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## **Catalogue of the papers of P.B.E. Acland**

**Date range of material: 1864-[1982], predominantly 1925-1946**

Durham University Library  
December 2024

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## Preface

## Creation of catalogue

List JH July 1994, EAD SGML RIH August 1997

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## Introduction

*Collection title:* Acland, Peter Bevil Edward

*Reference code:* GB-0033-SAD

*Dates of creation:* 1864-[1982], predominantly 1925-1946

*Extent:* 0.5 box

*Repository:* Durham University Library, Archives and Special Collections: Sudan Archive

*Creator:* Acland, Peter Bevil Edward

*Language of material:* English

### Peter Bevil Edward Acland

(1902 - 1993)

1925-1931	A.D.C. Central District/Butana, Kassala Province
1931-1934	A.D.C. Port Sudan - Suakin administration
1934-1936	Resident, Dar Masalit District, Darfur
1936-1942	D.C./Economic Officer (from 1938) and Gezira Commissioner, Wad Medani, Blue Nile/Gezira Province
1940-1942	Seconded to S.D.F. from Territorial Reserve of Officers
1943-1945	D.C.C.A.O. Chief Administrator, Dodecanese
1945-1946	Chief Administrator, Cyrenaica
1946	Retired from Sudan Service

### Accession details

Presented by Acland, 1982-1991

### Arrangement

1. Official Papers
2. Memoirs
3. Photographic Material
  - (a) Photographs
  - (b) Cinefilms
  - (c) Video
4. Historical 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*

Printed references should 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

SAD.777/14/1-32 1931 Nov

Copy of handing-over notes on Butana District by Acland for H.M. Watt, comprising the following sections:

SAD.777/14/2 1930 Nov

Map of Gedaref and Butana Districts, Kassala Province showing roads, district boundaries and tribal areas  
Sudan Survey Department, Khartoum  
Scale: 1 to 3,000,000  
Size: 8.5 x 12 ins

SAD.777/14/3-5 Early history of the Butana

SAD.777/14/5-7 Reorganisation and expansion

SAD.777/14/7-10 The growth of native administration

SAD.777/14/10-12 Taxation and remuneration of *shaikhs*

SAD.777/14/12-16 Material development

SAD.777/14/16-17 Communications

SAD.777/14/17-18 Medicine and education

SAD.777/14/18-19 Population and sport and amusement

SAD.777/14/19-23 The future

SAD.777/14/24-27 Appendix - Shukriyyah subsections with names of *shaikhs* and note of houses and inhabitants

SAD.777/14/28-31 List of foreigners in the Shukriyyah nazirate.

SAD.777/14/33-53 1931 Nov 7

A note on the history of the Shukriyyah, in particular of those dwelling in the Butana, as recounted to Acland in 1930 by Shaikh Awad al-Karim Abu Sinn, *nazir* of the Shukriyyah, with note on the origin of the name Belaalab, family tree as given by Shaikh Ahmad al-Hardello and Butana *shaikhs* and notes on the Ahamda, the Awaida and the Khawalda

## 2. Memoirs

SAD.707/15/1-22 [1982]

Acland's personal memoir and resumé; of career in the Sudan.

Includes references to the following:

SAD.707/15/2-10 1925-1931

Life in Kassala Province as A.D.C. Butana: description of district and tribes; administration and police; beginnings of devolution; herd tax; education and trade

SAD.707/15/10-13 1931-1934

Life in Port Sudan as D.C.: description of town and its administration; social life; foreign visitors; customs; restrictions on Sudanese women; improvement of trade

SAD.707/15/13-18 1934-1936

Life in Darfur as Resident, Dar Masalit District: description of Sultan Bahr al-Din (Endoka); trade in Dar Masalit and Dar Gimr; military accommodation and discipline; contacts with the French frontier post at Adre; local medicine; beginning of Imperial Airways trans-African flights; death of Sultan Idris of Dar Gimr; horse breeding and race meetings

SAD.707/15/19-20 1936-1939

Life in Blue Nile Province as D.C. Gezira

SAD.707/15/20 Personal opinion of Sudan Government's administrative success

SAD.707/15/21 Effect of war on Sudan: personal rôle in armed forces

SAD.707/15/22 Retirement and details of other jobs

SAD.777/15/1-13 Memoir by Mrs. Bridget Acland (wife of Acland) of her life in the Sudan, covering the years in the Butana (777/15/1-5), Port Sudan (777/15/6-8), Geneina, Darfur (777/15/9-11) and Wad Medani (777/15/12-13)

### 3. Photographic Material

#### (a) Photographs

SAD.778/4/1-19 [c. 1925-1931]

Kassala Province, including Butana District:

