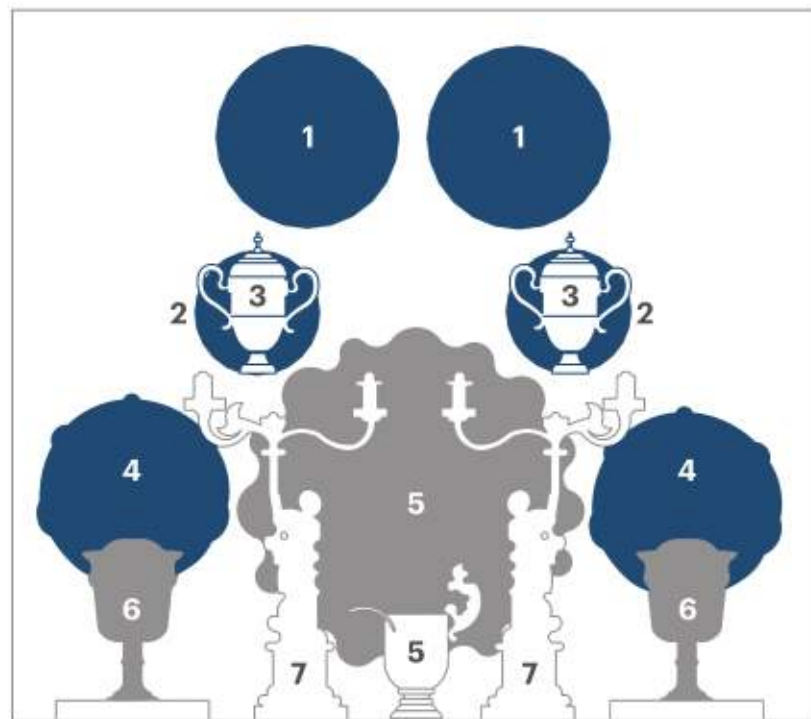


Reflected Glories

Reflected Glories

The 3rd Duke of Portland entertained extravagantly with his ancestors' impressive dinner services. Meals consisted of several courses comprising many separate dishes of food. A large party of guests could require hundreds of silver plates alongside silver cutlery, utensils and serving dishes.

Shelf one



Silver Showstoppers

The 3rd Duke of Portland displayed many of these objects in his white and gold State Dining Room at his London home, Burlington House, which is now home to the Royal Academy of Art.

As Prime Minister (1783 and from 1807–1809), the 3rd Duke of Portland would have held formal dinners for important guests. This silver, which would have taken pride of place on the dining room sideboard, would have surely impressed his visitors.

1 Pair of wine salvers, 1765–66

Richard Rugg

Silver-gilt

Engraved with the royal arms, garter and cypher of King George III

2 Pair of dinner plates, about 1705

William Denny

Silver-gilt

Part of the plate granted from the Royal Jewel House to Robert Harley, 1st Earl of Oxford. Engraved with royal arms, garter and cypher of Queen Anne. From a set of 24.

3 Pair of two-handled cups and covers, 1713

Robert Timbrell and Joseph Bell

Silver-gilt

Bought in 1714 by Edward Harley, the future 2nd Earl of Oxford, for £30 15s. Gilding cost a further £12 10s and engraving of the Harley family coat of arms was £2 2s.

