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# THE DUCHESS OF BEAUFORT'S *OBSERVATIONS ON PLACES*

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Elizabeth Berkeley was the daughter of John Berkeley of Stoke Gifford and the sister and sole heir of Norborne Berkeley, Lord Botetourt. She married Charles Noel Somerset, 4th Duke of Beaufort, in 1740, and until his death in 1756 shared with him the enthusiasms for architecture and gardening at Badminton. She was the lifelong friend and patron of Thomas Wright, and, after her brother's death in 1770, she lived at Stoke Gifford, building and landscaping with Wright until her death in 1799. Because of the 4th Duke's premature death she was one of the guardians of the 12 year-old 5th Duke. She was highly intelligent and observant, as demonstrated by her journals of the Grand Tour from 1769 to 1774 in the Muniment Room at Badminton. Before that date, however, she had made a number of short journeys in England, recording her *Observations on Places* in a notebook with that inscription on its marbleised cover<sup>1</sup>.

The Duchess's first 'observation' was when she stayed at 'Fullwell'<sup>2</sup>, September 24, 1750.

Wroxton Ld Guilfords in Oxfordshire<sup>3</sup>. Here is a piece of water upwards of 7 Acres large; it falls 20 foot high & is 20 ft broad into a serpentine river about 30 ft broad: this sheet of water is extremely pretty & makes a very fine rushing noise as it falls: There is a Mount over against it on which is erected a gothic Temple with 8 Pillars, 5 sides of which have canvass Curtains to keep it warm & draw up on occasion. Here is a chinese House painted without side blue & white & hung with printed cotton within: it has a window in two sides of a particular shape, its front is to the water & its door is of Glass, the whole not very pretty. There are two or three little Cascades along the River, but they are inconsiderable not falling over any great height, the river is three quarters of a mile long & has a chinese

Seat at the end of it. All around the great Cascade are Flowering Shrubs with Seats among them, very pretty, wild & natural.

On the following day she was at Stowe.

Stowe in Buckinghamshire Ld Cobhams's. There is a most extensive Garden here at least 4 mile round, many Buildings not fewer than 40. none of them pretty except the grecian Temple (in imitation of that dedicated to Diana at Nismes in Languedoc) the Gothic Do & Do. of ancient vertue, the prettiest part of the old Garden is that where Q Caroline's Statue is placed, the Elysian Fields by the water &c, and the new part around the Gothic Temple. The woods belonging to this Place are fine & the Park 8 miles round. The old House here is but very indifferent, the additions to it have several rooms in it one of which is 75 ft long 25 ft over & 20 ft high there is another yt differs in its dimensions only by 1 ft in length, both have coved Cielings & 7 Windows in each. It is a most extensive front being 1100 ft, but not either grand or pleasing.<sup>4</sup>

The Duchess stayed at Brickhill, possibly a house called The Brickhills, Bedfordshire, on September 26, 1750, to see Woburn and Battlesden.

Woburn in Bedfordshire, Duke of Bedfords. The Park here is 8 miles round there is a large piece of water of 14 Acres at the entrance, in the middle of which is a green Island with a chinese House upon it. There are several ridings of a considerable length here, exceeding fine Plantations, open Groves &c, an extreme fine verdure acquired by mowing the principal parts about 6 times a year & keeping them frequently roled with roler of 40 Tun weight drawn by 5 Horses. There are many gravel Paths interspersed in different parts, & a piece of ground containing about 8 Acres surrounded with a sunk Fence for a flower Garden. Here there are several Tumps of flowers & Shrubs irregularly planted

& a most elegant & pretty Chinese House shut up on one side & back'd with Shrubs &c. In this Garden also is a Green House with orange Trees growing in it; the Front of the House together with the roof being to take off in the Summer & the Wall hid by Trees. The approach to the House is half round a circular piece of water, & is stiff & formal. The House is built round a square Court which is 140 feet one way by 150 ft the other. the principal part was not then built. There is a fine Circle in the Park containing about 4 acres surrounded with a fine wood except at the two entrances. There is here an exceeding fine Plantation of Evergreens which covers some very barren ground that lay close to the Park through which there are fine broad walks, this Plantation consists of many Acres & has a Stone & Flint Building in it<sup>5</sup>.

Mr Page's, Battlesden within 2 miles of Woburn. This is a very pretty Place, has two very good rooms in the House, delightful green Meadows around it, with gravel Paths all through ye woods in a winding & irregular manner, two small pieces of water lye before the House & are not pretty<sup>6</sup>.

