

# **William, Lord Sandys of the Vyne: A Tudor Courtier's Goods**

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Born in 1470, Lord Sandys had been a Knight of the Body to Henry VII before becoming Lord Chamberlain. A conservative, he was absent from court 'remarkably often' in the 1540's. Henry VIII visited The Vyne in 1510, 1531, and 1535, as did Queen Elizabeth I and the French Ambassador in 1601. Professor Howard discussed the archaeology of this courtier's house and its royal apartments at considerable length, with the help of the 1541 inventory and of many slides of tapestries and other decorative items. Questions from, among many others, Philippa Glanville, Peter Barber and Nigel Israel, elicited information about the important role courtiers' gifts played in bringing the English Court into contact with the latest fashions and discoveries from abroad.