

Henry Clay Derrick Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the
Library of Congress

Prepared by Mary A. Lacy



Manuscript Division, Library of
Congress

Washington, D.C.

2009

Contact information: <http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/mss/address.html>

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Collection Summary

Title: Henry Clay Derrick Papers

Span Dates: 1848-1994

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1875-1878)

ID No.: MSS65593

Creator: Derrick, Henry Clay, 1832-1915

Extent: 40 items; 1 container; 0.4 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

Repository: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Abstract: Civil engineer and army officer. Diaries recording Derrick's service with other former Confederate and Union soldiers in the Egyptian army (Jaysh) under the Khedive as an engineer conducting surveys and preparing maps, a description of a military expedition into Abyssinia, transcripts and synopses of portions of the diaries and Derrick's letters to his wife, Mary Frances Crosby Derrick, and other family members, and photocopies of clippings and other related papers.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Personal Names

Derrick family.

Derrick, Henry Clay, 1832-1915.

Derrick, Martha Frances Cosby--Correspondence.

Organizations

Confederate States of America. Army--Officers.

Egypt. Jaysh.

Subjects

Maps, Military.

Locations

Egypt--History--Ismail, 1863-1879.

Egypt--Maps.

Ethiopia--History--1490-1889.

Related Names

Derrick, Clarence. Clarence Derrick Papers.

Occupations

Civil engineers.

Soldiers.

Administrative Information

Provenance:

The papers of Henry Clay Derrick, civil engineer and army officer, were given to the Library of Congress by Clarence Derrick and W. A. Derrinck in 1982. Additions were received from Clarence Derrick in 1992, 1994, and 1996.

Processing History:

The papers of Henry Clay Derrick were arranged and described in 1996. The finding aid was revised in 2009.

Copyright Status:

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Henry Clay Derrick is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions:

The papers of Henry Clay Derrick are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation:

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Henry Clay Derrick Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Henry Clay Derrick (1832-1915) span the years 1848-1994, with the bulk of the items concentrated in the period 1875-1878. Derrick, a civil engineer from Halifax, Virginia, served in the Confederate army as captain of engineers. In 1875 he entered service in the Egyptian army (Jaysch) under the Khedive as an engineering officer, conducting surveys and preparing maps. His two diaries, 1875-1878, depict day-to-day life of the small band of former Confederate and Union soldiers serving the Khedive. The first diary includes a detailed description of his involvement in a military expedition into Abyssinia, which resulted in the battle of Gura in March 1875 and the defeat of the Egyptian army. The papers also contain material transcribed, edited, and annotated by Clarence Derrick. This material includes transcripts and synopses of portions of the journal and of family correspondence, principally letters from Henry Derrick to his wife, Martha Frances (Cosby) Derrick; a listing of books from Derrick's library; and photocopies of clippings and other related papers.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material.

Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1	Diary, 11 Oct. 1875-23 July 1878 (2 volumes)
BOX 1	Transcripts and photocopies
BOX 1	Diary transcripts and synopses, Oct. 1875-Nov. 1877
BOX 1	Letter transcripts, 1856-1877
BOX 1	Miscellaneous transcripts, photocopies, and papers, 1848-1994