

OCR History Around Use
Site Proposal Form Example from English Heritage

The criteria

The study of the selected site must focus on the relationship between the site, other historical sources and the aspects listed in a) to n) below. It is therefore essential that centres choose a site that allows learners to use its physical features, together with other historical sources as appropriate, to understand all of the following:

- A. The reasons for the location of the site within its surroundings
- B. When and why people first created the site
- C. The ways in which the site has changed over time
- D. How the site has been used throughout its history
- E. The diversity of activities and people associated with the site
- F. The reasons for changes to the site and to the way it was used
- G. Significant times in the site's past: peak activity, major developments, turning points
- H. The significance of specific features in the physical remains at the site
- I. The importance of the whole site either locally or nationally, as appropriate
- J. The typicality of the site based on a comparison with other similar sites
- K. What the site reveals about everyday life, attitudes and values in particular periods of history
- L. How the physical remains may prompt questions about the past and how historians frame these as valid historical enquiries
- M. How the physical remains can inform artistic reconstructions and other interpretations of the site
- N. The challenges and benefits of studying the historic environment

Audley End House and Gardens

Please provide an explanation of how your site meets each of the following points and include the most appropriate visual images of your site. Refer to your images to justify your explanation of how the site meets the criteria.

| Criteria | Specifics about the site in relation to this criteria | Sources that can be used with this criteria |
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| a) The reasons for the location of the site within its surroundings | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - After the Norman Conquest in 1066, the de Mandeville family (earls of Essex) held the large manor of Walden. They developed a castle there to administer their lands and the town of Walden (now Saffron Walden) was established in 1141. - Geoffrey de Mandeville founded a Benedictine priory at Brookwalden, beside the river Cam and the London-Cambridge road in 1139. This location provided good transport links and access to a water source. The abbey's lands were hemmed in by land owned by others. - Walden Abbey was dissolved by Henry VIII during the Reformation in the 1530s. After the abbey surrendered to the Crown, it was granted to Sir Thomas Audley (1488–1544) who converted the buildings into his 'chiefe and capital mansion house at Walden'. - Thomas Howard, Earl of Suffolk inherited Audley End in around 1564 after his mother Margaret's death. She had inherited the estate from her father Sir Thomas Audley. When Howard was made Earl of Suffolk in 1603 and given roles in the new king's household he started building a new Jacobean-style house to reflect his new status. | <p>Drury, P., <i>Audley End</i>, English Heritage Guidebooks (2014) Audley End English Heritage</p> <p>Google Map of Audley End: Audley End - Google Maps</p> <p>Historic England List Entry for Audley End House [Historic England website]</p> <p>E Greenaway and L Watkiss (eds), The Book of the Foundation of Walden Monastery (Oxford, 1999).</p> <p>Sir Thomas Audley's will: The National Archives (TNA), PROB 11/31/64.</p> <p>P Drury, 'No other palace in the kingdom will compare with it: the evolution of Audley End, 1605–1745', <i>Architectural History</i>, 23 (1980), 1–39</p> <p>J Cornforth, 'Fit for a king', <i>Country Life</i> (21 May 1992), 54-7</p> |

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| <p>b) When and why people first created the site</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Domesday Survey (1086) records that Geoffrey de Mandeville was tenant-in-chief and lord of the manor of Walden following the Norman Conquest in 1066. The de Mandeville family (earls of Essex) developed their lands over time, building a castle in Walden to display their power and administer their estate. They also established a market at Walden in 1141. The town of Saffron Walden eventually grew from this. - Geoffrey de Mandeville also founded a Benedictine priory at Brookwalden on his lands in 1139. This was elevated to the status of an abbey by Richard I in 1190. The second prior, Reginald, struggled to establish a religious house here and raise the money from wealthy benefactors needed to fund it in the longer term. Later patrons of the abbey included the De Bohun family who were earls of Essex after the de Mandevilles. - When the abbey was suppressed in 1538 during the Reformation, it was granted to Sir Thomas Audley, Henry VIII's Lord Chancellor and former speaker of the House of Commons. He created a mansion house using the abbey's buildings. - Audley's lands passed through his daughter Margaret to the Howard family. In 1603 James I made Thomas Howard Earl of Suffolk and Lord Chamberlain of the royal household. The new Earl started building a new house at Audley End that would display his new status and provide a grand location to host the king on a royal progress. A quarter of Thomas Howard's Jacobean-style house remains today. | <p>Drury, P., <i>Audley End</i>, English Heritage Guidebooks (2014) Audley End English Heritage</p> <p>Historic England List Entry for Audley End House [Historic England website]</p> <p>Audley End phased site plan</p> <p>Open Domesday – Land of Geoffrey de Mandeville</p> <p>E Greenaway and L Watkiss (eds), The Book of the Foundation of Walden Monastery (Oxford, 1999).</p> <p>Sir Thomas Audley's will: The National Archives (TNA), PROB 11/31/64.</p> <p>P Drury, 'No other palace in the kingdom will compare with it: the evolution of Audley End, 1605–1745', <i>Architectural History</i>, 23 (1980), 1–39</p> <p>J Cornforth, 'Fit for a king', <i>Country Life</i> (21 May 1992), 54-7</p> |
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| <p>c) The ways in which the site has changed over time</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Audley End presents how a great house and its landscape developed over the course of five hundred years. It showcases changes in response to changes in fashion and the fortunes of successive owners and outside influences. The house is regarded as one of the most impressive examples of early 17th-century architecture in England. - The abbey which predated the private house at Audley End was developed from 1139. The church on the north side of the abbey was mostly complete by the mid 13th century and had a sanctuary which projected eastwards. The cloister of the abbey was reconstructed by Humphrey de Bohun, 6th Earl of Essex between 1335 and 1361. The chapter house and dormitory were on the east side of the cloister with the refectory on the south side. The east end of the church was rebuilt and extended in around 1500. - The speed at which Sir Thomas Audley created his mansion at Audley End suggests that he adapted the existing abbey buildings. Many of his contemporaries who were granted monastery properties by Henry VIII did this too. A late eighteenth century copy of a map from c.1600 shows some of the changes Sir Thomas Audley made to the original abbey buildings, including domestic windows, the demolishing of the east end and crossing tower and a possible gallery added above the existing cloister. The outbuildings, fishponds and other waterworks around the mansion shown on this map probably remained as they had been under the abbey. - Thomas Howard, 1st Earl of Suffolk built a new house on top of Thomas Audley's mansion and created a palace in all but name. He had just been made an earl by James I and built a large | <p>Audley End phased site plan</p> <p>Historic England List Entry for Audley End House [Historic England website]</p> <p>Google Map of Audley End: Audley End - Google Maps</p> <p>Drury, P., <i>Audley End</i>, English Heritage Guidebooks (2014) Audley End English Heritage</p> <p>E Greenaway and L Watkiss (eds), The Book of the Foundation of Walden Monastery (Oxford, 1999).</p> <p>Sir Thomas Audley's will: The National Archives (TNA), PROB 11/31/64.</p> <p>P Drury, 'No other palace in the kingdom will compare with it: the evolution of Audley End, 1605–1745', <i>Architectural History</i>, 23 (1980), 1–39</p> <p>J Cornforth, 'Fit for a king', <i>Country Life</i> (21 May 1992), 54-7</p> |
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prodigy house to show his newly risen status and the importance of his family. Howard also wanted to be able to entertain the king. To this end, he created symmetrical state apartments for the king and queen on the north and south sides of the house linked by a long gallery. He also added a large courtyard surrounded by lodgings, an outer forecourt, bowling greens and orchards. He straightened the river Cam to cross double avenues of trees leading up to the entrance of the house at a right angle. Howard also created the Mount Garden south of the house which was made up of geometric parterre gardens surrounded by a raised walkway so visitors could admire them at best advantage.

Johann Ernest, Duke of Saxe-Weimar visited Audley End in September 1613. His secretary described the house at this time:

'The rooms are hung with beautiful tapestries: the beds amply decorated with golden velvet and silk bed hangings and covers: The gallery, which is very long, was not yet finished: the staircases are built with peculiar comfort: after every five steps there is a landing so that one can rest and does not get out of breath. On the top of the building are beautiful balconies allowing one to walk around and enjoy oneself.'

- Thomas Howard's extravagance led to large debts which impacted the earls of Suffolk long after his death. When James Howard, the 3rd Earl of Suffolk inherited Audley End in 1640 he had to sell property to raise £50,000 and reduce the debt. Charles II agreed to buy Audley End in 1667, with the Office of Works taking on the costs of maintaining the house the next year. He allowed the Howard family to remain as keepers of Audley End and retain their private apartments the north-west corner of the outer court. The symmetrical king's and queen's