The Duchess stayed again at Fulwell, September 27, 1750, to see

Wakefield Lodge in Whittlebury Forest. The Duke of Graftons. The House is very pretty within & has a very elegant stone front without, it has 7 Windows to the Forest & a flight of Steps on each side a Portico at coming in. Mr Kent the Architect. A fine Lawn lies before the House crossed by a piece of water which loses itself at one end under a Palladian bridge & at the other in a wood<sup>7</sup>.

Easton Ld Pomfrets. The House was built in 1702, is large & good; it is full of various fine Statues, Bustos, Pictures &c. There is a double row of Trees before each front of the House, the walk in the middle broad. An ugly stiff piece of Water lye before the principal front with a bridge over it to lead up to the House. In the Garden on one side a Corinthian Pillar with a Statue of Apollo upon it, it was taken out of the Temple that was called Appollo. On the other is Germanicus's Tomb, the Figures of it are much defaced<sup>8</sup>.

The Duchess may have seen Castle Ashby then, according to a loose undated sheet:

Castle Ashby stands on an ascent with an avenue of 5 miles before it – avenue narrow, 2 rows of Trees on each side/ Lime & Ash / bad Trees – Yardley Chace a mile from the House, 19 Miles round, well wooded with fine timber Trees, one lawn in it 7 miles round, 5 Lodges, none good Objects<sup>9</sup>.

The Duchess then stayed at Burford, and returned to Badminton on the 29th.

She made a 1751 tour and on August 22, 1751 was at

Dracklow in Derbyshire, Sr Thomas Greasley's. There is a fine Terrace which commands a very fine view of the Trent running at the bottom of it, bounded on the other side by a hill is Ld Uxbridges Park [Beauesert] cover'd with a fine wood: Burton upon Trent makes a fine point of view from this Terrace<sup>10</sup>.

The Duchess also stayed at Elford.

Elford in Staffordshire Ld Andovers. The House is but small: it stands by the side of the river Thame which in that Place is clear and very broad: on t'other side the river are fine green Meadows & Hills cover'd wth wood<sup>11</sup>.

On 27 August 1751 the Duchess stayed at Lichfield, then at Blithfield House on August 29.

Blithfield Sr Walr Bagot's. The House is old but Large, & has one very good room in it (the Hall) 58 ft long. It stands low tho' upon a Hill, the Grounds both before & behind it rising higher than the House. The Park is three miles from it is 8 miles round, has much fine unequal ground in it & some very extensive Lawns, one in particular view'd from the Keeper's Lodge of 80 acres: The Oaks in this Park are of a vast size, strait, tall & beautiful<sup>12</sup>.

On August 30, 1751 she visited

Sudbury in Derbyshire. Mr Vernons's. The House has no approach to it, a road lying between that & the Park, the Court before it is surrounded wth a Wall except at the entrance which is through Iron Gates with Pallisadoes on either side: The House is a very good one not sashed nor lately built: The door at coming in as at the bottom of a Hall 51ft long, & 26ft

broad, plain but neatly fitted up: out of it across a very handsome Stair Case in an old fashioned taste, on the left hand, thro' a handsome corinthian Door Case, lyes a large Dining-room wth 3 windows one way & 2 at the end, it is furnished wth whole length Pictures, worked bottom Chairs & 2 marble Tables: out of this is a handsome Drawing room hung with Crimson Cafoy; ye room partly guilt: a Picture over ye Chimney: the next room to yt. is a Library hung wth indian Paper the Book Cases in it are partly guilt & of ye ionic order very pretty. A Gallery above Stairs 150 ft long. Lying before the House & on t'other side of the road is a fine green Lawn wth Clumps on each side of it & a Plantation of woods to back it & hide it. wall wth here comes very near. On the garden side is a fine gentle Slope before the House, at ye bottom of which runs a piece of water of 20 Acres & an open Grove on either end of it. The Schrubbery & Garden very pretty but I was not in it<sup>3</sup>.

On August 31, 1751 the Duchess stayed at Himley Hall:

Lord Ward's in Staffordshire. The House is new & of brick in the form of a H. many good rooms in it. The Park is small but pretty being of unequal Ground with fine Terraces from whence are very extensive and fine views. There is a great command of water here but no ornamental use made of it yet. The Park is woody but no fine Trees in it<sup>4</sup>

The Duchess stayed at Worcester on September 2, 1751.

