



Garden City Military Museum (1937–1948)

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Keywords

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Garden city
Abdel Rahman Zaki

Abstract

This study explores the original headquarters of the Military Museum, which preceded its current location in the Harem Palace at the Citadel of Muhammad Ali. It begins by tracing the origins of the idea to establish a Military museum dedicated to commemorating the victories and achievements of the Egyptian army throughout history, as well as the reasons behind its delayed implementation. The research then examines the selection of the museum's initial headquarters, officially established during the reign of King Farouk (1356–1372 AH / 1937–1952 AD), following a royal decree that allocated two rooms on the first floor of the former Ministry of National Defense building on Mahmoud Pasha Al-Falaki Street in Bab Al-Louq, central Cairo. However, this was only a temporary location that was soon replaced. The vision of a fully developed Military museum materialized when a house comprising a basement and two floors was rented for 45 Egyptian pounds. This building, situated at 23 Sheikh Barakat Street in Garden City, near the Qasr El-Nil Bridge, became the museum's new home. The study also examines the museum's original collection of artifacts and historical objects.

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1. Introduction

While many are aware that the current headquarters of the Military Museum is located in the Saladin Citadel, few realize that this was not its original location. Before moving to its present site, the museum was housed for nearly a decade at 23 Sheikh Barakat Street in Garden City, near the Qasr El-Nil Bridge. This building, which was rented for 45 pounds, featured a basement and two floors. Prior to this, the museum's earliest location consisted of just two rooms in the old Ministry of National Defense building on Mahmoud Pasha El-Falaki Street in the Bab El-Louq area, though this setup was short-lived.

This research was selected for several reasons, primarily because the Military Museum's former location in Garden City remains largely unknown and has received little scholarly attention. The study aims to address key questions, including who initiated the establishment of the museum, the specifics of its collections and artifacts, the individual behind its creation and their biography, as well as the identity of the museum's first president and board of directors. Additionally, it explores the most significant royal visits to the museum and their impact.

Lieutenant Colonel Abdel Rahman Zaki is regarded as the most significant figure in documenting the history of the Military Museum for several reasons. Not only was he the mastermind behind the idea of establishing the museum, but he was also appointed as its director. His deep knowledge of every detail concerning the museum enabled him to publish several books, including *The Military Museum*

2. Research problem

Not much is known about the old military museum in Garden City, and there are not many references and sources that have discussed it in detail, especially since the museum headquarters was demolished and no trace of it remains.

3. Research Importance

The importance of this research lies in the demand to revive this museum and to commemorate and introduce it, especially after the collapse of the building that housed its contents, by providing a place in the current headquarters of the military Museum in the saladin Citadel to display the history and details of the Garden City Museum.

4. Research Objectives

- There are several objectives for this research:
- To identify the history of the establishment of the military Museum..
- To present details of the military Museum in Garden City and its exhibits.
- To identify the person who conceived the idea of establishing the military Museum.

5. Research Questions

There are a number of questions that the research will answer it presented in the following:

- 1- When did the idea of establishing a Military Museum in Egypt emerge, and why was its implementation delayed?
- 2- Who had the idea of establishing a Military Museum in Egypt?
- 3- What were the details of the first museum's headquarters, its location, and its most important contents and sections?
- 4- What was the first headquarters of the military museum?

6. Research Methodology

The research adopts the descriptive and analytical study.

1. Military Museum in Garden City

The idea of establishing the Military Museum first emerged in 1929 when Egyptian officers proposed creating a museum to honor the history of Egypt's military forces from ancient times. Their primary goal was to commemorate distinguished military leaders. However, British authorities strongly opposed the initiative, just as they had resisted other projects such as a military library, an officers' club, and an armed forces magazine. It was only after the British relinquished control over the Egyptian army in 1937 that Egyptian officers were finally able to bring their plans to fruition, including the establishment of the Military Museum⁽¹⁾.

This was officially achieved during the reign of King Farouk (1356–1372 AH / 1937–1952 AD) when he issued a royal decree designating two rooms on the first floor of the old Ministry of National Defense building on Mahmoud Pasha Al-Falaki Street in Bab Al-Louq, downtown Cairo, as the museum's headquarters. This took place in 1356 AH / 1937 AD ⁽²⁾ . (Appendix No. 1)

(1) عبد الرحمن زكي (1949)، دور التحف في مصر والجمعيات العلمية، القاهرة، ص52.

(2) إبراهيم إبراهيم عامر (2009)، جولة في المتحف الحربي القومي بقلعة صلاح الدين، ص24.

The two rooms on the lower floor were utilized for storing collected weapons and military books, as well as for organizing the museum's initial groundwork. These rooms marked the first steps in bringing the project to life, as efforts were made to gather old military books, weapons, flags, military orders, files, photographs, and maps, many of which were donated by former officers. Additionally, artists and photographers were contacted to contribute their collections to the museum⁽¹⁾.

The vision of a fully developed Military museum was ultimately realized when a house with a basement and two floors was secured for the museum's new headquarters. This building, located at 23 Sheikh Barakat Street in Garden City, near the Qasr El-Nil Bridge, was rented for 45 Egyptian pounds. (Appendix No2).

1.1 The Founder of the Military Museum Idea

Dr. Abdel Rahman Zaki, often regarded as the spiritual father of the Military Museum, played a pivotal role in shaping Egyptian military history. He emerged during a period when Egypt and the West were witnessing a rise in historians and archaeologists, with figures like Selim Hassan specializing in ancient antiquities and Abdel Rahman Al-Rafii focusing on modern history. However, Zaki took a different path, pioneering the field of military documentation. Over time, he became a prominent figure in Egyptian military historiography, ultimately leading to the establishment of the Military Museum, as well as another military museum on the banks of the Blue Nile in the Sudanese city of Arbaji.

Born in 1904, Abdel Rahman Zaki was the eldest son of an Egyptian officer who had traveled to Sudan in 1895 as part of Egypt's military campaign to reclaim the region. Raised in a military environment, Zaki pursued his education at the Military College in 1923, where he trained for three years. Despite his focus on military studies, he maintained a deep interest in history.

During his time at the Military College, Zaki traveled to Europe and observed the significant attention European countries devoted to military museums. Noticing the absence of a similar institution in Egypt, he recognized the need for a museum that would encapsulate the history of the Egyptian army. However, he delayed pursuing the project until 1937, when he formally submitted a request to the Royal Palace to establish the Military Museum.

(1) دليل المتحف الحربي (1958)، مطبوعات المتحف الحربي، ط1، ص17-18.

