

Devising a Database:

Wilhelmina Barns-Graham's Artist Materials

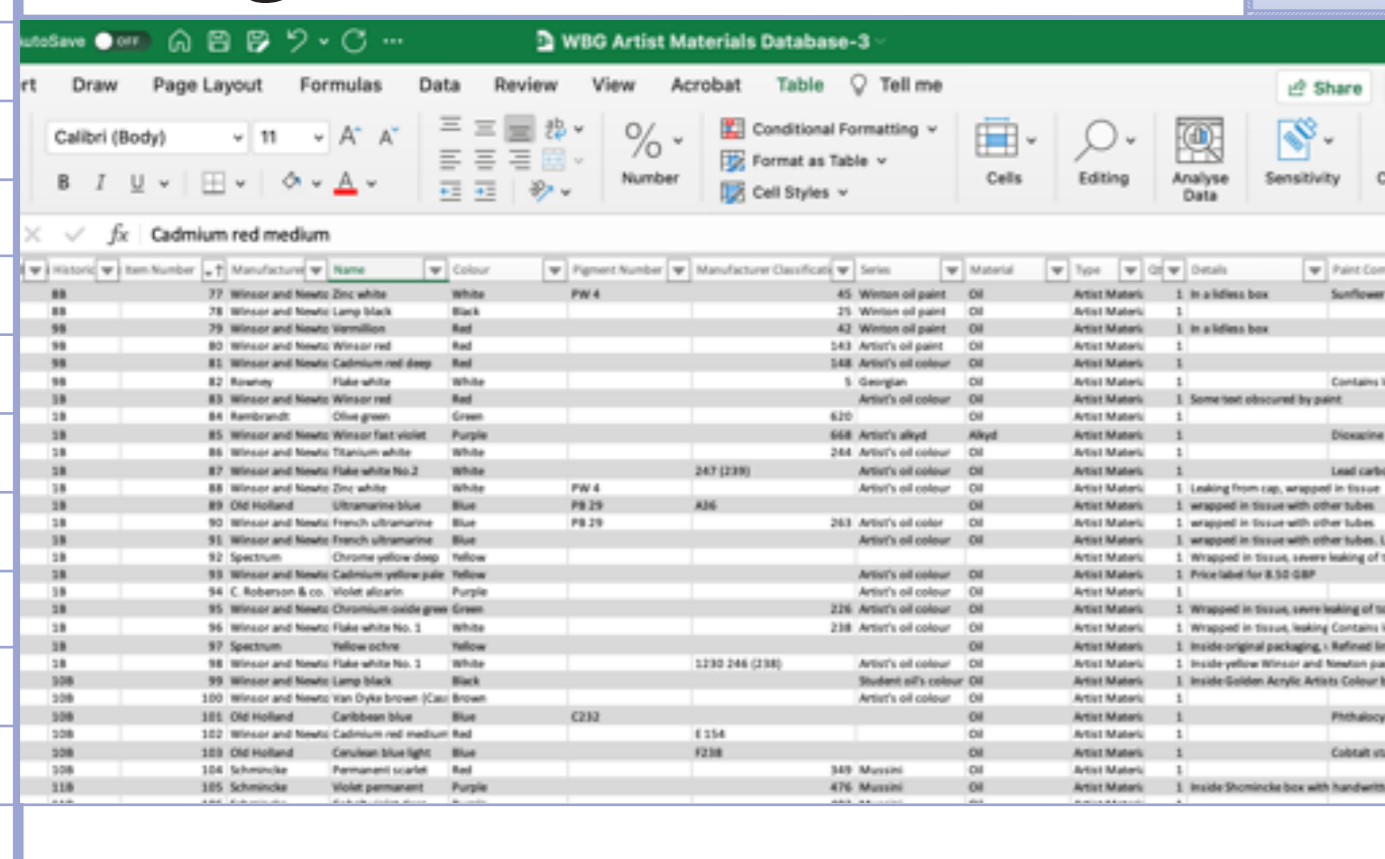
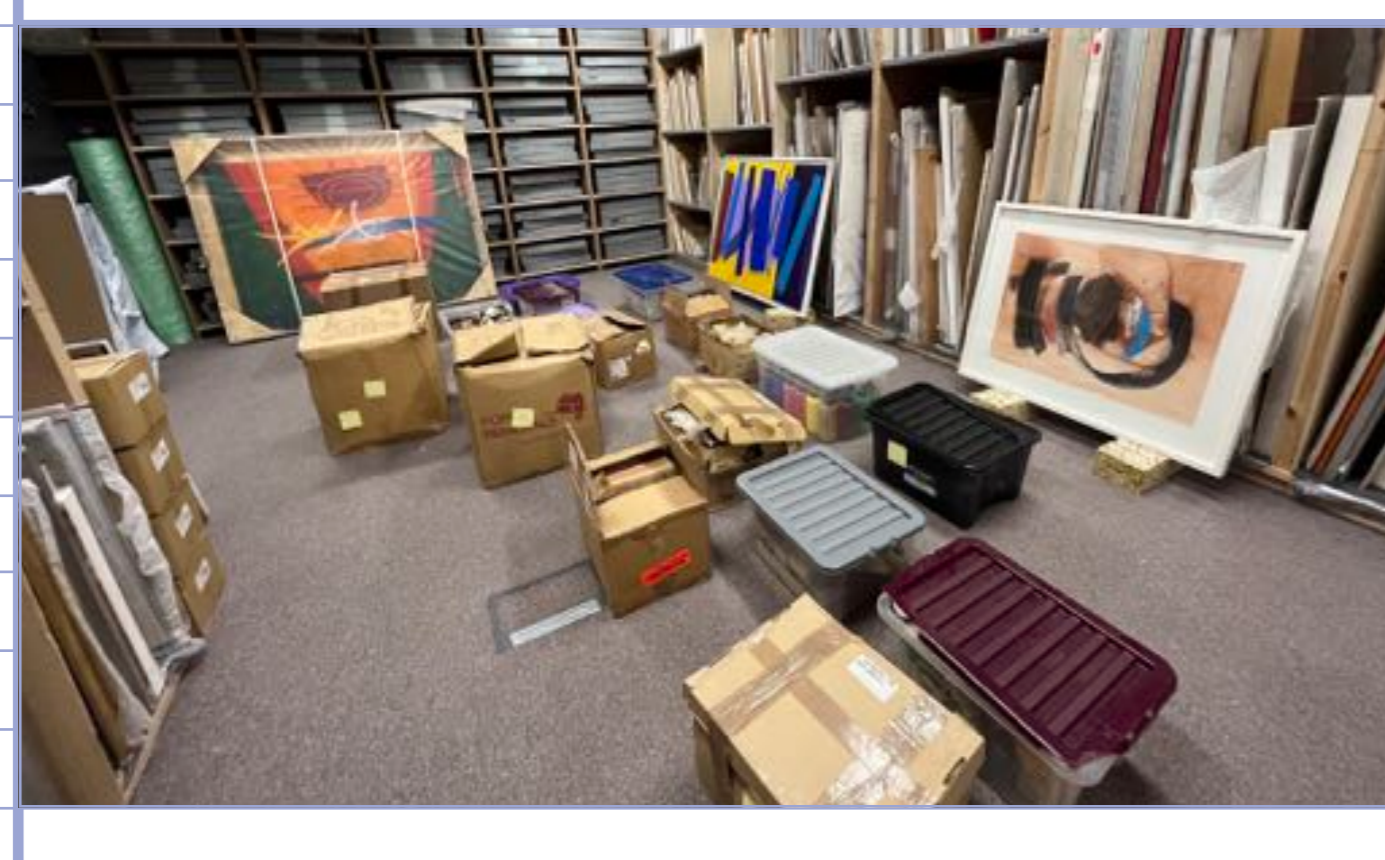
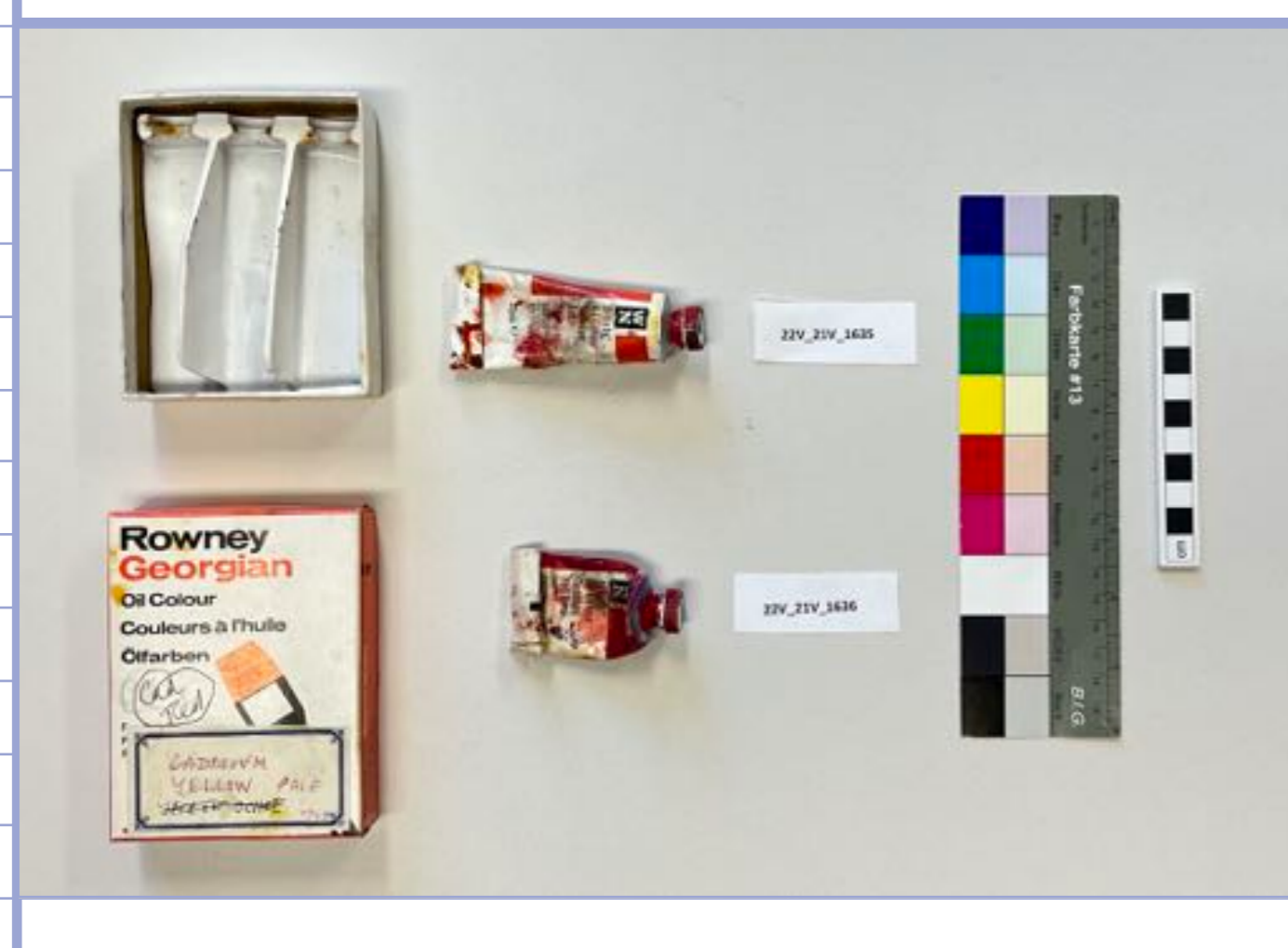
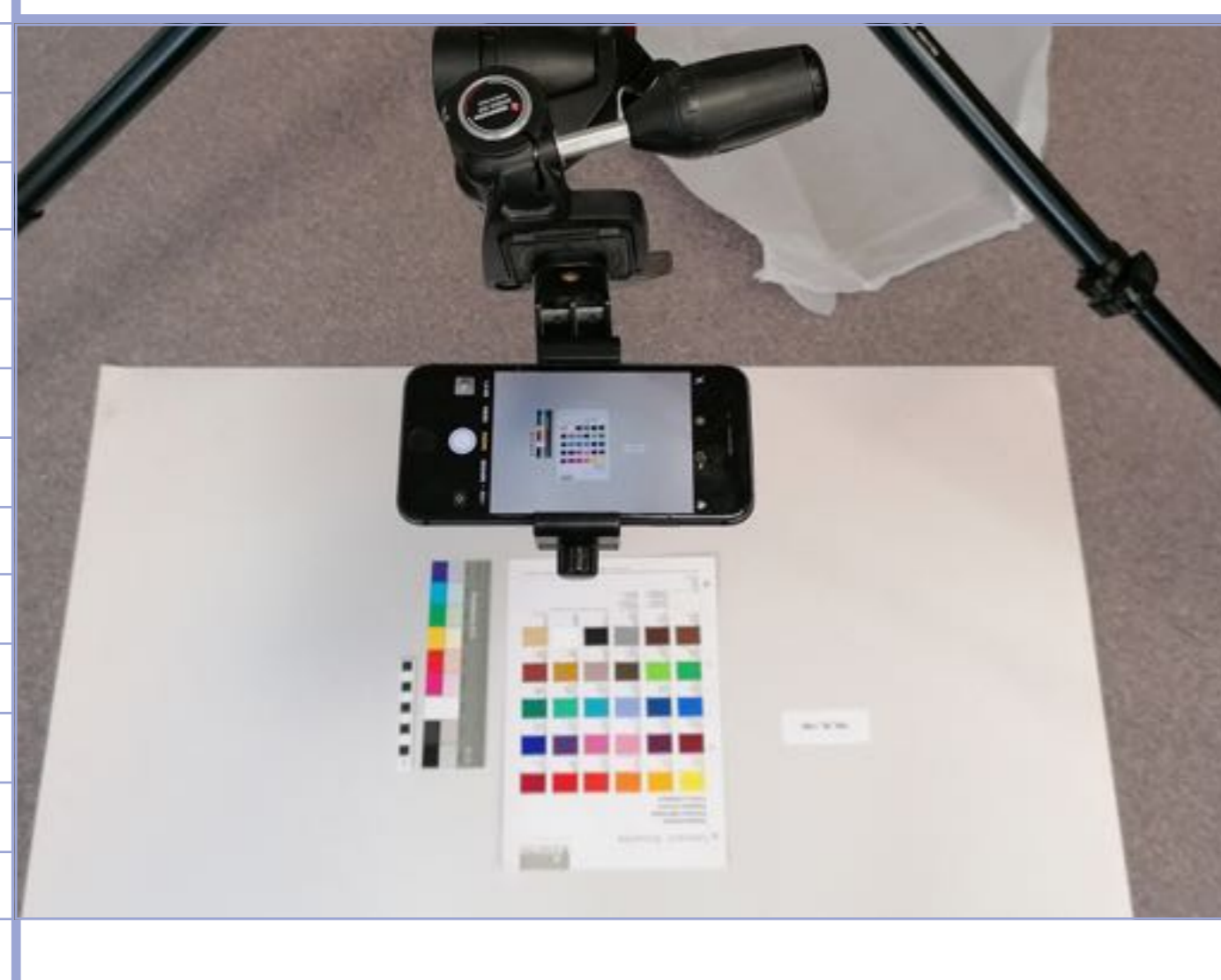
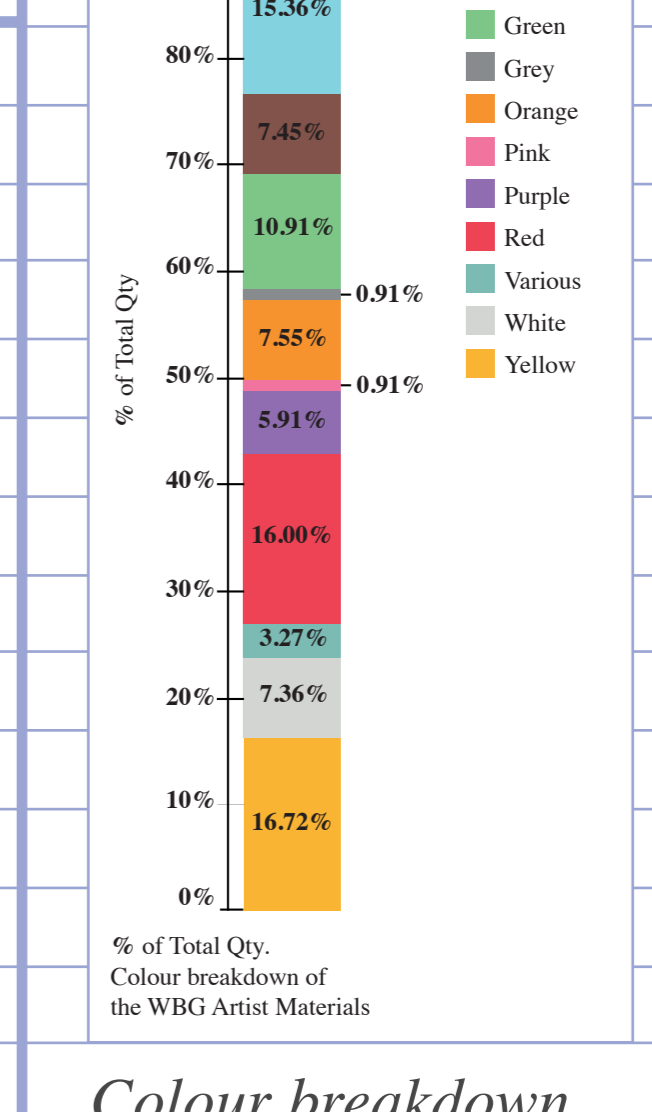
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MLitt Technical Art History

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Introduction – Twenty-Six Boxes

In collaboration with the Wilhelmina Barns-Graham Trust in Edinburgh, Andy Grace Hayes and Amy Johnstone completed the cataloguing with documentation, data visualisation and rehousing of Wilhelmina Barns-Graham's (b. 