

Reference code: GB165-0372

Title: Sir Francis Shepherd Collection

Name of creator: Shepherd, Sir Francis Michie (1892-1962) Knight, Diplomat

Dates of creation of material: 1954-1962

Level of description: Fonds

Extent: 2 boxes

Biographical history: Shepherd, Sir Francis Michie (1892-1962)

Born 6 January 1893. Educated at Oakfield School, University College School and Grenoble University. Aug 1914 enlisted in the London Scottish regiment, Apr 1915 qualified for a commission in the Royal Artillery and joined the 7th Meerut Division, India Corps. Served in Merville, France. In Dec 1915 posted to Mesopotamia, and served in the attempt to relieve General Townshend at Kut. Also served in India and the Afghan campaign in 1919. In 1920 appointed to Consular Service and served in San Francisco, Buenos Ayres, Lima, Antwerp and from 1927 – 1932 in Hamburg. From 1932 served as Chargé d’Affairs at Port-au Prince, Haiti. During 1932 in charge of the British Legation at San Salvador. From 1935-1937 Minister Resident and Consult to the Republic of Haiti. Mar-May 1938 Acting Consul-General Barcelona. In 1938-1939 served as Consul at Dresden and Jul-Aug 1939 Acting Consul-General at Danzig. Oct 1939-Feb 1940 worked in Foreign Office. From 1940-1942 served as Counsellor of Legation and Consul-General at Reykjavik, Iceland and in 1942 at Leopoldville, Belgian Congo. In 1944-1947 served as British Political Representative in Finland and 1947-1949 as British Consul-General Netherlands East Indies. In 1950-1952 served as British Ambassador to Persia and 1952-1954 served as British Ambassador to Poland. Retired 1954. Awarded KBE 1948; OBE 1941; MBE 1932. Married Mrs Barbara Bayntun Fairbairn-Crawford in 1960. Died 15 May 1962.

Scope and content: Unpublished memoirs of Sir Francis Shepherd entitled ‘Never Trouble Trouble’ consisting of a TS hardbound photocopy including photographs and a bound incomplete MS version. The Memoir covers Sir Francis Shepherd’s childhood and career, including an account of his wartime service in Mesopotamia in 1915 in which he took part in the military campaign to relieve General Townshend at Kut and also his service as British Ambassador to Persia in 1950-1952.

Access conditions: Open

Language of material: English

Conditions governing reproduction: No restrictions on copying or quotation other than statutory regulations and preservation concerns. For any commercial copying or quotation permission from the family is required.

Custodial history: In the possession of the Shepherd family. The memoir was written during Shepherd's retirement with the intention of publication, which was never realised. The exact dates of writing are not known; only that Shepherd began the work after retirement.

Immediate source of acquisition: Received as a gift from Robert Fullerton on 17 January 2005

Location of originals: Original TS memoir and photographs with family

Related Units of Description:

In MEC Archive

Papers relating to service in Mesopotamia during the First World War

- GB165-0034 Humphrey Bowman Collection
- GB165-0341 Sir Percy Cox Collection
- GB165-0069 J.D. Crowdy Collection
- GB165-0085 H.R.P. Dickson Collection
- GB165-0091 Sir Harold Downie Collection
- GB165-0095 Cecil John Edmonds Collection
- GB165-0138 Sir William Rupert Hay Collection
- GB165-0343 Wallace Lyon Collection
- GB165-0216 Leonard Nalder Collection
- GB165-0229 Harry St J.B. Philby Collection
- GB165-0266 A.L.F. Smith Collection
- GB165-0304 Sir Ronald Wingate Collection
- GB165-0309 Sir Hubert Winthrop Young Collection

Papers relating to Persia in the 1950s

- GB165-0298 Geoffrey Wheeler Collection: TS Memoirs 'Fifty years of Asia'. Wheeler served as Counsellor, British Embassy, Teheran 1946-1950.
- GB165-0322 John Murray Collection: Iran Today: an economic and descriptive survey, Oct 1950.
- GB165-0232 Morgan Price Collection: Memo on a Persian visit in October 1953; unpublished MS entitled "The National Revolution in Turkey, Persia and the Middle East"; diaries of travels in Iran, Iraq and Turkey, 1947; memos, notes and interviews relating to Afghanistan, Turkey, Iraq, Syria and Lebanon, 1946-53, including interviews with the Shah; correspondence 1941-59; press-cuttings relating to the Middle East 1889-1972.

Finding aids: In Guide; Handlist

Archivist's note: Fonds and item level description created by D. Usher 17 January 2005. Biographical history based on TS version of Sir Francis Shepherd Memoirs and the entry for Sir Francis Shepherd in *Who Was Who* (A & C Black, Publishers Ltd).

**ITEM LEVEL DESCRIPTION OF THE SIR FRANCIS SHEPHERD
COLLECTION**

Box 1

- 1 Bound incomplete MS version of the Sir Francis Shepherd Memoirs 1 vol.

Box 2

- 2 TS hardbound photocopy of the Sir Francis Shepherd Memoirs 1 vol.
including photographs