Sussex Archaeological Society

The Age of Luxury: the Georgian Country House and its Setting
c. 1700 - 1820

Saturday 15 October 2016

Part of ‘Newick Park, the home of Lady Vernon’ by James Lambert II of Lewes, 1780
© Sussex Archaeological Society

Conference handbook

Gorringes
Welcome

We are delighted to welcome you all to our autumn conference, which sold out in mid-August. We look forward to a fascinating and stimulating day with our excellent range of speakers.

Please share your opinion on today’s conference by filling in and returning an evaluation form. If you did not receive a form with this handbook you can pick one up from the registration desk. Completed forms can be left on the desk at the end of the day or returned later (details are at the end of the form).

This conference is just one of many events we run for the benefit of our members and others. Most of our members’ events are listed on the Society’s website www.sussexpast.co.uk and details of all of them are in our newsletter, Sussex Past and Present, which members receive in April, August and December. Members also receive our annual publication, Sussex Archaeological Collections (SAC), which you will find referred to on a number of occasions in our recommended reading at the end of this handbook.

While many of our events are open to non-members, we do urge you to consider joining the Society to support our work. Our current subscription rate is £38 for individual members and £55 for joint members. You can pick up an application form from the registration desk today or you can join online at https://sussexpast.co.uk/become-a-member.

Best Wishes,
Sue Berry (Programme Organiser) and Lorna Gartside (Event Organiser)
The Age of Luxury: the Georgian Country House and its Setting c. 1700 - 1820

Introduction

Between about 1700 and 1820 old houses were transformed and new ones built, some on a spectacular scale, by owners who would now be regarded as multi-millionaires. From the later seventeenth century and throughout the eighteenth, the influence of the Grand Tour on country house owners was considerable, not least because so many of them travelled abroad to see continental styles for themselves. Some Sussex houses still have collections purchased on Grand Tours though many have since been sold off. Architectural styles were varied reflecting the influence of Dutch, French and Classical inspirations as well as our home grown Gothic. Landscapes also evolved from formal to the famous landscape parks of the mid to later eighteenth century. Interiors became more showy, increasingly reflecting the high quality of British craftsmanship. Ever more servants were needed to run a lavish lifestyle with racing, hunting and other expensive social activities. Some owners overspent and either left a legacy of debt to their heirs or lost their estates.

Our speakers, all specialists in their fields, will address these aspects of the Georgian country house. Please note that you will have an opportunity to chat to them during the breaks – we ask them to spend some time in the corner to the left of the stage (if you are facing the stage) and all have been asked to allow a little space at the end of their talk. All speakers wear name badges to help you to identify them.

The first Bayley or Bailey Park, now Heathfield Park.
Source: Private Collection.

The house of 1677 seen above was remodeled in 1766 by Sir Robert Taylor for General Elliot and then again by Reginald Bloomfield in 1896-7. See R. Pryce or Antram 473-4, (details in booklist).
# The Age of Luxury: the Georgian Country House and its Setting c. 1700 - 1820

## Programme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 10.00am | **Welcome and introduction**  
Professor Emeritus Maurice Howard, O.B.E, University of Sussex |
| 10.05am | **The English country house, c. 1680-1820: architecture and planning**  
Dr Geoffrey Tyack, Kellogg College, University of Oxford |
| 10.45am | **The Grand Tour and the creation of the country house in eighteenth century Britain**  
Dr Jonathan Yarker, Lowell Libson (specialist dealers in British art) and expert on the Grand Tour |
| 11.25am | *tea/coffee* |
| 11.45am | **England, France and the Netherlands: garden design in England 1680-1710**  
Dr Sally Jeffery, independent architectural and garden historian |
| 12.25pm | **Pleasure in the pleasure gardens of Georgian England**  
Dr Stephen Bending, University of Southampton (publishes on the history of gardens) |
| 1.05pm  | *lunch* |
| 2.00pm  | **From Rococo to Neo-Classicism: fashioning the Georgian interior**  
Dr Susan Bracken, independent historian specialising in furnishings |
| 2.40pm  | *‘It gives me Reason to believe your Ladyship does not think me a servant to suite her.’ Household management and servant organisation*  
Dr Julie Day, independent historian of the English country house with specialisms in the family and household |
| 3.20pm  | *tea/coffee* |
| 3.40pm  | **The country house guidebook in the long eighteenth century: a nuanced message**  
Dr Paula Riddy, independent art historian |
| 4.20pm  | **Much spending, not always afforded - the transformation of the country house and its setting in Sussex**  
Dr Sue Berry, specialist in Georgian seaside resorts and the country house estates of Sussex |
| 5.00pm  | **Questions and end** |
Speakers’ Abstracts, Biographies and Suggested Reading

