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Catalogue of the papers of A.C. Parker

Date range of material: 1904-1948

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April 2025

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Preface

Creation of catalogue

Handwritten list by Elizabeth Cory, ca. 1980. EAD by Jane Hogan, 2008.

Contact details

Durham University Library: Archives and Special Collections

Palace Green

Durham

DH1 3RN

England

Telephone: 0191 334 2972

Email: PG.Library@durham.ac.uk

URL: <http://www.dur.ac.uk/library/asc/>

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Introduction

Collection title: Parker, Arthur Claude

Reference code: GB-0033-SAD

Dates of creation: 1904-1948

Extent: 2 boxes

Repository: Durham University Library, Archives and Special Collections

Creator: Parker, Arthur Claude

Language of material: English

Arthur Claude Parker

(1880 - 1961)

1904-1932	Sudan Government Railways
1904-1910	Assistant Chief Storekeeper
1910-1917	Superintendent of Accounts, Atbara
1917-1922	Secretary, Sudan Government Railways and Steamers, Atbara
1922-1924	Assistant General Manager, Sudan Government Railways and Steamers, Atbara
1924-1925	Deputy General Manager, Sudan Government Railways and Steamers, Atbara
1925-1932	General Manager, Sudan Government Railways and Steamers

Accession details

Presented by Mr Parker, 1958 and Mrs Hoadley, 1962; J. and P. Hoadley, 2015-2016.

Summary list only for 2015-2016 accessions

Arrangement

1. Official Papers
2. Personal Papers
3. Diaries
4. Articles, Speeches
5. Newspaper Cuttings
6. Miscellanea
7. Maps
8. Photographic Material
9. Museum Objects
10. Printed Material

Form of citation

Material in the Sudan Archive is given a reference number, which is unique across the collections of papers. Usually it is not necessary to give the name of the person or organisation within which collection the item is found, although it may be convenient to do so.

The short form of citation should be GB-0033-SAD.*reference number*

Most printed references take the form: SAD.*reference number*.

To order items in the searchroom, use the collection reference code(s), derived by removing the repository code (GB-0033-), followed by the reference number. Citing the section of the finding aid is useful.

1. Official Papers

A. Railways

- SAD.294/20/1-6 1904 Feb 22-Jun 3
Extract from a letter from A.J. Pelham, civil engineer, Berber and Suakin line, to his mother, questioning the wisdom of selecting Suakin as the terminus of the Red Sea Railway, with subsequent official correspondence reprimanding Pelham for expressing his views on a government matter through incorrect channels
- SAD.294/7/1 1915 Oct 2
Circular letter from L.O.F. Stack, Civil Secretary to province governors, forwarding a letter from A. Bonar Law concerning resignations from the Colonial Service for war service
- SAD.294/6/1 1917 Jul 20
Letter from Nasif Botross applying for a position in the Sudan Government Railways
- SAD.294/9/27-28 1923 Oct 19
Letter from G. Schuster, Financial Secretary, to A.C. Parker, offering his help and support during the forthcoming review of the railways by Pole, and future plans for the railways
- SAD.294/9/29 1927 Jun 14
Thank you letter to A.C. Parker from Ali Zaki and J. Ranade for an excursion to the Makwar dam
- SAD.294/9/15-25 1931 Dec
Notes on the practice of framing railway rates, produced at Atbara
- SAD.294/10/1-35 1932 Mar 31
Annual report, Sudan Government Railways for 1931, by A.C. Parker, General Manager
- SAD.294/11/1-61 1932 Feb 27
Financial appendices to 1931 report for the Sudan Government Railways, by F.S. Lees-Spalding
- SAD.294/12/1-53 1932
Statistical appendices for 1931 report for the Sudan Government Railways
- SAD.294/13/1-56 1942 Mar 31
Annual report, Sudan Government Railways for 1941, by F.L. Harwood, General Manager
- SAD.294/14/1-58 1942 Mar 21
Financial and statistical appendices to 1941 annual report for the Sudan Government Railways

