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Inventory

Elisaveta Kandyba-Foxcroft Papers
1899-1905; 1957-1991



Compiled by
Marié Coetzee
2003
& updated 2012

Elisaveta Kandyba-Foxcroft Papers (1899-1905; 1957-1991)

Unisa Archives: MSS Collection Accession 54

Elisaveta Kandyba was born in Czarist Russia in 1912. She left Russia with her mother after the Revolution in 1920. They lived for five years in Bulgaria and then for three years in France. Early in 1928 at the age of fifteen, an acquaintance of her mother invited her to study in England. This Williams family later adopted her. In England she attended the St Swithun's Public School in Winchester. Elisaveta went to Oxford (Somerville College) in 1931 to study modern languages. She obtained an Honours degree in 1934 and a MA degree a few years later. Married in 1935 to Mr Foxcroft, a South African, Elisaveta settled in the country in 1947. In 1960 she joined the staff of the University of South Africa and helped to launch the Russian Department. She travelled extensively and delivered many academic papers in South Africa and abroad. In 1977 she retired.

Amongst her many achievements was the book *Russia and the Anglo-Boer War 1899-1904*, published by CUM Books in Roodepoort, 1981. This publication earned her the "Pretorian of the Year" award. Her many interests included the Russian Orthodox Church, Russian music, literature and history.

After suffering from Alzheimer's disease for some time, she died on 2 February 1989.

Elisaveta Kandyba-Foxcroft Papers **0,9 linear metres**

The Elisaveta Kandyba-Foxcroft Papers were donated to the Unisa Library Archives between 1988 and 1992 by Mrs Foxcroft and Prof C de Jong. The Papers reflect her career, her interests and especially her passionate love of Russian literature, music, history and culture. About 10% of the archival materials are in Russian. The copies of the Russian archival Anglo-Boer War records in the files were translated by Mrs Foxcroft from the original Russian, French and Dutch into English. The Papers include her personal correspondence, materials on the Russian Orthodox Church, programmes of Russian evenings held at the University of South Africa, historical articles and reports about her visits abroad, plays written by her as well as English translations of Russian plays. The Elisaveta Kandyba-Foxcroft Papers are of great research value to scholars interested in the relationship between South Africa and Russia during the Anglo-Boer War period (1899-1902) and the Cold War years (1960-1986). They also present the researcher with a wonderful introduction to Russian spirituality, culture and literature.

Cite as	Unisa Archives: Elisaveta Kandyba-Foxcroft Papers MSS Acc 54
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Elisaveta Kandyba-Foxcroft Papers (MSS Collection Accession 54)

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|-------|--|------------|
| 1 | Biographical information | 1971-1989 |
| 2 | Correspondence and notes | 1960-1985 |
| 3 | Press cuttings | 1962-1981 |
| 4 | Plays and short story by Mrs Foxcroft | |
| 4.1 | <i>Whose fault</i> , a play in 5 acts by E Foxcroft, based on research into the Russian Revolution of 1905 | |
| 4.2 | <i>A dialogue prologue</i> | |
| 4.3 | <i>Epilogue</i> | |
| 5 | Historical articles by Mrs Foxcroft | |
| 5.1 | <i>The Anglo-Boer War in despatches of Russian Military Attaches, "Historia"</i> | March 1963 |
| 5.2 | <i>A Russian protectorate over South Africa, "Historia"</i>
archival material and photograph of Cmdt Frans Pienaar | Sept 1983 |
| 5.3 | <i>Sapperrus - a tribute from a thankful Russian</i> | |
| 5.4 | <i>How I was a volunteer in the Transvaal</i> by Maria Z, introduction by E Foxcroft | |
| 5.5 | <i>Russian visitors in South Africa 110 years ago</i>
article on IA Goncharov's book "Fregat Pallada", published in Russia, 1856 | |
| 6 | <i>Russia and the South African War 1899-1902</i> | |
| 6.1 | Manuscript, published by CUM Books in Roodepoort | 1981 |
| 6.2 | Book review by Prof C de Jong | |
| 6.3 | Bibliography | |
| 6.4 | Typed copies of Anglo-Boer War documents ¹ , including despatches, lists of volunteers and casualties | 1899-1904 |
| 6.5 | Typed copies of documents in the Leyds Archives in the Transvaal Archives Depot, Pretoria | |
| 6.6 | Reprint of article by GH Bolsover <i>Aspects of Russian foreign policy 1815-1914</i> | |
| 7 | Russian plays | |
| 7.1 | Plays translated into English by Mrs Foxcroft | |
| 7.1.1 | N Zarudny: <i>A man with connections</i> | |
| 7.1.2 | V Homitzky:
<i>The nest;</i>
<i>Magician and snowdrop</i>
<i>The kidnapping of Comrade Polotentsev;</i>
<i>The fossils;</i>
<i>The last of the Mohicans;</i>
<i>Self-defence;</i>
<i>On the road to paradise</i>
<i>The laurels;</i>
<i>First love;</i>
<i>I want to go home;</i>
<i>Mutiny</i> | |
| 7.2 | Chekhov's <i>The seagull</i>
notes about Yuli Karasik's film | |

¹ A number of the documents were translated from Russian into English by Mrs Foxcroft.

- 8 Russian poems
extracts from Khomitsky and others
- 9 Russian Orthodox Church
- 9.1 Manuscript of the Rev Aleksei Archimandrite (Alexey Chernay),
published as *Russian odyssey: the lifepath of an exile* by Cum Books 1981
- 9.2 Article by GV Vernadsky about the relationship between the Russian
Orthodox Church and the State in the 17th century
- 9.3 Russian manuscript about the Orthodox Church in Paris
- 9.4 Russian manuscript from the Holy Trinity Monastery in the USA
- 9.5 Russian Orthodox Church Grammar of the Russian language
- 9.6 Russian Orthodox Church Johannesburg Bulletin 1965
- 9.7 Kazachok evening in aid of the Russian Orthodox Church 1963
- 9.8 Consecration of the Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Pretoria
pamphlet 1972
- 10 Tours and visits to Europe, United States of America, Russia &
Bulgaria
reports, articles and ticket stubs 1961 - 84
- 11 University of South Africa
- 11.1 Applications for post in the Russian Department:
correspondence & annexures 1976-1977
- 11.2 Chancellor's Club
invitations 1979
- 11.3 Correspondence, circulars, pamphlets and photograph 1964-1977; 1986
- 11.4 Programmes of Russian evenings organised by Mrs Foxcroft 1962 -1977
- 12 Files on people
- 12.1 Rhoda Becker
Cosmic thoughts
poems 1957
- 12.2 Prof Apollon Davidson
press cutting 1991
- 12.3 Gen de la Rey
press cuttings 1966
- 12.4 Sir Paul Duke, ST 25, British spy in Russia
press cuttings 1967
- 12.5 *In memory of Prof SA Kononov, Oxford* 1982
- 12.6 Col Eugeni I Maximov
extracts from books
- 12.7 Boris Pasternak and *Dr Zhivago* 1966
- 12.8 Alexandr I Solzhenitsyn 1975
- 12.9 Alexandra Lvovna Tolstoy (daughter of Tolstoy)
report and article on their meeting 1979
- 12.10 Tsar Nicholas II
Tsar Nicholas II & the Jews
letter to *The Star* by E Foxcroft and photograph 1967; 1900