Conference Chair
Professor Maurice Howard, O.B.E.

Maurice Howard, Professor Emeritus of the History of Art at the University of Sussex, is the author of *The Early Tudor Country House: Architecture and Politics 1490-1550*, *The Building of Elizabethan and Jacobean England* and studies of the Tudor houses of The Vyne and Laughton Place. He was Senior Subject Specialist for the Tudor and Stuart sections of the Victoria and Albert Museum’s British Galleries and recently was one of the team at the National Portrait Gallery, London examining and interpreting all the early pictures with the latest technical apparatus: one of the fruits of this is the co-edited book *Painting in Britain 1500-1630: Production, Influences and Patronage*. He currently works on the material remains of Tudor England across architecture and the applied arts. He is a past President of the Society of Antiquaries of London and the current President of the Society of Architectural Historians of Great Britain.

The English country house, c. 1680-1820: architecture and planning
Dr Geoffrey Tyack

Country houses constitute some of the finest achievements of English culture during the ‘long 18th century’, bringing together architecture and the decorative arts in a way that has been rarely matched before or since. This talk will draw out the main strands in the evolution of this perennially fascinating type of building, explaining the progression of architectural styles and their relationship to changing patterns of life amongst the nobility and gentry. The varied contributions of individual architects and craftsmen will be emphasised, and changing fashions in internal planning and decoration will be related to underlying social developments. Large aristocratic houses such as Castle Howard and Chatsworth will be discussed, but so too will villas and the more modest, and less well-known, houses of the gentry.

Biographical note
Dr Geoffrey Tyack is a Fellow of Kellogg College, Oxford. He read history at St John’s College, Oxford, and then worked as assistant editor of the *Victoria County History of Middlesex* before starting to work as a lecturer in history for Stanford University at Cliveden House, Buckinghamshire. Since returning to Oxford in 1984 he has taught and lectured on architectural history and related subjects in the Department for Continuing Education and elsewhere in the University and beyond. He has also written several books, including *Sir James Pennethorne and the Making of Victorian London*, *Warwickshire Country Houses* and *Oxford: an Architectural Guide* (OUP 1998), and has published articles on a wide variety of architectural topics in *Country Life* and elsewhere. His revision of the Berkshire volume in the Pevsner *Buildings of England* series came out in 2010, and he has since edited books on the architects John Nash and George Gilbert Scott. He is a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries and the Royal Historical Society, is Editor of the *Georgian Group Journal*, and is currently working on a book on the history of the English urban landscape.
The Grand Tour and the creation of the country house in eighteenth century Britain
Dr Jonathan Yarker

Travel to Italy during the eighteenth century had a major impact on taste. Grand tourists were frequently engaged in a process of conspicuous consumption whilst on the Continent, and many returned with sculpture and paintings, which required housing. In Italy British travellers encountered new ideas about display and decoration, ideas which influenced the construction of British country houses. This lecture will examine the infrastructures that emerged in Rome to serve travellers and the effect they had on the architecture, design and arrangement of the country house.

