

Dear Misters Morgan and Robins (email contacts, below),

On behalf of the Transferware Collectors Club, an international non-profit organization dedicated to the education and preservation of printed British Pottery and Porcelain based in the United States, I write to you to express our keen interest in the retention and preservation of the world-renown Willett Collection at the Brighton Museum.

This incredible collection of major historical and social significance assembled through a lifetime of collecting by Henry Willett and funded by substantial grants from the DCMSWolfson Foundation and the Jerwood Foundation must be retained in its current location at the museum. The collection is used by students of British history, Design History and the Design and Craft course and has inspired significant work by students at the University of Sussex. Indeed, it serves as an important research resource for students and authors of British ceramics throughout the world.

Relegating this important collection to storage would be a serious loss to the Museum's offerings to school pupils, scholars, collectors and everyone interested in British history. The idea that museum attendance will increase if Ceramics are removed and replaced by Archaeological objects is not supported by facts. Popularity of the Willett gallery and its historic content and corresponding museum attendance depends on the Brighton and Hove Councils support to re-establish the post of curator of the collection and proper funding for special events and publicity. It is inconceivable that the collection of Henry Willett, a founding father of the Museum, could be removed from the public's eye.

It is our sincere wish that the Councils make the right decision which is to re-dedicate it's support to the revitalization of the Willett Collection in its current location and properly fund it in order to re-establish a dedicated curator and support publicity and collection-related events.

Sincerely,
Loren L. Zeller
President
The Transferware Collectors Club

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