on the other hand had a great deal of valuable jewellery, including no less than four fine pearl necklaces. She wore all of her pearl necklaces to her coronation but afterwards had the fifty finest selected to make one larger necklace. In 1947 both necklaces were given to then-Princess Elizabeth by her father as a wedding present.



Elizabeth II wearing the Girls of Great Britain Tiara and the Festoon Necklace

On 20 November 1947, the day the then-Princess Elizabeth was to wed Prince Philip, she realised she had left her pearls at St James's Palace. Elizabeth particularly wished to wear the pearls and asked her Private Secretary, Jock Colville, to travel there to retrieve them. Colville ended up in the quadrangle, where he commandeered King Haakon VII of Norway's big Daimler limousine. Traffic that morning had stopped, so even the King of Norway's car with its royal flag flying could not get anywhere. Colville continued his journey to the palace on foot. When he arrived there he had to explain his odd story to the guards who were protecting the Princess's over 2,660 wedding presents. After finding the Private Secretary's name on a wedding programme, they admitted him, and Colville was able to get the pearls to the Princess in time for her portrait in the Music Room of Buckingham Palace.^[32]



HM Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother wearing the Queen Anne and Queen Caroline pearls.

21.6 Brooches

21.6.1 “Granny’s Chips” - Cullinan III & IV

Known as “Granny’s Chips”, the Cullinan III and Cullinan IV were two of several stones cut from the Cullinan Diamond in 1905. The large diamond found in South Africa was presented to Edward VII on his birthday. Two of the stones cut from the diamond were the 94.4-carat (18.88 g) Cullinan III, a clear pear shaped stone. The other a 63.6-carat (12.72 g) cushion shaped stone. Queen Mary had these stones made into a brooch with the Cullinan III hanging from the IV. Elizabeth II inherited the piece from her grandmother in 1953. The brooch is the most valuable brooch in the world with a value of over £50,000,000.

21.6.2 Queen Victoria’s Bow Brooches

Commissioned by Queen Victoria in 1858, Garrards made a set of three large bow brooches containing more than 506 diamonds. There is no record or picture of Queen Victoria ever wearing them; Queen Alexandra, Queen Mary, Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother and the Queen were seen wearing them frequently. The brooches are often adjusted to contain a large pearl or emerald diamond drop. Queen Mary was pictured on more than one occasion with the Lesser-Cullinan diamonds as the drops. Estimated at £75,000 each by Mr Krashes in 1989, resulting in an approximate value for the set of £225,000.

21.6.3 The Prince Albert Sapphire Brooch

The Prince Albert sapphire brooch was given by Prince Albert to Queen Victoria at Buckingham Palace on 9 February 1840. It was the day before their wedding and Queen Victoria wrote in her diary that Albert came to her sitting room and gave her 'a beautiful sapphire and diamond brooch. The centre stone is a large oblong perfect blue sapphire surrounded by twelve round diamonds.

It passed from Queen Victoria to the queen consorts, Alexandra of Denmark, Mary of Teck and Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, then came to the current Queen on her accession to the throne in 1952.^[33]

The carat weight of the Sapphire has never been disclosed but by the size it is estimated to be around 20-30 carats. The current price per carat of a unique sapphire is about £120,000; this results in a price range of around £4 million, not taking into account its royal provenance, which would no doubt add much more to the value of the piece.

21.7 Parures

21.7.1 Brazil Parure

The Brazil Parure is one of the most modern jewels in the collection. In 1953 the President and people of Brazil presented Elizabeth II with the coronation gift of a necklace and matching pendant earrings of aquamarines and diamonds.^[34] It had taken an entire year to collect the perfectly matched stones. The necklace consists of nine large oblong aquamarines with an even bigger aquamarine pendant drop. The Queen has since had the drop set in a more decorative diamond cluster and it is now detachable. Her Majesty was so delighted with the gift that in 1957 she had a matching aquamarine tiara made.^[34] The tiara is surmounted by three vertically set aquamarines. In August 1958 the Brazilian Government added to their gift by presenting the Queen with a bracelet of seven oblong aquamarines set in a cluster of diamonds and a square aquamarine and diamond brooch to match.^[35]

21.7.2 The George VI Victorian Suite

The George VI Victorian Suite was originally a wedding present by George VI to his daughter Princess Elizabeth in 1947. The suite consists of a long necklace of oblong sapphires surrounded by diamonds and a pair of matching square sapphire earrings also bordered with diamonds. The suite was originally made in 1850. The colour of the stones exactly matched the colour of the robes of the Order of the Garter, although this may have been a coincidence on George’s part. In 1952 Elizabeth had the largest sapphire of the necklace removed in order to shorten it. In 1959 she had a new pendant made using the removed stone. When Noël Coward saw the Queen wearing the suite at the Royal Command Performance in 1954 he wrote: “After the show we were lined up and presented to the Queen,



George V and Queen Mary 1914. Queen Mary wearing the State Diadem, The complete set of Queen Victoria's Bow Brooches (down the front of her dress), The Cullinan III & IV (pendant from necklace) several diamond collet necklaces and a pearl and diamond bracelet now frequently worn by the Queen.

Prince Philip and Princess Margaret. The Queen looked luminously lovely and was wearing the largest sapphires I have ever seen”.

In 1963 a new sapphire and diamond tiara and bracelet were made to match the original pieces. The tiara was made out of a necklace that had belonged to Princess Louise of Belgium, daughter of King Leopold II of the Belgians. Louise had to sell off her jewelry after her father disowned her following her divorce in 1906. In 1969, the Queen wore the complete parure when she and the Duke of Edinburgh attended a charity concert.^[36]

21.7.3 Queen Victoria's Collet Necklace and Earrings

Commissioned by Queen Victoria in 1858 from the diamonds from an old Garter badge, this necklace and earrings were first seen in her Winterhalter portrait. The necklace consists of twenty-nine collet diamonds adding up to a weight of over 160 carats (32 g) of diamonds. The necklace contains a famous stone as the pendant named the Lahore Diamond which weights 22.48 carats (4.496 g). The earrings are of typical design, large brilliant followed by a smaller one, with a large pear shaped drop.

21.7.4 The Coronation Coronets

For the 1937 coronation of their parents, it was decided that the princesses Elizabeth and Margaret should receive coronets to wear during the event. Elaborate coronets of gold lined with crimson and edged with ermine were designed by the crown jeweller and brought to the royal couple for inspection. The king and queen decided the coronets were too cumbersome and too ornate to be appropriate. Queen Mary suggested the coronets be simple circlets of silver gilt in a mediaeval style. The king agreed, and the two coronets were designed with Maltese crosses and fleur-de-lys. After the coronation Queen Mary wrote, “Lilibet [Elizabeth] and Margaret looked too sweet in their lace dresses and robes, especially when they put on their coronets.”^[37]

21.8 Queen Mary's Turquoise Parures

There were two turquoise parures assembled by Queen Mary; one was worn by Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon and the other was given to the late Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester.^[38]

The current Queen does not own the parures and they will continue to be passed down to subsequent family members or, like Princess Margaret's set, be sold at an auction.

21.9 The Gloucester Turquoise Parure

The Queen Mary turquoise parure was given to the young Princess Mary of Teck (Queen Mary) by her parents the Duke and Duchess of Teck when she became engaged to the future George V in 1893. The parure, later given to the Duchess of Gloucester, consisted of three 1850 turquoise brooches, a tiara, a necklace, and earrings.^[38] Over the years another drop necklace was added and the Teck earrings worn as detachable pendant drops on the oval cluster earrings.^[38]

The three brooches had been a gift to Mary's mother, Princess Mary Adelaide of Cambridge, upon her confirmation in December 1850.^[38] Princess Mary of Cambridge wore the two brooches as part of a headdress, with the corsage brooch pinned to her bodice, when she attended her first debutante ball at Buckingham Palace.^[38]

The collection known as the “Gloucester Jewels” is mainly the collection of jewels given to Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester upon her marriage to Prince Henry, Duke of Gloucester, son of King George V and Queen Mary, in 1935.^[38] During the beginning of the 20th century turquoise was a very fashionable stone and Queen Mary was aware of the Duchess's fondness of them. The turquoise parure from Queen Mary consists of the tiara, a long chained necklace of twenty-six turquoise and diamond oval clusters, matching cluster earrings and ring, two bow brooches, a bow-shaped corsage brooch with a tassel, a bangle bracelet, and two four row turquoise bead bracelets.^[38]

The tiara of turquoise and diamonds was arranged in rococo scrolls and a sunburst. The centre of the tiara contains the largest turquoise in the piece surrounded by a “burst” of diamonds and turquoise pear shaped stones, quite similar to the famous Persian tiaras of Empress Farah of Iran. Apparently Queen Mary found the composition too high, and it was lowered by E. Wolff & Co. in August 1912.

On 29 October 2004, after the death of Princess Alice, the collection was passed to the current **Duchess of Gloucester**, wife of **Prince Richard, Duke of Gloucester**. Her Royal Highness has worn every piece in the parure known to have been given to her late mother-in-law Princess Alice.

