Adam Smith Online Courses Autumn Winter 2022-3.

I plan to give online courses via Zoom during the autumn and winter of 2022-3 on Wednesday mornings and evenings. These will include new courses and repeats of courses given online in Autumn 2021 and some which have been given online and face to face previously. Each session will last two hours a break of about 10 minutes in the middle. Each course is charged per connection not per person for the whole course (bookings will not be taken for individual sessions). There will be a maximum of 20 connections.

I am now taking provisional bookings for these courses. I will not invoice until the summer for the Autumn courses and the Autumn for the Winter courses.

Course Times and Dates.

The Rothschild Country Houses.

Starts 5th October 2022, 10.00 a.m. – Midday. 10 weeks.

In the 19th Century the Rothschild family built seven country houses in the Vale of Aylesbury. Some of these are well known, like Waddesdon, others are almost forgotten, like Aston Clinton, but each was the centre of an agricultural estate and housed important collections. The unusual, for England, pattern of inheritance which the Rothschild family followed enabled different members of the family to have the funds necessary for this. This course will look at the artistic, social and economic importance of these houses and set them in context with other Victorian Country Houses. (£80).

English Country Houses : Restoration and Baroque (c.1650-1720).

Starts 14th September 2022, 7.00-9.00 p.m. 6 Weeks.

This course will look at how the architecture and households of country houses evolved following the upheavals caused by the Civil War. Classical styles became the norm, initially with restrained exteriors but by the end of the 17th Century this was giving way to the exuberance of the baroque. We will also see how in this period households reduced in size with servants who were increasingly working class women. Increased record keeping will allow us to see some of the important areas of expenditure for country house owners. (£48).

English Country Houses : Late Medieval to Tudor (c.1400-1550).

Starts 2nd November 2022, 7.00-9.00 p.m. 6 Weeks.

This course aims to give a view into the architecture of English country houses and the people who created them in the 15th and 16th Centuries. We will see how late medieval houses, castles and other residences changed with the end of the Wars of the Roses and arrival of the Tudor dynasty in 1485. Peace in the 16th Century meant landowners were able to express themselves in evolving architectural styles and we will trace the first signs of the Renaissance in England. Finally we will look at the impact of the Dissolution of the Monasteries. (£48).

Farms Forks & Flummery.

The social history of English food from field to fork, 1500-1950.

Starts 11th January 2023, 10.00 a.m. – Midday. 10 weeks.

This course looks at how food was produced and consumed in England. We will look at food from field to fork seeing how the ingredients available changed and the ways in which they were cooked and eaten evolved. The course aims to give an understanding of how the ways in which food has been produced and consumed from Tudor times to the middle of the 20th Century. This will illuminate aspects of social and economic history. (£80)

English Country Houses : Palladian and Neo Classical (c.1720-1790).

Starts 4th January 2023, 7.00-9.00 p.m. 6 Weeks.

Country estate owners often benefitted from increasing agricultural rent and additional sources of income related to the industrial and commercial revolutions of the Georgian period. This wealth was often spent on new or rebuilt country houses influenced by the architecture of Ancient Rome. We will look at the architecture of these houses and the architects who designed them. We will also see who was commissioning these houses and some of their motives. Such houses relied on professional servants to run efficiently and we will see how this unseen part of the household operated. (£48)

English Country Houses : Elizabethan to Jacobean (c.1550-1640).

Starts 22nd February 2023, 7.00-9.00 p.m. 6 Weeks.

This course aims to give a view into the architecture of English country houses and the people who created them in the 16th and 17th Centuries. We will see how the wealth that was transferred to the gentry and aristocracy by the Dissolution of the Monasteries was used to build ever more ambitious houses. These houses were increasingly influenced by classical Renaissance ideas which led to the start of an architectural revolution led by Inigo Jones in the 1610's. Jones' correct classical understanding would influence houses like Wilton. We will also see how these houses reflected changes in society and the interests of their owners. (£48)

Bookings.

Provisional bookings will be taken on a first come first served basis.

The courses are charged per connection not per person for the whole course (bookings will not be taken for individual sessions). There will be a maximum of 20 connections. To book please contact Adam Smith at zilphahistory@gmail.com.