

Middle East Centre Archive
St Antony's College, Oxford
Guide to collections relating to Oman

Introduction

Please note that the following Guide is not comprehensive. It has been compiled from the main Guide to the Middle East Centre Archive and only collections in that catalogue that explicitly mention Oman have been included. Not included in this Guide are several collections that cover the Middle East as a whole and thus may contain material relevant to Oman. For example the Arab Bulletin; British Diplomatic Perspectives on the Middle East; Cairo Conference; Chatham House; A.G.M. Dickson; H.R.P Dickson and the Mance papers. For these papers please consult the main Guide to the Middle East Centre Archive.

Where a more detailed description of a collection exists, this is indicated in this Guide by the word 'Handlist'.

Please note that uncatalogued material appears at the end of this Guide

ASHLEY, Edward. (1934-2001). GB165-0399
OMAN ARCHIVE: Papers relating to Edward Ashley's service in the Sultan's Armed Forces Jebel Regiment Dhofar between 1970-1977, incorporating training materials including a training booklet, 'Know Your Enemy' and 'Jebel Regiment's Standard Operating Procedures'; materials on anti-guerrilla operations including 'Commander's Diary', 'Situation Reports' and 'Operation Instructions'; including maps of areas which were used during the joint military operations; 'Oman Humour', including cartoons; congratulatory letters and Jebel Regiment awards; a staff list of individuals who served in the Sultan's Armed Forces, including a letter from ex-staff relating to the establishment of the Sultan's Armed Forces Museum; and photographic material relating to Edward Ashley's service in Oman, subsequent Sultan's Armed Forces Association reunions including a trip to Oman in 1984. 8 boxes. Handlist.

BOUSTEAD, Col. John Edmund Hugh. (1895-1980). GB165-0032
"Report on the Sudan Defence Force" 1940-41; memo on agricultural development in E. Aden, 1949-58; "Review of the progress and development department Muscat and Oman" 1958-61; draft autobiography. 2 boxes. Handlist. Photographic collection.

DRUMMOND, Antony John-Deane. (b.1917) GB165-0340
OMAN ARCHIVE: Typescript chapter entitled '22 Special Air Service Operations in Muscat & Oman 1958/59' with accompanying photographs and sketches, also including a photocopy of an account of the military operation in Oman in *The Times* April 9 1959. Handlist. 1 box

EDWARDS, Francis M. (b. 1886).

GB165-0096

Papers on Egyptian rural problems and provincial taxation reports, 1920s; reports on a visit to Saad Zaghlul in Upper Egypt, October 1921; essays on early Muslim travellers in the Middle East; book reviews; note on the title of the ruler of Muscat; account of a duck shoot in the Libyan desert; letter, 4 July 1959, from L. Lockhart about the Persian claim to Bahrain. 1 box.

GRAHAM, John David Carew

GB165-0327

OMAN ARCHIVE: Papers relating to Graham's work as CSAF (Commander Sultan's Armed Forces) April 1970- September 1972. Mainly military papers, with some personal memoirs and reflections and a significant quantity of printed material dating from c 1970 to 2000. The majority of the military papers focus on the Dhofar war of 9 June 1965 – c 1975. Other events and subjects referred to are: propaganda during the Dhofar war; military activities of the SAF in northern Oman; the administration of the SAF, and the Salalah coup of 1970 during which the present Sultan Qaboos bin Said deposed his father Said bin Taimur. The personal memoirs relate to time spent by Graham in Oman and in other countries. The printed materials give background and context to the military papers, and some of the more recent printed materials give an idea of military activities and social and industrial developments in Oman today. Also includes two photograph albums taken c.1970 to c.1972, capturing military life in the Sultanate of Oman, including events such as the accession of Sultan Qaboos bin Said as well as some loose prints. 10 boxes. Handlist.

HAWLEY, Sir Donald Frederick (b.1921)

GB165-0338

OMAN ARCHIVE: Mainly of printed materials relating to souvenirs from National Day celebrations in Oman: speeches from the sultan; and invitations to events, 1980-2000. 2 boxes. Handlist.