The Military Museum project remained on the shelves and under study while Abdul Rahman Zaki headed to the American University to attend lectures on modern history, then he applied to study Egyptian antiquities to obtain a diploma in it in 1939 AD. After 9 years, the idea of establishing the Military Museum was implemented, so it was opened in 1948 and he took over its management until 1952 AD.⁽¹⁾ (Appendix No. 3)

1.2 Museum Contents

Upon entering the first floor of the museum, visitors were greeted by four paintings: the first depicted the Egyptian Empire during the reign of Muhammad Ali, the second illustrated the empire under Khedive Ismail, the third showcased the Egyptian army's battles in the Arab world, and the fourth portrayed the army's wars in Sudan (1820–1922 AD). Additionally, a selection of 19th-century European rifles was displayed. In the lobby, busts of Muhammad Ali the Great, King Fuad, and King Farouk were prominently positioned. At the center of the lobby, two collections of swords—one Eastern and one European—were arranged, followed by an assortment of rifles and daggers. (Appendix No. 4)

Over time, minor adjustments were made to the exhibit layout. Visitors first encountered various displays on the outer balcony, including the statues *Towards Glory* and *Lazoughli*. A bust of His Majesty King Farouk I stood in the entrance courtyard. To the right, the museum director's office was located, while the boardroom was on the left, featuring miniature models of soldiers in training and busts of notable military figures from the Ismaili era. Beyond this was the grand hall, dedicated to the era of Muhammad Ali Pasha, housing an extensive collection of both antique and modern rifles. Adjacent to it was the library, where books and historical photographs were meticulously organized. From the grand hall, visitors could proceed to the administration room, which contained the museum's official written works, followed by the drawing section⁽²⁾. (Appendix No. 5)

The stairs to the upper floor were positioned on the right side of the grand hall. Along the stairway and surrounding walls, visitors could observe various artifacts, including dervish garments, an assortment of Sonkei swords, Ethiopian shields, Sudanese flags, and plaques listing the names of battles fought by the victorious Egyptian army.

(1) عبد الرحمن زكي (1961)، حضارة عصر النهضة، دار النهضة العربية، القاهرة، ص35.
(2) عبد الرحمن زكي (1946) المتحف الحربي نبذة مصورة، وزارة الدفاع الوطني، مرجع سابق، ص87.

The rooms on the upper floor were arranged in a sequence that allowed visitors to smoothly navigate through the exhibits from left to right. The tour began with a room showcasing models of the modern Egyptian army's uniforms, followed by a room displaying gifts presented by His Majesty the King. Next was a room dedicated to the Pharaonic era, followed by exhibits from the Middle Ages, the Ottoman period, and the era of Khedive Ismail. Visitors then encountered the Sudan Room, which highlighted Egypt's military history in Sudan, before reaching a room dedicated to simplified military information. At the center of this level, a hall displayed an assortment of swords. (Appendix No. 5)

1.3 Basement and Outdoor Exhibits

The basement of the museum was designated as a workshop where workers crafted models, conducted trade, and repaired the museum's weapons. This area played a crucial role in maintaining and restoring historical artifacts.

In the museum garden, visitors could view an impressive collection of heavy cannons from various historical periods. Additionally, an adjacent building housed detailed models of Egypt's medieval castles and fortresses, offering insight into the country's rich military architecture.

1.4 Museum Sections and Exhibits

In 1942, three modern sections were introduced to the museum; however, due to space limitations, they were not displayed in an optimal manner. These sections included:

(a) Gifts from King Farouk I

A dedicated room was allocated for some of these gifts, while others were displayed in various parts of the museum. The collection featured an array of Sudanese weapons, drums, dervish clothing, rifles, shotguns, flintlock and caplock rifles, as well as Italian and German firearms, pistols, and weapon storage cases. Among the most remarkable gifts from His Majesty were two intricately designed steel helmets—one Chinese and the other Japanese—along with a uniquely shaped Japanese box, possibly intended for storing bows⁽¹⁾. (Appendix No. 6)

(1) التقرير السنوي الثالث المتحف الحربي (1941)، وزارة الدفاع الوطني، المرجع السابق، ص 13.

(b) Officers' Relics Section

This section displayed various items related to military officers, including ceremonial jackets, work uniforms, medals, decorations, rank certificates, and other personal artifacts.

(c) Weapons Section

This section showcased weapons arranged systematically according to their type and date of manufacture, including:

1.4.1 Detailed Classification of Weapons and Artillery

The museum's Weapons Section was meticulously organized into three primary categories:

First: bladed Weapons

This category included various types of melee weapons, such as:

1. Swords – A diverse collection ranging from ancient Egyptian swords to modern Sudanese and contemporary designs.
2. Sonkei Swords – Spanning from the Muhammad Ali era to the present.
3. Spears, Javelins, and Pikes – Various styles used throughout history.
4. Sudanese Arrows – A collection representing different designs and materials.
5. Daggers and Scimitars – Various types from different regions and historical periods.
6. Shields – Made of steel and zarda, some originating from Sudan and others dating back to the era of Khedive Ismail.

Second: Firearms

This section housed an extensive range of firearms, including:

1. Rifles and Ghadaras – Rare models crafted from the same *shafta*.
2. Caplock Ghadaras – Various designs of this firearm type.
3. Modern Rifles – Featuring Turkish Mauser and German Mauser models⁽¹⁾.

Third: Collection of Cannons

The museum also exhibited an assortment of historical artillery pieces, such as:

1. Coastal Fort Cannons – Large cannons mounted on thick wooden bases.
2. Field Cannons from the Khedive Ismail Era – Some of which were manufactured in Egypt.

(1) التقرير السنوي الرابع (1942)، المتحف الحربي، وزارة الدفاع الوطني، ص14-15.

3. Naval Cannons – Used on armed boats during the Egyptian recon quest of Sudan.
4. American Gatling-Type Rapid-Fire Cannons – One of the earliest models of automatic weaponry.
5. Wide-Bore Mortars – Utilized in ancient siege warfare.

Additionally, the museum preserved two iron boats abandoned by the Turks following their failed attempt to cross the Suez Canal during the last Great War, still bearing bullet and bomb marks. The collection also included two vehicles formerly used by the Royal Guard for transporting soldiers.

Each item within these sections was meticulously cataloged in dedicated registers, with serial numbers, detailed descriptions, and any relevant observations . (Appendix No. 7)

1.4.2 Historical Classification of Museum Exhibits

The museum's exhibits were systematically organized according to different historical eras, allowing visitors to explore Egypt's military history in a chronological sequence. These eras included:

This section of the Military Museum highlights Ancient Egyptian military history, showcasing a rich collection of artifacts and models that illustrate the warfare, strategy, and conquests of the Pharaohs.

Key Exhibits in the Ancient Egyptian Section:

- Models of Pharaonic castles and fortresses, reflecting the military architecture of ancient Egypt.
- Models of Egyptian and Nubian battalions, depicting their distinctive formations and weaponry.
- Army weapons, including replicas of spears, bows, and shields used in battles.
- Plaster panels reproducing inscriptions from Pharaonic temples and shrines, which document military campaigns and victories.
- Oil paintings illustrating significant military events, such as:
 - Pharaohs' wars in the Levant and Nubia
 - Expeditions to Somalia and beyond.

