Mountaineering Books
FROM THE LIBRARY
OF
GEORGE LOWE

Ex Libris George Lowe

Offered by Aquila Books, Calgary, and Meridian Rare Books, London
George Lowe was born in Hastings, New Zealand, in 1924. During holidays, George climbed in the New Zealand Alps, and met there Edmund Hillary. In 1951, the two of them took part in the first New Zealand climbing expedition to the Himalaya. Both George and Hillary joined the Cho Oyu expedition of 1952 under Eric Shipton, and then returned to the Himalaya in 1953 to take part in the successful Everest Expedition. In 1954, Hillary and George undertook another Himalayan expedition to the Barun Valley and an attempt on Makalu. The two then participated in the first great post-WWII Antarctic endeavour, the Commonwealth Trans-Antarctic Expedition 1955-1958, on which George was photographer and cinematographer. George subsequently participated in a series of expeditions: the 'Silver Hut' Expedition of 1960-1 in the Everest area; the "Yeti Expedition" to Rowaling; John Hunt's climbing expeditions to Greenland and the Pamirs, and elsewhere.

Outside of his work on expeditions, George Lowe pursued a career in teaching, with appointments at Repton School and a decade at Grange School in Santiago, Chile. In 1973 he became an Inspector of Schools in the UK, until his retirement. In 1989 he helped to establish the Sir Edmund Hillary Himalayan Trust UK, of which he was the first chairman until 2003.

The present list offers the remaining mountaineering books from George Lowe's library, mostly excluding those that relate solely to Everest: George’s books about Everest featured in a catalogue celebrating the 60th anniversary of the first ascent in 1953. Please let us know if you would like to receive this catalogue.
1 Baedeker, Karl. The Eastern Alps including the Bavarian Highlands, Tyrol, Salzburg, Upper and Lower Austria, Styria, Carinthia, and Carniola. Leipsic: Karl Baedeker; London: Daulau and Co., 1903. £50

Tenth edition. 8vo. pp. xxvi, 571; folding maps, city plans; slight age-toning to maps, frontis. map neatly repaired to folds, good in the original cloth, gilt, a little rubbed and marked on spine. Previous owner’s inscription to flyleaf, with ownership inscription beneath of George Lowe, 1952.

Not a mountaineering book, but clearly of relevance to any climber!


First UK edition. 8vo. pp. 319; photo. illusts., illusts. to text, one folding temperature chart, maps endpapers; good in the original cloth, marked and slightly worn, with sections of d.j. pasted to prelims. Ownership inscription of John Pascoe to half-title, with subsequent inscription to half title “W. G. Lowe 1953 from John Pascoe Wellington N.Z.”, and a newspaper review of the book pasted to flyleaf recto.

Neate B58: Yakushi B70. An important book about K2, concerning the first major American Himalayan expedition. Bates, Houston and the other members of the expedition put American Himalayan mountaineering on the map, and the book is now a classic of the genre. This copy belonged to the New Zealand mountaineer and photographer John Dobré Pascoe, with his inscription c/o Dept. Internal Affairs, Wellington. He made a series of climbs in New Zealand in the 1930s, and gave this copy to George Lowe in the same year as the 1953 Everest expedition.


Third edition. 8vo. pp.231; port. frontis., one coloured plate, map endpapers; minor embrowning to endpapers, else good in original cloth, in d.j. which is frayed and faded on spine. Ownership inscription of George Lowe, 1952.

Neate B90. Benuzzi tells how he and two fellow Italian prisoners-of-war escaped from their camp in East Africa to make an attempt on Mount Kenya using only makeshift equipment and hoarded rations. One of the classics of the mountaineering literature.


First edition. 8vo. pp. 264; coloured photo. illusts.; very good in the original cloth, d.j. slightly chipped. With the ownership inscription of George Lowe, May 1983, to flyleaf.

Neate B119: Yakushi (3rd ed.) B432a; Perret 0510. Expeditions to the Carstensz Pyramid in the Snow Mountains of New Guinea, Kanchenjunga, and Gauri Sankar.


First edition. 8vo. pp. xiv, 254; illusts., sketch maps; fine in original cloth, d.j. Loosely inserted, unrelated postcard from co-author Charles Clarke to George Lowe.

The author’s account of their visit to, and attempt on, Sepu Kangri in Tibet.


First edition. 8vo. pp. 196; illusts., sketch maps; very good in original cloth, d.j. which is a little frayed. Ownership inscription of George Lowe, 2000.

Neate B144. A biography of the famous Mount Cook guide. George Lowe is mentioned in the book, for his assistance at the Hermitage in the mid-1940s.

First edition. 8vo. pp. 256; photo. illus.; very good in the original cloth, d.j., bumped and rubbed to extremities. A gift to George Lowe from his sister, 1969.

Neate B185; Yakushi (2nd ed.) B272. Brown’s autobiography, with details of climbs in Britain and the Alps, the first ascents of Mustagh Tower and Kanchenjunga, and the ascent of Communism Peak on the Pamirs expedition with George Lowe.


