

The Thomas Bernard Mills Collection

Thomas Bernard Mills was born on June 12th 1906 in Cowfold, West Sussex. He spent his early years with his parents and brother at Reading Room Cottage, Church Terrace, Cowfold.

Mills left school at 14 years old to go into service with Dame Alice Godman at her London home. He later returned to Cowfold to work for Fowler Brothers of Cowfold where he spent the rest of his working life except for a break for his war service from April 10th 1941 to November 28th 1945.

Mills was Clerk to the Cowfold Parish Council from 1955 to 1972 and churchwarden at St Peter's Church, Cowfold from 1956 to 1988. He was a local historian for the village with a deep knowledge of the area he lived in. He took many photographs during his lifetime, which he used for the numerous slide shows that he gave to a range of clubs and institutes illustrating the history of Cowfold and Sussex. He took up painting when he retired using his slides as source material for his paintings.

After his death the people of Cowfold made a collection to purchase a memorial for the man who had made such an effort to record and present the history of their village. A wooden bench inscribed in his memory now stands in the village cricket field.

Thomas Mills died on 5th June 1989 in Horsham.

1993.1218 20th century oil painting of a view on the Sussex coast; 'Sussex Downs'; signed 'T B Mills' recto.



1993.1233 20th century oil painting; signed 'T B Mills' recto; 'Coombes Church, Sussex' verso; near Lancing, West Sussex.



1993.1221

20th century (1951-1970) oil painting of the Jack and Jill windmills on the South Downs; signed 'T B Mills' recto; verso 'Jack and Jill Clayton Hill'.



2006.113.117

20th century watercolour painting; signed 'T B Mills' recto.



1993.1198

20th century watercolour painting; signed recto 'T B Mills' and dated '12-6-82'.



2006.113.
140.1

20th century (1941-1960) pencil drawing; artist T B Mills of Cowfold, West Sussex; unsigned;



1993.1206

20th century (1950-1980) oil painting; signed recto 'T B Mills'; text verso 'Sussex Barn'.



1993.1214.1 20th century (1950-1980) oil painting; signed recto 'T B Mills'; verso 'Hillfoot?'



1993.1202 20th century (1950-1980) watercolour painting; signed recto 'T B Mills'.



2006.113.118 20th century unfinished pencil drawing; artist T B Mills.



1993.1281 20th century oil painting; signed 'T B Mills' recto.



2006.113.138 Eight 20th century (c.1970s) watercolour paintings; artist T B Mills; unsigned; contained in an artist's book; some pictures are possibly of Cowfold, West Sussex, the others are holiday sketches.



1993.1214.2 20th century (1950-1980) oil painting; signed recto 'T B Mills'; verso 'Hillfoot?'



2006.113.139. 20th century (1920) drawing book of sketches and watercolour paintings by T B Mills of Cowfold dated 1920; unsigned.



1993.1285 20th century oil painting; signed, 'T B Mills' recto; 'Long House, Cowfold' verso; Perryfield Lane, Cowfold, West Sussex



1993.1212 20th century oil painting; signed 'T B Mills' recto; 'Old Barn, Eastlands' verso; Cowfold, West Sussex.



1993.1231 20th century oil painting; signed 'T B Mills' recto; 'Kings Barn, Kent Street, Cowfold' verso.



1993.1236 20th century oil painting former almshouses built c. late 17th Century and restored in 1929; signed 'T B Mills' recto; 'Margaret's Cottages, Cowfold' verso.



1993.1204 20th century oil painting; signed 'T B Mills' recto; verso 'Cottages, Cowfold Church Yard'.



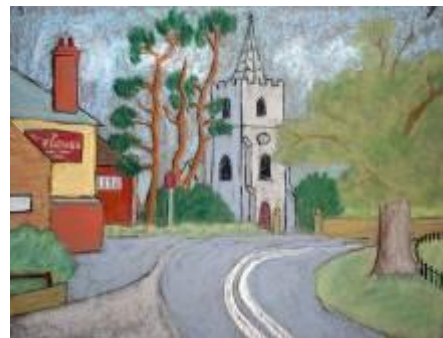
1993.1215 20th century (1950-1980) watercolour painting; signed recto 'T B Mills'; text verso 'Steyne House' [Henfield Road, Cowfold].



1993.1203 20th century (1960-1980) oil painting; signed recto 'T B Mills'; text verso 'Capons, Cowfold'.



2006.113.116 20th century chalk drawing; artist T B Mills; probably the 'Plough' public house and Holy Trinity Church, Lower Beeding, West Sussex; unsigned.



2006.113.140.2 20th century (1941-1960) pen and ink drawing; signed 'T B Mills'.



2006.113.140.3 20th century (1941-1960) pencil drawing; text recto 'The Old Bull Inn - Shermanbury'; signed 'T B Mills'.



1993.1201 20th century (1950-1980) pen and ink; signed recto 'T B Mills'; text recto 'Peppersgate'; text verso 'Peppersgate, Lower Beeding'.



1993.1234 20th century watercolour painting of St Giles Church, Shermanbury, West Sussex; signed recto 'T B Mills' and dated 1968.



1993.1217

20th century (1950-1980) oil painting of a group of buildings covered with several signs; signed recto 'T B Mills'; text verso 'Blacksmith's Shop, Cowfold'.



1993.1207

20th century (1950-1970) watercolour; signed recto 'T B Mills'; text verso possibly 'Long House' [Perryfield Lane, Cowfold c.17th Century Grade II listed].



1993.1235

20th century oil painting looking towards St Hugh's Charterhouse, Parkminster, Cowfold, West Sussex; South Downs in the distance; signed 'T B Mills' recto; 'Cowfold Monastery' verso; date unknown.



1993.1222

20th century (1950-1980) oil painting; signed 'T B Mills' recto; text verso 'Stopham Bridge'; near Pulborough, West Sussex.



1993.1209

20th century oil painting; verso 'Boshotts, West Grinstead'; signed 'T B Mills' recto.



1993.1216 20th century pastel drawing of the 'Cat House' in Henfield, West Sussex; signed recto 'T B Mills'.



1993.1205 20th century (1960) watercolour painting looking towards St Hugh's Charterhouse, Parkminster, West Sussex with the South Downs in the distance; signed 'T B Mills 1960' recto; 'Cowfold Monastery' verso.



1993.1213 20th century pen and wash drawing; text 'Old Steine House'; signed recto 'T B Mills'; text verso 'Old Steine House, Brighton Road, Cowfold'.



1993.1220 20th century (1950-1980) pastel drawing of a half timbered; verso text 'Capons, Cowfold'; artist T B Mills; unsigned.



1993.1232

20th century (1950-1980) oil painting; signed recto 'T B Mills'; text verso 'Jarvis Cottage' [Cowfold].



1993.1223

20th century (1979) watercolour; signed and dated recto 'TB Mills, 1979'; verso text 'Goodgers'; [Goodger's Farmhouse, Cowfold].



1993.1228

20th century oil painting; signed 'T B Mills' recto; 'Old Eastlands' verso; Eastlands Farm, Eastlands Lane, Cowfold, West Sussex.



1993.1282

20th century (1966-1989) oil painting; signed recto 'T B Mills'.