These exhibits provide valuable insights into the military power, strategic conquests, and historical achievements of Ancient Egypt. Etc (Appendix No. 8)

Key Exhibits:

- Statue of King Thutmose III – Depicted wearing the Upper Egyptian crown and stepping on nine arches, symbolizing his dominance over the Arab tribes within Egypt. This piece was an exact replica of the original at the Egyptian Museum of Antiquities.
- Model of Egyptian and Nubian Battalions – Representing two distinct battalions, one of native Egyptian soldiers wielding shields and sand, and the other of Nubian archers. These models were precise replicas of those housed in the Egyptian Museum.
- Oil Painting of Queen Hatshepsut's Expedition – Illustrating her famous voyage to the Land of Punt, an early example of Egypt's naval and economic expansion.
- Depiction of Ramesses II with Foreign Delegations – Showcasing a scene in which Asian envoys present offerings to the Pharaoh, symbolizing diplomatic negotiations and Egypt's influence in the region⁽¹⁾.

Additionally, the section featured models of Pharaonic castles and fortresses, ancient Egyptian weapons, and plaster panels reproducing temple inscriptions that documented military conquests in Nubia and the Levant.

Medieval Section

This section highlights the warfare techniques, fortifications, and military advancements of the medieval period. It features models of famous war machines and fortresses commonly used during that time.

Key Exhibits:

- Model of Bab al-Nasr – A fortified gate in northern Cairo, showcasing the architectural style of medieval defenses.
- Model of the Citadel of Saladin – Depicting its present form with the Great Mosque of Muhammad Ali Pasha inside.
- Model of Dar Ibn Luqman – The historic site where King Louis IX of France was imprisoned after his capture in 1250 AD.
- Catapult Model – A medieval siege weapon designed to hurl projectiles, including oil and sulfur bombs.
- Crossbow – Used by medieval archers for long-range attacks.
- Mamluk Knight Statue – A small sculpture of a warrior in traditional Mamluk armor on horseback.

⁽¹⁾ التقرير السنوي الرابع (1942) المتحف الحربي، وزارة الدفاع الوطني، مرجع سابق، ص16.

- Oil Portrait of Tariq ibn Ziyad – Capturing the moment he delivered his famous speech before the battle against the Visigoths in 711 AD.
- Crusader Battle Panels – Round relief carvings illustrating key confrontations between Crusaders and Muslim forces.

Muhammad Ali Pasha the Great Section

This section focuses on the military renaissance led by Muhammad Ali Pasha, often regarded as the founder of modern Egypt. It showcases statues, weaponry, and busts of notable military figures from his era.

Key Exhibits:

- Life-Size Bust of Muhammad Ali Pasha – (Appendix 9) A tribute to the leader who transformed the Egyptian military.
- Bust of Ibrahim Pasha – Celebrating the military achievements of Muhammad Ali's son, who led Egyptian forces in numerous campaigns.
- Bust of Admiral Hassan Pasha al-Iskandarani – Honoring the Egyptian naval commander.
- Model of a Siege Cannon – Representing the artillery used to fortify Egypt's coastal defenses.
- Miniature Statue of an Armored Knight – Depicting a heavily armed cavalryman from Muhammad Ali's military

These exhibits provide an in-depth look at Egypt's military evolution from medieval times to the early modern period.

Khedive Ismail Pasha's Section

During Khedive Ismail Pasha's reign, Egypt made significant advancements in modernizing its military. He played a key role in updating the army's equipment, replacing outdated weapons with the latest technological innovations of his era. The Egyptian military also adopted modern European-style uniforms.

A major highlight of this section is Egypt's territorial expansion in Africa, particularly in the Nile Valley and Sudan. The exhibits include topographical maps created by Egyptian army officers, detailing exploration efforts that extended as far as the Indian Ocean coast.

Key Exhibits:

- Bust of Khedive Ismail Pasha – A life-sized bronze statue honoring Egypt's visionary leader.

- Model of the Egyptian Government Building in Massawa (Eritrea) – Depicting the structure as it stood in 1874.
- Three Life-Size Statues of Soldiers – Showcasing the uniforms and equipment used by Ismail Pasha's army.
- Colored Glass Lantern – Featuring panels illustrating the military uniforms of the era.
- Historical Maps Collection – Prepared by Major General Muhammad Mukhtar Pasha and Major General Muhammad Sadiq Pasha, detailing Egypt's territorial expansion. (Appendix No. 10)
- Collection of Shields, Helmets, Spears, and Garb – Representing military attire and defensive gear from the period ⁽¹⁾.

Sudan Section

This section, greatly expanded with King Farouk's generous contributions, showcases Egypt's military presence and historical engagements in Sudan. The exhibits highlight the conflicts of the late 19th century, particularly the rise and fall of the Mahdist state.

Key Exhibits:

- Hundreds of Traditional Sudanese Weapons – Including spears, shields, and daggers.
- Drums and Dervish Cloaks – Cultural artifacts representing Sudanese warriors and their traditions.
- Flags and Banners – Symbols of the various factions involved in Sudanese conflicts.
- Historical Paintings – Depicting key moments in Egypt's military history in Sudan, from the rise of the Mahdist movement to its eventual downfall.

This section provides a comprehensive view of Egypt's military expansion in Africa and its historical ties with Sudan

The Sudan Section showcases key historical events related to Egypt's military presence in Sudan, particularly during the Mahdist uprising and its suppression. It includes rare photographs, artifacts, and personal items from notable historical figures.

⁽¹⁾ التقرير السنوي الثالث (1941) المتحف الحربي، وزارة الدفاع الوطني، مرجع سابق، ص22.

Key Exhibits:

- Photograph of the Death of Hicks Pasha and His Army – A historical image depicting the tragic demise of Hicks Pasha's forces.
- Photograph of the Dervishes Presenting Gordon's Head to Salatin Pasha – A grim but significant moment in Sudanese history.
- The Head of the Mahdi – A controversial and rare relic from the Mahdist War.
- The Head of Osman Digna – A key commander of the Mahdist forces.
- Drum Frame of the 12th Black Band – A musical instrument from an elite military unit.
- Drum on the Dinar of the Sultan of Darfur – A ceremonial war drum.
- Horse Saddle Embroidered with Reeds – A decorative saddle showcasing Sudanese craftsmanship.
- Ethiopian Shield Covered with Velvet and Inlaid with Silver Decorations – A fine example of African military artistry.

Modern Era Section

This section highlights the modernization of Egypt's military, with a particular focus on advancements in the army and air force.