Hagley Sr George Lyttleton's in Worcestershire. The Park is more than 3 miles round, & very delightful from its fine woods, beautiful green Lawns, unequal Grounds, & fine extensive views wherever the thickness of the Trees does not intercept them: the most beautiful & grand Prospect is from the old Castle bilt [crossed out] designed as a ruin by Mr Miller & built upon a considerable eminence, from whence is seen a chain of Ponds wch look like a river, but the view from the half Octagon pleases me best. A beautiful lawn lies below it & in a bottom; on the opposite side is a hanging Amphitheatre of wood all of fine Oaks & from this seat on the right hand is a most pleasing & extensive prospect of the Country consisting of Diverse Hills, woods & fields which diversify the scene and beautify & set off each other. Jacob's well is in this bottom fronting the prospect. A Rotunda of the ionic order stands at the top of this bottom raised upon a considerable eminence, & on the other side of it is an extensive piece of ground wch not lying fine is called the forest Lawn.

A Corinthian Pillar given Sir Geo: by the late P. of Wales, with his arms on it. Pope's Seat fronting the half octagon & on ye side of the beautiful bottom diverse other Seats are here likewise & 3 ponds so contrived as at one end of them to appear like a river, the rocks & cascades are very pretty tho' not great: a Hermitage standing on a very high hill & commanding the best views of ye water. The Malvern Hills are seen from diverse parts, & in a clear day the Hills in Radnorshire are visible from some of the Eminences. There are gravel Paths which lead all round the Park & some of the Ascents in it are very steep. Three qrs of a mile from the House is a fine wood covering a Hill in wch may be made delightful walks<sup>5</sup>.

The Duchess was staying at Netheravon, the family's Wiltshire hunting seat, from October 19, 1752, and on October 28 was at

Wilton in Wilts, Lord Pembroke's. You first enter into a large Area before the House divided from the Garden with iron Pallisadoes in which there is an oblong piece of Grass for the Coaches to drive round, and near the House on the edge stands a fine Column of Egyptian granate having the Statue of Venus on it's top. The Capital & Base are of white marble. In the Gateway of the House stands a Statue of Shakespear; thro this Gate way is a fine larged paved Court, round which the House is built; the G-way & Tower were begun in Q. Eliz's reign. In the middle of the Court is placed a Horse as big as the life upon a fine Pedestal wth 4 niches. On the right hand is a Porch at the Entrance of the House built by Hans Holbein consisting of two rows of pillars one above another which ornament it on ye outside, & there is much gilding on the House & Gateway in this inner Court. Thro the Porch is a Vestibule wth many Bustos in it & a Statue of Apollo in the middle, all esteemed fine; on ye right hand is the Dining room wth 3 windows in it. The Beaufet is within an arch supported by 2 black porphyry Pillars; there are many very fine Pictures here, two large ones in particular, one by Tintoretto Our Saviour washing St Peter's feet, ye other Andra Schiavone our Saviour riding into Jerusalem upon an Ass. Going out of this into the drawing room is an antique pavement of 4 sorts of Marble. (The Chimney Pieces in both these rooms & in general are by Inigo Jones). Over the Chimney is an exceeding fine Picture by Rubens ye subject our Saviour, an Angel St John & a little Girl; the Girl is thought to be symbolical. Another the

