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American University of Beirut
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Qatar Petroleum Company Photograph Collection, 1950s-1960s

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the University Libraries, AUB
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Descriptive Summary

Call No.: Ph:QPC:1950s-1960s

Library Catalog ID: [b25896155](#)

Record Creator: Qatar Petroleum Company.

Collection Title: Qatar Petroleum Company Photograph Collection, 1950s-1960s.

Collection Dates: 1950s -1960s

Physical Description: 1 box (0.3 linear foot), 41 black and white photographs

Language(s): English

Administrative Information

Source: N/A

Access Restrictions: No restrictions on access copy.

Photocopying Restriction: No Photocopying restriction except for fragile material.

Preferred Citation: Qatar Petroleum Company Photograph Collection, Box no.-, Envelope no.-, American University of Beirut/Library Archives.

Scope and Content

This small collection consists of 41 black and white photographs by Qatar Petroleum Company (Q.P.C.) Photographic and Printing Department and a tourist's guide by The Ministry of Information. The collection chiefly depicts the life in Qatar between the 1950s and 1960s. There are photos of Zubarah, Um Salal, Qatar airport, Abdullah bin Thani Mosque, and others.

Most photos have identification, date, and photo or negative number on the back. The collection reflects archaeological ruins, architecture in Doha, Qatari schools extracurricular activities, staff development in Qatar Petroleum Company, as well as public infrastructure facilities at Doha, etc.

Historical Sketch

Qatar's pre-oil economy depended on fishing and pearling. However, with the discovery of the onshore Dukhan oil field in January 1940, Qatar set a foot among other Gulf States rich in oil and by 1960s Doha was one of the richest cities in the region. In 1953, Petroleum Department of Qatar was named Qatar Petroleum Company. In 1974, the government established Qatar Petroleum to assume ownership and management of oil and gas operations and to look after the state's oil interests in Qatar and overseas.

Arrangement

The collection is organized in five series:

- Series I: Archaeological ruins in Doha
- Series II: Architecture in Doha
- Series III: Qatari schools extracurricular activities
- Series IV: Staff development in Qatar Petroleum Company
- Series V: Public infrastructure facilities in Doha, etc.

Subject Headings

Archaeological ruins -- Qatar -- Dawḥah -- 1950-1960.

Dawḥah (Qatar) -- Buildings, structures, etc.

Students -- Qatar.

Sports -- Qatar.

Qatar -- Pictorial works.

قطر -- الآثار.
الطلاب -- قطر.
الرياضة -- قطر.
الدوحة (قطر) -- الأبنية، الإنشاءات، إلخ.

Format

Photographic prints -- 1950-1960.

Container list

Series I: Archaeological ruins, 1960, 9 photos

1. Mosque ruins at Zubarah, QGH.33. Undated, 25.5 x 21 cm
2. Zubarah ruins pillars. Q.P.C. Negative no. QGH.34. March 1960, 25.5 x 21 cm
3. Zubarah ruins pillars and arches. Q.P.C. Negative no. QGH.36. March 1960, 25.5 x 21 cm
4. Zubarah ruins. Q.P.C. Negative no. QGH.38. March 1960, 25.5 x 21 cm
5. Zubarah ruins. QGH. 40. Undated, 25.5 x 21 cm
6. Zubarah ruins. Q.P.C. Negative no. QGH.41. Undated, 25.5 x 21 cm
7. Umm Saika ruins. QGH. 61. Undated, 25.5 x 21 cm
8. Umm Salal Mohammed in northern Qatar. Q.P.C. Negative no. QGS.51. March 1960, 25.5 x 21 cm
9. Landmark near Umm al Salal, Qatar. Q.P.C. Picture no. QGS.90. March 1960, 25.5 x 21 cm

Series II: Architecture in Doha, 1950-1960, 15 photos

1. Qatar Airport façade. Q.P.C. Picture no. QTA.11. March 1950, 21.5 x 17 cm
2. Main entrance of a hospital. Q.P.C. Picture no. GIM.36. January 1958, 21.5 x 17cm
3. The Abdullah bin Thani Mosque in Doha. Q.P.C. Picture no. QGH.6. January 1958, 22 x 17 cm
4. The interior of a modern Mosque in Doha. I.P.C. Picture no. QGS. 35. September 1958, 25 x 21 cm
5. The outer walls of the Ruler's Palace. Q.P.C. Picture no. QIM.44. March 1958, 22 x 17 cm
6. Palace near Doha. Q.P.C. Picture no. QGS.91. March 1960, 25 x 20 cm
7. The fruit and vegetable market on Doha's seafront, completed in 1958. I.P.C. Picture no. GGS.36. November 1958, 22 x 17 cm

