

Henry Clay Derrick Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2009

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm82065593>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms009121>

Prepared by Mary A. Lacy
Revised and expanded by Chad Conrady

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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

Extent: 1 container

Extent: 0.4 linear feet

Extent: 1 microfilm reel

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm82065593>

Summary: 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 LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Derrick family.

Derrick, Clarence. Clarence Derrick papers.

Derrick, Henry Clay, 1832-1915.

Derrick, Martha Frances Cosby--Correspondence.

Organizations

Confederate States of America. Army--Officers.

Egypt. Jaysh.

Subjects

Military maps.

Places

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

Egypt--Maps.

Ethiopia--History--1490-1889.

Occupations

Civil engineers.

Soldiers.

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. Derrick in 1982. Additions were received from Clarence Derrick in 1992, 1994, 1996, and 1999.

Processing History

The papers of Henry Clay Derrick were arranged and described in 1996. The two volumes of diaries dated from 1875 to 1878 were microfilmed by the Library of Congress Photoduplication service in 1995. Additional materials were received in 1996 and 1999 and were added to the Henry Clay Derrick Papers in 2018. The finding aid was revised in 2018.

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.

Microfilm

A microfilm edition of part of these papers is available on one reel. Consult reference staff in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan. To promote preservation of the originals, researchers are required to consult the microfilm edition as available.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container or reel 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

Container	Contents
BOX 1 REEL 1	Diary, 11 Oct. 1875-23 July 1878 (2 volumes) <i>Available on microfilm. Shelf no. 21,137.</i>
BOX 1	Transcripts and photocopies
BOX 1	Chronology of Henry Clay Derrick, 1832-1915
BOX 1	Diary transcripts and synopses, Oct. 1875-Jan. 1878 (2 folders)
BOX 1	Letter transcripts, 1856-1877
BOX 1	Miscellaneous transcripts, photocopies, and papers, 1848-1994