

MINNIE HOBLER
photographer



Minnie Hobler (left) and nurses preparing for patients, Cairo, c1915, *(family collection)*



Australian soldiers at a mate's grave, Egypt, c1915, *(family collection)*



Minnie Hobler with patients, Cairo, c1915, *(family collection)*

Born in 1875 in Rockhampton, the ninth child of Francis Hobler, substantial landholder, and his wife Jessie (nee Learmonth)

Trained as a nurse at the Brisbane General Hospital

Came to Victoria (home of her Learmonth forebears) before the war, and registered with the Trained Nurses Home Winfield at 340 Albert Street, East Melbourne

Joined the Australian Army Nursing Service (AANS) soon after the outbreak of war, the first among her siblings to enlist

Arrived in Egypt on the HMAS Kyarra in January 1915

Nursed in several hospitals, treating wounded and convalescing troops from the Dardanelles campaign

Mentioned in despatches for her work in Egypt; told her family it was for treating wounded soldiers under fire in the absence of stretcher bearers

Took many photographs while in Egypt



Minnie Hobler with her camera, Egypt, c1915, *(family collection)*

Sent to the Western Front in 1916, where she worked in British run hospitals

Hospitalised in France then England with a gastric ulcer deemed to be caused by food and stress of military service

Repatriated to Australia, declared permanently unfit and discharged from the AANS in 1917

Resumed nursing after her recovery; ran hospitals in Shepparton and Kew; made several overseas trips, at times as nurse and companion to her cousin Harold Learmonth

Moved to England in the mid 1930s

Nursed as a civilian volunteer during the London Blitz

Was injured in an air raid during the Blitz but saved her fur coat

Returned to Australia, then again to England

Died in 1962 aged 87, in Kent, England.



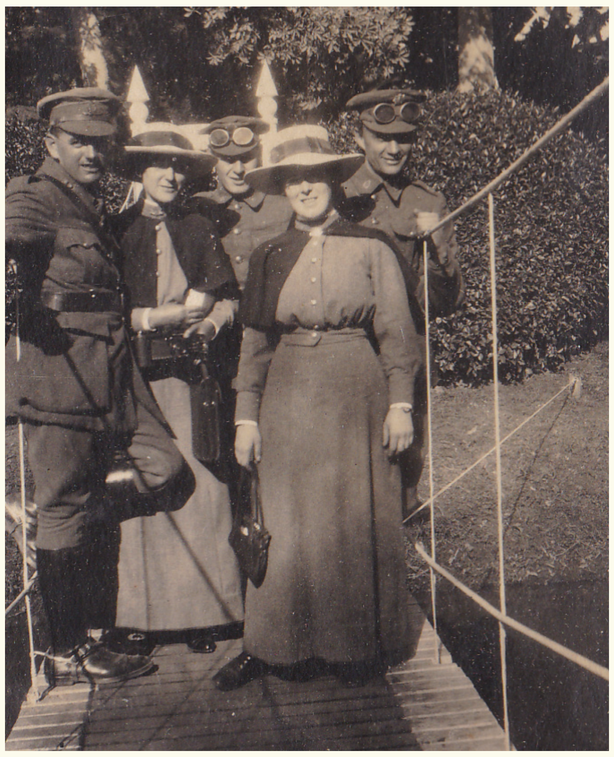
Minnie Hobler sightseeing in Cairo, c1915, *(family collection)*



Minnie Hobler (top left) and nurses with Egyptian women and children, c1915 *(family collection)*



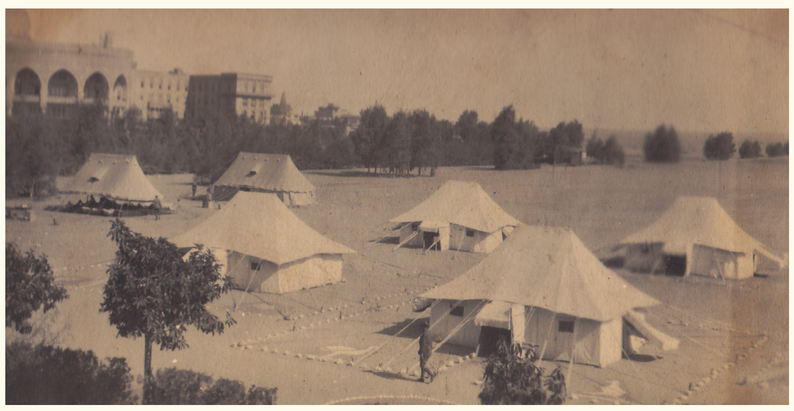
3rd Convalescent Depot, Cairo, c1915, *(family collection)*



Nurses as photographers and sightseers: Minnie Hobler (right) and friends, Cairo, c1915, *(family collection)*



Minnie Hobler (head of table) with nurses in their mess, Cairo, c1915, *(family collection)*



Tented wards housing 1AGH at the Citadel Hospital, Cairo, c1915, (family collection)