



Archives and Special Collections Department,  
American University of Beirut  
Beirut, Lebanon  
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## **Three American Sisters Photo Album, ca. 1900s**

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the University Archives, AUB  
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## **Descriptive Summary**

**Call No.:** Ph:ASP:1900s

**Library catalog ID:** [b26079069](#)

**Record Creator:** N/A

**Collection Title:** Three American Sisters Photo Album, ca. 1900s

**Collection Dates:** [1900]

**Physical Description:** 120 photographs: albumen prints; 17.5 x 24 cm (album)

**Language:** N/A

## **Administrative Information**

**Source:** Purchased from Kevin Jackson, December 05, 2011.

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

**Photocopying restrictions:** No photocopying restriction except for fragile material.

**Preferred citation:** Three American Sisters Photo Album, Ph:ASP:1900s -, no.-, American University of Beirut /Library Archives.

## **Scope and Content**

The Photo album of 120 black & white and sepia-toned photographs of sizes ranging between 8 x 11 cm and 11 x 15 cm taken in the Arabic part of Ottoman Empire, mainly Lebanon, most likely by three American sisters. Many military photos showed, the son of a Pasha, much ethnographic and topographical, protocol with visitors from America, meeting of Turkish dignitaries and Greek Orthodox Church leaders. Many shots of local peasantry, mainly women and children. Local entertainment and horse racing, dignitaries addressing crowds, boating, village architecture, military processions, visits by senior Ottoman officials and foreigners, Ottoman military band, boats, also Sahat Assour, one main plaza in Beirut, with the Hamidi Sabil (water fountain), Grand Serail, and a visit of the sisters to Baalbek Castle in Beqaa Valley and Beiteddine Palace in Shouf Lebanon. The collection is important to researchers interested in the history of Lebanon during the Ottoman Era, as well as travels to the Middle East early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

## **Arrangement**

This collection is arranged as received in the album, there are photos that cover the same event or place but are on different pages and not sequentially arranged.

## **Subject Headings**

Beiteddine (Lebanon) -- Description and travel.

Baalbek (Lebanon) -- Description and travel.

Cemal Paşa, 1872-1922.

Turkey -- History -- Ottoman Empire, 1288-1918.

Turkey -- History, Military -- 20th century.

Lebanon -- History -- 20th century.

Lebanon -- Description and travel -- 20<sup>th</sup> century.

## **Format**

Photograph albums -- 1900-1910.  
Photographic prints -- 1900 -- 1910.  
Albumen prints -- 1900 -- 1910.  
Landscape photographs -- 1900 -- 1910.

## **Album listing**

### **Page 1:**

Photo 1: Three American sisters, group portrait.

### **Page 2:**

Photos 2-3. The three American sisters at a gathering with locals and Ottoman Officials  
Photos 4-5. Ottoman brigade marching at the Beiteddine Palace, Shouf, Lebanon.

### **Page 3:**

Photos 6-7. Locals at the Cedars and beneath an old oak tree.

### **Page 4:**

Photos 8-9: Outings of locals mainly Women and children.

### **Page 5:**

Photo 10: Lebanese mountains.  
Photo 11: Cedar forest.

### **Page 6:**

Photo 12: Tripoli and Saint-Gilles Citadel.  
Photo 13: Tripoli.

### **Page 7-8:**

Photos 14-17: [Baalbek Castle]

### **Page 9:**

Photo 18: Horse race.  
Photo 19: Locals at a train station.  
Photo 20: Baalbek Castle.  
Photo 21: Horse race.

### **Page 10:**

Photo 22: Baalbek Castle.  
Photo 23: Horse race.  
Photo 24: Field Day at the Syrian Protestant College.  
Photo 25: Baalbek Castle.

### **Page 11:**

Photo 26: Cavaliers passing by a train.  
Photo 27: Group of locals riding their horses in the mountain.

**Page 12:**

Photos 28-29: Mountain sceneries.

**Page 13:**

Photos 30-31: Outing of locals, mainly women and children, with a man playing the Mizmar (local flute).

**Page 14:**

Photo 32: Villagers welcoming three camel riders upon their arrival to their town.  
Photo 33: Villagers in the wilderness with a herd of sheep.

**Page 15:**

Photo 34: Chevaliers in the wilderness.  
Photo 35: Two carriages in front of an old building.  
Photo 36: Mountain village.  
Photo 37: Horse race in a village.

**Page 16:**

Photo 38: Villagers with their horses near a spring.  
Photo 39: Ottoman Brigade at the Beiteddine Palace, Shouf, Lebanon.  
Photo 40: Beiteddine Palace, Shouf, Lebanon with a view of the village behind it  
Photo 41: A village on a hill.

**Page 17:**

Photo 42: Villagers in a carriage with a local women sitting on the road side.  
Photo 43: Caravan of villagers with their mules in the wilderness.

**Page 18:**

Photos 44-45: Mountain sceneries.

**Page 19:**

Photo 46: Sailors in a boat.  
Photo 47-48: Athletic competition probably Field Day at SPC.  
Photo 49: Traditional Lebanese houses.  
Photo 50: Coastal city.

**Page 20:**

Photos 51-55: Village with old wrecked houses.

**Page 21:**

Photo 56: Cavaliers in a mountain village.  
Photos 57-58: Brigade in Beiteddine Palace, Shouf, Lebanon.  
Photo 59: A man with a fez at the beach.

