

QUEEN VICTORIA MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY

CHS 41

THE DOROTHEA HENSLOWE COLLECTION

Anglican Church, Hobart
Women, Hobart

INTRODUCTION

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INTRODUCTION

Dorothea Isabel Henslowe was born in Launceston in 1896. She lived in the Scottsdale area until she was three, when her family moved to a farm at Ulverstone, and was educated by a governess until leaving home to complete her schooling at the Church of England Girls' Grammar School in Launceston. After leaving school she worked as a teacher and governess, including at Launceston's Frederick Street School. From 1919 to 1920 she was a member of the Voluntary Aid Detachment at Hornsey Hospital in Launceston, then returned to teaching. In 1925 she went to live with her family in Hamilton, where her father had been appointed Anglican Rector, and spent the next ten years there helping in the parish and giving aid to the needy.

After her parents died in 1935, Dorothea travelled to Canada and then settled in Battery Point, Hobart. She worked for the Australian Board of Mission, a missionary organisation of the Anglican Church that works largely in Asia, the Pacific and with Aboriginal communities. She worked in an honorary capacity for this organisation for over 30 years. She was first appointed Secretary to the Women's Auxiliary of the Australian Board of Mission in 1937, serving in the position until 1943. She was then appointed as the Honorary State Secretary for Tasmania and established the organisation's State office. In this role she became the first woman to address the Synod of the Anglican Church in Tasmania. She retired as Honorary State Secretary in 1954, but continued to serve on the organisation's board and as its representative to the Anglican Synod. She was Federal President of the organisation for six years, and Federal President of the Women's Auxiliary from 1964 to 1967. She also served as a voluntary worker on the Diocesan Children's Homes Committee, which oversaw the management of Children's Homes operated by the Tasmanian Diocese of the Anglican Church, including five years as its Honorary Secretary and later three as its President. She was an initiator of the Canterbury Tea Rooms which raised funds for both the Australian Board of Mission and the Diocesan Children's Homes between 1949 and 1959.

Dorothea Henslowe was active in the Battery Point community. She was Vice President of the Battery Point Progress Association, and was President for 11 years of a committee which purchased a former Methodist Church in the 1960s to prevent its demolition and replacement by a service station. The Church became the Battery Point Community Centre. She ran a playgroup for underprivileged children and a boys' club and suggested the establishment of a Senior Citizens' Club there. In 1987 the Centre's grounds were renamed Henslowe Park in recognition of her role in its establishment.

She had a wide interest in the history of Tasmania, particularly its buildings. In 1971, Dorothea and a friend had the idea of taking tourists for guided tours of Battery Point. These were established the same year. She took many of the walks herself and also trained other guides to lead them. The walks raised funds for the restoration of St George's Anglican Church at Battery Point and for the National Trust. In 1978 she published a book, *Our Heritage of Anglican Churches in Tasmania*, a history of Anglican church buildings in the state.

Dorothea Henslowe received a number of awards in recognition of her community and tourism work, including a British Empire Medal in 1979. She became a life member of

the National Trust in 1986 and was Hobart City Council's Citizen of the Year in 1990. That same year she won the Tasmanian Visitor Corporation Award, an award created especially for her.

She travelled extensively within Australia and overseas, including a trip to Central Australia to observe the work of the Australian Board of Mission. She published two books as a result of trips to Papua New Guinea, *Papuan Post* in 1947 and *Papua Calls* in 1954. During several trips to the United Kingdom, Canada and the United States she visited family members. In 1966 her sister Muriel Cranswick travelled with her to the Holy Lands and again in 1972 when she made a return visit to Papua New Guinea.

Dorothea Henslowe died in 1994. Her ashes are at St Peter's Anglican Church at Hamilton.

The collection was donated to the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery in April 1999.

