



Great Chalfield Manor

Moated Manor for the Nation

Wiltshire Family's Gift

Endowment for Upkeep

Lord Zetland announced at the annual meeting of the National Trust yesterday that arrangements are practically completed whereby Major R. F. Fuller will make over to the trust his home, Great Chalfield Manor, a large part of its furnishings and its gardens, with an endowment for its upkeep. The house stands in open country near Melksham, Wiltshire, and is a moated manor dating from the last quarter of the fifteenth century.

Great Chalfield is considered an extremely fine and complete example of late Gothic domestic architecture even in a part of the country where houses of this period are by no means uncommon.

When Major Fuller bought the property before the last war he found that a considerable amount of work to the structure was needed. With expert advice he reconditioned the house from detailed drawings that had been made on the spot over 100 years ago by Pugin before the building had been allowed to fall into disrepair. He was thus able to restore the medieval Great Hall, with its screens and the solar. The main front had practically escaped alteration and seen across the moat the grey stone house, with its finialled gables and oriel windows, the small parish church on the one side and the range of old outbuildings with its gatehouse on the other, present a most romantic picture.

Major and Mrs. Fuller will continue to live at Chalfield, and it is hoped their family after them. The house will not be open to the public during the war.

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