Biographical note
Dr Jonny Yarker has published widely on the Grand Tour including: Digging and Dealing in Eighteenth Century Rome (Yale, 2010); The English Prize, the capture of the Westmorland, an incident of the Grand Tour (Yale, 2012) and the recent exhibition: Richard Wilson (1713-82): A European Master (Yale 2014). Jonny has held academic fellowships in America, London, and most recently, Rome. He is currently working on an account of the life and activities of the banker and dealer Thomas Jenkins (1722 - 1798) entitled The Business of the Grand Tour. Jonny is a Director of Lowell Libson Ltd., the leading dealers in British art.
England, France and the Netherlands: garden design in England 1680-1710
Dr Sally Jeffery

This talk will consider the design of the formal gardens of England in the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries and the strong influence of ideas coming from Europe. They came from Italy in the first place, but in the period we are looking at, the French and later the Dutch styles of garden design were important. Knowledge was transmitted to England in a variety of ways. Charles II absorbed a taste for continental ideas during his long exile in the Low Countries and France and from his French mother, Henrietta Maria. French gardeners came to work in England and designs were sent from France. With the accession of William of Orange to the English throne in 1688, the influence of the Netherlands was also a contributing factor bringing its own traditions. By the end of the century, numerous books containing designs and practical advice were being translated from Dutch and French, and many English gardens of the early eighteenth century, both large and small, reflected continental ideas on design and planting.

Biographical note
Dr Sally Jeffery, FSA, read History of Art at Birkbeck, University of London, and wrote her doctoral thesis on John James, architect and translator. She was formerly architectural and garden historian at the City of London, and has lectured and published extensively. She was tutor on the MA in Garden History at Birkbeck from 2000 to 2011, and is now an independent scholar. She continues to research, write, and lecture. Her principal area of research at present is the houses and gardens of the 17th century, but her interests include architecture and gardens from the 15th to the 18th centuries in Italy, France, and England.

Stansted park and house about 1700 by Knyff from an original copy. © SAS
The house and grounds as shown were probably the work of Richard Lumley, 1st Earl of Scarborough who began the work in the 1680s. Descendants added follies and other features and removed this formal layout.
Pleasure in the pleasure gardens of Georgian England
Dr Stephen Bending

When we talk of pleasure gardens in the eighteenth century we tend to think of Vauxhall and Ranelagh, with their emphasis on urban sociability, music, spectacle and the stylised pleasures of the masquerade. But the term was used much more widely throughout the period to denote any kind of garden dedicated to leisure rather than labour, to pleasure rather than productivity. Eighteenth-century pleasure gardens might be large or small, attached to town houses or spread across many acres in a country estate, but they held in common an ability to raise questions about the nature and purpose of pleasure — too much, not enough, the wrong kind, the wrong place. With those problems in mind, this paper will explore eighteenth-century writers’ and artists’ engagements with the kinds of pleasure one should, or should not, have in a ‘pleasure’ garden.

Biographical note
Dr Stephen Bending is a Senior Lecturer in English at the University of Southampton. He has written numerous articles on eighteenth-century gardens and landscapes (most recently on the garden-hating champion of the picturesque, William Gilpin); he is the editor of the Enlightenment volume of the Bloomsbury Cultural History of Gardens (2013), and a co-editor of The English Novel 1770-1829: A Bibliographical Survey (2000), The Writing of Rural England, 1500-1800 (2003) and Tracing Architecture: the aesthetics of antiquarianism (2003), as well as of novels by Thomas Day and Henry MacKenzie, and travel writings by Anne Plumptre and Helen Maria Williams; he is also co-editor of the on-going Pickering and Chatto Chawton House Library Series of women’s novels, travels and memoirs. His book, Green Retreats: Women, Gardens and Eighteenth-Century Culture, was published by Cambridge in 2013, and he is currently working on the problems of pleasure in English, French and American gardens of the eighteenth century.