8. Sailing crafts seen through the arch of a modern market (fishing and pearling were the main occupations in Qatar before the coming of oil). Q.P.C. Picture no. GGS.41. November 1958, 22 x 17 cm
9. Doha Clock Tower. Q.P.C. Picture no. QGS.44. February 1959, 22 x 17 cm
10. The fruit and vegetable market on the seafront at Doha. Q.P.C. Picture no. C-QGS.46. February 1959, 25 x 21.5 cm
11. Old building in Doha. I.P.C. Picture no. QGH.18. April 1959, 25.5 x 21 cm
12. Old alley in Doha. I.P.C. Picture no. QGH.17. April 1959, 26 x 21 cm
13. New hotel near completion. Q.P.C. Picture no. QIM.52. March 1960, 25 x 20.5 cm
14. Al-Wakrah Village on Doha-Umm Sa'id Road. Q.P.C. Negative No. QGS.81. March 1960, 26 x 21 cm
15. Umm Salal, a picturesque village north of Doha. Q.P.C. Picture no. QSO.4. May 1958, 21.5 x 17 cm

Series III: Qatari schools extracurricular activities 1958-1959, 8 photos

Annual Field Day, 1958-1959

1. Students watching a gymnastic display by their friends, during the Annual School Field Day. I.P.C. Picture no. QSS.20. March 1958, 25.5 x 21 cm
2. Winners receiving their prizes from the chairperson of the show committee during the Qatar Horticultural Show. I.P.C. Picture no. QYF.40. March 1958, 22.5 x 21 cm.
3. One of the many displays by students of Qatar schools during Field Day. I.P.C. Picture no. QSS.49. March 1959, 25.5 x 21 cm
4. Display of mass gymnastics in the sports Arena, during Field Day. I.P.C. Picture no. QSS.50. March 1959, 25.5 x 21 cm
5. The high jump competition during the Qatar Schools Field Day. I.P.C. Picture no. QSS.53. March 1959, 25.5 x 21 cm
6. Qatar Schools Field Day. Undated, 28.5 x 24 cm

Arts and Science Exhibition, 1958

7. Young students and other visitors arriving for the opening of the Qatar Schools Arts and Science Exhibition. I.P.C. Picture no. QIF.13. May 1958, 25.5 x 20.5 cm
8. Young Qatari artists standing beside their work at the Qatar Schools Arts and Science Exhibition. Picture no. I.P.C. Picture no. QIF.20. May 1958, 22 x 17 cm

Series IV: Staff Development in Qatar Petroleum Company, 1959-1960, 5 photos

1. Ali Awad at work in the Training Centre at Umm Sa'id. Q.P.C. Picture no. QHO.13. January 1959, 21 x 17 cm
2. Umm Sa'id Technical Training Center, Q.P.C. Picture no. QHO.42. March 1960, 25.5 x 21 cm
3. Instructor Fida Baig teaching a class on the operation of the gearbox at Umm Sa'id Technical Training Center. Q.P.C. Picture no. QHO.46. March 1960, 25 x 20.5 cm

4. Math class at training center in Dukhan. Q.P.C. Picture no. QHS.15. March 1960, 25.5 x 20 cm
5. Shahin Mut'Ib receiving instructions on lathe from instructor Ahmad Nouri. Q.P.C. Picture no. QHO.52. March 1960, 25.5 x 20 cm

Series V: Public Infrastructure Facilities at Doha, 1956-1960, etc. - 4 photos

1. 27.000-ton tanker "veedol". The company launch typing up to "The veedol". Q.P.C. Picture no. QTM.11. May 1956, 21 x 16.5 cm
2. Water distillation plant that supplies a regular flow of drinking water to the inhabitants of Doha. I.P.C. Picture no. QIE.2. January 1958, 25 x 20.5 cm
3. Aerial view of Doha with new jetty in foreground. Q.P.C. Picture no. C-QGS.42. June 1958, 21 x 16.5 cm
4. State Power Station that provides electricity for Doha's growing population. Q.P.C. Picture No. QXP.9. February 1959, 21 x 17 cm

Related Material at AUB

Books

- Jaidah, I. M., & Bourennane, M. (2009). *The history of Qatari architecture from 1800 to 1950*. Milano: Skira. [E 720.953:J253h:c.1](#)
- Vine, P., & Casey, P. (1992). *The heritage of Qatar*. London: IMMEL. [F953.63:V782h](#)
- Zahlan, R. S. (1979). *The creation of Qatar*. London: New York: Croom Helm; Barnes and Noble Books. [J 953.63:Z19c](#)

Maps

- Great Britain. Directorate of Military Survey, & Great Britain. Royal Air Force. (1964). *R.A.F. 1:500,000 topographic tactical chart, al hufuf: Bahrain - Iran - Qatar - Saudi Arabia - Trucial Oman* (I-GSGS ed.). United Kingdom: Director of Military Survey. [MPF 956:HUF:TTC-H6-C:1964:c.1](#)
- Qatar. Survey Section, Exploration Division. (1960). *Guide to Doha*. Qatar: Qatar Petroleum Company. [MP 912.53631:DOH:1960:c.1](#)

Photographs

- Album of President Samuel Kirkwood's trip to Qatar, 1966. [Ph:AUB:1966/03/6-9:1-39:51](#)
- Lunch in honor of Crown Prince of Qatar, 1953. [Ph:AUB:1953/05\(03\):1-13:45](#)

Theses

- Birbari, A., (1989). *Development and human resources in four Arab Gulf oil-producing states: Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates*. [T:3438](#)