

NEW YORK POST

24 HOURS A DAY

HISTORY'S SEXY SIDE

ENGLAND'S TUDOR PAST IS HOLLYWOOD'S LATEST

By GRETCHEN KELLY



Stately Burghley House stars in "The Golden Age"

November 6, 2007 -- IT'S Tudor mania, with the film "Elizabeth: The Golden Age", Scarlett Johansson's upcoming "Other Boleyn Girl" and Showtime's "The Tudors" making the old-time Royals everyone's favorite screwed up family.

When Dyas was looking for sites to shoot Cate Blanchett and her court, he first visited Hardwick Hall.

Although the Derbyshire estate didn't make the final cut for technical shooting reasons, Dyas recommends it as the perfect way to put yourself in a Tudor mood.

"The atmosphere was amazing," he recalls. "We got there just at sunset. You really feel that you've gone back in time to Elizabeth's day."

Hardwick's 400th anniversary is 2008, when the House will celebrate its origin as the showplace of Elizabethan housewife extraordinaire, Bess of Hardwick. The Martha Stewart of her day, Bess was known for her amazing housekeeping skills as well as her eye for interior design (nationaltrust.org.uk).

In the same region as Hardwick Hall, you'll find the The Peacock at Rowsley Hotel, a country house retreat owned by Lord Edward Manners of nearby ~~Chatsworth~~ *Haddon hall* House (which starred as a set for last year's "Pride and Prejudice").

The Peacock is where Scarlett Johansson and her Bulgarian bodyguard were quartered while Johansson was filming "The Other Boleyn Girl" (rooms from \$245, thepeacockatrowsley.com).