

**MS
Coll.
352B**

Margaret Bloy Graham Drawings

Gift of Margaret Bloy Graham, 2006

Dates: 1943

Extent: 2 binders (15 x 13")

Biographical Note:

Margaret Bloy Graham (1920-2015) was a Canadian illustrator and author best known for her pictures for the children's book *Harry the Dirty Dog*, a collaboration with her then-husband Gene Zion. First published in 1956, the book turned into a series and garnered much praise with Harper Collins releasing a 50th anniversary edition in 2006. Graham also illustrated a series she wrote herself about a dog named Benjy. She was a runner up twice for the Caldecott medal (awarded by the American Library Association to the best illustrated book of the year) for the books *All Falling Down* (1951) and *The Storm Book* (1952). Born in Toronto, Graham studied art as a child and earned a degree in art history from the University of Toronto before moving to New York where she pursued a career as a commercial artist.

Scope and Content:

Collection consists of three cycles of original pen on paper drawings by Margaret Bloy Graham compiled into portfolio-style binders by the artist. The drawings in *Look Out Browning: the British Poets Revisited* and *More Victoriana* are illustrations for famous British poems selected from Palgrave's Golden Treasury, a popular anthology of Victorian poetry originally published in 1861. The drawings are numbered and correspond to an accompanying list with excerpts from the poems illustrated, totaling thirty-six poems by twelve poets including Robert Browning, Percy B. Shelley and Alfred Tennyson, among others. The cycle *Pictures with Morals* features darkly comedic punishments for children who make mistakes like being too curious, sledding on Sunday, not reading the Bible daily, and trespassing.

Custodial History:

Drawings were donated by Margaret Bloy Graham to the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library in 2006.

Notes:

Languages: English

Access: Open