

Pretty haven tucked away from a bustling road



Sketchbook by OLWEN HUGHES

THIS drawing shows a delightful building, The Grange, situated at the top of a drive off what was the main road from Leicester to Wigston before the large roundabout was constructed. Prettily screened by mature trees, it seems a haven from the noise and bustle of the main road outside.

It was built in 1841 as the home of Thomas Burgess, a local wool merchant, who lived here with his wife, Hanna Maria, his four daughters, Louisa, Gulielma, Emma and Maria, and three sons, Theodore, John and Frederic. Records are somewhat indistinct after 1863, but Kelly's Directory for 1928 records a James George Escott living at Wigston Grange.

Since 1994, it has been the base of the Institute of Occupational Safety and Health.