

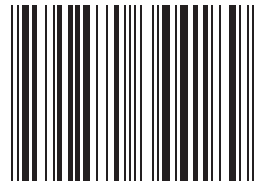


Country houses have been an important part of the English rural scene for over 500 years. Although, inevitably, many have come and gone over the centuries, we are extremely fortunate in Leicestershire and Rutland in our rich inheritance of historic mansions, with their fine architecture and artistic contents, almost invariably set in beautiful parkland.

The first part of this book traces the history of these country houses, whilst the second part forms a gazetteer, summarising the architectural features and where possible the family histories of over 50 houses which still grace the two counties.

Professor Leonard Cantor is Emeritus Professor of Education at Loughborough University and is a leading authority on the history of the English landscape. He is the co-author of a companion volume, *The Historic Parks and Gardens of Leicestershire and Rutland*.

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