

B&C BOOKS

SIDNEY J. LEGENDRE – Explorer, World Traveler



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AND LIMITED EDITIONS
Boone and Crockett Club

Born in London in 1903, young Sidney was brought back to the family home in New Orleans when he was six months old. He lived in Louisiana until his college days. He went to Princeton

where he lettered in football and was the university's light heavyweight boxing champion.

After graduating from Princeton in 1925, Sidney sailed to Europe via the Azores on a three-masted schooner. Upon returning he intended to enter Harvard Law School but instead, within a week, he embarked on

a six-month journey to the South Seas aboard a sailing ship. After this he was enrolled at Harvard for eight months before departing again for Europe and a trip around the world. It is obvious he was never destined to become an attorney and was independently wealthy enough to support his lust for travel.

In 1929, Sidney embarked on the Sanford-Legendre Abyssinia Expedition. He was accompanied by his brother, Howard, and by his future wife, Gertrude Sanford. The expedition was sponsored by the American Museum of Natural History. A number of rare animals were collected including a group of nyala that are on display in the Africa Hall of the Museum. A highlight of the trip was being entertained by Tafari Makonen who was to be crowned Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia the following year.

In 1931 and 1932, Sidney and his wife led another expedition for the Museum into Indo-China, and in 1935 they embarked on an expedition to

South West Africa (now Namibia) on behalf of the Philadelphia Museum of Natural Sciences seeking a variety of animal species. In 1938 the Legendres led an expedition to Persia on behalf of the American Museum of Natural History.

Sidney Legendre wrote two books. *The Land of the White Parasol and a Million Elephants* chronicles the Legendres' journey through the jungles of Indo-China in 1931 and 1932. His other book, *Okovango Desert River*, details the South West Africa expedition in 1935. In these books he focuses more on his travel experiences and the people and customs he encounters than on the hunting episodes.

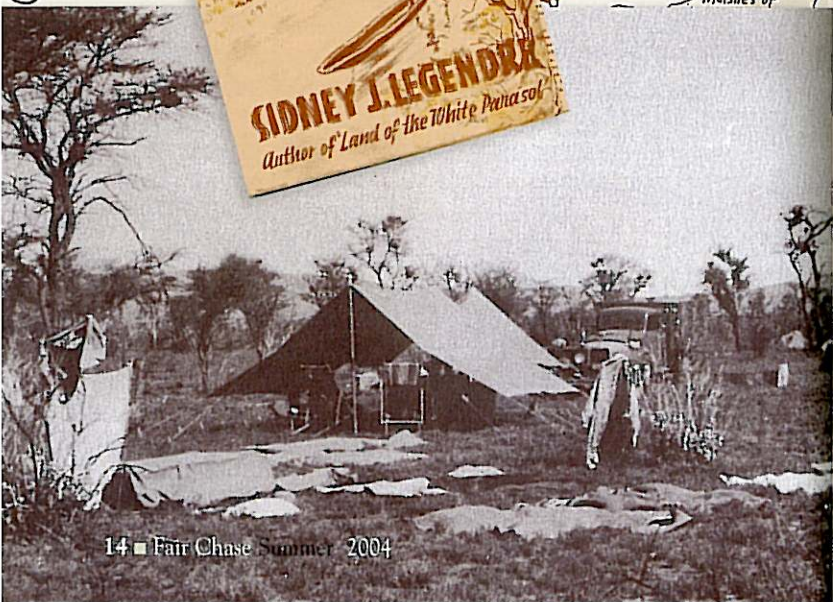
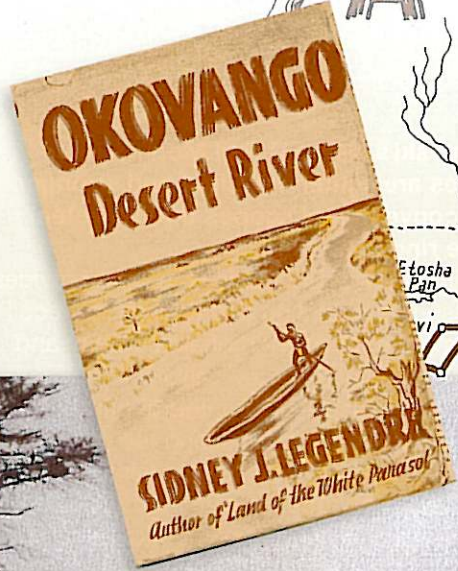
Sidney Legendre became a Member of the Boone and Crockett Club after being nominated for membership by Roy Chapman Andrews in 1932. He died in 1948 and is buried on the grounds of Medway Plantation, South Carolina. This historic plantation had been purchased by the Legendres in 1930. He crammed a lot of activity into his short life! ■

BOOK BY SIDNEY J. LEGENDRE

The Land of the White Parasol and a Million Elephants (1935)

Okovango Desert River (1939)

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: Sidney J. Legendre; Reubens looking at his lion; Camp; Cover of *Okovango Desert River* published in 1939; A flat tire.



Legendre Expedition