

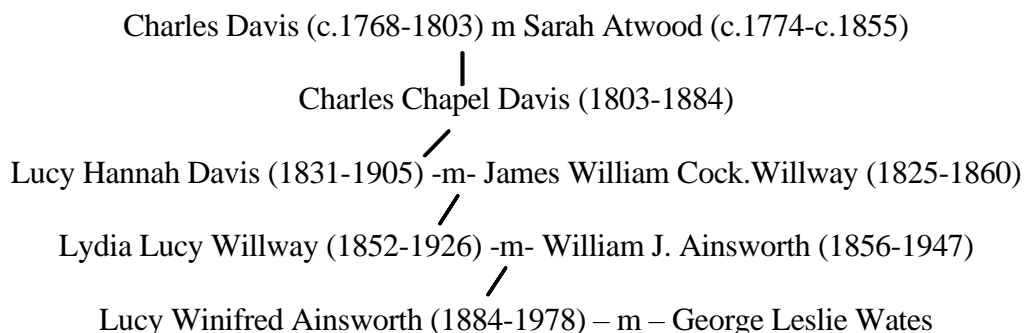
WATES FAMILY CHATTELS

Lucy Winifred Wates ("Lucy") and George Leslie Wates ("Leslie") had accumulated during their lives a large number of interesting items of furniture, pictures and ornaments that had belonged to past members of their families. These were all in their home at Rowhill Grange, Wilmington. After the death of Lucy in 1978 their children decided that, in order to avoid these things becoming scattered and lost to future generations, these together with some items acquired by or created by their parents which would be of particular interest to future generations should be put into a family trust. They were held by family members as Custodians.

In 2023 it was decided for various reasons that it was impractical to continue with the trust. It was therefore brought to an end by the ownership of all the items still remaining in the trust being transferred to members of the family, the understanding being that they would be kept in the family.

There follows a list of all the items that were in the trust together with a few historical notes about them and also information about some other items of interest. It would be helpful first to set out briefly the family trees of Lucy and Leslie to identify those persons mentioned in the notes.

Lucy's family



Many of the oldest items come from the Davis/Willway family in Bath and therefore have a common history. Lucy's grandmother Lucy Hannah Davis' family was a Bath family. [Item 23](#) is a portrait of her grandmother Sarah Davis (nee Atwood) and [item 22](#) of her great-grandmother. She married James W.C. Willway in 1849. He had recently come to Bath from Bristol to set up or take over a branch of the family dye works business. His maternal grandfather was William Cock – a furniture maker – see [item 1](#) They lived at 8 Walcot Terrace, which he had acquired in 1847 and where the business was carried on. James died of TB in 1860 at the age of 36 leaving Lucy Hannah to bring up the family and run the business on her own. Items [24 and 25](#) are photos of her. In the 1880s she moved with her unmarried children Mercy and Theophilus to Shirley Villa, Beechen Cliff, Bath, the business being taken over by her son William.

Lucy was born at 8 Walcot Terrace and remembers it well from her childhood. It is assumed that all the Davis/Willway items that subsequently came into her possession were situated at 8

Walcot Terrace and then Shirley Villa. These include items [2,3](#) [8](#) and [16](#). [Items 45 and 46](#) are portraits of her mother, Lydia.

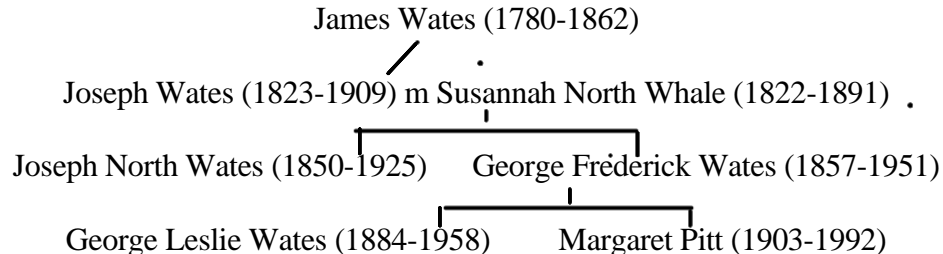
The Ainsworth family lived in Swindon. [Item 48](#) is the dining-room table they had there. In about 1920 they moved to Bath living at 7 Devonshire Buildings. Sometime after Lydia's death in 1926 William built himself a new house (one of the only redbrick ones in Bath) in Green Lane known as Pollard Ash.