Not much is known about other pieces given to the Duchess of Gloucester; most likely they are pieces commissioned by her husband:

- a diamond and turquoise and gold bangle
- two alternate diamond and turquoise collets

21.10 The Princess Margaret Turquoise Parure

As a baby, Princess Margaret was given a string of turquoise and pearl beads.^[38] In August 1951, upon her 21st birthday, Princess Margaret was given the antique parure of Persian turquoises set in diamonds.^[38] The parure had been given to her mother upon her marriage in 1923 to the **Duke of York**, later **George VI**.^[38] This parure consisted of a long necklace with a number of graduated pendant drops, matching pendant earrings, hair ornaments, a large square brooch, and a high oval tiara.^[38] A bow brooch and ring were added to the set.^[38]

The string of turquoise and pearl beads given to Margaret at birth were eventually given to her daughter, **Lady Sarah Armstrong-Jones**.^[38]

21.11 See also

- Garrard & Co
- Crown Jewels of the United Kingdom
- Imperial Crown of India

21.12 References

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21.14 External links

- Elizabeth II wearing the George IV State Diadem
- Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret wearing their Coronation Coronets
- Elizabeth II wearing the Kokoshnik Tiara
- Elizabeth II wearing the Girls of Great Britain and Ireland Tiara
- Elizabeth II wearing the Burmese Ruby Tiara
- Elizabeth II New Zealand State Portrait
- Elizabeth II Canada State Portrait



Queen Mary wearing the Prince Albert sapphire brooch and the Caroline and Anne pearls.





Queen Victoria photographed for her Diamond Jubilee in 1897, wearing the diamond collet necklace, earrings and her large diamond bracelet.



Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester wears the turquoise tiara given to her by Queen Mary in August of 1935.



Princess Margaret wearing a brooch from the turquoise suite.

Chapter 22

Sceptre with the Cross

The **Sceptre with the Cross**, also known as the **St Edward's Sceptre**, the **Sovereign's Sceptre** or the **Royal Sceptre**, is a sceptre of the **British Crown Jewels**. It was originally made for the coronation of **King Charles II** in 1661. In 1905, it was redesigned after the discovery of the **Cullinan Diamond**. Now, the Sceptre with the Cross includes the second largest diamond in the world, the Cullinan I, or the Great Star of Africa, which weighs over 530 carats (106 g). The Cullinan I can be removed from the sceptre to be worn as a **brooch**. The Cullinan diamond was the largest diamond ever found in the world, at 3106.75 carats. It was cut into 9 different pieces and Cullinan I was the largest among them.

The Sceptre symbolises the **temporal authority** of the Monarch under the Cross. The **Sceptre with the Dove**, another sceptre in the Crown Jewels, represents spiritual authority. During the coronation, the Monarch holds the Sceptre with the Cross in the right hand and the Sceptre with the Dove in the left while the Archbishop of Canterbury places **St Edward's Crown** on his or her head.

The Sceptre with the Cross, and the other Crown Jewels, may be found on display at the Jewel House in the Tower of London.

22.1 External links

- *The Sovereign's Sceptre with Cross* at the Royal Collection.
- The top of the sceptere featuring the Cullinan I, image from The Jewelry Editor
- Image of the Sovereign's Sceptre with Cross at the Official Website of the British Monarchy
- Image of the Orb and Sceptre held by Queen Elizabeth II at her Coronation, 2 June 1953



King Edward VII in coronation garments, 1902. Note the Royal Sceptre in its original form, shortly before the addition of the Cullinan I Diamond.



Portrait of King George VI by Sir Gerald Kelly, painted sometime between 1938 and 1945. He is holding the Sceptre with the Cross, containing the 530-carat Cullinan I Diamond. The Imperial State Crown is on the right.

Chapter 23

Sceptre with the Dove

The **Sceptre with the Dove**, also known as the Rod with the Dove or the Rod of Equity and Mercy, is a sceptre of the **British Crown Jewels**. It was originally made for the coronation of **King Charles II** in 1661. Its design included a gold rod with bands of gemstones, surmounted by a sphere and an enamelled **dove**, representing the **Holy Ghost**.

The Sceptre with the Dove symbolises the spiritual authority of the Monarch under the Cross. The **Sceptre with the Cross**, another sceptre in the Crown Jewels, represents temporal or lay authority. During the coronation, the Monarch holds the Sceptre with the Dove in the left hand and the Sceptre with the Cross in the right while the **Archbishop of Canterbury** places **St Edward's Crown** on his or her head.

The Sceptre with the Dove, and the other Crown Jewels are on display at Jewel House in the Tower of London.



Chapter 24

Small diamond crown of Queen Victoria

The **small diamond crown of Queen Victoria** is a miniature crown created at the request of Queen Victoria of the United Kingdom in 1870. It was perhaps the crown most associated with Queen Victoria. Such was the association that it, and not either the traditional St. Edward's Crown or her own Imperial State Crown, was placed on her coffin before her funeral.

24.1 Origins

Following the death of Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, Victoria's husband, in 1861, Queen Victoria withdrew from public life and wore widow's weeds, which she continued to wear until her death in 1901. Under government pressure she came back into public view in 1870. However she did not wish to wear her Imperial State Crown again, partly because she found it very heavy and uncomfortable to wear, and partly because it would have been impossible to wear with her mourning veil. The new small crown was created as a replacement. Because of its size it could be worn on top of her veil, so meeting both the ceremonial needs of the British monarchy and her own desired form of dress as a widow.

24.2 Design

Although diminutive, the crown follows standard design for British crowns. It is made up of four half-arches, which meet at a monde, on which sits a cross. Each half-arch runs from the monde down to a cross pattee along the band at the bottom. Between each cross pattee is a fleur-de-lis.

Because of its small size (9 centimetres across and 10 centimetres high) Victoria's small diamond crown possesses no internal cloth cap.

The crown was manufactured by R & S Garrard & Company.

24.3 Jewels

The crown itself is made of silver. It contains 1,187 diamonds. Unlike coloured stones, these were seen as permissible to wear in mourning. The diamonds all came from a necklace owned by Queen Victoria.

24.4 Usage

Queen Victoria first used the new crown at the State Opening of Parliament in Westminster on 9 February 1871. It was worn by her on all state occasions after that date where she was required to wear a crown.



Queen Victoria, wearing her small diamond crown in 1887.



A side view of Queen Victoria wearing her small diamond crown.

24.5 After Victoria

The small diamond crown had technically belonged to Queen Victoria personally, rather than to the British Crown, and thus was not part of the British Crown Jewels. In her will Victoria left it to the British Crown. It was subsequently worn on occasions by the Queen consort, Alexandra of Denmark (1901–1910) and after her by the next Queen

consort, **Mary of Teck**. After the death of Mary's husband, **George V**, the crown ceased to be worn by her. When the new Queen consort, **Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon** decided not to wear the small diamond crown, it was deposited in the Jewel House in the **Tower of London** in 1937, where it remains on show.

Chapter 25

Sovereign's Orb



The Orb

The **Sovereign's Orb** is a type of regalia known as a globus cruciger and is one of the British Crown Jewels.

25.1 History



Charles II posing with the Orb in 1661

It was created for the coronation of King Charles II in 1661 along with the Sceptre with the Cross and Ampulla.^[1] The orb alone cost £1,150^[2]—approximately £142 thousand, adjusted to 2010 values.^[3]

The Orb is a hollow gold sphere weighing 42 ounces (1,200 g) and measuring about 16.5 centimetres (6.5 in) in diameter. Spanning the equator is a band of pearls and gemstones, with a similar half-band running across the top half of the Orb. Atop the Orb is an amethyst surmounted by a Cross. The Orb is a religious symbol that represents the Monarch's role as Defender of the Faith and as Supreme Governor of the Church of England.

During a coronation, the *Archbishop of Canterbury* delivers the Orb to the Monarch's right hand. The Orb is then placed on an altar, where it remains for the remainder of the ceremony. At the end of the ceremony, the Monarch holds the Orb in the left hand, the *Sceptre with the Cross* in the right hand, and wears the *Imperial State Crown* as he or she leaves *Westminster Abbey*.

The shape and image of the Sovereign's Orb was parodied in the film *Monty Python and the Holy Grail* as the "Holy Hand Grenade of Antioch."

25.2 References

25.2.1 Footnotes

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25.2.2 Sources

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25.3 External links

- Photograph of the Sovereign's Orb

Chapter 26

St Edward's Crown

St Edward's Crown is one of the oldest of **British Crown Jewels** and is considered the principal piece of the **Regalia**,^[1] being the **coronation crown** traditionally used in the coronation of first English, then British, monarchs, including **Queen Elizabeth II**, who now reigns as the monarch of 16 independent **Commonwealth realms**. The crown takes its name from **St Edward the Confessor**, although the present crown is in fact a reconstruction made for the coronation of **King Charles II** in 1661, following the destruction of its medieval predecessor during the **Interregnum** by order of **Oliver Cromwell**. Two-dimensional representations of the crown are used in coats of arms, badges, and various other insignia throughout the **Commonwealth realms** to indicate the authority of the reigning sovereign, reflecting the executive governmental authority in and of each realm.

26.1 Physical version

26.1.1 Medieval crown or crowns

The original crown of **Edward the Confessor** was worn by him at **Christmas** in 1065.^[2] It may have incorporated material from a crown of **Alfred the Great**.^[3] In 1066, on **Christmas Day**, **St Edward's crown** was reputedly used in the coronation of **King William I** in token of his inheritance by right rather than conquest.^[4] It was used subsequently for the coronations of **King William II** (1087), **King Henry I** (1100), **King Stephen** (1135), **King Henry II** (1154), **King Richard I** (1189 and 1194), and **King John** (1199).^[5]

In 1216, at the first coronation of **King Henry III**, a chaplet was employed instead of the crown.^[6] From this it was inferred by the German historian **Reinhold Pauli**^[7] that the original **St Edward's Crown** had been among the crown jewels lost by **King John**. However **Arthur Penrhyn Stanley** maintained that the original crown and regalia were kept in the **Treasury of Westminster** until the time of **King Henry VIII**, and survived until 1642.^[8] The crown was reputedly used in 1533 for the coronation of **Anne Boleyn**.^[9] The medieval crown was destroyed by **Oliver Cromwell's** order during the **English Civil War**.