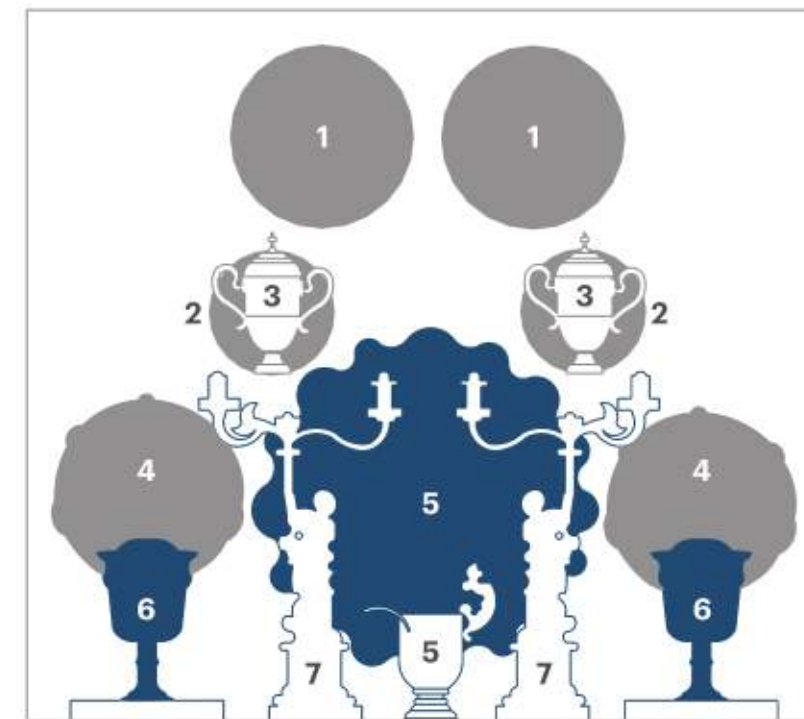
4 Pair of second course dishes, 1761

Thomas Heming

Silver-gilt

Engraved with the royal arms of King George III

Shelf one



5 Rosewater ewer and dish, about 1703

Pierre Harache

Silver-gilt

Engraved with the arms of Robert Harley, 1st Earl of Oxford

6 Pair of large cups, covers and stands, about 1807

Probably Philip Cornman

Silver-gilt

Owned by the 3rd Duke of Portland. Engraved with the Bentinck crest within a garter, a ducal coronet and the Ogle badge.

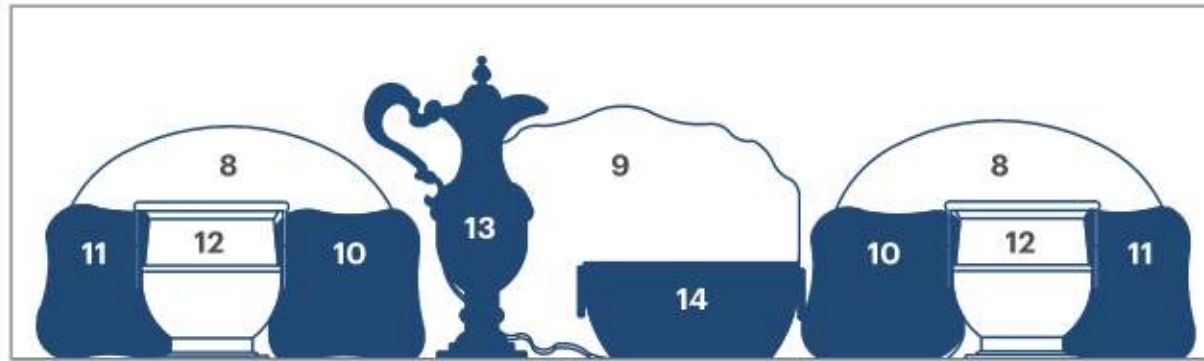
7 Pair of candelabra, 1808

William Pitts and Joseph Preedy

Silver

Owned by the 3rd Duke of Portland. Engraved with the Ogle badge and a ducal coronet.

Shelf two



A new way of serving

In the mid-1700s the popularity of English cookbooks soared and silversmiths were required to design new serving vessels for the dinner table. English stewards and cooks were keen to master the new recipes and methods of serving food and drink to guests.

8 Pair of serving dishes for meat, 1787

Andrew Fogelberg and Stephen Gilbert

Silver

Owned by the 3rd Duke of Portland. Engraved with the Ogle badge and ducal coronet.