First UK edition. 8vo. pp. xv, 272; photo. illus., sketch maps, map endpapers; spotting to fore-edge, else very good in the original purple cloth, which is faded to head and tail of spine. Ownership inkstamp of J. Garfield Anderson to half-title.

Neate B213; Yakushi B296. “This Chinese Peak (24,892 ft) at the extreme eastern end of the Himalaya was climbed by a small American party in 1932 and was the second highest peak ever climbed at that date. It remained the highest peak climbed by Americans until 1958” (Neate). For a short while, in the 1920s and 1930s, it was thought that Minya Konka might be higher than Everest.


First edition. 12mo. pp. 35; 8 photo. illus., one sketch map; very good in the original brown cloth. A presentation copy, inscribed to front pastedown “George Lowe from Eric Byne with all best wishes”.

Neate Q138.


First edition. 4to. pp. 363; b&w photo. illus., maps; good in the original cloth, which is very stained, in original d.j., which is very frayed. A presentation copy to George Lowe, “À Giorgio Lowe, della vittoriosa spedizione britannica all’Everest, 12-10-953 [sic] Il Presidente del CAI Bartolomeo Figari”, and signed beneath this by Hermann Buhl, and one other (possibly Guido Magnone).

An overview of Italian mountaineering worldwide, with contributions by Ardito Desio, Vittorio Sella, de Filippi, de Agostini, and others. The book was presented by the then President of the CAI, Bartolomeo Figari, to George Lowe “of the victorious British expedition to Everest”. Also present on that occasion was Hermann Buhl, who in July 1953 had made his solo ascent of Nanga Parbat, and whose signature appears in this copy.


First edition. 8vo. pp. xii, 188; illus.: very good in the original cloth, d.j., bumped to extremities, newspaper review of the book loosely inserted. A presentation copy to George Lowe from Piet van Asch, inscribed to half-title “George Recalling earlier times together in Beechcraft Piet.”

The story of Piet van Asch, who in 1936 founded the company NZ Aerial Mapping Limited, which for 50 years surveyed New Zealand from the air.

First edition. 8vo. pp. xxviii, 709, [1, ad.]: illus. from drawings by A.D. McCormick including frontis., one folding map; inner hinges expertly repaired, else very good in original cloth, gilt, slightly marked, e.g. Provenance: Inscription of “H. A. Bradshaw from L. J. E. Bradshaw 10/7/95”, with references in ink to half title to pp. 252 & 295 on which Bradshaw is mentioned; inkstamp of J. Garfield Anderson; and from the library of George Lowe.

Neate C103; Yakushi (3rd ed.) C336a; Cox Classics in the Literature of Mountaineering 43. “This work describes the first major British expedition to explore and climb in the Himalaya, one of the greatest of all mountain explorations. It accomplished a number of firsts and laid the groundwork for later explorations. Conway, who organized and led the expedition, climbed a 23,000-foot peak and traversed three great glaciers - the Hispar, Biafo, and Baltoro..." (Cox). The expedition included Charles G. Bruce, later to lead the 1922 Everest climbing expedition. This copy was presented by Laurence Julius Elliot Bradshaw, an Indian army officer who met Conway’s party in the walled city of Ganish in the Hunza-Nagyr. Conway describes how Bradshaw and two fellow officers “shared their last pipes of tobacco with us, and their dwindling supplies of sugar, salt, jam, and things in tins, and never let us suspect the low ebb to which their luxuries and even their necessities were reduced ... This kind of hospitality in remote regions is the sort of thing one remembers” (p. 252).


First edition. 8vo. pp. 212; 12 wood-eng. plates, vignette title; a little shaken, browning to endpapers, good in original decorative cloth, gilt, a little faded on spine.

Neate D05. A retelling for children of episodes from mountaineering history, including the Matterhorn accident.


First edition. 8vo. pp. 232; illus., sketch maps; VG in original cloth, d.j. Ownership inscription of George Lowe.


First English edition. 8vo. pp. 256; col. frontis., b & w photo. illus., maps; slight spotting, else good in original cloth, d.j. which is chipped to head and tail of spine, stain to fore-edge of lower panel. Ownership inscription of George Lowe’s sister, Elizabeth J. Lowe, 1955.

Neate D32; Yakushi C178b; Salkeld & Boyle D18; Classics in the Literature of Mountaineering 38. The Swiss expeditions in the year prior to the first ascent of Everest included Tenzing among its members. He and Lambert reached 28,200 before having to turn back.


First and only edition. 8vo. pp. vi, 56; humorous illustrations by Virgil F. Partch; VG in original maroon boards, d.j., which is frayed.

Yakushi D278; S & B D19; not in other bibliographies. A humorous autobiographical tale - subtitled on the wrapper "An ascent to the height of the ridiculous" - of why the author never climbed Everest. Drawing on the language of mountaineering accounts to make his point, Dolbier's book demonstrates the impact that the first ascent made on people at the time.