26.1.2 The present form

Following the **Restoration** of **Charles II** in 1660, the crown was re-created for his coronation in April 1661. In 1671 it was stolen for a short period by **Thomas Blood**, who flattened it with a mallet in an attempt to conceal it.

The present **St Edward's Crown** contains much of the crown made in 1661. It is constructed of solid gold. The design comprises a base, with four **crosses pattée** alternating with four **fleurs-de-lis**, above which rise four half-arches surmounted by a **monde and cross**, all set with 444 precious stones. Within this gold frame there is a velvet cap with an **ermine** border, which protrudes below the base. The stones were formerly hired for each coronation and then detached, leaving only the frame. However, in 1911 the jewels were set permanently. A number of changes were made for the coronations of **King James II** (a new **monde**) and **King William III** (the base being changed from its original circular form to a more natural oval one). The crown was also made slightly smaller to fit the head of **King George V**, the first monarch to be crowned with **St. Edward's Crown** in over two hundred years. The crown was, however, carried in procession at other coronations at which it was not actually worn.

Queen Victoria and King Edward VII chose not to be crowned with St Edward's Crown because of its weight of 4 lb 12 oz (2.2 kg) and instead used the lighter Imperial State Crown. St. Edward's Crown was placed on the coffin of Edward VII for his lying in state and funeral in 1910, and was used for the coronation of his crowned successors; Kings George V in 1911 and George VI in 1937 and at the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in 1953. On 4 June 2013, it was displayed on the altar in Westminster Abbey at the sixtieth anniversary service of the Queen's coronation—the first time it had left the Tower of London since 1953.

26.2 Use at coronations

Although always regarded as the “official” coronation crown, in fact, only a minority of monarchs have been crowned with the re-made St. Edward's Crown. These were Charles II (1661), James II (1685), William III (1689), George V (1911), George VI (1937) and Elizabeth II (1953). All other English and British monarchs were crowned with other crowns: Queens Mary II and Anne with small diamond crowns of their own; Kings George I, George II, George III, and William IV with George I's new state crown; King George IV with a large new diamond crown; and Queen Victoria and King Edward VII with Victoria's 1838 Imperial State Crown. Before 1649, many monarchs were crowned with the original St. Edward's Crown, though they often had several crowns placed on their head during the ceremony.

26.3 Symbolic version

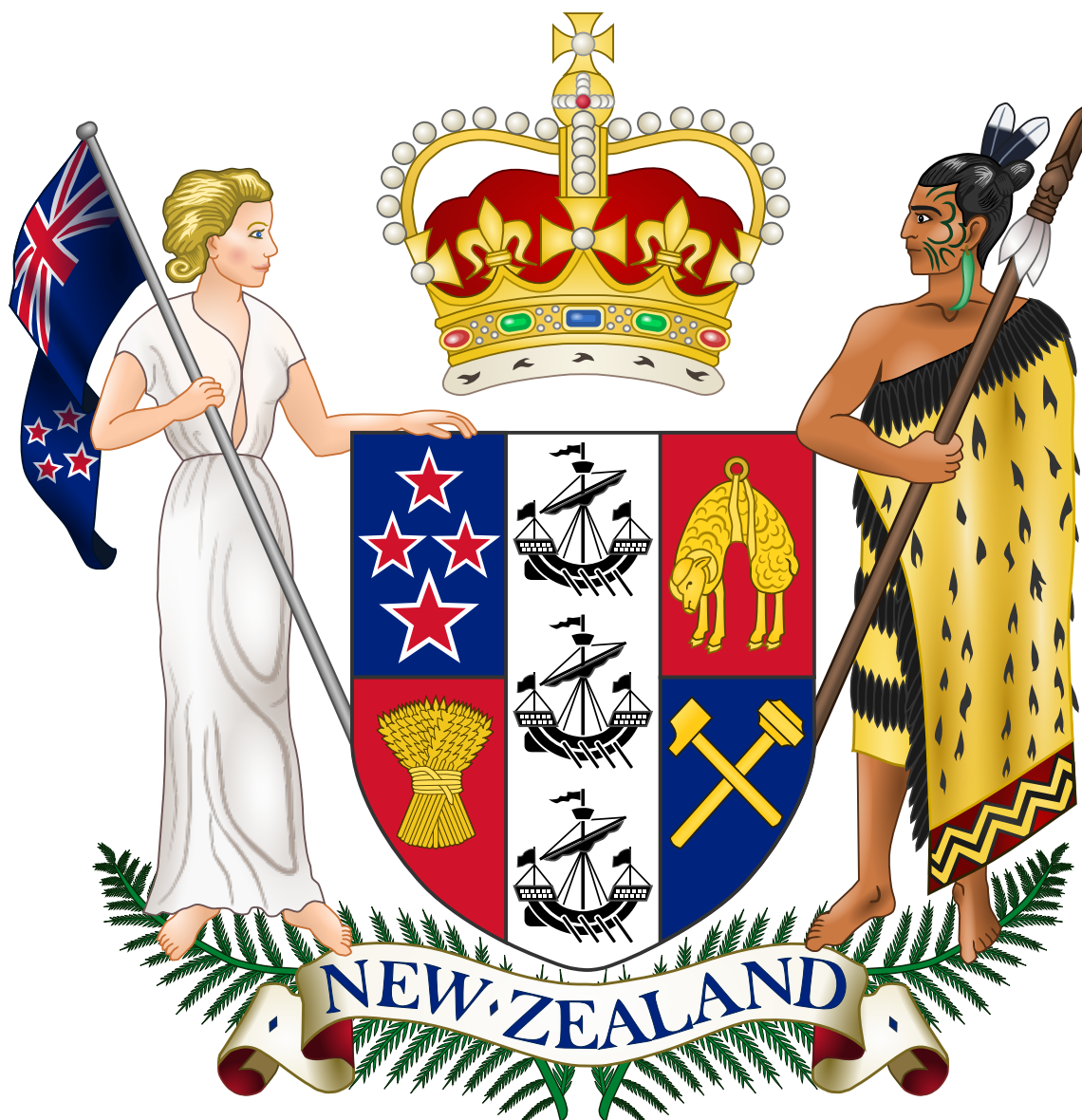
Though the physical St Edward's Crown is property of the Queen in Right of the United Kingdom, its two-dimensional representation has come to be utilised throughout all the Commonwealth realms as an indication of each country's respective royal or governmental authority. Thus it appears on coats of arms, badges for military and police units, rank insignia of senior non-commissioned officers of the British armed forces, senior commissioned officers of the British Army and Royal Marines, and of senior police officers, and logos for government departments and private organizations with royal associations. In these contexts, it replaced the Tudor Crown in 1953 by the command of Elizabeth II.^{[10][11]} Such use of the crown is only by the personal permission of the sovereign.^[12]

26.4 See also

- Canadian royal symbols

26.5 References

- [1] “The Crown Jewels”. *The Official Website of the British Monarchy*. The Royal Household. Retrieved 25 July 2013.
- [2] Cambridge 'Life of St Edward the Confessor' (Norman-French, c.1245) in H.R. Luard (Ed.), *Lives of Edward the Confessor Rolls Series* (London 1858). Also, Arthur Penrhyn Stanley, *Historical Memorials of Westminster Abbey* (4th, Revised Edition) (John Murray, London 1876), p.27.
- [3] King-Hall, Stephen (1936). *The Crowning of the King and Queen*. London: Evans Brothers. p. 4.
- [4] Stanley 1876, p.42-44.
- [5] Stanley 1876, 47-53.
- [6] Stanley 1876, 53.
- [7] Reinhold Pauli, 'Continuation of Johann Martin Lappenberg's *Geschichte von England, 1154-1509*', Henry II to Henry VII', (Gotha 1853-1858)), p. 489: cited by Stanley 1876, p. 54.
- [8] Stanley 1876, pp.45, 458-459
- [9] Hunt, Alice (10 November 2008). *The Drama of Coronation: Medieval Ceremony in Early Modern England*. London: Cambridge University Press. ISBN 978-0-521-88539-3.
- [10] Department of Canadian Heritage 2008, p. 2



The Coat of Arms of New Zealand is surmounted by a depiction of St. Edward's Crown

[11] "An Armorial of Canada > The Royal Arms of Canada". Royal Heraldry Society of Canada. Retrieved 25 September 2009.

[12] Department of Canadian Heritage. "Ceremonial and Canadian Symbols Promotion > The crown in Canada > The Royal Crown". Queen's Printer for Canada. Retrieved 24 September 2009.

26.6 External links

- *St Edward's Crown* at the Royal Collection.

Chapter 27

St Edward's Sapphire

The **St Edward's Sapphire** is a sapphire and one of the **Crown Jewels of the United Kingdom**. It gets its name from **Edward the Confessor** who wore the stone in his ring. According to legend the sapphire made its first appearance in the year 1042, where it was set into Edward's coronation ring. The gem survived through **Oliver Cromwell's** reign and disassembly of the **crown jewels** and was recut into its present form for **Charles II** after the restoration. **Queen Victoria** had the stone set into the finial cross of the **Imperial State Crown** which was made for her coronation in 1838.