9 Serving dish for meat, 1765

Daniel Smith and Robert Sharp

Silver

Owned by the 3rd Duke of Portland. Engraved with the Bentinck arms for Harley, Cavendish, Holles and Vere.

10 Pair of silver salvers, 1765

Richard Rugg

Silver

Engraved with the arms and cypher of King George III. Thought to be part of the state plate used by the 3rd Duke of Portland when he was Lord Chamberlain of the Household from 1765 to 1766.

11 Pair of silver salvers, 1765

Richard Rugg

Silver

Engraved with the arms and cypher of King George III. Thought to be part of the state plate used by the 3rd Duke of Portland when he was Lord Chamberlain of the Household from 1765 to 1766.

12 Pair of wine coolers, 1793

Paul Storr

Silver

Owned by the 3rd Duke of Portland. Engraved with the Ogle badge and ducal coronet.

13 Ewer or wine jug, 1761

Daniel Smith and Robert Sharp

Silver

Engraved with the Bentinck crest and a ducal coronet.

14 Wine glass cooler, 1775

Henry Greenway

Silver

Owned by the 3rd Duke of Portland. Engraved with the Ogle badge and ducal coronet.

Shelf three



Beautiful and useful

Silver was not only beautiful but highly practical because it was hygienic, heated up quickly and was easily cleaned. As a result it was favoured for serving dishes as well as cooking them. Silver utensils were used for the preparation of a variety of dishes from sauces to soufflés.

15 Five serving dishes for meat, 1787 and 1790

Andrew Fogelberg and Stephen Gilbert

Silver

Owned by the 3rd Duke of Portland. Engraved with the Ogle badge and ducal coronet.

16 Pair of serving dishes for meat and covers, 1787

Andrew Fogelberg and Stephen Gilbert

Silver

Owned by the 3rd Duke of Portland. The handles for the dish covers are shaped as ducal coronets.

17 Pair of soufflé dishes, liners and covers, 1790

Andrew Fogelberg and Stephen Gilbert

Silver

Owned by the 3rd Duke of Portland. Liner and cover engraved with the Ogle badge.

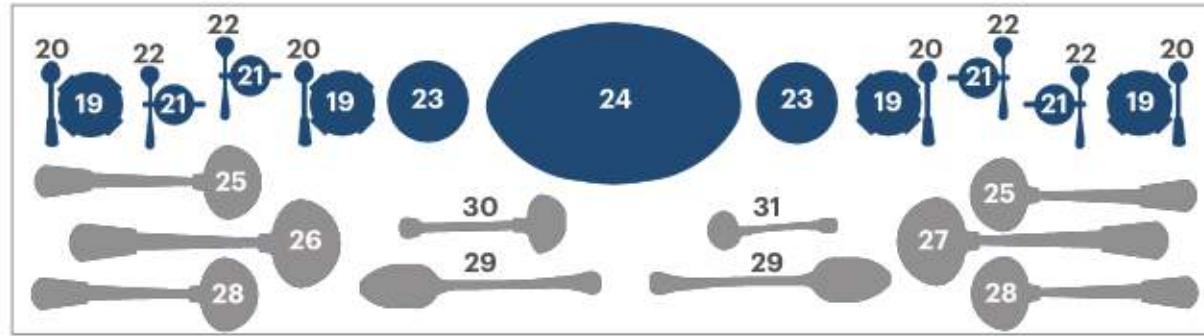
18 Oil and vinegar cruet, 1787

John Schofield

Silver

Owned by the 3rd Duke of Portland. Engraved with the Ogle badge and ducal coronet.

Shelf four



Entertaining on a grand scale

When the 3rd Duke of Portland died in 1809 the pantries at the family homes of Burlington House and Bulstrode Park contained more than 27,000 ounces of plate, including English and Dutch silver. This included the large silver dinner service inherited from the 3rd Duke's father as well as the impressive new service he commissioned, parts of which can be seen here.