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| | <p>apartments at Audley End lent themselves well to housing King Charles and his entourage when he visited the races at Newmarket. The king did decide, however, to swap the king's and queen's apartments around so that the king overlooked the wilderness or cellar garden while the queen overlooked the privy or Mount Garden.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - During Charles II's time at Audley End, his apartments had a presence chamber, privy chamber, withdrawing chamber, bedchamber, dressing room and closet. This arrangement of rooms reflected royal etiquette which had developed by the 1660s to restrict access to the monarch. Only the most important people at court would be allowed to move through each room until reaching more restricted spaces like the king's bedchamber. The state apartments were connected by a long gallery and this opened up at the south end to provide a view down into the chapel. This is where the royal family and other important courtiers heard services. An equivalent space was built at the north end for meetings of the king's council. It was temporarily made into a Catholic chapel for Charles's wife, Catherine of Braganza. - As Charles II repaired the royal lodgings at Newmarket, he used Audley End less and less and after about 1670 neither he nor his successors used the house much. It had begun to look old-fashioned, and its condition deteriorated. <p>Sir Christopher Wren wrote in 1668 that: <i>'The whole house was very defective, much of the timber was decay'd and the fabric weake, built after an ill manner, rather gay than substancial.'</i></p> | <p>Office of Works accounts (1668-1701), National Archives</p> |
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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Henry Howard, 5th Earl of Suffolk wrote Wren, then the Surveyor of the king's works in 1695 describing the state of the house during the reign of William III: <i>'Those last great windes has soe extramly shattered the chimneys of this house that it is dangerous to walke either in the courtyard or the garden, great stones falling from them daily, and in that part wee lye in wee are in danger every night. There is one great pillar in the cloyster on the right hand mouldered quite away at the foot of it which if not speedily repaired the roomes in probability will tumble downe.'</i> - William III returned the house to the Howard family in 1701. Lord Bindon, who became the 6th Earl of Suffolk took possession of the house in 1708 and was 'busy to the utmost of his force in new moulding Audley End'. John Vanbrugh was the earl's architect and he demolished the north and south ranges of the outer court and worked on the house's interiors. - Charles Howard, 9th Earl of Suffolk made the house smaller again so that it was made up of just the inner courtyard. He also created a new chapel north of the hall to replace the 17th-century chapel. - The last earl of Suffolk to hold Audley End was Henry Howard, the 10th Earl. Due to his gout, he preferred to live on the ground floor and enclosed the loggia on the south front to facilitate this. - After the 10th earl died without any children in 1745, the house and estate were split between Howard family members. Elizabeth, Countess of Portsmouth bought the house and park in 1751 and hired London builders John Phillips and George | <p>Archives of Lady Portsmouth, Sir John Griffin Griffin and Lord Braybrooke, Essex Records Office, Chelmsford.</p> <p>JD Williams, 'A pattern of land accumulation: the Audley End experience, 1762–87', <i>Essex Archaeology and History</i>, 11 (1979), 90–100</p> |
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| | <p>Shakespear to reduce the house again and remodel it. This included demolishing the east range and reducing the length of the north and south wings. The dining parlour was moved to the ground floor of the south wing along with other reception rooms. There was a library at the far end of the wing in a single storey pavilion. The saloon and best bedroom apartment were on the first floor with three lesser bedroom apartments. Domestic areas were on the ground floor of the north wing. The Countess's alterations to Audley End were made in the Jacobean style and reused material from the demolished parts of the house to save money.</p> <p>Her builder Phillips also said that this was done: <i>'to preserve the line of building which is certainly the beauty of it, and now appears the same as tho' this was part of the original pile, which your Ladyship gave me express command to observe'.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Howards had chopped down the avenues of trees in the park to sell the timber. The Countess replaced them with new trees planted individually and in clumps to make the landscape seem more natural. She also moved the kitchen garden to where it is today, out of sight of the main house. - The Countess's nephew, Sir John Griffin Griffin inherited Audley End in 1762 and sought advice from architect Robert Adam and landscape designer Lancelot 'Capability' Brown about how to improve his new home. Sir John built a stack of new galleries behind the hall connecting the north and south wings. He also created a detached kitchen on the north side of the house and introduced many modern technologies including a mechanical bell system, flushing toilets and a new service area on the second floor of the house. Robert Adam designed new reception rooms on the ground floor of the south wing. | <p>Audley End History and Stories - Capability Brown at Audley End [English Heritage website]</p> <p>Audley End History and Stories - Pioneering country house technology at Audley End [English Heritage website]</p> <p>JD Williams, <i>Audley End: the Restoration of 1792-7</i> (Chelmsford, 1966).</p> |
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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 'Capability' Brown started remodelling the gardens and park at Audley End and Robert Adam designed many of the outbuildings. The formal gardens were to be replaced with a sweeping English landscape garden. Sir John and Brown argued about costs and the design of the landscape, and he was replaced by Joseph Hicks. Sir John took a keen interest in the design of his house and took a leading role in directing the works. Between 1763 and 1764 he rejected Adam's designs for remodelling the upper arcade of the stone screen in the hall. Joseph Rose the plasterer wrote in his accounts that the work was set up 'for Sir John's approbation' and this led to the completed design as we see it today. - When Sir John was recognised as Baron de Walden by King George III in 1784, he began work on a new state apartment at Audley End. He redeveloped the best bedroom apartment off the saloon, so the new apartment was the culmination of a processional route from the hall. The single storey pavilions on the east front were built back up to their original height with dressing rooms on the first floor, bedrooms above those and bathrooms at the end of each of the two wings. The saloon was also redecorated to create a grand reception room. - Richard Neville 2nd Baron Braybrooke began the process of increasing his income by enclosing open fields and common land in Saffron Walden parish. The enclosure of Saffron Walden was passed into law in 1823. Improvements were also made to the estate's farms. - Richard Neville, 3rd Baron Braybrooke came to Audley End in 1820 and inherited the house from his father the 2nd Baron in 1825. Richard and his wife Jane restored the Jacobean | <p>M Sutherill, 'Garden buildings at Audley End', <i>Georgian Group Journal</i>, 6 (1996, 102-19)</p> <p>M Sutherill, 'The buildings of the Elysium Garden at Audley End', <i>Georgian Group Journal</i>, 7 (1997), 94-104</p> |
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| | <p>character of the house. They moved the reception rooms back to the first floor and removed Robert Adam's library. The Braybrookes also replaced the Elysian Garden with formal parterre gardens and built larger scale lodges and cottages designed by Thomas Rickman and Henry Harrison.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Braybrooke family was badly affected by the agricultural depression in the 1870s. They had let their other house at Billingbear from 1841 and it was eventually sold in 1923. Its contents were moved to Audley End by Henry Neville, 7th Baron Braybrooke. - After Henry's death in 1941, Audley End was requisitioned by the Ministry of Works for war work. It was at this time that electricity was introduced to the house for the first time. - Henry Seymour Neville, 9th Baron Braybrooke sold the house to the nation in 1948 and in the early 1960s the Ministry of Works recreated Robert Adam's dining parlour and Great Drawing Room. This destroyed the state apartment that these had been turned into during the 19th century. | <p>Audley End History and Stories – Silent Unseen: The Polish Special Forces Soldiers of Audley End [English Heritage website]</p> <p>Valentine, I, <i>Station 43: Audley End House and SOE's Polish Section</i> (Gloucestershire, 2010).</p> |
| d) How the site has been used throughout its history | <p><u>Administrative centre</u></p> <p>The castle built by the de Mandeville family in modern-day Saffron Walden after the Norman Conquest was an administrative centre for their estates. Audley End developed as a monastic site close to the village of Brooke Walden. In the Domesday survey (1086), Geoffrey de Mandeville is recorded as overseeing a manor of 46 villagers, 14 freemen, 67 smallholders and 20 slaves. He had 100 acres of meadow, woodland and a mill. He also had 9 cobs, 10 cattle, 100 pigs, 243 sheep, 20 goats and 30 beehives.</p> | <p>Drury, P., <i>Audley End</i>, English Heritage Guidebooks (2014) Audley End English Heritage</p> <p>Historic England List Entry for Audley End House [Historic England website]</p> <p>Audley End phased site plan</p> <p>Google Map of Audley End: Audley End - Google Maps</p> |