B. 1924 Mutiny

- SAD.294/6/2-6 [1924]
"Memorandum on events at Atbara from the 9th August 1924 onwards" by [P.C. Lord]
- SAD.294/6/7-25 [1924]
"Memorandum on events at Atbara from the 9th August 1924 onwards" by [A.C. Parker], 2 copies, the first with a concluding paragraph

- SAD.294/6/26-27 [1924]
Summary of evidence by P.C. Lord at the court of enquiry into the shooting incident at Atbara
- SAD.294/6/28 1924 Aug 19
Letter from Mr Carvounopolo at Atbara to the Governor Berber Province concerning an incident in his shop during the troubles in Atbara
- SAD.294/6/29 1924 Sep 9
Letter from E.C. Midwinter to A.C. Parker forwarding praise from the Financial Secretary, G. Schuster for the actions of Parker and P.C. Lord during the recent troubles and recommending that Sudanese officials be promoted in recognition of their services
- SAD.294/6/30-31 1924 Dec 29
Letter from Muhammad Fadil at Cairo to A.C. Parker concerning his expulsion from Atbara and the assassination of Sir Lee Stack
- SAD.294/6/32-39 [ca. 1930s]
Draft account by A.C. Parker of the events at Atbara during the 1924 mutiny

2. Personal Papers

SAD.294/6/40-43 1934 Jun 14

Letter from A.H. Khalifa at the Sudanese Club, Atbara to A.C. Parker concerning the success of Sudanese agriculture, progress at the Atbara Technical School and recent activities at the Sudanese Club

SAD.294/16/1-3 1952 Oct 3

Letter from G.R. Storrar (formerly of Sudan Government Railways) to A.C. Parker concerning technical specifications relating to the construction of the Red Sea line

3. Diaries

SAD.294/9/33-56 1918 Jul 15 - Aug 21

Diary of a journey by steamer to Gambeila and back in the company of the General Manager, Sudan Government Railways and others; probably written by A.C. Parker

4. Articles, Speeches

- SAD.294/9/26 [ca. 1920s]
Account of the death of General Gordon, as told to A.C. Parker by Ibrahim Zaki
- SAD.294/9/1-14 1930 Jan 5
“Brief historical outline of the Sudan Government Railways and Steamers” by [A.C. Parker], covering railways, steamers, mechanical transport, Port Sudan and the catering service
- SAD.294/1/1-20 [ca. 1930-1950]
Article by A.C. Parker entitled “Pages from a diary” concerning archaeology and antiquities in Egypt and the Sudan
- SAD.294/2/1-35 [ca. 1930s]
Article by A.C. Parker entitled “The Sudan - the land of the blacks”, a brief history of 19th century Sudan and an account of his service there, 1904-32
- SAD.294/3/1-26 [ca. 1930s]
Article by A.C. Parker entitled “More about the Sudan and its borders”: further reminiscences of his life as a Sudan Government official
- SAD.294/9/30-31 1932
Farewell speech to A.C. Parker on his retirement from the Sudan
- SAD.294/4/1-28 [ca. 1930s-1940s]
Article by A.C. Parker entitled “More extracts from a diary”, describing a journey back from Gambeila to Khartoum by steamer, including remarks on the mutiny at Atbara in 1924. The paper was read by Parker at the Fortnight Club in October 1943.
- SAD.294/5/1-31 1948 Nov
Untitled paper by A.C. Parker, probably for a lecture, on prospects for self-government for the Sudan and overview of its modern history

5. Newspaper Cuttings

- SAD.294/7/26-28 1931 Dec 12 - [1932] Jan 2
Copy article from unnamed Sudanese newspaper by Ibrahim Effendi
Hanna in Atbara concerning the annual reception for the Sudan
Government Railways Police
- SAD.294/7/29-30 1947, 1957
Obituaries for Sir Edward Midwinter (d. 1947) and Bishop Llewellyn
Gwynne (d. 1957)