19 Four circular salt cellars, 1775

Robert Hennell

Silver

Owned by the 3rd Duke of Portland. Engraved with the arms of Bentinck, Noel and Wriothesley and a ducal coronet.

20 Four fiddle pattern salt spoons, 1790

George Smith and William Fearn

Silver

Owned by the 3rd Duke of Portland. Engraved with the Ogle badge and ducal coronet.

21 Four oval salt cellars, 1790

Andrew Fogelberg and Stephen Gilbert

Silver

Owned by the 3rd Duke of Portland. Engraved with the Ogle badge and ducal coronet

22 Four plain salt spoons, 1809

William Sumner

Silver

Owned by the 3rd Duke of Portland. Engraved with the Ogle badge and ducal coronet.

23 Pair of sugar vases, 1785

John Schofield

Silver

Owned by the 3rd Duke of Portland. Engraved with the Ogle badge and ducal coronet.

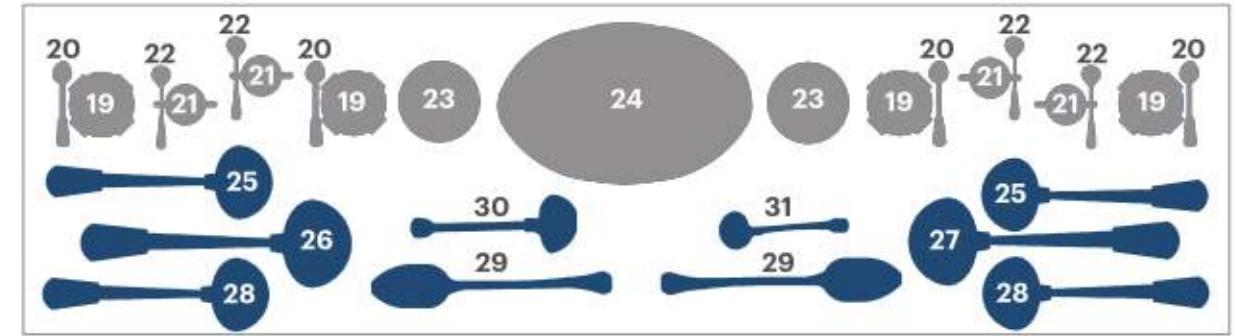
24 Fish strainer, 1795

Paul Storr

Silver

Owned by the 3rd Duke of Portland. Engraved with the Ogle badge and ducal coronet.

Shelf four



25 Pair of threaded fiddle pattern sauce ladles, 1790

George Smith and William Fearn

Silver

Owned by the 3rd Duke of Portland. Engraved with the Ogle badge and ducal coronet.

26 Soup ladle, 1790

William Sumner

Silver

Owned by the 3rd Duke of Portland. Engraved with the Ogle badge and ducal coronet

27 Soup ladle with threaded fiddle pattern, 1790

George Smith and William Fearn

Silver

Owned by the 3rd Duke of Portland. Engraved with the Ogle badge and ducal coronet.

28 Pair of sauce ladles, 1795

William Sumner

Silver

Owned by the 3rd Duke of Portland. Engraved with the Ogle badge and ducal coronet.

29 Pair of gravy spoons, 1776

Walter Tweedie

Silver

Owned by Margaret Cavendish Bentinck, Duchess of Portland. Engraved with her initials 'MCP'.

30 Sugar sifter with threaded fiddle pattern, 1786

George Smith and William Fearn

Silver

Owned by the 3rd Duke of Portland. Engraved with the Ogle badge and ducal coronet.

