

MOGULS & THEIR MONUMENTS

Introduction

David R. Anderson

The great secular architectural monuments of Europe are often the seats of aristocratic families or prominent ecclesiastical dynasties. The Hudson River Valley of New York, related in spirit in some ways to the Continent, is peppered with estates which bear names which are either fanciful evocations of Anglo-Saxonia or family names, but seldom approach the scale of their European counterparts. After the Civil War, American colleges and universities became, in a sense, the equivalent of the courts of Europe, and philanthropists invested in building programs which have perpetuated their memory. Western Reserve educational institutions and academic communities particularly benefitted from the largesse of wealthy benefactors who were able to commission some of the great examples of neo-European architecture.