Key Exhibits:

- Life-Size Bust of King Farouk I – Honoring the ruler under whom the modern Egyptian military expanded.
- Bust of the Late King Fuad I – Commemorating his contributions to Egypt's military evolution.
- Panel of Egyptian Flags – Displaying the national and military flags used throughout history.
- Collection of Egyptian Battalion Flags – Made of green silk, representing various military units.
- Decorations and Medals Collection – Includes a notable lead medal distributed to Egyptian soldiers during the Siege of Khartoum by General Gordon.
- Aircraft Models – Showcasing the planes used by the Royal Egyptian Air Force.
- Relics from the Western Desert Battles – Helmets, bombs, and shrapnel from World War II.

- Graphic Chart of the Egyptian Army Composition – A visual representation of the army's structure and organization⁽¹⁾.
- Mr. Ahmed Salem's chair represents more than just a piece of furniture—it's a testament to an extraordinary life spanning over a century of Egypt's military history.

Being born in 1784, he would have been a young man when Napoleon's French campaign invaded Egypt in 1798. Later, he witnessed Muhammad Ali Pasha's rise to power, serving in the very army that modernized Egypt's military forces. His service, lasting well into the late 19th century, means he likely experienced the reigns of multiple rulers, including Ibrahim Pasha, Khedive Ismail, and even Khedive Abbas II.

By the time of his passing in 1901, Ahmed Salem had witnessed nearly every major military transformation in Egypt for over a century. The specially crafted **chair** in the Military Museum symbolizes both his long service and Egypt's deep respect for its military veterans.

3- The Military Museum's Board of Directors:

In order to bring the Garden City Military Museum to the level of similar museums in other countries, a council was created to supervise it.

Resolved

- 1- A board called the "Military Museum Board of Directors" shall be established within the Ministry of National Defense. Its responsibilities shall be:
 - (a) To establish the War Museum's internal regulations, according to which it shall be organized and managed.
 - (b) To establish a general program for the War Museum, to be implemented gradually according to the budget.
 - (c) To review the War Museum's general budget for approval and to approve the hiring of technicians.
- 2- This board shall be composed of: Chairman
 - (a) His Excellency Lieutenant General Hassan Hosni Al-Zaidi Pasha (retired)
 Members:
 - (b) His Excellency Major General Mustafa Sadiq Pasha (retired)

⁽¹⁾ عبد الرحمن زكي : المتحف الحربي – نبذة مصورة، مرجع سابق، ص92

- (c) His Excellency Major General Hassan Pasha Hosni Taher (Commander of the Air Force)
 - (d) His Excellency Admiral Hafez Bey Sedki (retired)
 - (e) His Excellency the Financial Secretary of the Ministry of National Defense
 - (f) His Excellency Lieutenant Colonel Abdul Rahman Effendi Zaki, Director of the Military Museum.
- 3- In the absence of the Chairman, the most senior serving officer shall act in his place.
 - 4- Council meetings shall be legal if attended by the Chairman and three other members.
 - 5- The Council shall convene at the invitation of the Chairman whenever the need arises for work, and in any event, it shall convene once a month
 - 6- Council decisions shall be taken by majority vote; in the event of a tie, the opinion of the Chairman shall prevail.
 - 7- The Council may include, when discussing matters, any officer or head of a department whose opinion and information it deems useful, and such member shall have an advisory opinion.
 - 8- His Excellency the Undersecretary of the Ministry of National Defense for Military Affairs shall implement this decision (Ministerial Resolution No. 6 of 27 Rabi' al-Awwal 1967). 1358 / May 17, 1939)⁽¹⁾.

(Signature) Hussein Sirri Minister of National Defense

4- The fate of the museum collection

Dr. Abdul Rahman Zaki mentioned in his book Guide to the Military Museum that its contents were transferred to the headquarters of the Military Museum in the Citadel in 1948 and stored for a year, until the Military Museum was opened on November 20, 1949 AD. It is worth noting that the collections that were in the Military Museum in Garden City and were transferred to the Military Museum in the Citadel have been enriched with numerous artifacts and other artifacts over time. Each historical period witnessed events that were embodied in the War Museum, until the museum now houses artifacts from the pre-dynastic era to the present day⁽²⁾.

⁽¹⁾ التقرير السنوي الثالث (1941) المتحف الحربي، وزارة الدفاع الوطني، مرجع سابق، ص7.

⁽²⁾ عبد الرحمن زكي، دليل المتحف الحربي، مرجع سابق، ص18

4.1 The Fate of the Military Museum in Garden City

The old Military Museum building, 23 Sheikh Barakat Street in the Garden City district, was demolished, and the street's name was changed from its former location, Sheikh Barakat, to Kamal al-Din Salah Street, west of the Tahrir Palace, which is affiliated with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Garden City. It was named after Kamal al-Din, the diplomat who was martyred in tribal disputes and international conflicts while monitoring Somali independence operations. The building's location now houses a tourist hotel called Garden City House⁽¹⁾.

Conclusion

This research has shed light on the history and significance of the first Military Museum in Garden City, an institution that, despite existing for only a decade, played a crucial role in preserving Egypt's military heritage.

Key findings include:

- **The Museum's Establishment:** The Military Museum was founded after persistent efforts by Egyptian military leaders, who faced strong opposition from the British occupation. The idea emerged in 1929, and after years of struggle, a royal decree in 1937 officially established the museum.
- **Museum Content and Legacy:** A detailed examination of the museum's exhibits was provided, an area rarely covered in historical sources, especially given that the original building was later demolished.
- **The Role of Abdel Rahman Zaki:** The vision and dedication of Abdel Rahman Zaki, the museum's first director, were highlighted, recognizing his efforts in bringing the Military Museum to reality.
- **Development and King Farouk's Visits:** The museum underwent significant growth over its ten-year existence, expanding its collection with valuable gifts from King Farouk and other contributors. Two important royal visits further solidified its prestige.
- **The First Board of Directors:** The museum's governance structure was explored, detailing the previously little-known members of the first Board of Directors, their roles, responsibilities, and military ranks.

¹(<https://www.elwatannews.com/news/details/3618625>)

Ultimately, this research has provided a comprehensive account of an often-overlooked chapter in Egypt's military history, ensuring that the memory of the Military Museum in Garden City and its contributions are not forgotten.