6. Miscellanea

- SAD.294/9/32 1906 Dec 24
Section torn from the bottom of a warrant with the seal and signature of Sir Reginald Wingate, Governor-General
- SAD.17/3/5-12 1927
Humorous postcards entitled "Functions we have never witnessed" by T.L. Scott, featuring the work of the Railways department, presented to A.C. Parker as a memento of Port Sudan. SAD.17/3/11 is a caricature of Parker
- SAD.294/7/31-34 1928, 1935
Appeal leaflets for the Gordon Memorial Fund
- SAD.294/7/35-46 1930 - 1931
Programmes for performances of "Revenge and love" by the Sudanese Dramatic Society; and productions of three short plays by the Atbara Players Society
- SAD.294/7/55 [ca. 1930]
Stamped envelope addressed to A.C. Parker
- SAD.294/7/47-53 [ca. 1946]
Appeal leaflet: *Khartoum Cathedral - War Memorial. Cathedral Hall and Social Centre as an expression of Christian fellowship among the churches of Khartoum. In thanksgiving and in memory 1939-1945*

7. Maps

SAD.294/7/54

[ca. 1930]

Sudan Railways map showing the Cairo-Mombasa route

8. Photographic Material

A. Group photographs

- SAD.17/3/28 1905 - 1932
Group of people including Sayyid Ahmad al-Mirghani, brother of Sayyid 'Ali al-Mirghani, standing on a river bank in Old Dongola
- SAD.17/5/1 1908 Jan 17
Members of the Port Sudan cricket club sitting outside the Port Sudan sports club on King's day
- SAD.17/5/2 1908 Jan 17
Members of the cricket section of Atbara sports club sitting outside the Port Sudan sports club on King's day. Featuring: A.C. Parker, Bishop L.H. Gwynne (seated centre), E.C. Midwinter (seated second from right) and T.E. Dunn.
- SAD.17/3/77 1914-1932
Atbara Scout group
- SAD.17/5/3 1923 Apr 21
A.C. Parker, General Manager, Sudan Railways (seated far left), sitting with a group of Egyptian government ministers during a visit to Atbara, with Egyptian officers, possibly of the Railway Battalion, standing in the background
- SAD.17/5/4 1923
Officers of the Railway Battalion, probably Atbara
- SAD.17/5/6 1926
Railway headquarters police group
- SAD.17/5/8 1926 - 1932
Governor-General, Sir John Maffey, with a group of men in levée uniform

B. Portraits

- SAD.2/1/1 1911
Portrait of E.C. Midwinter, General Manager, Sudan Railways, and formerly of the Royal Engineers and Egyptian Army, in uniform
- SAD.17/5/10-11 1920 - 1932
Full-length portrait of Bishop L.H. Gwynne
- SAD.2/1/2 [ca. 1922]
Portrait of Sir Lee Stack, Governor-General (1916-1924), in uniform
- SAD.17/5/9 1927 Oct 7
Full-length portrait of E.C. Midwinter, Royal Engineers and Egyptian Army and formerly General Manager, Sudan Railways
- SAD.2/1/3 1930
Portrait of A. C. Parker, General Manager, Sudan Railways

C. Northern Sudan

- SAD.17/3/1 1905 Aug 7
View of the prison next to A.C. Parker's house in Khartoum, with a group of Mahdist prisoners serving life imprisonment standing in chains in the centre

