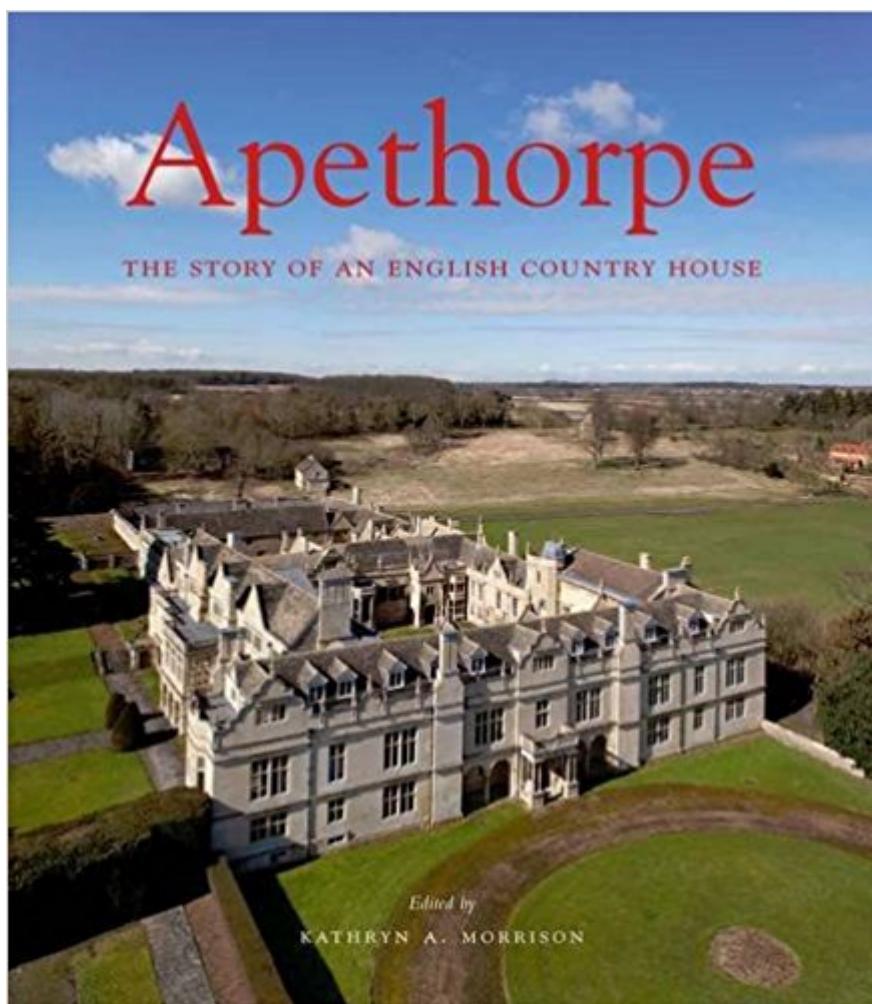


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# Apethorpe: The Story Of An English Country House (The Paul Mellon Centre For Studies In British Art)



## Synopsis

This beautiful publication narrates the romantic biography of an architecturally significant country residence and its rescue from decline. Dating from the mid-15th century, Apethorpe in Northamptonshire was home to a succession of leading courtiers and politicians. At the command of King James I, the house was refurbished with a richly decorated state apartment. The suite, with its series of rare plaster ceilings and carved chimneypieces, unquestionably ranks as one of the finest "and least known" in Britain. In 2004, English Heritage rescued the house from ruin and has since restored it to much of its glory. This book places Apethorpe in its wider historical and architectural context, comparing it with other Tudor and Jacobean houses. It sheds new light on the furnishing, decoration, and circulation patterns of state suites in country homes. Written by architectural and archeological experts from Historic England, this monograph, the first on Apethorpe, is illustrated with new and historical photographs, paintings, maps, engravings, and specially commissioned interpretive drawings that reveal how the house looked at key moments in its history.

## Book Information

Series: The Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art

Hardcover: 500 pages

Publisher: Paul Mellon Centre BA (June 7, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0300148704

ISBN-13: 978-0300148701

Product Dimensions: 2 x 10 x 11.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 4 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #388,735 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #72 in Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture > Historic Preservation #412 in Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture > Buildings > Residential #684 in Books > History > Europe > Great Britain > England

## Customer Reviews

"Apethorpe is a magical place and this handsome, lavishly illustrated architectural biography captures the romantic quality of the story. It is a comprehensive and beautiful publication, worthy of the monumental subject." - Rose Dahlsen, House & Garden (Rose Dahlsen House & Garden

2016-08-01) Properly coherent and readable | this is perhaps the most complete analysis of a country house published in the past 25 years. "John Goddall, Country Life (John Goodall Country Life 2016-07-01)"The contexts and parallels offered are valid and illuminating and will add to Apethorpe's usefulness as a source of comparative material for other studies." "Nicholas Cooper, Transactions (Nicholas Cooper Transactions 2017-05-01)

This superlatively illustrated monograph tells the romantic biography of Apethorpe, an architecturally significant English country house, and its rescue from decline.

It is a great book that goes beyond my expectations. Great information, maps and pictures that add to the house itself. I bought it because I had hoped that Thomas Thorpe and his workshop would be mentioned and given credit for the work done in 1623/24. He is a direct ancestor of my husband. All of it is referenced and the history of James I is also explained. Praise for the amount of scholarship and plain hard work done by the team.

This is a fascinating chronicle about the saving of a priceless piece of history. Thanks to the actions of many, including a sympathetic government, great things were achieved in England, despite the sacred nature of a free market economy. The belief that every individual can do what he likes with his property can have horrible ramifications, especially when its owners seek to destroy what is a national and world treasure. This is the story of how that was prevented, for the benefit of all. It is an inspirational story, and one that provides hope when art and culture around the world are in peril.

Excellent book on the architecture and history of Apethorpe, one of the grandest English country houses.

Well written & spectacular photos

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