

**Reference code:** GB165-0370

**Title:** William Perkins Collection

**Name of creator:** Perkins, William Jackson (c1892-1969)

**Dates of creation of material:** 1864-1969

**Level of description:** Fonds

**Extent:** 5 boxes

**Biographical history:** Perkins, William Jackson CBE, MC (c1892 – 1969)

Lived and worked in Istanbul as a solicitor from at least the 1930s to the 1950s. Married to Millicent Edith Whitehouse, whose family had lived and worked in Turkey for some decades. Their eldest daughter, Glen, was born in 1925, the second, Philippa, in 1927, and a son, Benjamin, in 1932. Perkins had served as a captain in the First World War, experiencing the gas attacks at the Second Battle of Ypres in May 1915. Whilst in Turkey in the 1940s Perkins ran the British Information Office and served as Chairman of the Community Council. He also edited a bulletin that was regularly distributed to British subjects and many Turks in Istanbul. Perkins remained in Turkey for most of the Second World War whilst his family resided in England at 'Slates', the family home in Woking. In March 1954 Perkins was appointed a CBE. He left Turkey for good in 1955, and returned to live in England. His children Glen and Benjamin lived in England, whilst Philippa married James (Jim) Treadwell, a New Zealand born diplomat, who served in various countries in Africa and the Middle East. Throughout the 1950s and 1960s William and Millicent often cared for Philippa and Jim's three children, Simon, Nicholas and Luke, as small children in Turkey and later, at weekends and during the school holidays, in England. William Jackson Perkins died in February 1969.

**Scope and content:** Papers relating to William Perkins' work as a solicitor in Istanbul, including newspaper clippings relating to maritime legal cases and judgements of the Supreme Consular Court of Constantinople, as well as printed judgements of the Court, from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. There are also several files relating to the court cases concerning the collision of the Turkish submarine 'Dumlupinar' and the Swedish cargo vessel 'Naboland' on 4 April 1953 off Nagare Point in the Dardanelles. There is also a collection of personal correspondence, comprising mainly of letters from William Perkins to his daughter Glen Perkins between 1933 and 1969. There are also several letters to Glen Perkins from other family members and friends, some of which refer to William Perkins.

**System of arrangement:**

- 1 Maritime Legal Cases Newspaper Clippings
- 2 Printed Judgements of the Supreme Consular Court of Constantinople
- 3 The 'Naboland' Case
- 4 Correspondence

**Access conditions:** Open

**Language of material:** English, with a small amount of French and Turkish

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

**Custodial history:** In the possession of Glen Perkins (daughter of William Perkins)

**Immediate source of acquisition:** Received as a gift (bequest) from Glen Perkins (daughter of William Perkins) in 2004

**Related Units of Description:**

**In MEC Archive**

For papers of other individuals involved in legal or court work see:

- Gb165-0025 Norman Bentwich Collection: Papers relating to his service as Legal Secretary to the Government of Palestine 1921-1929
- GB165-0026 Ernest Besley Collection: Egyptian judicial system 1935-1940
- GB165-0387 Alexander Brebber Collection: Papers relating to Brebber's work as President of a military court at the end of the Palestine Mandate, 1946-1947
- GB165-0169 Stuart Kermack Collection: Memoirs of work in the Judicial Service, Palestine 1920-1930
- GB165-0315 Sir John Spry Collection: Papers relating to land law and land tenure in Palestine, 1919-1948
- GB165-0293 Sir Richard Vaux Collection: Memoirs including his legal training and later career as President of the Mixed Court of Appeal, Egypt 1903-1939

**Finding aids:** In Guide; Handlist

**Archivist's note:** Fonds and file and item level description created by Annabel Peacock, May 2011. Biographical History based on the correspondence held within the collection.