Petworth House, © S Berry
View of the House across part of the 700 acres transformed from a formal design by Lancelot ‘Capability’ Brown. He was commissioned by Charles Wyndham, the second Earl of Egremont who inherited in 1750. During the 1750s, Brown swept away the traditional features. He created this view by making the lake. In 1762, the original road between Petworth and Tillington, which passed within 50 feet of the house, was moved south to where it is now. Amongst the features, Brown also added the Ha Ha and the Ionic Rotunda.
From Rococo to Neo-Classicism: fashioning the Georgian interior
Dr Susan Bracken FSA

This lecture will explore the changing fashions in eighteenth-century furnishings and interior design. This period commences with the naturalistic and informal style known as the Rococo, seen by some contemporaries as too “feminine”, but a transformation takes place with the advent of Neo-Classicism and the dominance of designs derived from the Antique.

Biographical note
Susan is a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, London, and a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Art Scholars. She is a member of the Steering Committee of the recently-formed Society for the History of Collecting. She is also co-convenor, with Dr. Andrea Galdy and Adriana Turpin, of the research seminar ‘Collecting & Display’ at the Institute of Historical Research, which meets once a month in term time and holds an annual conference, from which the papers have been published.


‘Copies after Old Masters at Ham House in the Context of Caroline Patronage and Collecting’ in Ham House: 400 Years of Collecting and Patronage, Yale University Press, 2013.

Detail of the ceiling of the dining room, Stanmer House - probably late 1720s. © S Berry
‘It gives me Reason to believe your Ladyship does not think me a servant to sute her.’ Household management and servant organisation.
Dr Julie Day

Throughout the eighteenth century notions of the elite household and family were being redefined and the management, organisation and status of its members became increasingly linked to gendered ability and suitability. As the seventeenth century drew to a close many large estates and their respective country houses were incredibly self-sufficient. The household mistress was proud of her practical knowledge of housewifery, medicines and needlecraft, and men too were eager to declare their knowledge of husbandry and agricultural strength. By the turn of the nineteenth century publications dedicated to the management of household and estate suggested a shift towards a more refined and somewhat less hands-on approach for the master and mistress.

Equally, servant hierarchies demonstrated greater definition of roles as well as the growing desire for privacy for the family over the century. Servants had always been expected to have relevant experience or to at least show willing in gaining the required skillset. Yet as the century rolled on more emphasis was placed on specialisms which better suited the needs and interests of the family. The old retainer system became overhauled by the liveried footman and valet, as well as small armies of maids; their job titles indicating the department to which they belonged. At the top sat the steward and housekeeper. Both were well versed in managing their respective departments and ensured tight communication with their master and mistress.

The purpose of this paper is to help shed light on the shifts throughout the century in the understanding of large scale country house management and domestic arrangements. As the home and household were considered a woman’s domain, much of the research allows for the voices of several chatelaines of grand houses to be heard. However, both successful and poor outcomes in household management, servant organisation and accounting were not defined by particularly male or female leadership but often unveiled a sheer lack of skill, interest or bad character. With this paper it is possible to see the depth of experience, enthusiasm and affection many owners of a country house had for their household. For others it was a chore; an attitude which only frustrated the servant hierarchy and certainly impacted on the growth of the estate and the reputation of the family.

Biographical note
Julie is a freelance historian and writer whose interests include landownership and urban development. Her specialist interest is the English country house. Julie’s doctoral research was on elite women’s household management in eighteenth-century Yorkshire, and she has since developed some of her case studies for wider reading through her blog countryhousereader.wordpress.com. Julie works in residential lettings and property management for a large company with an office based in Harrogate, North Yorkshire. It is hoped that one day in the not so distant future she will combine both sets of knowledge and skills with employment in the management of country house and estate residential lettings.

Publications
Elite Women’s Household Management: Yorkshire (Saarsbrucken: VM-Verlag, 2008)
**Articles**

‘Household Management as a Method of Authority for Three Eighteenth-Century Elite Yorkshire Women.’ *Women’s History Magazine*, 66 (Summer 2011), 30-37

‘Isabella’s Maxims for Young Ladies’, *HerStoria Magazine*, 9 (Summer 2011), 29-32

**The country house guidebook in the long eighteenth century: a nuanced message**

Dr Paula Riddy

The modern day country house guidebook is a publication with which we will all be familiar as a tool for leading the visitor from room to room in historic properties. This talk will explore the beginnings of the genre which gained pace during the eighteenth century. The house could be presented in these books in a variety of ways, often led by a specific agenda which served the interests of the house owner. The end result was not always an objective account of the property, but rather a nuanced description aimed at conveying a very specific message, and one which gives insights into the way that the owner wished to craft his public image.

