

Wills, Trenwith Lovering 1891 - 1972

Trenwith Lovering Wills [commonly known as Trenwith Wills] was born in Oxton, Birkenhead, Cheshire, England on 14 February 1891. He studied architecture at Liverpool University School of Architecture from 1908 to 1910 and was awarded a Cert. Arch. in 1910. He then was employed in the office of Detmar Blow and Fernand Billerey (1878-1951) in London from 1910 to 1920. During these years he also attended Royal Academy Schools in London. His studies and his work with Blow and Billerey were interrupted by World War One in which he served in the Army in Egypt.

Wills commenced independent practice as an architect in London in c.1921. From 1923 he was in partnership with [Gerald Wellesley](#) (1885-1972) as [Lord Gerald Wellesley & Trenwith Wills](#) [and as Wellesley & Wills]. They had offices at 24a Yeomans Row, Chelsea and from 1935 at 19 Keats Grove, Hampstead, London. The partnership was dissolved in 1943 when Wellesley became the 7th Duke of Wellington.

Following World War Two, Wills worked alone until 1949 when he was joined by Simone Louise P. Linssen (1914-1994). They married in 1951 and formed the architectural partnership Trenwith Wills & Wills.

Wills was a Tite Prizeman in 1914 and was awarded the Victory Scholarship in 1920. He was elected an Associate of the Royal Institute of British Architects (ARIBA) in 1920 and a Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects (FRIBA) in 1939.

His address was given as 35 Kingsland Road, Tranmere, Birkenhead in 1891; Church Road, Formby, Liverpool in 1901; 10 Gauden Road, Clapham, London in 1911; 5, Bedford Row, London in 1922; Ormonde House, North Gate, Regent's Park, London in 1930; Abbey House, Baker Street, London in 1935 and 1939; and High Jumps Cottage, Jumps Road, Churt, Farnham, Surrey, and 24 Yeomans Row, Chelsea. He died in Churt, Farnham, Surrey on 7 October 1972

Worked in
UK
Works

War Memorial at Hightown, Lancs, 1920; and for the Royal Academy 1921; the Royal Institute of British Architects, 1921; the Royal School of Mines, 1921; the Royal College of Science, 1921; the Engineering College, 1921; Kensington Borough Council Staff, 1921. Alterations and additions to the Malthouse, Selsey, Sussex, 1921. In partnership with Gerald Wellesley: — Alterations and additions to Sherfield Court, Hants, 1922; additions to Inverchapel Lodge, Argyllshire, 1922; War memorial. Buckland, Berkshire, 1922; Goddard's Farm, Hants, 1923; alterations and additions to the Warren House, Stanmore, Middlesex, 1923; additions, Nalldridge Manor, Bucks, 1924; decorations, ball room, 23, Belgrave Square 1924; and other London houses. [Source: Who's Who in Architecture 1926]

Bibliography

Fonthill Recovered: A Cultural History. Edited by Caroline Dakers. London: UCL Press, 2018

'Obituary'. Building vol. 223, no. 44, 13 October 1972

'Obituary'. RIBA Journal vol. 80, March 1973 p. 163

Sharples, Joseph, Powers, Alan and Shippobottom, Michael. Charles Reilly & the Liverpool School of Architecture 1904-1933. Catalogue of an exhibition at the Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool, 25 October 1996 - 2 February 1997. Liverpool: Liverpool University Press, 1996 p. 180 [May contain other references to Wills, unfortunately, the catalogue is not indexed]

Tinniswood, Adrian. Noble Ambitions. The Rise and Fall of the Post-War Country House. London: Vintage Digital, 2021.

Who's Who in Architecture 1926. Edited by Frederick Chatterton. London: Architectural Press, 1926

Links

- National Trust

<https://www.nationaltrustcollections.org.uk/results?Maker=Trenwith%20Lovering%20Wills%201972%29>

- Twentieth Century Society - Portland House, Weymouth

<https://c20society.org.uk/casework/portland-house-weymouth>

- Historic England - Church of St. Mary and St. George, Buckinghamshire

<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1125190>

- Historic England - Hightown War Memorial

<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1452923>

- Historic England - Almshouses, Coxwold, North Yorkshire
<https://historicengland.org.uk/services-skills/education/educational-images/almshouses-coxwold-7184>
- Historic England - Almshouses, Coxwold, Yorkshire
<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1293526>
- Historic England - Cope House, Kensington, London
<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1224081>
- Historic England - Portland House, Dorset
<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1389662>
- Historic England - 15 Kensington Palace Gardens, London
<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1224113>
- Historic England - Cottesbrooke Hall, Cottesbrooke, Northamptonshire
<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1001028>
- The National Archives
<https://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/details/c/F74559>
- UK Modern House
http://www.ukmoho.co.uk/html/architect/Trenwith_Wills_Wills.html
- National Trust - Portland House
<https://heritagerecords.nationaltrust.org.uk/HBSMR/MonRecord.aspx?uid=MNA140495>
- Fonthill Recovered: A Cultural History. Edited by Caroline Dakers. London: UCL Press, 2018 [Open access] <https://www.jstor.org/stable/j.ctv1xz0t0.28?seq=1>
- Lorraine Gibson. Weymouth's Art Deco dream. Dorset Life
<http://www.dorsetlife.co.uk/2017/08/weymouths-art-deco-dream/>
- London Remembers <https://www.londonremembers.com/subjects/trenwith-wills>