HAZELDEN, John Winston. (b. 1942)

GB165-0499

Unpublished memoir 'Shurta Recollections of Service with the Royal Oman Police in the 1970s' by John Hazelden which describes his 'personal memories...with some historical background to provide context' and covers his life and work in Sohar, Rostaq and Ibra. Also including a bound 'Pictorial addendum' to the memoir and four volumes relating to law in Oman consisting of the Police Decree 1973, the 1974 Criminal Code, and commercial business laws of Oman 1974 and 1990. Bound volume with a two part history of the Royal Oman Police Air Wing divided into 'Brief Outline of Early Operations' and 'Aircraft Types and Unit Development' and bound volume of copies of photograph entitled 'Pictures of Sur Division Royal Oman Police 1975-1978'. Also includes an unused bilingual (English and Arabic) Royal Oman Police Diary for 2001 and a printed book 'The Sultan's Armed Forces Elementary Omani Colloquial Arabic for English Speakers' and text and photographs relating to a 1975 National Day commemorative medallion. 2 boxes. Handlist.

HEPWORTH, Charles. (b.1943).

GB165-0410

OMAN ARCHIVE: Papers relating to Charles Hepworth's service in the Sultan's Armed Forces during 1971 including a memoir 'A Walk on God's Carpet Adventures in Oman'; training materials including 'Field Notes on Saudi Arabia 1935'; papers relating to missions, speeches by the Sultan, propaganda leaflets and SAF bulletins. Also includes some maps of Southern Arabia,

newspaper clippings and a small amount of correspondence about walking and mapping in Oman. 4 boxes. Handlist.

JACKLI, R.

GB165-0334

OMAN ARCHIVE: Parts 1 – 4 of an unpublished draft report of a project undertaken by UNICEF in Oman, December 1973. 1 box. Handlist

LUCAS, Ivor. (b.1927).

GB165-0561

TS article 'Reflections on a diplomatic career in the Arab and Muslim worlds 1951-84' by Ivor Lucas covering his work in the British Foreign Service relating to the Gulf, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Libya, Aden and Syria and giving his reflections on the changing face of Islam. 1 file. Handlist.

McKEOWN, J.H.

GB165-0339

OMAN ARCHIVE: Dissertation: Britain and Oman: The Dhofar War and its Significance. A dissertation submitted by Mckeown for the degree of Master of Philosophy in the University of Cambridge, July 1981. 1 box. Handlist.

MURLY-GOTTO, Anthony (b.1942)

GB165-0367

TS article entitled 'From War to Peace Oman 1975-1978 Snaphots' by Anthony Murly-Gotto giving a personal account of his service in Oman and in particular an account of the development and management of the finances and budgets of Oman's military. 36 sheets. Handlist

NICHOLLS, R.K. (b.1921)

GB165-0335

OMAN ARCHIVE: Oman Visit Report *1st – 11th June 1964*: Report written by Nicholls for Petroleum Development Oman (PDO). The report considers suitable marine locations in the Saih al Malsh Bay area near Muscat for ocean tanker crude oil loading facilities, a barge jetty, and other problems relating to crude oil off-takes; *Oman '93*: Booklet published by the Ministry of Information about development within Oman. The booklet was sent to Nicholls as a gift from Ayild Waleed a former colleague of Nicholls' and it is annotated to this effect. 1 box. Handlist.

PARTINGTON, F.M.

GB165-0337

OMAN ARCHIVE: File of miscellaneous materials put together by Partington consisting of photographs of Muscat, Muttrah, Ruwi, and Bait Al Falaj in 1970 and 1980 (stored seperately); a 'wanted by the Sultanate Government' poster which was given to Partington by a colleague from SAF; a publication by the Embassy of the Sultanate of Oman in London entitled *Oman*; and a bound guide to the SAF museum in Bait Al Falaj. 1 box. Handlist.

PAXTON, Julian, F.E. (b.1937)

GB165-0331

OMAN ARCHIVE: Miscellaneous collection of PDO (Petroleum Development Oman) company files mainly from the PDO office in Muscat, which was closed in 1976. The files were retained by Paxton as part of a salvage operation and would otherwise have been destroyed. The papers contain some reports, but mainly consist of subject and organisational files used by the staff of the Muscat office for reference. The collection also contains a small amount of Paxton's own research papers arising from his interest in Bertram Thomas an early explorer in Oman, and some printed materials relating to Oman and other Middle Eastern countries. 14 boxes. Handlist.