Reprint. 8vo. pp. xx, 331; photo. illus., 4 sketch maps, map endpapers; very good in the original cloth. Signed by John Pascoe to the title-page.

The reprint appeared in the same year as the first edition.


First English edition. Square 8vo. pp. xxxix, 233; b&w photo. illus., sketch maps to text; very good in the original d.j., which is frayed to extremities. Ownership inscription of George Lowe, 1955, to flyleaf.

Neate D64; Yakushi D204b. A history of attempts on the 8000m Himalayan peaks written by the German-Swiss leader of the 1930 international Kanchenjunga expedition.


First edition. 8vo. pp. xvi, 410; illus.; very good in the original cloth, d.j. which is creased and chipped to extremities. Ownership inscription of George Lowe to flyleaf.

Neate E08. The book’s introduction is by Raymond Priestley, and contributors include Griff Pugh and Michael Ward, of the Everest 1953 expedition.


First edition. 8vo. pp. [iv], v, 122; 12 photo. illus.; VG in original cloth, gilt.

Neate S200. Menlove Edwards played an important role in the development of rock-climbing in the 1930s and 1940s, and his poems and short prose pieces expression his love of the craft. Among those he influenced were Wilfrid Noyce, who with his co-author Sutton provides a biographical memoir of Menlove Edwards alongside selections from his writings.


First edition. 8vo. pp. 347; illus.; near-fine in original cloth, d.j.


First edition. 8vo. pp. 191; illus.; VG in original cloth, d.j., which is frayed with some loss. Ownership inscription of George Lowe, Nov. 1956.

Neate E28. An instructional work based on the author’s experiences.


First edition. 8vo. pp. 124; frontis. after original by John Piper, sketch maps, 8 photo. plates; fine in the original dust-jacket, which is slightly faded on spine and has bubbled along front joint. A presentation copy from the author “To John Hunt from R.F. April 1967”.

Neate F15 (“A minor classic”).

Second edition [500 copies]. 8vo. pp. xvi, 363; frontis. and 48 plates, illus. to text, large folding map in pocket at rear; one plate misbound (p. 102 for p. 90), foxing to tissue-guards and slight spotting to some plates, upper hinge neatly repaired, VG in original cloth with contrasting lettering pieces, which are chipped. Ownership inscription of George Lowe, 1951.

Neate F36; Perret 1676. Edward Arthur FitzGerald travelled to New Zealand to attempt the then unclimbed Mount Cook. He enlisted guide Mattias Zurbriggen, and en route discovered that he had been beaten to the prize by Tom Fyfe’s party in December 1894. FitzGerald contented himself with other climbs in the Southern Alps, and it was left to Zurbriggen to make a solo ascent of Mount Cook (March 1895, the second ascent). FitzGerald and Zurbriggen later went on to make a successful ascent of Aconcagua, in South America.


The author’s treks in the Himalayas, including a visit to Everest Base Camp in 1982.

26 Freshfield, Douglas W. Round Kangchenjunga. London: Edward Arnold, 1903. £750

First edition. 8vo. pp. xvi, 373; 40 plates, one folding panorama, 1 map to text, 2 folding maps; occasional foxing, particularly to fore-edge, else very good in the original cloth, gilt, rather bumped to extremities. Provenance: Ownership inscription of George Mannering, founder of New Zealand’s Alpine Club and author of several books; subsequently in the collection of J. Garfield Anderson (inkstamp); and from the library of George Lowe.

Neate F69; Yakushi F124a. Freshfield, who had previously climbed in the Alps and the Caucasus, visited the Himalayas in 1899 with Vittorio Sella, the renowned Alpine photographer, and the geologist Edmund Garwood. They made a circuit around Kangchenjunga, commencing at Darjeeling and crossing to the Zemu Glacier, from where Sella took stunning images of the peaks. This copy has a fascinating provenance: George Mannering, the important New Zealand mountaineer who wrote With Axe and Rope in the New Zealand Alps (1891) was the original owner; it subsequently passed to J. Garfield Anderson, rector of South Otago High School, several of whose books became part of the library of George Lowe. A wonderful association copy, linking the Alps of New Zealand with the ranges of the Himalaya.


First edition. 8vo. pp. illus., sketch maps; good in original cloth, d.j., which is chipped. Inscribed by the author “To George who, with Ed, lead [sic] the way, and Mary, With warmest thanks & best wishes, Mike”.

Neate G25. Gill, a New Zealand doctor, took part in several expeditions, including the Silver Hut expedition of 1960/1, during which he took part in the winter ascent of Ama Dablam with Michael Ward, Barry Bishop, and Wally Romanes.


First edition. 8vo. pp. xiv, 245; photo. illus., sketch maps; very good in the original cloth, in the original d.j., which is slightly rubbed.

Neate G42; Perret 2030. A “New Zealand guide who climbed with Miss Du Faur. He and his brother Alec were the leading New Zealand guides for over thirty years” (Neate).