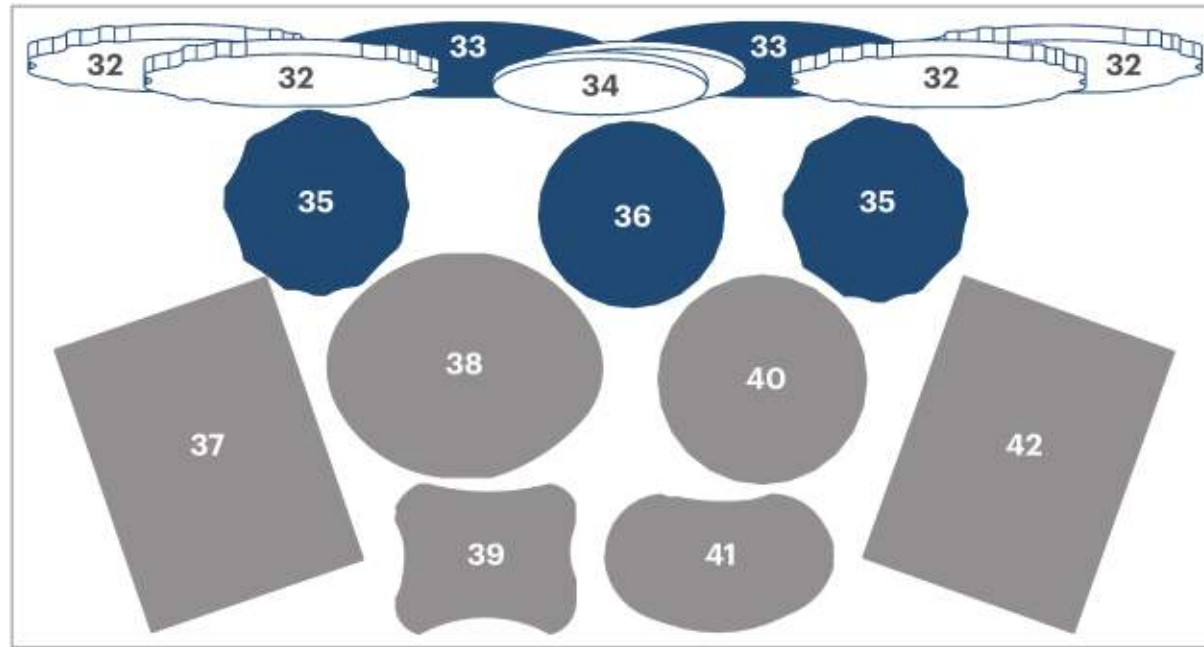
31 Sugar sifter with threaded fiddle pattern, 1786

George Smith and William Fearn

Silver

Owned by the 3rd Duke of Portland. Engraved with the Ogle badge and ducal coronet.

Floor Level



Serving and storing

Silver was valuable and easily scratched so it had to be carefully stored and moved. To carry items from the Pantry below stairs to the Dining Room, butlers and footmen used leather trays for cutlery and buckets for silver or gilded plates. When the family moved between their country houses and London, the silver travelled in large plate chests and weights were regularly checked against lists to ensure it was all accounted for.

32 Four serving dishes for meat, 1765

Daniel Smith and Robert Sharp

Silver

Owned by 3rd Duke of Portland.
Engraved with Bentinck arms for Harley, Cavendish, Holles and Vere.

33 Pair of serving dishes for meat, 1787

Andrew Fogelberg and Stephen Gilbert

Silver

Owned by the 3rd Duke of Portland.
Engraved with the Ogle badge and ducal coronet.

34 Pair of second course dishes, 1790

Andrew Fogelberg

Silver

Owned by the 3rd Duke of Portland.
Engraved with the Ogle badge and ducal coronet.

35 Forty-eight dinner plates, 1790

Andrew Fogelberg and Stephen Gilbert

Silver

Owned by the 3rd Duke of Portland.
Engraved with the Ogle badge and ducal coronet.

