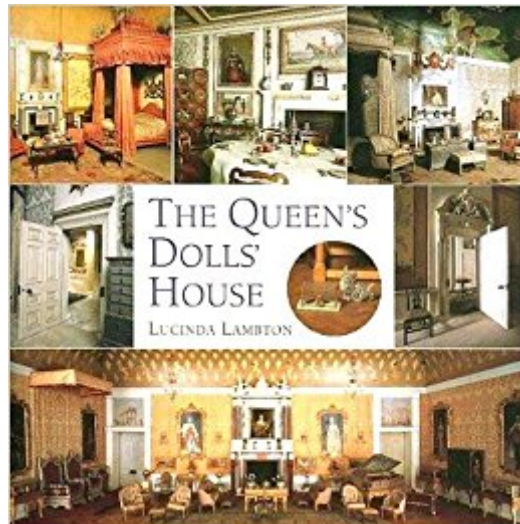




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The Queen's Dolls' House: A Dollhouse Made For Queen Mary



Synopsis

From simple one-room cottages to multilevel castles, dollhouses have long been treasured by children and adults alike. In an ever-expanding array of sizes and styles, they may be closely modeled on reality or wildly whimsical. Few, however, approach the splendor of the royal dollhouse on display at Windsor Castle. With running water, electricity, two working elevators, and many other delights, there can be no question that this is a dollhouse fit for a queen. This lavishly illustrated volume offers a detailed history of the creation, decoration, and furnishing of this extraordinary dollhouse. Commissioned in the 1920s for Queen Mary and designed by renowned architect Sir Edwin Lutyens, the house is a perfect scale replica of an Edwardian residence, complete in every detail. Its library boasts original works by the likes of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Thomas Hardy, and Edith Wharton. Its wine cellar is replete with tiny bottles containing thimblefuls of real vintage wine. And, naturally, its tiny residents eschew pink convertibles in favor of the fleet of elegant Rolls Royce limousines housed in the miniature garage. These and hundreds of other charming features are lovingly detailed in color, with extensive use of material from the royal archives, detailing for the first time the contributions of the artists, craftspeople, and donors involved in its creation. An imaginative tour of this smallest and grandest of aristocratic residences, which receives thousands of full-sized visitors each year, The Queen's Dolls' House is full of surprises that will captivate toy collectors, miniaturists, and fans of the royal family alike.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"The book may hold a special interest for those who have seen The Queen's Dolls' House – a long one of the most popular attractions for visitors to Windsor Castle. Anyone, however, with an interest in the Edwardian Age, interior decoration, arts or craftsmanship will enjoy the story and the art in this official story published by the Royal Collections." – British Heritage (British Heritage 2011-05-01)"An essential reference for collectors of miniatures and anyone specializing in dolls' houses and accessories." – Collectables Trader (Collectables Trader 2011-05-01)

Lucinda Lambton is a writer, photographer and broadcaster well known for her much-loved books on architectural oddities.

I was able to see the display at Windsor Castle 20 years ago (I don't remember it being in the nicely lit up room this book shows it in) and really appreciate finding this book at . It's probably better (it is longer) than the official guidebook also sells. You don't really get a guide book, (like another reviewer remarked this book could've been larger in size), no "to your left is the" text here- but more of a history of the dolls' house origins and development. I didn't like some of the author's text as much as I did the quotes from original period materials. The photography- all of it- is beautiful, even the original 1920's pictures are interesting, but mostly consists of room shots or detail images within those rooms. The work those people put out, amazing even now! There are even a few silhouettes of some items done to actual size, metric measurements- but not inch-scaled. Also included are inventories of the wine cellar (the real stuff- in miniature bottles) and a full chapter on the library and art collection - I knew that the house had these collections but hadn't seen detailed listings before. One reviewer complained of "nudes writhing on the ceilings" and didn't want her children seeing such things. I never noticed them 20 years ago and if you don't tell little Johnny, and give him a magnifying glass, he won't notice anything in this book either. Only two(?) pictures anyway and not shown up close- don't let the nudes keep you from buying the book, you'll never notice them. This book makes me want to go back and see the dolls' house again!

This is a very nice book about Queen Mary's Dolls House, and does a good job of describing the history behind it. If you are not familiar with the Queen's Dolls House, you will find this book very informative. I must add, though, that I found the font in the book to be very difficult to read, as it is not printed in true black type, but gray. While it might be a bit more difficult to locate, I would more

highly recommend Mary Stewart-Wilson's "Queen Mary's Dolls' House" to anyone interested in the subject, as it is much richer in detail and illustration.

This book wonderfully details the famous doll house that belongs to the Queen of England. I am an amateur doll house maker and also happen to be a fan of the British Monarchy so I was naturally drawn to this book. Lots of great pictures and personal stories that I did not expect. Well written, well photographed and well worth the cost. This would make a terrific gift for anyone with an interest in the Queen of England or doll houses or even history in general.

Endlessly fascinating.

A delightful book with a treasure trove of information and photos!

Great book in excellent condition

The second time I purchased this book, it is a marvel to have, one wonders at the miniature and the time it took to make the small doll house miniatures, Cars, candies (real chocolates and candies) and much much more. This book can keep you going for days and excite you about how wonderfully made the doll house is.

Truly amazing and entertaining! Sometimes you forget you are looking at miniature rooms because of the unbelievable craftsmanship.

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