

Reference code: GB165-0378

Title: Donald Blackburn Collection

Name of creator: Blackburn, Donald (1902-1996)

Dates of creation of material: 1941-1973

Level of description: Fonds

Extent: 1 file and 22 photographs

Biographical history: Donald Blackburn (1902-1996)

Born 10th June 1902. Donald Blackburn worked in the Civil Service before graduating at Durham University. He trained at Wycliffe Hall, Oxford and was ordained priest in 1932. After curacies at Edge Hill and Battersea, he went to Palestine in 1934 with C.M.S. [Christian Missionary Society]. In 1936 at St. Georges Cathedral, Jerusalem he married May Foster, a C.M.S. nurse who had worked in China (1924-1931). From 1936 to 1945 he worked in Es Salt. A year was then spent as the Chaplain at St. Michaels School, Limpsfield while he recovered from a serious accident. He then returned to work in Nablus, Jerusalem, Es Salt and Amman. From 1951 – 1956 he was secretary to the Jordan Mission of the Church Missionary Society and was also Chaplain to the English – speaking community in Amman and was honoured with an O.B.E. in 1956 for services to the British community in Amman. In 1960 after a short spell of parish work in Dorset, he went to Cairo as Provost of the Cathedral of All Saints where he served until 1967. He then returned to a Parish in the Oxford Diocese until retirement in 1971. His wife died in 1991. He died on the 20th November 1996. One daughter and one son.

Scope and content: Booklets and a note relating to Church history consisting of a 'Handbook of the Anglican Bishopric in Jerusalem and the East', 'Some Ancient and Younger Churches in Egypt' and 'The Eastern Church: A brief note'; a TS account giving a description of how Archdeacon Campbell was shot during fighting in Jerusalem in 1948; a speech by Nasser after the laying of the foundation stone of the Copt Cathedral in 1964; a TS account 'Civil War in Jordan, September 1970' by Winifred Coate and 22 photographs mainly of Church events including a group photograph of the Palestine Church Council in March 1949 and the Arab Episcopal Church Council in 1955.

Access conditions: Open

Language of material: English

Physical Condition: Contact sheets are available for viewing the photographs

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

Custodial history: In the possession of Donald Blackburn and his family

Immediate source of acquisition: Received as a gift from Mrs Williams (daughter of Donald Blackburn) on 20 Sept 2005

Related Units of Description:

In MEC Archive

- | | | |
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| GB165-0161 | Jerusalem and
the East
Mission
Collection | Records, 1841-1970s, including material on Palestine, Syria, Iraq, Jordan, Iran, Gulf, Egypt, Sudan, Cyprus and N. Africa; with correspondence on the political situation in Palestine, 1916-67; presscutting volumes. 165 boxes; 23 vols. Handlist.
<u>Permission required for access.</u> Photographic collection |
| GB165-0060 | Winifred Coate
Collection | Letter to Stewart Perowne, 5 July 1971, on conditions in Jordan in 1971. 1 sheet. |

Finding aids: In Guide; Handlist

Archivist's note: Fonds and File level description created by D. Usher 22 September 2005. Biographical history provided by the family.

**SERIES AND ITEM LEVEL DESCRIPTION OF THE DONALD BLACKBURN
COLLECTION**

1 Church History

- | | | | |
|-----|--|-----------|-----------|
| 1/1 | Printed 'Handbook of the Anglican Bishopric in Jerusalem and the East' | 1941 | 1 booklet |
| 1/2 | Printed booklet 'Some Ancient and Younger Churches in Egypt' by Rev E.G. Parry | 1942 | 1 booklet |
| 1/3 | TS 'The Eastern Churches: A brief note' | not dated | 1 sheet |

2 End of Palestine Mandate

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|-----|--|-------------|---------|
| 2/1 | TS 'Account received by letter from Jerusalem from Mrs Kendall' giving a description of how Archdeacon Campbell was shot in the leg and his subsequent transfer to hospital during fighting in Jerusalem | 3 June 1948 | 1 sheet |
|-----|--|-------------|---------|

3 Speech by Nasser

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|-----|--|------------|----------|
| 3/1 | TS 'President Nasser's Speech of 24 July' after the laying of the foundation stone of the Copt Cathedral | Jul [1964] | 5 sheets |
|-----|--|------------|----------|

