

A Percy Palace on the Strand: Northumberland House

With Linda Taylor

Northumberland House no longer exists, but for almost three centuries it dominated the Charing Cross end of the Strand, the ancient road that links Royal Westminster to the once-walled City of London.

The Percys, now Dukes of Northumberland, owned many great houses, including Syon House and Alnwick Castle, but their now demolished London home was notable too, in particular for its interior remodelling by Robert Adam and the magnificent display of the many treasures collected on the Grand Tour by the first Duke and Duchess.



In the 17th century it was involved in the murky politics of the Civil War and its aftermath as well as a notorious murder. It was at the heart of the social scene in the Georgian and Regency periods and witnessed the rapid expansion of London in the 18th and 19th centuries, particularly the development of the West End and the building of Trafalgar Square.

It may be long gone, but its ghosts remain, in the name of a London street and a display at the V & A, but also in its furniture, its paintings, even its fireplaces which have found a home at Syon House, not to mention the famous Percy lion on the roof!

Join us then in a celebration of the splendid history of one of the greatest of all the noble palaces that once adorned the Strand.

