



The City of Liverpool

CROXTETH HALL & COUNTRY PARK
Catalogue of Paintings

INFORMATION LEAFLET



Paintings in the Principal Rooms of Croxteth Hall



CROXTETH HALL, NEAR LIVERPOOL, THE SEAT OF THE EARL OF SEFTON

Most of the contents of Croxteth Hall were sold at auction in 1973 after the death of the last Earl of Sefton. The furnishings seen today comprise of a few of the original items retained at the time, together with other furniture not specifically connected with Croxteth which has been brought in to recreate the Edwardian country house atmosphere. Many of the paintings did in fact once hang at Croxteth, or in other properties belonging to the Earl of Sefton, such as Abbeystead in North Lancashire.

The rooms are set out with costumed figures on the theme of a house party in 1905. Panels identify characters and describe what they are doing and snippets of conversation give an insight into the daily lives of the Earl, his family, guests and servants. Many of the costumes are reproductions but some original clothes are included.

These notes refer only to the first floor principal rooms and the Staircase Lower Hall and Balcony areas. Beyond the Dining Room corridor by which the principal rooms are approached were; the Morning Room, the old Breakfast Room and the Drawing Room. These rooms were damaged by fire in 1952 and have not been restored. They now house an introductory exhibition. The Old Dining Room, situated at the end of the corridor, escaped major damage and can now be viewed when not in use for functions.

On entering each room, paintings are listed from the door in a clockwise direction. Where they hang in tiers, the upper one is listed first. A painter's dates are given only for the first listing of his work in each room. The title of the work with date painted (if known) follows.

* An asterisk indicates items original to Sefton provenance.

☒ Denotes portrait paintings of members of the Molyneux family highlighted in our 'The Molyneux Family Tree' information sheet.

All items listed are in the collections of THE NATIONAL MUSEUMS LIVERPOOL.
All paintings information supplied by THE NATIONAL MUSEUMS LIVERPOOL.

The Lower Hall

Richard Ansdell (1815-1885)	'Death of the Stag' 1846
Robert Tonge (1823-1856)	'Landscape, Sefton Lancashire' 1848
Alfred Barron Clay (1831-1868)	'Charles IX and the French Court on the Morning of the Massacre of St. Bartholomew' 1864

The Dining Room Corridor

* John Ferneley Snr. (1782-1860)	'Gentleman in Red Coat on a Bay Hunter' 1815
-------------------------------------	--

The Ante-Room

* Philip Westcott (1815-1878)	☒ 'Charles William, 3rd Earl of Sefton' c1848
* After Francis Gerard (1778-1837)	'King Charles X of France' 1825-26
* John Berrie (1887 - 1962)	☒ 'Osbert Cecil, 6th Earl of Sefton in a Brown Suit' 1920/30

The Breakfast Room

Thomas Creswick (1811-1869)	'Moorland Scenery' 1842
* Richard Ansdell (1815-1885)	'The Interrupted Meal' 1847/1885
Thomas Creswick	'The Way Across the River' 1843
* Charles Towne (1763-1840)	'A Grey Cob at Croxteth' 1820
William Shayer the elder (1788-1879)	'Plinlimmon and the Sources of the River Wye' 1834
William Davis (1812-1873)	'Game' 1851
* Frederick Richard Lee (1798-1879)	'River Teign, Devonshire' 1843
William Shayer the elder	'Fisherfolk with White Horse by the Shore' c1830's
* Frederick Richard Lee	'Scottish Loch with Game Birds' 1852

The Card Room

These depict 17th - 18th century members of the Molyneux family. It was the 8th Viscount Molyneux who became the 1st Earl of Sefton in 1771.

	Adriaen van Diest (1655 - 1704)	'Classical Landscape with Waterfall' late 17 th century.
*	British School (17 th - 18 th century)	☒ 'William, 4 th Viscount Molyneux' c1685 - 1710
*	British School (poss James Gandy 17 th - 18 th century)	☒ 'A Girl Holding a Bouquet'
*	Thomas Beach (1738 - 1806)	☒ 'Maria Craven, later the Countess of Sefton, as a Young Girl' 1776
*	British School (18 th century)	☒ 'Charles William, 1 st Earl of Sefton' 1745 - 1760
*	Thomas Beach	☒ 'The Honourable Mrs Craven' 1776.
*	British School (18 th century)	☒ 'Sir Richard, 5 th Viscount Molyneux' 1700 - 1720
*	British School (17 th - 18 th century)	☒ 'Hon. Richard Molyneux' 1680 - 1720
	Jacob Huysmans (1633 - 1696)	☒ 'Lady Mary Molyneux' 1680 / 1696
*	British School (17 th - 18 th century)	☒ 'William, 4 th Viscount Molyneux' 1690 - 1720
*	British School (17 th - 18 th century)	☒ 'Richard, 5 th Viscount Molyneux' 1700 - 1720
*	British School (18 th century)	☒ 'Mary Molyneux' 1715-1720

