

National Oceanographic Library – Archive

Allan B. Crawford MBE, Collection

Archive Location	Archive A – Individual Collections
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Allan Crawford, born in 1912, studied engineering at Vickers-Armstrongs Ltd. in Barrow-in-Furness. On a visit to South Africa in 1937, he met a Norwegian scientist bound for Tristan da Cunha and joined his expedition as surveyor and his survey of the Island formed the basis for Admiralty Chart No.1769.

During World War II Tristan da Cunha became an important Royal Naval shore establishment and Allan Crawford was stationed there as a meteorologist for eighteen months. At the end of World War II he returned for a third time to take over the weather station on behalf of the civilian authorities. In 1946 he designed a set of stamps for the Island in an effort to introduce postal facilities to the island. Each stamp bore a value in potatoes, because there was not money locally. He was appointed by the Colonial Office as Honorary Welfare Officer for Tristan da Cunha, and his efforts were largely responsible for the repatriation of homesick islanders who had been evacuated to the UK after the volcanic eruption in 1961. He was awarded the MBE in 1962.

Allan Crawford donated his three sea temperature buckets. Together with his designs, notes, files and books with annotations/notes to the National Oceanographic Library Archive in 2006.

*The Crawford Sea-surface Temperature Bucket, invented by Allan Crawford in 1965, was designed to sample surface water and to measure sea surface temperature as accurately as possible. The Bucket has a bridle with keeps it at an angle of 45 degrees, and a rope tail to orientate the bucket in the water, ensuring that it scoops a sample of water correctly. A special tube allows free circulation of water through the bucket to prevent water from the previous sample remaining in the bucket. There is a flap which allows the thermometer to be read without removing it from the bucket.

Although most measurements of sea-surface Temperatures now come from satellites and buoys, observations are still made from ships using buckets to sample to surface water. We rely on such measurements to remove large scale biases in satellite measurements which can be caused by aerosols in the atmosphere, for example Saharan dust or volcanic particles.

*Acknowledgement- Dr Elizabeth Kent, NOC

Items	Box
Allan Crawford – bucket designs, notes and files	1
Folder - Buckets, thermisiters, design notes – sea-surface temperature bucket.	1
Folder - International Conferences 1956-1975, with notes and photographs.	1
Computer “Mouse” pad (Photograph of dwelling on Tristan da Cunha) with caption <i>Tristan da Cunha – South Atlantic Ocean.</i>	1
Folder – Tristan da Cunha by Allan Crawford – 6 photographs taken by Allan Crawford – Edinburgh Village 1961 – St Mary’s Church – Arthur and Martha Rogers – an Island House – an island family 1947. Plus copied diagrams (maps) and painting of an Albatross with Tristan Da Cunha in the background, mounted in green card. Sketch of “badge” format of Albatross and Tristan da Cunha mounted on green card. 4 copies (photocopy) of Tristan da Cunha map from the survey by Allan Crawford, 1937-38	2

Books on Tristan da Cunha	
Buxton, ED: Island Chaplain-Tristan da Cunha, foreword by Allan Crawford. G.Mann, 2001	3
Crawford, Allan B: Tristan da Cunha, wartime invasion, G.Mann, 2004. Signed and dated <i>Allan Crawford 26 April 2006</i>	3
Cooper, J & Ryan, P G: Management plan for the Gough Island Wildlife Reserve. Government of Tristan Da Cunha, 1994	3
Tristan da Cunha Monograph, Vol.1, 1939-1942. Ed Robin Taylor, Ltd. Edition, copy 13 of 100. Inscriptions on front fly leaf <i>To Allan, best wishes Robin</i> and <i>second reading completed on 12/2/03 ABC</i>	3
Tristan da Cunha Monograph, Vol.2, 1943-1946. Ed Robin Taylor, Ltd. Edition, copy 9 of 100. Inscriptions <i>To Allan best wishes Robin 11/10/2001</i> and <i>Read for second time 13/2/03 ABC.</i>	3
Tristan da Cunha Monograph, Vol.3, Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, 1930-1973, Tristan da Cunha, Ltd. Edition, copy 69 of 100. Reprints of SPG Newsletters 1-23.	3
Tristan da Cunha Monograph, Vol.4, 1946-1948, Ed. Robin Taylor, Ltd. Edition, copy 18 of 100. Signed by Robin Taylor. Inscription on front fly-leaf by Allan Crawford <i>Read second time on 14/2/2003 (my visit to Tristan da Cunha)</i>	3
Tristan da Cunha Monograph, Vol.5, Tristan da Cunha 1948 "Venture Survey". Lobster Survey Expedition, February 1948. Ed. Robin Taylor, Ltd. Edition, copy 9 of 100. Signed by Robin Taylor. Allan Crawford inscription in front fly-leaf	3
(Tristan da Cunha Monographs changed from "volume" to "number" with No.6) Tristan da Cunha Monograph, No.6 , January 1950 –December 1951, Ed. Robin Taylor. Ltd. Edition, copy 1 of 100. Signed by Robin Taylor.	4
Tristan da Cunha Monograph, No.7, 1952, Ed. Robin Taylor. Ltd. Edition, copy 9 of 100. Signed by Robin Taylor. Annotation by Allan Crawford in introduction.	4
Tristan da Cunha Monograph, No.8, 1953-1954, Ed. Robin Taylor. Ltd.Edition, copy 10 of 100. Signed by Robin Taylor.	4
Tristan da Cunha Monograph, No.9, 1955-1956, Ed. Robin Taylor. Ltd.Edition, copy 10 of 100. Signed by Robin Taylor.	4
Tristan da Cunha Monograph, No.10, 1957-1958, Ed. Robin Taylor. Ltd.Edition, copy 7 of 100. Signed by Robin Taylor. Inscription by Allan Crawford on front fly-leaf.	4
Tristan da Cunha Monograph, No.11, 1958-1960, Ed. Robin Taylor. Ltd.Edition, copy 6 of 100. Signed by Robin Taylor.	4
Tristan da Cunha Monograph, No.12, 1960-1961, Ed. Robin Taylor. Ltd.Edition, copy 6 of 100. Signed by Robin Taylor.	4