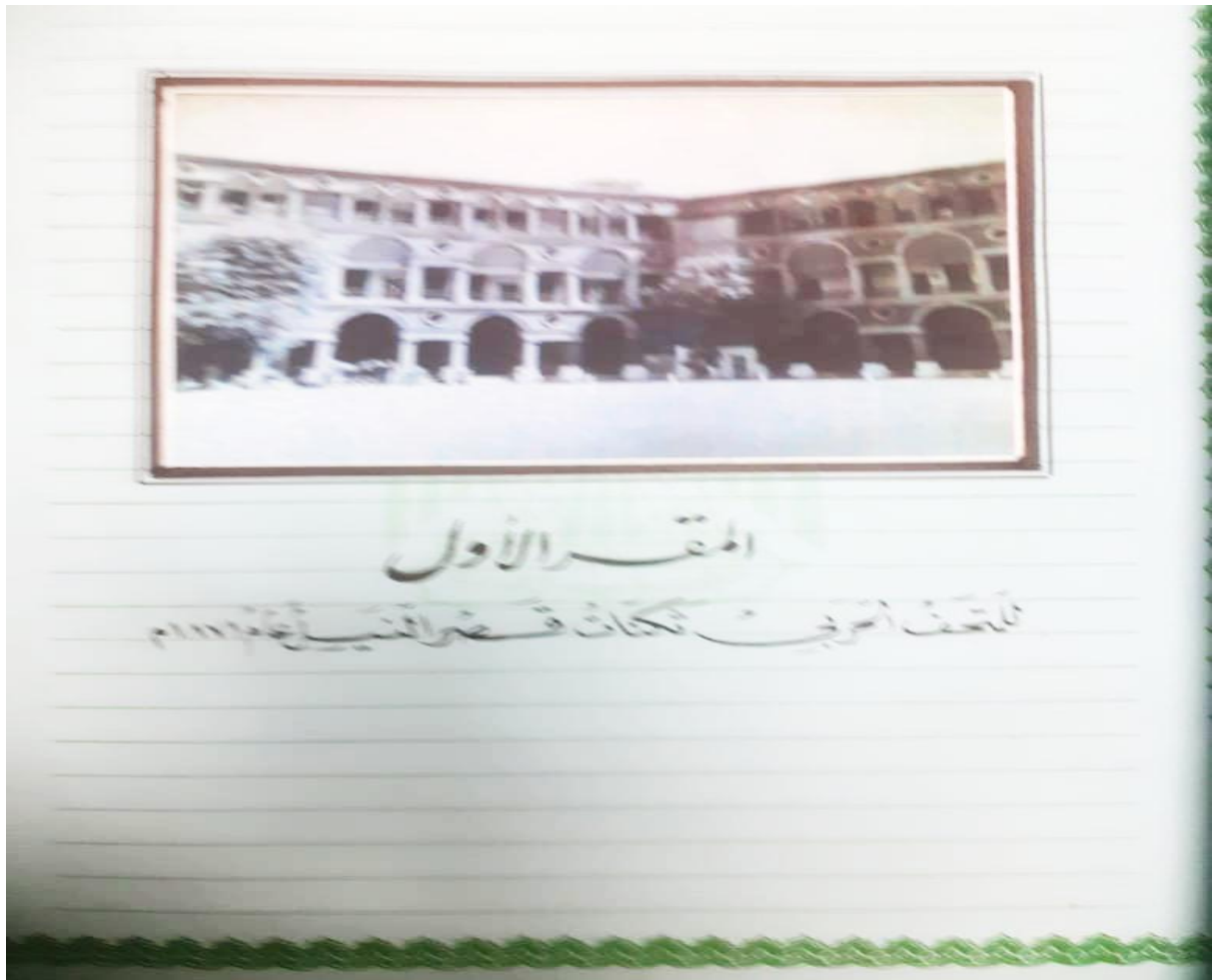
Key Recommendations

To preserve the historical significance of the Garden City Military Museum and ensure its memory is not lost, the researcher proposes the following:

1. Dedicated Exhibit at the Citadel War Museum
 - Establish a special hall or section at the Citadel Military Museum to introduce visitors to the Garden City War Museum, its history, and its contributions.
2. Reuniting the Old Museum's Artifacts
 - Allocate a designated space within the Citadel Military Museum to gather and display original artifacts that were once housed in the Garden City War Museum.
3. Architectural Model of the Old Museum
 - Construct a detailed model of the Garden City War Museum, showcasing its layout and exhibit arrangement, allowing visitors to visualize how the original museum once looked.
4. Virtual Tour and Documentary
 - Utilize modern technology to produce a documentary or virtual tour of the Garden City War Museum, including its exhibits and significance.
 - The film can be screened at the Citadel Military Museum in a designated hall to provide visitors with an immersive historical experience.

Appendices

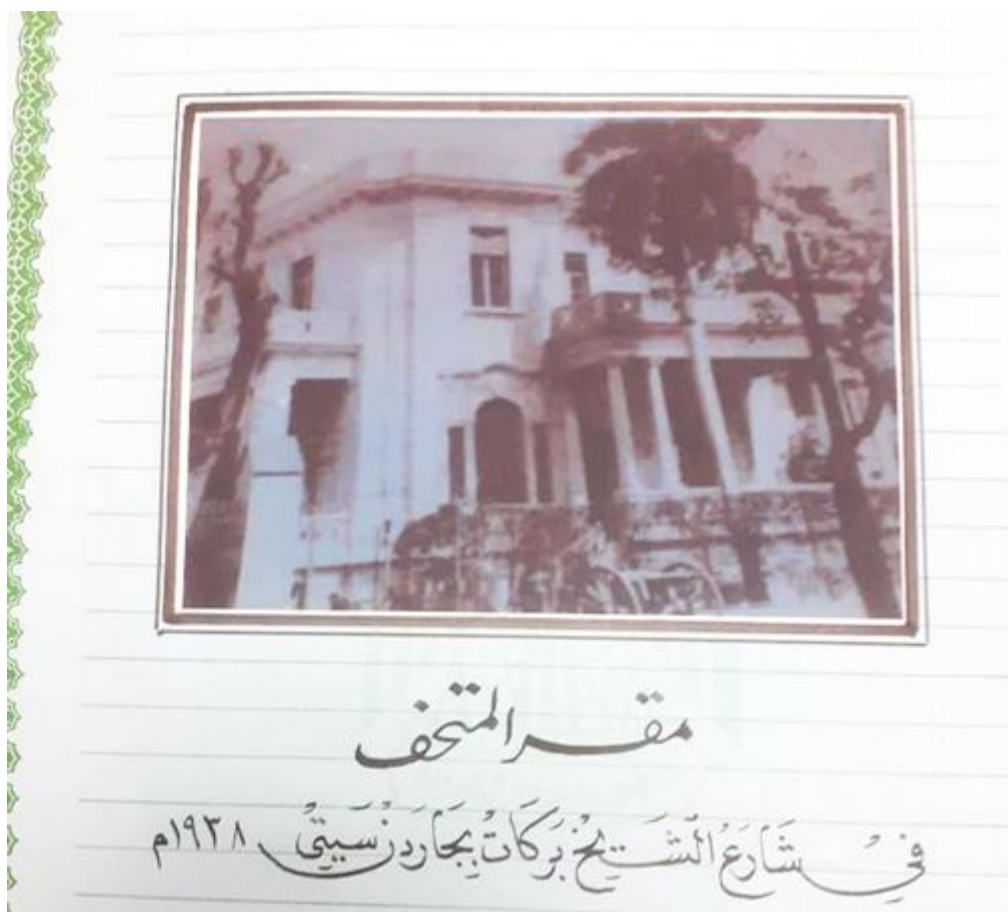
Appendix No. (1)