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| | <p>The de Mandeville family established a market in 1141 which developed over time into the town of Saffron Walden.</p> <p><u>Benedictine priory and abbey</u> Geoffrey de Mandeville established a priory at Brookwalden in 1139. The second prior Reginald struggled to secure patronage for the priory. Richard I elevated the priory to abbey status in 1190. Between the 13th and 15th centuries the de Bohun family (earls of Essex after the de Mandevilles) were patrons of the abbey and many of its members were buried there. During the Dissolution of the Monasteries Walden Abbey was suppressed. Its monastic community surrendered on 22 March 1538 and the abbey buildings and land were granted to Sir Thomas Audley five days later.</p> <p><u>Mansion house</u> Sir Thomas Audley remodelled the abbey buildings to create his 'chiefe and capital mansion house at Walden' by the time of his death in 1544. Audley End was inherited by his daughter Margaret and descended through her to the Howard family.</p> <p><u>A palace in all but name</u> Thomas Howard began rebuilding Audley End in around 1605. This was shortly after he had been made earl of Suffolk and Lord Chamberlain by the new king, James I, in 1603. Howard hosted King James at Audley End in January and July 1614 during his time as Lord Treasurer. It is during the January visit that the king is said to have commented that the house was too great for a king but might suit a Lord Treasurer. The king had stayed at Audley End while visiting Cambridge University. In July that year the king stayed for two nights at the start of a six-week tour through Northamptonshire to Leicester and Nottingham. The corporation of Saffron Walden met the king during his stay at Audley End.</p> | <p>Open Domesday – Land of Geoffrey de Mandeville</p> <p>E Greenaway and L Watkiss (eds), The Book of the Foundation of Walden Monastery (Oxford, 1999).</p> <p>Sir Thomas Audley's will: The National Archives (TNA), PROB 11/31/64.</p> <p>P. Drury, 'No other palace in the kingdom will compare with it: the evolution of Audley End, 1605–1745', <i>Architectural History</i>, 23 (1980), 1–39</p> <p>J Cornforth, 'Fit for a king', <i>Country Life</i> (21 May 1992), 54-7</p> |
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| | <p>After Thomas Howard's death, a Dutch traveller thought Audley End:</p> <p><i>'Such a magnificent building and so splendidly furnished that it excels all the royal residences...Amongst others there is a magnificent gallery which is more than a hundred yards long and fifteen wide...gracefully wainscoted throughout...But what surpasses all is the garderobe or clothes-room, where can be seen so many draperies of silk, velvet, satin, gold and silver cloth, so exquisitely embroidered and skilfully worked, that it is astonishing to find such an abundance, of such value and splendour, in other than a royal residence.'</i></p> <p><u>A royal palace</u> Thomas Howard was found guilty of corruption, extortion and bribery in 1618 while he was Lord Treasurer. His extravagance at Audley End and the large fines he incurred had a long-term impact on his successors. In 1667 Charles II contracted to buy Audley End for £50,000. He used it as a royal palace, a place to stay and house his court while he attended the races at Newmarket. Charles used the house rarely, especially after he had repaired the royal lodgings at Newmarket.</p> <p><u>A reduced country seat</u> William III returned Audley End to the Howard family in 1695. Successive generations of the family reduced the size of the house due to ongoing financial problems. Small changes were made over time to modernise the main house and make it more comfortable.</p> <p><u>A fashionable and modern home</u> When Sir John Griffin Griffin inherited Audley End from his aunt, Elizabeth Griffin, Countess of Portsmouth he began to modernise the house and introduce new fashions. This included installing a</p> | <p>Office of Works accounts (1668-1701), National Archives</p> <p>Audley End History and Stories - Pioneering country house technology at Audley End [English Heritage website]</p> <p>JD Williams, <i>Audley End: the Restoration of 1792-7</i> (Chelmsford, 1966).</p> |
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| | <p>mechanical bell system for summoning servants, waterwheel-driven pumps to pipe water around the house, flushing toilets and Argand lamps. His creation of a new service area on the second floor of the house provided a coal store inside the house and the ability to heat water which could then be quickly taken to the bedrooms.</p> <p><u>A family home</u> Richard Aldworth Neville, 2nd Baron Braybrooke inherited Audley End in the early 1800s. He was a widower with seven children and under him Audley End was once again a family home. His son, Richard inherited in 1825 with his wife Jane and they raised their eight children at Audley End.</p> <p><u>A rental property for entertaining</u> Richard's sons inherited the barony in turn after his death. The youngest, Latimer, died in 1904 and his son Henry Neville became 7th Baron Braybrooke. Henry decided to let Audley End to Thomas Ellis, 8th Baron Howard de Walden. Lord de Walden had inherited a fortune at a young age and was a keen patron of the arts, sports and sciences. He used Audley End to host country house entertainments inviting guests like Guglielmo Marconi (the inventor of radio) and Auguste Rodin (the artist).</p> <p><u>Station 43 – Special Operations Executive (SOE) Polish Section</u> After 7th Baron Braybrooke died in 1941 Audley End was requisitioned by the Ministry of Works for war work. To begin with, the house was used by local British Army units but from October 1941 it was used as a packing station for canisters used to drop supplies to Special Operations Executive (SOE) agents.</p> | <p>Archives of Lady Portsmouth, Sir John Griffin Griffin and Lord Braybrooke, Essex Records Office, Chelmsford.</p> <p>Audley End History and Stories – Below Stairs at Audley End [English Heritage website]</p> <p>Audley End History and Stories – Silent Unseen: The Polish Special Forces Soldiers of Audley End [English Heritage website]</p> |
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| | <p>In 1942 a Polish training base was set up at Audley End, known as Station 43. Between 1942 and 1944 the house and estate were used by Polish section of the Special Operations Executive to train its agents. The Polish special force soldiers trained at Audley End were also known as the Cichociemni (silent unseen) because they were trained in covert operations, sabotage and intelligence-gathering.</p> <p>Polish officers used bedrooms in the north wing and SOE lectures, language training and other courses were held on the second floor. Most of the Polish instructors and trainees also slept on this floor. A room was used for making documents that the agents would need when they were dropped into occupied Poland and authentic Polish clothes were made in the North Turret Room. Guns and ammunition were stored in the Coal Gallery.</p> <p>The grounds of the house were also used for training. An assault course was set up to the north-west of the house and included a rope crossing over the river Cam. Close combat and target range training took place in the woods. Wireless operation and fieldcraft training was undertaken in East Park, away from the main road.</p> <p>The housekeeper's room was used as a recreation room during this period and the dining parlour became a billard room. The parterre garden at the back of the house had been grassed over and was used to play football, volleyball and tennis.</p> <p><u>A national monument</u> Audley End was sold to the nation by 9th Lord Braybrooke in 1948 and opened to the public as a visitor attraction by the Ministry of Works. English Heritage continues to care for the house and gardens and welcome visitors today.</p> | <p>Valentine, I, <i>Station 43: Audley End House and SOE's Polish Section</i> (Gloucestershire, 2010).</p> |
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| | <p><u>A place of pilgrimage</u></p> <p>Audley End is still a place of pilgrimage for many Poles due to its important role in the resistance to Nazi occupation and the creation of modern Poland. The site has welcomed many Polish visitors including school children, Scout groups and descendants of those who worked at or trained at Audley End during the Second World War. A memorial urn was placed in West Park in 1983 to commemorate the 112 Polish parachutists who died during the war and its aftermath. To this day, on 11 November (Armistice Day) each year, the staff at Audley End gather at the memorial for a short service to remember the dedication and bravery of the Cichociemni.</p> | <p>Historic England List Entry for Audley End House [Historic England website]</p> |
| <p>e) The diversity of activities and people associated with the site</p> | <p>Activities associated with the site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Norman manor: Walden was owned by Geoffrey de Mandeville, 1st Earl of Essex following the Norman Conquest in 1066. - Site of Norman power and the development of a market town: Geoffrey developed a castle on his land at Walden to administer his lands from. The de Mandevilles established a market and town at Walden which eventually became the modern town of Saffron Walden. - Founding a monastic community: The de Mandeville family founded a Benedictine priory at Walden in 1139. In 1190 this was elevated to the status of an abbey by Richard I. - Creating a post-Reformation mansion house: Sir Thomas Audley was rewarded with Walden Abbey by Henry VIII in 1538 during the Dissolution of the Monasteries. He redeveloped the abbey buildings into a mansion house and his primary residence. | <p>Drury, P., <i>Audley End</i>, English Heritage Guidebooks (2014) Audley End English Heritage</p> <p>Open Domesday – Land of Geoffrey de Mandeville</p> <p>E Greenaway and L Watkiss (eds), The Book of the Foundation of Walden Monastery (Oxford, 1999).</p> <p>Sir Thomas Audley's will: The National Archives (TNA), PROB 11/31/64.</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishing a prodigy house: Thomas Howard, 1st Earl of Suffolk created a lavish new house after being elevated to the peerage by James I in 1603. He began building in a Jacobean-style house to establish his family's position as an important titled dynasty. - Hosting royalty: Elizabeth I visited Audley End for a week between August and September 1571. Thomas Howard, 4th Duke of Norfolk was publicly seeking her forgiveness for his support of Mary Queen of Scots. Elizabeth visited again in 1578 and received a visit from representatives of Cambridge University. James I visited Audley End in January and July 1614. In January, James visited Cambridge University and Thomas Howard, 1st Earl of Suffolk hosted the associated festivities at Audley End. The king visited again in July before beginning a six-week tour of the Midlands. Charles II bought Audley End in 1668 and used the house as a base for attending the Newmarket races. Sir John Griffin Griffin planned to host a visit by George III in 1784 and created new state apartments at Audley End for this purpose. The king became ill around this time and never visited. The 2nd Baron Braybrooke hosted the Duke of Gloucester, Princess Mary the Duchess of Gloucester and Princess Sophia Matilda in 1819. - The centre of an agricultural estate: The owners of Audley End relied on income from agricultural activity on their farms across the estate. The 3rd Baron Braybrooke (1783–1858) increased his income from the estate in 1823 by enclosing open | <p>P. Drury, 'No other palace in the kingdom will compare with it: the evolution of Audley End, 1605–1745', <i>Architectural History</i>, 23 (1980), 1–39</p> <p>J Cornforth, 'Fit for a king', <i>Country Life</i> (21 May 1992), 54-7</p> <p>Office of Works accounts (1668-1701), National Archives</p> <p>JD Williams, <i>Audley End: the Restoration of 1792-7</i> (Chelmsford, 1966).</p> <p>Audley End History and Stories – Below Stairs at Audley End [English Heritage website]</p> |
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| | <p>fields and common land in the parish of Saffron Walden. This reliance on agricultural income left families like the Braybrookes financially vulnerable when the agricultural depression began in the 1870s.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Housing a natural history, archaeology and geology collection: Richard Cornwallis Neville, 4th Baron Braybrooke was a keen antiquarian and archaeologist. He developed a large natural history collection at Audley End which reflects the Victorian passion for studying natural history and collecting specimens. - Hosting country entertainments: Thomas Ellis, 8th Baron Howard de Walden rented Audley End from the 7th Baron Braybrooke in the early 1900s. He hosted country house entertainments for a range of guests including Guglielmo Marconi and Auguste Rodin. Lord Howard de Walden became engaged to trained singer Margherita van Raalte in 1911 who was convinced the house was haunted. The couple left Audley End shortly after their marriage in 1912. - Training centre: Between 1942 and 1944, Audley End was known as Station 43. This was a secret training centre for the Polish section of the Special Operations Executive (SOE) where recruits were taught espionage, sabotage and intelligence-gathering techniques before being parachuted into occupied Poland to aid resistance efforts. - Site of archaeological interest: Excavations took place at Audley End during the 20th century to better understand the site and as part of restoration works in the gardens. A small excavation in 1950 against the north wing of the house found | <p>Audley End House and Gardens: Collections Highlights [English Heritage website]</p> <p>Audley End History and Stories - Richard Cornwallis Neville: Living with Disability [English Heritage website]</p> <p>Audley End History and Stories – Silent Unseen: The Polish Special Forces Soldiers of Audley End [English Heritage website]</p> <p>Valentine, I, <i>Station 43: Audley End House and SOE's Polish Section</i> (Gloucestershire, 2010).</p> |
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| | <p>the cloister walk of Walden Abbey built by Humphrey de Bohun between 1335 and 1361. During the restoration of the parterre garden at the back of the house evidence of the rebuilding and extending of the abbey church in the 1500s was found.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Educational and tourism visits: Audley End is maintained by English Heritage who interpret the site for visitors. They also offer educational visits for school groups. <p>People associated with the site</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alongside the named people below, there would have been a significant amount of people who lived and worked at Audley End who we have very little record of. Even those whose positions are mentioned in some of the records (e.g. members of the Walden Abbey community and servants at Audley End House before census records) are not named. - Geoffrey de Mandeville, 1st Earl of Essex (d.1144) – built a castle at Walden and founded the Benedictine priory along with the market at Walden which has grown over time to become the town of Saffron Walden. - Reginald, second prior of Walden Priory (appointed 1164) – was a key player in the struggle to establish and endow the priory. His efforts are recorded in <i>The Book of the Foundation of Walden Abbey</i> (1203). - Humphrey de Bohun, 6th Earl of Essex, 7th Earl of Hereford and 2nd Earl of Northampton (1342–73) – an important patron of Walden Abbey who reconstructed the cloister between 1335 and 1361. Successive members of the de Bohun family also supported the abbey and many were buried there. | <p>SR Basset, 'Saffron Walden: Excavations and Research 1972-80', <i>CBA Research Report</i>, 45 (1982)</p> <p>Open Domesday – Land of Geoffrey de Mandeville</p> <p>E Greenaway and L Watkiss (eds), The Book of the Foundation of Walden Monastery (Oxford, 1999).</p> |
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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sir Thomas Audley, 1st Baron Audley of Walden (c.1488–1544) – a lawyer and Speaker of the House of Commons (1529–33) during the Reformation Parliament which formalised England’s break with the Catholic Church in Rome. He was appointed Lord Chancellor in 1533. In this role he confirmed Henry VIII’s divorce from Catherine of Aragon, passed the death sentence on Sir Thomas More and presided over Anne Boleyn’s trial. Audley was rewarded by the king by being granted Walden Abbey following its surrender during the Dissolution of the Monasteries in 1538. He created a mansion house from the abbey buildings and by the time of his death in 1544 he had finished his ‘chiefe and capital mansion house at Walden’. - Margaret Audley, Duchess of Norfolk (1540–64) – Thomas Audley’s daughter and heir. Margaret married Thomas Howard, 4th Duke of Norfolk and began Audley End’s long connection with the Howard family. - Thomas Howard, 4th Duke of Norfolk (c.1536–72) – inherited Audley End through his marriage to Margaret Audley. He was one of Elizabeth I’s closest male relatives but was executed in 1572 for conspiring with Mary Queen of Scots to depose Elizabeth. - Thomas Howard, 1st Earl of Suffolk (1561–1626) – restored the family’s reputation, knighted by Elizabeth I for his role in defeating the Spanish Armada in 1588. He was also made Baron de Walden in 1597 and a Knight of the Garter in 1598. Thomas was given the Earldom by James I after his accession in 1603 and made Lord Chamberlain of the household. He began building a palatial house at Audley End in the Jacobean style in 1605. In 1614 he was made Lord Treasurer but only four years later he was suspended and found guilty of corruption, | <p>P. Drury, <u>‘No other palace in the kingdom will compare with it: the evolution of Audley End, 1605–1745’</u>, <i>Architectural History</i>, 23 (1980), 1–39</p> <p>J Cornforth, ‘Fit for a king’, <i>Country Life</i> (21 May 1992), 54-7</p> |
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| | <p>bribery and extortion. Thomas and his wife Katherine faced heavy fines and retired to Audley End in disgrace.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Charles II (1630–85) – King of England r.1660–85. Charles bought Audley End for £50,000 in 1667. He allowed the Howard family to retain private apartments in the north-west corner of the house's outer court. Charles intended to use Audley End as a base for visiting the races at Newmarket. In reality, as the king repaired the royal lodgings at Newmarket, Audley End was rarely used by him or his successors. - Sir Christopher Wren (1632–1723) – one of Britain's first professional architects and Surveyor of the King's Works (1669–1719). Wren was responsible for the maintenance and construction of royal buildings and recorded the condition of Audley End in 1668. Henry Howard, 5th Earl of Suffolk wrote in despair to Wren in 1695 about the decaying state of the house. - Sir John Vanburgh (1664–1726) – a playwright and architect famous for designing Castle Howard and Blenheim Palace. Vanburgh was commissioned by Lord Bindon (later 6th Earl of Suffolk) to demolish the north and south ranges of the outer court and the great kitchen. He also worked on some of the interiors of the house. - Henry Howard, 10th Earl of Suffolk (1706–45) – the last Howard to hold Audley End. He died without any children to inherit the estate so it was divided amongst Howard family members. - Elizabeth Griffin, Countess of Portsmouth (1691–1762) – bought the house and park from Lord Effingham in 1751, adding them to her existing share of the estate. She further reduced the | <p>Office of Works accounts (1668-1701), National Archives</p> |
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| | <p>size of the house in order to preserve it and leave it to her nephew, Sir John Griffin Whitwell.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sir John Griffin Griffin, 4th Baron Howard de Walden (1719–97) – nephew and heir to the Countess of Portsmouth. Sir John inherited on the condition that he change his name to ‘Griffin’. He came to Audley End following a successful army career during which he served and was injured in the Seven Year’s War. Sir John modernised the house, introducing new technologies and hiring some of the most fashionable designers of the day to work in the house and gardens. He was recognised as Baron Howard de Walden by George III in 1784. - Robert Adam (1728–92) – a prominent architect and interior designer hired by Sir John Griffin Griffin to develop a suite of new ground floor reception rooms in the house and ornamental buildings in the grounds. - Lancelot ‘Capability’ Brown (1716–83) – a very popular landscape designer known for his sweeping, informal landscape style. He was commissioned by Sir John Griffin Griffin in 1764 to redevelop the grounds at Audley End. The two men quarrelled over delays and costs in a number of letters that still survive. One of Sir John’s complaints was that the bend of the river Cam had been shaped in the opposite way to the plan he had approved. - Richard Aldworth Neville, 2nd Baron Braybrooke (1750–1825) – inherited Audley End following Sir John Griffin Griffin’s death in 1797. Richard was a widower with seven children and made limited changes to the house. He hosted the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester and Princess Sophia Matilda in 1819. He retired to his house at Billingbear in Berkshire, allowing his | <p>JD Williams, ‘A pattern of land accumulation: the Audley End experience, 1762–87’, <i>Essex Archaeology and History</i>, 11 (1979), 90–100</p> <p>Archives of Lady Portsmouth, Sir John Griffin Griffin and Lord Braybrooke, Essex Records Office, Chelmsford.</p> <p>J Cornforth, ‘Fit for a king’, <i>Country Life</i> (21 May 1992), 54-7</p> <p>Audley End History and Stories - Pioneering country house technology at Audley End [English Heritage website]</p> |
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| | <p>son Richard and his wife Jane Cornwallis to move into Audley End.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Richard Neville, 3rd Baron Braybrooke (1783–1858) – was a scholar, antiquarian and racing enthusiast. He researched the history of Audley End and published his <i>History of Audley End and Saffron Walden</i> in 1836. He also produced the first edition of Samuel Pepys’s diaries in 1823. Richard’s research gave him a deep appreciation of Jacobean architecture and he sought to restore Jacobean features throughout the house, removing newer styles introduced by Sir John Griffin Griffin. He also restored the parterre garden and invested in other estate buildings like cottages and lodges. Richard made Audley End the Braybrooke family’s principal seat and brought the Neville family heirlooms over from Billingbear. - Richard Cornwallis Neville, 4th Baron Braybrooke (1820–61) – collected and displayed fossils and geological samples at Audley End from an early age. As he grew up, he became a keen antiquarian, archaeologist and natural history enthusiast. By 1840 he had 99 cases of taxidermy specimens including birds from the aviary at Audley End and the wider estate. He also collected specimens from abroad – one shipment of 136 specimens came all the way from Freemantle in Western Australia. Richard also directed excavations in Essex and Cambridgeshire, collecting and writing about his archaeological findings. He was elected to the Society of Antiquaries in 1847 and created a ‘Museum Room’ at Audley End to display his archaeological collection which included Roman Samian ware, finger rings and ancient coins. A visitors book for this room shows that over 200 members of the Royal Archaeological Institute visited Audley End to see the collection. We know from | <p>Audley End History and Stories - Capability Brown at Audley End [English Heritage website]</p> |
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| | <p>Richard's writings and those of others close to him that he suffered from a chronic and debilitating health condition throughout his adult life. He died suddenly at the age of 41 in 1861.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mirabel Jane Neville (1821–1900) – eldest daughter of the 3rd Baron Braybrooke. Mirabel was an accomplished watercolourist and painted many surviving views of the interiors and exteriors of Audley End in the 1820s and 1830s. Conservators and historians at English Heritage have used Mirabel's paintings to inform restoration works at the house, especially in the nursery suite where Mirabel and her siblings grew up. - Louisa Anne Neville (1822–89) – second daughter of the 3rd Baron Braybrooke. She was described by her contemporaries as 'amiable and pleasing girl' but was also a talented artist like her sister Mirabel. Louisa was deeply interested in botany and became a life member of the Botanical Society of Edinburgh at the age of 16. - Charles Cornwallis Neville, 5th Baron Braybrooke (1823–1902) – inherited Audley End on the death of his brother Richard, 4th Baron Braybrooke. Charles was interested in agriculture and cricket, founding the Audley End cricket pitch in 1842. He won several awards for his cows and sheep at county shows. - Henry Aldworth Neville (1824–54) – was a member of the Grenadier Guards and served in the Crimean War (1853–6). He was killed at the Battle of Inkerman on 5 November 1854. - Latimer Cornwallis Neville, 6th Baron Braybrooke (1827–1904) – was described as 'a good but dull man'. He was Master | <p>Audley End History and Stories - Richard Cornwallis Neville: Living with Disability [English Heritage website]</p> <p>Audley End House and Gardens: Collections Highlights [English Heritage website]</p> |
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| | <p>of Magdalene College at Cambridge University for over 50 years and became Lord Braybrooke at the age of 75 after the death of his brother Charles in 1902.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lucy Georgiana Neville (1828–1919) – third daughter of the 3rd Baron Braybrooke. She enjoyed playing chess and playing the piano, as well as painting like her older sisters. Lucy married a clergyman and went on to have ten children. - Grey Neville (1830–54) – served in the Crimean War in the 5th Dragoon Guards. He was wounded at the Battle of Balaclava in November 1854 and died at Scutari six days after his brother Henry. - William Lincoln, Butler (at Audley End c.1873–1903) – was the highest-ranking male servant at Audley End. He oversaw the house accounts, the movement of staff between residences and looking after the wine cellar and silver as well as managing dinners, serving wine and important dishes. William recorded himself as ‘single’ on the 1881 census, but he had married in 1874 and had two sons. He reunited with his family in 1903 when he retired after almost 26 years as butler at Audley End. He ran a beer and wine shop in Leicester before his death in 1924. - Margaret Elizabeth Warwick, Housekeeper (c.1820s–1900) – was the main female servant, reporting directly to Lady Braybrooke. She was responsible for store keys, paying tradesmen’s bills and keeping the household accounts as well as supervising all the female servants. Margaret worked as a housekeeper and governess before arriving at Audley End. She retired in the late 1880s, renting a cottage in Audley End village before her death in 1900. | <p>Audley End History and Stories – Below Stairs at Audley End [English Heritage website]</p> |
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- **Emily Justice, Lady's Maid** (aged 27 in 1881) – was the second highest ranking female servant at Audley End. She was dedicated to Lady Braybrooke's personal needs including dressing and undressing her, looking after her clothes and jewellery and dressing her hair.
- Footmen in 1881 – **James Munro and James Bishop** – were from Scotland and Somerset respectively. They helped serve meals and run errands around the house. This included answering the door, taking messages to the kitchens and attending to lamps and candlesticks. As part of a wealthy household, both footmen wore the Braybrooke livery as a symbol of the family's status.
- House Maids in 1881 – **Eliza Durnford, Elizabeth Stalley, Catherine Webb, Emma Collins and Kate Squires** – kept the house clean and tidy. They began their days from 4am by cleaning grates, lighting fires, sweeping and dusting. When the family was awake, they cleaned bedrooms, emptied chamber pots and made sure that they had everything they needed (e.g. soap, candles, towels). At the end of the day, they prepared the bedrooms by turning down beds, filling water jugs and preparing hot water for washing.
- **Avis Crocombe, Head Cook** (c.1839–1927) – was born in Devon and worked in a number of households before arriving at Audley End. She replaced a much more expensive male French chef at a time when the Braybrookes were reducing their expenses due to the agricultural depression. Avis's was in charge of meals in the house and cooked the more complicated dishes herself while being assisted by kitchen and scullery

