

Brief Summary of the George Forrest collection at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh Archives

This is a list covering the bulk of the Forrest collection held in the Archives of the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh (RBGE). As the collection is vast and yet to be catalogued in detail this list has been kept deliberately simplistic, but it gives an idea of the range and scope of the collection, which has been historically artificially compiled using Forrest related items from other collections at RBGE.
Leonie Paterson, March 2015

GB235 FRG – The George Forrest Collection – brief summary

FRG/1

Correspondence

- **1:** Box of Forrest correspondence, 1903-08 (Clementina, I.B. Balfour, Bulley, Family), Forrest related correspondence, copies of his birth and marriage certificates, transcripts of his diary 1904-05, 'Account of a Journey on the Upper Salwin, October to December 1905', copy of the article 'Land of the Crossbow, March 9th 1906' from the National Geographic Magazine, (carbon copy, original version is in the red notebook under letter 3, filed in the same box)
- **2:** Box of Forrest correspondence, 1909-1911 – correspondence regarding his Yunnan expedition in 1910, and with I.B. Balfour and correspondence relating to Forrest.
- **3a:** Box of Forrest correspondence with J.C. Williams 1911-1912, regarding his third expedition (February 1912-March 1915)
- **3b:** Box of Forrest correspondence with J.C. Williams and I.B. Balfour, 1913-14 regarding his third expedition (February 1912- March 1915)
- **3c:** Box of Forrest correspondence from 1915 regarding his third expedition (February 1912- March 1915)
- **4a:** Box of Forrest correspondence from 1917-1920 regarding his fourth expedition (February 1917-March 1920)
- **4b:** Box of Forrest correspondence, including I.B. Balfour and William Wright Smith, 1916-1920, regarding his fourth expedition (February 1917-March 1920)
- **5:** Box of Forrest correspondence from June 1920-April 1923 regarding his fifth expedition (January 1921-March 1923)
- **6:** Box of Forrest correspondence from 1922-28
- **7:** Box of Forrest correspondence from 1929-1932, plus obituaries, etc.

FRG/2

Photographs

FRG/2/1

Prints:

- File of photographs marked 'Forrest, Collectors, Human, etc.'
- File of photographs marked 'Buildings, Temple, Graves, Towns, etc.'
- File of photographs marked 'Mountain, Water, Bridge'
- File of photographs marked 'Plants A-L'
- File of photographs marked 'Plants M-Prim-'
- File of photographs marked 'Plants Py-Z and misc.'

FRG/2/2

Glass Plate Negative Collection

- FRG/3** **Published work**
- copy of the article 'Land of the Crossbow', from the National Geographic Magazine
- FRG/4** **Field Books**
- FRG/3/1** Unpublished Field Books:
- George Forrest's field books – 27 original field books dating from 1904 to 1932
- FRG/3/2** Published Field Books:
- FRG/5** **RBGE's Notes relating to Forrest's plants**
- 16 folders in 15 boxes of RBGE's plant collection notes arranged alphabetically by genus
 - Three boxes of Rhododendron notes written and sent by Isaac Bayley Balfour and William Wright Smith c.1919,1921 and 1922 and Primula lists c.1914,1921 and 1922
- FRG/6** **Forrest's lecture notes**
- Box of lecture notes and lists of slides
 - Box containing photo related lists, 1913-24 and lecture notes
- FRG/7** **Forrest's collection of papers** (unsorted at present)
- FRG/8** **maps**
- Various maps of Forrest's Botanical expeditions
 - File containing maps from 1918-1922, some annotated and some hand drawn
- FRG/9** **copies of books / publications belonging to Forrest** – includes field books by other collectors
- FRG/10** **RBGE Forrest ephemera – post 1932** (centenaries, press reports, exhibition materials, camera)
- Box containing Cowan's research from 1934 and information regarding Forrest Centenary in 1973
 - Various articles referring to Forrest
 - Various newspaper articles which mention George Forrest
 - Camera similar to one used by Forrest