After Theophilus's death in 1927 Mercy moved in with her sister Bessie Baillie at 47 Shakespeare Road. It was also at about this time that Rowhill Grange was purchased so it is probable that some of the contents of Shirley Villa went to 7 Devonshire Buildings (and then to Pollard Ash) and Rowhill at this time.

W.J.Ainsworth lived at Pollard Ash with his unmarried daughter Winifred until his death in 1944. Winifred looked after Mercy in her old age there and having inherited the property on her father's death lived there until her death in 1966. The contents were then split up and Lucy acquired other items which came to Rowhill or to Green Lane Gardens in Devon.

Lucy was a gifted artist, trained as an art teacher and this remained her hobby throughout her life. See [items 10](#) and [18-21](#). She had been encouraged by her mother's first cousin Alice Willway and [items 29 and 30](#) are two of her paintings.

Leslie's family



[Item 26](#) is the portrait of Leslie's great-grandfather, James. His grandfather, Joseph, whose photo is [item 31](#) married Susannah North Whale and there are two [items 14](#) and [38](#) that come from her. Items [6](#), [31](#) and [49](#) passed to Leslie under the will of Constance Wates, the wife of his uncle Joseph North Wates, they having no surviving children

Leslie's half-sister, Margaret Pitt, inherited their father's estate so some items came from her.

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1. Mahogany dining table made by William Cock

William Cock (1751-1843) was James Willway's maternal grandfather. He was a well-known cabinet maker in Bristol and is reputed to have made something for George Washington (he was in the United States from 1794-1798). There are other extant pieces of his furniture. Mary Ainsworth has a writing desk and clock, Philip Lace (see [item 29](#)), a Willway cousin, had a tallboy which he left to a museum in Bristol, and John Ainsworth's family have a sideboard.



Lucy remembered the laundry at Walcot Terrace being laid out on the table for collection by customers. It was in the dining-room at Rowhill Grange in the corner under the picture of James Wates

In 1977 Barbara became the Owner and it went to Cherry Hill, Sutton Valence and then 2 Moorland Close, Yelverton. Following her death in 2003 it was put in store in Launceston and in 2012 moved to Robert's house, Keeper's Cottage, Sutton Valence. He had plans to use it but died later that year and Martin now has it in store.

Owners:- Oliver and Caitlin Argles

2. Settee owned by Lucy Hannah Willway

Regency couch c.1830 with belstead ends and reeded mahogany frame. Lucy remembered sitting on it with her grandmother at Walcot Terrace. It was at Pollard Ash and came to Rowhill Grange after Winifred's death. There it was in the hall and was used by the dog Santa as a favourite place to lie, so in Brian's family it is known as Santa's Couch



In 1978 Brian became the Custodian, it was recovered at Ainsworth's expense, and it was at Brian's homes in Rollo Road and Claremont Road, Hextable and then Park Road and Miskin Road, Dartford. In 2011 it was moved to 19 Wyvern Close, Dartford, the property just purchased by Melanie Wates and Suzy Stevens, and Melanie paid for it to be recovered.

Owner:- Melanie Wates

3. Mirror owned by Lucy Hannah Willway



This was at Green Lanes and hung over the fireplace in the lounge. When the contents were distributed in 1991, on the acquisition of the main bungalow by Peter, it went to Katherine Laird

Owner:- Katherine Metcalf

4. Mahogany bracket clock - Leslie wedding present



Presented by the staff of Whale & Wates on his wedding in 1910. Leslie was a solicitor in Woolwich having joined his father's first cousin George Whale as a partner that year. It was on the windowsill at the end of the dining-room at Rowhill Grange. In 1977/8 Ainsworth became the Custodian and it was at Rowhill Mount on top of the old dresser until the distribution there in 2007 following Marianne's death when Anita became the Custodian and it is still at her house

Owner: - Lucy Metcalf

5. Mahogany clock - Leslie hospital presentation

Allocated to Bernard but missing for many years until identified after Joanna's death. It is in thanks for the work he did over many years as secretary of the committee responsible for the construction of the Woolwich War Memorial Hospital which was opened in 1927

Owner: -Jeremy Wates



6. 400 day clock in glass case

Belonged to Joseph North Wates, the elder brother of G.F.Wates. It was presumably acquired together with other items after his wife Constance's death in 1927. It was kept on the mantel piece in the Spare Room at Rowhill Grange.