**SERIES AND ITEM LEVEL DESCRIPTION OF THE WILLIAM PERKINS  
COLLECTION**

- |                 |   |                  |                           |
|-----------------|---|------------------|---------------------------|
| <b><u>1</u></b> | <b><u>Maritime legal cases newspaper clippings</u></b>  | <b>1864-1911</b> | <b>1 volume, 2 sheets</b> |
|                 | Newspaper clippings relating mainly to maritime legal cases which came before the Supreme Consular Court of Constantinople and the King's Bench in the second half of the nineteenth century and the early twentieth century.<br>System of arrangement: Chronological   |                  |                           |
| 1/1             | Volume 'Reports. Consular Court Constantinople. Vol. I. H. Harvey' containing newspaper clippings relating to judgements made at the Supreme Consular Court of Constantinople, with some interleaved material. Includes a manuscript index of some of the judgements.<br>Language: mainly in English, some French | 1864-1911        | 1 volume                  |
| 1/2             | Clipping from <i>Shipping Gazette and Lloyd's List</i> concerning a case between Talbot Steamship Company and The Constantinople Engineering and Shipbuilding Company.  | 22 Jun 1904      | 1 sheet                   |
| 1/3             | Clipping from <i>Shipping Gazette and Lloyd's List</i> concerning a case between Talbot Steamship Company and The Constantinople Engineering and Shipbuilding Company.  | 24 Jun 1904      | 1 sheet                   |
| <b><u>2</u></b> | <b><u>Printed Judgements of the Supreme Consular Court of Constantinople</u></b>  | <b>1894-1900</b> | <b>4 pamphlets</b>        |
|                 | Printed judgements of the Supreme Consular Court of Constantinople concerning legal actions resulting from collisions between shipping.<br>System of arrangement: Chronological   |                  |                           |
| 2/1             | Printed judgement of the Supreme Consular Court of Constantinople on the appeal of the SS 'Diana' of the  | 14 Jul 1894      | 1 pamphlet                |

	Australian Lloyd Steamship Company v. SS 'Clieveden' of Newcastle. Subject of the action was a collision in the Danube.		
2/2	Printed judgement of the Supreme Consular Court of Constantinople on the appeal of the steamship 'Nord Kap' v. the steamship 'Sandhill'. Subject of the action was a collision in the Bosphorus.	28 Jul 1894	1 pamphlet
2/3	Two copies of the printed judgement of the Supreme Consular Court of Constantinople on the appeal of the owners of the SS 'Macedonia' v. JC Diricq. Subject of the action was a collision at the entrance to the Golden Horn.	1 Apr 1898	1 pamphlet
2/4	Printed judgement of the Consular Court of Constantinople on the appeal of the owners of the SS 'Montauk' v. the owners of the SS 'Luigia Premuda'. Subject of the action was a collision in the Bosphorus.	8 Dec 1900	1 pamphlet
<b>3</b>	<b><u>The 'Naboland' Case</u></b>	<b>1939-1955</b>	<b>2 booklets, 655 sheets</b>
	Papers relating to the court case concerning the collision of the Turkish submarine 'Dumlupinar' and the Swedish cargo vessel 'Naboland' on 4 April 1953 off Nagare Point in the Dardanelles, with the loss of 81 lives. William Perkins acted as a legal advisor for the defence. System of arrangement: In original order		
3/1	Printed booklet 'Aide-Memoire' concerning the refusal of the Tribunal of the Turkish Republic to recognise the privilege of immunity of jurisdiction that one sovereign state has over another, with MS notes. Language: booklet in French, notes in English	1945-1969	1 booklet, 8 sheets
3/2	The judgement of the Penal Court of Canakkale.	11 Apr 1955	14 sheets
3/3	Deposition of Kemal Unver, second in command on the	Apr 1953-	62 sheets