27.1 Legend of Saint John

According to legend King Edward had great respect for **John the Evangelist** and was noted for his generosity towards his poorer subjects. One day on his way to **Westminster Abbey** he was accosted by a beggar. The King's immediate reaction was to search his pockets for some money to hand the beggar. Upon finding his pockets empty the king, without hesitation, slipped the sapphire ring off his finger and presented it to the beggar. The beggar thanked the generous monarch and departed. Many years later two pilgrims from the Holy Land returned the ring to the king saying they had met **St John the Evangelist** who told them he had received the ring from the king, many years earlier in the guise of a beggar. He congratulated Edward for his kindness, and said that he would see Edward in heaven in six months time. Exactly six months later the king died of chicken pox.



Illustration of the Imperial State Crown before the height was lowered by about 1 inch (25 mm) in the early 20th century, at which point the Stuart Sapphire (the large oval blue stone) was also moved to the reverse side and its space replaced with the Cullinan II Diamond. The Maltese cross at the top is set with St. Edward's Sapphire at its center.

Chapter 28

State Crown of George I

The **State Crown of George I** was the *state crown* manufactured for King George I of Great Britain.

When George I became King of Great Britain and King of Ireland in 1714 it was decided to replace the previous state crown (i.e., the crown worn to open parliament), created for King Charles II in 1661, by a new crown, as the old one was judged “weak” and in a poor state of repair. Much of the ornamentation was transferred to the new crown. As with precedent, however, it was set not with precious gems but with decorated stones and glass.

The crown itself consisted of four half-arches on a golden band, with the aquamarine monde and cross that had been added to King Charles’s state crown in 1685. On top of it stood the cross.

In 1727 the glass and stones were removed and replaced with hired diamonds, valued at £109,200, and in this newly set version the crown was used for the coronation of King George II, though with one difference. The arches, which, had curved downwards at the centre of the crown, were pulled upwards, leading to a flat top on the crown surmounted by the aquamarine monde and cross.

The crown was used subsequently for the coronations of Kings George III and William IV. In 1820, because it was seen as being a “very poor affair”, further work was carried out on the crown, including the replacement of the aquamarine monde, which on inspection was revealed to be merely blue-green glass. The crown was present in this state at the coronation of King George IV who was, however, crowned with a new diamond crown of his own. In its restored state George I’s crown was used for William IV’s coronation in 1831.

This was to be the last occasion on which it was worn by a monarch. It was carried before Queen Victoria at the State Opening Parliament early in her reign (on one occasion being dropped and flattened), but before her coronation Victoria replaced George I’s state crown by a new *Imperial State Crown*, re-using many of its precious stones. The empty and abandoned frame of the 1714 crown, along with the frames of the coronation crowns of George IV and Adelaide of Saxe-Meiningen (the wife of William IV), were apparently sold to the Crown Jewellers.

The empty frames of all these crowns were given to Queen Elizabeth II in 1995 and are now on display in the Martin Tower in the Tower of London.

28.1 References

- *The Crown Jewels* - booklet published by the Tower of London.



George I
for whom the new state crown was made.

Chapter 29

Stewart Sapphire

The **Stewart Sapphire** (sometimes known as the **Stuart Sapphire**) is a historical sapphire that forms part of the British Crown Jewels. Its name originates from the **Scottish House of Stewart**.

Its original owner is traditionally King **Alexander II of Scotland**. The sapphire was set into his crown for his coronation in 1214. In 1296 **Edward I of England** claimed the sapphire along with the **Stone of Scone** during his attacks on Scotland. ^[1] King **Edward III of England** later gave the sapphire to his brother-in-law **David II of Scotland**. King **David**, in turn, presented the sapphire to his nephew, **Robert II**, the first monarch of the House of Stewart and namesake of the Stewart Sapphire. During the Interregnum **Oliver Cromwell** sold the jewel along with the rest of the **British Crown Jewels**. After the Restoration, the sapphire was returned to **Charles II of England**. The sapphire is recorded as being part of the Stewart relics taken by **James II** to his exile in France.^[2] After his death it passed to his son, **James Stuart**, the 'Old Pretender', who gave it to his son **Henry Benedict**, Cardinal York. After Henry's death the Stewart cause was dead and he left it to **George III**.^[3]

In 1838 **Queen Victoria** had the jewel set into the new **Imperial State Crown**,^{[1][4]} at the front, below the **Black Prince's Ruby**. **George VI** had a new **Imperial State Crown** made, almost identical to the old one. The Stewart Sapphire was set in the new crown. Upon the acquisition of the **Cullinan diamonds**, the Stewart Sapphire was moved to the rear of the crown to make space for the 317 carats (63.4 g) cushion-shaped **Cullinan II**. Even though the sapphire is extraordinarily large, it is more of historical than monetary value. The sapphire was drilled so that it might be worn in a pendant.

29.1 References

- [1] "Sapphire Jewellery \$1.99 @SilverShake Gemstone Sterling Silver Jewelry. Stuart Sapphire". Silvershake.com. Retrieved 2012-01-29.
- [2] "Ruby & Sapphire: Judging Quality, Prices, Padparadscha, Part 4". Ruby-sapphire.com. Retrieved 2012-01-29.
- [3] "Stuart Sapphire is a 104-carat Blue Sapphire | Internet Stones.COM-Jewelry and Mineral Blog". Jewelry-blog.internetstones.com. 2008-03-14. Retrieved 2012-01-29.
- [4] <http://www.british-monarchs.com/stewart-sapphire.html>

29.2 External links

- The Stuart Sapphire at silvershake.com

Chapter 30

Talisman Crown

The Talisman Crown was created by De Beers Diamond Jewellers in celebration of Queen Elizabeth II's 60th Diamond Jubilee, which marked the 60th year Elizabeth II's reign.

The Talisman Crown could be perhaps most well known for featuring both rough and polished diamonds, a juxtaposition De Beers previously featured in their Talisman collection. "Rough diamonds were once worn exclusively by kings and queens, [and were believed] to bring power, protection and prosperity," says De Beers's C.E.O., François Delage. "We carefully explored a range of colors, shapes and quality of diamonds to create rich contrasts that bring together a story of time told through light."^[1]

30.1 Details of the Crown

The De Beers Talisman Crown has a total of 974 diamonds, including a 73 carat central rough diamond.^[2] "The uncut diamond wields a unique power and brings luck. Napoleon carried one in his pocket every time he went into battle," a De Beers employee explained at the crown's unveiling in the flagship store on Old Bond Street in London.^[3]

797 of the 974 diamonds are polished and 177 are rough. The crown took over 100 hours to complete according to De Beers.^[1]

30.2 Viewing the Crown

The crown was originally displayed in Harrod's of London in June 2012 and after some time in the De Beers Diamond Jewellers flagship store on Old Bond Street, the crown will tour Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong, and New York City.^[3]

30.3 References

- [1] Top Hat | De Beers's Diamond Crown
- [2] De Beers Talisman Crown
- [3] Queen's Diamond Jubilee: De Beers pay homage with a Talisman crown

30.4 External links

- De Beers

Chapter 31

Timur ruby

The **Timur ruby** (also *Khiraj-i-alam*, “Tribute to the World”) is an uncut, 361-carat polished red spinel gemstone set in a necklace in 1853, part of the **British Crown Jewels**.^[1] It is named after the ruler Timur.^[2] It was believed to be a ruby until 1851.

It is inscribed with the names and dates of six of its previous owners:

- Timur
- Akbar, 1612
- Jahangir, 1628
- Aurangzeb, 1659
- Farrukhsiyar, 1713
- Ahmad Shah Durrani 1754 ^[3]

When the British annexed the Punjab in 1849, they took possession of the Timur ruby and the Koh-i-Noor diamond from Ranjit Singh. The two gems have been in the same collection together since 1612. The East India Company presented the Timur ruby to Queen Victoria as a gift in 1851. It was set in a necklace in 1853. After the necklace was lengthened in 1911, it was rarely worn.

31.1 References

[1] Bowersox, Gary W. (1995). *Gemstones of Afghanistan*. GeoVision, Inc., ISBN 9780945005193

[2] Morgan, Diane (2008). *Fire and Blood: Rubies in Myth, Magic, and History*. Greenwood Publishing Group, ISBN 9780275993047

[3] Ball V. (1894). A Description of Two Large Spinel Rubies, with Persian Characters Engraved upon Them. *Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy* Vol. 3, (1893 - 1896), pp. 380-400

31.2 External links

- The 'Timur Ruby' necklace via the Royal Collection

Chapter 32

Tudor Crown

For the heraldic symbol, see **Tudor Crown (heraldry)**.

The **Tudor Crown** was a crown used by the Renaissance monarchs of England and later Great Britain. The crown was possibly commissioned by Henry VII. It was frequently worn by Henry VIII, and is therefore sometimes known as Henry VIII's crown. The crown was also worn by Henry's children, **Edward VI**, **Mary I** and **Elizabeth I**. After the death of Elizabeth I and the demise of the Tudor dynasty the Stuarts came to power in England. Both **James I** and **Charles I** are known to have worn the crown. The After Charles I's execution in 1649 **Oliver Cromwell** had the crown melted down and the precious stones were sold.