The first headquarters of the Military Museum

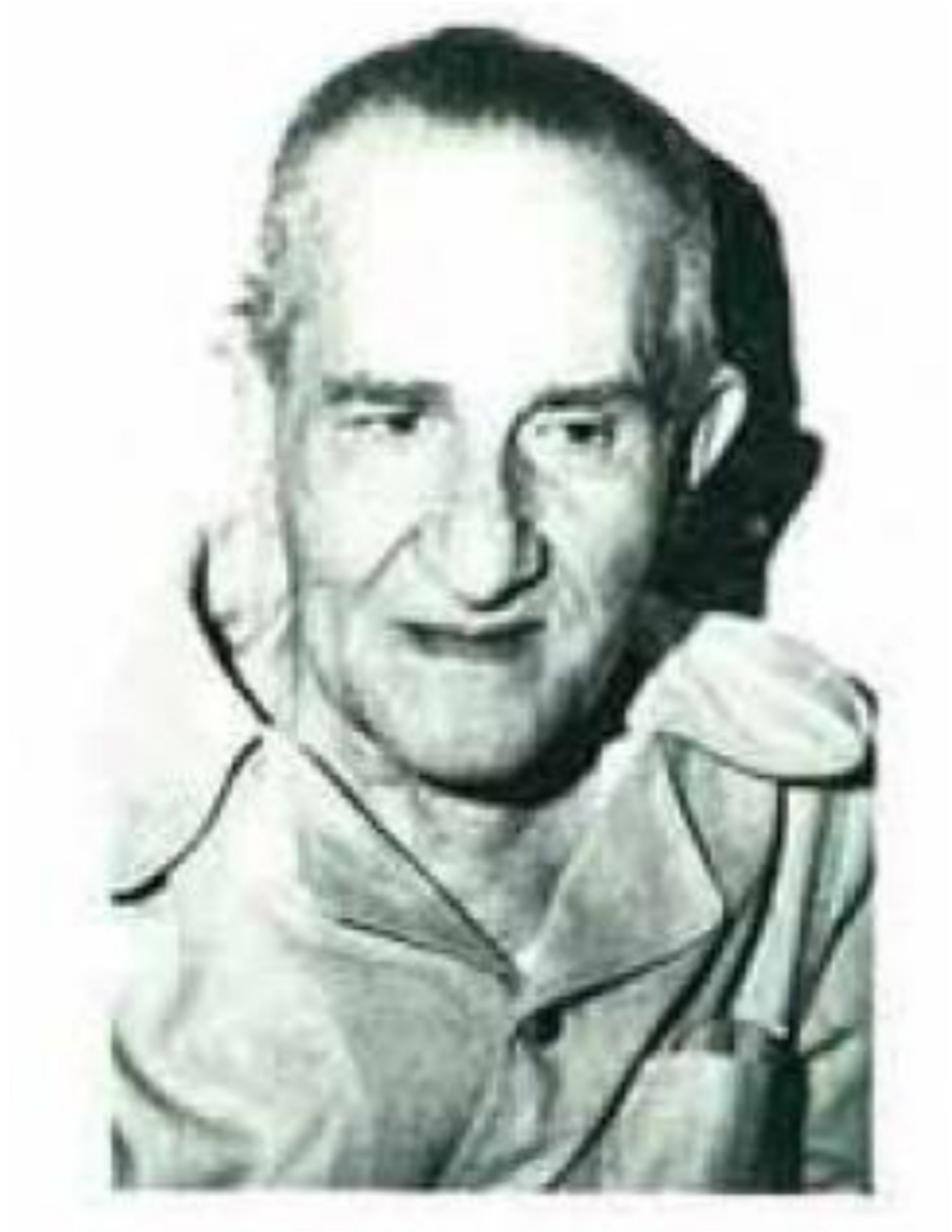
Source: Military Museum records

Appendix No. (2)



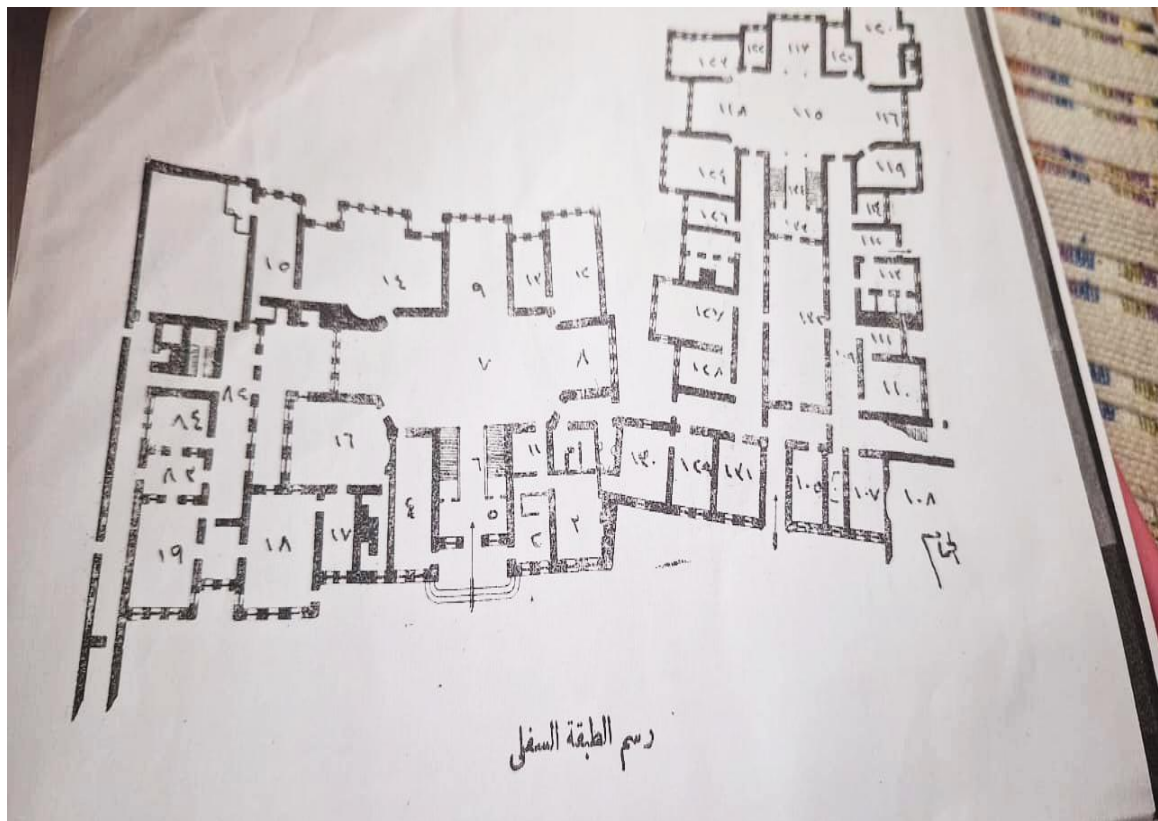
Headquarters of the Military Museum in Garden City
Source: Military Museum records