The first Custodian was Barbara Argles (see [item 1](#) above) and she nominated Tim as her successor

Owner:- Tim Argles

7. Marble black clock - GFW choir presentation



This is inscribed: -"Presented to Mr.and Mrs.G.F.Wates by the members of the Raleigh Memorial Church Choir on the occasion of their leaving. 29th March 1886."

It was situated in the Drawing Room at the Grange on top of the black cabinet, and then went to Helen, so that it was at Tumblers Platt, Sutton Valence and then Well Park Lodge. Following Helen's death it went to Gavin at Sweet Meadow Farm and in 2019 passed to Celia.

Owner:-Celia Neill

8. "Duke of Wellington" fire screen



Owned by Lucy Hannah Willway. It has nothing to do with the Duke of Wellington. It is a picture of a soldier on horseback in a uniform which might be that of the Napoleonic Wars and Lucy gave it the name. It was in the Common Room at Rowhill Grange.

Lucy wrote the following note on the back in Aug 1975:-
"Firescreen - early 1800s. From my grandmother's private house in Bath. Probably a relic of the Napoleonic Wars. Remembered by me from the late years of the 1800s"

The original custodian was Ainsworth so it was in front of the fire place at Rowhill Mount until Marianne's death. It is now in Anita's possession.

Owner:- Anita Laird

9. Lucy Hannah Willway's bonnet



Shown in photograph, [item 24](#)

Owner:- Celia Neill

10. Lucy's embroidered screen

Made by Lucy probably late 1890s. The words are:-

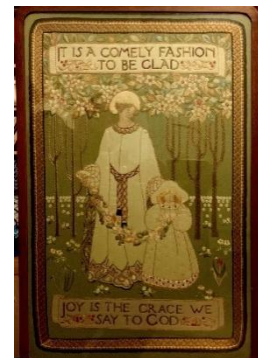
It is a comely fashion to be glad

Joy is the grace we say to God

The author of the words was Jean Ingelow who died in 1897.

The original custodian was Barbara and then Martin.

Owners:- Oliver and Caitlin Argles



11. Davis Sampler 1807



The following words are included:-"Sarah Davis. Her work aged 6. September 1807". Sarah was the sister of Charles Chapel Davis. She died at the age of 13.

The wording is as follows:-

I love my book
Yet sometimes play
Tho neither rude nor
Wild but with good
Boys and girls I stay
And am a happy child.

This, together with other samplers were in the dining-room at Rowhill Grange. This and item 12 were cleaned and reframed at the Victoria and Albert Museum by Helen and Barbara respectively

Owner:- Celia Neill

12. Davis Sampler 1809

Inscribed: - "Sarah Davis. Her work aged 8 Years September 18 1809.

The first verse is:-

See the kind Shepherd Jesus stands
And calls his sheep by name
Gathers the feeble in his arms
And feeds the tender lamb

Barbara was the custodian. See item 11. It was in Robert's possession after her death and Martin became custodian after his death in 2012

Owners:- Oliver and Caitlin Argles



13. Davis Sampler - girl with bird



Nothing seems to be known about this except that it came from the Davis family

Ainsworth was the first custodian and it was in the dining-room at Rowhill Mount. Anita then became the custodian and it is still at her house

Owner:- Daniel Metcalf

14. Susannah North Whale Sampler

It was at High-above-Park with Joanna Wates as the custodian. It was described in the trust deed as the North Sampler' this being her second name and her mother's maiden name. This is because she only inscribed her two forenames.

