

WDL Description Worksheet
Doha Workshop 2013

Please fill out this worksheet as completely as possible. If any of the information is not known, please write “unknown”.

1. What is the original title of this item? (Please transcribe the title exactly as it is written on the item – if no original title is available, please write “None”.)

A Falconer with His Falcon near Al-Ain

2. What is this item? Please describe the item physically (size, contents, distinguishing features, etc.), if possible. How is the item composed or divided?

This photograph shows a huntsman with his falcon near Al-Ain.

3. Who created it?

The photograph was taken by Colonel Tug Wilson.

4. What are important facts to know about this creator (where he/she was born, when, life achievements, etc.)?

Colonel Tug Wilson (1921–2009) was a British army officer who, in the 1960s, was seconded to the government of Abu Dhabi to help build the national defense force. He was a personal friend of the ruler of Abu Dhabi, Shaykh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan (1918–2004), with whom he shared interests in falconry and horseback riding.

5. When was the item created?

1965

6. Where was it created?

Al-Ain, a desert oasis located approximately 160 kilometers east of the city of Abu Dhabi in the emirate of Abu Dhabi.

7. What is the significance of this particular item? What makes it special?

Falconry is both a sport and a means of hunting for food that developed over centuries in the Arab world and in other countries. Known as the “sport of shaykhs,” falconry was inscribed on the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in 2010.

8. Is there any other information that is important to note about the item? (For example, if any of the answers to the above questions are unusual or unexpected, please explain why.)

The photograph is from the Colonel Edward "Tug" Bearby Wilson Collection in the National Library, Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture and Heritage, and was taken by Wilson.