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| | <p>maids. She was cook at Audley End for four years before leaving service to marry in 1884. Avis's receipt (recipe) book was donated to Audley End in 2008.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kitchen maids in 1881 – Mary Ann Bulmer, First Kitchen Maid (aged 25), Sylvia Wise, Second Kitchen Maid (aged 20), Annie Chase, Scullery Maid (aged 17) – assisted Avis Crocombe in preparing meals for the household at Audley End. Mary-Ann helped prepare ingredients and make simpler dishes; Sylvia assisted Mary-Ann, cleared up and cleaned utensils; and Annie did more menial tasks like peeling vegetables, gutting fish, plucking birds and washing up. Mary-Ann left Audley End to marry in 1888 and died less than ten years later. Sylvia had returned home to her parents in Oxfordshire by 1891, possibly suffering from an illness as she died aged only 32 in 1896. Annie rose to become a cook at a house in Hampshire, working there for over 20 years before retiring to the Isle of Wight where she died in 1924, leaving over £800 in her will. - Laundry maids in 1881 – Sarah Barrance, First Laundry Maid, Ellen Findell, Second Laundry Maid – ensured that linens and clothes were kept clean. Sarah managed the weekly laundry cycle to make sure that there were enough clean linens, clothes for the family and uniforms for the staff. Ellen may have travelled to London with Lord and Lady Braybrooke to undertake laundry duties while they were staying at their town house. Her name has been easily misspelled which has meant tracking her story further through census documents has been impossible. - Fanny Cowley, Dairy Maid (in 1881) – worked alone in the dairy at Audley End. She was responsible for churning butter from milk that came from the Home Farm daily. Records from | |
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| | <p>this time suggest that she churned up to 580lbs (260kg) of butter and made 1,000 pints (570l) of cream a month. Fanny had been working as a dairy maid for 10 years in 188. She lived with a joiner, and they had four children, three born before they married in 1888.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jack Vert, Head Gardener (at Audley End 1881–1912) – arrived at Audley End aged 26 after his predecessor had been dismissed for poor performance. He had been apprenticed at Harewood House in Yorkshire as a teenager. James lived with his wife Susan in the newly built head gardener’s house at Audley End next to the kitchen garden. He was responsible for 30 acres of gardens and had about 14 men, women and boys working for him. During his career, James won multiple awards for his fruit, vegetables and flowers and was a regular contributor to gardening magazines. He was also one of the judges at the first Chelsea Flower Show in 1912. - William Cresswell, Under-Gardener (1870s) – kept a detailed account of daily life in the gardens at Audley End. He had completed an apprenticeship and held two journeyman roles before arriving at Audley End to be ‘second man’, one step away from head gardener. William lived in the bothy behind the vine house. His responsibilities included managing the kitchen garden, but he was especially good at growing and arranging flowers. His diaries mention taking flowers up to the house for Lady Braybrooke and that he won prizes for flowers, fruit and vegetables he grew at local shows. - Gamekeepers – two keepers and seven under-keepers (at Audley End in 1881) – were led by head gamekeeper Alfred Chandler who was 62 in 1881. Many of the gamekeepers at Audley End were locals and came from families with a long | <p>Cresswell, W, <i>Diary of a Victorian Gardener: William Cresswell and Audley End</i> (Swindon, 2006).</p> |
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| | <p>tradition of gamekeeping. Samuel Barker began as a keeper's boy aged 12 and worked his way up to become an under-keeper during 40 years at Audley End. Gamekeepers protected game from predators and poachers to make sure there was a good supply for the Braybrookes and their shooting parties to hunt.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Captain Alfons Maćkowiak (Alan Mack) codename Alma - an instructor at Station 43 responsible for fitness, unarmed combat and shooting training. He had served in the Polish Army as an artillery officer during the early years of the war. Maćkowiak had been taken prisoner by the Russians and then the Germans but escaped both times, eventually arriving in England from the unoccupied part of France. Although he initially volunteered for the Cichociemni, he was given a training role due to his previous experience of combat. After Station 43 closed in 1944, Maćkowiak rejoined the 1st Independent Parachute Brigade and participated in the Battle of Arnhem where he was wounded and taken prisoner. Following the war, Maćkowiak ran a guesthouse in Essex and later became a PE teacher at the Bishop's Stortford College. He was also a coach at the Oxford University Athletics Club. - Captain Antoni Pospieszalski (Tony Currie) codename Luk – an instructor at Station 43 responsible for radio communication and German language training. Pospieszalski was a liaison officer, translator and radio operator. He participated in Mission Freston in German-occupied Poland in December 1944 which aimed to liaise between the Home Army Headquarters and Soviet Command. | <p>Audley End History and Stories – Silent Unseen: The Polish Special Forces Soldiers of Audley End [English Heritage website]</p> <p>Valentine, I, <i>Station 43: Audley End House and SOE's Polish Section</i> (Gloucestershire, 2010).</p> |
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| <p>f) The reasons for changes to the site and to the way it was used</p> | <p>The site has had multiple building phases as it developed from a Norman manor to a monastic community and then a private home. Changes to the building have been largely driven by the status of its owners, political influence, changes in fashion and necessity in times of financial difficulty and war.</p> <p>The manor of Walden developed under the lordship of the de Mandeville family following the Norman Conquest. Geoffrey de Mandeville, 1st Earl of Essex built a castle to administer his lands from and founded a Benedictine priory. A market was also established to augment their income, and this formed the basis for a growing town which eventually became Saffron Walden. The priory was elevated to the status of an abbey in 1190 after campaigning by the second prior, Reginald.</p> <p>The de Bohun family became Earls of Essex in the 13th century, and they became important patrons of Walden Abbey. Humphrey de Bohun, 6th Earl of Essex funded improvement to the abbey buildings including a new cloister. Like many noble families, the de Bohun's patronised the religious communities on their lands as a symbol of their status and piety. Many members of the family were buried inside the abbey.</p> <p>Walden Abbey became the site of a private house in 1538 following Henry VIII's Dissolution of the Monasteries. The abbey buildings and lands were granted to Sir Thomas Audley, an important courtier who adapted the abbey buildings to create a mansion. He also gave his name to his new house.</p> <p>After Sir Thomas's death, Audley End passed through his daughter Margaret to the Howard family. Her son, Thomas Howard restored the</p> | <p>Drury, P., <i>Audley End</i>, English Heritage Guidebooks (2014) Audley End English Heritage</p> <p>Historic England List Entry for Audley End House [Historic England website]</p> <p>R Neville (Lord Braybrooke), The History of Audley End and Saffron Walden (London, 1836)</p> <p>Open Domesday – Land of Geoffrey de Mandeville</p> <p>E Greenaway and L Watkiss (eds), The Book of the Foundation of Walden Monastery (Oxford, 1999).</p> |
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| | <p>family's reputation after his father was executed for treason by Elizabeth I. Following the accession of James I in 1603, Thomas was made 1st Earl of Suffolk and given important positions at court. His rise in status encouraged Thomas to redevelop his house at Audley End to display his power and wealth. He created a lavish and expensive Jacobean palace between 1605 and around 1614 before being found guilty of corruption, bribery and extortion in his role as Lord Treasurer in 1618. The large fines and debts Thomas incurred through his crimes and the building of Audley End impacted the finances of successive Howards living there and influenced how the house changed over time.</p> <p>Many royal residences were damaged or destroyed during the English Civil Wars (1642–51) and the Commonwealth (1649–60). On the restoration of the monarchy in 1660, Charles II sought to repair his residences and buy new properties for his use. He bought Audley End in 1667 as a base for when he visited the races at Newmarket. Charles rarely stayed at Audley End as his lodgings at Newmarket were repaired swiftly. His successors did not use the house either and it continued to decay before being returned to the Howard family by William III in 1695.</p> <p>By the time the house was returned, it was in a poor state of repair and the family were not as wealthy as it had once been. This necessitated a reduction in the size of the house by successive Howard heirs until the estate was divided after the 10th Earl of Suffolk without children in 1745.</p> <p>Elizabeth Griffin, Countess of Portsmouth's inheritance of part of the estate was confirmed in 1747 following a court case. She bought other shares to preserve the bulk of it for the future. Her heir, Sir John Griffin</p> | <p>P Drury, <u>'No other palace in the kingdom will compare with it: the evolution of Audley End, 1605–1745'</u>, <i>Architectural History</i>, 23 (1980), 1–39</p> <p>Office of Works accounts (1668-1701), National Archives</p> <p>J Cornforth, 'Fit for a king', <i>Country Life</i> (21 May 1992), 54-7</p> <p>JD Williams, 'A pattern of land accumulation: the Audley End experience, 1762–87', <i>Essex Archaeology and History</i>, 11 (1979), 90–100</p> |
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| <p>Griffin introduced new technologies to the house and hired some of the leading architects and landscape designers of his day to update the house with the latest fashions of the late 18th century.</p> <p>The Neville family inherited Sir John's title of Baron Braybrooke following his death and made Audley End their principal seat during the early 19th century. Richard Neville, 3rd Baron Braybrooke was a keen antiquarian and scholar and his research into the history of Audley End inspired him to restore the Jacobean features of the house's interiors. He also invested in the wider estate, enclosing land and improving farms and cottages to increase his agricultural income.</p> <p>The agricultural depression began in the 1870s, affecting families like the Braybrookes whose wealth came primarily from land. In the early 1900s, Henry Neville, 7th Baron Braybrooke decided to live away from Audley End and let the house to a wealthy distant relation, Thomas Ellis, Lord Howard de Walden. When he moved on in 1912, the Braybrookes returned and in 1923 they sold their other house at Billingbear in Berkshire which has been left in a poor state following its requisition during the First World War. Its contents were brought to Audley End.</p> <p>After Henry Neville's death in 1941 Audley End was requisitioned by the government for military use during the Second World War. It became Station 43 and acted as a training centre for Polish special forces who were preparing to be parachuted behind enemy lines in occupied Poland. The house was adapted to create bedrooms and recreation areas for the recruits as well as lecture halls and classrooms for courses on topics like sabotage, radio communication and unarmed combat. The grounds were also adapted to provide an assault course</p> | <p>Archives of Lady Portsmouth, Sir John Griffin Griffin and Lord Braybrooke, Essex Records Office, Chelmsford.</p> <p>Audley End History and Stories - Pioneering country house technology at Audley End [English Heritage website]</p> <p>Audley End History and Stories – Silent Unseen: The Polish Special Forces Soldiers of Audley End [English Heritage website]</p> |
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| | <p>as well as security measures like tank traps, pill boxes and explosive devices to destroy key crossing points like bridges in the event of an invasion.</p> <p>Both the 7th Baron Braybrooke's sons died on active service during the Second World War. High rates of death duties and a feeling that the house was too large to live in prompted Henry Seymour Neville, 9th Baron Braybrooke to sell Audley End to the nation in 1948. In 1984 the property transferred to the care of English Heritage and now acts as a popular visitor attraction, including for school visitors.</p> | |
| g) Significant times in the site's past: peak activity, major developments, turning points | <p>Growth of a Norman manor and market town – Geoffrey de Mandeville held the manor of Walden following the Norman Conquest in 1066. He developed the manor, building a castle and founding a market and Benedictine priory.</p> <p>Dissolution of the Monasteries – Henry VIII's dissolution of Walden Abbey and granting of its lands to Sir Thomas Audley in 1538 marked the site's transition to a private home. Sir Thomas was created Baron Audley of Walden in the same year and gave his name to his new home.</p> <p>The rise and fall of Thomas Howard, 1st Earl of Suffolk – Thomas Howard was elevated to the Earldom of Suffolk by James I in 1603 as well as being given the role of Lord Chamberlain. This change in status prompted Thomas to replace his grandfather Thomas Audley's house with a lavish Jacobean palace in 1605. He was made Lord Treasurer in 1614 around the time his new house was completed. Just four years later Thomas was found guilty of corruption, bribery and extortion. Faced with large fines and heavy debts from building his house, he retired to Audley End in disgrace. Successive Howard heirs struggled to deal with these debts and maintain the house.</p> | <p>Drury, P., <i>Audley End</i>, English Heritage Guidebooks (2014) Audley End English Heritage</p> <p>R Neville (Lord Braybrooke), The History of Audley End and Saffron Walden (London, 1836).</p> <p>Open Domesday – Land of Geoffrey de Mandeville</p> <p>E Greenaway and L Watkiss (eds), The Book of the Foundation of Walden Monastery (Oxford, 1999).</p> <p>Sir Thomas Audley's will: The National Archives (TNA), PROB 11/31/64.</p> |