The wording is:-



Happy the wise and virtuous youth
Who pays a strict regard to truth
Nor pleasure, pain nor youthful health
Nor raised hope of flowing wealth
Nor prosperous gales nor checking rod,
Can tempt him to offend his God

Owner:- Oliver Wates

15. Engraved silver war commemoration bowl



Presented in Mar 1945 to Leslie and Lucy by various friends who stayed at Rowhill Grange during the war and inscribed “To applaud the escape of Rowhill from bombs, incendiaries, doodle bugs and rockets. 1940 – 1945”. Their signatures were engraved.

They are as follows:-

Leslie’s childhood friend Geoff Blomfield, his wife Chris, her brother Don Reid and their children Marigold, Anne, June and Joy. It was Don Reid who initiated and organised the presentation of the bowl.

George and Walla. Walla was Madge Munroe (see [item 21](#))

W.Bowmaker. Originally a business acquaintance of Leslie he became a close friend of the family.

Elsbeth. This was Elspeth Lawson, a cousin on the Davis side of the family, who subsequently married Robin Cole. She was in the WAAF as a signals linguist stationed not far away.

Mary and John. This is thought to be Helen’s friend Mary Winder, whose married name was Williamson

Rosemary. Thought to be Rosemary Baker, a friend of Barbara’s who ran the English hospital at Cannes

In her letter of thanks to Geoff and Chris Blomfield Lucy wrote:- “It seems to me to be a sort of monument to all those who shared at some time or another with us and I feel that, although it cannot be divided into pieces, the future generation should look upon it as our cup. The trophy belongs to that circle of friends who went through that terrible time together”

It was kept in the Drawing Room at the Grange. Ainsworth became the custodian and one day could not find it and was distraught thereafter, assuming it had been stolen. Sadly it was not until after his death in 2002 that it was found in the loft at Rowhill Mount. It remained at Rowhill Mount until Marianne’s death in 2007

Owner:- Anthony Wates

6. Coalport tea set

Helen remembers Lucy saying that she remembers her grandmother, Lucy Hannah Willway, using the teapot but this is the only information we have. It has been much used. The teapot is stained and the spout chipped. Many pieces have been carefully repaired with rivets, a skill not known today.

Helen was the first custodian

Owner:- Celia Neill



17. Mercy Davis' wedding dress and Victorian carriage cloak

Mercy Davis, who was married in 1868 but died in 1869 at the age of 26, was Lucy Hannah Willway's sister.

In her diary on the 9th June 1880 Bessie (Lydia's sister) refers to unpicking her aunt Mercy's silk dress. Perhaps it was this one.

Barbara originally showed Mrs. Rosemary Hawthorne, wife of former vicar of Langley, near Maidstone, where Barbara used to attend church, as custodian. She had a costume collection, does broadcasts and has written books. Website <http://www.rosemaryhawthorne.co.uk/>. However I have been in touch with her and she said it was a gift and when they moved into a small house in 2001 on her husband's retirement the collection was broken up. She does not know where it is now. It was used in an exhibition in 1993 at Tetbury Parish Church, Gloucestershire.

18. Lucy's sketches of Rowhill

Barbara was the Custodian. Initially they had not come to light after her death but were found among Robert's possessions after his death in 2012. Martin took photographs which are on Brian's website - <http://www.brian-wates.co.uk/Lucypaintings/rowhillpaintings.html>

Owner:- Oliver and Caitlin Argles

19. Lucy's pencil sketch books.

In 1996 Barbara broke these up and framed selections which were distributed amongst the family. They can also be seen on the website.

20. Lucy's framed drawing made at age 8



Helen was first Custodian, and it is still at Wellpark Lodge, Green Lanes

Owner:- Alec Grant

21. Water colour of St.Mary Redcliffe, Bristol by Lucy

Painted when Lucy was an art student in Bristol. In between sessions she left it behind a tombstone in the church. Eventually because of other distractions she forgot it. Many years later, on visiting the church she looked at the place she had left it and it was still there !

Barbara Argles remembers it well hanging at Sunnyside, North Road, Eltham, their home before Rowhill, at the bottom of the stairs.