SAD.17/3/2	1905 - 1932 Unidentified group of people standing in a clearing
SAD.17/3/75	1907-1932 Street scene in Suakin
SAD.17/3/4	1914 - 1932 Interior view of Atbara church
SAD.17/3/3	1928 - 1932 Nile Hotel at Wadi Halfa, during construction
SAD.17/3/19	1909 - 1932 View of the Blue Nile bridge
SAD.17/6/60	1924 - 1926 View of the Kitchener School of Medicine
SAD.17/3/16	1928 Jan 17 British and Egyptian flags flying at the official opening of the White Nile bridge from Omdurman to Khartoum on King's day
SAD.17/3/20	1928 Feb Bed of the River Dinder at El Gueisi, from the east bank
D. Railways and construction work	
SAD.17/3/13	1904 - 1920 Atbara railway station
SAD.17/3/21	1914 - 1932 Group of people standing with the station master at El Goz railway station
SAD.17/3/15	1905 - 1932 Track construction work on a desert railway, probably Northern Province
SAD.17/3/74	1907-1918 Sudan Government Railways train in the Red Sea hills, travelling from Port Sudan to Khartoum
SAD.17/3/76	1914-1932 Locomotive engine, "Pasha" pulling a Sudan Government railway train, possibly Atbara
SAD.17/3/14	1920 - 1930 Desert mail train leaving Atbara railway station for Khartoum (McCorquodale & Co postcard)
SAD.17/3/29	1915 - 1932 Unidentified railway bridge
SAD.17/3/30	1915 - 1932 Men standing next to a Sudan Government Railways trolley car on an unidentified railway bridge
SAD.17/3/31	1915 - 1932 Men standing near a crane and other machinery, possibly during the construction of a bridge
SAD.17/3/32	1915 - 1932

	Three men pushing a trolley car along a railway track
SAD.17/3/33	1915 - 1932 Camels grazing next to a railway train
SAD.17/3/34	1915 - 1932 Group of government officials awaiting the arrival of a visiting dignitary at a railway station
SAD.17/3/17	1928 Jan Construction of the Abu Deleiq railway bridge across the River Atbara, showing the view from no. 8 caisson
SAD.17/3/18	1928 Construction of the Abu Deleiq railway bridge across the River Atbara
SAD.17/3/25-27	[ca. 1928] Construction of the Abu Deleiq railway bridge across the River Atbara
SAD.17/6/4	1929 Jan Construction of the Abu Deleiq railway bridge across the River Atbara
SAD.17/3/22	1920 - 1932 Construction work on the quays at Port Sudan
SAD.17/3/23	1920 - 1932 Crane unloading equipment during construction work on the quays at Port Sudan
SAD.17/3/24	1920 - 1932 Construction work on the quays at Port Sudan
SAD.17/3/71	[ca. 1928] Camels carrying water to the bankhead during the construction of the Kassala - Gedaref - Sennar railway
SAD.17/3/72	[ca. 1928] Railway workers removing earth during the construction of the Kassala - Gedaref - Sennar railway
SAD.17/3/73	[ca. 1928] Railway workers tightening bolts on the rails during the construction of the Kassala - Gedaref - Sennar railway
SAD.17/3/35	1929 Feb 7 Bishop L.H. Gwynne consecrating the Sudan Government Railways church saloon
SAD.17/3/36	1929 Feb 15 Railway train arriving at the official opening of the Kassala - Gedaref - Sennar railway
SAD.17/3/37-38	1929 Feb 15 Railway workers at the official opening of the Kassala - Gedaref - Sennar railway
SAD.17/3/39	1929 Feb 15 Railway train arriving at the official opening of the Kassala - Gedaref - Sennar railway
SAD.17/3/40-42,63,66	1929 Feb 15 Railway workers laying the final rail at the official opening of the