4 Civil War in Jordan

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|-----|--|------------|----------|
| 4/1 | TS article 'Civil War in Jordan, September 1970' written by Winifred Coate describing her experience of civil war in Zerka | 4 Oct 1970 | 4 sheets |
|-----|--|------------|----------|

5 Photographs

22 photographs (20 black and white and 2 colour) of church events including Church Council Group photographs, priests after ordination, scenes from the week of prayer for Christian Unity in Cairo during 1964

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|-----|--|------|-------------|
| 5/1 | Photograph of Jerusalem 'Given to me by Mr. Jones of the Book Shop opposite Oswestry Parish Church. Dec 1980. He had taken the photo in 1943 when he | 1943 | 164 x 216mm |
|-----|--|------|-------------|

	was on leave in Jerusalem – from the R.A.F. (in Egypt).’		
5/2	Group photograph ‘? 1946 [Church] Council in Haifa’	1946	126 x 176 mm
5/3	Group photograph with attached list of people appearing in the photograph of the Palestine Church Council	Mar 1949	177 x 238 mm
5/4	Group photograph ‘Jubilee Gathering of Arab Church Council, Jerusalem 1955’	1955	176 x 237 mm
5/5	‘Salt 1956. Alec & Mrs Diburig sharing a joke. The Saltee doesn’t quite see it but the baby is having a chuckle’	1956	87 x 1937 mm
5/6	Wedding photograph of couple signing the registrar’s book ‘Milád and Leila Bissáda’	23 Dec 1961	145 x 195 mm
5/7	Group photograph ‘After Ordination, All Saint’s Cathedral’	23 Nov 1962	92 x 137 mm
5/8	Bishop with 2 newly made Deacons (same occasion as 5/7) used in Bible Lands April 1963	[23 Nov 1962]	92 x 137 mm
5/9	Group photograph of priests ‘Church of the Epiphany, Port Said’	not dated	92 x 135 mm
5/10	Group photograph at wedding ‘To Revd & Mrs Donald Blackburn with the compliments of Mr & Mrs Samuel Kofi Forson’	12 Sept 1963	92 x 129 mm
5/11	Group photograph ‘after the ordination. The Greek Orthodox archbishop of Sinai next to A.C. MacInnes Bishop in Jerusalem, three Coptic orthodox priests’ used in Bible Lands new year 1964	22 Nov 1963	126 x 179 mm
5/12	Photograph of men seated in Church ‘The week of prayer for Christian Unity’	Jan 1964	146 x 190 mm
5/13	‘Deacon Eber, Deacon B, Aziz Wasif and Madame Samprey, wife of the Gharnan Ambassador’	24 Apr 1966	149 x 100 mm
5/14	?Blackburn with ‘Pere Agnont. Le College de Sainte Famille’ used in Bible Lands New Year 1968	8 Jan 1967	182 x 130 mm
5/15	Photograph of men seated in Church ‘The week of	Jan 1964	144 x 188 mm

- prayer for Christian Unity. Armenian Orthodox Bp,
Coptic Orthodox Bp, Greek Catholic Bp, Maronite
Bp, R.C. Bishop'
- 5/16 Nasser with Coptic priest 'Laying of the foundation stone of the new Coptic orthodox cathedral in Cairo' 1964 217 x 266 mm
- 5/17 'Provost Blackburn. En souvenir de la fête de la Sainte-Famille' 12 May 1964 96 x 148 mm
- 5/18 Two men shaking hands 'With Papal Nuncio. Cairo' 30 Jun 1964 130 x 180 mm
- 5/19 Group photograph 'All Saints Cathedral, Cairo. The Youth Club in the Hall' 28 Sept 1967 116 x 178 mm
- 5/20 'The kiss of peace' from the Greek Catholic Bishop...in the background Cardinal Stephens (Coptic Catholic) and Bishop Samuel (Coptic Orthodox) archdeacon Shermas' from 'week of prayer for Christian Unity 1967 Cairo' 1967 129 x 181 mm
- 5/21 Colour group photograph 'E.C.A Reunion Edenbridge' 8 Sept 1973 89 x 127 mm
- 5/22 Colour group photograph 'Egypt Church Association Autumn Reunion, Hilkins, Edenbridge, Kent' 8 Sept 1973 89 x 127 mm