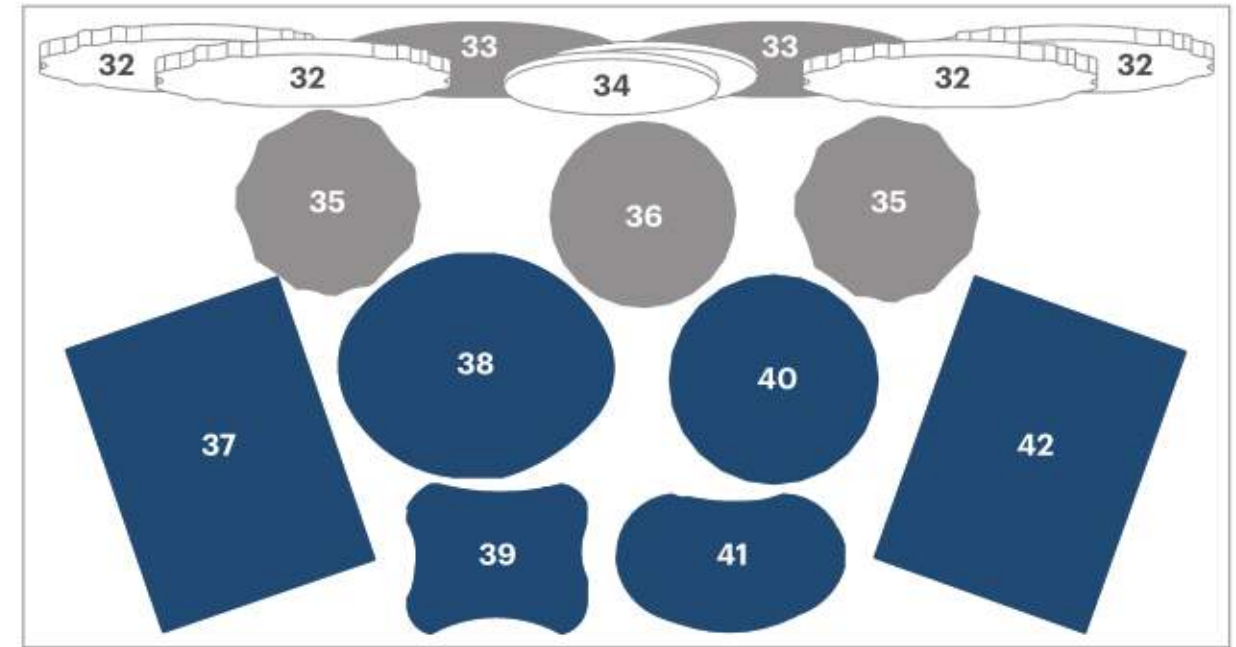
36 Eighteen soup plates, 1785

Andrew Fogelberg and Stephen Gilbert

Silver

Owned by the 3rd Duke of Portland.
Engraved with the Ogle badge and ducal coronet.

Floor Level



37 Cutlery tray filled with a selection of cheese knives, dessert knives, dessert spoons and dessert forks, late 1700s and early 1800s

George Smith, Mark Bock

Silver

Owned by the 3rd Duke of Portland

38 Pair of meat dishes with cover, 1787

Andrew Fogelberg and Stephen Gilbert

Silver

Owned by the 3rd Duke of Portland.
The handles for the dish covers are shaped as ducal coronets.

39 Pair of breakfast dishes with cover, 1763

Daniel Smith and Robert Sharp

Silver

Owned by the 3rd Duke of Portland.
The handles for the dish covers are shaped as ducal coronets.

40 Pair of second course dishes with cover, 1790

Andrew Fogelberg

Silver

Owned by the 3rd Duke of Portland.
The handles for the dish covers are shaped as ducal coronets.

41 Pair of breakfast dishes with cover, 1788

Andrew Fogelberg and Stephen Gilbert

Silver

Owned by the 3rd Duke of Portland.
The handles for the dish covers are shaped as ducal coronets.

42 Cutlery tray filled with a selection of table forks, table knives and table spoons, 1790

Thomas Northcote

Silver

Owned by the 3rd Duke of Portland