

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910816296903321
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Titolo	Creating paradise : the building of the English country house, 1660-1880 // Richard Wilson and Alan Mackley
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London, [England] ; ; New York, [New York] : , : Hambledon and London, , 2000 ©2000
ISBN	1-283-27137-0 9786613271372 0-8264-3910-1
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (449 p.)
Disciplina	728.8/0942/0903
Soggetti	Manors - England - History Manors - England - Economic aspects
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Contents; Illustrations; Illustration Acknowledgements; Abbreviations; Preface; 1 The English Country House; 2 The Builders of the Country House; 3 The Inspiration of Travel; 4 Architect and Patron; 5 A Pleasure Not to be Envied; 6 The Pattern of Building; 7 The Cost of the Country House; 8 Building and Finance; 9 Afterword; Appendix; Notes; Index
Sommario/riassunto	This work looks at the building of country houses as a whole. It investigates why owners embarked on extensive building programmes, often following a "Grand Tour". The cost of building the great and small country houses is explored, along with their furnishing and decoration.