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Catalogue of the papers of H.E. Hebbert

Date range of material: [1884], 1905-1943

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January 2024

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Preface

Creation of catalogue
wp GB December 2003. EAD JRH February 2004

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Introduction

Collection title: Hebbert, Henry Eric

Reference code: GB-0033-SAD

Dates of creation: [1884], 1905-1943

Extent: 2 files

Repository: Durham University Library, Archives and Special Collections

Creator: Hebbert, Henry Eric

Language of material: English

Henry Eric Hebbert

(1893 - 1980)

1924-1939	Public Works Department
1924-1925/7	District Engineer, Khartoum
1925/7-1930	District Engineer, Port Sudan
1931-1935	Divisional Engineer, Port Sudan
1935-1939	Divisional Engineer, Khartoum
1939-1944	Posts and Telegraphs
1939-1944	Director of Posts and Telegraphs

Accession details

Presented by Hebbert, 1964-1965

Arrangement

1. Official Papers
2. Travel Journal
3. Historical Material
4. Photographic Material

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. Official Papers

- SAD.402/12/42-46 1905 Mar
Report by T. Barron, Geological Surveyor, on a geological examination of the country around Port Sudan, with reference to the water supply, with hand drawn section across Port Sudan harbour (SAD.402/12/46)
- SAD.402/12/63 1910 Mar 19
Circular memorandum No. 244 from B. Burnett, Resident Engineer, P.W.D. Port Sudan, informing staff that from 3rd April Sunday would be observed as the weekly holiday instead of Friday
- SAD.402/12/26-41 [1924]
Statements of evidence given by seven cadets of the Military School, Khartoum concerning the events of 9th August 1924 when cadets marched through the streets of Khartoum, threatening to use their weapons and carrying an Egyptian flag, before returning to their barracks and submitting to British troops. The evidence was recorded by Bimbashi D. McDougall of the 10th Sudanese

2. Travel Journal

SAD.104/12/1-160 1943

“A glimpse of liberated Ethiopia, being an account of a trip made by car and mule by Major and Mrs. Hebbert in 1943”, a carbon copy typescript written by H.E. Hebbert, illustrated with black and white photographs of the trip. Spellings of place names in the journal are inconsistent and have been standardised where possible. However, some places have been impossible to locate in gazetteers. The account, which may have been intended for publication, is arranged in chapters as follows:

- SAD.104/12/4 Preface
- SAD.104/12/5-8 Chapter 1: Preliminaries and preparation
Background and events leading to the trip; influence of Captains Winny and Smart of the Ethiopian army; details of transport, accommodation and preparations; permission granted and permit received
- SAD.104/12/8-16 Chapter 2: Khartoum to Asmara
Journey from the Butana to Kassala; initial problems and anxieties; stayed with province Governor, John Humphreys at Kassala; Halliday, a cypher official from the Legation in Addis Ababa, joined trip from Kassala to Asmara; description of landmarks of Abyssinian campaign; met Osborne Smith and d'Avery at Keren; met General Hutchinson, Qaid al-Amm of the troops in the Sudan, on road and toured Asmara with Flying Officer Newland; hired an interpreter, Fitarari Yasin Idris (nicknamed “bear leader” and referred to as “BL” throughout journal) at Asmara; visited monastery at Mount Bizen
- SAD.104/12/17-24 Chapter 3: Asmara to Gondar
Preparation for journey, including hiring a cook; description of journey via Adi Quala and Adowa to Enda Selassie, where camped for the night; warned about ambushes by roadside gangs (‘shiftas’); travelled through Tecasse [Takazze] Valley and spent night at Debivar [New Debarech]; descriptions of villages passed through before staying at Azozo at Captain Denholm's house
- SAD.104/12/25-32 Chapter 4: Gondar
Official visit to Crown Prince (who was also Governor General of Wollo and Begonder [Begemdir]); tour of city with guide, Ato Kassa; detailed history and religious background of Gondar, including a list of emperors; descriptions of castles and other historic buildings in Gondar
- SAD.104/12/33-39 Chapter 5: Gondar and Lake Tana
Audience with Crown Prince and description of castle; visited Azozo Teckahaimonot church and spent 2 nights at Gorgora; description and detailed history of Gorgora; returned to Gondar for dinner with Crown Prince, Dejazmach Kassa, the Afa Negus and Colonel Aserata Kassa; discussion of shiftas and the territorial army [*Dejazmach*, lit. “Commander of the Gate”, a nobleman. *Afa Negus*, lit. “Mouth of the King”, carrier of declarations, edicts, etc]