It was given or lent by Lucy to Madge Munroe. As Madge Wallis she became a close friend of the family through Girl Guides in the 1930s. She ran the Girl Guides at Darent Hospital and introduced various servants to Rowhill Grange including Edie, Sarah and Joyce. She married George Munroe and moved to Edinburgh. After her death in the 1980s Helen had great difficulty in retrieving this and other Lucy paintings from her estate. Barbara was the Custodian.

It was assumed to be in Robert's possession as Custodian but it was not found after his death in 2012

22. Small portrait of Elizabeth Atwood (approx 1730-1833)



Mother of Sarah Davis (next item)

Helen was the first Custodian and it hung at Wellpark Lodge

Owner:- Janet Grant

23. Large portrait of Sarah Davis (approx 1774-1855)

This used to hang in the dining-room at Rowhill Grange over Lucy's desk. The following is a note I made after speaking to Lucy in 1965:



"The picture of the old lady in the dining-room is Charles Chapel Davis' mother. It was supposed to have been painted by Thomas (presumably an error for James) Hardy, painter of animal pictures. One of the reasons for this belief is that CCD also had a painting of a fox's head by that painter. Grandma remembers one of the aunts, Bessie, buying it from Charles Edmund Davis (CCD's son) for £10 to help him out of his financial difficulties. She then gave it to Grandma after the move to Rowhill. It was very dirty so Grandma took it to be cleaned and the cleaners said it was a good painting but were surprised to hear it was by Hardy. So were the latter's nieces when they visited Rowhill on another matter, but they were persuaded that it was by him."

Charles Chapel Davis left the portrait to his son by his will

In a letter from Lucy Hannah's sister, Sarah Goulter, to her nephew, Theophilus, in 1912 she says that she remembers "James Hardy, the portrait painter, eldest son of Mr. Hardy of Henrietta St who was a Baptist preacher.....who was just a rising artist asked permission to paint my grandmother, as she had such a fine old lady's face..."

My research shows that James Hardy Jnr was born in 1832 and lived all his life in Bristol. His father James Hardy snr was a landscape painter – no indication that he was a Baptist preacher but he might have been as well. The dates would fit. As a young man of 20 he could have painted her aged 78

Helen was the first Custodian and it hung in the hall at Wellpark Lodge. It was her wish that Janet and then Samantha should be Custodians

Owner:- Janet Grant

24. Large portrait photograph of Lucy Hannah Willway

Hung in Lucy's bedroom at the Grange

At Green Lanes until taken over by Peter. Brian became the Custodian and it now hangs over the piano at 48 Miskin Road

Owner:- Melanie, Neill and Douglas Wates



25. Large photograph of Lucy Hannah Willway standing

Barbara was the Custodian. It was then in Robert's possession and Martin became the Custodian after his death in 2012

Owner:- Oliver and Caitlin Argles

26. Large portrait of James Wates (1780-1862)

Owned by Joseph North Wates, having presumably inherited it from his father Joseph, James' youngest son, inherited by his widow Constance, who died in 1927 and given by her will to Leslie. It hung at the end of the dining-room at Rowhill Grange. Taken by Bernard in the 1977/78 distribution and hangs at High-above-Park, Selside, Kendal in the 'music' room.

A very important item as he has probably thousands of descendants and we are fortunate to have it— see Wates Family Saga

Owner:- Jeremy Wates



27. Painting of Leslie by Sir Gerald Kelly



Commissioned by Johnson & Phillips Ltd and hung in their boardroom. Leslie was chairman and joint managing director of Johnson & Phillips, a cable making company in Charlton, near Woolwich, for which he had acted as solicitor all his career. The picture was completed in 1950 and was displayed in the Royal Academy that year.

When the company was taken over by Delta Metal in 1964 it was given by the company to Ainsworth Wates who was a director. He was also given Johnson's inkpot which is featured in the picture. In the first edition of this I wrote: "The latter is still in his possession and will be returned to the Johnson family after his death." I don't remember it materialising after his death. May be he had already returned it.

