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The Historic
COUNTRY HOUSES
of Leicestershire and Rutland

Leonard Cantor

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Leicester

1998

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Front Cover: Burley-on-the-Hill, Rutland

Back Cover, left to right: Coleorton Hall, Market Bosworth Hall, Belvoir Castle, Quenby Hall, Hambleton Old Hall

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| <i>Market Bosworth</i> (1983) | |

A Note on Sources

Throughout the book I have drawn extensively for architectural details on Nikolaus Pevsner, *The Buildings of Leicestershire and Rutland*, Second Edition, Revised by Elizabeth Williamson with Geoffrey K. Brandwood, Penguin Books, 1984. For Leicestershire buildings, I have also made considerable use of the detailed architectural accounts made available to me by the Leicestershire Department of Planning and Transportation at County Hall. For Leicestershire family histories, I have used Heather E.

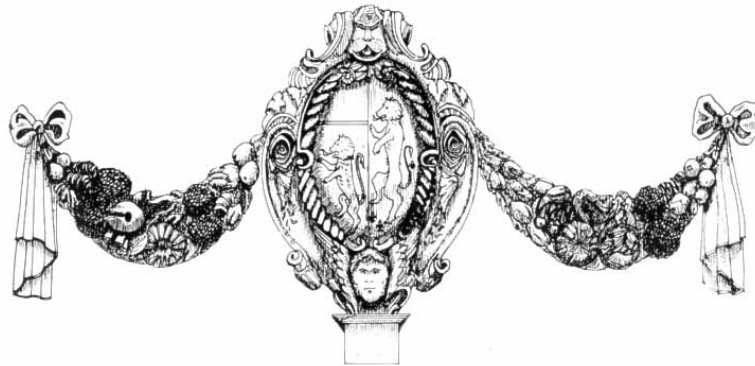
Broughton, *Family and Estate Records in the Leicestershire Record Office*, Leicestershire Museums, Arts and Record Service, 1991. For Rutland buildings, I have used the architectural notes in the Council Offices in Oakham and for Rutland families, Bryan Waites (Ed.), *Who Was Who in Rutland*, Rutland Record, No.8, 1988. Where particular sources are used for individual houses, specific reference is made to them.

Preface

We are very fortunate indeed in our inheritance of country houses many of which, in Leicestershire and Rutland as throughout England, are of considerable historical, architectural and artistic interest. Their owners built, and in many cases rebuilt, them over a period of almost 500 years, set them in beautiful parkland and filled them with fine furniture and works of art. Although many have come and gone over the centuries, it is only in the last 100 years that, for reasons spelled out in the book, we have lost large numbers of them. Happily, the haemorrhaging stopped in the 1970s and as I have attempted to show we still have many fine houses in the two counties, a substantial proportion of which remain in private hands. Others have been sold by their former owners to become hotels,

hospitals, educational establishments and the like, or divided into separate units. At the very least this has ensured the survival of the houses and their general well-being. In this book I have, where possible, given a brief account of the families who built them and lived in them. I have also concentrated on their architectural features, partly because these are most easily seen and partly because that is where my main interests lie. Finally, while I have tried to be comprehensive in my coverage of our historic country houses, doubtless I have inadvertently omitted some and for that I apologise.

Leonard Cantor
September 1998



*Cartouche in the south front pediment
at Market Bosworth Hall.*