The Smoking Room

The paintings in here and in the billiard room reflect the particular interests of the family in field sports. Charles William, the 3rd Earl (1796 - 1855), was a keen patron of sporting artists, in particular Richard Ansdell of Liverpool, many of whose works are now on show. William Philip, the 4th Earl (1835 - 1897) continued the same tradition.

	Richard Ansdell (1815-1885)	'Boy Leading Horse and Pony' 1841
*	Richard Ansdell	'Dead Pheasants Hanging from a Nail' 1845
*	Richard Ansdell	'Head of a Stag (three quarters view)' 1841
*	Richard Ansdell	'Head of a Stag (profile to the right)' 1841
*	Richard Ansdell	'Tiny, a Manchester Terrier' 1844
*	Richard Ansdell	'The Hare' c1840

*	Richard Ansdell	'Head of a Stag (profile to the left)' 1841
*	Richard Ansdell	'Head of a Stag (full face)' 1841
*	Richard Ansdell	'Bay Horse Outside a Stable Door' 1841
*	Richard Ansdell	'A Shooting Party at Meggernie' 1841
*	Richard Ansdell	'Figure in Glen Lyon' 1842
*	Richard Ansdell	'Grey Horse Led by Scotsman' 1840
*	Richard Ansdell	'William Philip, Lord Molyneux, later 4 th Earl of Sefton, as a young boy' 1840
*	Richard Ansdell	'Glen Lyon Left Side' 1841
*	Richard Ansdell	'Glen Lyon Right Side' 1841
*	Richard Ansdell	'Figure Group at Glen Lyon' 1842
*	Richard Ansdell	'Meggernie, Glen Lyon, Haymaking' 1841
*	Richard Ansdell	'Meggernie, Glen Lyon, From the Avenue' 1841

The Billiard Room

With the Smoking Room and the associated washroom, the Billiard Room forms a suite of rooms which were an exclusively male preserve. Billiards has been played since the 17th century, but became particularly popular amongst the upper classes in the Victorian era, and no house of any size was regarded as complete without a billiard room.

Used as a sitting room since the 1952 fire, this room was converted back to its original use in 1985.

Sporting paintings from the Walker Art Gallery hang here and in the corridor, including some from the Walter Stone bequest and others from the collections of Sir Francis Danson, Col. J.R. Danson and Lord Wavertree.

Charles Towne (1763-1840)	'Chestnut and Black Racehorse with Cattle in a field' 1823
Charles Towne	'Fox Hunting: Full Cry Breaking Cover' 1815
Charles Towne	'Billy, a Flea Bitten Horse' 1832
Charles Towne	'Four Horses in a Landscape' 1814
Charles Towne	'Italianate Landscape' 1827
Charles Towne	'Old Grey Horse in a Landscape' c1830
Charles Towne	'A Gentleman mounted on a Dappled Grey Hunter' Between 1800 and 1850
Dean Wolstenholme (1798-1882)	'A Huntsman and Hounds coming out of Cover' 1830
Charles Towne	'Pair of Carthorses and Cattle with Drover in Meadow' 1838

Charles Towne	'Bull and Cattle and Herdsmen resting in Valley Pasture' 1835
Charles Towne	'The Monarch of the Pastureland' 1821
Charles Towne	'Landscape with Cattle by a Stream with Drover' c1800
Charles Towne	'Mr Jackson's Hazard' 1830
Charles Towne	'Saddled Bay Horse Tied to a Fence Under a Tree' 1817
Samuel Alken (1756-1815)	'Partridge Shooting' c1795 - 1810
* John Ferneley Snr. (1782-1860)	'The Quorn Hunt' 1819
Samuel Alken	'Pheasant Shooting' c1795 - 1810

The Sitting Room

This was Lady Sefton's Sitting Room or Boudoir. Most of the furniture has come from the home of the Melly family and is typical of a late 19th century drawing room. Much furniture of this period copies the styles of 18th century France, which was highly regarded for its elegance and taste.

