

■ Lady Alison Ducie signs the visitors' book at Woodchester Mansion.

Paying a visit to home of ancestors

THE visitors' book at 20 historic Woodshester Mansion, near Stroud, has been signed by a member of the family who once owned the property.

Lady Alison Ducie, whose ancestors sold the park in 1845, added her name to the list of those who have inspected the building.

Her relatives owned the mansion and surrounding lands for 230 years before disposing of it to William Leigh in the last century.

Now Woodchester Mansion, home to rare bats, is a stonemason's training and conservation centre.

It will be open to the public this weekend, from today to Monday, and also on Saturday and Sunday September 4 and 5. Gates open at 11am, last admission 4pm.