First edition. 8vo. pp. 124; photo. illus., map endpapers; very good in the original cloth, in the original dust-jacket, which is a little frayed to extremities. Ownership inscription of George Lowe (“W. G. Lowe 1951”) to half-title.

*Neate C154.* Grave attempted to climb Mount Tutuko in south-west New Zealand, and discovered the Grave-Talbot Pass. Grave’s letters and diaries are here edited by his daughter.

30 Green, William Spotswood. The High Alps of New Zealand; or, a Trip to the Glaciers of the Antipodes with an Ascent of Mount Cook. London: Macmillan and Co., 1883. **£150**

First edition. 8vo. pp. xvi, 350, [6], 32 (pubs. list); wood-eng. frontis., 4 maps inc. one folding; previous owner’s inscriptions and inkstamps to prelims., hinges cracked, else very good in the original cloth, gilt, faded and soiled on spine, previous owner’s large label to upper cover. Ownership inscription of George Lowe (“W. G. Lowe 1950”) to half-title.

*Neate G51; Perret 2045.* Green’s attempt on Mount Cook effectively marked “the start of high alpine climbing in New Zealand” (Neate). Green and his guides turned back just short of the summit, and he wrote in his account that “Mount Cook was now practically conquered” (p. 249). The first full ascent did not take place until December 1894.


First edition. 8vo. pp. 191; coloured frontis., b&w photo. illus., sketch maps; very good in the original cloth, d.j., slightly chipped to head and tail of spine, small split to d.j. at top of upper joint. Signed by Norman Hardie and his wife to the title-page, the book given as a Birthday present to George Lowe by his family in January 1958.

*Neate H27; Yakushi (2nd ed.) H47a.* Hardie took part in the 1954 Barun Valley expedition with George Lowe, and subsequently the successful 1955 Kanchenjunga expedition.


First edition. 8vo. pp. 254; coloured and b&w photo. illustrats.; very good in original cloth, d.j., which is slightly browned to spine and chipped. Gift inscription to George Lowe from his wife Betty, January 15th, 1955.

*Neate H73; Yakushi H159b.* Herrligkoffer's account of the successful German first ascent of Nanga Parbat includes a summary of earlier attempts.


First edition. 8vo. pp. 208; photo. illus., sketch maps; good in original cloth, d.j., ex-lib. St. John and Red Cross Hospital Library with their label at front and rear and at foot of spine of d.j. Ownership inscription of George Lowe.

*Neate H89.* Ed Hillary’s family joined him in Nepal after completion of Khunde hospital, near Everest. The family trekked to base camp, and spent Christmas with the Sherpas.

34 Hillary, Peter. ... a sunny day in the Himalayas. Hodder & Stoughton, [1980]. **£20**

First edition. 8vo. pp. 166; illus.; very good in the original cloth, d.j. George Lowe’s copy. Signed by the author.

*Neate H90; Yakushi (2nd ed.) H197.* A New Zealand attempt on Ama Dablam.
35 Holzel, Tom and Audrey Salkeld. The Mystery of Mallory and Irvine. London: Jonathan Cape, 1986. £15
First edition. 8vo. pp. 322; illusts., map endpapers; fine in the original cloth, d.j.

S & B H23. The 1920s Everest expeditions are re-examined, with discussion of the final attempt by Mallory and Irvine.

First UK edition. 8vo. pp. 351; illusts.; very good in original cloth, d.j., which has some rubbing to extremities. Ownership inscription of George Lowe, dated 1955, to flyleaf.

Neate H118; Yakushi H245. After previous expeditions in 1938 and 1939, the 1953 American attempt on K2 proved similarly fated. Forced back from the summit by the deteriorating health of a team member, the climbers suffered an accident that almost resulted in their total destruction. Despite this, the expedition became a “pinnacle of American Himalayan mountaineering” (Neate), and its “dramatic story” is told in the present work.

First edition. 8vo. pp. 192; illustrations from photographs, 4 sketch maps to text; very good in the original cloth, d.j., which has some rubbing to extremities. Ownership inscription of George Lowe, 1947.

Neate I115 (“Still one of the best mountaineering anthologies”).

First edition. 8vo. pp. 302; photo. illusts., sketch maps; very good in original cloth, d.j., which is slightly browned on spine and chipped. Ownership inscription of George Lowe, 1947.


First edition. 8vo. pp. 256; illusts., sketch maps; very good in the original pictorial card wrappers, rubbed. A presentation copy from the author’s wife, “To George & Mary - ‘In a thousand ages of the Gods, I could not tell thee of the glories of Himachal’ - Read the book, enjoy it & remember John. Eileen”.

John Jackson was a reserve member of the 1953 Everest Expedition, and took part in the successful Kangchenjunga expedition in 1955. He died in July of the year that this book was published.