The crown is first documented in writing in a 1521 inventory of his jewels, naming the crown the “kingis crowne of golde”. A later inventory conducted in 1547 noted that the crown bore 344 gems, including “nyne perles not all of one sorte and three Saphires”. The inventories reveal that the crown originally had a figure of Holy Mary at the back, with three figures of kings around the other sides later replaced by three figures of Christ, in an attempt to secure his position as head of the new **English church**.

A replica of the crown was created in 2012, commissioned by **Historic Royal Palaces** and fashioned by the retired royal jeweller Harry Collins, using authentic Tudor metalworking techniques and real gemstones. It can be viewed as part of an exhibition in **Hampton Court Palace**.^[1]

From 1902 to 1953 a stylised heraldic "**Tudor Crown**" was widely used by the British government and its agencies in numerous official contexts to represent governmental authority.

32.1 See also

- **Henry VII of England**
- **Henry VIII of England**
- **Tudor dynasty**

32.2 References

[1] <http://www.guardian.co.uk/culture/2012/oct/07/henry-viii-crown-recreated>



Charles I, with the Tudor crown pictured on a table to his left

Chapter 33

Koh-i-Noor

This article is about a diamond. For the writing instrument manufacturer, see [Koh-i-Noor Hardtmuth](#). “Kohinoor” redirects here. For other uses, see [Kohinoor \(disambiguation\)](#).

The '*Mountain of Light* or *Koh-i-Noor* is a diamond that was mined at [Kollur Mine](#), in the present state of [Andhra Pradesh](#) in India. It was originally 793 carats when uncut.^[2] Once the largest known diamond, it is now a 105.6 metric carat diamond, weighing 21.6 grammes in its most recent cut state. In 1852, Albert the Prince Consort ordered it cut down from 186 carats. The diamond was originally owned by the [Kakatiya](#) dynasty, which had installed it in a temple of a Hindu goddess as her eye.^[3] The diamond was later confiscated from its original owners by various invaders.^[4] Today the diamond is a part of the [British Crown Jewels](#).^[5]

33.1 History

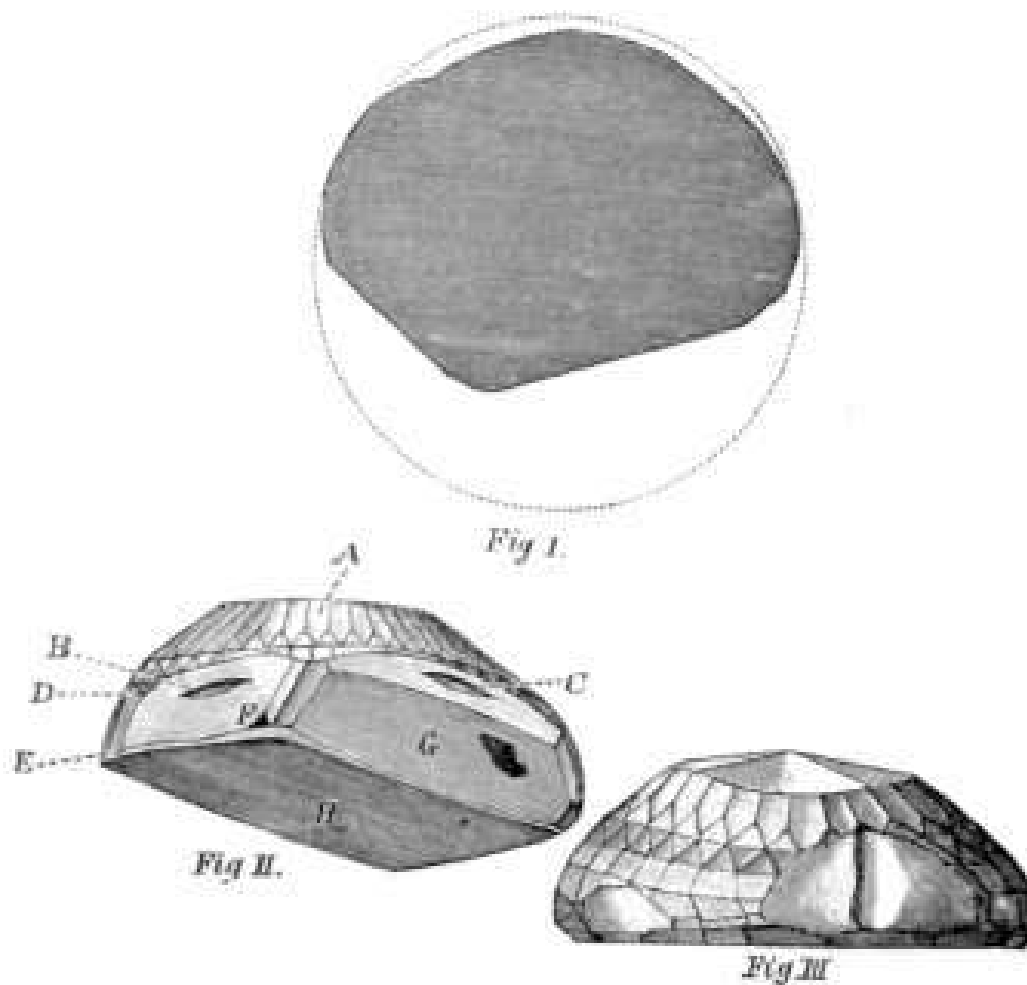
The origin of the diamond is not known. It has been claimed that the diamond was mined in the [Kollur Mine](#) in the [Guntur District](#), of [Andhra Pradesh](#) in India during the reign of the [Kakatiya](#) dynasty.^{[3][6]} Another alleged origin is the mines in [Golkonda](#). The diamond formed one eye of a Hindu goddess idol installed by the [Kakatiyas](#). In the early 14th century, the army of [Turkic Khilji](#) dynasty began raiding kingdoms of southern India for loot (war spoils).^{[7][8]} [Malik Kafur](#), [Alauddin Khilji](#)'s general, made a successful raid on [Warangal](#) in 1310.^[9] In the treasury looted from the [Kākatiya](#) kingdom and Hindu temples of southern India, was the [Koh-i-noor](#) diamond.^{[10][11]} The diamond remained with [Khilji](#) dynasty, and later passed on to the succeeding dynasties of the [Delhi Sultanate](#), until it came into the possession of [Babur](#), a [Turco-Mongol](#) war lord, who invaded India and established the [Mughal Empire](#) in 1526. He called the stone 'the Diamond of [Bābur](#)' at the time, although it had been called by other names before it came into his possession. Both [Babur](#) and his son and successor, [Humayun](#) mention in their memoirs the origins of 'the Diamond of [Bābur](#)'.

The diamond remained locked in the [Mughal](#) treasury until it was taken out by [Mughal](#) emperor [Akbar](#) who gifted this diamond to a worker name “[Benazir](#)” but the when the emperor realized that her intentions were not good, he had the [Kohinoor](#) taken from her again.

[Shah Jahan](#), the fifth [Mughal](#) emperor. [Shah Jahan](#), famous for building the [Taj Mahal](#) in [Agra](#), had the stone placed into his ornate [Peacock Throne](#). His son, [Aurangazeb](#), imprisoned his ailing father at nearby [Agra Fort](#). While in the possession of [Aurangazeb](#), it was cut by [Hortenso Borgia](#), a [Venetian](#) lapidary, who was so clumsy that he reduced the weight of the stone to 186 carats.^[12] Legend has it that he had the [Koh-i-Noor](#) positioned near a window so that [Shāh Jahān](#) could see the [Tāj Mahal](#) only by looking at its reflection in the stone. Following the invasion of [Nadir Shah](#), the ruler of [Afsharid Persia](#) in 1739 and the sacking of [Agra](#) and [Delhi](#). Along with the [Peacock Throne](#), he also carried off the [Koh-i-Noor](#) to [Persia](#) in 1739. It was allegedly [Nādir Shāh](#) who exclaimed *Koh-i-Noor!* when he finally managed to obtain the famous stone,^[4] and this is how the stone gained its present name. There is no reference to this name before 1739.

The valuation of the [Koh-i-Noor](#) is given in the legend that one of [Nader Shah](#)'s consorts supposedly said, “If a strong man should take five stones, and throw one north, one south, one east, and one west, and the last straight up into the air, and the space between filled with gold and gems, that would equal the value of the [Koh-i-Noor](#).”

After the assassination of [Nādir Shāh](#) in 1747, the stone came into the hands of his general, [Ahmad Shāh Durrānī](#),



Tavernier's illustration of the Koh-I-Noor under different angles

who later became the Emir of Afghanistan. In 1830, Shujāh Shāh Durrānī, the deposed Emir of Afghanistan and a descendant of Ahmad Shah Durrani, managed to flee with the diamond. He went to Lahore where the Sikh Maharaja Ranjit Singh forced him to surrender the stone and took its possession.^[13]

33.1.1 Appropriation by the British

Maharaja Ranjit Singh was the founder and ruler of the Sikh Empire based in the Punjab region of India. However, after his death in 1839 the British administrators did not execute his will.^[14] On 29 March 1849, the British raised their flag on the citadel of Lahore and the Punjab was formally proclaimed part of the British Company rule in India. One of the terms of the Treaty of Lahore, the legal agreement formalising this occupation, was as follows:

The gem called the Koh-i-Noor which was surrendered by Shah Shuja-ul-Mulk to Maharajah Ranjit Singh and then surrendered by the Maharajah of Lahore to the Queen of England.