Appendix No. (3)



Dr. Abdel Rahman Zaki, Director of the Military Museum
Source: Wikipedia

Appendix No. (4)



Layout of the basement of the Garden City Military Museum
Source: Fourth Annual Report of the Military Museum - 1942

Appendix No. (5)



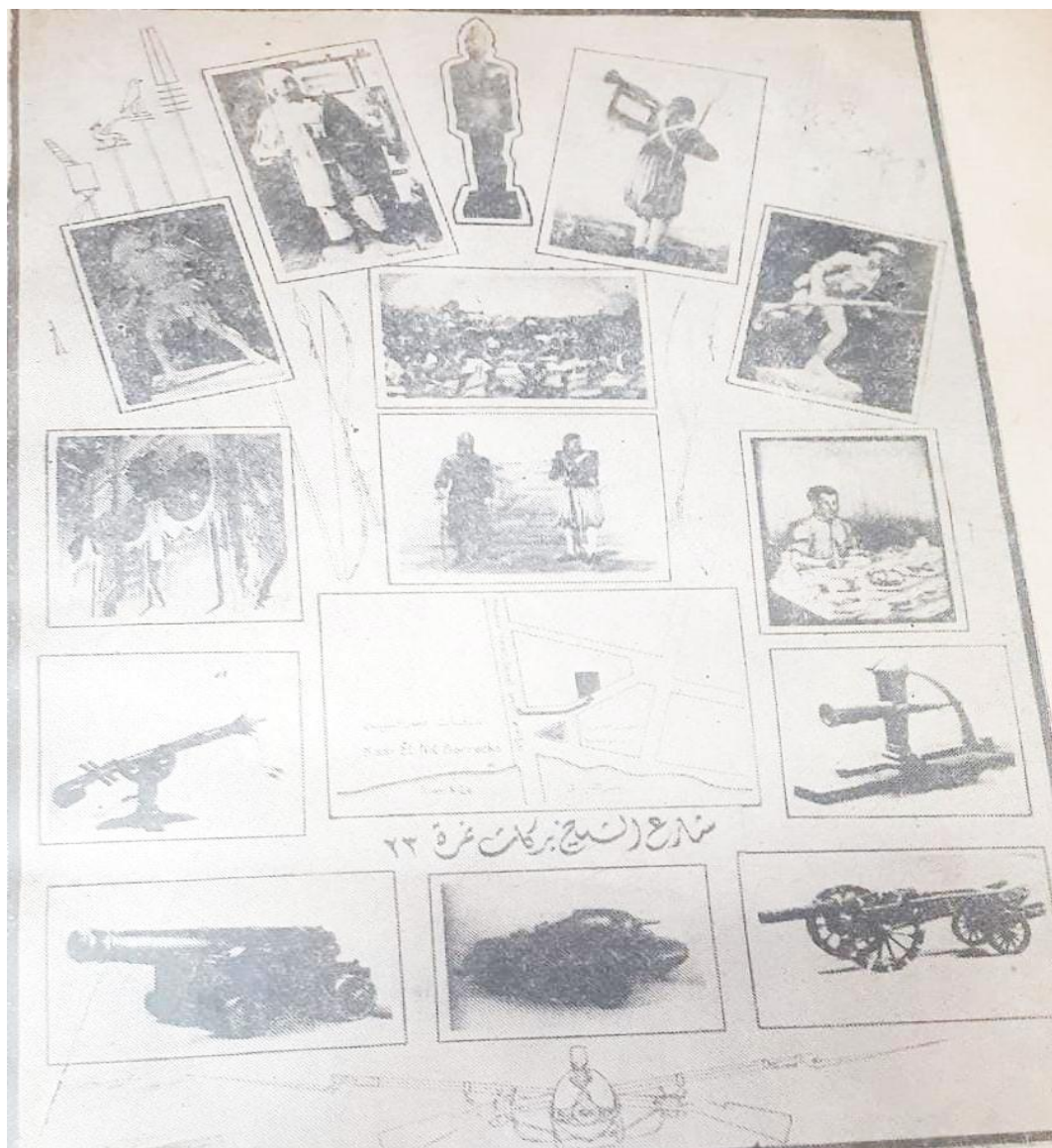
Layout of the upper floor of the Garden City Military Museum
Source: Fourth Annual Report of the Military Museum - 1942

Appendix No. (6)

هبات حضرة صاحب الجلالة الملك المعظم	
نوع	عدد
خنجر	١٠
سيف شرقي وأوربي	٣٩
حرية سودانية	٨٤
بنادق	٤
سكين	٧
جبة سودانية	٦
درع من الجلد	٣٣
كشانة للسهام	٤
قوس	٣
قيد حديد	٢
بيرق سوداني	٦
سرج للجواد	١٥
طبل	٢
خيمة حبشية	١
خوذة من الجلد	٤
سرة من الزرد	٤
خوذة من القماش المبطن	٥
سونكي	٢
مدفع بماسورة برنز	١
نموذج مدفع من الحديد	١
نموذج مدفع بماسورة من البرنز	١
ماسورة مدفع نحاس عليها زخارف	١
غداة متنوعة	٤

