

Lesson 1: What makes Wollaton Hall a historically important building?

WILF: I can answer questions which explore why Wollaton Hall is a historically important building.

I can give my own hypotheses about what Nottingham was like at the time Wollaton Hall was built.



STATEMENT 1: *Wollaton Hall is an example of a prodigy house.*

Read the Wikipedia entry and answer the questions:

Prodigy house

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Prodigy houses are large and showy [English country houses](#) built by courtiers and other wealthy families, either "noble palaces of an awesome scale"^[1] or "proud, ambitious heaps"^[2] according to taste. The prodigy houses stretch over the periods of [Tudor](#), [Elizabethan](#), and [Jacobean architecture](#), though the term may be restricted to a core period of roughly 1570 to 1620.^[3] Many of the grandest were built with a view to housing [Elizabeth I](#) and her large retinue as they made their annual [royal progress](#) around her realm. Many are therefore close to major roads, often in the [English Midlands](#).

Qu 1: What is a prodigy house?

Qu 2: Why do you think Sir Francis Willoughby wanted a house built like this?

STATEMENT 2: *In a recent book about England's best houses Wollaton Hall was described as "the architectural sensation of its age".*

Qu 3: Use a dictionary or web search to find out what **architecture** is.

Visit the history section of the Wollaton Hall webpage using the link below. Take a look at the 1580 - 1588 entry on the timeline.

[History - Wollaton Hall](#)

Qu 4: Who is thought to have been the architect of Wollaton Hall?

Qu 5: What other important houses did he also design?

Qu 6: What about its design makes Wollaton Hall 'distinctive' and therefore a 'sensation of its age'?

STATEMENT 3: *Wollaton Hall is often described as one of the finest Elizabethan mansions.*

Carry out your own research in order to answer these last two questions.

Qu 7: Who was the monarch (king or queen) during Elizabethan times?

Qu 8: Find 3 facts about this monarch.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Plenary: My Hypotheses

What do you think Nottingham was like when Wollaton Hall was built?

I think _____

Also, I think _____

My reasons for this these things are _____

I would like to find out _____