**Biographical note**

Dr Paula Riddy was awarded her PhD in Art History from the University of Sussex last year, with a thesis on ‘The Representation of the Country House in Individual Books and Guides, 1720-1845’. She has since been engaged in postdoctoral research on the history of the house at Wakehurst Place. Following an earlier career as a psychologist, her research interests also include issues of identity, architecture and collections in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

**Reading**


More generally:


**Much spending, not always afforded - the transformation of the country house and its setting in Sussex**

Dr Sue Berry

The alteration or reconstruction of a country house was expensive, as were alterations to the garden and park. The house and grounds were also costly to run, requiring a large staff. Many owners also owned or leased town houses in London and perhaps in a provincial town or resort. So how was all of this paid for? It is clear that in the majority of cases, not by rents from the estate (or estates in a few cases). Erring owners could end up with huge debts and either having to sell land or maybe the entire estate or be bankrupted. There came a point when they could not add to the mortgage debt common to most and that was usually when a crisis arose. Continuity of ownership of these estates was not as frequent as once claimed; many were lost to debt.
We will explore what work was done on a sample of country houses and parks in Sussex and the probable source of funding. Some heir or heiress probably dreaded the thought of the size of the mortgages they would inherit when the ambitions of parents in effect mortgaged the next generations’ inheritance. And it was not unusual for the heir or heiress to sell at least some land in order to reduce the burden of interest rates. Not only ambitious projects but also marriage settlements, legacies and annuities were funded by debt.

Biographical note
Sue Berry ended a long career in Higher Education as Principal Lecturer in Tourism Management and also taught regional history to masters level. She has published in both tourism and history journals. Many of her recent articles about Georgian and Regency Brighton and Hove can be read in the *Journal of the Georgian Group* and in *Sussex Archaeological Collections*. Her book *Georgian Brighton* was published in 2005 and she hopes now to write one on the town covering 1700-1840. She has also published articles about landed estates, Victorian resort towns and other topics. Sue still lectures on 18th and 19th century urban and rural history and organises the programmes for Sussex Archaeological Society’s historical conferences. Her PhD was about the acquisition, management and sale of landed estates between c. 1750 and 1939 on the South Downs. She has been a trustee of heritage charities and of the Magistrates’ Association.

*Stanmer House Lodges*
*Baxter’s Strangers in Brighton and Directory Lewes 1824. Private collection.*

These lodges were erected at the main entrance to Stanmer Park (near Brighton) when the Pelhams bought land to extend their park to this boundary. The road between Brighton and Lewes was moved east to its present alignment when this land was absorbed in to the park. Lodges are frequently lost to road alterations but they were important reminders to passers-by that the park existed.
Further Reading

There is a wide range of books and articles about the country house and so this has been limited to those which are research based and where possible, most recent. If you are a member of a public library service, check their catalogue.

If you cannot obtain them through your local library, please remember the library of the Sussex Archaeological Society which is based in Barbican House, Lewes and which has an excellent on-line catalogue available at https://sussexpast.co.uk/research/library. Non-members may use the library in Barbican House on weekdays, but we do recommend booking in advance. You can download quite a few of the articles listed below as published in *Sussex Archaeological Collections* (SAC) if you go to the Archaeology Data Services website where copies of this refereed journal are stored in digital format and you can download just the single article that you want. The journal is in most Sussex reference libraries and also in others. There are published indices but not entirely up-to-date. Members of the Society receive a copy of the *Collections* as part of their subscription.

The Keep, the record office for the City of Brighton and Hove and for East Sussex at Falmer, has a good website which includes items in their library (http://www.thekeep.info/). West Sussex Record Office has an old website without other sources listed but a good library which has a card index in the search room. Not all of the library is on display and so that index should be consulted.

