Drawings done by Bessie Darling Inglis (1902-1999) for Thomas Nelson and Sons for a book on ‘Plants of the Bible’, text by Dr Harold R. Fletcher. The book was not published.

Note by by D. M. Henderson, Regius Keeper, dated 18 July 1979, on paper headed Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh EH3 5LR

This gift of plant illustrations was made by Miss Bessie Inglis in 1978 to the Edinburgh Botanic Garden Trust to be deposited in the Royal Botanic Garden Library. Many of the illustrations were prepared to accompany the text to be written by Dr H R Fletcher, the Regius Keeper of the Garden to form a book on the ‘Plants of the Bible.’ The work progressed before about 1952 but one understands that the project was dropped because of Dr Fletcher’s departure to Wisley and because of news that another book was about to appear on the same subject.

Note:

Some of Miss Inglis’s plates were exhibited (place and date of exhibition not known), and some of them were sold, presumably plates nos. 1, 16, 32, 34, 36, 37, 40, 61, 62, 64, 65, 76, and 80.

# Box 1: Plates 1-20

| **Box Number**  | **Plate Number** | **Scientific Name** | **Common Name** | **Medium** | **Size** | **Notes (mounted/unmounted, etc.)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **1** | 1 |  |  |  |  | Not donated  |
| **1** | 2 | Prunus amygdalus Batsch | Almond | Pencil |  | Framed. Painted pink. |
| **1** | 3 | Pterocarpus santalinus | Almug or Algum tree | Pencil |  | Framed. Monochrome. |
| **1** | 4 | Aquilaria agalocha Roxb. | Aloes | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **1** | 5 | Anethum graveoleus | Anice | Pencil |  | Framed. Monochrome. |
| **1** | 6 | Malus pumila Milne | Apple | Pencil |  | No frame. Painted apple-red. |
| **1** | 7 | Pistacia lentiscus Linn. Commiphora opobalsamum Engl. | Balm and Balm of Gilead | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **1** | 8 | Species of Hordeum Lolium temulentum Linn.  | Barley Tare | Pencil |  | Plastic cover missing. a-d emarkings. No frame. |
| **1** | 9 | Lauru s nobilis Linn. | Bay tree | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **1** | 10 | Vicia faba Linn. | Bean | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **1** | 11 | Buxus (Box) | Balearica Lam. | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **1** | 12 | Cyperus | Papyrus. Bulrush  | Pencil |  | Framed. |
| **1** | 13 | Zilla spinosa (Turra) Prantzl | Burning Bush | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **1** | 14 | Lawsonia inermis Linn. | Camphire, Henna | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **1** | 15 | Cinnamonum cassia blume | Cassia | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **1** | 16 |  |  |  |  | Not donated. |
| **1** | 17 | Platanus orientales Linn. | Chestnut or Plane Tree | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **1** | 18 | Arum hygrophilum Boiss | Cockle | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **1** | 19 | Datura stramonium Linn. | Cockle | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **1** | 20 | Coriandrum sativum Linn. | Coriander Seed | Pencil |  | Mounted on board. |

# Box 2: Plates 21-40

| **Box Number**  | **Plate Number** | **Scientific Name** | **Common Name** | **Medium** | **Size** | **Notes (mounted/unmounted, etc.)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **2** | 21 | Gossypium barbadense Linn.  | Cotton | Pencil |  | Colours |
| **2** | 22 | Cucumis sativus Linn. | Cucumber | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **2** | 23 | Cuminum cyminum Linn. | Cumin or Cumin | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **2** | 24 | Pinus halepensis (Mill) | Cypress | Pencil |  | Framed. |
| **2** | 25 | Diospyros ebenum Koenig | Ebony | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **2** | 26 | Ficus carica Linn. | Fig | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **2** | 27 | Abies Cilicia (Ant. et Ky) | Carr. – Fir | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **2** | 28 | Nigella sativa Linn.  | Fitches | Pencil |  | Framed. |
| **2** | 29 | Butomus umbellatus | Fitches | Pencil |  | Coloured pink. Mounted on board. |
| **2** | 30 | Linum usitatissium Linn. | Cultivated Flax | Pencil |  | Coloured blue. |
| **2** | 31 | Boswellia carterii birdwood | Frankincense | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **2** | 32 |  |  |  |  | Not donated. |
| **2** | 33 | Papaver somniferum Linn. | No entry | Pencil |  | Coloured pale purple. Framed. |
| **2** | 34 |  |  |  |  | Not donated. |
| **2** | 35 | Citrullus colycynthis Schrad | Wild Gourd | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **2** | 36 |  |  |  |  | Not donated. |
| **2** | 37 |  |  |  |  | Not donated. |
| **2** | 38 | Certatonia silique Linn. | Husks | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **2** | 39 | Menthe aquatica Linn. | Mint | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **2** | 40 |  |  |  |  | Not donated. |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

