The Crown: Sleep Dearie Sleep

Season 6 Episode 10

Martin Childs: December 2023

Season 6 Episode 10

'SLEEP DEARIE SLEEP'

After 60 episodes and 2448 sets, over six decades of story, the art department's work on The Crown is finished.

Sleep Dearie Sleep (or Episode 60 as we like to remind people) brings the story into the twenty-first century.

The brief we gave ourselves came straight from Peter Morgan's script and from conversations with Stephen Daldry. As a result we shed any 20:20 hindsight that might sentimentalise the story and told what was on the page.

The biggest challenge: to recreate St George's Chapel, Windsor, begun in 1475 and completed in 1528. Of all the locations within our grasp, the closest in character was York Minster. However, York Minster lacked two important things: the first was any resemblance to the altar end of St George's; the second was sufficient time to transform it – just one day, with two more to shoot (between Easter services and a visit from The King.) Our construction team built and painted, in forensic detail, a sixty-foot wide, eighteen-foot high replica of St George's Chapel in the Elstree workshop, pulled it apart, drove it 200 miles up the A1, and reassembled it in a day, to look seamless in a building that had taken 250 years to complete.

That was just one of our many adventures.

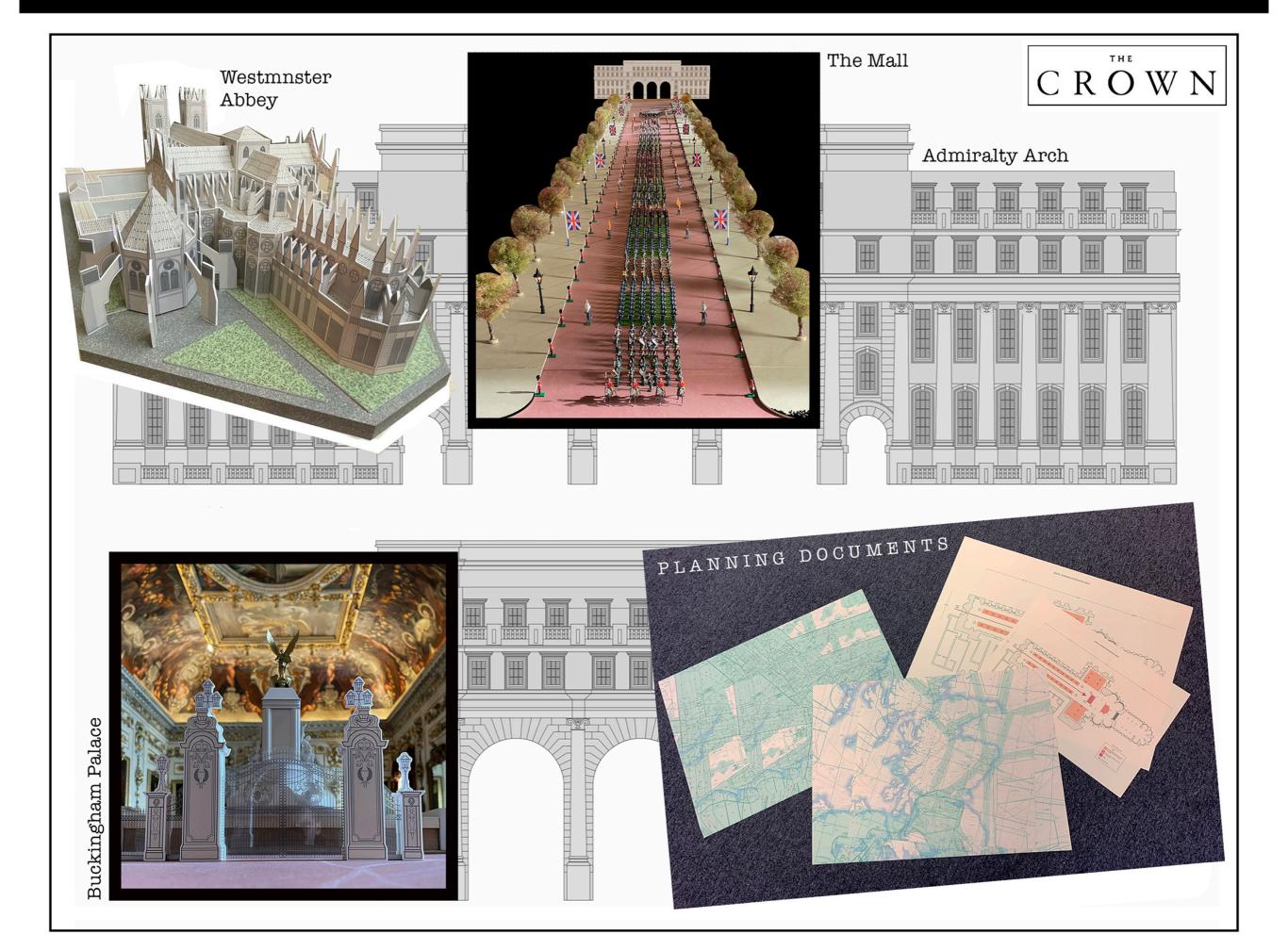
Sleep Dearie Sleep contains 75 new sets among a small handful of more familiar anchors that have shown, over 60 hours, a contrast to the passage of time.

