

**Reference code:** GB165-0762

**Title:** Roger Partridge Collection

**Name of creator:** Partridge, Austin Roger (1927-2020)

**Dates of creation of material:** 1940-1952, 2022

**Level of description:** Fonds

**Extent:** 2 boxes

**Biographical history:** Partridge, Austin Roger (1927-2020)

Born in Swindon on 24 July 1927. On leaving school he was employed at the Short Brothers Aircraft Factory and then the Swindon Railway Works where, with the exception of his National Service, he remained until 1957. Embarked on his National Service in 1946. Joined the Royal Air Force Levies, spending most of his service in Habbaniya, Iraq and also visiting Egypt. He had hoped to train as a pilot, but a minor heart abnormality prevented this. However, his time in the Royal Air Force expanded his lifelong interest in aviation. Married but with no children. Died 25 July 2020.

**Scope and content:** Photographs and papers mainly relating to Roger Partridge's national service in the Royal Air Force Levies in Iraq 1946-1947 including 3 photograph albums, loose prints, a Christmas card, a St Andrew's Church service card, training materials consisting of a booklet 'Notes on Map Reading' and a printed booklet 'Arabic Self-Taught (Syrian)' as well as travel guides for Ur, Babylon, Nineveh and the Coptic Church of El-Moallak at Old Cairo.

**System of arrangement:**

1. Photographs
2. Christmas card
3. St Andrew's Church services card
4. Training materials
5. Travel Guides
6. Biographical information for Roger Partridge

**Access conditions:** Open

**Language of material:** English

**Conditions governing reproduction:** No restriction on copying or quotation other than statutory regulations and preservation concerns. Copyright in photographs taken by Austin Roger Partridge has been assigned to the Archive.

**Custodial history:** In the possession of Roger Partridge and then in the possession of his cousin, Jane Newton.

**Immediate source of acquisition:** Received as a gift from Jane Newton on 18 Mar 2022.

**Related Units of Description:**

**In MEC Archive**

For other collections relating to the Iraq Levies or the Royal Air Force in Iraq see:

- GB165-0239 James Renton Collection: Papers relating to the Assyrians, Iraq Levies, and the Iraq Army, 1929-1954.
- GB165-0592 Harry Wade Collection: Biographical account and photo album relating to Harry Wade's Royal Air Force service in Iraq and India between 1928 and 1934.

**Finding aids:** In Guide; Handlist

**Archivist's note:** Fonds, series and item level description created by Debbie Usher 18 March 2022. Biographical history based on biographical information supplied by Jane Newton.

**SERIES AND ITEM LEVEL DESCRIPTION OF THE ROGER PARTRIDGE  
COLLECTION**

- |            |  |                                     |                 |
|------------|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <u>1</u>   | <u>Photographs</u>   | <u>1946-1952</u>                    | <u>1 box</u>    |
|            | 3 photographs albums and loose prints relating to Roger Partridge's national service in the Royal Air Force Levies, Iraq, as well as some photographs from visits to Egypt and some family photographs after he returned to the United Kingdom.  |                                     |                 |
| <u>1/1</u> | <u>Album 1</u>   | <u>1 Apr 1946 –<br/>7 Nov 1946</u>  | <u>1 volume</u> |
|            | Photograph album labelled 'The Personal Album of 3057651 A/C/I. Partridge from 1 <sup>st</sup> April 1946 to 7 <sup>th</sup> November 1946' which includes photograph from Iraq and Egypt including boats at Lake Habbaniya, photographs of colleagues and friends, street scenes in Cairo and Fayid, pyramids and archaeological sites including Memphis, photographs of sailing and cycling, as well as a swimming pool and cinema in Habbaniya. |                                     |                 |
| <u>1/2</u> | <u>Album 2</u>   | <u>8 Nov 1946 –<br/>1 Aug 1947</u>  | <u>1 volume</u> |
|            | Photograph album labelled 'This book belongs to 3057651 A/C/I/ Partridge, A.R. from 8 <sup>th</sup> November 1946 to 1 <sup>st</sup> August 1947' which includes photographs of aircraft, marching on a parade ground, street scenes, a visit to Babylon, rooms in the billet, colleagues and friends and sailing boats.   |                                     |                 |
| <u>1/3</u> | <u>Album 3</u>   | <u>1 Aug 1947 –<br/>30 Apr 1952</u> | <u>1 volume</u> |
|            | Photograph album labelled 'Personal Album of A.R. Partridge from 1 <sup>st</sup> August 1947 to 30 <sup>th</sup> April 1952' which includes photographs of colleagues and friends, the countryside, sailing boats, ships, as well as holiday   |                                     |                 |

photographs in England, including some cycling photographs of the Banbury Star [race] in 1951 and a photograph from a wedding of Ken and Jean on 15 Mar 1952.

