

Documenting the Castle's Furnishings

Many of Lucknow's original furnishings, selected and purchased by Thomas and Olive Plant, remain in the dining room, main hall, library, and entrance hall. These items are either documented in purchase receipts or in historic photographs. The Castle's bedroom furnishings are not similarly documented, but three of the bedroom furniture suites in the house today are believed to be original to the home because they represent the high quality of furnishings the Plants would have likely purchased.



1) Main Hall. Courtesy of New Hampshire Historical Society; 2) Library. Courtesy of New Hampshire Historical Society;
3) Dining Room. Private Collection; 4) Staircase Hall. Museum Collection.

Investigate!

Sometimes it's difficult to know how and when a piece of furniture arrived at Lucknow – historic photographs of the home's interiors are used as evidence by the restoration team to determine if an item was purchased by the Plants or if it most likely entered the house under a different owner in the more recent past.



Probably taken around 1924, these four photographs of rooms at Lucknow show Thomas and Olive Plant's furniture and art collection. Now look at the images of furnishings below – can you locate these objects in at least one of these 1924 photographs? If you can, you'll know that it was once part of Thomas and Olive Plant's personal collection! Bonus – see if you can locate one of these pieces of furniture in at least two different historic photographs! Lift the flaps for clues!