If you have a public library card or use The Keep (at Falmer) you may be able to access some sources on line; check for JSTOR which lists journals and other publications, some of which can be downloaded in PDF format. To access similar resources at The Keep you need its own membership card and that requires ID and your presence for a photo to be taken for your card.

The University of Sussex has a good collection - see http://www.sussex.ac.uk/library/ for advice on access and the catalogue.

Amazon - not an advert but a practical source. Handy for the many booksellers that advertise on it.

Author’s tip - check costs carefully for new books, as you may find that ordering locally, through for example Waterstones, may save postage and some booksellers offer points cards which can give money off books. You also keep local booksellers in business! Also check second hand shops such as Bow Windows in Lewes and Kim’s in Chichester, as well as the Society’s own bookshop at Barbican House, at which members receive a discount.

**Architecture**


Nash designed two houses for the Burrells in Sussex. Knepp Castle survives, though rebuilt after a fire. West Grinstead Place does not. He also designed the current exterior of the Royal Pavilion in Brighton.

**Interiors - portraits**

**Gardens**
There are many books about Capability Brown but take Uppark off your list, as the designer there was ‘Sense’ Brown – see Fred Aldworth’s article listed above. Here is the best of the latest about ‘Capability’. There are also a lot of books about the Georgian Garden and the park. Simply tapping into the on-line catalogue of the London Library will help you to identify some. To borrow from there though, you need to join – details on its website. Look at the website of the Garden History Society for good guidance.


**Estate Management and income**

**Family sagas**
Pryce, R., *Battle Abbey and the Websters*, The Author, 2005

See also books by Amanda Vickery
This shows the section of the house designed by Nicholas Dubois in the 1720s, the construction of which was supervised by him. Just peeking round the right (or north side), is the horse gin which is still there (but only accessible by arrangement). The old house was demolished but the service wing kept – a way of saving money. The ‘wilderness’ or woodland on the slope was there too at this end of the park.

Read S Berry on the Pelhams and Stanmer (see reading) for the saga of what happened. There exist some very lively letters in the British Museum between Dubois and his clients and between the heir and younger brother – about the extravagance of….their parents.

Rare building account survives, and a copy is in The Keep.

The house was open to the public as a restaurant but at time of writing it had closed. The park and house are owned by Brighton City Council and entrance to the park is free.
Sussex Archaeological Society

Established in 1846 and supported by a membership of nearly 3000, the Sussex Archaeological Society offers a range of benefits for members. Our annual publication, the Sussex Archaeological Collections, our magazine, Sussex Past and Present (published three times a year) and a regular e-newsletter plus an active conference and events programme keep members informed about recent developments regarding the history and archaeology of the historic county of Sussex. In addition, the Society owns six historic properties and museums to which members have free entry. These are Anne of Cleves House, Lewes Castle/Barbican House Museum, all in Lewes, Fishbourne Roman Palace just outside Chichester, the Priest House at West Hoathly (near East Grinstead), Marlipins Museum in Shoreham and Michelham Priory at Upper Dicker, near Hailsham.

The Society’s extensive reference Library is based at Barbican House in Lewes, and is open to members to use whenever Barbican House is open. Non-members may also visit from Monday to Friday subject to normal opening hours. The Library contains a wide collection of volumes on archaeology and local history, archaeological reports and national and county based journals covering archaeology and local history.

If you are not already a member, do consider joining to support us in all our activities. Membership forms are available at the registration desk, and you can also join at any of our properties or online at https://sussexpast.co.uk/shop/membership

The Society is an independent charity with no public funding, and so relies very heavily on income we can generate, on membership and on grants and donations. If you shop online, we would urge you to help us by signing up to the easyfundraising website which helps to raise money for charities through online shopping. The site, www.easyfundraising.org.uk/, has developed links with 2700 major online retailers, including such names as Amazon, John Lewis, Argos, M&S, etc, etc, who agree to make a donation to a charity of your choice when you buy goods from them.