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| | <p>The monarchy is restored and Charles II buys Audley End – Following the Restoration, Charles II sought to repair and replace royal residences damaged or destroyed during the English Civil Wars and the Commonwealth. He agreed to buy Audley End from the Howards in 1667 but allowed them to retain private apartments in the north-west corner of the outer court. The king and his successors visited rarely, and the house began to decay. William III returned Audley End to the Howards in 1695.</p> <p>The house is reduced – Audley End was gradually reduced in size by successive Earls of Suffolk to make it more manageable for the family.</p> <p>The estate is saved and preserved – Following the death of the last Howard Earl of Suffolk in 1745, Audley End was divided amongst Howard family members, including Elizabeth Griffin. She bought up other shares of the estate to preserve as much of it as possible for her heir, Sir John Griffin Griffin.</p> <p>Eighteenth-century modernisation and new fashions – Sir John Griffin Griffin introduced new technologies to Audley End including an early mechanical bell system for summoning servants, a service gallery on the second floor to store coal and provide hot water, and a detached service wing. Sir John also hired leading architects like Robert Adam and landscape designer Lancelot 'Capability' Brown to redesign the interiors and grounds at Audley End in the latest styles.</p> <p>The agricultural depression affects Audley End – The Braybrooke's income was primarily from farming, so they were financially impacted by the agricultural depression of the 1870s. This influenced their spending on the estate in the late 1800s and the decision to let Audley End to a wealthy distant relative in 1904. This also influenced the sale of the Braybrooke's other residence at Billingbear in Berkshire in 1923.</p> | <p>P. Drury, 'No other palace in the kingdom will compare with it: the evolution of Audley End, 1605–1745', <i>Architectural History</i>, 23 (1980), 1–39</p> <p>Office of Works accounts (1668-1701), National Archives</p> <p>J Cornforth, 'Fit for a king', <i>Country Life</i> (21 May 1992), 54-7</p> <p>Audley End History and Stories - Pioneering country house technology at Audley End [English Heritage website]</p> <p>Audley End History and Stories - Capability Brown at Audley End [English Heritage website]</p> <p>Audley End History and Stories – Below Stairs at Audley End [English Heritage website]</p> |
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| | <p>Second World War requisitioning – Audley End was requisitioned for military use during the Second World War after the death of the 7th Baron Braybrooke in 1941. The site was transformed into Station 43, a training centre for the Polish section of the Special Operations Executive. The house and grounds were adapted and used for this purpose between 1942–44. Both the 7th Baron Braybrooke's sons died on active service during the war.</p> <p>Bought for the nation – Audley End was bought by the Ministry of Works in 1948 and the 9th Baron Braybrooke left many of the contents of the house on loan.</p> <p>Research, repair and conservation - English Heritage began to care for Audley End in 1984. Since then, restoration has taken place in the kitchen garden, services areas and the parterre garden.</p> | <p>Audley End History and Stories – Silent Unseen: The Polish Special Forces Soldiers of Audley End [English Heritage website]</p> |
| h) The significance of specific features in the physical remains at the site | <p><u>Jacobean exterior and interiors</u> Although the house has been greatly reduced in size over the centuries, it retains its Jacobean-style exterior. This was influenced by buildings like the French Mannerist chateau of Verneuil. The loggia at Audley End (an arcade carried directly on top of columns) is a typical Flemish design. The first phase of Audley End's construction was overseen by a Flemish mason called Bernard Janssen. The hall screen and plaster ceiling in the hall are amongst the best to survive in England from this period.</p> <p><u>Picture collection</u> Audley End's collections include a large number of paintings. Most of these were either collected by Sir John Griffin Griffin in the 18th century or brought from the Nevilles' family seat at Billingbear when the 2nd Baron Braybrooke inherited Audley End in 1797. Other artworks were brought to Audley End by Jane Neville (born Cornwallis) from her</p> | <p>Historic England List Entry for Audley End House [Historic England website]</p> <p>Drury, P., <i>Audley End</i>, English Heritage Guidebooks (2014) Audley End English Heritage</p> <p>P. Drury, 'No other palace in the kingdom will compare with it: the evolution of Audley End, 1605–1745', <i>Architectural History</i>, 23 (1980), 1–39</p> <p>J Cornforth, 'Fit for a king', <i>Country Life</i> (21 May 1992), 54-7</p> |

