Step inside a sumptuous room... The Back State Room is one of the spaces where, in the 19th century, Sir Richard and Lady Wallace would entertain their guests.

This room displays many examples of the Rococo style. Rococo style is full of curves, seashells, leaves and flowers, cherubs and elements from mythology. Rococo style is not symmetrical; everything appears free-flowing. Many things in this room have been gilded - covered in paper-thin strips of gold leaf - to create a dazzling effect.

**Talking points**
Find words to describe this room; explore Rococo style.

**Creative Challenges**
Descriptive writing prompts.
Let us go inside the Back State Room which is decorated in the Rococo style. Here is the large marble fireplace. Inside the fireplace stand two fire dogs to protect the logs from falling. One is decorated with a lion and the other has a wild boar nestling amongst the leaves.

On the mantelpiece, in front of a large ornate mirror, sits a splendid golden clock. Can you spot the dog?

On each side of the clock is a candelabra with some cheeky cherubs. Notice the reflection of the clock in the mirror which shows off the decoration on the back.

Here is a large painting with a peacock. The marble top is part of a Rococo style chest of drawers that belonged to the French king, Louis XV.

There are several display cases in this room. The ewer and basin are very rare objects because they are carved out of rock crystal. Can you see the little golden dog at the top?

In this room are many porcelain objects that were made at the famous Sèvres factory in France. There are elaborately painted vases, cups and saucers and this magnificent ship-shaped pot-pourri vase.

There is another clock in this room. If you are quick, you’ll catch a glimpse of its magnificent base in the reflection. Can you hear it ticking?
**DISCUSS**

- How many examples of the Rococo style can you find in the Back State Room?
- Can you use the word Rococo in a sentence?

**ACTIVITIES**

- Write a description of this room when it is evening and is lit by candlelight.
- Pick one of the artworks in the room and write a detailed description using adjectives, adverbs, similes or metaphors. Re-arrange the sentences to create a short poem.
- Write a new script to accompany the short film of the Back State Room.

**VOCABULARY**

- gold
- glossy
- sparkling
- candelabra
- golden
- bright
- shimmering
- fire dogs
- gilded
- burnished
- crimson
- cherubs
- gold leaf
- gleaming
- chandelier
- shiny
- lustrous
- porcelain
FIRE DOGS

DATE  c. 1752
SIZE  55 x 55.5 cm each
MATERIALS  Gilt bronze, wrought and cast iron and steel bolts
MAKERS  Attributed to Jacques Caffiéri
         Probably assisted by his son Philippe Caffiéri
DATES  1678-1755 & 1714-1774
PLACE  France
EWER AND BASIN

**DATE** 1727 or 1730  
**SIZE** 18.9 cm, ewer  
**SIZE** 5.3 x 23 x 19.9 cm, basin  
**MATERIALS** Rock crystal and gold  
**MAKER** Jean Gaillard, goldsmith  
**DATES** active between 1695–1754  
**PLACE** France
**LOUIS XV’S COMMODOE**

**DATE** 1739

**SIZE** 88.8 x 195.5 x 80.6 cm

**MATERIALS** Oak veneered with kingwood and satiné, mahogany drawers, red linen lining inside, gilt bronze, gilded brass hinges, brass locks, serpentine marble top

**MAKER** Antoine-Robert Gaudreaus

**DATES** 1682-1746

**MAKER** Bronze mounts: Jacques Caffiéri

**DATES** 1678-1755

**PLACE** France
### CUP AND SAUCER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>DATE</strong></th>
<th>1765</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SIZE</strong></td>
<td>Cup, 7.4 cm height</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MATERIALS</strong></td>
<td>Soft-paste porcelain, painted and gilded</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MAKER</strong></td>
<td>Manufacture de Sèvres</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PAINTER</strong></td>
<td>Louis-Jean Thévenet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DATES</strong></td>
<td>1707-1778 (Painter)</td>
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# CUP AND SAUCER

<table>
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<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
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</table>
| SIZE   | Cup, 8.3 cm height  
         | Saucer, 15.3 cm diameter |
| MATERIALS | Soft-paste porcelain, painted and gilded |
| MAKER PLACE | Manufacture de Sèvres  
               | France |
FLOWERS ON A FOUNTAIN WITH A PEACOCK

Flowers on a Fountain with a Peacock
c. 1700–c. 1710
177 x 165 cm
Oil on canvas

Jan Weenix
1642–1719
The Netherlands
### POT-POURRI VASE AND COVER

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>c. 1761</td>
<td>France</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SIZE</th>
<th>Materials</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>44.1 x 36.9 cm</td>
<td>Soft-paste porcelain, painted and gilded</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAKER</th>
<th>DESIGN</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manufacture de Sèvres</td>
<td>attributed to Jean-Claude Chambellan Duplessis, the Elder</td>
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<tr>
<th>DATES</th>
<th>PLACE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1695-1774 (designer)</td>
<td>18th C. France</td>
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### CHANDELIER

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<tr>
<td>SIZE</td>
<td>179 cm x 190 cm</td>
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<tr>
<td>MATERIALS</td>
<td>Gilt bronze, wrought iron and iron bolts</td>
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<tr>
<td>MAKERS</td>
<td>Attributed to Jacques Caffiéri, probably assisted by his son Philippe Caffiéri</td>
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<tr>
<td>DATES</td>
<td>1678–1755 &amp; 1714–1774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLACE</td>
<td>France</td>
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