As well as an end to nine years of designing, Sleep Dearie Sleep is a kind of elegy, but one that looks to the future.



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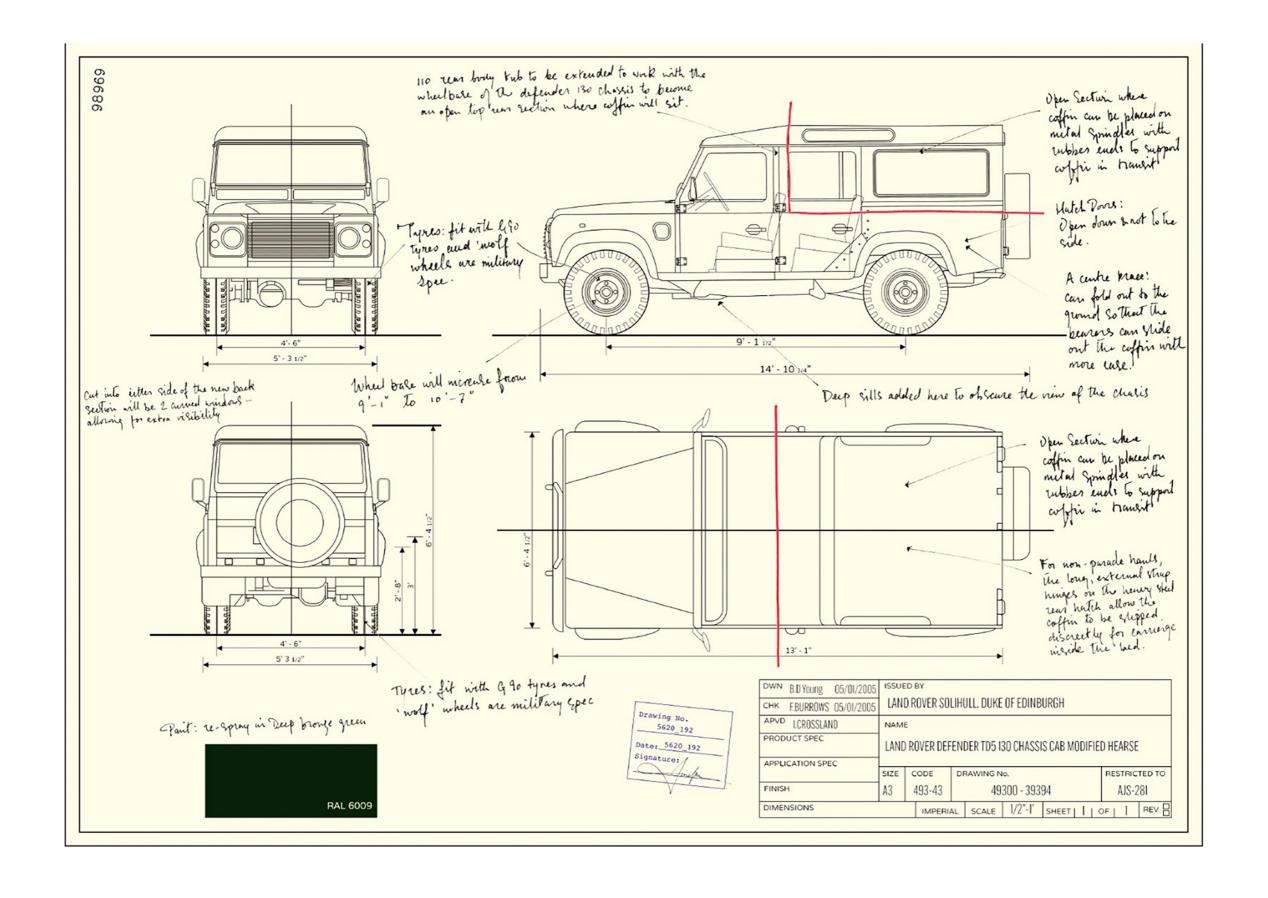
THE QUEEN IS SHOWN A MODEL OF THE MALL FOR A FUTURE CEREMONIAL EVENT