1912) studio materials from those once stored in St. Ives, Cornwall and St. Andrews, Fife. Working across painting, drawing and printmaking; the late abstract artist was a member of the Penwith Society of Arts—a group of abstract artists formed in 1949. The documentation of Barns-Graham's materials will aid in future understanding and technical analysis of her extant works for researchers, curators and conservators.

Image	Caption	Information	Statistics:
	<p><i>Finished excel database, WBG Artist Materials Database, 2022.</i></p>	<p>The database holds information on the object's (possible) manufacturer, name, colour, pigment number, manufacturer's classification, manufacturer's series, material (such as oil or acrylic), type, quantity, and any further details.</p> <p>Condition, notable additions such as encriptions by the artist, and suppliers labels were recorded.</p>	<p>1,859 <i>unique records in the Artist Materials Database</i></p> <p>71% <i>of all oil paints are Winsor & Newton (267 items)</i></p> <p><i>Of Acrylics:</i></p> <p>18.9% <i>are Golden brand,</i></p> <p>17.2% <i>are Winsor & Newton,</i></p>
	<p><i>Interior shot of the Wilhelmina Barns-Graham Trust store. 26 boxes containing Barns-Graham's artist materials, 2022.</i></p>	<p>Each box was labelled with a unique alphanumeric, and inside boxes were given a further hierarchical label.