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| | <p>family's properties in Suffolk in the 1820s. The overall collection includes Tudor and Stuart portraits, Old Masters and portrait miniatures. There are both royal and family portraits amongst the collection.</p> <p><u>Natural history collection</u> Richard Cornwallis Neville, 4th Baron Braybrooke developed a vast collection of natural history, archaeological and geological specimens during his life. Much of this is on display in the Picture Gallery and Lower Gallery at Audley End. It includes tableaux of mounted birds and other animals from the estate and beyond. Richard collected British birds shot locally and former pets as well as gifts from friends and family. In the mid 1840s he recorded 99 cases of birds. During this period, taxidermy was considered a natural part of the study of natural history and a wholesome hobby. The galleries were considered an instructive place where family and guests could explore the natural world from the comfort of the house.</p> <p><u>Gothick chapel</u> This chapel replaced a previous chapel in the same space. It was created by a joiner called John Hobcraft for Sir John Griffin Griffin in around 1768. The chapel design and layout show the architectural fashion and social hierarchy of the time. There is a tribune (enclosed gallery) for members of the family and their guests to sit in comfort and an organ gallery above for indoor servants which was enclosed in 1826. Outdoor and kitchen servants came into the chapel by a separate staircase in the north west corner and they sat on plain oak benches.</p> <p><u>Adam rooms</u> Sir John Griffin Griffin maintained the Jacobean exterior of the house but he employed leading architect Robert Adam to design new neoclassical style rooms on the ground floor. The Little Drawing Room</p> | <p>Audley End House and Gardens: Collections Highlights [English Heritage website]</p> <p>Audley End History and Stories - Richard Cornwallis Neville: Living with Disability [English Heritage website]</p> <p>M Sutherill, 'John Hobcraft and James Essex at Audley End House', <i>Georgian Group Journal</i>, 9 (1999), 17–25.</p> |
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| | <p>is particularly richly decorated and was inspired by Roman motifs seen in Italy.</p> <p><u>State bed</u> The state bed was commissioned by Sir John Griffin Griffin after he had been elevated to the title of Baron Howard de Walden in 1784. He anticipated a royal visit from George III and ordered this bed for the occasion from a London firm called Chipchase and Lambert in 1786. He also commissioned a stool, armchairs and a portrait of Queen Charlotte. Unfortunately, King George became ill and never visited Audley End.</p> <p><u>Coal gallery</u> This innovative area was part of Sir John Griffin Griffin's modernisations in the 1760s. It created a service area linking the north and south wings of the house from which servants could replenish coal and hot water in the upstairs rooms of the house. The gallery was refitted in the 1820s with new walk-in cupboards, wood and coal bins, a copper (for heating water) and an outside crane to bring coal up from the ground floor.</p> <p><u>Nursery suite</u> Richard Neville, 3rd Baron Braybrooke and his wife Jane established a nursery suite on the top floor of the house in the 1820s. Most of these rooms were damaged during the house's use during the Second World War but they have since been restored. There is a large amount of surviving wallpaper in the governess's room at the centre of the suite where built up layers of paper from different periods can be seen.</p> <p><u>The doll's house</u> Original to the nursery at Audley End, the doll's house was put together by the 3rd Baron Braybrooke's children in the 1820s and 1830s. Many of the interiors like the hand-worked carpets, silk and chintz curtains</p> | <p>Audley End History and Stories - Pioneering country house technology at Audley End [English Heritage website]</p> |
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| | <p>and embroidered footstools were homemade by the children themselves. Other elements like the miniature tin furniture and painted wooden dolls were bought from Germany. The dolls are the same style as those played with by Queen Victoria during her childhood.</p> <p>Some elements of the doll's house have been recycled from elsewhere in the house. Curtain material from the Adam Dining Parlour (1780s) has been used to make the green curtains. The brightly coloured papers used as wallpaper are typical of lining paper for boxes and trunks from the early 1800s.</p> <p><u>Service buildings</u> The service wing at Audley End comprises a servants' hall (now a café), butler's pantry, kitchen, pastry larder, cook's room, scullery, dry larder, meat safe, game larder, coal shed, wet laundry, dry laundry, dairy maid's sitting room, dairy and dairy scullery. These key service rooms are as they were in 1882 and show the range of roles, equipment and manual work needed to run a late-Victorian house.</p> <p><u>Stable block</u> The stable block is another Jacobean survival, built by Thomas Howard in around 1610. It was continually used by successive owners of Audley End and was divided multiple times in multiple ways to suit their needs. It is still used to house horses at Audley End today.</p> <p><u>The landscape at Audley End</u> The landscape as we see it today is the creation of the celebrated landscape designer Lancelot 'Capability' Brown in the 18th century. It showcases Brown's trademark sweeping natural style.</p> <p>The parterre garden is a restored version of 3rd Baron Braybrooke's garden created in the 1830s. The kitchen garden was moved to its present position by the Countess of Portsmouth in the 1750s and was</p> | <p>Audley End History and Stories – Below Stairs at Audley End [English Heritage website]</p> <p>P Drury and P Smith, 'The Audley End stable block in the 17th century', <i>English Heritage Historical Review</i>, 5 (2010), 44–81</p> <p>Audley End History and Stories - Capability Brown at Audley End [English Heritage website]</p> |
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| | <p>developed over time with the building of glasshouses, a vine house and a head gardener's house.</p> <p><u>Polish memorial and wartime defences</u> A memorial to the Polish soldiers of the Special Operations Executive who trained at Audley End during the Second World War was installed to the south-west of the house in 1983.</p> <p>There were anti-tank barriers across Stable Bridge during the war and a demolition chamber at Tea House Bridge. Some concrete remains of these survive. There is also a surviving pill box near the Adam Bridge by the river Cam.</p> | <p>Archives of Lady Portsmouth, Sir John Griffin Griffin and Lord Braybrooke, Essex Records Office, Chelmsford.</p> <p>Audley End History and Stories – Silent Unseen: The Polish Special Forces Soldiers of Audley End [English Heritage website]</p> |
| i) The importance of the whole site either locally or nationally, as appropriate | <p>The manor of Walden developed over time to become the market town of Saffron Walden. The Benedictine abbey within the manor was an important religious site locally and a vital resource for the local community.</p> <p><u>Survival of a Jacobean country house through the centuries</u> Audley End is a house that shows alteration and change over time, but it remains one of the most impressive surviving examples of early 17th-century architecture in England. It was the largest and most extravagant house built during this period and was built using the plan and scale of royal palaces.</p> <p>The house presents a long period of evolution and elements from all periods of its history remain in the landscape and within the house itself. While interiors in some places were altered to reflect changing fashions, the exterior of the house remained in-keeping with its Jacobean style.</p> | <p>Drury, P., <i>Audley End</i>, English Heritage Guidebooks (2014) Audley End English Heritage</p> <p>Historic England List Entry for Audley End House [Historic England website]</p> <p>Significance of Audley End House and Gardens [English Heritage website]</p> <p>Open Domesday – Land of Geoffrey de Mandeville</p> <p>E Greenaway and L Watkiss (eds), The Book of the Foundation of Walden Monastery (Oxford, 1999).</p> <p>P Drury, ‘No other palace in the kingdom will compare with it: the evolution of Audley End.</p> |