decollation of St John, it is a night piece very fine by Dobson an Englishmen: there are many other fine Pictures in this room. On the left hand at the entrance thro' ye Vestibule is the Hall, an exceeding good room going up 2 Stories high, & ornaments, with Statues, Bustos, Sarcophaguss &c. The Stair Case is at the end of the Hall, & at the top on the right hand is a small passage room with Bustos in it, & 6 Statues. The Billiard room is next, has several Bustos & Statues in it: a marble Table at top & bottom & on ye former is a greek Statue of a river represented by a beautiful Naiad (or river nymph) sleeping on the Bank with a meek & innocent countenance genteel turn of the body & cover'd very decently, it is known to be a river in Egypt because an Ibis (a bird that is there) appears abt the running water & has seized a young Crocodile. Out of this is ye white Marble table room hung with Portraits & other Pictures & one fine one by Palma, 20 figures are in it as big as ye Life, & the faces of Tintorets & Titians. In the Chapel room are bustos & on The window of the Chapel is a Family painting the Ch: itself is small & ornamented in a very tawdry ugly manner. The Cube room is only 28 ft & 1/2 high tho' reckoned a complete Cube of 30: it is hung with historical & portrait pictures, has divers Bustos & much fine sculpture in it, there are also 5 fine Marble Tables in this room 2 of Porphyry, 1 of Jasper, from Mount Edgcomb & 1 of Granite. The Ceiling is painted with the story of Dedalus & Icarus. The Pannels are painted with ye history of ye Countess of Pembroke's Arcadia written by Sr Philip Sidney. by ye Br of Sr Thomas. The Hunting room is on the right hand abounding likewise with Sculpture & some painting. A fine Faunus is here looking over his Shoulder by Cleomenes. In the Great room being called a double Cube of 30 ft but of the height of the other cube room is The celebrated Family Piece a Picture with 10 figures in it by Vandyke & all the Pictures in ye room are by the same hand. There are many Bustos here & 4 Tables. 1 of Lapis Lazuli & t'other of red Egyptian Granite: next is a Lobby cover'd wth Pictures & in it a Table of black & yellow colored Marble. The King's Bed Chamber, the Bedstead rich & Gilt but no Canopy over it; the next is the Corner room hung likewise with Pictures: a Marble Table in it whereon Cards &c are represented & lying on it is Morpheus in black Touchstone: A Closet within hung with Pictures concluded the Apartment. Below Stairs is much fine Sculpture but the rooms are low & not agreeable. The South Front of this House was design'd by Inigo Jones

& is esteemed a very compleat piece of Architecture tho' very plain. The Gardens consist of a fine Lawn with old magnificent Cedar Trees, a hill rather too open, tho' there is a wood near it, & the river Wily running thro' the whole: there is an Arcade to conceal its ending, with a very displeasing room in it & its front upon the whole not to be much admired. There are also A most charming Bridge after a Design of Palladio's, a cold Bath, a Piazza by Inigo Jones, a thatched House & an equestrian Statue of Marcus Aurelius & the Spire with the whole west front of Sarum Cathedral is seen from the House, & most parts of the garden. In the lobby between the great room & Bed Chamber among other Bustos are those of Seneca & Sappho the Greek Poetess wth the Bandage as deified of ye finest white marble like ivory, ye last perfection of greek Sculpture white as at first making, because (wth several here) found in a vault<sup>6</sup>.

The Duchess was at Oxford on August 23, 1753, and was staying at Netheravon from October 26. On November 8, 1753 she was

At Longford (Ld Folkstone's). The House is in a triangular form, built in Queen Elizabeth'a time by the Countess of Northampton, the three angles are filled up with round Towers, & the front you enter at has an Arcade in the middle of 5 or 6 Arches & three rooms one above ye other. There is a good hall fitted up with Stucco & Niches filled with Bustos. It goes up two Stories & has two rows of Windows in it: passing thro A small Room with an Organ & many Pictures in it (one of which is reckoned very fine being a Saint done by Guido) you come to a passage Room, on the right hand is a circular One 30 foot diameter (the eating Parlour) fitted up with small Wainscot Pillars party gilt: this Room looks very agreeably to the Garden. on the left hand of the passage room is a suite of 3 rooms a passage & the Library of 28 foot diameter & in another of the Angles The Staircase is winding, on the top of them is a passage room: on ye right of the Door hangs an Original Drawing of Nic: Poussin the Subject is the Golden Calf & the Children of Israel idolizing it. Here hangs up likewise a Copy of the famous Picture Ld Strafford & his Secretary. The Billiard room goes out of this & opens into the upper Arcade. On the right end of the Passage is the Chappel, circular & 30 foot diameter neatly wainscotted with old Marble corinthian Pillars between small & not pretty: There is the Belief in small pains painted & said to be well done. On the