The Governor-General in charge of the ratification for this treaty was Lord Dalhousie. He more than anyone, was responsible for the British usurpation of the Koh-i-Noor, in which he continued to show great interest for the rest of his life. Dalhousie's work in India was primarily aimed at expropriation of Indian assets for the use of the British East India Company. His confiscation of the diamond, amongst many other things, was criticized even by some of his contemporaries in Britain. Although some suggested that the diamond should have been presented as a gift to the



A 1757 miniature of Ahmad Shāh Durrānī, the Emir of Afghanistan, in which the Koh-i-Noor diamond is seen hanging on the front of his crown, above his forehead.

Queen, it is clear that Dalhousie felt strongly that the stone was a spoil of war, and treated it accordingly. Writing to his friend Sir George Cooper in August 1849, he stated:

The Court [of the East India Company] you say, are ruffled by my having caused the Maharajah to



A lithograph by Emily Eden showing one of the favourite horses of Maharaja Ranjit Singh with the head officer of his stables and his collection of jewels, including the Koh-i-Noor that he extorted from Afghan Emir Shuja Shah Durrani.^[13]

cede to the Queen the Koh-i-noor; while the 'Daily News' and my Lord Ellenborough [Governor-General of India, 1841-44] are indignant because I did not confiscate everything to her Majesty... [My] motive was simply this: that it was more for the honour of the Queen that the Koh-i-noor should be surrendered directly from the hand of the conquered prince into the hands of the sovereign who was his conqueror, than it should be presented to her as a gift—which is always a favour—by any joint-stock company

among her subjects. So the Court ought to feel.^[15]

Dalhousie arranged that the diamond be presented by Maharaja Ranjīt Singh's young successor, Dulīp Singh, to Queen Victoria in 1850. Dulīp Singh was the youngest son of Ranjīt Singh and his fifth wife Maharani Jind Kaur. Dulīp, aged 13, travelled to the United Kingdom to present the jewel. The presentation of the Koh-i-Noor and the Timur ruby to Queen Victoria was the latest in the long history of transfers of the stones as a spoil of war. Dulīp Singh had been placed in the guardianship of Dr Login, a surgeon in the British Army serving in West Bengal, East India. Dr Login, his wife Lena and the young Dulīp Singh travelled to England for the ceremony.

In due course the Governor-General received the Koh-i-Noor from Login, who had been appointed Governor of the Citadel, the Royal Fort at Lahore, with the Royal Treasury, which Login valued at almost £1,000,000 (£90.5 million as of 2015),^[16] excluding the Koh-i-Noor, on 6 April 1848, under a receipt dated 7 December 1849, in the presence of the members of the Board of Administration —the local resident H.M. Lawrence, C.C. Mansel, John Lawrence, younger brother of H.M. Lawrence, and of Sir Henry Elliot, Secretary to the Government of India. On 1 February 1850, the jewel was sealed in a small iron safe, which was also enclosed in a red despatch box, both sealed with red tape and a wax seal and kept in a chest at Bombay Treasury while awaiting for a steamer ship to arrive from China. It was then sent to England for presentation to Queen Victoria in the care of Captain J. Ramsay in conjunction with Brevet Lt. Col F. Mackeson under strict security arrangements, one of which was the placement of the despatch box into a larger iron safe. They departed from Bombay on 6 April 1850 on board the paddle sloop *HMS Medea*, captained by Captain Lockyer.

The ship had a difficult voyage — an outbreak of cholera on board when the ship was in Mauritius had the locals demanding its departure and they asked their governor to open fire and destroy the vessel if it did not respond. Shortly thereafter the vessel was hit by a severe gale that blew for some twelve hours. Legend in the Lawrence family has it that during the voyage, John Lawrence left the jewel in his waistcoat pocket when it was sent to be laundered, and it was returned promptly by the steward who found it.

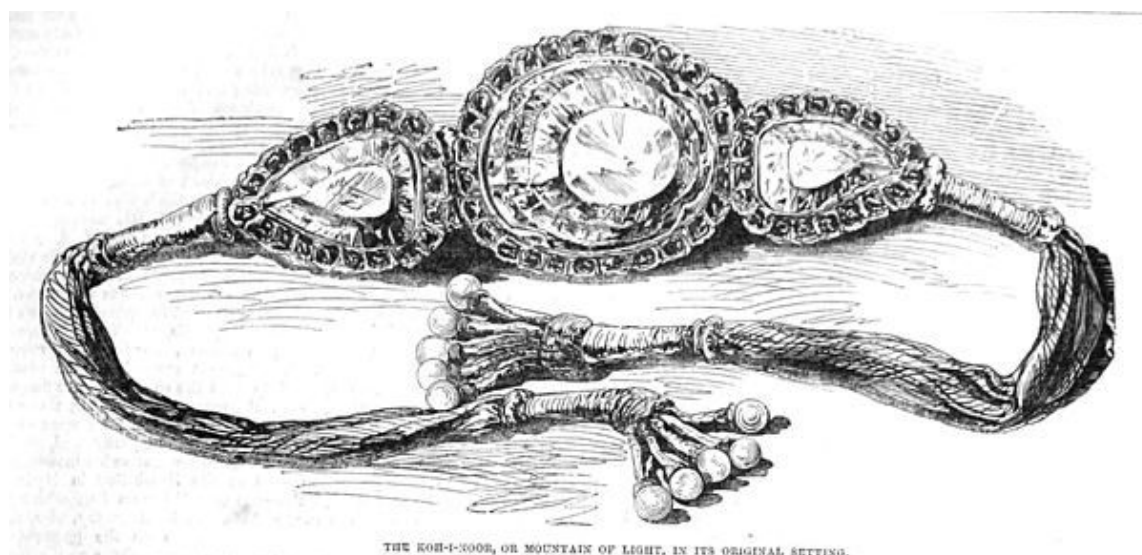
On arrival in Britain on 29 June 1850, the passengers and mail were unloaded in Plymouth, but the Koh-i-Noor stayed on board until the ship reached Spithead, near Portsmouth, on 1 July 1850. On the morning of 2 July 1850, Ramsay and Mackeson in the company of Mr Onslow, the private secretary of the Chairman of the Court of Directors of the British East India Company, proceeded by train to East India House in the City of London and passed the diamond into the care of the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the British East India Company. The handing over of the Koh-i-Noor diamond to the Queen on 3 July 1850^[17] as part of the terms of the conclusion of the Sikh War also coincided with the 250th anniversary of the Company. Dr Login received a knighthood in 1854 from Queen Victoria and was known as Sir John Spencer Login (he had added the 'r' to his middle name to change it from Spence to Spencer). The diamond is now set into the crown worn by the female consort to the Monarch of the United Kingdom, and is currently on display in the Tower of London.

33.1.2 The Great Exhibition

The British public were given a chance to see the Koh-i-Noor when the Great Exhibition was staged in Hyde Park, London in 1851. The correspondent of *The Times* reported:

The Koh-i-Noor is at present decidedly the lion of the Exhibition. A mysterious interest appears to be attached to it, and now that so many precautions have been resorted to, and so much difficulty attends its inspection, the crowd is enormously enhanced, and the policemen at either end of the covered entrance have much trouble in restraining the struggling and impatient multitude. For some hours yesterday there were never less than a couple of hundred persons waiting their turn of admission, and yet, after all, the diamond does not satisfy. Either from the imperfect cutting or the difficulty of placing the lights advantageously, or the immovability of the stone itself, which should be made to revolve on its axis, few catch any of the brilliant rays it reflects when viewed at a particular angle.

The diamond was redisplayed in a shadowed case, designed so the sunlight would catch it better. However, the public were not taken by its brilliance even then, and the diamond was recut in 1852, the year after the exhibition.^[18] The Koh-i-Noor here made up part of the larger India Museum collection, but was displayed separately from the industrial and natural history exhibits of the collection.



The Koh-i-Noor in its original setting (1851)

33.1.3 The Crown Jewels

Main article: [Crown Jewels of the United Kingdom](#)

Disappointment in the appearance of the stone was not uncommon. After consulting Sir David Brewster it was determined by the Prince Consort, with the consent of the Government, to polish the “Mountain of Light”. Mozes Coster, one of the largest and most famous Dutch diamond merchants, was employed for the task, and he sent to London one of his most experienced artisans, Herr Voorsanger and his assistants. On 6 July 1852, the cutting began, using a steam powered mill especially built for the job.^[19] Under the personal supervision of Queen Victoria’s consort, Prince Albert, and the technical direction of James Tennant the cutting took 38 days of 12 hours each. The diamond was cut from 186 1/16 carats (37.21 g) to its current 105.602 carats (21.61 g) to increase its brilliance. Prince Albert consulted widely, took enormous pains, and spent some £8,000 on the operation, which reduced the weight of the stone by a huge 42 percent—but nevertheless Albert was dissatisfied with the result. The stone was then mounted in a brooch which Queen Victoria often wore. It was kept at Windsor Castle rather than with the rest of the crown jewels at the Tower of London.^[20]

After Queen Victoria’s death it was set in Queen Alexandra’s brand-new diamond crown, with which she was crowned at the coronation of her husband, King Edward VII. Queen Alexandra was the first Queen Consort to use the diamond in her crown, followed by Queen Mary and then Queen Elizabeth, the Consort of King George VI.