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| | <p><u>Service buildings and gardens</u></p> <p>The extent of the surviving 18th and 19th-century service areas of the house (service wing and coal gallery) are rare in that they include largely preserved examples of historic layouts and fittings. The kitchen gardens and stables also survive largely intact and show how a working house and estate operated in the 19th century.</p> <p><u>Eighteenth-century technologies</u></p> <p>Sir John Griffin Griffin's modernising can still be seen within the house. He introduced pumps driven by a waterwheel in 1763 to pump water to tanks on the roof of the house from the river Cam. This provided piped water around the house which was a rare luxury during this period. Sir John also had a flushing toilet in 1775. It was installed by the engineer Joseph Bramah who secured a patent for the device in 1778. Four more water closets were installed at a cost of £1,000 each. Mechanical bells for summoning servants, Argand lamps and a new service area on the second floor helped to make Audley End one of the most modern and technologically advanced houses of this time.</p> <p><u>Collections</u></p> <p>The vast collections housed at Audley End contain important examples of paintings, decorative art and scientific collections. The paintings collection was largely developed by Sir John Griffin Griffin who acquired and commissioned dynastic portraits to highlight his aristocratic links. He also brought together a collection of Old Master paintings by artists like Hans Holbein, Hans Eworth, Pieter Claesz and Jan van Goyen. The 3rd Baron Braybrooke's wife, Jane Cornwallis, brought her own family's collections to Audley End too, including late 17th-century portraiture such as Peter Lely's self-portrait.</p> | <p>1605–1745', <i>Architectural History</i>, 23 (1980), 1–39</p> <p>J Cornforth, 'Fit for a king', <i>Country Life</i> (21 May 1992), 54-7</p> <p>R Neville (Lord Braybrooke), The History of Audley End and Saffron Walden (London, 1836).</p> <p>Audley End History and Stories – Below Stairs at Audley End [English Heritage website]</p> <p>Audley End History and Stories - Pioneering country house technology at Audley End [English Heritage website]</p> <p>Audley End House and Gardens: Collections Highlights [English Heritage website]</p> <p>Historic England List Entry for Audley End House [Historic England website]</p> |
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| | <p>The natural history collection at Audley End created by 4th Baron Braybrooke is one of the most important collections of its kind to survive in a country house.</p> <p><u>Historical associations</u></p> <p>Audley End has been at the centre of many key historic events in the history of England. The site transitioned from a monastic community to a private home following the Dissolution of the Monasteries. The Jacobean house was built by one of the leading figures at the court of James I and became a royal palace under Charles II. Leading architects and designers were involved in the construction and alteration of the house and gardens over time such as Robert Adam and Capability Brown.</p> <p>Audley End's experience of the Second World War is particularly significant as it was the headquarters of the Polish section of the Special Operations Executive between 1942 and 1944. It continues to be a site of pilgrimage for Polish visitors and descendants of SOE recruits.</p> | <p>Sir Thomas Audley's will: The National Archives (TNA), PROB 11/31/64.</p> <p>Office of Works accounts (1668-1701), National Archives</p> <p>J Cornforth, 'Fit for a king', <i>Country Life</i> (21 May 1992), 54-7</p> <p>Audley End History and Stories - Capability Brown at Audley End [English Heritage website]</p> <p>Audley End History and Stories – Silent Unseen: The Polish Special Forces Soldiers of Audley End [English Heritage website]</p> <p>Valentine, I, <i>Station 43: Audley End House and SOE's Polish Section</i> (Gloucestershire, 2010).</p> |
| j) The typicality of the site based on | <p>Though there are other surviving examples of Jacobean architecture, Audley End remains one of the most impressive in England due to its original palatial scale. Its layout was designed to reflect a royal</p> | <p>Drury, P., <i>Audley End</i>, English Heritage Guidebooks (2014) Audley End English Heritage</p> |