- Kassala - Gedaref - Sennar railway
- SAD.17/3/43,64,67,69-70 1929 Feb 15
Crowd of spectators at the official opening of the Kassala - Gedaref - Sennar railway
- SAD.17/3/44-48,62,65 1929 Feb 15
Governor-General, Sir John Maffey, and entourage inspecting the railhead at the official opening of the Kassala - Gedaref - Sennar railway
- SAD.17/3/49-52,68 1929 Feb 15
Grandstand at the official opening of the Kassala - Gedaref - Sennar railway
- SAD.17/3/53-55 1929 Feb 15
Governor-General, Sir John Maffey, tightening the last bolt at the official opening of the Kassala - Gedaref - Sennar railway
- SAD.17/3/56 1929 Feb 15
Governor-General, Sir John Maffey, meeting railway engineers on a podium at the official opening of the Kassala - Gedaref - Sennar railway
- SAD.17/3/57-58 1929 Feb 15
Governor-General, Sir John Maffey, and Lady Maffey standing on a podium at the official opening of the Kassala - Gedaref - Sennar railway
- SAD.17/3/59 1929 Feb 15
A.C. Parker, General Manager, Sudan Railways, standing on a podium with the Governor-General, Sir John Maffey, and a woman, possibly Mrs Parker, holding a plaque marking the official opening of the Kassala - Gedaref - Sennar railway
- SAD.17/3/60 [ca. 1929]
Plaque marking the official opening of the Kassala - Gedaref - Sennar railway
- SAD.17/3/61 1929 Feb 15
E.C. Midwinter, former General Manager, Sudan Railways, waving from a train at the official opening of the Kassala - Gedaref - Sennar railway
- E. Sennar Dam
- SAD.17/6/61 [ca. 1921]
Bucyrus excavator clearing earth during the construction of the Sennar dam
- SAD.17/6/1 1922 Jan
View of the Sennar dam during construction
- SAD.17/6/2 1925 Jan
View of the Sennar dam during construction
- SAD.17/6/5-16,18-24 1922-1925
Views of the Sennar dam during construction
- SAD.17/6/29-44 1922-1925
Views of the Sennar dam during construction
- SAD.17/6/17 1922-1925

	Group of people inspecting the Sennar dam gauge room during construction
SAD.17/6/25	1922-1925 Convoy of motor cars, possibly transporting a group of people after a visit to the Sennar dam during construction
SAD.17/6/28	1922-1925 Group of people taking photographs of the Sennar dam during construction
SAD.17/5/7	1924-1926 Group of people including E.C. Midwinter, General Manager, Sudan Railways, looking at the Sennar Dam during construction
SAD.17/6/26-27	1925-1926 Police band on parade, possibly practising for inauguration of the Sennar dam
SAD.17/6/45	1925-1926 View of the newly-constructed Sennar dam
SAD.17/6/46-47	1925-1926 Group of officials touring the newly-constructed Sennar dam
SAD.17/6/48	1925-1926 Group of officials standing on the bridge over the newly-constructed Sennar dam
SAD.17/6/49	1925-1926 Group of officials opening a sluice on the newly-constructed Sennar dam: C.E. Lyall, Acting Governor-General with back to camera and A.J.C. Huddleston, Governor Blue Nile Province on the right
SAD.17/6/50	1925-1926 Group of officials standing by the gauge room on the newly-constructed Sennar dam
SAD.17/6/51	1925-1926 Crowd of people walking across the newly-constructed Sennar dam
SAD.17/6/52,54-55,57	1925-1926 View of the newly-constructed Sennar dam after the opening of the sluices
SAD.17/6/53,56	1925-1926 View of a canal leading from the newly-constructed Sennar dam
SAD.17/6/58-59	1925-1926 Land flooding after the opening of the sluices on the newly-constructed Sennar dam
SAD.17/6/3	1926-1932 Group of men standing on the railway bridge over the Sennar dam
SAD.A28/1-20	1922-1925 Album of photographs showing the construction of the Sennar dam
SAD.17/5/5	1926 Jan Sir Geoffry Archer, the Governor-General, greeting Lord Lloyd, High Commissioner for Egypt at Khartoum station for the opening of the