First edition. 8vo. pp. [x], 195; coloured and b&w illusts.; VG in original card wrappers. A presentation copy, inscribed “Bob Jordan Best wishes to George & Mary 10/6/10”.

An overview of European contacts with Nepal through the ages.

41 Kapadia, Harish, ed. A Passage to Himalaya. OUP, 2001. £40

A selection of articles reprinted from the Himalayan Journal to mark the new millennium.

First editions. 10 vols. Large 8vo. numerous illus., sketch maps; occasional spotting or foxing, else very good in the original cloth, d.j.s. The first volume inscribed “to George Lowe my companion on Everest in abiding admiration of his great part in our wonderful adventure John Hunt Weir Cottage, Knighton, Cymru, 27th September, 1953”.

Neate j78. This is a complete set of The Mountain World, a journal that ran for 10 volumes with articles relating to the major mountaineering expeditions of the year. The first volume includes accounts of the Swiss attempts on Everest, followed in the 1954 volume by details of the successful ascent in 1953. The first volume of the set is presented by the leader of the successful expedition, John Hunt, to expedition member George Lowe.

43 Longstaff, Tom. This my Voyage. London: John Murray, [1951]. £50

Reprint (1st ed. 1950). 8vo. pp. [xii], 324; 23 photo. illus., 15 sketch maps; very good in the original cloth, in original d.j., slightly faded to spine and chipped to extremities. Presented “To George Lowe with best wishes from the Heretaunga Tramping Club Garwhal, 1951”.

Cf. Neate L48; Yakushi L279; Perret 2685; S & B L12. Longstaff was one of the great early Himalayan climber-explorers. This autobiography recounts his experiences in the Himalayas, the mountains of Kumaon and Garhwal and Karakoram, with a chapter devoted to his time with the 1922 Everest expedition. This copy was presented to George Lowe by the Heretaunga Tramping Cub, based in his home town of Hastings, probably after his return from the New Zealand Himalayan expedition to Garhwal in 1951.

44 Lunn, Arnold. The Story of Ski-ing. London: Eyre & Spottiswoode, [1952]. £75

First edition. 8vo. pp. [iv], xi, 15-224; very good in original cloth, d.j., which is slightly frayed to head of spine. A presentation copy from the author, with long inscription to Sue Hunt, George Lowe’s wife: “My dear Susan, We both love ski-ing and we have both broken our legs in the mountains, two bonds tether us. So here is this book to tell you something about the early history of the sport we love. Your ? old good uncle Arnold Lunn Sep 24 1956”.

Neate L81. Published as part of the New Alpine Library.


First edition. 8vo. pp. [4], 263; frontispiece, 23 plates from photographs and paintings, some coloured; VG in original cloth, d.j., which is slightly browned on spine and chipped. Loosely inserted compliment card from the Swiss Foundation for Alpine Research.


1st US edition. 8vo. pp. [xv], 306; illus.; good in original cloth, d.j., very bumped to corners.

A ‘cultural history’ of mountains, with chapters on the geology of mountains, historic ascents, and the author’s own passion for climbing. A chapter is devoted to Everest.


First edition. 8vo. pp. xi, 372; photo. illus., 16 sketch maps; VG in original cloth, d.j., which is chipped to extremities. Ownership inscription of George Lowe, dated 1956, to flyleaf.

Neate M62; Yakushi M214a; Perret 2857; S & B M18. Mason spent 25 years at the Survey of India, later editing the Himalayan Journal. Neate: "the most authoritative one volume reference source on the historical and geographical background to the entire Himalayan range, with a remarkably concise and comprehensive history of Himalayan Exploration".

First edition. 12mo. pp. 20; port. photo. of the author; good in original printed wrappers, adhesion damage to rear wrapper, creasing to contents.

Poems based on the author’s time in the Ruahine Range of New Zealand’s North Island.


Albemarle Library edition (1st. pub. 1940). 8vo. pp. [x], 265; photo. illusts., two sketch maps; minor spotting, good in original cloth, d.j., which is frayed with slight loss to spine. Ownership inscription of George Lowe, 1949.

Neate M75. Meade made several attempts on Kamet in the Himalayas, and his experiences of these climbs, along with others in the region and in the Alps, are set down here.


First edition. 8vo. pp. xiv, 207, [1, ads.]; photo. illusts., map endpapers; VG in original cloth, d.j., which is slightly faded on spine.

Yakushi M523; S & B M52; not in Neate or Perret. Henry Morshead was a member of the Everest expeditions in 1921 & 1922 (Morshead's letters appear chapter 10) and Watkins' 1927 expedition to Spitsbergen. He disappeared in 1931 and the present work, written by his son, provides a biography of his father and attempts to unravel the mystery.


First edition. 8vo. pp. 199; illusts., sketch maps; good in original cloth, bumped to extremities, d.j., which is chipped. Birthday gift inscription to George Lowe from his sister Betty and Lester, 1965.

