



# A Man and his Home

**Ralph Dutton of Hinton Ampner, 8th Baron  
Sherborne**

**John Holden**

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The first biography of Ralph Dutton, collector, connoisseur, writer, philanthropist, who created one of the National Trust's most popular houses and gardens, Hinton Ampner.

*"Ralph Dutton grows on you as John Holden engagingly unpeels the layers of this complicated traveller, connoisseur, philanthropist and friend."* – Dame Rosalind Savill, former Director of the Wallace Collection

*"Ralph Dutton is someone most of us have never heard of, yet he created a place of exceptional grace and beauty in Hinton Ampner. John Holden unravels the mystery of the man for us, and gives us a compelling account of why and how it all happened. It's an enchanting read."* – Lord Smith of Finsbury, Master of Pembroke College, Cambridge and Chairman of The Art Fund

*"This is a real discovery. The story of a modest gentleman who nonetheless played an important role in 20th-century English culture. He put his life into his house, and his house into his life. Both are an engaging case study in heritage history."* – Professor Robert Hewison, Cultural Historian

**John Holden:** Independent author, researcher, and speaker. Former appointments include: Head of Culture at the think tank Demos, Visiting Professor University of Leeds and City University London, Honorary Professor University of Hong Kong, Trustee of the Clore Leadership Programme and The Hepworth Wakefield, member of Oxford University Arts and Humanities Advisory Board and the Arts and Humanities Research Council Advisory Board, Committee member at The Design Museum and The Royal Opera House, Chair of the Anvil, Basingstoke.