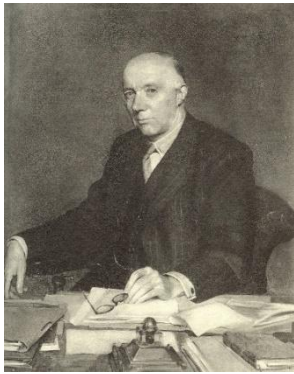
As Ainsworth was not able to hang the picture it remained boxed up in the apple-packing shed at Rowhill Mount until Brian was able to hang it in 48 Miskin Road in 1992.

I wrote in the first edition of this schedule : "Greenwich University would be interested in borrowing the picture if it cannot be accommodated by the family, the university being the successor to the Woolwich Polytechnic of which Leslie had been chairman of the governors." In fact the university now has another copy as mentioned below

Owner:- Corin Wates but it remains in the possession of Brian Wates

28. Copy painting of Leslie by Gerald Kelly

Lucy admired the original painting so much that Leslie commissioned a copy for himself. This was painted partly by the artist and partly by his studio from the original. Differences can be noticed in the papers on the desk. It hung in the Common Room at the Grange, then on the stairs at Cherry Hill and in Barbara's sitting room at 2 Moorland Close. Robert had it at Keeper's Cottage and after his death in 2012 Gavin took it to hang at Sweet Meadow Farm..



A copy was also commissioned by the Woolwich Equitable Building Society of which Leslie was also chairman. This copy does not include the Johnson inkpot. It hung in the board room of the old building society. To enable it to continue to be displayed, in 1997 Ainsworth arranged for it to be lent to Greenwich University (Leslie having been chairman of the governors of Woolwich Polytechnic) and it hung in the board room at Southwood House for a while. In 2004 it was hung in the Council chamber of the university in the old Naval College at Greenwich (see photo)



Owner:- Oliver and Caitlin Argles

28a. Framed photo of no.28

Brian was in possession of this and donated it to the trust in 2014.

Owner:- Celia Neill

29 Painting of white house in trees by Alice Willway



Alice Willway (1861-1934) was Lydia's first cousin, daughter of James W.C. Willway's brother John Sweet Willway who ran the family business in Bristol.

She lived in Bristol and when Lucy was at the Bristol School of Art she was very encouraging and helpful

The painting was given to Lucy by Alice's nephew, Philip Lace, when Lucy and I visited him in Bristol in the 1960s. It hung (I think) in Joyce Shepherd's sitting room at the Grange and it was then at her flat in Swanley from 1976 until she moved into a nursing home in 1992. It now hangs with Lucy paintings at 48 Miskin Road

Its original frame was supplied by a firm in 84 Whiteladies Road, Bristol – Ref.No. 1681/31

Owner:- Melanie, Neill and Douglas Wates

30. Painting of Carbis Bay, Cornwall by Alice Willway

See last item for information on Alice Willway. This painting hung in the Spare Room at the Grange. In 1976/7 it was taken by Bernard but Joanna did not have space for it so sometime after 1984 it went to Green Lanes, from where Helen passed it to Alec, presumably in the 1991 distribution, by whom it was reframed. In 2010 on a visit to Cornwall he identified the exact site of the painting

There was affixed to the original mount a ticket with the address "19 Beaconsfield R. [illegible - assumed "Road"] Clifton" and a price "£3 - 3 - 0.



Owner:- Alec Grant

31. Framed photograph of Joseph Wates



Taken on his 80th birthday 23rd July 1903. Owned by Joseph North Wates and inherited by Leslie from Constance. In her book Lucy refers to it as one of the lasting memories of Grandfather Joseph, the other being his desk (now in the possession of Oliver Wates). Margaret Pitt was the first Custodian. After her death in 1992 it remained in the possession of her daughter Naomi in Harrow until collected by Brian and it now hangs at 48 Miskin Road

Owner:- Melanie, Neill and Douglas Wates

32. Two books presented to G.F.Wates by Colfes Grammar School

Ainsworth was the Custodian and there were four in the list of books prepared after Marianne's death including two volumes of Macauley's History of England. The other two are missing and may have inadvertently been included in a sale.