Neate M173. The author’s account of his experiences on the Himalayan Scientific and Mountaineering Expedition 1960/1, or Silver Hut expedition. After long acclimatisation at high altitude, the mountaineering party attempted Makalu, to disastrous effect. George Lowe was photographer on the first part of the expedition, a search for the Yeti.


First edition. 8vo. pp. xv, 336; illusts., sketch maps; VG in original cloth, d.j., bumped to extremities. Inscribed by author “For George Lowe with thanks from Jonathan Neale”, and with a card from the author to Lowe thanking him for the quote that appears on the back.

A history of the Sherpas and their involvements in climbing from the 1920s onwards.


First edition. 4to. pp. v, [i], 274; 3 sketch maps at rear; VG in original card wrappers, plastic ring bound as issued.

Excellent guide to the peaks of the Andes, and to the published literature of Andean climbing.


First edition. 8vo. xiv, 202; photo. illusts.; good in original cloth, in d.j. which is faded on spine.

Neate N42. Includes chapters on mountaineering and polar expeditions.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Publisher</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Call of the Mountains</td>
<td>Wyatt</td>
<td>Thames and Hudson</td>
<td>1952</td>
<td>£25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Southern Alps (Part 1) from the Kaikouras to Rangitata</td>
<td>Pascoe</td>
<td>Pegasus Press</td>
<td>1951</td>
<td>£45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Southern Alps (Part 1) from the Kaikouras to Rangitata (revised)</td>
<td>Pascoe</td>
<td>Pegasus Press</td>
<td>1956</td>
<td>£45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Haast is in South Westland</td>
<td>Pascoe</td>
<td>A. H. &amp; A. W. Reed</td>
<td>1966</td>
<td>£35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men Aspiring</td>
<td>Powell</td>
<td>A. H. &amp; A. W. Reed</td>
<td>1967</td>
<td>£25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘A discussion on the physiology of man at high altitudes</td>
<td>Pugh</td>
<td>Royal Society</td>
<td>1954</td>
<td>£95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Du Mont Blanc à l’Himalaya</td>
<td>Rébuffat</td>
<td>Arthaud</td>
<td>1955</td>
<td>£20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

First edition. 4to. pp. 96; full page photo. illusts.; browning to endpapers, tear to fore-edge of flyleaf. good in original cloth, in d.j., which is frayed with loss. Inscribed to the flyleaf: “George Lowe - his visit Nov. 18th 1953 to Rosemary and Wilfrid Noyce”.

Neate W134. A nicely illustrated books of photographs by the skier. This copy was presented to Lowe by Wilfrid Noyce, a fellow member of the 1953 Everest Expedition.

First edition. 8vo. pp. 72; illusts., sketch maps; very good in the original pictorial wrappers with fold-in maps, adhesion mark to upper wrapper. A presentation copy “For George Lowe, from the South Col to South Ice & Pole & back to sunny Hastings John Pascoe 15 April 1958”.

Neate Q98 (1st ed.). Revised version of the preceding item.

First edition. Square 8vo. pp. 116; illusts., sketch maps, map endpapers; very good in the original cloth, in d.j., which is slightly frayed. Ownership inscription of George Lowe to half-title, “From Mum 1967”.

Not in Neate. A history of the region in New Zealand’s South Westland, with occasional climbing references.

First edition. 8vo. pp. 183; photo. illusts., sketch maps, map endpapers; very good in the original cloth, in d.j., which is frayed to head of spine. Signed by the author to the title-page, and with presentation to George Lowe from his family on dedication leaf.

Neate P97. The author’s story of climbs on Mount Aspiring, in New Zealand’s Westland.


A discussion with contributions by, among others, Griff Pugh (of the Cho Oyu 1952 and Everest 1953 expeditions), Raymond Greene (Everest 1933), Michael Ward and Tom Bourdillon (both of Everest 1951 & 1953).

First edition. Small 4to. pp. 156; illusts., sketch maps; very good in original printed wrappers, which are slightly age-toned, in original dust-jacket, which is slightly chipped.

First separate edition. 8vo. pp. 44; b & w plates, illustrs.; VG in original printed wrappers.

Neate R41. An expedition to the Manaslu region, with an ascent of Chamar. The booklet reprints an article that originally appeared in Tararua.

First edition. 8vo. pp. xii, 270; photo. illustrs., one folding map; previous owner’s inscriptions to front pastedown, good in original cloth, slightly faded and rubbed on spine.

Neate R66. The account of the first ascent in 1933 of Mount Stalin - later known as Peak of Communism - in the Western Pamirs. George Lowe took part in the British-Soviet Pamirs Expedition of 1962 that aimed to make a joint ascent of the peak, during which expedition Wilfrid Noyce and Robin Smith died on the descent from the nearby Peak Garmo.

First edition. 8vo. pp. xx, 316, 8 (pubs. ads.); frontis., photo. illustrs.; minor age-toning to margins, browning to flyleaf, else very good in the original cloth, gilt, slightly rubbed. Bookplate signed “George Lowe Dec. 1954” to flyleaf, and with a letter from Dora H. de Beer presenting the book to Lowe.