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| <p>a comparison with other similar sites</p> | <p>processional route as is found in royal residences and aristocratic houses.</p> <p>In many ways Audley End's beginnings as an abbey site and its development by successive owners over time is typical of many other country houses in England. What sets Audley End apart is the unique circumstances of its various owners over the centuries. Thomas Howard's fall shortly after completing his palatial home in the early 17th century led to financial insecurity for his heirs, encouraging them to seek an agreement for the sale of the property to Charles II in 1667. Charles's rare visits and his heir's antipathy for the site led to its decay over time. This, coupled with the continued reduced circumstances of the Howard family encouraged successive owners to reduce the size of the house to about a third of its original size.</p> <p>Similarly, the collections, decorations and technologies inside the house reflect the ambitions, tastes and interests of Audley End's various owners. This includes the creation of an important collection of paintings and pioneering eighteenth-century technologies under Sir John Griffin Griffin and a significant natural history collection under Richard Cornwallis Neville, 4th Baron Braybrooke.</p> | <p>Significance of Audley End House and Gardens [English Heritage website]</p> <p>P. Drury, 'No other palace in the kingdom will compare with it: the evolution of Audley End, 1605–1745', <i>Architectural History</i>, 23 (1980), 1–39</p> <p>J Cornforth, 'Fit for a king', <i>Country Life</i> (21 May 1992), 54-7</p> <p>Audley End House and Gardens: Collections Highlights [English Heritage website]</p> |
| <p>k) What the site reveals about everyday life, attitudes and values in particular periods of history</p> | <p>Everyday life</p> <p>Although many of the people associated with Audley End are anything but 'everyday', being aristocratic or even royal, we do see some aspects of the site that reflect the everyday. The service areas of the house represent the manual toil involved in keeping a Victorian country house running as do the extensive kitchen gardens.</p> <p>The chapel inside the house speaks to the importance of religion to the family and their servants over time.</p> <p>Hierarchy and class</p> | <p>Drury, P., <i>Audley End</i>, English Heritage Guidebooks (2014) Audley End English Heritage</p> |

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| | <p>There is visible evidence of hierarchy and class throughout the house and grounds at Audley End, from layouts to hidden features and surviving service areas.</p> <p>Thomas Howard's Jacobean house included matching state apartments designed for a king and queen with processional routes through their rooms. Hidden servants' doors can be seen in many of the family's rooms within the house and the chapel inside the house has different entrances for indoor and outdoor servants. The chapel also has specific seating for the family and their guests.</p> <p>The kitchen garden was moved out of sight of the house in the 1750s and the detached service wing has been hidden by hedging for at least the last 150 years.</p> <p>Architectural design over time The Jacobean style of the original house showcases the very latest in design in the early 1600s, inspired by French and Flemish architecture. Though the house was reduced in size over time, the nature of the house's exterior remained in-keeping with this style.</p> <p>Changes to the interior like the introduction of a new suite of reception rooms by leading architect Robert Adam in the eighteenth century reflects the prevailing fashions of this period. Similarly, architectural additions in the landscape like the Tea Bridge, Adam Bridge, Temple of Concorde and Temple of Victory show the fashion for neoclassical design in the late eighteenth century.</p> <p>Garden and landscape design over time The gardens and landscape at Audley End have been altered over time to reflect changing fashions and ideas. Today, Capability Brown's</p> | <p>Audley End History and Stories – Below Stairs at Audley End [English Heritage website]</p> <p>P. Drury, 'No other palace in the kingdom will compare with it: the evolution of Audley End, 1605–1745', <i>Architectural History</i>, 23 (1980), 1–39</p> <p>J Cornforth, 'Fit for a king', <i>Country Life</i> (21 May 1992), 54-7</p> <p>Audley End History and Stories - Capability Brown at Audley End [English Heritage website]</p> <p>M Sutherill, 'Garden buildings at Audley End', <i>Georgian Group Journal</i>, 6 (1996, 102-19)</p> |
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| | <p>sweeping eighteenth-century landscape coexists with a Victorian kitchen garden and a restored 19th-century parterre garden.</p> <p>Wartime necessity Audley End was requisitioned for military use during the Second World War due to the need for large venues to house different elements of the war effort. The house and gardens provided a top-secret training centre for the Polish section of the Special Operations Executive who volunteered to parachute behind enemy lines in occupied Poland and aid the Polish resistance. Additions to the landscape like anti-tank defences, explosive boxes and pill boxes highlight the fear of invasion during the early 1940s.</p> <p>Tourism English Heritage began to care for the site in 1984 and it continues to be presented a tourist and visitor attraction. This change of use led to changes to the site, with a new Visitor Centre being constructed behind the service wing and a cartyard café with a play area near the stable block.</p> | <p>M Sutherill, 'The buildings of the Elysium Garden at Audley End', <i>Georgian Group Journal</i>, 7 (1997), 94-104</p> <p>Audley End History and Stories – Silent Unseen: The Polish Special Forces Soldiers of Audley End [English Heritage website]</p> <p>Audley End History and Stories [English Heritage website]</p> |
| <p>l) How the physical remains may prompt questions about the past and how historians frame these as valid historical enquiries</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What is it? What changes has it seen? What was it used for? What stories does it tell about the past? What do we still need to know? - Where was it built? Where was it changed? Where did the people come from who used it? - Who built it? Who changed it? Who used it? Who was the last person to live here? - When did people first live here? When was it built? When was it changed? When was it used? When did it stop being used? - Why was it built? Why was it changed? Why was it used? Why was this location chosen? Why should we protect it? | <p>Visit to Audley End House and Gardens</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How was it built? How was it changed? How was it used? How much did it cost to build/change? How can it tell us about the past? | |
| <p>m) How the physical remains can inform artistic reconstructions and other interpretations of the site</p> | <p>Excavations in the 20th century revealed some of the remains of Walden Abbey. These have provided information to inform modern artistic reconstructions of the building as it appeared before the Reformation.</p> <p>The physical remains of the site themselves survive well and present evidence from every period of the site's history from Walden Abbey to Station 43.</p> <p>Repairs and restoration have been in-keeping and sympathetic to the history of the site and informed by detailed professional research. As such, they are an incredible inspiration for artistic reconstructions and interpretations.</p> <p>The collections on display within the house can inspire interpretation of the material culture owned and used by the individuals who have lived and worked at Audley End House and Gardens.</p> <p>Interpretation panels on site and within the exhibition space in the stable block provide images of the different people who have occupied the site and could be used as inspiration to populate reconstructions and interpretations of the site.</p> <p>Detailed reconstructions of the site have been produced in multiple forms and can be found throughout the historic building, exhibition, guidebook and on the English Heritage website.</p> | <p>SR Basset, 'Saffron Walden: Excavations and Research 1972-80', <i>CBA Research Report</i>, 45 (1982)</p> <p>Visit to Audley End House and Gardens</p> <p>Audley End House and Gardens: Collections Highlights [English Heritage website]</p> |

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| <p>n) The challenges and benefits of studying the historic environment</p> | <p>Challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Limited knowledge of the site before the Norman Conquest. - Difficult to interpret the physical remains of Walden Abbey as these remain largely underground and underneath the Jacobean house. The medieval fishponds remain as one of the only visible pieces of evidence from the abbey. - Although there is significant knowledge and documentation of many people connected to Audley End, such as the Howard and Neville families, this depth of knowledge does not extend to the significant number of people who worked on the estate before modern census records began. <p>Benefits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gives a sense of place, well-being and cultural identity. - Defines and enhances a connection of people to a place, such as regional and local distinctiveness. - Stimulating and life-enhancing way to engage with history. - Opportunity to investigate changes over time. - Links to national events studied as part of the curriculum, | <p>Visit to Audley End House and Gardens</p> |
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