

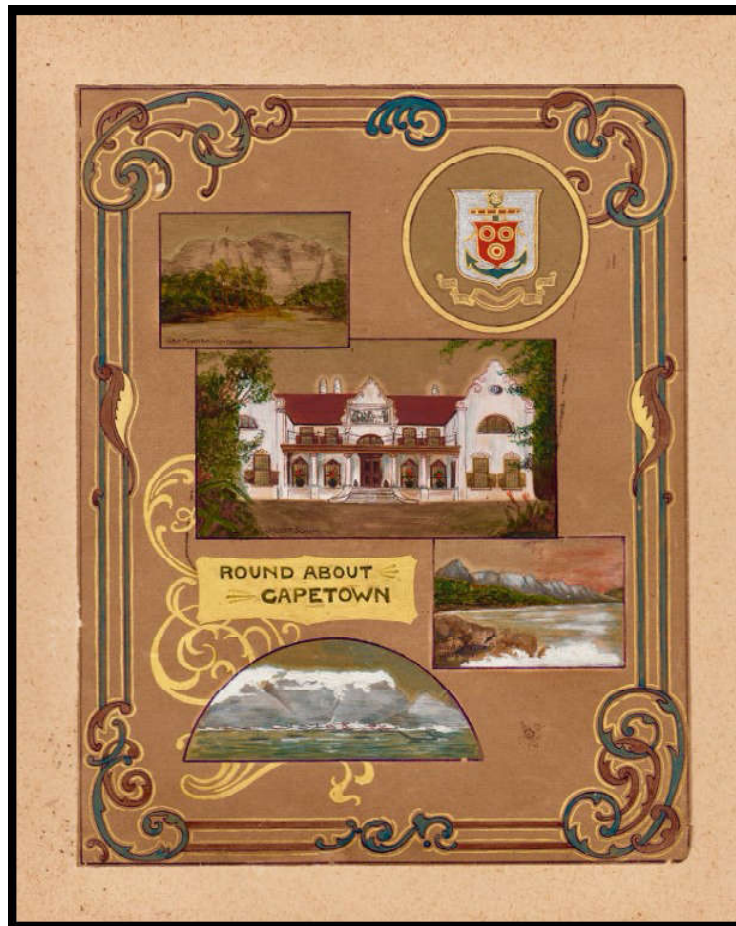


*Circa 1905. Postcard. 'Mowbray Station'. (T. D. Ravenscroft. Rondebosch.)
 Gilbert married Charlotte Emily Manning (born 1887, Woodstock) in Rosebank in 1910.
 Charlotte was the daughter of Benjamin Arthur Manning, the Mowbray Station Master.
 Benjamin Manning is listed by Franco Frescura as the Mowbray Station Postmaster.*
 This postcard shows the Mowbray Station Master with a young woman, possibly Charlotte?*



*Gilbert and Charlotte (left) initially lived in Woodstock, where their first child was born.
 In 1912, (aged 33), he was Secretary for Rural Affairs in the Cape Provincial Administration.
 The family moved to St James near Kalk Bay, then to Wynberg, where they lived on Silverlea Road.
 Gilbert owned a Sunbeam motor car, indicating a relatively comfortable middle-class lifestyle.
 Gilbert and Charlotte had seven children, (one of whom died in infancy), the first three seen here.
 Gilbert is believed to have worked on the Chapman's Peak Drive Project in the early 1920s.
 When opened his daughter Una, right above, presented a bouquet to the Governor-Generals's wife.*

* Postal Officials of the Cape of Good Hope. Franco Frescura. 2023.



*Circa 1910.
Illustration by
Gilbert Allis, an
amateur
painter, who
loved Music and
the Arts.*



Circa 1918. Domesticity and Teddy Bears.

*Gilbert's health and finances decline. He loses the family home in Wynberg.
In 1927, aged 48, he abandons his wife and children in SA and sails to England.
Ostensibly, Gilbert left to get his book published by Stanley Gibbons. He never returned.
He died in poverty of tuberculosis in the front room of his mother's house in Battersea in 1932.
The Philatelic Society of GB paid for his grave. Its headstone read 'Good Hope'.
In Cape Town Charlotte wailed inconsolably when she was informed of Gilbert's death.
She died six months later. Her children were orphaned and made wards of her brother.*