1. Diaries

1/1	Personal diaries (3 items)	1924-1926
1/2	Personal diary, trip to the United Kingdom etc	1927
1/3	Personal diary	1928
1/4	Personal diary, trip to Canada etc	1936
1/5	Personal diaries (5-50)	1943-1992
1/6	Papua New Guinea trip diary (includes correspondence)	1947-1948
1/7	Papua New Guinea trip diary	1954
1/8	Central Australia to Wyndham, Forrest River Mission and Perth to Adelaide	1959
1/9.1	Trip diary including Trip There	1962
1/9.2	United States of America trip diary	1962
1/9.3	England and trip home diary	1962
1/10.1	Trip to Holy Lands and trip home diary	1966
1/10.2	Holy Lands trip diary	1966
1/11.1	Portugal trip diary	1968
1/11.2	England trip diary	1968
1/11.3	Rhine trip and trip home	1968
1/12	Papua New Guinea Anglican Church cruise trip diary	1972

2. Correspondence

2/1.1	Trip to England and the Continent, letters from D I Henslowe	1927
2/1.2	Trip to England and the Continent, letters from D I Henslowe re stay in Ceylon and Malaya	1927
2/2	Letters on Australian Board of Mission deputations in Australia	1948-1950
2/3	Letters on Australian Board of Mission deputations	1950-1954

	in Australia; Queen's Visit etc	
2/4	Letters on Australian Board of Mission deputations in Australia	1955-1964
2/5	Letters from missionaries and Papuans	1948-1959
2/6	Letters re Consecration of George Ambo as Assistant Bishop of Papua New Guinea (includes photographs and newspaper cuttings)	1960
2/7	Sundry kind and encouraging letters re Australian Board of Mission; Diocesan Children's Homes work etc	1914-1990
2/8	Reviews and comments on 'Papuan Post' and 'Papua Calls'; letters re retirement etc	1948-1982
2/9	Letters re BEM and Honours, parties given to me by Battery Point	1971-1990
2/10.1	Birthday card - 80th Birthday	1976
2/10.2	Birthday congratulations from people of Battery Point	1986-1991
2/10.3	Guest book, 90th birthday parties (includes cards, letters and newspaper cutting)	1986
2/11	Letters re St George's Anglican Church; 'Our Heritage of Anglican Churches' etc	1972-1987
2/12	Letters of sympathy on death of Muriel Cranswick (sister of Dorothea Henslowe)	1988
2/13	Letters from Dr Robert and Val Green's family	1989-1992
2/14	Letters from overseas family (includes photographs)	1978-1991
2/15	Letters of interest from friends etc	1963-1994
2/16	Correspondence letter book	1962-1968
2/17	Correspondence letter book	1968-1973
2/18	Correspondence letter book	1974-1979
2/19	Correspondence letter book	1979-1986
2/20	Correspondence letter book	1987-1991

3. Talks, Addresses and Working Notes

3/1	Talks on Australian Board of Mission work	1937-1947
3/2	Talks on Australian Board of Mission work	1948-1958
3/3	Talks on Australian Board of Mission work	1955-1974
3/4	President's address to Central Council of Women's Auxiliary of the Australian Board of Mission and president's circular letters	1956-1962
3/5	Notes from Australian Board of Mission secretaries' retreats etc	1943-1961
3/6	Chairman's addresses and deputations, Australian Board of Mission	1946-1981
3/7	Various talks re Australian Board of Mission etc	1943-1981
3/8	Talks re Australian Board of Mission; Battery Point etc	1943-1981
3/9	Notes on Diocesan Children's Homes, Battery Point etc	1983
3/10	St George's, Battery Point, Guide to the church for tourists together with a short history compiled by D I Henslowe	1972
3/11	Extracts from minutes books, Parish magazines etc, St George's, Battery Point	1972-1986
3/12	Talks re Anglican churches, St George's, Battery Point etc	1972-1986
3/13	Notes re church buildings from Tasmanian Church Chronicle and Church News for <i>Our Heritage of Anglican Churches in Tasmania</i>	nd
3/14	Paper on <i>Our Heritage of Anglican Churches in Tasmania</i>	1975
3/15	Battery Point notes (includes photographs and brochures)	1960-1971
3/16	Streets and buildings of Battery Point of every sort	1975-1979
3/17	Streets of Battery Point and some buildings etc in them, notes for book 'Tasmania's Urban Village'	1982
3/18	Transcript of Walk around Battery Point by D I Henslowe	1983

3/19 Education Department of Tasmania, Battery Point Walk booklets 1973

4.Scrapbooks and Albums

4/1 My Mother and Father, Frances and Walter Henslowe 1899-1935

4/2 Ye Hornsey Book (includes photographs, autographs and newspaper cuttings. This item is a copy only) 1919-1920