	'Dumlupinar', before the Public Prosecutor during the Preliminary Enquiry, and a summary of reports made as a result of enquiries in April 1953, with MS annotations.	Dec 1954	
3/4	Summary of the interrogation of witnesses in April 1953, with MS annotations.	Apr-May 1953	22 sheets
3/5	'Notes pour Me. Lazaraki pour sa Defence Finale', with MS annotations. Language: French, annotations in English	Sep 1953	19 sheets
3/6	Minutes of the court session held on 12 August 1953, with MS annotations. Language: French	12-14 Aug 1953	22 sheets
3/7	Criticisms of the Turkish experts' answers to the questions put by the court on 6 June 1953, with MS annotations.	6 Jun-20 Jul 1953	20 sheets
3/8	Minutes of a hearing held on 26 August 1953, with MS annotations. Language: French, annotations in English	26 Aug-1 Sept 1953	14 sheets
3/9	Report of an expert witness in the case, Captain Rees, with a paper entitled 'Points for Captain of 'Dumlupinar' to mark on a chart', with MS annotations. Language: Report in French, paper and annotations in English	Jun-Jul 1953	9 sheets
3/10	File labelled 'My Rough Draft Notes' containing MS notes relating to the Cassation Court pleadings.	16 Apr-7 May 1954	48 sheets
3/11	MS notes relating to the 'Naboland' case, with a copy of a telegram from 'Securitas' in Gotebord which reads 'Yourtel sixth estimated draught thirteen feet nine inches'.	6 Jul 1953-14 Aug 1954	45 sheets
3/12	Deposition of Oscar Lorentzon, the accused, master of the 'Naboland' (with duplicate).	9 Apr 1953	6 sheets
3/13	Minutes of the proceedings before the Chanak Court on 29 April 1953, with MS annotations.	29 Apr 1953-5 May 1955	21 sheets
3/14	Copy of the judgement of the lower court of Cannakkale	3-30 Oct	21 sheets

	on 3 October 1953, with annotations.	1953	
3/15	File labelled 'Naboland' containing copies of the evidence of Sabri Celebioglu, captain of the 'Dumlupinar', given before the Chanak Penal Court (with duplicate).	24 Apr 1953	10 sheets
3/16	French translation of a Turkish instruction issued by the Captain of the Port of Istanbul restricting the speeds of vessels in the straits of the Black Sea and the Dardanelles, which includes the instruction in Turkish. With a short note in English concerning the speed of vessels (with duplicate). Language: French, Turkish and English	8 Aug 1939	4 sheets
3/17	'General notes on the case' comprising the main points of objection to the findings of the Turkish courts in the 'Naboland' case (with duplicate) and MS draft.	1954	34 sheets
3/18	Evidence of witnesses from the 'Dumlupinar'. Language: Turkish	Apr 1953	19 sheets
3/19	File labelled 'Nabo Cassation Judgement' containing a French translation of the verdict of the Court of Cassation of 16 October 1954, with MS English partial translation, and a note attached which reads 'for me to put into English'.	16 Oct 1954- 3 Apr 1955	12 sheets
3/20	Report summarising the collision between the 'Naboland' and 'Dumlupinar', the proceedings of the Chanak Penal Court, highlighting any discrepancies and failings, and the proceedings of the Court of Cassation (with duplicate).	c1954-1955	10 sheets
3/21	An 'extract from the evidence given by Lieut. Hassan Yumuk on the 13 May 1954 before the Third Commercial Court of Istanbul' (with duplicate) and MS draft.	13 May- 27 Nov 1954	3 sheets
3/22	Paper relating to the questions put by the court to the experts on the occasion of the reconstruction of the collision at Chanak on 6-7 June 1953, and the experts' answers (with duplicate).	Jun 1953	16 sheets

