

U DX305

Letters to Winifred Horrabin

1941-1943

Biographical Background:

Winifred Horrabin was born in 1887, the daughter of Arthur John Batho and Lilian Outram. Her father died when she was a child. She came from a nonconformist (congregational) background in Sheffield and attended the Sheffield School of Art where she met her husband, Francis (Frank) James Horrabin, whom she married in 1911. Frank Horrabin gained employment on the Sheffield Telegraph and went on to become a political cartoonist of considerable note with several newspapers. He and Winifred Horrabin shared socialist political principles. They were friendly with H G Wells and Frank Horrabin illustrated Wells's Outline of History, which appeared in 1920. Winifred Horrabin spent the early years of her marriage working on a number of writing projects, the most significant being her book on the socialist historian, Olive Schreiner, whose nonconformist background (Quaker) had been similar to her own (*Dictionary of National Biography*).

Winifred Horrabin was involved with her husband in the Labour Colleges Movement and he was the first editor of The Plebs, the journal of the National Council of Labour Colleges, and her diaries and letters have information about this work. Frank Horrabin served during the first world war and after the war he was briefly Labour MP for Peterborough and became involved in anti-imperialist politics, collaborating with Rita Hinden and Arthur Creech Jones in creating the Fabian Colonial Bureau. In 1942 Frank Horrabin left Winifred Horrabin and there are letters and notes about their separation in the collection. He remarried in 1948 and died in 1962. Winifred Horrabin's papers continue after their separation and are most valuable for her literary works. She died in 1971 (*Dictionary of National Biography*).

Custodial history:

Donated by Aurelia Young, 4 December 2006

Extent: 2 items

Related material:

Papers of Winifred Horrabin, 1882-1967 (Ref U DWH)

Research papers relating to Winnifred Horrabin (U DX398)

Papers and Publications relating to Winifred and Frank Horrabin, 1916-1955 (U DX283)

Papers of Robin Page Arnot, 1880 - 1979 (U DAR)

Access conditions:

Access will be granted to any accredited reader

U DX305/1

Photocopies. Letters (ALS & TLS) from Winifred Horrabin to the sculptor Oscar Nemon.
About sitting for her bust
2 items

23 Jul 1941-
19 Jan 1943