- SAD.104/12/40-52 Chapter 6: The Simian [Simien] Mountains
Preparations and journey into mountains by mule, accompanied by the Ganyasmach [*Kenyazmach*, lit. “Commander of the Right, a nobleman”] and 30 soldiers arranged by the Crown Prince, and local Fitarari guide; description of scenery and locals; met Dejazmach Arietie of Simien and camped in his village, Derasghie; visited the church and the village elders; returned to Debarech and collected car; advised to sleep in Debivar
- SAD.104/12/53-64 Chapter 7: Debarech to Addis Ababa
Journey from Debivar to Axum, spending night at Enda Selassie; witnessed arrest of shifta; accompanied by the Dejazmach from Adi Arkai to Amba Georgis; description and history of the religious centre of Axum; arrived at Adowa and travelled the next day to Makale; visited the hospital and provincial headquarters; met Fitarari Kifle and Captain Foot-Gateskill, the British adviser; travelled to Addis Ababa, camping at Dessie; description of villages, scenery and battle sites passed
- SAD.104/12/65-75 Chapter 8: Addis Ababa and a trip to the Gojjam
12 days spent in Addis Ababa, meeting with numerous British officials; description of scenery on journey to the Gojjam; description of Debra Markos; return to Addis Ababa and luncheon with Mr Litter, the official in charge of the Ethiopian branch of the British Council; lunch with Mr Bethel, an economic adviser; brief description of the Ethiopian economy
- SAD.104/12/76-83 Chapter 9: Addis Ababa to Lalibela
In Debra Birhan; met Colonel Maclane, medical advisor and director general of Ethiopian Medical Service; brief discussion of problems with medical service; travelled to Waldia; trekked with mules to Lalibela with the 5th Ethiopian Mounted Infantry Company; mention of the wedding of Fitarari Berhan Mascal, chief of Lalibela
- SAD.104/12/84-91 Chapter 10: Lalibela
Detailed history and individual descriptions of the monolithic churches; on return journey to Waldia met Fitarari Berhan Mascal and his new bride; description of church at Yalla; the Dejazmach's recipe for *tej*
- SAD.104/12/92-98 Chapter 11: The return to the Sudan
Travelled to Alomata and on to Amba Alagi; met Captain Foot-Gateskill; visited Fort Toselli on way to Adi Kaie, where they stayed with the District Commissioner's wife; parted from interpreter and the cook at Asmara; travelled to Kassala and then on to Khartoum. Epilogue of their impressions of the country in 3 short paragraphs

3. Historical Material

SAD.402/12/64-69 [1884] Apr 1

Copy despatch from Major General Sir G. Graham, Commanding Expeditionary Force, to the Secretary of State for War, reporting on the action at the Battle of Tamai on 13 March 1884 when `Uthman Diqnah's force broke the British square

4. Photographic Material

SAD.104/12/99-160 1943

Black and white photographs taken by H.E. Hebbert during his travels in Ethiopia, mounted on spare pages at the end of the journal, with captions:

- SAD.194/12/99 H.E. Hebbert with his wife posing in front of their car and baggage
- SAD.104/12/100 Adowa village
- SAD.104/12/101 The restored road block on the Wolcheffit pass
- SAD.104/12/102 Looking west towards the Sudan from hills north of Gondar
- SAD.104/12/103-104 The castle of Emperor Fasilides at Gondar, c.1635 A.D.
- SAD.104/12/105-106 The castle of Empress Mentual at Gondar
- SAD.104/12/107-108 The castle of Ras Micael Sehul at Gondar
- SAD.104/12/109 General view of Gondar from top of Fasilides' castle, with library of Emperor John in foreground
- SAD.104/12/110 Lake Tana and Gorgora village
- SAD.104/12/111 View of the Simien mountains from Adi Arkai
- SAD.104/12/112 In the Simien mountains
- SAD.104/12/113 An Ethiopian ploughman in the Lasta district
- SAD.104/12/114 The first camp in the Simien Mountains, Mrs. Hebbert standing in front of her tent
- SAD.104/12/115 The church and treasures of Derasghie in the Simien Mountains
- SAD.104/12/116 Ethiopian dancers and musicians at Derasghie
- SAD.104/12/117 The assembled villagers at the Derasghie ceremony
- SAD.104/12/118 Priests at the Derasghie ceremony
- SAD.104/12/119 Giant lobelia above 13,000 feet in the Simien Mountains
- SAD.104/12/120 Ras Dasciano, the highest point on the Simien (15,200 feet)
- SAD.104/12/121 The interpreter ("BL") and Tasfai, the cook, in the Simien Mountains
- SAD.104/12/122 Mrs. Hebbert on horseback, with one of the soldiers
- SAD.104/12/123 Mrs Hebbert with Ethiopian guides on the Ariadni saddle
- SAD.104/12/124 Obelisks at Axum
- SAD.104/12/125 The church at Axum (rebuilt c.1630 A.D.)
- SAD.104/12/126 In the sacred enclosure at Axum
- SAD.104/12/127 An Amhara girl, carrying parasol
- SAD.104/12/128 Lake Ashangi
- SAD.104/12/129 Shy girls on the road, one with parasol
- SAD.104/12/130 Lake Huic near Dessie
- SAD.104/12/131 View over Addis Ababa from Entotto
- SAD.104/12/132 The Safartak crossing of the Abbai (Blue Nile)
- SAD.104/12/133 The old Gibbi (palace) at Addis Ababa
- SAD.104/12/134 The new Gibbi at Addis Ababa
- SAD.104/12/135 View from the top of the Temembera pass looking over Debra Sina
- SAD.104/12/136 Approaching Dessie from the south
- SAD.104/12/137 Fitarari Bahar Sagad, Misteni of Sankar Birr and his gun bearers
- SAD.104/12/138 Receiving gifts in Sankar Birr in front of H.E. Hebbert's tent
- SAD.104/12/139-42 On trek in the Lasta district
- SAD.104/12/143 The village of Lalibela and the Jordan stream
- SAD.104/12/144 General view of Biet Mariam, Lalibela [*Biet, lit. "Place of"*]

- SAD.104/12/145 Biet Mariam, Lalibela
SAD.104/12/146 Biet Mascal
SAD.104/12/147 Biet Medanie Alem, showing repairs by Ras Tafari
SAD.104/12/148 Biet Medanie Alem
SAD.104/12/149 Biet Ammanuel, Lalibela
SAD.104/12/150 Biet Ammanuel, Lalibela showing bad weathering near ground level

SAD.104/12/151 The courtyard of Biet Mariam
SAD.104/12/152 Biet Abba Libanos
SAD.104/12/153-154 Biet Ghiorgis, Lalibela
SAD.104/12/155 The door of Biet Gabrial, Lalibela
SAD.104/12/156 Ethiopian army escort
SAD.104/12/157-158 The church of Geneta Mariam, near Lalibela
SAD.104/12/159 A church in the province of Tigre
SAD.104/12/160 In the market at Waldia
- SAD.474/22/1-5 1928 - 1932
Five negatives of `Aqiq on the Red Sea coast of Sudan:
SAD.474/22/1-2 Loading a *dhow* on the Red Sea from a jetty
SAD.474/22/3 Loading a *dhow* on the Red Sea from the beach
SAD.474/22/4 Group of four *dhow*s on the Red Sea
SAD.474/22/5 Group of children and two cars in courtyard with police barracks and rest house in background