3/23	Deposition of Sabri Celebioglu, the captain of the 'Dumlupinar' before the examining magistrate (with duplicate).	6 Apr 1953	4 sheets
3/24	File labelled 'Naboland' containing notes for the lawyers defending Captain Lorentzon at the Court of Cassation appeal (with duplicate), with MS notes relating to the pleadings.	6 May- 22 Aug 1954	85 sheets
3/25	File labelled 'Naboland' containing a paper concerning 'Some further points for the appeal to Cassation', with a Turkish translation (with duplicates of pp.5-26 of this translation), and notes for the lawyers defending Captain Lorentzon at the Court of Cassation appeal.	1954	99 sheets
3/26	Chart of the Narrows of the Dardanelles, two plans (with a duplicate of one) of the site of the collision with accompanying notes, and MS notes.	1947-1954	9 sheets
3/27	Printed booklet 'SS Capo Pino – Magallanes' – English translation of experts' report on the collision between the steamships 'Capo Pino' and 'Magallanes' in 1937.	1938	1 booklet
3/28	Deposition of Sabri Celebioglu, captain of the 'Dumlupinar', before the Public Prosecutor (with duplicate).	5 Apr 1953	4 sheets
3/29	English translation of the evidence given by Sabri Celebioglu, captain of the 'Dumlupinar', before the Chanak Penal Court (with duplicate).	5 Aug 1953	4 sheets
3/30	The answers of an expert witness, Captain Rees, to the questions put to the experts on 12 June 1953 (with duplicate) and MS draft.	12 Jun 1953- 24 Apr 1954	10 sheets
3/31	Chart of the Dardanelles.  Physical Condition: Please note that this chart is large format and is stored separately	1948	1 sheet

<u>4</u>	<u>Correspondence</u>	<b>1932-c1970s</b>	<b>1,045 sheets,</b>
	System of arrangement:		<b>2 envelopes</b>
4/1	Correspondence from William Perkins to Glen Perkins	1933-1969	829 sheets, 2 envelopes
4/2	Correspondence from William Perkins to Millicent Perkins	1932-c1940s	7 sheets
4/3	Correspondence from William Perkins to other family members and friends	1967-1968	3 sheets
4/4	Correspondence relating to William Perkins' work in Istanbul	1954	2 sheets
4/5	Correspondence to Glen Perkins from other family and friends	1942-c1970s	203 sheets
4/6	Correspondence from Millicent Perkins to a friend	c1955-1960	1 sheet
<u>4/1</u>	<u>Correspondence from William Perkins to Glen Perkins</u>	<u>1933-1969</u>	<u>829 sheets, 2 envelopes</u>
4/1/1	Telegram from William Perkins to Glen Perkins, with a TS copy.	c1930s-1940s	2 sheets
4/1/2	Folder labelled 'Godolphin School Salisbury' containing MS correspondence from William Perkins to Glen Perkins, including references to his life in Turkey and to how Glen is getting on in England. With TS copies. Arrangement: In original order	11 Jul 1933 - 20 Nov 1937	83 sheets plus original folder
4/1/3	File labelled '1939-40' containing mainly MS correspondence from William Perkins to Glen Perkins, including references to his life in Turkey, their family, and trips he has taken. With TS copies. Arrangement: In original order	7 Aug 1939- 30 Mar 1940	35 sheets



- 4/1/4 File labelled '1940-42' containing 26 Jan 1940- 99 sheets  
mainly MS correspondence from 30 Dec 1942  
William Perkins to Glen Perkins,  
including references to his life in  
Turkey, their family and friends, trips  
he has taken, and books he enjoys. With  
TS copies.  
Arrangement: In original order
- 4/1/5 File labelled '1943-53' containing 5 Feb 1943- 232 sheets  
mainly MS correspondence from 26 Apr 1953  
William Perkins to Glen Perkins,  
including references to his life in  
Turkey, their friends and family, their  
mutual appreciation of Rudyard  
Kipling, trips and holidays he has taken,  
and his interest in gardening. Mainly  
not about his legal work, although  
several letters from 1953 refer to the  
'Naboland' case. With TS copies.  
Arrangement: In original order
- 4/1/6 Telegrams to Glen Perkins at the British c1944-1945 3 sheets, 1  
Consulate in Istanbul from her family at envelope  
home in England, with an envelope  
addressed to Glen at the British  
Consulate.
- 4/1/7 File containing MS correspondence 30 May 1953- 267 sheets  
from William Perkins to Glen Perkins, 28 Jun 1955  
including references to his daily life,  
their friends and family, his interest in  
gardening, and books he enjoys. Mainly  
not about his legal work, although a  
number of letters from 1953 and 1954  
refer to the 'Naboland' case. Several

letters record the journey to England via Greece and the Dalmation coast after leaving Istanbul for good in May 1955. With TS copies until April 1954.

