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## **Catalogue of the papers of A. and J. Howie**

**Date range of material: 1940-[early 21st century]**

Durham University Library  
January 2024

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## Preface

Creation of catalogue  
EAD by FG, 2022

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## Introduction

*Collection title:* Howie, Alice and John

*Reference code:* GB-0033-SAD

*Dates of creation:* 1940-[early 21st century]

*Extent:* 330 digital photographs

*Repository:* Durham University Library, Archives and Special Collections

*Creator:* Howie, Alice and John

*Language of material:* English

(Mary) Alice Howie née Coburn

(1918 - 2020)

1936-1942	Irish Inland Revenue; Nursing, Ireland
1942-1947	Nursing, Manchester, London, Brighton, Croydon and Plymouth, UK
1947	Nursing Sister, Omdurman Civil Hospital, Sudan Medical Service
1948	Nursing Sister then Charge Sister, Port Sudan, Kassala Northern Area

John Howie

(1925 - 1999)

1943	Cable & Wireless (Eastern Telegraph Company), seconded to Royal Signals / Telcom
1945	Cable & Wireless, Gibraltar
1946-1950	Engineer, Cable & Wireless, Khartoum and Kassala, Sudan
1950-1953	Cable & Wireless, Kingston Jamaica
1954-1958	Cable & Wireless, Buenos Aires, Argentina
1958-1961	Cable & Wireless, Vigo, Spain
1962-1965	Cable & Wireless, Montevideo, Uruguay
1965-1970	Cable & Wireless, Mendoza, Argentina
1970-1976	Head office, Cable & Wireless, London, UK
1976	Cable & Wireless, La Paz, Bolivia

### Accession details

Presented by Patrick Howie, 22 October 2020

### Arrangement

1. Photographs

### Form of citation

Material in the Sudan Archive is given a reference number, which is unique across the collections of papers. Usually it is not necessary to give the name of the person or organisation within which collection the item is found, although it may be convenient to do so.

The short form of citation should be GB-0033-SAD.*reference number*

Most printed references take the form: SAD.*reference number*.

To order items in the searchroom, use the collection reference code(s), derived by removing the repository code (GB-0033-), followed by the reference number. Citing the section of the finding aid is useful.

## 1. Photographs

### 1. (i) Photograph albums

- 1940-1959
- SAD.D60/1/1-120 1940-1959  
Album of scenes in England, Malta, Spain and Sudan, including hospitals and nursing staff and Eastern Telegraph Co. offices in Sudan  
Half-leather binding with blue and white relief-patterned boards, with brown cord tie
- SAD.D60/1/1 1947  
"Omdurman, 5.30 p.m.". Sketch by "MAC" of a *felucca* sailing with cargo on board
- SAD.D60/1/2-33 1940-1959  
Howie and Coburn families and friends photographs: scenes in UK and Ireland, including: parents, Brendan, Alice and James Coburn; nursing colleagues at the Royal Sussex Hospital Brighton; February 1947 snow scenes at Nottingham and Matlock; Singapore; troopship S.S. *Chitral* and Grand Harbour Malta.  
Album has been re-used: captions and mounts from former arrangement remain
- SAD.D60/1/34 1947  
South Block, Khartoum Hospital
- SAD.D60/1/35 1947  
Five Sudanese children seated by a temporary shelter, at a [Hadendowa] camp (see SAD.D60/1/119)
- SAD.D60/1/36 1947  
Five Sudanese nurses, and child, seated and standing outside a columned [hospital] building, [Omdurman]
- SAD.D60/1/37 1947  
Mahdi's tomb, Omdurman
- SAD.D60/1/38 1948  
Six male nurses and one female Sudanese nurse, standing beside a [hospital] building, [Omdurman]
- SAD.D60/1/39 1948  
Alice Coburn and another woman, in swimsuits, at the Sudan Club swimming pool, Khartoum
- SAD.D60/1/40 1948  
Six Sudanese nurses standing beside a [hospital] building, [Omdurman]
- SAD.D60/1/41 1948  
View of the nurses' mess at [Omdurman hospital]
- SAD.D60/1/42 [1948]  
European woman seated on a sitting camel with Hadendowa camel handler and child
- SAD.D60/1/43 [1948]  
Alice Coburn with two European women seated in a garden [at a club]
- SAD.D60/1/44 [1948]  
Colonnaded building, [?Kassala]

