

Curating a Personal Story: Status and Identity

ISABEL DEARDS

Pair of Shoes – Treasured Possessions

- 1700-30
- Worn by Mary Browne
- More decorative than practical
- Most likely only worn inside
- Symbol to show wealth/fashion sense



Roman Mosaic

- Dated from AD 50 – 70
- Housed in a Roman Villa
- Peacock – used as a status symbol to show wealth of owner



Darwin's Microscope

- Bought in 1847 for £34 – the best microscope money could buy
- Letter in 1848 – Darwin described it as “grand”
- Bought to help with observation of barnacles
- “First class naturalist”



Pocket - sized globes

- Brought to England between 1659-70 by Joseph Moxon
- 7.5cm in diameter
- One interpretation of its use is as a status symbol for wealthy gentlemen
- Reflects British identity at the time
- Admiration for explorers and navigation of the past



Made by Newton in 1840



Made by Darton and Co. in 1811

Dress Collection

- Expressing identity through clothes
- A way to show admiration for the past



Nash/Austin Metropolitan



- Made in 1958
- American car created for city use
- Now is a precious possession taken to events