# Box 3: Plates 41-59

| **Box Number**  | **Plate Number** | **Scientific Name** | **Common Name** | **Medium** | **Size** | **Notes (mounted/unmounted, etc.)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **3** | 41 | Cistus villorus var. creticus (Linn.) Boiss | Ladanum | Pencil |  | No frame. Coloured rose. |
| **3** | 42 | Allium ampelorasum Linn. | Wild Leek | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **3** | 43 | Lens esculenta Moench | Lentil | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **3** | 44 | Gladiolus illyricus (Koch)  | May have been the Lily of the Fields | Pencil |  | Framed for hanging. Coloured purple and green. |
| **3** | 45 | Colchium decaisnei Boiss | Lily | Pencil |  | Framed. Painted white and green. |
| **3** | 46 | Anemone coronaria (Linn.) | Lily of the Fields | Pencil |  | Framed. Painted green, yellow and white. |
| **3** | 47 | Anthemis palestria | Lily of the Fields | Pencil |  | Framed. Painted green and red. |
| **3** | 48 | Atriplex halimius Linn. | Swallows, Saltwort | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **3** | 49 | Mandragera officinarum Linn. | Mandrake | Pencil |  | Framed. |
| **3** | 50 | Fraxinus ornus Linn. | Manna Ash | Pencil |  | Framed. |
| **3** | 51 | Cucumis melo Linn. | Musk melon | Pencil |  | Framed; painted green and yellow. |
| **3** | 52 | Panicum miliaceum Linn. | Millet | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **3** | 53 | Salvatora persica | Mustard Tree | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **3** | 54 | Commiphora abyssinica Eng. | Myrrh | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **3** | 55 | Myrtus communis Linn. | Myrtle | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **3** | 56 | Zizyphus vulgaris Lam. | Nettle | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **3** | 57 | Juglans regia Linn. | Walnut | Pencil |  | Framed. |
| **3** | 58 | Pistacia vera Linn. | Pistachio Nut | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **3** | 59 | Quercus ilex Linn. | Ilex or Holm Oak | Pencil |  | No frame. |

# Box 4: Plates 60-84

| **Box Number**  | **Plate Number** | **Scientific Name** | **Common Name** | **Medium** | **Size** | **Notes (mounted/unmounted, etc.)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **4** | 60 | Pistacia terebinthus Linn. | Oak, Teil, Terebinth | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **4** | 61 |  |  |  |  | Not donated. |
| **4** | 62 |  |  |  |  | Not donated. |
| **4** | 63 | Pinus pinea (Linn.) | Oren | Pencil |  | Framed. |
| **4** | 64 |  |  |  |  | Not donated. |
| **4** | 65 |  |  |  |  | Not donated. |
| **4** | 66 | Phragmites communis Trin | Reed | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **5** | 67 | Tulipa Systola Stapf | Rose | Pencil |  | Painted yellow. No frame. |
| **5** | 68 | Ruta graveolens Linn. | Rue | Pencil |  | Painted pink and green. |
| **5** | 69 | Crocus sativus (Linn.) | Saffron | Pencil |  | Painted yellow, green and brown. Framed. |
| **5** | 70 | Vicia ervilia (Linn.) | Wild – Spelt | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **5** | 71 | Nardostachys Jatemense D.C. | Spikenard | Pencil |  | Painted green and purple. No frame. |
| **5** | 72 | Styrax officinalis Linn. | Stacte | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **5** | 73 | Morus nigra Linn. | Sycamine Tree | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **5** | 74 | Ficus sycomorus Linn. | Sycamore Fig. | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **5** | 75 | Species of Tamarix | Tamarish Tree | Pencil |  | No frame. Painted pink and red. |
| **5** | 76 |  |  |  |  | Not donated. |
| **5** | 77 | Palirus spina-Christ | Christ’s Thorn | Pencil |  | Framed. |
| **5** | 78 | Tetraclinis articulate (Vahl) | Masters | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **5** | 79 | Vitis vinfera Linn. | Vine | Pencil |  | Framed. Green grapes and leaves. |
| **5** | 80 |  |  |  |  | Not donated. |
| **5** | 81 | Heads of various species of Triticum | Wheat | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **5** | 82 | Heads of various species of Triticum | Wheat | Pencil |  | No frame. |
| **5** | 83 | Nerium oleander Linn. | Willow | Pencil |  | No frame. Painted green and pink. |
| **5** | 84 | Artemisia absinthium Linn. | Wormwood | Pencil |  | Framed. Painted green, beige and yellow. |

# NOTES

Each drawing has printed and typed labels on the reverse which read: ROYAL BOTANIC GARDEN EDINBURGH, Presented by The Edinburgh Botanic Garden Trust from the gift of MISS B. D. INGLIS, SELKIRK

Nearly all of the artwork is on boards labelled on the back: INFANT SCHOOL PICTURES, THOMAS NELSON AND SONS, LTD.

Plate 20 has a small circular white sticker on the back with £10 written on it in blue ink.

Plate 24 has an obscured hand written address: Bessie Darling Inglis, 19 Comely Bank Grove, Edinburgh 4; also ‘Property of Thomas Nelson & Sons Ltd.’ Scored through.

Plate 44 has a small circular white sticker on the back with £15 written on it in blue ink.

Plate 45 has a small circular white sticker on the back with £30 written on it in pencil.

Plate 45 has a white label with hand written addresses: Bessie Darling Inglis, 19 Comely Bank Grove, Edinburgh 4 (address scored through), and LANGTON, 34 BLEACHFIELD ROAD, SELKIRK; also ‘Property of Thomas Nelson & Sons Ltd.’ Scored through.

Plate 63 has a hand written address: Bessie Darling Inglis, 19 Comely Bank Grove, Edinburgh 4 obscured by a printed address label which reads: Miss B. D. Inglis, Langton, 34 Bleachfield Road, Selkirk, TD7 4HH; The words ‘Property of Thomas Nelson & Sons Ltd.’ – all scored through – are also on the label with the handwritten address.

Plate 63 has a small circular white sticker on the back with £10 written on it in blue ink.

Plate 67 drawn on Winsor & Newton board, size 23½ x 18½ inches

Plate 69 has a small circular white sticker on the back with £10 written on it in blue ink.

Plate 79 has a small circular white sticker on the back with £20 written on it in blue ink.

Plate 83 drawn on Winsor & Newton board, size 23½ x 18½ inches

A specialist needs to assess the materials used in the drawings.