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| SAD.778/4/1-2   | D.C.'s house at Khashm el Girba, 1923-28. Bathroom and storeroom on the left   |
| SAD.778/4/3     | 1928<br>R.E.H. Baily, Governor Kassala, presenting the prize to the winner of the camel race at a Shukriyyah tribal gathering, 1928. Acland and the <i>nazir</i> of the Shukriyyah Shaikh Awad al-Karim Abu Sinn in the background             |
| SAD.778/4/4     | 1928<br>Shukriyyah parading in front of the Governor-General Sir John Maffey, Khashm el Girba, 1928.   |
| SAD.778/4/5     | 1928<br>Camels waiting for the parade before the Governor-General at Khashm el Girba, 1928. The <i>shaikh</i> in the foreground is wearing a robe of honour. On the right of his camel is a <i>muhafiz</i> , a native administration policeman |
| SAD.778/4/6     | 1928<br>Acland and his wife Bridget, 1928.   |
| SAD.778/4/7     | Mrs Acland at a <i>hafir</i> in the Butana   |
| SAD.778/4/8     | Drawing water from a well in the Butana; Acland with his back to the camera  |
| SAD.778/4/9     | Camels and riders waiting for the start of a race  |
| SAD.778/4/10    | 1928<br>Government resthouse at Khashm el Girba, 1928.   |
| SAD.778/4/11    | 1927<br>Partly listening to a case at Asubri, 1 December 1927.   |
| SAD.778/4/12    | Acland and a litigant in a land case   |
| SAD.778/4/13    | <i>Shaikh</i> attending a land case; policeman holding a rope to measure the boundary  |
| SAD.778/4/14    | Acland taking evidence on trek in a land case  |
| SAD.778/4/15    | Khor Gerada  |
| SAD.778/4/16    | Crossing the River Atbara in flood   |
| SAD.778/4/17    | The gorge at Hagar Zarruq on the R. Setit  |
| SAD.778/4/18    | Lahawin camels watering at Hagar Zarruq on the R. Setit  |
| SAD.778/4/19    | River Setit  |
| SAD.778/4/20-21 | 1932<br>Port Sudan:  |
| SAD.778/4/20    | Police guard awaiting the arrival of the Governor-General by train at Port Sudan station   |
| SAD.778/4/21    | Sports at Port Sudan: high jump  |
| SAD.778/4/22-23 | Suakin:  |
| SAD.778/4/23    | The main gate to Suakin<br>A particularly good example of a Suakin house (photographer D.P. Chryssides, Port Sudan)<br>Size: 9 x 7 ins   |

SAD.778/5/1-17 1932-1933

Erkowit:

SAD.778/5/1-2 1933

Acland standing on the rest house verandah at Erkowit, 1933.

SAD.778/5/3 Train at Erkowit

SAD.778/5/4-17 Views of Erkowit

SAD.778/5/18-20 Camels carrying *`utfas* ; slave girls in foreground

Unidentified *shaikhs*, probably at race meeting

SAD.778/5/22-23 Arrested camel thieves

Camels:

SAD.778/5/24-25 Riding camels

SAD.778/5/26 Baggage camel

SAD.778/5/27 1927

Female camel with foal waiting to be judged at the 1927 tribal gathering at Khashm el Girba

SAD.778/5/28 Judges and spectators at a camel race meeting

SAD.778/5/29 Camels at a tribal gathering

SAD.778/5/30 Camel trained for racing

SAD.778/5/31 Camel feeding

SAD.778/5/32 Camels waiting to water



- SAD.778/5/33 Drawing water from a well, possibly Darfur; water skins in foreground  
Ram drinking
- SAD.778/5/35 Gazelle shot for meat and a crocodile shot for its skin  
Secretary bird
- (b) Cinefilms
- SAD.701/29 1927  
Butana District, Kassala Province:  
Dogs feeding; tending to sick camel; meeting under tree; camp; Camel Corps. Includes the *nazir* of the Shukriyyah, Shaikh Awad al-Karim Abu Sinn and the *ferik* of Shaikh al-Khut Adam al-Zein of the Lahawin  
16 mm, b & w, 2 minutes
- SAD.701/30 1927  
Kassala Province:  
Polo game, Jabal Kassala in background; horse jumping; horse races including obstacle race; part of Christmas celebrations  
16 mm, b & w, 3½ minutes
- SAD.708/1 1928-1929  
Butana, Kassala Province:  
Other well centres, cleaning out a well; Bir Geheit well; stockaded water pans; watering animals; inside of well; herd of camels; owl chicks; new animal market owned by the governor; slaughtering bull for good luck; governor making speech to villagers; hobbled camels, cattle and goats  
16 mm, b & w, 4½ minutes
- SAD.708/2 1927-1928  
Butana, Kassala Province:  
River Atbara; prisoners working round Acland's house, Khashm el Girba; trekking by camel; packing up camels; dismantling tent, herd of camels passing; well centre at Geili where animals watered; drawing water from well; dog; crossing Setit River and passing through a gum forest; visit of Governor-General to Khashm el Girba for the tribal gathering there, 1928 ; police escort for the Governor-General; Governor-General on parade and taking the salute of the Arabs  
16 mm, b & w, 6½ minutes
- SAD.708/3 1927-1928  
Continuation of 708/2 above, at Khashm el Girba: Arabs forming a square and chief *shaikh* making a speech; Governor-General meeting tribal leaders; sports on the second day; camel race; donkey race; war dance with swords and shields; tug-of-war competition; decorated bridal camels ( *`utfas* ); old women chasing chickens  
16 mm, b & w, 3 minutes
- SAD.708/4 1929-1930  
Mainly Kassala Province, including Gash delta: Acland's house (?); motor car; trekking by camel; landscape; crossing river; Acland's pet dog; making camp; camel herd passing; Nile scenes; lion cub; Nile steamer; Abu Simbel

