ANDREA PALLADIO distilled his architectural principles from personal examination of the ruins of classical Rome, from study of the works of Vitruvius, Alberti and other writers who preceded him, and from interaction with older architects of his own time, such as Jacopo Sansovino, Michele Sanmicheli and Giulio Romano. This process enabled Palladio to design a remarkable collection of villas, palaces, churches and other buildings for patrons in the Veneto region of Italy. Palladio's greatest achievement, however, was in conceptualizing the principles which guided his work and articulating them in his masterwork, Four Books on Architecture.

This was the step which made possible the dissemination of his architectural style, known as Palladianism, throughout continental Europe, England and America in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, establishing Palladio as the most influential figure in the history of architecture.

The timeline below traces the pathway of Palladianism from Palladio's Veneto to England and colonial America.
English Palladianism Begins

1580 Palladio dies.

1598-1603 Inigo Jones (1573-1652) travels to Italy to study architecture, probably funded by Roger Manners, 5th Earl of Rutland (1576-1612).

1610 Inigo Jones arrives in the Veneto on his second trip, carrying with him a copy of the 1601 Italian edition of I quattro libri. He writes copious marginal notes on differences he notes between its woodcuts and the actual buildings he visits. 'All of Palladio's works are lighter than in the drawings.'

1613-1615 Inigo Jones travels to Italy as guide for Thomas Howard, 2nd Earl of Arundel (1585-1646). They meet with architect Vincenzo Scamozzi in August 1614 and buy chests of Palladio and Scamozzi drawings.

1615 Inigo Jones designs the Queen's House, Greenwich. Construction is not completed until 1638, with the flanking colonnades and wings added in 1807.

1616 Inigo Jones is appointed Surveyor of the King's Works.

1619 Inigo Jones designs the Banqueting House, Whitehall. Early drawings included a pediment over the three central bays.

1624 Henry Wotton (1568-1639), The Elements of Architecture (London), a paraphrase of Vitruvius' Ten Books on Architecture. Wotton was appointed British ambassador to Venice in 1604 and lived there for most of the ensuing twenty years.

1654 John Webb (1611-1672), Inigo Jones' in-law and former assistant, designs the portico addition at Vyne, Basingstoke, Hampshire.

1657 Christopher Wren (1632-1723) is appointed Surveyor-General of the King's Works. For the rest of the century Wren's influence moves...
English architecture away from Palladian classicism and toward a baroque style.

1660  Edmund Warcupp's *L'Italia nella sua gloria originari, rovina e rinascita* (Italy in its original glory, ruin and rebirth) (London, 1660), prob. written decades earlier, cites Palladio's fame as a reviver of classical principles and praises him as a European cultural model.


1664  John Evelyn's translation from French of Roland Fréart de Chambray's *A Parallel of the Antient Architecture with the Modern* (Paris, 1650)

1709  James Gibbs (1682-1754) returns to England after architecture research in Italy.

1712  Anthony Ashley Cooper, 3rd Earl of Shaftesbury (1671-1713), in his *Letter concerning design* criticizes buildings which retain 'what artists call the Gothic style.'

1713?  Giacomo Leoni (1686-1746) moves to London from Germany to serve Henry Grey, 1st Duke of Kent.

1714  William Kent (c1685-1748), while studying in Rome with financial support from a group of Yorkshire gentlemen, tours Palladio's palaces in Vicenza with Thomas Coke, later 1st Earl of Leicester.
1714-1715  Richard Boyle, 3rd Earl of Burlington and 4th Earl of Cork (1594-1753), travels to Italy.

1715-1725  Colen Campbell (1676-1729), *Vitruvius Britannicus or the British Architect*, vol. 1. He condemns the works of Bernini and Fontana, as well as the 'odd and chimerical Beauties' of Borromini. Among buildings designed by Campbell: Wanstead House, Essex (begun 1713/14); Stourhead, Wilshire (1721); Houghton Hall (1722) (replaced by Gibbs); Mereworth Castle, Kent (1722); and Waverley Abbey, Surrey (1723).


1719  Lord Burlington travels to the Veneto specifically to study (and survey) Palladio's work. While there he buys all of Palladio's drawings he can find. Returning to England, he buys a large part of the Inigo Jones collection of Palladio's drawings.
1721
Leoni reprint, English volume only (London: John Darby). Originally intended to include Inigo Jones’ notes, but rights could not be cleared.

1725-1730
Lord Burlington builds Chiswick House on his estate near London.

1727
William Kent (c.1685-1748), ed., *Designs of Inigo Jones and Others* (London: Isaac Ware), with support from Lord Burlington; republished 1770. Although best known as an interior designer and landscape architect, Kent also (with Thomas Coke, 1st Earl of Leicester) designed Holkham Hall, Norfolk (begun 1734).

1728
Colen Campbell, sponsored by Burlington, publishes Book I of Palladio’s *Four Books as Andrea Palladio’s First Book of Architecture*, reprinted the next year as *Andrea Palladio’s Five Orders of Architecture*.

1731
Robert Morris (1703-1754), *An Essay in Defense of Ancient Architecture; or a Parallel of the Ancient Buildings with the Modern.*

1731

Robert Morris, *Lectures on Architecture, Consisting of Rules Founded upon Harmonick and Arithmetical Proportions in Building*


Isaac Ware (1704-1766), *Designs of Inigo Jones and Others* (London).

Isaac Ware, *The Four Books of Andrea Palladio's Architecture* (London), with Lord Burlington's support.

**American Palladianism Begins**

Drayton Hall, Charleston, S. C., built by John Drayton.

Robert Morris, *An Essay upon Harmony as it relates chiefly to Situation and Building.*

Francesco Muttoni, ed., *The Architecture of Andrea Palladio* (Venice)
1742  Leoni reprint, with Inigo Jones' notes and L'Antichità di Roma.

1747  Redwood Library, Newport, R. l., is begun, after a design by architect Peter Harrison (based on a plate in Hoppus 1735).

1750  Robert Morris, Rural Architecture; republished 1755 and 1757 as Select Architecture.

c1750-c1800  Numerous Palladio-influenced houses, churches and public buildings are built throughout America, often inspired by the books of Campbell, Gibbs, Kent and Morris and other patternbooks published in England throughout the century. Examples include: King's Chapel, Boston (begun 1749); Mount Airy, Richmond County, Va. (1758); Jumel-Morris House, New York (1765); Brandon, Prince George County, Va. (c1765); Monticello I, Albemarle County, Va. (1771); Hammond-Harwood House, Annapolis, Md. (1774); Wye House, Talbot County, Md. (1781).

Greek Revival Begins

1751  James Stuart and Nicholas Revett, The Antiquities of Athens, vol. 1, with 5-volume series completed in 1816.

1756  Isaac Ware, A Complete Book of Architecture (London), relying heavily on Marc-Antoine Laugier, Essai sur l'architecture (France, 1753). Ware's A Complete Book of Architecture, like Morris' 1739 book extolling 'situation,' signals a cooling of interest in Palladio, although he remains prééminent.

1773-1778  Robert and James Adam, Works in Architecture of Robert and James Adam, vol. 1, with additional volumes in 1779 and (posthumously) 1822.

Bibliography
For further reading, see CPSA's Suggestions for a Palladian Bookshelf.

© 2009-2011 Center for Palladian Studies in America, Inc. / C. I. G.