

School Resource

Hampton Court Palace

Chronology

1086	Hampton is recorded in the Domesday Book as belonging to Walter St Valery.
1494	Giles Daubeney, later Lord Chamberlain to Henry VII, leases and modernises the medieval manor of Hampton.
1514	Thomas Wolsey leases Hampton Court and begins a comprehensive rebuilding programme to convert the manor into a lavish palace.
1526	Henry VIII takes ownership of Hampton Court Palace.
1529	Henry VIII's royal workmen take over building works at Hampton Court.
January 1533	Henry VIII marries his second wife Anne Boleyn and begins constructing luxurious new apartments for his new queen.
October 1537	Queen Jane Seymour, Henry VIII's third wife gives birth to Prince Edward. He is baptized in the Chapel Royal but she dies soon after due to complications from the birth.
July 1540	Henry VIII marries his fifth wife Catherine Howard, and she is proclaimed Queen at Hampton Court.
November 1541	Catherine Howard is interrogated and put under house arrest at Hampton Court.
July 1543	Henry VIII marries his sixth and final wife, Katheryn Parr, in the Chapel Royal.
October 1562	Queen Elizabeth is confined to her bed after contracting smallpox. While the Queen had recovered by the end of the month, one of her ladies, Sibell Penn, was not so fortunate.
1603	Shakespeare and his company the 'King's Men' perform plays in the Great Hall for James I.
January 1604	James I calls Hampton Court Conference which commissions the King James Bible.
1645	Oliver Cromwell defeats Charles I in the Civil War and has him imprisoned at Hampton Court. Charles makes a daring escape.
1689	Sir Christopher Wren demolishes large parts of the Tudor palace and begins building a new baroque palace for William III and Mary II.
1717	The Prince of Wales is banned from the royal palaces by his father George I and does not return until he becomes king in 1727.
1760	Hampton Court is abandoned as a royal residence and divided up into grace and favour apartments to reward loyal royal servants.
1838	Queen Victoria opens the gardens and state apartments to the public free of charge.



1984	Prince Charles makes a speech at Hampton Court criticising modern architecture for its ugliness and insensitivity.
March 1986	At dawn on Easter Day a fire sweeps through the third floor and roof of the South Front.