A history of country house visiting: five centuries of tourism and taste
Adrian Timmwood
Basil Blackwell and the
National Trust, 1989
£12.95
Where a party visiting Strawberry Hill caused a breakage Horace Walpole complained that 'vulgar people always see with the ends of their noses' and 'did not, however, stop people visiting although by 1746 he was issuing a page of which limited groups to four and visits to the hours between twelve and three, and humbled children. In common with other eighteenth century landowners he expected to allow complete strangers to be shown round his house for no more than a tip to his housekeeper, a tradition that has its roots in the medieval customs of hospitality.
Adrian Timmwood traces the origin to country house visiting from these medieval traditions to the current commercial approaches. He takes in much more on the way: pilgrimage, cabinets of curiosities, the study of landscape and the past, the development of leisure and tourism, societies to protect our heritage. So much in fact that you sometimes wonder whether he is not parting company a little with his theme.
There has been no general survey of this subject before and this book is the product of wide research which has resulted in a collection of well chosen quotes that I shall probable go for any of our own publications. The book will be of interest to teachers as a basis of the history of one particular leisure activity and as an analysis of changing attitudes to our built heritage.

Footnotes

History-based Topic Work
A reference book of resources and practical ideas for teachers
Wiltshire County Council Education Information Services
1987, £6.00 (including post and packing)
Copies are available (Chargers to: Wiltshire County Council) from Advisory Services Division
Education Services Department
County Hall
Trowbridge
Wiltshire BA14 8BJ

The publication of the National Curriculum History Working Group’s Final Report in April 1990 provoked much discussion in the educational press.

Much of this centred on the future of history within a traditional topic-based framework and many schools and L.E.A must now be grappling with the implications of the Report and how the history of the new city, which covers the most intensively studied archaeological landscape in the country.

There is now a huge resource of material available for study. Sadly as yet, there is no museum, so the Unit tries to fill this gap for schools locally. To meet this need, the unit is running a programme of specialist activities ranging from a series of local excursions to a series of workshops and visits for schools to the Faraday's House. This includes a talk on the archaeology of South West London.

We have just published our new edition of our Information for Teachers booklet. If you would like a free copy please complete and return the slip below.

Information for Teachers contains full details on how to book a free group visit, together with practical ideas for preparatory on-site and follow up work, and up to date listings of all English Heritage sites.

Please send me a copy of the new Information for Teachers booklet:

NAME

ADDRESS

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Please return this slip to:

English Heritage Education Service, Keynes House, 429 Oxford Street, London W1R 2HD

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