Arrangement: In original order

4/1/8 Mainly MS correspondence from 19 Oct 1960- 108 sheets  
William Perkins to Glen Perkins, 3 Jan 1969  
including references to his daily life, their friends and family, his interest in gardening, and holidays he has taken.

Arrangement: In original order

4/1/9 File labelled 'odd letters found recently' 20 May 1965 12 sheets  
containing MS and TS correspondence -16 May  
from William Perkins to Glen Perkins, 1967  
including references to family and friends, planned holidays, and gardening.

Arrangement: In original order

4/1/10 MS letter from William Perkins to Glen 29 Jan 1969 1 sheet, 1  
Perkins in an envelope marked envelope  
'Daddy's last letter'.

4/2 Correspondence from William Perkins to 1932-c1940s 7 sheets  
Millicent Perkins

4/2/1 Mainly MS correspondence from 24 Mar 1932 3 sheets  
William Perkins to Millicent Perkins. -21 Jun 1942

4/2/2 Extracts from MS letter from William c1940s 4 sheets  
Perkins to Millicent Perkins, which refer to various friends and acquaintances. With a TS copy.

4/3 Correspondence from William Perkins to other 1967-1968 3 sheets  
family members and friends

- |            |  |                             |                                      |
|------------|--|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 4/3/1      | Copy of a letter with an attached note sending Christmas and New Year greetings from William and Millicent Perkins dated 30 November 1967. The note features a photograph of their house, Broad Oak, underneath which has been written (presumably by Glen Perkins): 'Just to remember the golden time with mummy and Pa'. | 30 Nov 1967                 | 2 sheets                             |
| 4/3/2      | MS letter from William Perkins to Rolande, a friend of Glen Perkins', concerning stamp collecting.   | 19 Dec 1968                 | 1 sheet                              |
| <u>4/4</u> | <u>Correspondence relating to William Perkins' work in Istanbul</u>  | <u>1954</u>                 | <u>2 sheets</u>                      |
| 4/4        | Two TS letters from Riza Tahsin Goksel (Meteor Travel Office) to Mr E Christgau (Secretary AIB and BART Turkey) arguing against some 'revised regulations' and threatening legal action.   | 15-19 May 1954              | 2 sheets                             |
| <u>4/5</u> | <u>Correspondence between Glen Perkins from other family members and friends</u>   | <u>1942-c1970s</u>          | <u>203 sheets</u>                    |
| 4/5/1      | Folder containing MS correspondence to Glen Perkins from her uncle Harry Pears, who had worked in Istanbul as a barrister for a number of years previously, with enclosures.<br>Arrangement: In original order   | 4 May 1942-<br>9 Jul 1943   | 22 sheets<br>plus original<br>folder |
| 4/5/2      | MS correspondence from Millicent Perkins to Glen Perkins, regarding daily life in Istanbul and their family and  | 27 Dec 1953<br>-27 Apr 1955 | 163 sheets                           |

friends. With TS copies until April  
1954.

Arrangement: In original order

4/5/3 MS correspondence from Philippa 6-20 Feb 5 sheets  
Treadwell to Glen Perkins relating to 1969  
the death of their father.

Arrangement: In original order

4/5/4 MS correspondence to Glen Perkins 8-23 Feb 6 sheets  
from friends offering condolences 1969  
following the death of her father.

Language: mainly in English, one letter  
in French

Arrangement: chronological

4/5/5 MS letter from Glen Perkins to c1969 1 sheet  
Millicent Perkins regarding whether or  
not to move house.

4/5/6 MS letter from Millicent Perkins to c1970s 6 sheets  
Glen Perkins regarding various family  
members.

4/6 Correspondence from Millicent Perkins to a c1955-1960 1 sheet  
friend

4/6/1 MS letter to Millicent Perkins from c1955-1960 1 sheet  
Monica Jackson, a friend living in  
Montreal.