PEYTON, William Durham. (1917-1991) GB165-0330
 OMAN ARCHIVE: The main scope of the papers consists of materials collected by Peyton during his time in Oman, through his own interest in the country and through his position as Trade Relations Manager with PDO. The papers also contain materials relating to other countries, particularly the Yemen, in which Peyton held an interest. 6 boxes. Handlist.

PIRIE, Charles. (b.1943) GB165-0516
 Account of Charles Pirie's tour of Oman in 1966 entitled 'Chas' Muscat & Oman Patrol with QDG' by Hugh Nicklin and 41 colour slides taken by Charles Pirie whilst on the tour consisting of images of Muscat, Nizwa and Sohar and including images of a tribal delegation going to see the Sultan, Muscat and Nizwa forts, Sultan's Armed Forces soldiers and outpost, market scenes and the Oman coastline. 18 sheets, 41 slides. Handlist. Photographic collection.

SEARLE, Pauline. (1922-2011) GB165-0328
 OMAN ARCHIVE: The papers cover the nine year period which Searle spent in Oman as a journalist for Reuters, relating mainly to the Dhofar war in southern Oman, which was ongoing during the time Searle lived there, and military operations connected with the war. A significant part of the papers relate directly to Searle's work for Reuters, and her communications with Reuters personnel in Bahrain and London. Other papers are working notes, and written articles created and collected by Searle in the course of her work. There is a small amount of personal papers and printed material. Some of the materials look at the wider context of life in Oman for the local people. c1968-1979. 4 boxes. Handlist.

SKEET, Ian. (b.1928) GB165-0329
 OMAN ARCHIVE: The main scope of the papers are research materials for two books about Oman, written by Skeet: *Muscat and Oman: the End of an Era* Faber and Faber, London 1974; and *Oman: Politics and Development* Macmillan, 1992. Other materials relate to Skeet's interest in other Middle Eastern countries, and there are a few personal documents. Broad subjects covered by the papers are: The Sultanate and life in Oman before 1970, and the development of the country under the new Sultan Qaboos from 1970. A large number of the materials focus on the development of law and the economy in Oman from 1970. 5 boxes. Handlist.

SMILEY, David (1916-2009) GB165-0336
 OMAN ARCHIVE: The papers relate to the later part of Smiley's career as CSAF (Commander Sultan's Armed Forces) in Oman, and consist mainly of correspondence between Smiley and colleagues, and the Sultan Said bin Taimur, and a report by Smiley on the SAF. 1 box. Handlist.

SULTAN'S ARMED FORCES ASSOCIATION GB165-0333
 OMAN ARCHIVE: A full serial of the Association publication (Newsletters, later Journals), and a small amount of printed ephemera. The Newsletters reports on the activities of the SAF, and social events of the Society. Activities of the Anglo-Omani Society are also documented in the later issues. The publication is intended to be a journal of record containing illustrated articles of historic as well as current interest, book reviews relevant to SAF and to Oman and personal details of members, including obituaries. The publication provides insight into the development and achievements of the military in Oman over a period of thirty years, as well as regular descriptions of the development of the country itself in a context not solely military. 3 boxes. Handlist.

WINGATE, Sir Ronald Evelyn Leslie, 2nd. Baronet. (1889-1978). GB165-0304
TS copy of proclamation of the deposition of the Khedive and establishment of a British Protectorate in Egypt, December 1914; papers on Wingate's service in Mesopotamia, and Muscat and Oman, 1917-22, with TS of a lecture on this subject, including an account of the Treaty of Sib, given at the Middle East Centre, 1965; TS article on the papers of Sir Samuel Baker for the period 1875-93. 1 box. Handlist.

UNCATALOGUED MATERIAL

Access to uncatalogued material is restricted, please contact the archivist for further details. In some cases draft handlists are available.

BUTT, Charles R. (b. 1935) GB165-0043
TS account illustrated with 4 photographs by Sgt. Charles Butt, 2nd Battalion Aden Protectorate Levies, of a border incident at Merta, Aden Protectorate, in June 1958. Copies of *Al-Aqsa* and other uncatalogued material relating to the Sultan's Armed Forces, Oman. 2 boxes. Photographic Collection. Please note that part of the photographic collection has been digitised and is available for viewing online.