It is very straightforward – you register with www.easyfundraising.org.uk/ and select your charity. The Society’s page is www.easyfundraising.org.uk/sussexas

Once you have registered and chosen your charity to support, every time you want to buy online you should go to the easyfundraising website first and then click through to your chosen retailer. This way they know you have come from easyfundraising. You then go ahead with the purchase as usual – the prices remain exactly the same as they would be if you had gone directly to the retailer’s site. The amount of the donation varies from retailer to retailer, but the easyfundraising site collects it from the retailer and passes it on to the charity. There is a good faqs page on their site which should answer any questions you may have.
We will be completing our conference series on the country house on 21 October 2017 with our day on *The Long Sunset: the Country House c. 1840-1939*. This is the period when the expectations of comfort and the use of country houses altered considerably. Central heating and services such as gas, electricity and running water become essentials in the design of new buildings. Shooting estates and plant-collectors’ gardens appear in Sussex (and elsewhere) and access to golf courses increasingly influences location.

The programme is still in preparation, but will as always include speakers who publish on the topics they discuss, and you may like to reserve the date in your diaries now. Further information will be distributed with December’s *Sussex Past and Present*, and full details and booking will also be available online from December 2016.

The Society is publishing a series of books to mark the creation of the South Downs National Park, in conjunction with the SDNP authority. The three books published to date are:

- *The Archaeology of the South Downs National Park*, by John Manley
- *The Natural History of the South Downs National Park*, by Robin Crane and Rendel Williams
- *The Geology and Scenery of the South Downs National Park*, by David Robinson

The books are available to buy from our bookstall at the conference, from the shops in all our properties and from various local bookshops in Sussex. You may also buy online from our website, [www.sussexpast.co.uk/south-downs-book-series](http://www.sussexpast.co.uk/south-downs-book-series). Further books are in preparation on the subjects of Vernacular Buildings of the South Downs and Sussex Churches of the South Downs. More information on the publication dates will be made available on our website in due course.

Sussex Archaeological Society would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr Sue Berry for her work in compiling the programme for today’s event, in addition to sourcing all the images for our handbook and contributing significantly to the content.

We would also like to thank Gorringes fine art and antiques auction house of Lewes for their support of this conference.
Don’t miss our next conference!

**The Changing Parish Church: from Saxon to Victorian c. 600-1900**
**Saturday 29 April 2017**

St Nicholas Church, Brighton, in 1825, by Robert Havell Jr  © Sussex Archaeological Society

**Chaired by** Brian Short, Professor Emeritus, University of Sussex

**Churches and the Christianisation of early medieval Britain: a South Saxon case study.**
Barbara Yorke, Professor Emeritus, University of Winchester

**Lordship, power and status: the late Anglo-Saxon parish church.**
Dr Michael Shapland, Senior Historic Buildings Archaeologist, Archaeology South-East UCL Institute of Archaeology

**Change in the medieval parish church: form or function?**
Dr Carol Davidson Cragoe, architectural historian

**The painted church: the meaning and making of medieval wall paintings.**
Roger Rosewell FSA

**The impact of the Reformation on Sussex parish churches in the sixteenth century.**
Dr Andrew Foster, University of Kent

**The Georgian impact on the parish churches and chapels of Sussex c. 1680-1830, as shown in watercolours and other media.**
Dr Sue Berry, independent historian

**The Victorian and Edwardian church - influences on design and layout in old and new churches.**
Professor William Whyte, St John’s College, Oxford

**The future of our rural parish churches.**
Trevor Cooper, Chairman of the Ecclesiological Society

Leaflets are available on the registration desk, and you may also find information and book online at [https://sussexpast.co.uk/event/churches](https://sussexpast.co.uk/event/churches). The conference is supported by:
Fires were even more of a hazard for old country houses than they are today – Uppark had to be restored after a severe fire (see reading) and Clandon House in Surrey was recently burnt down. Burton Park, south of Petworth, was but one lost to a blaze. This façade was designed by Leoni in the early 18th century.