1/4	<u>Loose Prints</u>	<u>1943-1946</u>	<u>6 items</u>
	Portrait photograph of Roger Partridge and photographs of Iraq and Egypt.		
1/4/1	Portrait photograph of Roger Partridge with the caption 'Roger Partridge R.A.F. Levies Iraq Habbaniya 1946'.	1946	1 item
1/4/2	Photograph with an original caption 'Assyrian Gate Baghdad'.	Not dated 1940s	1 item
1/4/3	Photograph with an original caption 'The Jews Mamareal [memorial] 1943'.	1943	1 item
1/4/4	Photograph with an original caption 'The road to the Pyramids'.	Not dated 1940s	1 item
1/4/5	Photograph with an original caption 'A street in Cairo'.	Not dated 1940s	1 item
1/4/6	Photograph with an original caption 'A street in Cairo'.	Not dated 1940s	1 item
<u>2</u>	<u>Christmas card</u>	<u>1946</u>	<u>1 item</u>
	R.A.F Levies Iraq, Habbaniya Christmas card from Roger to his parents. The Christmas card includes a photograph of a marching band.		
<u>3</u>	<u>St Andrew's Church Services card</u>	<u>Not dated</u> <u>[1946-1947]</u>	<u>1 item</u>
	Printed card giving details of Sunday and mid-week services for St Andrew's Church, Presbyterian Methodist and United Board of Baptist and Congregational Churches at the Royal Air Force Habbaniya, Iraq. The		

printed card includes a photograph of St Andrew's Church and is addressed to 'Joan and Harry from Roger'

<u>4</u>	<u>Training material</u>	<u>1940 and not</u>	<u>2 items</u>
	Printed booklets for training in map reading and language learning for Arabic	<u>dated</u>	
4/1	<u>Notes on Map Reading</u>	1940	1 booklet
	Printed booklet 'Notes on Map Reading 1929 (Reprinted with Amendments No 1 to 4 1939). The War Office'.		
4/2	<u>Arabic Self-Taught (Syrian)</u>	Not dated	1 booklet
	Printed booklet 'Arabic Self-Taught (Syrian) with English Phonetic Pronunciation by A. Hassam. Enlarged and revised by the Rev. N. Odeh' Fifth Edition. Marlborough's Self-Taught Series.	1940s	
<u>5</u>	<u>Travel Guides</u>	<u>1940s</u>	<u>4 booklets</u>
	Travel guides for Ur, Babylon, Nineveh and the Coptic Church of El-Moallaka at Old Cairo.		
5/1	<u>Abraham's City Ur of the Chaldees</u>	Not dated	1 booklet
	Printed booklet 'Abraham's City Ur of the Chaldees' by the Reverend Joseph Dowell Chaplain R.A.F. This travel guide gives advice on how best to approach seeing the archaeological site and provides information on the history and culture of the ancient city, setting this within a biblical context.	1940s	
5/2	<u>Babylon, The Gate of the Gods</u>	Not dated	1 booklet
	Printed booklet 'Babylon, The Gate of the Gods' by the Rev. (S/Ldr) M.S. Crosse' printed at the Iraqi State Railway Press, Baghdad. This travel guide gives information on the religion and	1940s	

culture of Babylon setting it within a biblical context, as well as information on excavations and a guide to visiting the archaeological site of Babylon.

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|----------|---|--------------------|----------------|
| 5/3      | <u>Nineveh The Great City</u>   | Not dated<br>1940s | 1 booklet      |
|          | Printed booklet 'Nineveh The Great City' by The Reverent R. Peter Johnston Chaplain, R.A.F.' This guide mainly provides a history of Assyrians within a biblical context, as well as including a plan of Nineveh and a description of the city.                     |                    |                |
| 5/4      | <u>Coptic Church of El-Moallaka</u>   | Jun 1944           | 1 booklet      |
|          | Printed booklet 'The Coptic Church of El-Moallaka and others at Old Cairo' by Rev Shenouda Hanna D.D. from the Coptic School of Theology Cairo Egypt. This booklet provides a general history of the Coptic church, as well as Coptic art and includes photographs. |                    |                |
| <u>6</u> | <u>Biographical information for Roger Partridge</u>   | <u>2022</u>        | <u>1 sheet</u> |
|          | Biographical information written by Jane Newton about her cousin Roger Partridge.   |                    |                |