Finding Aid for the Sara Anne Catherine Whinyates Robertson letters and estate documents LSC.2379

UCLA Library Special Collections
Online finding aid last updated 2020 January 24.
Room A1713, Charles E. Young Research Library
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URL: https://www.library.ucla.edu/special-collections
Contributing Institution: UCLA Library Special Collections
Title: Sara Anne Catherine Whinyates Robertson letters and estate documents
Creator: Robertson, Sara Anne Catherine Whinyates
Identifier/Call Number: LSC.2379
Physical Description: 0.4 Linear Feet (1 box)
Date (inclusive): 1806-1808
Abstract: The collection consists of 46 letters, written in India by Sara Anne Catherine Whinyates Robertson. The letters are primarily to her grandmother Lady Frankland, her aunt Harriet Frankland, and her brother Sir Edward Charles Whinyates. The letters describe social life and conditions in British Colonial India. In addition, there are two documents concerning her father’s estate in India. The materials date from 1806 to 1808.

Stored off-site. All requests to access special collections material must be made in advance using the request button located on this page.

Physical Description: The letters are generally in very good, clean, and legible condition, with some minor tears, and loss along folds.

Language of Material: Materials are in English.

Conditions Governing Access
Open for research. All requests to access special collections materials must be made in advance using the request button located on this page.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use
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Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Sara Anne Catherine Whinyates Robertson letters and estate documents (Collection 2379). UCLA Library Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, University of California, Los Angeles.

Immediate Source of Acquisition
Purchased from Michael Brown Rare Books, LLC from the Manuscript Funds, 2019.

Processing Information
Collections are processed to a variety of levels depending on the work necessary to make them usable, their perceived user interest and research value, availability of staff and resources, and competing priorities. Library Special Collections provides a standard level of preservation and access for all collections and, when time and resources permit, conducts more intensive processing. These materials have been arranged and described according to national and local standards and best practices.

Processed by Jasmine Larkin, 2019. The materials are arranged in the existing order in which they were received from the seller.

UCLA Catalog Record ID
UCLA Catalog Record ID: 9084635

Biographical History
Against her family’s wishes, Sara Anne Catherine Whinyates married Lieutenant James Robertson of the Bengal Engineers in 1803. Her grandmother, Lady Frankland, her Aunt Harriet, and her brother Edward Charles were the only family that supported her and wrote to her. Sara and her husband initially resided at Fort William. Situated on the eastern banks of the River Hooghly, the major distributary of the River Ganges, Fort William was an important stronghold and the major trading hub for the East India Company. From the time of their marriage until 1805, British and Indian soldiers clashed in the Second Anglo-Maratha War – Britain's sixth conflict with India since 1766. British forces managed to maintain control of Fort William, but, by 1806, the region still experienced some violence.

Source: Michael Brown Rare Books, LLC. Invoice correspondence, November 15, 2019.

Scope and Content
The collection consists of 46 letters, written in India by Sara Anne Catherine Whinyates Robertson. The letters are written to Robertson’s grandmother Lady Frankland; her Aunt Harriet; her brother Sir Edward Charles Whinyates, British Army general, veteran of Waterloo; her uncle William Frankland; and her sisters Amy, Rachel, and Bella. In addition, there are two documents regarding her father’s estate in India.
The letters describe social life and conditions in British Colonial India. The letters chronicle when Sara's parents die in Allahabad, India and leave behind two younger orphaned sisters and many debts. Sara sends her two younger sisters home to England so that they may be educated. The Robertsons are transferred from Calcutta to Allahabad after Mr. Robertson is promoted to Chief Engineer at that post. Mr. Robertson is sent into the field several times during various uprisings and insurgencies. Sara desired bringing her older sisters to India so they could "marry well" and be "settled."

Source: Michael Brown Rare Books, LLC. Invoice correspondence, November 15, 2019.

**Custodial History**

Collection acquired by dealer at an auction in 2017.

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**

British -- India -- Social life and customs -- 19th century

Letters (Correspondence).

Robertson, Sara Anne Catherine Whinyates -- Correspondence
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box and Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>box 1, folder 42</td>
<td>Letter to Lady Frankland 1808 April 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>box 1, folder 43</td>
<td>Letter to Harriet Frankland 1808 July 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>box 1, folder 44</td>
<td>Letter to Lady Frankland 1808 September 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>box 1, folder 45</td>
<td>Letter to Edward Charles Whinyates 1808 September 20</td>
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<tr>
<td>box 1, folder 46</td>
<td>Letter to William Frankland 1808 September 24</td>
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<tr>
<td>box 1, folder 47</td>
<td>Letter to Lady Frankland 1808 September 25</td>
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<tr>
<td>box 1, folder 48</td>
<td>Letter to Lady Frankland 1808</td>
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