- SAD.708/5 16 mm, b & w and colour, 7 minutes  
1930  
Abu Deleiq:  
Sentries on duty, changing of guard; men on camels passing, tribal gathering; camel with young
- SAD.708/6 16 mm, b & w, 3½ minutes  
1930-1931  
Flag mounted in bush camp; Hadendowa with goats; British man and woman on trek (Acland?) by riverside; crossing river; lion cubs; British woman fishing and shooting; river views; fishing and swimming in river
- SAD.708/7 16 mm, b & w and colour, 4½ minutes  
1930-1931  
Abu Zulleiq; village scenes; gathering of men; British officials; inspection of guard; donkeys and goat herd at watering hole; trek to Shael Walia; watering animals at wells; Abu Deleiq race meeting; drawing water from well; *saqiyah* drawn by oxen
- SAD.708/8 16 mm, b & w, 9½ minutes  
1927  
On trek; camel races; village scenes; train entering station; camels pulling ploughs(?); ferry on river; tame gazelle; on camel trek, standard bearers at the front
- SAD.709/1 16 mm, b & w, 7 minutes  
1930-1931  
Kassala Province:  
Animals watering at riverside; fishing; British man bathing and fishing with rod; young boys; police parade and Eastern Arab Corps; mounted police; lorry crossing plain; return of the baggage camels from trek; crossing the Atbara river by camel and by lorry; hartebeest shot on the Atbara; skinning the animal; camel race meeting; presenting prizes; Acland fishing
- SAD.709/2 16 mm, b & w, 10½ minutes  
[n.d.]  
Butana District, Kassala Province:  
Two lion cubs found after mother shot - taken to Kassala; skinning lion carcass; cubs 2 months later and 5 months later
- SAD.709/3 16 mm, b & w, 3½ minutes  
1932  
Kassala Province:  
Agricultural show at Tokar; cotton baling competition; camels, horses, cattle, donkeys, poultry; Port Sudan salt works; loading of salt on to train; Suakin including buildings, gateway, pilgrim ship leaving quay for Mecca
- SAD.709/4 16 mm, b & w, 7½ minutes  
1932  
Port Sudan:  
Polo game, players and spectators arriving; Khor Arba`at; picnic lunch; bathing in pool

- SAD.709/5 16 mm, b & w, 6 minutes  
1932-1933  
Gold mining in the Red Sea Hills; workers' tents; swimming pool, Port Sudan; Governor-General arriving at Port Sudan station; inspecting guard of honour; wild cat; flowers
- SAD.709/6 16 mm, b & w, 5 minutes  
1934-1935  
Geneina, Darfur:  
Horses and foal; Capt. Clegg driving horse and cart; bathing in swimming pool; donkey carrying water containers; pigeons; stables; race meeting; polo game; Geneina market
- SAD.709/7 16 mm, b & w, 9½ minutes  
1934-1935  
Dar Masalit and Dar Gimr, Darfur:  
Market day in Darfur; Arab stallions; first trans-African airmail arriving; refuelling plane; province governor visiting Geneina; Geneina garrison; mounted troops filing past; women carrying loads on their heads; practice alarm at the fort
- 16 mm, b & w, 9 minutes
- (c) Video  
SAD.Video 1 Time-coded VHS video copy of films 701/29 - 701/30, 708/1 - 708/8 and 709/1 - 709/7 above

#### 4. Historical Material

##### Accession details

The following two items were formerly the property of Gen. C.G. Gordon and were given by him to his sister, Miss M.A. Gordon. On her death they passed to another sister, Helen Clarke Moffitt who in turn gave them to Sir Henry Acland, grandfather of Acland. Sir Henry Acland was Regius Professor of Medicine at Oxford and for a time was personal physician to Edward VII when he was Prince of Wales. He was a personal friend of Sir Reginald Wingate and treasurer of the Khartoum Cathedral fund raising committee

SAD.777/16/1-3    *The characteristic differences of the Four Gospels ...* by Andrew Jukes (third edition) London, 1864

Personal copy of Gen. C.G. Gordon. Gordon's address is inscribed in his hand and the text contains his annotations in pencil. On the title page is inscribed ???M.A. Gordon from Charles G. Gordon???, presumably in Miss Gordon's hand. Enclosed are a covering letter from Helen Clarke Moffitt to Sir Henry Acland and a note in his hand of the provenance of the book.

*Misbaha* or Muslim prayer beads (28, 33, 33 beads with 2 separators and 1 handle), made of plain dark wood, reported to have belonged to Gen. C.G. Gordon