Neate R73: Perret 3764 (“Peu courant”). Malcolm Ross (1862-1930) climbed in the region of Mount Cook, in 1906 making the first traverse and fourth ascent of Mount Cook itself. This copy was presented to George Lowe by Dora Hallenstein de Beer, a New Zealander based in London and herself a climber. Her letter reads “If this is the book by Malcolm Ross that you want, let me have the pleasure of giving it to you. An early Xmas present ...”

65 Russell, Scott. Mountain Prospect. London: Chatto & Windus, 1946. £150
First edition. 8vo. pp. xvi, 248; photo. illustrs., 7 sketch maps; VG in original cloth, in very worn d.j. Signed by the author to the title-page, and with the ownership inscription of George Lowe (“W. G. Lowe 1947”) to flyleaf, and obituary notice of Russell loosely inserted.

Neate R95: Yakushi R207. Scott Russell spent his early years in New Zealand, and these memoirs begin with details of his climbs in the Southern Alps of New Zealand. Later chapters cover his time on Shipton’s expedition to the Karakoram in 1939-40. Russell later married the daughter of George Finch, of Everest fame.

First edition. 8vo. pp. xvi, 248; photo. illustrs., 7 sketch maps; VG in original cloth, d.j., which is chipped and slightly browned on spine. Inscribed by author to title-page “For George Lowe (who really does climb) Scott Russell”, ownership inscription of George Lowe, 1955.

Neate R98: Yakushi R207.

First edition. 8vo. pp. 214; photo. plates; good in the original cloth, which is discoloured, in d.j., which is slightly chipped to extremities. Ownership inscription of George Lowe, 1950.

Neate S29. Published as part of the New Alpine Library. A collection of the author’s addresses to the Alpine Club, mostly on Alpine subjects.

Reprint [1st ed 1943]. 8vo. pp. 248; 31 b & w photo. illusts., four sketch maps to text; very good in the original cloth (no dust-jacket issued for this edition), rubbed and marked. Ownership inscription of George Lowe, Oct. 1955, to flyleaf, signed by the author Eric Shipton to the title-page.


Neate S65; Yakushi S216a. Shipton, one of the foremost climbers of the twentieth century, made significant ascents in Africa, the Himalayas and Patagonia. He was a member of several Everest expeditions, and sometime Consul-General in Kashgar.

70 Smythe, F. S. The Kangchenjunga Adventure. London: Victor Gollancz Ltd., 1930. £175

1st ed. 8vo. pp. 464; photo. illusts., sketch maps; slight age-toning to margins, previous owner name erased from flyleaf, label removed from rear pastedown, good in original cloth, sunned on spine. Ownership inscription of George Lowe, 1955, and signed by George Band to title.

Neate S119; Yakushi S286a. A personal account of the 1930 Dyhrenfurth-led attempt on Kangchenjunga. The party went on to make a successful attempt on Jonsong Peak. This copy is signed by George Band, who with Joe Brown made the successful first ascent in 1955.


Reissue for the Silver Library. 8vo. pp. xiv, 339; frontis., two plates; some foxing, else very good in original cloth, slightly faded on spine. Ownership inkstamp of J. Garfield Anderson.

Neate S165. A reissue of Stephen’s classic account of mountaineering in the Alps, revised from the original 1871 version.


First edition. 8vo. pp. 408; illusts. by Thomas Beck; good in original two-tone cloth, faded on spine, in d.j., which is slightly browned on spine and chipped. Ownership inscription of George Lowe, 1951.

Neate S193 (“Fascinating compendium of songs, stories, information and verses”).

73 Tasker, Joe. Savage Arena. London: Methuen, [1982]. £95

First edition. 8vo. pp. 270; photo. illusts.; some age-toning to text, good in the original cloth, d.j. Ownership inscription of George Lowe, dated 1983, to flyleaf.

Neate T05. Tasker’s memoir of climbs on the Eiger and in the Himalaya (K2,Kangchenjunga, etc.), published posthumously.

74 Temple, Philip, ed. Castles in the air men and mountains in New Zealand. [Dunedin:] John McIndoe, [1973]. £25

First edition. 8vo. pp. 168; illusts.; very good in the original cloth, in d.j., which is chipped to extremities and sunned on spine. Presented to George Lowe by his family.

Neate T13; Perret 4217. A pictorial history of climbing in New Zealand.

First edition. 8vo. pp. xiii, 235; 35 b & w plates from photographs, one single-page sketch map, one folding map; ownership inkstamp of J. Garfield Anderson, rector of South Otago High School, to flyleaf, very good in the original blue cloth, slightly rubbed and soiled.

*Neate T35; Yakushi T161a.* Tilman’s account of the British-American 1936 expedition includes details of the successful ascent by himself and N.E. Odell.