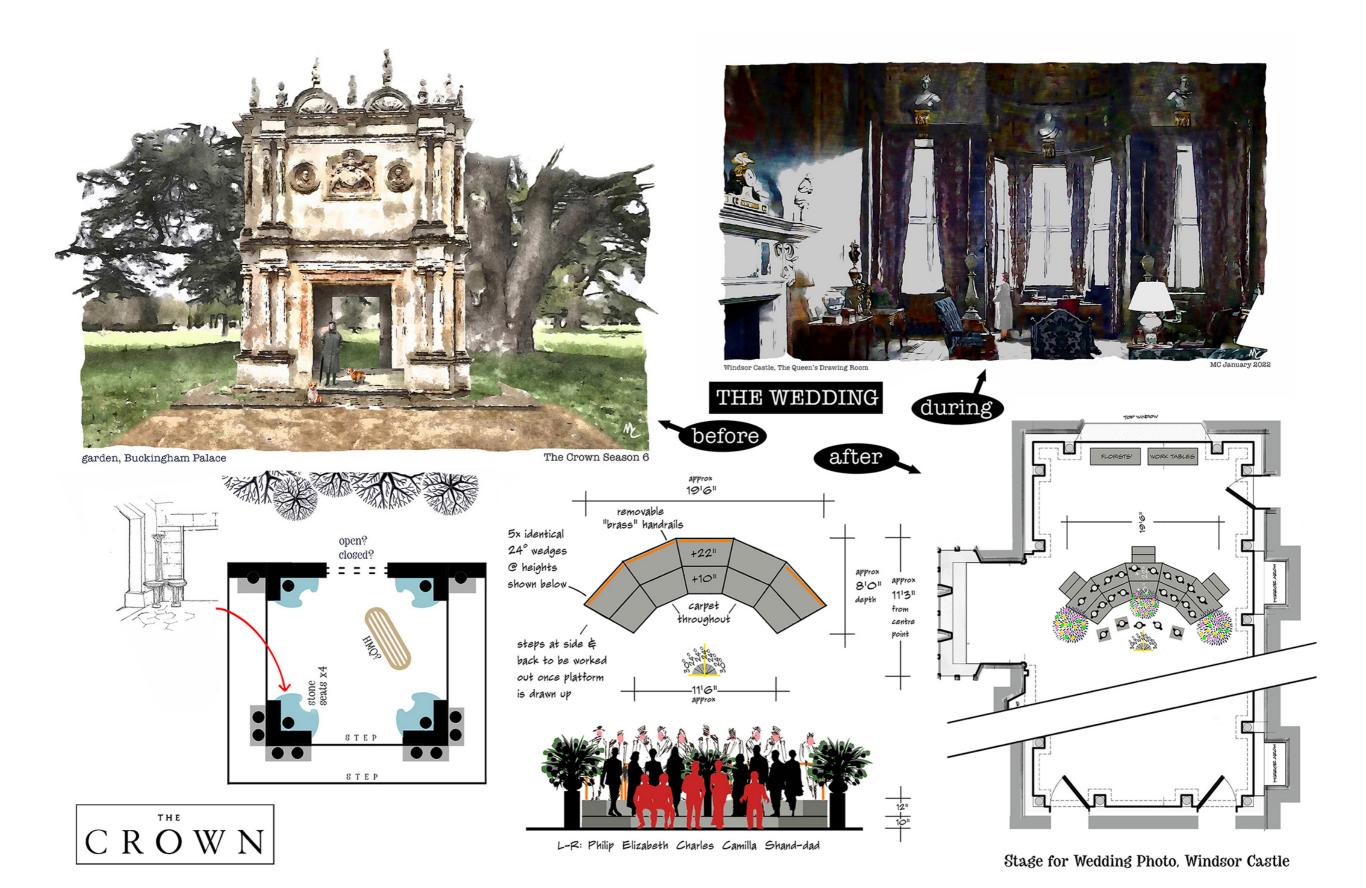




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How to transform York Minster into



new altar screen 50' x 16' across entire width of existing building

SEE DRAWING



St George's Chapel, Windsor

CROWN



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MC December 2023

C R O W N

'SLEEP DEARIE SLEEP'