Owner – Melanie, Neill and Douglas Wates



33. Memento books and poems given to Leslie and Lucy by children and grandchildren

In about 1998 it was decided that these were not really appropriate to keep in the trust and they were distributed to the people from whom they originated.

Until then Helen Grant was the Custodian

34. 1870 map of North-West Kent



Given to Leslie by W.C.Johnson. Ainsworth was the original Owner. There is some confusion over this. It had been assumed that it was the map in this photo which hung at the end of his life in his study upstairs at Rowhill Mount. However, this is in fact an older map given to Ainsworth by his secretary Dot Guntrip and is now in Anita's possession. The whereabouts of the 1870 map is unknown.

35. Joseph Wates' hymn book

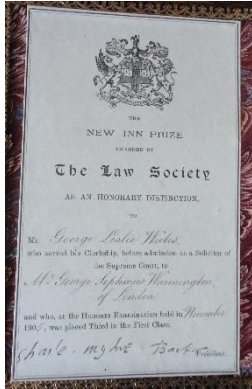
Custodian:- was Margaret Pitt, but the book has not come to light since her death

36. Willway family bible

This is an old 17th century bible which belonged to James William Cock Willway and records information about him and Lucy Hannah and their children. Its earlier history is not known – possibly he just bought it second hand.

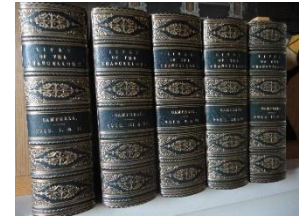
Owner:- Peter Argles

37. Leslie's New Inn prize



Leslie came third in the country in the Law Society honours exam in 1905 and won these books as the prize. They were in the bookcase in his study, which Brian now has.

a) Lives of the Lord Chancellors
Custodian was Ainsworth Wates, then Brian Wates and at present in his possession
Owner:- Edward Argles

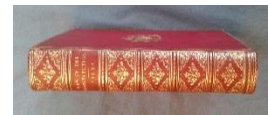


b) Lives of the Chief Justices
Custodian was Robert Argles, then Brian Wates and at present in his possession.

Owner:-Edward Argles

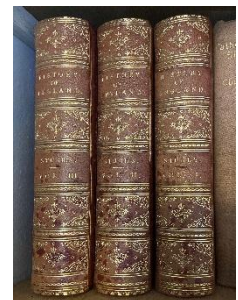
c) Dicey's Law of the Constitution

Owner – Alec Grant



d) Stubbs' History of England. Joanna was the Custodian

Owner:- Rosalind Wates



There are also some well used reference books believed to be part of the prize in Janet Grant's possession which were not included in the trust.

38. One book belonging to Susannah Whale

This is "Expositions on some of the most highly picturesque and interesting passages of Scripture" by Daniel Turner of Woolwich published in 1790. She has signed her name on the inside cover, so this would have been before her marriage to Joseph Wates in 1846.

The Custodian was Margaret Pitt and there were three others, namely Letters of a young prince, Poems and essays, and one other, but these must have been disposed of after her death as Naomi was only able to find Expositions, which is now in Brian's possession.

Brian did have two other books inscribed with her name which were at Tumblers Platt. These were "Public characters of 1806" and "Letters the Stranger in Reading", but he cannot now find them !

Owner:- Melanie, Neill and ~Douglas Wates

39. "The History of a Marriage"

Barbara Argles' "scrap books". This tremendous work has been compiled from original material such as letters, photographs, diaries and other documents kept by Lucy and Leslie covering their whole lives. It is four volumes, each covering about a decade, up to 1939. She had planned to continue but did not succeed

Owner:- Peter Argles

40. Family letters, papers and photographs

Owner:- Brian Wates

41. Copper plate of canal dated 1810

This is one of 5 plates which were in the possession of W.J.Ainsworth who was the last manager of the Wilts & Berks canal. Helen was the first Custodian and it went to Samantha after her death. In 2023 it was given to the Wilts & Berks Canal Trust. It was always assumed to be part of the canal but in fact it turned out to a proposed canal which was not constructed.

WJA's son, Regg, must have had one as it passed down through his son Lyn to granddaughter Mary who gave it to the Wilts & Berks Canal Trust at the same time. This one was the western end of the canal.