SAD.D60/1/45	[1948] European and Sudanese children and [teacher outside a school], [Kassala Province]
SAD.D60/1/46, 48-49	1947-1948 Alice Coburn and Sudanese nurses with a European lady and her newly-born child, Omdurman
SAD.D60/1/47	1947-1948 Alice Coburn in a group dressed for a fancy dress party, Omdurman
SAD.D60/1/50	1947 Alice Coburn in Sudanese dress and necklace, with two Sudanese nursing staff, Omdurman
SAD.D60/1/51	1947 Alice Coburn in nursing uniform standing in hospital collonade, Omdurman
SAD.D60/1/52	1947 Alice Coburn in nursing uniform holding a newly-born infant, Omdurman
SAD.D60/1/53	1947 Alice Coburn with three Sudanese nurses, in uniform, Omdurman
SAD.D60/1/54-57, 59	1947 Oct Alice Coburn with two female friends and a man on the motorboat <i>Gertrude</i> on Jebel Aulia reservoir
SAD.D60/1/58	1947 Oct [?Jebel Aulia dam], viewed from the reservoir
SAD.D60/1/60	[1947] "Pelicans at Port Sudan"
SAD.D60/1/61	[1947] Alice Coburn rowing a boat, with Sudanese oarsman in background, Port Sudan
SAD.D60/1/62-64	1948 Dec Interior and exterior views of the Roman Catholic Church, Port Sudan, where the Alice Coburn and John Howie were married
SAD.D60/1/65	1948 Apr Dog sitting in verandah at the Eastern Telegraph Co. mess, Omdurman: "Rt Hon. Benjamin Crump Snr. Res. [senior resident] E.T.C. mess (while recuperating from a car accident)"
SAD.D60/1/66-67	[1948] Eastern Telegraph Co. office, [Khartoum], showing workbenches and electrical equipment
SAD.D60/1/68	1947 Alice Coburn in nursing uniform, seated in the garden
SAD.D60/1/69-70	1947 Alice Coburn at [club], and with three Sudanese attendants wearing white <i>jellabiyas</i>
SAD.D60/1/71	1947 Alice Coburn at a tea party with the Shelley family

SAD.D60/1/72-79, 83, 86, 110	1948 "Camels ... and how to ride them": scenes of camels (town in distance), some loaded with wood; Alice Coburn and Margaret, with Sudanese attendants
SAD.D60/1/80	[1948] Camel, led by a Hadendowa man, with small settlement and hills in the background
SAD.D60/1/81-82	[1948 x 1950] Sudanese man holding the reins of a camel: "Our cook"
SAD.D60/1/84	1948 Apr Alice Coburn seated on the battlements of a building at Suakin
SAD.D60/1/85	1948 "Two little girls are we... Daphne & self": Alice Coburn seated at the tiller of a sailing boat, [Port Sudan]
SAD.D60/1/87, 89	[1948] Port Sudan Club exterior with club sign, and European group on verandah in background; and interior
SAD.D60/1/88	[1948] H.M.S. <i>Cardigan Bay</i> , moored at [Port Sudan] quay
SAD.D60/1/90	[1948] Port Sudan Civil Hospital, captioned "Torture House" and "Gaol"
SAD.D60/1/91	[1948 x 1950] "Pub": Port Sudan Hotel
SAD.D60/1/92	[1948 x 1950] <i>Mudiriyah</i> , Port Sudan
SAD.D60/1/93	[1948 x 1950] Eastern Telegraph Co. office building, Port Sudan
SAD.D60/1/94	[1948 x 1950] Mosque, Port Sudan
SAD.D60/1/95	[1948 x 1950] Margaret playing with dog Tinker
SAD.D60/1/96	[1948 x 1950] "Hutchfield's 21st", party group, including Alice Coburn
SAD.D60/1/97	[1948 x 1950] "Way out ...": Alice Coburn riding a camel
SAD.D60/1/98	[1948 x 1950] "Two bundles of bones": European figure crouching over the dessicated carcass of an antelope
SAD.D60/1/99	1947 Alice Coburn crouched at the bow of a sailing dinghy, [Port Sudan]
SAD.D60/1/100-102	[1948 x 1950] Scenes at a local football match, including crowd at touchlines and players in action, and Alice Coburn with two European friends
SAD.D60/1/103	[1948 x 1950] Hawkers beside a crowded train at a railway station
SAD.D60/1/104-107	[1948 x 1950] "Some local colour": Hadendowa men armed with swords and shields, and children