other end of the Passage is the Gallery 63 foot long, 18 wide & 12 high (the same height wch goes thro' the upper & lower Appartments). In this room hang some very capital Pictures viz: at the Bottom is a view of water in ye middle & on the right hand of it is represented the ruins of a Temple it describes the early part of a morning & is drawn by Claud Lorrain. Fronting the Windows hang three Pictures on each side the Chimney: Cymon & Iphygenia after the manner of Rubens by Blanchard. St Sebastian struck wth Darts & in the greatest agony by [blank]. The Golden Calf &c. The Chimney Piece is of Statuary Marble the Triumph of Hercules done in bass relievo by Rysbrack & Mr Bouveries's Busto over it. The Israelites passing thro the red Sea & the Egyptian's overthrow it by Nic: Poussin a Companion to the G: Calf by ye same hand. Europa the Bull with a Garland & a Cupid by Romanelli, the Eyes of Europa & ye Cupid thought to be added by Guido. Joseph's Dream the Virgin Mary with Jesus lying down John by him, & a Group of Angels over Him by Peter da Cortona. On the upper end of a Room the seting Sun on the Land Prospect & Titus's Arch on one side by Claud L. preferable to the morning view. Between two of the Windows is a rising & setting Sun beautifully described by Wooton. A Madonna by Carlo Marratti & some other small & good Landskips besides. Three Bustos, one of Ld Folkstone, t'other Mr Clarke, Marble Tables & upon two Terms Vases in Bas relievo tho't fine. The room hung with green Damask a handsome guilt Border round it, couches & long Stools all in handsome frames. A corinthian Cornish Party guilt goes round. The next a circular room of 28ft hung with green Mohair, a handsome marron Border, Chairs &c a Dressing room hung wth greed Damask A Bed Chamber of same. A Chintz Bed Chamber a Chinz Dressing room. A Circular room 28ft hung with Brussels Tapestry. A Bed Chamber Blue Damask opens into Arcade. The Garden is upon a flat. The River avon running on one Side of it. winding & 100 foot broad in some parts, navigable 3 mile above the House & 4 below it. The Prospect pretty but the situation low<sup>17</sup>.

The next entry, undated, is the description of Castle Ashby. It is followed by a short description of the library at Christ Church, Oxford, also undated and added later, but probably relating to a loose sheet

Saw at Oxford Oct. 28. 1760 Queens College  
Quadrangle & All Souls Quadrangle & Library.

On June 8, 1762 she

went with Harriot to Caversham the Seat of Lord Cadogan. The House has an unpleasing Front, is all of Brick, & flat on top. The Approach to it is by a Gravel coach road thro' the Park; the Stables are on the right hand of the House very near it & within sight. the Garden is on the left: Here is a Terrace 575 Yards long, the Gravel walk down the middle 36 feet wide. A gravel walk of 10 or 12 feet wide & about a mile in circumference goes round the whole Garden, it is bordered on each side with Grass & a great variety of flowering shrubs accompanies the whole. Here is a fine Wood consisting of Oak, Beach, Elm, Lime &c the whole Garden is estimated at 20 Acres 10 of which is supposed to be wood (it is kept in order by 5 men & 2 boys) a sunk Fence divides the Garden from the Park. Here is a large fine Lawn on which feed 12 Cows & 100 Sheep at a proper Season of the Year, looked after by 2 Boys. Here is a piece of Water of a bad Color & not ornamental: the view into the Country is woody & very pleasing. The Park is 3½ miles round kept well, of uneven Ground, well wooded, & a border of wood lately planted on the Bound on one side of it 50 feet wide. 10 new Clumps of Evergreens direct the Drive on one part<sup>18</sup>.

On July 16, 1762, the Duchess stayed at Frome in Somerset, and on the 17th at Warminster.

I went from Frome accompanied by Mrs Greville, Hart, The Duke, & Mr Staker to Longleat the Seat of Lord Viscount Weymouth: The House is very large, old & stands low, it has 2 regular Fronts, & a flight of Steps on each: Windows are all Casements, we did not go into the House. Here is a pretty Piece of Water consisting of more than one yet to contrived as to appear a River, it is fed with Springs from the Hills above it, & never fails of sufficient Water. Here is no Bridge but the way from one part of the Park to the other is thro' the Water; here is one pretty considerable fall of Water. the Ascent to the Top of the Park is high & very steep, the Hills around this Place are all planted very lately but the old Woods which however are a great beauty to it are none of them good, the Trees being small & none of the finest sort: Here is an exceeding fine View from the Top of the Park, both of the Park, Water, & House & also of the Country that is round it. the Entrance to the Park on one Side is thro' a triumphal Arch<sup>19</sup>.