</p> <p>An item in the third box (3C), for example, with two boxes inside (1C, 2C, 3C) may have the ID 3C_2C_217. The first of the internal box identifiers (1C) always identified items loose in the outer box itself.</p>	<p>16.8% <i>Lascaux, and</i></p> <p>35.3% <i>are Rowney</i></p>
	<p><i>Documentation for objects 22V_21V_1635 & 22V_21V_1636. Two Winsor & Newton Artists' Oil Colour in Cadmium Red and Cadmium Red Deep, respectively. Inside a Rowney box. 2022</i></p>	<p>Each catalogued item was photographed with a paper label, colour key and scale.</p> <p>Image files were then renamed and stored in folders corresponding to box alphanumericals.</p>	<p>16.8% <i>Lascaux, and</i></p> <p>35.3% <i>are Rowney</i></p>
	<p><i>Documentation of the archive documentation. An iPhone 8 mounted on Manfrotto 290 Dual tripod, central column set to 90°. 2022</i> <i>Image, Amy Johnstone.</i></p>	<p>Documentation was largely taken on mobile devices; due to ease of access and easy handling qualities.</p> <p>Information was stored on a joint One Drive in addition to the Wilhelmina Barns-Graham Trust's intranet system.</p> <p>Outside the scope of the project, but the information is hoped to be integrated with the Trust's collections management system.</p>	 <p><i>Colour breakdown</i></p>