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Charles Wilson Photographic Collection, c. 1944-1945 (inclusive)

Collection Overview

Creators: Wilson, Charles

Dates: 1944-1945 (inclusive)

Provenance: Gifted from Lorna Wilson to Jane Taylor, 1992. Donated to ACOR by Jane

Taylor, April 2018.

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Cite collection as: The Charles Wilson collection at the American Center of Oriental Research

(ACOR), Amman, Jordan

Physical location: ACOR Archive, Amman, Jordan.

Collection processing notes: Processed with funding provided by a Fiscal Year 2016 American Overseas

Research Centers grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

Processed by: ACOR Library and Archives Team 2018: Steve Meyer, Razan Ahmad.

Digitization completed and collection uploaded on to ACOR Photo Archive

online platform in April 2018.

Collection Summary

The Charles Wilson collection features photographs taken by a British Army officer securing provisions for the army during 1944/45. The collection is made up of two size of photographic print: twenty-two (22) 5x7 inch black & white photographic prints of Transjordan (Jordan) and Palestine, and five (5) 4.5x2.5 inch black & white photographic prints of Petra in 1944/45. The collection includes photos of agricultural processes, forms of transportation and archeological sites.



Biographical/Historical Note

Charles Wilson, along with his wife Lorna, was based in Amman in 1944-1945. Wilson was tasked with securing provisions for the British Army during World War II.

Language: English with Arabic transliteration for place names.

Subject Headings

In accordance with the Library of Congress Subject Headings and Place Name authorities.

Subjects: Original Format:

Middle East Black & white photographic prints

Material culture--Middle East--History

Cultural Heritage Geographic:
Photography Middle East
Landscapes Jordan--History

History Jordan--History--20th Century

Archaeology Palestine--History
Agriculture/Farming Transjordan

Railways Karak (Jordan : Province)

Petra (Extinct city)

Organizations:

American Center of Oriental Research (ACOR) Persons:

The British Army Wilson, Charles

Organization and Arrangement of Collection

The collection is arranged in two series by topic and print size. Quotations indicate unverifiable descriptions given by Charles Wilson in blue pen on the reverse of the prints. Further notes were made in black by Jane Taylor.

Series 1: Jordan - Various Locations (1944 -1945 inclusive)

Series two includes photographs of railway stations, agriculture, cultural heritage, and archaeological sites in Jordan, such as photos of: Jizah (the Roman reservoir and Mamluk fort), King Hussein Bridge, Jordan Valley "buying station" (for wheat), Al-Karak, At-Tafilah, Irbid and the Madaba Region (including agricultural processes involving wheat and corn, and Circassian carts transporting it).

Subseries 1: Amman

Including: the Roman Theater, Amman Railway Station, "Stu's Amman office" (Presumably a colleague of Charles Wilson's).

Subseries 2: Petra, Jordan

Including: the Monastery (2), the Treasury (1), the Lion Triclinium (1), the Royal Tombs (1). Although unconfirmed, it is speculated that these photos of Petra were taken in the springtime because of the abundance of vegetation.

Series 2: Palestine (1944-1945 inclusive)

This consists of a photographic print of Lake Tiberias, with a sign in Arabic, English and Hebrew. It is thought that it was taken from the side of Lake Tiberias that was under the British Mandate for Palestine (1923-1948).



About this finding aid:

Prepared by: Steven Meyer (2018). Updated by Jessica Holland (2019)

Last update: 26 March 2019

Language: Arabic finding aid in progress (2019)