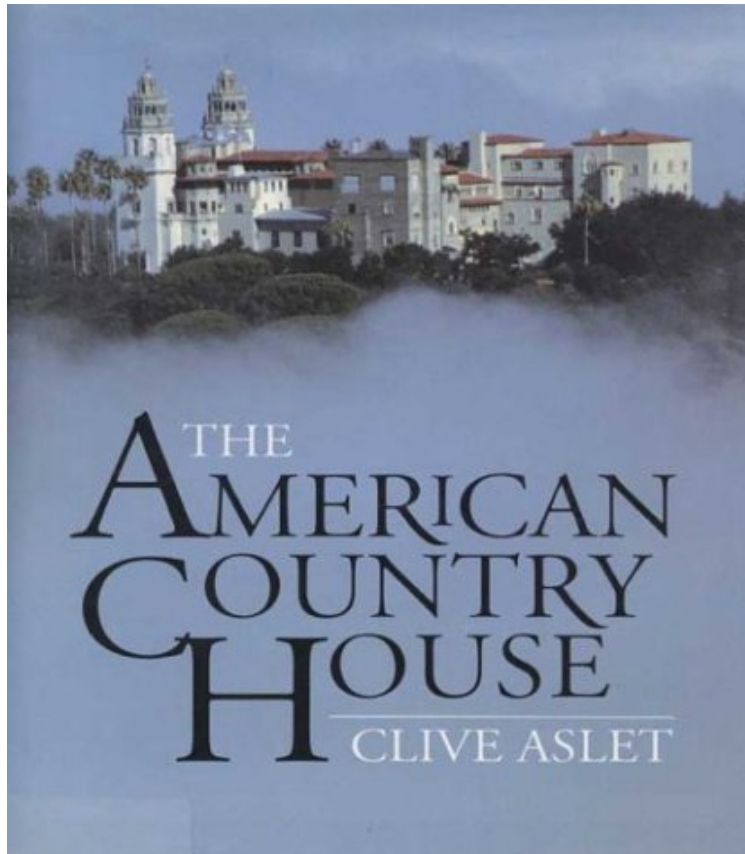



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The American Country House

Clive Aslet

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Clive Aslet : The American Country House before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The American Country House:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. A mix of good and could have been betterBy Peter T. WolfIm surprised there are no reviews of this book given that other books on the same subject are heavily reviewed.I own this book and have mixed feelings about it. First, through a ridiculous printing error, my copy had an entire section out of place. Right in the middle of a chapter suddenly appears the contents of another chapter that runs for many pages. The missing chapter appears intermingled later in the book. Needless to say this destroys the flow of the book. How this escaped discovery is beyond me.What I liked about the book is that it is a scholarly work publishing many rare photos of lesser known (but equally grand) estates. Clearly the author intened to produce a work out of the ordinary. I consider myself an expert in the subject of Gilded Age estates and mansions and this book taught me things I did not know. I like the way the endpapers were used to reproduce period sales advertisements of vendors servicing these estates. It helps reinforce the impression of vast resources of men and material required to build and maintain these behemoths.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Outstanding , well written, excellent overviewBy vmpunjemsOne of the best books on the subject whether for American or British country houses. Well written, great examples and illustrations. Highly recommended!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A good discussion

of the country house movement of the early ...By Jerry PaulsonA good discussion of the country house movement of the early 20th century, and the architectural styles of the period.

From the Vanderbilts' stupendous Biltmore and the Rockefellers' Kykuit to the Duponts' museum Winterthur and William Randolph Hearst's legendary San Simeon, American country houses evoke the grandeur of a bygone world of wealth and privilege. This magnificent book describes the great country houses built with American industrial fortunes from the end of the Civil War until 1940. Written by Clive Aslet, author of a widely acclaimed study of English country houses of this period, *The American Country House* draws on the rich and often amusing writings of contemporaries to evoke the lives the buildings served as well as the architectural shapes that they took.

Written in a sprightly style, richly illustrated, Aslet's book is particularly inviting to the general reader.--Merle Rubin, *Christian Science Monitor*