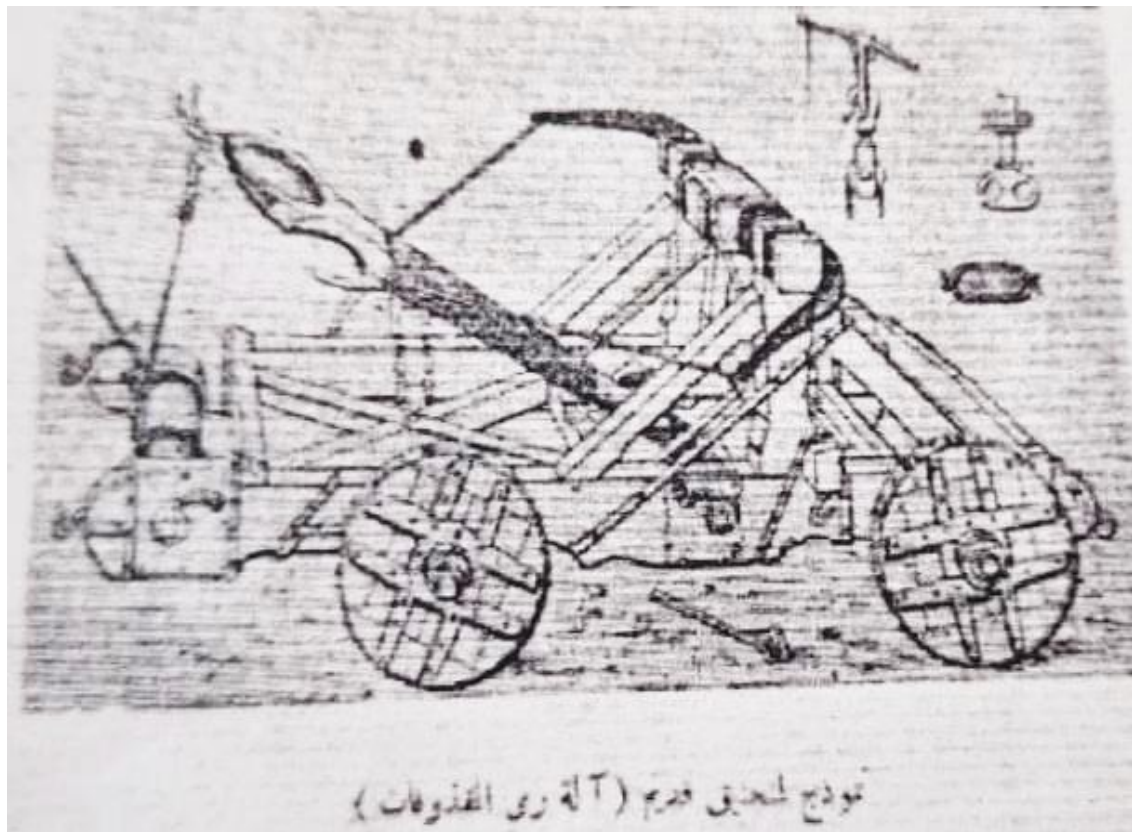
Some of King Farouk's gifts to the Old Military Museum in Garden City
Source: The Fourth Annual Report of the Military Museum -

Appendix No. (7)



Some exhibits at the Old Military Museum in Garden City
Source: Fourth annual report of the Military Museum

Appendix No. (8)



Ancient catapult throwing machine (catapult)

Source: Fourth Annual Report of the War Museum

Appendix No. (9)



Bust of Muhammad Ali Pasha

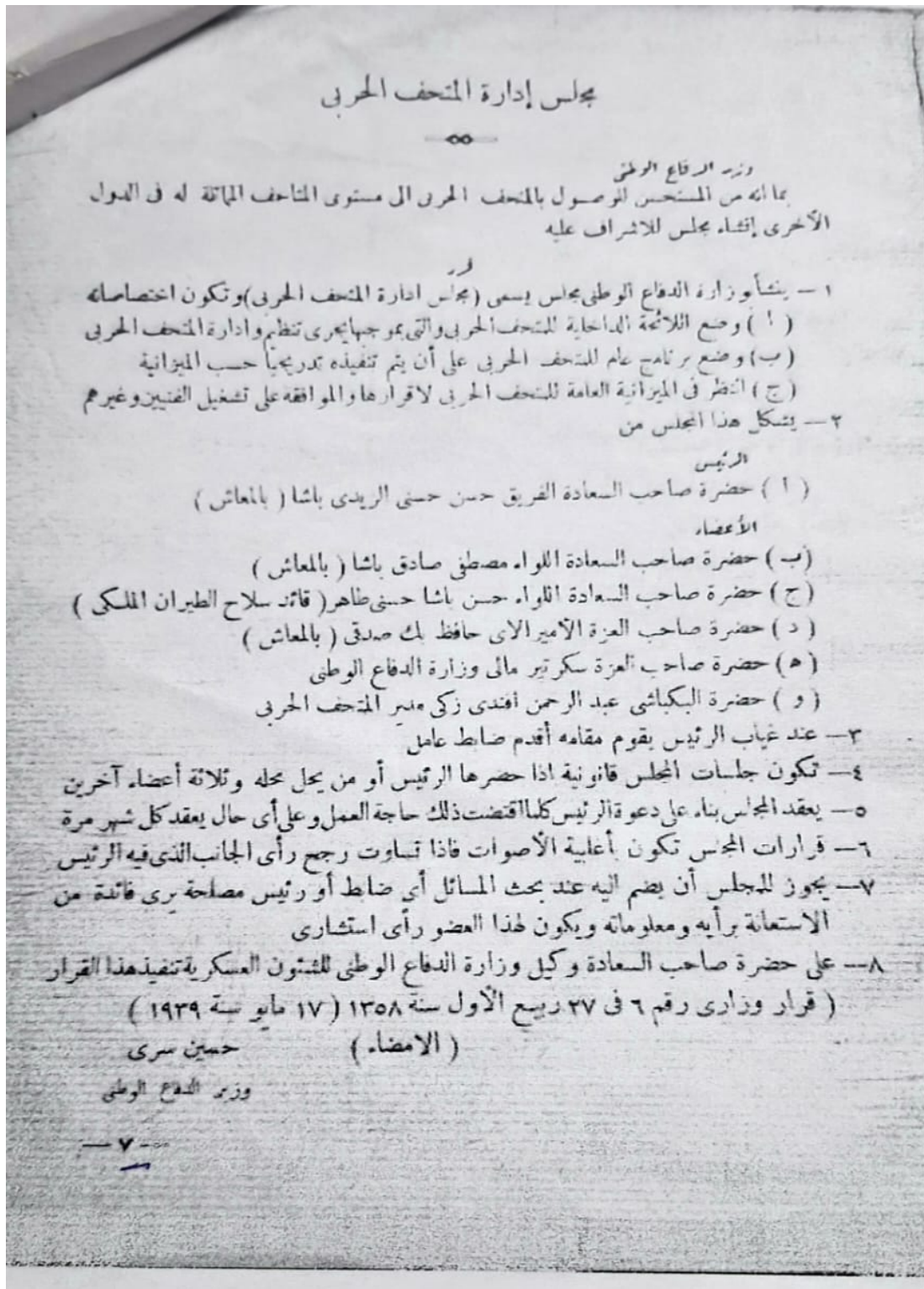
Source: Fourth Annual Report of the Military Museum

Appendix No. (10)



Bust of Major General Muhammad Sadiq Pasha
Source: Fourth Annual Report of the Military Museum

Appendix No. (11)



Military Museum Board of Directors

Source: The Fourth Annual Report of the Military Museum

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