Poster size items	
Tristan da Cunha Monograph, No.13, 1961 Evacuation, including the early stages of earth tremors and eventual eruption of a new volcano- the evacuation of the islanders to Cape Town- the visit of HMS Leopard to Tristan- Journey to England-Transfer to Pendell Army Camp. Ed. Robin Taylor, Ltd Edition, copy 8 of 100. Signed by Robin Taylor. Rolled item in tube	4
Allan B Crawford. Tristan da Cunha, Chart No.2. Chart surveyed by Allan B Crawford of the Norwegian Scientific Expedition, 1937-38. expedition leader, Dr Erling Christophersen – the Chart was constructed from an irregular triangulated survey on the base “NI-BASE” of 1546-08 Ft Long side “NI-BG” of 5746-29Ft. Height in feet, contours walked over. Topography sketched in on the ground, coastline by traverse, names those in use on the Island. Drawn at Simonstown, under the direction of the Commander in Chief, Africa Station. Natural scale 1:14,456.1. 23 May 1938 E5406 – Press 5j. H2932/1938. Stamped “ <i>Hydrographic Dept. Admiralty</i> ”. Poster size, laminated photocopy. Rolled item in a tube	“Box” 5 (Tube)
Tristan da Cunha – Aerial photograph of Tristan da Cunha, photographed from an RAF Vulcan aircraft at 41,000 Ft – on behalf of the Directorate of Overseas Survey 1961. R.A.F. Official Photo, Aircraft Sortie 543B25, Negative No. 071, dated 3 April 1961, Photo print enlargement, Unclassified. British Crown Copyright Reserved. Poster size photograph in Allen Crawford cardboard tube	“Box” 6 (Tube)
House of Tristan da Cunha –Photographs by Allan Crawford, November 1947. Reproduction (photocopies?) of 53 photographs on poster size laminated sheet. Rolled item in tube	A, Plan chest cabinet, Drawer 3
The Families of Tristan da Cunha – Photographs by Allan Crawford, November 1947. Reproduction (photocopies?) of 59 photographs on poster size laminated sheet . Rolled item in tube	A, Plan chest cabinet, Drawer 3
2 items together <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tristan da Cunha - William Greenwood Family outside their tent home, 16 January 1933, poster size photograph. - Tristan da Cunha - Photograph of Oxen and cart with RRS <i>Discovery II</i> in the background, 16 January 1933. Poster size photograph. 	A, Plan chest cabinet, Drawer 3
Artefacts (Buckets)	
Crawford Sea Temperature Bucket, Mk3B Ref: No.MET 21580, 1973. Made by Market Engineering (Bracknell) Ltd. (Meteorological Office Pattern)	Open box 7
Crawford Sea Temperature Bucket (Labelled 20), Ref:85692. ORD I/C , Made by GH Zeal Ltd., London, (for small ships and harbours) Crawford Pattern	Open Box 7
Crawford Sea-Surface Temperature Bucket, Mark III, Made by GH Zeal Ltd., London, England. (Explanatory leaflet/ notes in folder in Box 1 (Crawford Pattern No.3)	Open box 8