From Longleat we went to Stourhead the Seat of Mr

Hoare in Wilts. the House stands well & has from the principall Front of it an exceeding good View bounded by Hills: a Flight of Steps leads up to it two Ways; three Quarter Pillars adorn the House wch has only 5 Windows in the front the Hall is a Cube of 30ft with a Glass Door being part of a Venetian Window. Here are 8 Rooms a skylight room & small Dressg room on the principal Floor. the rooms on each Side of ye Hall 20 by 30 & 20 high – the Saloon 48 by 30 odd & 30 high – a great number of fine Pictures the Capital of whc appeare to me to be one in the Hall by Carlo Maratti, the Holy Family, in ye Cabinet room/Cabinet very fine of precious Stones, & a Coffre of the same / Noah's Sacrifice in the red Damask Bed Chamber – Mary Magdalen washing our Saviour's Feet – Titian by Himself at upwards of 90 yrs old both in the Closet Elisha raising the Shunamites dead Son to life by Rembrandt in the Worked Bed Chamber, and several in the Sky light room, too many to name. the Stair Case is in the middle of the House lighted by a Skylight. the Garden consists of 100 Acres, fine long Walks in it well wooded on each Side & exceeding broad. Here are 6 Buildings – One after the Plan of the Pantheon, the Portico of 4 Ionic Pillars: within the Temple are the Statues of Hercules, Livias Augusta / in the character of an antique Ceres, a Meleager with a Head of the Wild Boar & a Priest Isis of Flora, Diana & Wisdom The Temple of Flora, a Gothic Temple, a Chinese Temple, a Doric Temple. An extreme pretty Grotto with the river God Stour within it – the Stour winds very agreeably thro' one part of the Gardens. An Obelisk wth a Gilt sun upon it<sup>20</sup>.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author thanks His Grace the Duke of Beaufort and Margaret Richards, the archivist at Badminton House.

#### NOTES

- 1 Badminton, Muniment Room, Fm K1/1/4.
- 2 This is possibly Fulwell near Chipping Norton; but alternatively might be Fulwell, Bucks.
- 3 Paul Edwards, 'The Gardens at Wroxton Abbey, Oxfordshire', *Garden History*, XIV, No. 1, 1986, 50–60, reproducing Mrs Delany's drawing of the Chinese House, a Chinese bridge, and the serpentine water in 1754; Jennifer Meir, 'Sanderson Miller and the Landscaping of Wroxton Abbey, Farnborough Hall and Honington Hall', *Garden History*, XXV, no. 1, 1997, 84–93. Both illustrate Francis Booth's engraved survey, c.1750 with the Gothic Temple, and Chinese House and Seat. For a modern plan cf. *Garden History*, IV, no. 3, 1976, 4.
- 4 This description was in the year of the publication of George Bickham's *The Beauties of Stowe*. Cf. G.B. Clarke (ed.), 'Descriptions of Lord Cobham's Gardens at Stowe 1700–1750', *Buckinghamshire Record Society*, XXVI, 1990. The duchess adds little except for the comment on the State Gallery and the Ballroom Gallery on the south front.
- 5 Clive Aslet, 'Park and Garden Buildings at Woburn', *Country Life*, CLXXIII, March 31 and April 7, 1983, 772–75, 860–61. He comments upon the Chinese House on the island, observing that it may have succeeded one built there as early as 1738. Note the Duchess's observation of the 8-acre flower garden with 'Tumps of flowers and Shrubs irregularly planted'.
- 6 The *Polite Repository* in 1808 illustrates the pre-Reptonian garden. In 1818 J.P. Neale in *Views of The Seats of Noblemen and Gentlemen*, shows the 17th century house of the Duncombe family, probably as fenestrated by Lord Bathurst, who bought the manor in 1706, selling it to Sir Gregory Page in 1724. The garden was transformed in a Reptonian-Loudonesque style as shown in the watercolour view by George Shepherd c.1820 (illustrated in Mark Laird, *The Flowering of the Landscape Garden*, Philadelphia, 1999, pl, 151). The old mansion was derelict when Repton came before 1808. The house, rebuilt by Paxton, who began as a gardener here in 1818, and G.H. Stokes, 1860–64, was demolished by the Duke of Bedford in 1886.
- 7 Richard Hewlings, 'Wakefield Lodge and other houses of the Second Duke of Grafton', *Georgian Group Journal*, III, 1993, 43–61; Marcus Binney, 'Wakefield Lodge, Northamptonshire', *Country Life*, CLIV, August 2, 1973, 298–301. By Palladian Bridge is meant the wooden sort with 'fret' balustrades, as in Palladio's third book of *Architecture*.