**Page 22:**

Photo 60: Mountain houses.  
Photos 61-62: Visit of some Ottoman officials to locals.

Photo 63: Mountain village.

**Page 23:**

Photo 64: Locals at a railway station.

Photo 65: Qanater Zbeydi Bridge.

Photo 66: Village house.

Photo 67: Two foreign ladies in a garden carrying umbrellas with a local man wearing a fez.

**Page 24-26:**

Photos 68-73: Mountain sceneries.

**Page 27:**

Photo 74: Gathering in a village.

**Page 28:**

Photo 75: House under construction.

Photo 76: Cavaliers near a mountain spring.

**Page 29:**

Photo 77: A guard wearing an Ottoman costume with a fez and a bandoleer.

**Page 30:**

Photo 78: A villagers gathering.

Photo 79: A sailor in a canoe.

**Page 31:**

Photo 80: A group of Druze Sheikhs at Beiteddine Palace, Shouf, Lebanon.

Photo 81: Brigade of soldiers at Beiteddine Palace, Shouf, Lebanon.

**Page 32:**

Photo 82: The three sisters walking on a bridge with their horse carriage in the back.

Photo 83: Villagers in the wilderness.

Photo 84: Mountain scenery.

Photo 85: The three sisters in an official ceremony with Ottoman officials, at Beiteddine Palace, Shouf, Lebanon.

**Page 33:**

Photo 86: Baalbek Castle.

Photo 89: Traditional houses.

**Page 34:**

Photo 90: Locals gathering in a plaza.

Photo 91: Bedouins gathered around a camel.

Photo 92: Sailors in boats.

**Page 35:**

Photo 93: Mountain village.

Photo 94: Sailors in boat.

Photo 95: Boats taking passengers out of a ship.

Photo 96: Coastal view probably Ain al- Mrayssah, Beirut.

**Page 36:**

Photo 97: Passengers leaving a boat with a canoe.

Photo 98: Sahat Assour, one main plaza in Beirut, with the Hamidi Sabil (water fountain) and Grand Serail.

Photos 99-100: An official ceremony attended by some Ottoman officers.

**Page 37:**

Photos 101-102: American and Turkish ships sailing.

Photos 103-104: American and Ottoman officials visiting a public quarters.

**Page 38:**

Photo 105: Camp set by American and Ottoman subjects.

Photo 106: The three American sisters with men.

Photos 107-108: The three sisters in an official ceremony with Ottoman officials at Beiteddine Palace, Shouf, Lebanon.

**Page 39:**

Photo 109: The three sister attending a special sports day.[ Probably Field Day at Syrian Protestant College (SPC)].

Photos 110-1116: The three sisters and a Priest at the Beiteddine Palace, Shouf, Lebanon.

Photo 112: Ottoman Officer with a soldier and a foreigner.

Photo 113: Two foreign children on a boat.

Photo 114: A group of Greek Orthodox priests visiting a village with Ottoman officers.

**Page 40:**

Photo 115: A view of Zahle Beqaa, Lebanon.

Photo 116: Mountainous village.

Photo 117: Villagers procession with carriages.

**Page 41:**

Photo 118: Locals in a gathering with a young child wearing an Ottoman officer costume.

Photo 119: A group of American men and women in a garden.

Photo 120: Horse race at Beirut Hippodrome (Horsh Beirut).

Photo 121: Field day at SPC (Syrian Protestant College).

Photo 122: A large rock in the wilderness.

**Page 42:**

Photo 123: Ahmet Cemâl Paşa with his soldiers and a little girl behind him (also available at the end of Antoura Orphanage Photo Album).

## Page 43:

Photos 124-125: Ottoman Brigade with an Ottoman Pasha in a carriage.

## Related Material

### Books

- Mairs, R., & Muratov, M. (2015). *Archaeologists, tourists, interpreters: Exploring Egypt and the Near East in the late 19th-early 20th centuries*. London: Bloomsbury Academic. [J 915.604:M229a](#)
- Ozveren, Y. E. (1996). *The making and unmaking of an Ottoman port-city: Nineteenth-century Beirut, its hinterland, and the world-economy*. Ann Arbor, MI : UMI Dissertation Information Service [J 956.925:O99m](#)
- Provence, M. (2017). *The last Ottoman generation and the making of the modern Middle East*. Cambridge, United Kingdom: Cambridge University Press. [J 956.03:P969L](#)
- Searight, S., & Association for the Study of Travel in Egypt and the Near East. (2005). *Women travellers in the Near East*. Oxford: Oxbow Books. [J 915.604:W872s](#)

### Archives

- Daniel Bliss Collection, AUB President 1866-1902 [AA:2.3.1](#)
- Howard Bliss Collection, AUB President 1903-1920 [AA:2.3.2](#)

### Photos

- The Antoura Orphanage Photo Album, 1915-1918 [Ph:AO:1915-1918](#)
- WWI Photo Album, 1918
- Imperial War Museum Photo Albums: First World War and Second World War 1916-1919; 1941-1944. [Ph:956WWI](#), [Ph:956WWII](#)

### Periodicals

- Makarius, I. (1903-1904). [The Kodak](#). American University of Beirut, Library Archives

### Online Exhibitions

- [The Syrian Protestant College and the Great War \(1914-18\)](#)
- [الشيخ عبد القادر قباني: سيرة مدينة في حياة رجل](#)