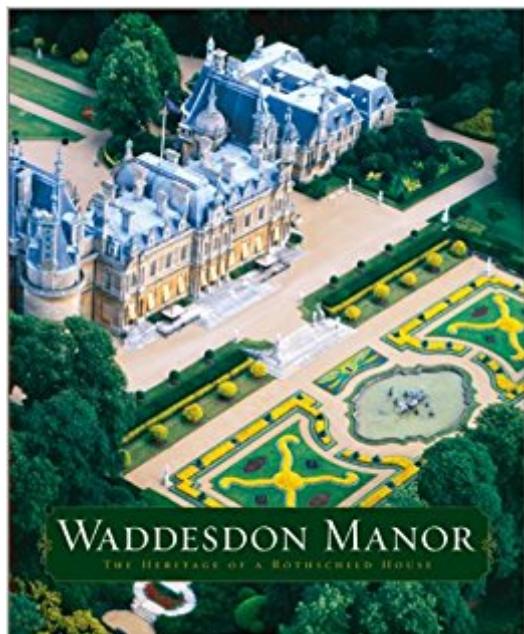


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Waddesdon Manor: The Heritage Of A Rothschild House



Synopsis

Illustrated with historical material and specially commissioned photographs, this volume provides a portrait of the manor and its inhabitants, its architecture and interior decor, its romantic gardens, and its renowned collections of English portraits, Dutch old masters, furniture and textiles.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Waddesdon Manor was built in the last quarter of the 19th century, when Britain was at the height of its power. The home of Baron Ferdinand Rothschild, it is a magnificent French chateau in Buckinghamshire, near London, and it houses one of the finest collections of 18th-century French furniture to be found anywhere. Waddesdon is indeed one of the finest houses in England and remained in the family until it was bequeathed to the National Trust in 1957, which has maintained it in its original splendor. This volume by Hall, a deputy editor of Country Life magazine and author of The English Country House, traces the family of Ferdinand Rothschild, then describes the planning and building of this house and its gardens in rich detail. The volume is also a social history of one family and offers a vivid picture of the lives of the very rich in Victorian and Edwardian England. The narrative is clear and carefully researched, and the photographs are first class the number of illustrations is surprising in a volume so well priced. This volume deserves to be in most history and architecture collections. Martin Chasin, Adult Inst., Bridgeport, CT Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc.

Michael Hall is editor of 'Apollo Magazine', ex Deputy Editor of 'Country Life' and author of 'The English Country House: From the Archives of Country Life 1897-1939'. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This book does contain some exceptional photography and most of the subject matter is very well chosen. There are, however, a fair number of out focus images. I understand vintage photos don't always measure up to today's standards of resolution but poor quality photography is not enhanced through enlargement. This latitude does not hold for the book's contemporary photography. There are several full and even two page spreads that constitute little more than filler. Books, after all, aren't sold by the pound. Maybe I should have reserved my criticisms for the latter part of this review as it may appear I found more to dislike than the opposite. That is not the case. Very few books meet all expectations and in spite of the aforementioned there is much here to please. The vast majority of the exterior and interior views are nothing short of gorgeous. And likewise for the treatment of furnishings and collections. The production quality is everything one would expect in an expensive coffee table book and the dust jacket is very inviting. This volume presents one of those instances where more is less. Four stars were awarded not for what wasn't included but for what should have been eliminated. All said, I am glad I purchased the book, I have my own scissors. (just kidding, bibliophiles)

I own many books on the great estates, some going back more than 100 years. This book is how it should be done. If I were asked what book best exemplifies how to create a coffee table style book on this subject, mixing beautiful photos, excellent production quality, and a scholars text, it would be this book. To all future authors of these grand estates: Use this book as your template and you will succeed. Five stars easily.

History of the design and construction of the fabulous Rothschild mansion in Great Britain. It's not just an architectural book about the house and gardens. It also takes the reader to the society of the era and the lifestyle of the family that built it and lived in it. Funny vignette: Queen Victoria visited it and played for hours with the electric light switches--she didn't have electricity in Buckingham Palace at the time!

I wanted to buy this book when in England. But the weight might have been a problem. Quick sending. Extremely good packaging. Very nice book.

I am so lucky to have visited this incredible country estate while visiting London..it took a lot of effort-a plane/train/cab/foot..but when I finally arrived I was blown away. I also arrived the same week of the theft of the gold snuffboxes which was so devastating for Waddesdon Manor....I collect French Sevres' Porcelain so that was my "push" to achieve this visitation. I left wanting more & hopefully will be able to return one day all the way from New Orleans Louisiana. The soft colors of the entire collection-the breathtaking paintings, the porcelains, the furniture etc was a life event. The gardens aren't to be missed either-I got ideas I am still using here at my place. The giftshop had this incredible large tabletop book & in my travels I have learned to return home & then order to save the hauling/extra luggage weight etc..when I ordered this one & it arrived I was so excited because it took me back to my glorious day at Waddesdon. I have visited other Rothschild manors throughout Europe & they are all worth the extra time/expense..Have Fun!!!

Waddesdon Manor: The Heritage Of A Rothschild House is a gorgeous coffee table book, filled cover to cover with fabulous full-color photographs depicting an extraordinary house in the English countryside near London and its 125-year history. Showcasing romantic gardens, a superb private wine cellar, a wondrous aviary and much, much more, Waddesdon Manor is an incredible tour through culture, time, architecture, and interior design. The detailed text, drawing from previously unpublished research, memoirs, family and retainer reminiscences, takes the reader on a step by step tour through rooms and eras alike in this classical volume recommended for students of architectural history.

This book is wonderfully put together. The photos are vivid and the history of the house is fascinating. This is truly a grand English Estate, even if done in the French style usually favored by the Rothschilds. This first family of banking always lived in the most amazing homes, like the home of the U.S. ambassador to France and the Rothschild estate in the south of France. I highly recommend this book to anyone who loves European elegance; just a beautiful book. Now if someone would just do a book on Felieres, outside Paris, the ultimate Rothchild grand estate.

For anyone interested in beautiful things, especially houses, I highly recommend this book. It is very informative and gives a lot of insight into the Rothschild family. I loved the pictures of which are beautifully shot. I also believe that the price range is very good considering it is a great book to own and of the finest quality. I have read it thoroughly many times and it does not come apart like other

books that I have.

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