33.2 Present claims to ownership of the Koh-i-Noor

India has claimed the diamond and has said that the Koh-i-Noor was taken away illegally and that it should be given back to India.^[14] When Queen Elizabeth II made a state visit to India marking the 50th anniversary of independence in 1997, many Indians in India and Britain demanded the return of the diamond. On 21 February 2013, while visiting India, David Cameron, the UK Prime Minister, stated that it would be illogical to return the diamond.^[21]

33.3 See also

- Nur-Ul-Ain Diamond (The light of the eye)
- List of famous diamonds

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-



Photo by W. and D. Downey.

Swan Electric Engraving Co.

*Her Majesty Queen Alexandra,
Wearing the Koh-i-noor in her Coronation Crown.*

9th August, 1902.



Copy of the new cut of the Koh-i-Noor

Chapter 34

Mirror of Great Britain

The **Mirror of Great Britain** was a part of the Crown Jewels of the United Kingdom during the reign of James I of England and VI of Scotland.

The jewel was created around 1604, to mark James' Union of the Crowns of England and Scotland. It was created in gold, with five main stones set into it: four diamonds and a ruby. The ruby and one of the diamonds were table-cut, while two further diamonds were lozenges. One of these two was known as the "Stone of the letter H of Scotland" or the "Great Harry" and had belonged to James' mother, **Mary, Queen of Scots**. The final diamond was the **Sancy Diamond**, which is believed to have previously belonged to the Burgundian crown. The jewel was further decorated with two pearls and numerous smaller diamonds.^[1]

In 1625, James pawned the jewel, and it was split up.^[1] The pearls remained in royal possession a further year, but were then also pawned.^[2] The Sancy Diamond was reclaimed but again pawned in 1654, and subsequently became part of the French Crown Jewels.^[3]

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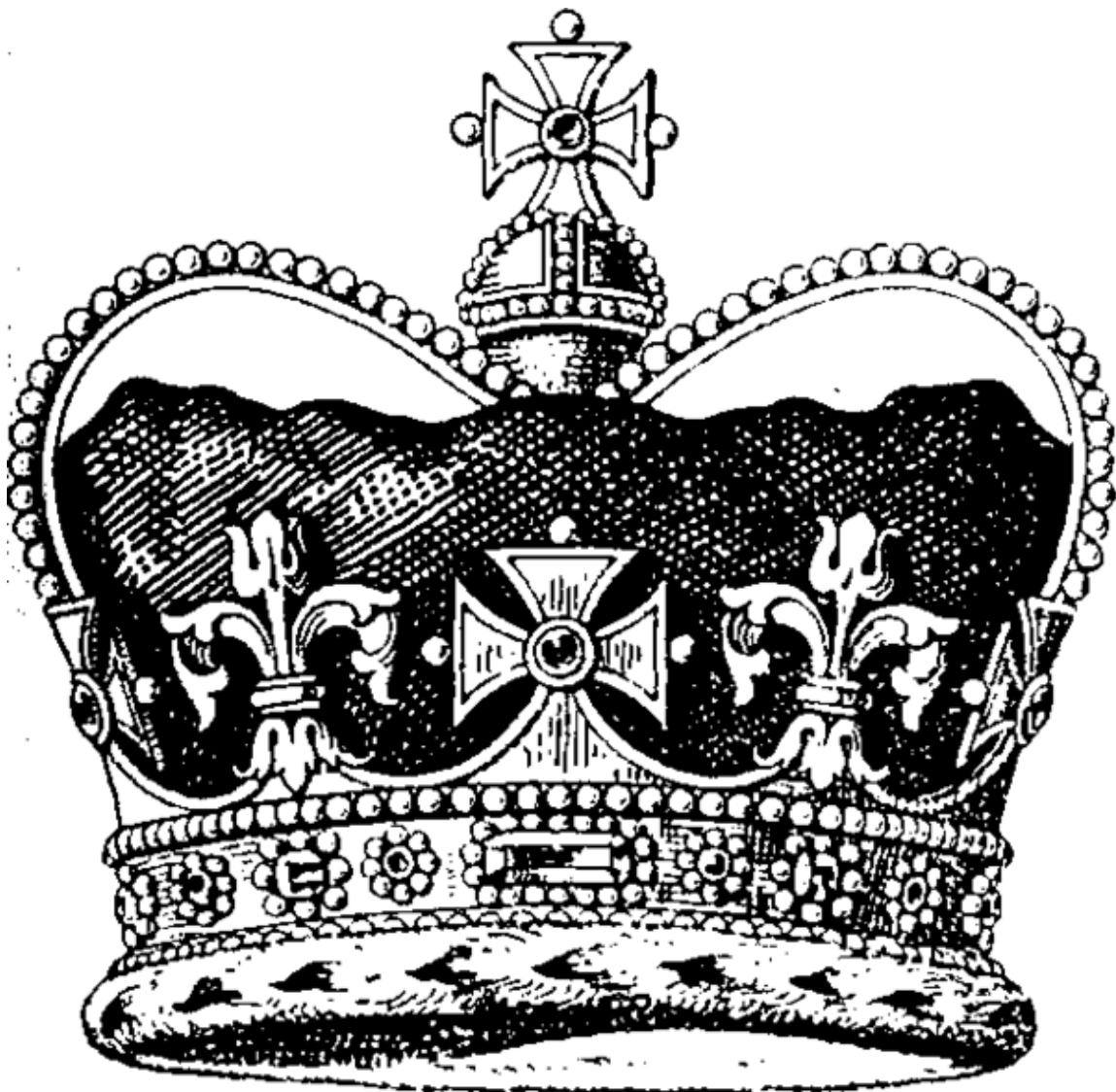
[3] Edward Twining, *A history of the crown jewels of Europe*, p.245



James I and VI, 1604 portrait by John de Critz the Elder, wearing the "Mirror of Great Britain" jewel in his hat.

Chapter 35

Honours of the Principality of Wales



A former coronet of the Prince of Wales

The **Honours of the Principality of Wales** are the Crown Jewels used at the investiture of Princes of Wales. They include a coronet, a ring, a rod, a sword, a girdle, and a mantle.^[1]

The base of the **Coronet** is of the same design as those of the Imperial State Crown and St Edward's Crown. It is

made up of four crosses pattee alternating with four *fleurs-de-lis*. While the Sovereign's crowns have four half arches, the coronet only includes two half arches. The arches are surmounted by a ball, on top of which is a cross. Within the frame, which is made of gold, is a velvet cap lined with ermine fur. The present coronet was made for the investiture of *Charles* in 1969, as the 1911 coronet was still in the possession of the *Duke of Windsor*. Previous coronets are also retained in the collection.^[1]

The remaining regalia date from the investiture of *Edward*, later Edward VIII and then Duke of Windsor, in 1911, when most of the elements of the Honours were redesigned.^[1]

The original Coronets as worn by the Welsh rulers of the *Kingdom of Gwynedd* and other Welsh principalities are all lost. *Llywelyn's coronet* was seized by the English state in 1284 and is known to history. The fates of the Coronets of the rulers of the other princely states, if they ever had them, are not known.

35.1 Notes

[1] "Honours of the Principality of Wales". The Royal Household. Retrieved 2009-09-17.

35.2 External links

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Chapter 36

Honours of Scotland

The **Honours of Scotland**, also known as the **Scottish Regalia** and the **Scottish Crown Jewels**, dating from the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, are the oldest set of crown jewels in the British Isles. The existing set were used for the coronation of Scottish monarchs from 1543 (Mary I) to 1651 (Charles II). Since then, they have been used to represent Royal Assent to legislation in both the Parliament of Scotland and Scottish Parliament, and have also been used at State occasions, including the first visit to Scotland as sovereign by King George IV in 1822 and the first visit to Scotland as sovereign by Queen Elizabeth in 1953.

There are three primary elements of the Honours of Scotland: the Crown, the Sceptre, and the Sword of State. These three elements also appear upon the crest of the royal coat of arms of Scotland and on the Scottish version of the royal coat of arms of the United Kingdom, where the red lion of the King of Scots is depicted wearing the Crown and holding both the Sword and the Sceptre.