Sennar dam

F. River transport

- SAD.17/4/1 1914-1932
Sternwheel steamer *Fatih*, and barges on the Nile, possibly Upper Nile Province
- SAD.17/4/2 1914-1932
Lotus, a stern-wheel steamer, moored on the Nile (McCorquodale & Co postcard)
- SAD.17/4/3 1914-1932
Mail steamer, the S.G.S. *Britain* (McCorquodale & Co postcard)
- SAD.17/4/4 1914-1932
Distant view of a steamer
- SAD.17/4/5 1914-1932
Stern wheel steamer, the *Kitchener Pasha*
- SAD.17/4/6-7 1914-1932
Steamers on the Nile, including the SS *Bordein*, an armoured paddle steamer used by General Gordon (Karakashian Bros.)
- SAD.17/4/8-9 1914-1932
Bordein, an armoured paddle steamer used by General Gordon
- SAD.17/4/10 1914-1932
Meroe, a stern-wheel steamer
- SAD.17/4/11-12 1914-1932
S.W.S. *Ibis*, a stern-wheel steamer, possibly Wadi Halfa
- SAD.17/4/13-14 1931 Dec 11
Steamer, the *Sir Lee Stack*, at Moghren quays and departing on her maiden voyage

G. Lantern slides

- SAD.492/1/1[GL] 1905-1932
View of houses at Suakin from the sea (colour)
- SAD.492/1/2[GL] 1905-1932
Street in Suakin with the minaret of the Hanafi mosque at the end (colour tinted)
- SAD.492/1/3[GL] 1905-1932
Ruins of the Mahdi's tomb as it was left after the battle of Omdurman in 1898 (colour tinted)
- SAD.492/1/4-5[GL] 1922-1925
Sennar dam under construction
- SAD.492/1/6[GL] 1926-1932
Sennar dam after completion
- SAD.492/1/7[GL] 1926-1932
Aerial view of Sennar dam
- SAD.492/2/1[GL] [1912]
Guests on a podium, probably for the visit of George V and Queen

- Mary to Sinkat
- SAD.492/2/2[GL] [1912]
Soldiers lined up at an official occasion, possibly the visit of George V and Queen Mary to Sinkat
- SAD.492/2/3[GL] 1912 Jan 26
Khartoum cathedral at the time of its consecration
- SAD.492/2/4[GL] 1912 Jan 26
Clergy outside Khartoum cathedral at its consecration
- SAD.492/2/5[GL] 1912 Jan 26
Consecration service in Khartoum cathedral
- SAD.492/2/6[GL] 1912 Jan 26
Group of visiting clergy, possibly at the consecration of Khartoum cathedral (cracked)
- SAD.492/3/3[GL] 1905-1932
Railway construction work on the Kassala line
- SAD.492/3/4[GL] 1905-1932
Rail crash due to a washout on the line
- SAD.492/3/8[GL] 1905-1932
Collapsed railway bridge due to floods (colour tinted)
- SAD.492/3/5[GL] 1905-1932
Ships at Port Sudan quays
- SAD.492/4/1[GL] 1905-1932
Unidentified street (broken)
- SAD.492/4/2[GL] 1905-1932
Hadanduwah man on camel back (cracked)
- SAD.492/4/3[GL] 1905-1932
Woodcutting at Ogod, Bahr al-Ghazal
- SAD.492/4/4[GL] 1905-1932
Group of officials and motor cars
- SAD.492/4/5[GL] [1929 Feb 15]
Podium for guests at the official opening of a railway, probably the Kassala-Sennar railway
- SAD.492/4/6[GL] [1929 Feb 15]
Officials and guests, possibly at the opening of the Kassala-Sennar railway
- SAD.492/4/7[GL] 1905-1932
Unidentified railway station
- SAD.492/4/8[GL] [1929 Feb 15]
Sir John Maffey laying the last rail of the Kassala-Sennar railway line

9. Museum Objects

SAD.1046/13 [1904 x 1932]
Sudan Government Railways and Steamers flag: red fouled anchor
on blue background.

10. Printed Material

Separated printed material now in Durham University Library

Printed material deposited with collection; now integrated into the library's printed collections and catalogued on the Open Public Access Catalogue