* David Dalby (1794-1836)	'A Pair of Bay Horses Harnessed to a Dog Cart' 1833
* John Fernley Snr. (1782-1860)	'General Chasse on the Course at Aintree' 1835
attr. David Cox (1783-1859)	'Bolton Abbey'
James Clarke Hook (1819-1907)	'Hard Lines' 1876
* Edmund Bristow (1787-1876)	'Lady Katherine Molyneux's Pony Carriage' 1846
* Thomas Gooch (1750-1802)	'A Stallion with its Groom' 1794
* Edmund Bristow	'A Grey and Bay Hunter in a Landscape' 1846

Lady Sefton's Dressing Room

Henry O'Neill
(1817-1880) 'Beauty the Enchantress' 1855

Selection of coloured engravings from a set of twenty one by Horace Vernet c1800 - 1810

'Merveilleuse Chapeau de paille d'Italie: par dessus à la Chinoise'
'Merveilleuse Chapeau de Velours: cornette de tulle, robe de velours'
'Les Montagues Russes de la barrière du Roule'

John Fraser
(1857 - active to 1919) 'On the Moray Firth' 1881

Passageway

Marcus Stone
(1840-1921) 'Waiting' 1875 - 1912

The Principal Bedroom

This room contains the most important furniture in the house. The suite was made for the 4th Earl in 1878 by the London firm of Holland & Sons. They were one of the leading firms of cabinet makers in the 19th century, and amongst their clients numbered Queen Victoria, providing furniture for Buckingham Palace, Windsor, Osborne, and Balmoral.

- * William Huggins
(1820-1884) 'Scene near Croxteth Hall' 1858
- * Sir William Llewelyn
(1858-1941) ☒ 'Viscount Molyneux' 1903
- John Dalby
(Active 1826-1855) 'Three Foxhounds in a Landscape' 1846
- * British School
(19th century) 'Three Molyneux Children' 1841-1844
- * Derek Hill
(b. 1916 - active 1979) 'Girone del Arno in Winter' 1948-52
- * Derek Hill
'Girone del Arno in Spring' 1948-52

Lord Sefton's Dressing Room

T. Forbes
(dates unknown) 'Relko' 1977

* John Ferneley Snr.
(1782-1860) 'A Pair of Greyhounds' 1824

* Oswald Birley
(1880-1952) 'View of Windsor Castle' 1939

Frank Paton
(1856-1909) 'Jewel' 1886

- * John Skeaping (1901 - 1980) 'So Clever' 1971
- * James Gunn (1893-1964) ☒ 'Sketch for the Portrait of Josephine, Countess of Sefton' 1940's

The Principal Corridor

NORTH WALL:

- Lynwood Palmer (1868-1941) 'Jean's Folly, Cherry Lass & Black Cherry' 1913
- Lynwood Palmer 'Col. William Hall Walker on Buttercup' 1913
- Adrian Jones (1845-1938) 'Coronet, Merryman and Dewdrop' 1895
- Lynwood Palmer 'Royal Realm' 1911
- Lynwood Palmer 'White Eagle' 1910
- Lynwood Palmer 'Black Arrow' 1910
- Lynwood Palmer 'Minoru' 1912
- Lynwood Palmer 'Polar Star' 1908
- Lynwood Palmer 'Sandblast, Colonia and Mother Seigal' 1913

SOUTH WALL:

- Charles Towne (1763-1840) 'Chestnut in a Landscape with a Fox Hunt' 1833
- Adrian Jones 'Hornet, Touchstone, Mystery' 1895

SIDE STAIRS:

- British School 'A pair of Black-Breasted Reds after a fight' (18th C)
- Capt. Charles Mercier (b.1834 - active 1879) ☒ 'William Philip, 4th Earl of Sefton'
- H.J.B. Dickinson 'Col. William Hall Walker on his First Polo Pony, Flint' 1880

The Balcony

ABOVE MAIN STAIRCASE:

- * Philip Westcott & Richard Ansdell ☒ 'Charles William, 3rd Earl of Sefton'

BALCONY:

- * Philip de Laszlo (1869-1937) ☒ 'Hugh William Osbert, Viscount Molyneux' 1920
- * Sir Frances Grant (1803-1878) ☒ 'The fourth Earl of Sefton, as a young man' 1865
- * Philip de Laszlo ☒ 'Hon. Cecil Molyneux' 1915

* Stephen Pearce (1819-1904) ☒ 'William 4th Earl of Sefton at Ashdown Park' 1864

BALCONY:

* John Berrie (1887-1962) ☒ 'Osbert, 6th Earl of Sefton' 1920s

* James Gunn (1893-1964) ☒ 'Josephine, Countess of Sefton' 1940s

* James Gunn ☒ 'Hugh William Osbert, 7th Earl of Sefton'