- 8 This observation was made before Lady Pomfret had given the Pomfret marbles to the Ashmolean.
- 9 The undated sheet might refer to the duchess's stay at Castle Ashby in September 1759 [Badminton Muniments, FmK 1/2/5]. Gervase Jackson-Stops, 'Castle Ashby, Northamptonshire', *Country Life*, CLXXIX, January 30 and February 6, 1986, 248–53 and 310–15.
- 10 The Drakelow terrace, although decayed, is still a feature, lacking the Gresley family seat, demolished in 1934. The Trent and the terrace with house can be seen in the *Polite Repository* for June 1793, maybe implying work by Humphry Repton. Beaudesert was demolished in 1935. For Drakelow, see Maxwell Craven and Michael Stanley, *The Derbyshire Country House*, Nottingham, 1982, 30; *Country Life*, XI, March 22, 1902, 368–74; *ibid.*, XXI, March 16, 1907, 378–85; *ibid.*, February 17, 1934, 161–64, 257, 338.
- 11 Elford had been built in 1710 for the 4th Earl of Berkshire. William Howard, Viscount Andover, his son, died in 1757. Elford was demolished in 1964.
- 12 This is the house substantially before the remodelling for the 1st Lord Bagot in 1769, and those in the gothic style for the 2nd Lord from 1820. The house as engraved in 1686 was to be modernized in parts by Richard Trubshaw in 1738. His survey plan is fig 9 in Arthur Oswald, 'Blithfield, Staffordshire – II', *Country Life*, CXVI, November 4, 1954, 1579.
- 13 For Sudbury cf. *Sudbury Hall, Derbyshire*, National Trust, 1975. The dining room is now called the saloon. The drawing room and library had been made into one by Salvin in 1851. When these were restituted as single rooms in 1970, the evidence for the crimson cafoy and indian paper was unknown.
- 14 For Himley Hall cf. the two views in the *Polite Repository* for 1797. The early 18th century house was substantially altered c.1820s and more recently [*Country Life*, LXXVI, Dec 1, 1934, 570.]
- 15 The duchess was commenting upon Hagley only a few years after the commencement (c.1747) of work upon the park, and at a time before Sir George Lyttelton had begun the rebuilding of a house, described by Walpole as 'immeasurably bad and old'. Hagley only achieved popularity with visitors after Joseph Heeley published his *Letters on the Beauties of Hagley, Envil and the Leasowes* in 1777. Cf. Michael McCarthy, 'Eighteenth Century Amateur Architects and their Gardens' in Nikolaus Pevsner (ed.), *The Picturesque Garden and its influence outside the British Isles*, Dumbarton Oaks, 1974, 49–53. The Duchess returned to Hagley on 29 August 1753, but made no observations.
- 16 The Duchess's description is an invaluable addition to the various descriptions of Wilton and the marbles, eg. Cary Creed's *Marble Antiquities*, 1730 and 1731, and Richard Cowdray's *A Description of the Pictures, statues, bustos . . . at Wilton*, 1751. Note in particular Peter Scheemaker's statue of Shakespeare (1743) standing in the porch, and the horse on a (modern?) pedestal in the court.
- 17 Of course, the Longford the Duchess saw was not that seen today after substantial 19th century alterations and enlargments. Rather it was the Longford of Robert Thacker's engravings of the 1680s, or as seen in the engraving after Claude Nattes in 1788. The hall seen by the duchess was probably eliminated when the central courtyard was filled in by Salvin, 1874. Much can be related to the account in *Country Life*, LXVIII, December 12, 19 and 26, 1931, although there has been movement of furniture and chimney pieces.
- 18 Little documentation exists for Caversham. A land survey was engraved for Colen Campbell's *Vitruvius Britannicus*, III, London, 1725, 96–7, which agrees with the formal garden parts of the Duchess's walk.
- 19 For Longleat see Timothy Mowl, 'Rococo and Later Landscaping at Longleat', *Garden History*, XXIII, no. 1, 1995, 56–66. The Duchess's reference to the triumphal arch must surely refer to Horace Walpole's comment in this very same year and month as the 'gate' 'designed by Brown, too small, and in a false taste' [Paget Toynbee (ed.), 'Horace Walpole's Journal of Visits to Country Seats', *Walpole Society*, XVI, 1927–8, 45.]
- 20 Although the *London Chronicle*, 18 June 1757, could refer to 'no Chinese Works, no Monsters of Imagination', clearly by 1762 the Chinese Temple or Alcove had appeared [Kenneth Woodbridge, *Landscape and Antiquity*, Oxford, 1970].