4/3 Hamilton and St Peter's Anglican Church 1934-1972

4/4 Newspaper cuttings re D I Henslowe 1914-1991

4/5 Stories about New Guinea written by Rev James Benson printed in *The Anglican* (includes correspondence) 1947-1956

4/6 Papua New Guinea and Forrest River Missions etc 1956-1961

4/7 Newspaper cuttings, Papua New Guinea; Anglican Church etc (includes photographs) 1956-1990

4/8 The Anglican Church in Tasmania 1935-1972

4/9 The Anglican Church; sermons etc 1949-1990

4/10 Information since *Our Heritage of Anglican Churches in Tasmania* was printed 1978-1991

4/11 Tasmania, general 1974-1981

4/12 Scrapbook of newspaper cuttings 1956-1978

4/13 Hobart buildings etc 1958-1983

4/14 Hobart history and places of interest 1961-1981

4/15 Hobart waterfront; buildings etc 1973-1978

4/16 Hobart buildings etc 1978-1984

4/17 Prints of Hobart and Launceston nd

4/18 Battery Point, houses for sale and other advertisements 1973-1980

4/19 Battery Point and Hobart buildings etc 1983-1990

4/20	Northern Tasmanian Buildings, churches and National Trust homes etc	1960-1987
4/21	Newspaper cuttings re Launceston and natural history	1979
4/22	People	1972-1987
4/23	Tasmanian Aborigines and islands	1958-1984
4/25.1	Tasmanian nature notes, birds	1965-1980
4/25.2	Tasmanian nature notes, birds	1980-1985
4/26	Tasmanian nature notes, animals, fish and insects	1966-1988
4/27	Tasmanian nature notes, plants and country	1965-1981
4/28	South West Tasmania and Cradle Mountain	1946-1985
4/29	South West Tasmania	1978-1981
4/30	East Coast and Midlands	1962-1983
4/31	Port Arthur, Bruny Island and Macquarie Island etc	1965-1984

5. Photographs and Slides

5/1	Hamilton photographs, interior of St Peter's Anglican Church and Jock (Rev. Walter Henslowe's dog)	c1930s
5/3	D I Henslowe with R Coleman and S Allingham	1985
5/4	90th birthday parties of D I Henslowe	1986
5/5	Film slides list	1948-1978
5/6	Papua New Guinea slides	1948-1955
5/7.1	Aborigines and Forrest River Mission trip slides	1959
5/7.2	Aborigines and Forrest River Mission trip slides	1959
5/8	Tasmania slides	1962-1979
5/9	England, Holy Lands, Europe and Australian mainland trip slides	1962-1971
5/10	Canada and United States of America trip slides	1962

5/11	Holy Lands trip slides	1966
5/12	Drawing of Topura at Wanigela, Papua New Guinea (Framed item)	nd

6. Personal Account Books

6/1	Account book	1932-1940
6/2	Account book	1940-1946
6/3	Account book	1947-1958
6/4	Account book	1958-1967
6/5	Account book	1967-1975
6/6	Account book (trip to Portugal and England)	1968
6/7	Account book	1975-1979
6/8	Account book	1979-1982
6/9	Account book	1982-1984
6/10	Account book	1984-1988
6/11	Account book (Income tax)	1935-1991

7. Miscellaneous Items

7/1	Tourist brochures, United Kingdom	1928-1960
7/2	Tourist brochures, Canada and United States of America	1936-1962
7/3	Tourist brochures, the Holy Lands	c1966
7/4	Tourist brochures, Portugal	c1968
7/5	Tourist brochures, Tasmania	1970s
7/6	List of food parcels sent to England	1945-1950
7/7	Sermons of Rev. W Henslowe	1917-1935
7/8	Passports, D I Henslowe	1936-1966
7/9	Christmas Cards printed by D I Henslowe	1948-1961

7/10	Maps (map of locations of stream related manufactories on the Hobart Town Rivulet, 1804-1883; map of the Diocese of New Guinea; map of countries where missionary work is supported by Australian Board of Mission; pictorial map of Battery Point)	nd
7/11	Orders of Services; invitations etc (Royal Visit 1954; Sir James Plimsoll State funeral; special Anglican clergy services; Order of the British Empire etc)	1950-1954, 1981-1991
7/12	Furniture book (record of furniture bought)	1936-1984
7/13	Household record book (inventory of household items)	1937-1966

OTHER SOURCES

QVMAG, Community History, 1991.OH .22A & B