

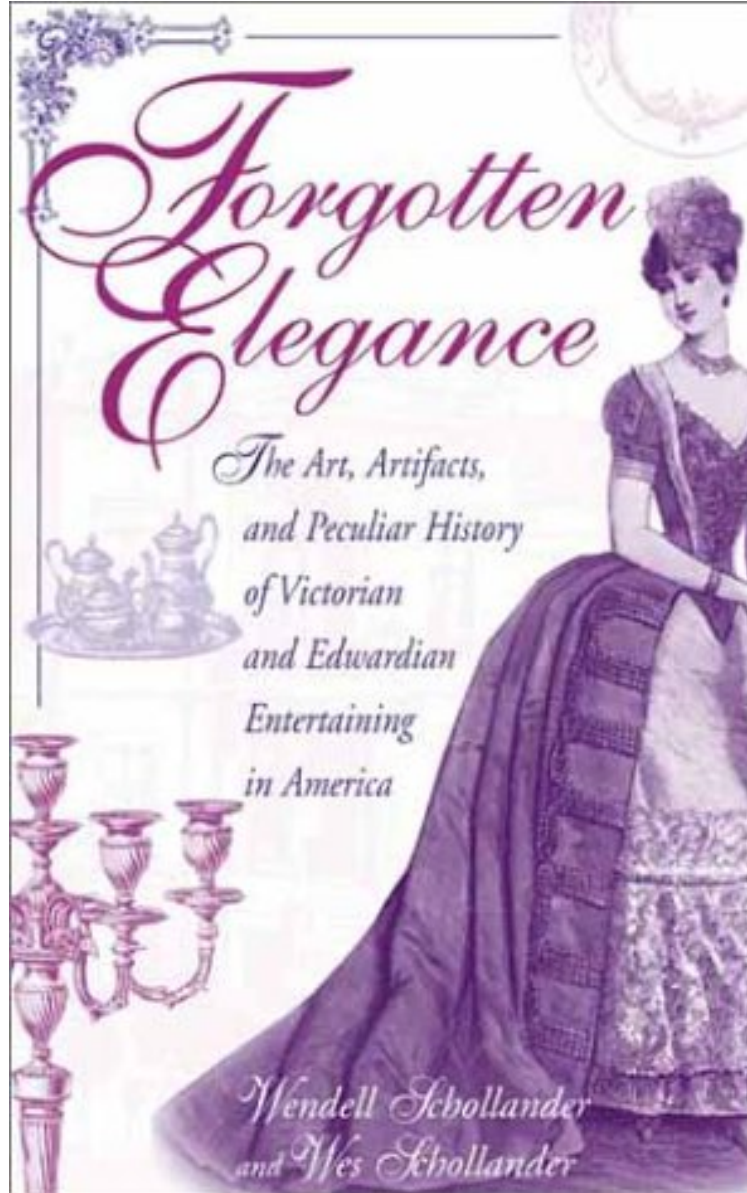
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## **Forgotten Elegance: The Art, Artifacts, and Peculiar History of Victorian and Edwardian Entertaining in America**

**Wendell Schollander, Wes Schollander : *Forgotten Elegance: The Art, Artifacts, and Peculiar History of Victorian and Edwardian Entertaining in America*** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Forgotten Elegance: The Art, Artifacts, and Peculiar History of Victorian and Edwardian Entertaining in America*:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. is one of my very favorite about high-style Victorian Edwardian dining entertaining

By mcci I have a rather extensive reference library on Victorian silver and other related topics. This book, by far, is one of my very favorite about high-style Victorian Edwardian dining entertaining. It provides a good overview of all aspects of the periods' food (including wine), table setting details, and table etiquette. One of my favorite section is the one devoted to silver service, but the authors also cover so much more, including crystal, china, seating dining etiquette, meal service, the calling card invitation, and even tips on hosting a Victorian or Edwardian dinner, plus more. One overall attribute of this book, which I especially appreciate, is that it is totally accurate in the information provided. Oddly enough, finding reference books on this subject that are not littered with misinformation is rather uncommon. The book is also written and organized extremely well. It includes a glossary, an index, and an excellent bibliography for further reading that is arranged by subject (i.e. silver, china, glassware, dining history, dining etiquette, table setting, etc.). Don't be put off by the higher price of this volume -- it's better and more thorough compared to half-a-dozen or more related reference books. Believe me, it's definitely worth the asking price, and it's a nice, well-bound hard-cover with pictorial glossy boards -- no dust jacket to have to keep track of or handle gingerly -- and it's not too heavy but just the right size to curl up with and enjoy. Because of the price, I did not buy this book immediately upon its release, but I'll really glad I eventually did buy it. It was NOT a disappointment, unlike far too many of the other reference books on this subject that I've bought in the past. After reading one other reviewer's comment about not enough dazzling pictures, perhaps I should point out that this is NOT a coffee-table-style picture book. However, there are plenty of black white pictures and illustrations that accompany the text. I did not find anything lacking. Really, I cannot say enough "good" about this book. I am totally happy with it. Huge praise for the authors, and thank you for such a great book! 5-STARs.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. At last I found an affordable copy of a book I have longed to own