36.1 The Crown of Scotland

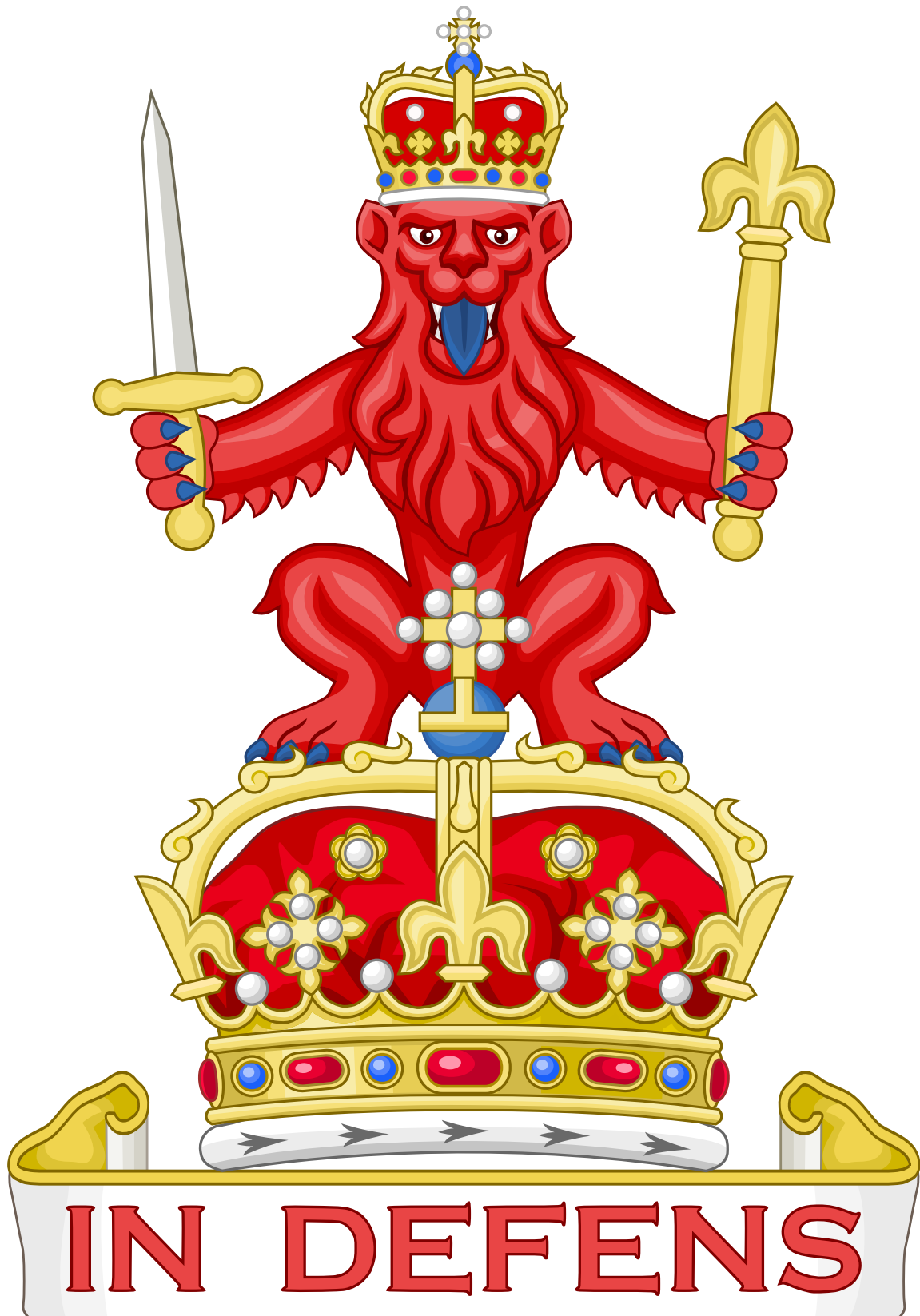
Main article: [Crown of Scotland](#)

The Crown of Scotland in its present form dates from 1540 when James V ordered the Edinburgh goldsmith John Mosman to refashion the original crown. James wore it to his consort's coronation in the same year at the abbey church of Holyrood. The circlet at the base is made from Scottish gold and is encrusted with 22 gemstones and 20 precious stones taken from the former crown. Freshwater pearls from Scotland's rivers were also used. The crown weighs 3 lb 10 oz (1644 g). The crown was remodelled in 1540 for James V when the velvet and ermine bonnet were added to bring it to its present form. It is not known exactly when the crown was originally made, but it can be seen in its pre-1540 form in the famous portrait of James IV of Scotland in the Book of Hours that was created for his marriage to Margaret Tudor in 1503.

The four golden arches of the Crown are ornamented with gold and red enamelled oak leaves, apparently of French workmanship. At the point where the arches meet there rests an orb of gold which is enamelled in blue and ornamented with gilt stars. This is surmounted by a large cross decorated in gold and black enamel with an amethyst in rectangular form, in the centre. The upper and two side extremities of the cross are adorned with pearls.

36.2 The Sceptre of Scotland

The Sceptre of Scotland was a gift from Pope Alexander VI to King James IV in 1494, and was remodelled and lengthened in 1536. It is made of silver gilt, and is topped by a finial with polished rock (possibly Cairngorm) and a Scottish pearl. The Sceptre includes several Christian symbols: stylised dolphins, symbols of the Church, appear on the head of the rod, as do images of the Virgin Mary holding a baby Christ, of Saint James the Great, and of Saint Andrew holding a saltire.



Crest of the Royal coat of arms of Scotland, depicting the Honours of Scotland: Crown, Sword and Sceptre.



A carving of the Honours on the Sovereign's Pew in the Canongate Kirk in Edinburgh.

36.3 The Sword of State of Scotland

The Sword of State of Scotland was also a papal gift; Pope Julius II presented it to James IV in 1507 (see Blessed sword and hat). The etched blade, measuring 4.5 feet in length, includes figures of Saint Peter and Saint Paul, as well as the etched name of Julius II. The silver gilt handle bears figures of oak leaves and acorns. The sword, an example of Italian craftsmanship, was damaged in 1652 whilst being hidden from Cromwell's troops, as it had to be broken in half in order to be properly concealed while it was being taken to safety. It is accompanied by a wooden scabbard which is covered with velvet and silver and hung from a woven silk and thread of gold belt.

36.4 Historical background and current location

After being used at the coronations of Mary, Queen of Scots, James VI, and Charles I, the regalia were last used at a coronation in 1651 for that of Charles II. Prior to this event, Charles I had been executed by order of the Parliament of England and the monarchy overthrown. Oliver Cromwell, the Lord Protector of England, Scotland, and Ireland, ordered almost all of the English regalia to be broken up or melted down. However, the Honours of Scotland were hidden, firstly in Dunnottar Castle, which was later besieged by the New Model Army, and from where the Honours were smuggled out; secondly under the floor of Kinneff Parish Church, only to be recovered after The Restoration in 1660. Although they had been found, the Honours were no longer used to crown Scottish sovereigns.^[1]

Until the Acts of Union 1707, which united the Kingdom of Scotland and the Kingdom of England to form the unified Kingdom of Great Britain, the Honours of Scotland were taken to sittings of the Parliament of Scotland to represent the Monarch who, since the Union of the Crowns in 1603, resided in England. After the Act of Union, the Parliament of Scotland and Parliament of England having been dissolved, the Parliament of Great Britain sat in London; the Honours of Scotland, having no symbolic role to play in the unified British Parliament, were placed in a chest and locked away at Edinburgh Castle. There they remained, almost forgotten, until 4 February 1818 when a group, including Sir Walter Scott, set out to recover the Honours. Following their discovery, they were put on public display in 1819 and have remained so ever since, with only one exception.

In 1941, the Honours were hidden due to fears that they might be lost should there be a German invasion during World War II. In 1953, they were taken out of hiding and presented to the newly crowned Queen Elizabeth and then



The Honours Saved From Cromwell. Tableau at Edinburgh Castle.

returned to the Crown Room of Edinburgh Castle.

When the Stone of Scone was returned to Scotland in 1996, it also was placed in the Crown Room, alongside the Honours.

In May 1999, at the first sitting of the devolved Scottish Parliament, in October 2004 at the opening of the new Scottish Parliament Building, and at subsequent opening ceremonies of each new Session of the Scottish Parliament the Crown of Scotland has been present alongside the Monarch. Due to their age and condition the Sword and the Sceptre are considered too delicate to be present alongside the Crown at such occasions.

36.5 Commissioners for the Safekeeping of the Regalia

Under the terms of a Royal Warrant of 1818,^[2] the holders of four of the Great Offices of State in Scotland, the Lord Justice Clerk, the Lord Advocate, the Keeper of the Great Seal of Scotland, and the Lord Clerk Register, are *ex-officio* Commissioners for the Keeping of the Regalia.^[3]

36.6 See also

- Edinburgh Castle
- Coat of arms of Kincardineshire
- Stirling Heads, sometimes known as “Scotland’s other Crown Jewels”
- Christian Fletcher



Rediscovering the Honours in 1818. Tableau at Edinburgh Castle.

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IainHallam, SmackBot, OrphanBot, Iridescent, 038DBATC, Hemlock Martinis, Cydebot, Johnbod, Viciousbadger, Cameron, ImageRemovalBot, Surtsicna, Addbot, Writers Block2006, Lightbot, ThinkingTwice, GrouchoBot, FrescoBot, Dhtwiki, Primaler, Pacmyc, RafikiSykes, Glenmeister and Anonymous: 9

- **Crown of Scotland** *Source:* <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crown%20of%20Scotland?oldid=630386190> *Contributors:* Bryan Derksen, Valhalla, Leandror, Jtdirl, Mattlary, Bobblewik, Silly Dan, Furius, Dystopos, Gene Nygaard, Deror avi, Coemgenus, RussBot, Danbarnesdavies, Caerwine, SuperChief, Canuckguy, Barryob, Mais oui!, Curpsbot-unicodify, Sardanaphalus, Aelfthrytha, Stifle, Chaosfeary, Hgrosser, Iridescent, FairuseBot, CmdrObot, Dancheng, Hemlock Martinis, Cydebot, ST47, Thijs!bot, Brendandh, J.P.Lon, DrKiernan, Mjb1981, Rab-k, STBotD, Cameron, OKBot, Dancingwombatsrule, Admiral Norton, CiudadanoGlobal, Alexbot, Jonjames1986, Traquir, Surtsicna, Addbot, Mnmazur, LaaknorBot, Lightbot, Sodacan, George2001hi, A Werewolf, EmausBot, GrindtXX, RafikiSykes, Ginsuloft, Glenmeister and Anonymous: 34
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