

**Reference code:** GB165-0017

**Title:** Nina Baird Collection

**Name of creator:** Baird, Nina Isabel (d.1919)

**Dates of creation of material:** c1915-1919

**Level of description:** Fonds

**Extent:** 7 sheets, 22 photographs

**Biographical history:** Baird, Nina Isabel

Nina Isabel Baird was the daughter of Sir Alexander Baird 1st Bt. (1849-1920) and his wife Annette Palk (d. 1884). Sir Alexander was sent to Upper Egypt to help with famine relief in the provinces of Girgeh, Kenneh and Esneh. Nina Baird studied art at the Royal Academy and worked with the Red Cross in Egypt. Nina Baird joined her father in Egypt in Sept 1915 where she organised the Red Cross Empire Nurses' Club in Cairo. Nina Baird then carried out war work in testing of bombs manufactured in Cairo. After the Frontier District Administrator had gathered starving Bedouin women from the Senussi Campaign at Amira these women were provided with wool to spin and make carpets. Nina Baird took over the organising of this industry amongst Bedouin women; developing a shop and a school. In Apr 1919 Nina Baird worked as a Political Officer for two months investigating the causes of unrest in Egypt. She died of typhoid fever on 10 Aug 1919.

**Scope and content:** Papers and photographs relating to Nina Baird's work with the Red Cross, at Cairo Citadel, and among the Bedouin at Amira consisting of a letter of sympathy from General Allenby to Sir Alexander Baird 11 Aug 1919; an obituary of Nina Baird by Miss H. Ridler dealing with Nina Baird's work with the Red Cross at Cairo Citadel and among the Bedouin at Amira, 1915-1919. 22 photographs, mainly consisting of photographs of carpets, as well as some photographs of Nina Baird.

**Access conditions:** Open

**Language of material:** English

**Conditions governing reproduction:** No restrictions on copying or quotation other than statutory regulations and preservation concerns

**Immediate source of acquisition:** Received from L.A. Perowne in 1985

**Related Units of Description:**

**In MEC Archive**

For other collections relating to the carpet trade see also:

- GB165-0108 Walter Leonard Flinn Collection
- GB165-0488 Oriental Carpet Manufacturers Ltd

**Finding aids:** In Guide; Handlist

**Archivist's note:** Fonds level description created by Clare Brown 10 Jun 1998 and revised by Debbie Usher 8 Jul 2011. Biographical information based on information from Nina Baird's obituary.

**SERIES AND ITEM LEVEL DESCRIPTION OF THE NINA BAIRD  
COLLECTION**

<u>1</u>	<u>Nina Baird's Death</u>	<u>1919</u>	<u>7 sheets</u>
	Papers relating to Nina Baird's death consisting of a letter of sympathy and an obituary		
1/1	Letter of sympathy from General Allenby to Sir Alexander Baird	11 Aug 1919	2 sheets
	Old Ref: sheets 1-2		
1/2	Letter from Mary Willcox to Miss Ridler providing comments to improve her obituary of Nina Baird	9 Sept 1919	1 sheet
	Old Ref: sheet 3		
1/3	MS obituary by Mary Willcox of the life and work of Nina Baird	1919	4 sheets
	Old Ref: sheets 4-7		
<u>2</u>	<u>Photographs</u>	<u>Not dated</u>	<u>22 prints</u>
	Photographs showing Nina Baird in Cairo c1915-1916 and photographs of the Bedouin carpet industry at Amiria in the Western desert c1916-1918		
2/1	'Sir Alexander Baird and Nina. Tea for convalescents'	c1915-1916	
2/2	'Nina Baird learning driving'	c1915-1916	
2/3	'Nina and Col. ?Besant'	c1915-1916	
2/4	'Nina Baird at Citadel'	c1915-1916	
2/5	'Dwellings of some of the workers'	c1916-1919	
2/6	'Spinners and Store keeper bring yarn to be weighed'	c1916-1919	
2/7	No original caption. Woman weaving	c1916-1919	
2/8	No original caption. Woman weaving	c1916-1919	
2/9	No original caption. Two carpets laid out	c1916-1919	
2/10	No original caption. Workers tents and carpets	c1916-1919	
2/11	'This week's catch'	c1916-1919	

2/12	No original caption. Carpet held up to show design	c1916-1919
2/13	'Tapestry special design. Cannot be copied'	c1916-1919
2/14	'?Fálnia Faragh. 330 x 150 Centimetres. Blue, white and brown – LE 6 – 500 mil'	c1916-1919
2/15	'The Sultan. White, blue and green. 113 x 105 centimetres. L.E. 3500. No 1066 in blue and green	c1916-1919
2/16	'The Ogre. Blue and White. 4 metres x 2 metres. LE 10-000'	c1916-1919
2/17	'Khoary No 4. Blue Green, Grey and White. 250 x 75 centimetres. Price 250 P ?L'	c1916-1919
2/18	'Marrison Br [Brown], Bl [Blue] and Wh [White] 150 x 90 Cent. LE 1-500'	c1916-1919
2/19	Lieut. Crossley. Brown Blue and White. Size 290 x 132 Cent. Price LE 6.000'	c1916-1919
2/20	Mr Wilson. Brown blue, white-brown green and white. Price LE 3.000. Price LE3.050'	c1916-1919
2/21	No original caption. Workers' children in front of a tent	c1916-1919
2/22	No original caption. Workers' children in a class exercising	c1916-1919