By K. L. Richards (anglicanmom) Finally!!! I have been looking for an affordable copy of this book for a long time. It is one of the best guides to China, glassware, and silver used at table in the Victorian and Edwardian periods.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. a good resource

By Fr. Simeon A good resource, but not as scholarly cited as I'd have liked.

History students and Victorian enthusiasts looking for comprehensive information on dining practices of Victorian America will find this book a vital resource. Revealing the history of 19th-century dining, clothing, and etiquette, the volume includes sample menus and explicit instructions explaining how to recreate a dinner, tea, breakfast, or lunch in the 21st century. Collectors of china, crystal, and silver will also find this book helpful because it provides a photograph of each piece of tableware that was used, with a history and description of the item. After explaining the different dining styles and the way they evolved into rituals of the Victorian era, a formal dinner is examined course by course. The Schollanders present the history and uses of various wines and show they were matched with different foods. They also explain the evolution of silver, crystal, and china pieces. Additionally the book includes an explanation of the seating order at the Victorian table, correct Victorian table manners, invitations and menu cards, correct dress for dinner guests, correct table settings, the role of servants, and step-by-step instructions for recreating a formal Victorian dinner, tea, breakfast, or lunch.

From Booklist At no other time in Western history did people have at their disposal so many food service and consumption utensils and so many carefully devised rules for their use as in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Britain under Victoria and Edward VII celebrated upward mobility but demanded social graces of all. As the present age begins to turn from informality to structure, interest in those old forms and customs has begun to resurface. The father-son team of Schollanders has prepared a guide to the dining etiquette of the Victorian era as well as an illustrated guide to its tableware. They explain the differences among the forks, knives, and spoons of the era as well as the plates, dishes, cups, saucers, platters, and glassware that evolved to meet the needs of chefs, servants, hosts, and diners. The Schollanders' work is a helpful reference tool for answering all sorts of silverware and chinaware identification questions as well as explaining each item's function. Mark Knoblauch Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved "[t]his book is a history lesson bound to inspire countless mealtime conversations about why the salad has been served first and whether or not the host should wear a hat. Hindsight lends a certain poignancy to any history lesson. Combined with the Schollanders' prodigious research, it affords *Forgotten Elegance* a sympathetic tenderness that would have been appreciated by those harried butlers, overworked cooks, and nervous party guests of yore." -ForeWord... "a helpful reference tool for answering all sorts of silverware and chinaware identification questions as well as explaining each item's function." -Booklist "For the conscientious reader, this book is a history lesson bound to inspire countless mealtime conversations about why the salad has been served first and whether or not the host should wear a hat." -ForeWord "this book is a history lesson bound to inspire countless mealtime conversations about why the salad has been served first and whether or not the host should wear a hat. Hindsight lends a certain poignancy to any history lesson. Combined with the Schollanders' prodigious research, it affords *Forgotten Elegance* a sympathetic tenderness that would have been appreciated by those harried butlers, overworked cooks, and nervous party guests of yore." -ForeWord?... a helpful reference tool for answering all sorts of

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harried butlers, overworked cooks, and nervous party guests of yore.?-ForeWord.,,"a helpful reference tool for answering all sorts of silverware and chinaware identification questions as well as explaining each item's function."-

BooklistAbout the AuthorWENDELL SCHOLLANDER is a practicing lawyer. He and his wife have collected Victorian etiquette books, silver, and porcelain over a period of twenty-five years.WES SCHOLLANDER is a student at Wake Forest Law School. In addition to growing up discussing the proper placement of forks at formal dinners, he has backpacked around the world, been named a Presidential Point of Light for conservation work, served as a missionary in Central America, has art work in museums, and speaks four languages.