

The Homewood *by Jill Wilkins*



The Homewood ©National Trust/Andrew Stroud

Patrick Gwynne built his modernist masterpiece, The Homewood, for himself and parents and sister in 1938-39, when he was just 24. It replaced their rambling Victorian home on an 8-acre site in Esher. He acknowledged his sources as Corbusier and Ludwig Mies van der Rohe. He designed all the built-in furniture, light fittings and innovations such as en-suites and window mechanisms.

If you are lucky enough to visit on a fine day, you will have the opportunity to wander in the beautiful gardens, which flow seamlessly into the indoor space through the glass wall at the front of the building.



Dining Room ©NTPL Stuart Cox

Patrick Gwynne lived in The Homewood for about 60 years. In 1993 Gwynne offered The Homewood, the last great pre-war modern house, with its fittings and grounds intact to the National Trust. Avanti Architects worked with Gwynne to painstakingly restore the house. It is still occupied and cared for by National Trust tenants. Apart from information about the design and architecture of the house, the guided tour gives a fascinating insight into the family occasions, the parties and the lifestyle of Gwynne and his friends.

This is a great opportunity to visit a historic house, which is still enjoyed as a unique family home, in keeping with the intentions of its architect and owner.

Guided tours last 45 mins alternate Fridays and Saturdays between April and October (excluding the Easter weekend), tours start at 10.30am, 11.30am, 12.30pm, 2pm and 3pm.

Visits must be booked in advance by telephone or by email

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