



Archives and Special Collections Department,
American University of Beirut
Beirut, Lebanon
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Downtown Beirut Photo Collection, 2011

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the University Archives, AUB
Prepared by Shaden Dada

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Descriptive Summary

Call No.: Ph:DTB:2011

Library catalog ID: [b26191866](#)

Record Creator: Studio Gag

Collection Title: Downtown Beirut Photo Collection, 2011

Collection Dates: May 14, 2011

Physical Description: 19 photos, color; 15.1 x 10.1 cm

Language: N/A

Administrative Information

Source: N/A

Access restrictions: The collection can be used within the premises of the Archives and Special Collections Department, Jafet Memorial Library, American University of Beirut.

Photocopying restriction: No photocopying restriction except for fragile and handwritten material.

Preferred citation: Downtown Beirut Photo Collection, 2011, Ph:DTB:2011, Photo no., American University of Beirut/Library Archives.

Scope and Content

This collection of photos of Downtown Beirut or Beirut Central District briefly chronicles Beirut's story in the words Ronnie Chatah, Beirut's own Pied Piper, creator of the popular *Walk Beirut* historical tour of the city. The tour itinerary usually covers, but is not limited to, the Banyan Tree outside the American University of Beirut Medical Gate at Bliss Street, Martyrs' Square, Khandaq Al Ghamiq, Solidere, and the Central Bank.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged as received.

Historical Sketch

19 colored photos of Downtown Beirut, Martyrs' Square and Central Bank taken in the year 2011. Most of the shots were featured in Main Gate, [Spring 2011 Vol. IX, No. 3](#) p.37-42

Subject Headings

Beirut Central District (BCD).

Sāḥat al-Shuhadā' (Beirut, Lebanon).

Domes -- Lebanon -- Beirut.

Historic buildings -- Lebanon -- Beirut.

Theater -- Lebanon -- Beirut.

Container List

Downtown Beirut, 19 photos, 2011

- Downtown Beirut, SW [016 1]
- Hotel Phoenicia & Holiday Inn intersection, Beirut, DSC_7678 [016 14]
- Beirut Terrace & Hotel Monroe Intersection, Beirut, DSC_7685 [016 15]
- Panoramic shot of Downtown Beirut, DSC_7707 [016 16]
- Beirut Souks Entrance, Downtown Beirut, DSC_7725 [016 18] , DSC_7729 [016 19]
- Clock Tower, Downtown Beirut, DSC_7733 [016 20], DSC_7734 [016 21]
- Samir Kassir statue at Samir Kassir Garden in Martyrs' Square, Downtown Beirut, DSC_7745 [016 22], DSC_7749 [016 23]
- Martyrs' Statue, Martyrs' Square, Downtown Beirut, DSC_7764 [016 24]
- Virgin Megastore Building [*previously Cine Opera*], Downtown Beirut, DSC_7766 [016 25]
- Virgin Megastore Building [*previously Cine Opera*] & UFA Assurances Building, Downtown Beirut, DSC_7784 [016 28]
- Wide shot of Martyrs' Square with Martyrs' statue, Mohammad Al-Amin Mosque & Virgin Megastore Building [*previously Cine Opera*], DSC_7772 [016 26]
- Martyrs' Statue in Martyrs' Square, Downtown Beirut, DSC_7781 [016 27]
- View of buildings in Downtown Beirut, DSC_778x7 [016 30]
- The Dome [also known as "the egg"], front entrance and back shots, Martyrs' Square, Downtown Beirut, DSC_7788 [016 29] , DSC_7796 [016 31]
- Banque du Liban, DSC_7800 [016 32]

Related Material

Archives

- **Middle East & North Africa Ephemera Collection (formerly Linda Sadakah Collection)**
 - o File 116: الحرب الأهلية – مشاريع الأعمار
 - o File 117: الحرب الأهلية – مشروع إعمار وسط بيروت – الوسط التجاري
- **Farid Trad Collection**
 - o Box A-04: Regent Hotel Place de canons

Articles

- Ali, M. (2011) Walking... and Talking... Beirut. *Main Gate*, [Spring 2011 Vol. IX, No. 3](#) p.37-42

Books

- Khalaf, S. (1973). *Hamra of Beirut: a case of rapid urbanization*. Leiden: Brill. [CA 301.363:K45h](#)
- Nassif, R. (2012). *The politics of memory: reconstruction of downtown Beirut: an anthropological study*. Saarbrücken, Germany: Lambert Academic Publishing. [E 307.126:N268p](#)
- Sawalha, A. (2010). *Reconstructing Beirut: memory and space in a postwar Arab city*. Austin Texas: University of Texas Press. [E 307.34:S271r](#)

- تويني، غسان. (٢٠٠٠). *البرج: ساحة الحرية وبوابة المشرق*. بيروت: دار النهار للنشر. [F:956.952:B958tA](#)

Digital Resources

- [Ronnie Chatah](#)
- [Walk Beirut](#)

LibGuides

- [Beirut's Heritage Buildings](#)

Maps

- GEOprojects (U.K.) Ltd. (2011). *Beirut, scale 1:10 000: Discover Beirut* (7th, rev. 2011. ed.). GEOprojects (UK) Ltd. [Mp 912.56925:BEI:2011](#)
- GEOprojects, & Geoprojects (Firm). (2009). Beirut downtown mini map. GEOprojects (UK) Ltd. [Mp 912.56925:BEI:2009](#)

Photos

- Students trip to Downtown Beirut, 1998 [Ph:AUB:1998/11/03\(01\):1-4:66](#)
- Visit of AUB delegation to Downtown Beirut, 1995 [Ph:AUB:1995/10/24\(02\):1-5:62](#)
- Archeological excavations in Downtown Beirut, near Martyr's Square, 1995 [Ph:AUB:1995/09\(04\):1-2:62](#)
- Archeological excavations in Downtown Beirut, north of old Rivoli Theater, 1994 [Ph:AUB:1994/10/25\(02\):1-3:61](#), [Ph:AUB:1994/05/03:1-2:61](#)
- [Saul Rosenberg Collection](#), Subseries II: Album III: 1934-1939

Thesis

- Al Jundi, N.A. (2017). Plot 987; rethinking the egg: the dome, downtown Martyr Square [\[electronic resource\]](#)
- Baghdadi, N. N. (2012). *Infrastructural breaks and integral urbanism: the case study of the Eastern edge of Beirut's inner-city ring road*. [ET:5621](#)
- Khayyat, C. (1984). *Urban planning in Beirut: the social limits to plan implementation*. [ET:3187](#)
- Zakhem, Y. (2016). *Towards a new Martyrs' Square*. [\[electronic resource\]](#)
- Ghanem. S. L. (2014). Merchants and memory: remembering the old Beirut Souqs. [T:6054](#)

Videos

- Merheb, A., Bdeir, D., Ballan, F., Ballan, R., Nachaar, M., & American University of Technology. (2009). *Saving the Egg*. American University of Technology. [DVD:1231](#)