First edition. 8vo. pp. xii, 233; photo. illus., 3 sketch maps, one folding map, 2 single-page maps; VG in original cloth, d.j., which is slightly faded on spine and chipped to extremities. Ownership inscription of George Lowe, 1950.

*Neate T49; Yakushi (3rd ed.) T164a.* The mountains of the title are Rakaposhi and Mustagh Ata, ascents of both of which Tilman attempted (the latter with Eric Shipton). After his return from these attempts Tilman visited the source of the Oxus, the river of the title.


Second impression. 8vo. pp. 366; illus., sketch maps; VG in original cloth, d.j. which is sunned on spine. Ownership inscription of George Lowe 1983 Capel Curig & Everest Reunion W/E.

*Neate A50.* The best biography of Tilman.


*Neate S121 (“A diminutive curiosity”).* This book was presented to the expedition at the book signing arranged by Dorothy Irving-Bell in George’s Bookshop, Bristol, September 29th, 30th and October 1st, 1955.


First edition. 8vo. pp. 224; photo. illus., sketch maps; some spotting, else good in the original cloth, discoloured on spine, in original d.j. which chipped. Signed to the title-page by George Band, who made the first successful ascent of the mountain with Joe Brown, and with the ownership inscription of George Lowe, dated 1955, to flyleaf.

*Neate T65; Yakushi T134; Perret 4340.* An account of the 1954 reconnaissance of the southern approach to Kanchenjunga, resulting in the successful ascent in 1955 by Joe Brown and George Band.


First edition. 8vo. pp. 291; photo. illus., one sketch map; minor spotting, else very good in the original blue cloth, gilt, slight fading to cloth at heel of spine. Ownership inscription of George Lowe (“W. G. Lowe 1951”) to flyleaf.

*Neate T70; Perret 4349.* Turner climbed Mount Cook in 1906, and returned to New Zealand in 1911 to settle there. He attempted to climb various peaks, described in the present work, including Mount Tutuko. Turner and Peter Graham climbed Tutuko in 1924.

First edition. 8vo. pp. 304; illustrations from photographs, 3 sketch maps, map endpapers; very good in the original cloth, in d.j., bumped to upper corners, d.j. slightly soiled. With typed letter from Michael Ward to George Lowe loosely inserted.

A large folding coloured map, approx. 76 x 78cm., folding in original paper wallet. An excellent reconnaissance topographic map, based on surveys by Washburn and others. The map was published in honour of Othmar Gurtner, director of the Swiss Foundation for Alpine Research.

First edition. 12mo. pp. 118; illus.; minor finger-soiling, else good in original cloth, in d.j., which is frayed. Ownership inscription of George Lowe, 1947.

First edition. 8vo. pp. xiv, 354; illus.; near-fine in the original cloth, d.j. Ownership inscription of George Lowe to title with comment “I knew him well”.

86 Whymper, Edward. The Ascent of the Matterhorn. London: Murray, 1880. £150
First thus, but an abridged version of Scrambles amongst the Alps (1st ed. 1871). 8vo. pp. xxiii, 325; full-page and text illus., 2 maps; occasional soiling, final leaf chipped at margins, good in 20th c. buckram, gilt. Ownership inscription of George Lowe, Oct. 1955.

87 Young, Geoffrey Winthrop. Freedom. London: John Murray, 1914. £45
First edition. 8vo. pp. viii, 146; minor spotting, else VG in original cloth, gilt. Ownership inscription of M B Scott, with subsequent ownership inscription of George Lowe, 1953, and the note in his hand “from Miss M. B. Scott Dunedin, N.Z.”.

Fourth edition. 8vo. pp. xi, 319; good in original cloth, in d.j. which is frayed with loss. Ownership inscription of George Lowe, 1946, at front and back, with note “from Miss Scott” and her gift inscription “George Lowe from Marion Scott (Pioneer Pass, Graham’s Saddle, January 1946”).


89 Young, Geoffrey Winthrop. Mountains with a Difference. London: Eyre & Spottiswoode, [1951]. £25

First edition. 8vo. pp. xi, 282; photo. illusts.; good in original cloth, faded at foot of spine, in d.j., which is frayed with loss. Ownership inscription of J. Garfield Anderson.

Neate Y20 (“Account of his Alpine climbs with an artificial leg, after 1918”).


Fifth edition. 8vo. pp. xii, 352; photo. illusts.; VG in original cloth, in d.j. which is slightly chipped. Ownership inscription of George Lowe, 1951.

Neate Y21: “This book contains accounts of his great Alpine Climbs before 1914, and much of his finest prose”. Winthrop Young revised the text slightly for this fifth edition.


First edition. 8vo. pp. 352; photo. illusts.; good in original cloth, partially faded, in d.j., which is frayed with loss. Ownership inscription of George Lowe, 1984, with his note “I met Geoffrey before he died: He was an H.M.I. [Her Majesty’s Inspector]”.

Neate Y17. A book of mostly non-mountaineering memoirs, with an account of Winthrop Young’s experience in WWI.