- SAD.D60/1/108 1947  
"Alice and cooks", in yard with chickens
- SAD.D60/1/109 1947  
Two [pet] gazelles, one wearing a collar
- SAD.D60/1/111 [1948 x 1950]  
"Native houses": Sudanese mud brick domestic compound beside unsurfaced road, with palm trees
- SAD.D60/1/112 [1948 Apr]  
"Rest house", Suakin, view of arched stairway with small canon [at the *Muhafaza* (Governor's Palace)]
- SAD.D60/1/113 [1948 Apr]  
Rear of a large building at Suakin
- SAD.D60/1/114-115 [1948 x 1950]  
"Dhows at Flamingo Bay": moored and beached Sudanese sailing craft at Flamingo Bay, near Port Sudan
- SAD.D60/1/116 1947  
View from Jebel el Sela, [Erkowit]
- SAD.D60/1/117 1947  
Chalet, [Erkowit]
- SAD.D60/1/118 1947  
Hotel, [Erkowit]
- SAD.D60/1/119 1947  
Kitty's Leap, Erkowit
- SAD.D60/1/120 1947  
Hadendowa camp, [Erkowit]
- SAD.D60/2/1-81 [1948 x 1950]  
Album commemorating the wedding of John Howie to Alice Coburn at the Roman Catholic Church, Port Sudan on 23 December 1948, and the reception at the Red Sea Hotel; including the wedding invitation (SAD.D60/2/2), Red Sea Hotel menu (SAD.D60/2/27-28), departure by car and train (SAD.D60/2/36-44), honeymoon at Gebeit and Suakin (SAD.D60/2/45-59), and newspaper cuttings reporting the wedding (SAD.D60/2/81-83)  
Leather binding stamped with coloured scenes and hieroglyphs, 8 in Ancient Egyptian style and central scene of River Nile, palms and pyramids; with leather tie
- SAD.D60/2/54 [1948 x 1950]  
Mosque
- SAD.D60/2/60 [1948 x 1950]  
Alice Howie in nursing uniform
- SAD.D60/2/61 [1948 x 1950]  
Alice Howie holding infant, with two Sudanese nurses
- SAD.D60/2/62 [1948 x 1950]  
Two camels grazing bushes, [Eastern Sudan]
- SAD.D60/2/63 [1948 x 1950]  
Old camp or settlement site, small stones demarcating living areas, [Eastern Sudan]
- SAD.D60/2/64 [1948 x 1950]  
Mountainous landscape with road, [Eastern Sudan]