The other 3 were with WJA's son Norman. They passed to his son John and then his daughter Elisabeth in Canada. They are also being donated to the Canal Trust. They consist of the eastern end of the canal and another proposed canal.

42. Two-poster canopy bed belonging to Lucy Hannah Willway

This was at Pollard Ash. After Winifred's death it was acquired by Anita who had just got married (being collected from the house and temporarily stored by Gavin). Anita has added it to the trust. It was stored in the barn at High-above-Park for some years until about 1990, since when Anita has used it as her bed.

It is believed that Lucy was born in it.

Owner:- Katherine Metcalf



43. Silver platter presented to Leslie



Inscribed “Christmas 1944 – to – G.Leslie Wates – With all good wishes from Stanley Passmore, Cecil Austin and Phillip Randall”. These were his partners in J.D.Langton & Passmore at the time.

This was in the possession of Ainsworth and added to the trust after his death

Owner – Anthony Wates

44. Epergne centre piece presented to Joseph Wates

This is inscribed:- “Presented to Joseph Wates Esquire by the directors, solicitor and secretary of the West Kent Dwellings Company. February 1879. It was acquired by Ainsworth in the Rowhill Grange distribution and by Anthony following Marianne’s death. Anthony added it to the trust.

Owner:- Anthony Wates



45 Miniature of Lydia Willway



This was acquired by Ainsworth in the distribution and it hung at Rowhill Mount to the left of the fire place in the sitting room. Following Marianne’s death it was added to the trust

Owner:- Marianne Miller

46 Miniature of Lydia Willway aged 16

Given to Anita by Lucy and she added it to the trust
Owner:- Anita Laird



47. Gong



This was under the front stairs at Rowhill Grange and used to be struck at meal times to notify those in the house that the meal was ready. In a letter written to Lucy, when on her honeymoon, by her mother she informs her that her brother, Bertram’s, present had arrived

,being a gong with a special design, so probably this is it. It went to Anthony in the distribution and he added it to the trust

Owner:- Anthony Wates

48. Victorian dining table

This is the table shown in this photo of the Ainsworth family with Willway relatives on Christmas Day 1902 at their house, Summerville, Swindon. It is at Green Lanes and was added to the trust by Peter.



Owner:- Peter Argles

49. The Aeolian Orchestrelle Organ

This was in the back passage at Rowhill Grange. It was given to Leslie by Constance's will. It was decided not to retain this in the trust as there were no volunteers to house it, and it was donated in 1984 to the St Albans Organ Museum. Martin thinks that it is now at Brentford Organ Museum.

50. Joseph Wates framed resolutions

These were not in the trust but had been stored at Rowhill Grange and then by Ainsworth at Rowhill Mount. The resolutions are to record thanks for his services to the Woolwich Equitable Building Society over 38 years upon his retirement as chairman in 1901. They are two – one by the shareholders (photo shown) and one by the directors. They have been renovated by the present owners. The former is owned by Stephen Wates and the latter by Paul Bartholomew, both descendants of Joseph by his son Edward Arthur Wates.



51 Tonic-Sol-fa medals



There were three medals found at High-above-Park after Joanna's death. In 1899 Joseph Wates was presented with Pioneer Medal for his generous and active support of the movement for 45 years. The other two medals may also have been his or his son George Frederick's who was also a teacher of Tonic Sol-Fa.

Owner:- Daniel Metcalf

52 Susannah North sampler

Susannah North was the grandmother of Susannah Whale who married Joseph Wates, Her dates were 1793-1843.

Owner:- Oliver North Wates

Note about other items from Rowhill Grange

This is just to record information I have about the present whereabouts of some of the Rowhill Grange furniture.

I have the bookcase from Leslie's study, the hall table, the wardrobe given to him by the family on his 70th birthday and the display cabinet from the Drawing Room.

Oliver has Joseph's desk,

Leslie's desk went to Bernard and Lucy's to Helen. I don't know who has them.

Martin has the Chinese cabinet from the hall

Robert had the bookcase from the Nursery at his Chambers in London and Samantha took it after his death.

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