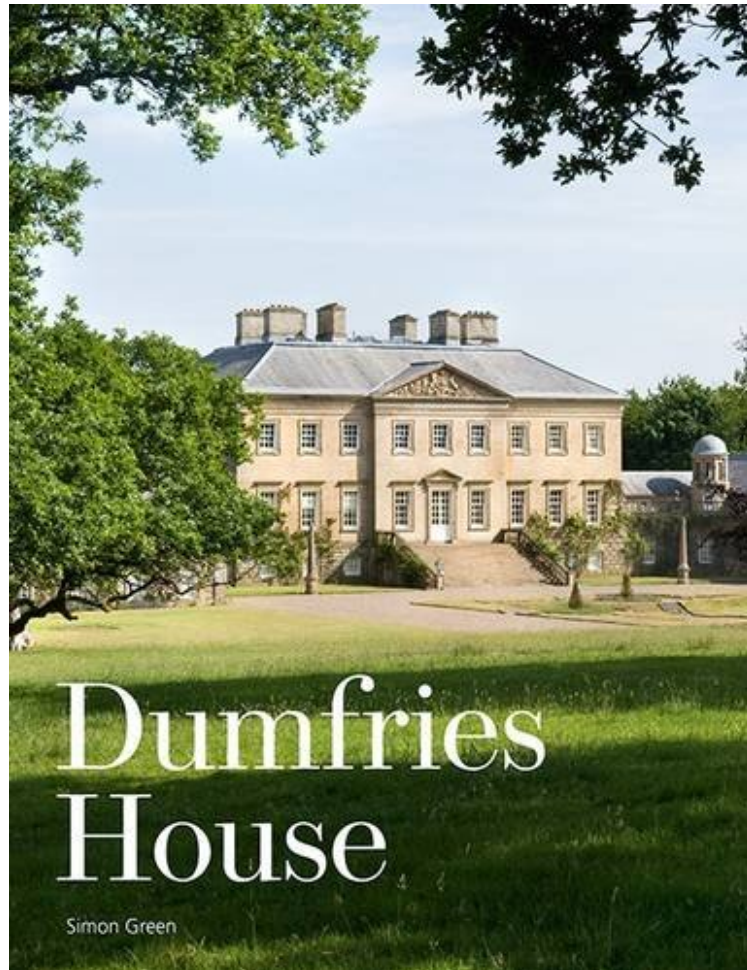


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Dumfries House: An Architectural Story

Simon Green

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Simon Green : Dumfries House: An Architectural Story before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Dumfries House: An Architectural Story:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. I cannot recommend this book highly enough!By R. MacIt is amazing how many books on great houses offer little actual understanding of the house being presented.Not so with this wonderful book.Above all, there are plans! Plans! And a LOT of plans! Sections, too!There are the early, schematic plans. Then the As Built plans. Then plans showing later changes, and still more later changes.Many of the plans fold-out, so one can really appreciate all the details.Few architectural books offer such wealth.The book is written in chronological fashion (thank God), and this makes its easy to follow the evolution of the house, its inhabitants, and the WHY of changes made.There are gorgeous archival images and gorgeous recent color images.Nope, it just dont get any better.6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. A Treasure Saved: Dumfries HouseBy Jon SwiftVery detailed history of an architectural treasure. Covers the design, building and furnishing of

Dumfries House. Includes the inheritance through original Earl of Dumfries family and transfer to the Bute family by marriage. Preserved as less used home of a wealthy family and then adapted by the later Marquesses of Bute while maintaining the original exterior. Finally details the saving of the house and original furnishings by a preservative trust. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Spectacular book about a spectacular house By Tillie Traveling HRH The Prince of Wales spearheaded the saving of this wonderful house, its contents, and estate for the nation, had everything restored and opened it to the public. It is the first country house by the Adam brothers, John, James, and William and has probably the finest collection of 18th century furniture in its original setting anywhere in Britain. The book has detailed plans, drawings, and other information which makes it important for anyone researching that period and specifically, the Adam brothers' works. I am a fan of Robert Adam as my family's Scottish home was one of the last commissioned by him. It is nice to know about the "first" and the "last".

On 18 July 1754, William Crichton Dalrymple, the 5th Earl of Dumfries, laid the foundation stone of Dumfries House. It was the first country house built by Robert, John and James Adam - the brothers whose architectural practice was to become the most famous in Britain. Dumfries House lies within its historic landscape in rolling farmland to the west of Cumnock. Completed in 1760, the house was adapted and altered over the years - most significantly and sympathetically by Robert Weir Schultz, a leading figure in the Arts and Crafts movement. Dumfries House is not only significant architecturally, it also contains one of the most spectacular collections of eighteenth century furniture in Britain, with works by Thomas Chippendale, and pieces by three renowned Edinburgh furniture-makers, Francis Brodie, Alexander Peter and William Mathie. In June 2007, HRH The Prince of Wales headed a consortium of charities and heritage bodies to buy the house, its contents and its estate, with the express aim of preserving it in its entirety and making it more accessible to the public. In this landmark book, author Simon Green draws on previously unpublished documents from the extensive archives of the Bute family, who lived in the house from the early nineteenth century until the death of Lady Bute in 1993, along with a wealth of photographs, plans and drawings from the National Trust for Scotland and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland. Exploring the people and the ideas behind a unique building, Dumfries House is the story of the survival of a treasured eighteenth century family residence - at once the 'homliest' of homes and 'a great undertaking, more bold than wise'.

'This handsomely produced history of a national treasure is a fitting tribute to a fascinating house' Country Life About the Author Simon Green is an architectural historian at Historic Environment Scotland with over 30 years' experience researching Scotland's buildings.