- SAD.D60/2/65-66, [1948 x 1950]  
68-69 Landscapes, [Eastern Sudan]  
SAD.D60/2/67 [1948 x 1950]  
Alice Howie sat beside unmetalled road, [Eastern Sudan]  
SAD.D60/2/70-73, [1948 x 1950]  
76-77 Alice Howie in sailing craft, [Port Sudan]  
SAD.D60/2/74 [1948 x 1950]  
Alice Howie leaning on a fence outside a single-story house  
SAD.D60/2/75 [1948 x 1950]  
Young gazelle  
SAD.D60/2/78 [1948 Apr]  
Alice Howie at the Customs gateway, Suakin  
SAD.D60/2/79 [1948 x 1950]  
John Howie, Alice Howie and another man on a tennis court  
SAD.D60/2/80 [1948 x 1950]  
John Howie, standing on steps leading into a garden
1. (ii) Loose photographs  
[1943-early 21st century]  
SAD.D60/3/1-3 1948 [Dec]  
Wedding at Port Sudan  
SAD.D60/3/1 1948 [Dec]  
Alice Coburn in white dress, standing with sun hat  
SAD.D60/3/2 1948 Dec 23  
Scene at the departure car after the wedding of John and Alice Howie, Port Sudan  
SAD.D60/3/3 1948 Dec 23  
John and Alice Howie, posed with wedding bouquet, Port Sudan  
SAD.D60/4/1-2 [1946 x 1950]  
Photographs of Eastern Telegraph Co. staff, Sudan  
SAD.D60/4/1 [1946 x 1950]  
Group photograph of the Eastern Telegraph Co. staff, male and female, European and Sudanese, with dog Rt Hon. Benjamin Crump Snr. (see SAD.D60/1/65): John Howie stands fifth from right behind the Director  
SAD.D60/4/2 [1946 x 1950]  
Group photograph of the Eastern Telegraph Co. staff, male and female, European, with dog Rt Hon. Benjamin Crump Snr. (see SAD.D60/1/65): John Howie stands second from left  
SAD.D60/4/3 [1947 x 1950]  
Group photograph of hospital staff, [Port Sudan], mounted in frame: Alice Coburn seated second row, fourth from left  
SAD.D60/5/1-42 [1943 x 1950]  
Photographs of John Howie with colleagues and friends, in Gibraltar, Giza, Suakin, including:  
SAD.D60/5/1 [1943 x 1950]  
John Howie posed in front of conical lighthouse structure  
SAD.D60/5/2 [1946 x 1950]  
John Howie posed beside standing male [wooden] statue

- SAD.D60/5/3-4, [1943 x 1946]  
9, 12, 34 John Howie in Royal Signals uniform, including at Gibraltar  
"Stalag V"
- SAD.D60/5/10 [1946 x 1950]  
John Howie, with Eastern Telegraph Co. office dog Rt Hon.  
Benjamin Crump Snr. (see SAD.D60/1/65)
- SAD.D60/6/1-25 [1948 x 1950]  
Photographs of Alice Howie (née Coburn), in Sudan
- SAD.D60/6/2 [1948 Apr]  
Alice Howie at the south gate of the *muhafaza*, Suakin
- SAD.D60/6/18, 20 [1948 x 1950]  
Alice Howie playing golf in [Eastern] Sudan
- SAD.D60/6/21 [1948 Apr]  
Alice Howie standing on the roof of the *muhafaza* with the Hanafi  
mosque in the background, Suakin
- SAD.D60/7/1-56 1948-[early 21st century]  
Photographs of various subjects, including
- SAD.D60/7/7 [1948 Apr]  
Sign at Suakin railway station
- SAD.D60/7/16 [1948 x 1950]  
Sudanese football match
- SAD.D60/7/17 [1948 x 1950]  
Branded cow
- SAD.D60/7/20 [1948 x 1950]  
BOAC Douglas DC-3 aircraft (registration G-AGKH) on runway,  
with fuel drums and steps in foreground
- SAD.D60/7/21 [1948 x 1950]  
Erba railway station, with female statue in foreground
- SAD.D60/7/22 [1948 Apr]  
Facade of ruined building with verandah, [Suakin]
- SAD.D60/7/30 [1948 x 1950]  
Suez control station with mast at entrance to Suez canal
- SAD.D60/7/31-32 [1948 x 1950]  
War cemetery, [?Suez]
- SAD.D60/7/33 [1948 x 1950]  
Child navigating a canoe in a riverway
- SAD.D60/7/44 [1948 x 1950]  
John Howie in convertible car daubed in painted slogans "Roving  
reporter", "P.S.W.N.", "News", "All the dirt for [illegible]"
- SAD.D60/7/53 [early 21st century]  
Roman Catholic cathedral, Port Sudan
- SAD.D60/7/54 1948 Dec 22  
Marriage certificate (non-Mohammedan Marriage Ordinance,  
1926) recording the marriage of Alice Coburn and John Howie  
at Port Sudan, 23 December 1948; stamped by Argentinian  
authorities, 29 October 1964

