"In southern Wello, there are still a few areas where indigenous trees survive in pockets of remaining forests. -- A highlight of our trip was a visit to Anabe, one of the few forests of Podocarpus, locally known as Zegba, remaining in southern Wello. -- Professor Bahru notes that Anabe was 'discovered' relatively recently, in 1978, when a forester was looking for a nursery site. In imperial days the area fell under the category of balabbat land before it was converted into a madbet of the Crown Prince. After its 'discovery' it was declared a protected forest.

Anabe is some 30 kms to the west of the town of Gerba, which is on the Kombolcha-Bati road. Until recently the rough road from Gerba was completed only up to the market town of Adame, from which it took three hours' walk to the forest. A road built by local people -- with European Union funding now makes the forest accessible in a four-wheel drive vehicle. The forest is tucked away near steep cliffs and is invisible until you arrive within a couple of kilometres. -- Not far away is a nursery site. One of the two forest guards and a nursery site worker accompanied us in the forest. They claimed that in the past barley, oats and sorghum used to be cultivated within the forest area and that a Mislene or representative of the imperial regime, named Abegaz Amede used to provide tribute from the area.

Anabe is one of the few remaining forests of Podocarpus. The size of the forest has been estimated at 53 hectares. -- In the central part of the forest there are areas with only giant Podocarpus tree. Unfortunately during tree planting campaigns under the Derg foreign trees, notably pines, have been planted in the forest. -- The special tree in the middle of Anabe forest is called Awliyaw by the local people, a term suggestive of its revered status (Weliy means prophet in the Islamic tradition and Awliya often refers to a Zar possession cult). Legend has it that it existed before all the other trees, when the land was barren and that it gave rise to all the other trees. There is also a story that a man attempted to climb the tree to catch a queen bee, and retreated when he was confronted by a snake. The man is said to have died within three days, for having disrespected the sanctuary. --

When we measured the tree, we found it to be 12.7 metres in circumference. Is this then the largest tree in Ethiopia? The tree is said to be 63 metres high. Is this figure correct? Has anyone seen a taller tree in this country?"

[Alula Pankhurst in Addis Tribune 2000/02/18]
3rd highest mountain in Ethiopia.

**JCK85**
Anamaleh 07°05'/42°58' 671 m 07/42 [Gz]
anan, annan (O) milk; milky sap; annaan, aannan (O) Macha people

**KCH68**
Anan Weylo (Anan Ueilo) 06/46 [+ WO]

anan (O) kind of plant, "the one for milk".
Euphorbia triculata or related species, young shoots are eaten by cattle

**JDD63**
Anano (area), cf Aneno 08/42 [WO]

**JD...**
Ananu, archaeol. site in the Awash valley 10/40 [20]
Stream north of lake Yardi and west of Gewane.

In May 1975 John Kalb followed the Ananu west into the foothills.
"Wide foot trails leading through the area and up the escarpment were as worn as the paths to Mecca. In the main streambed there was only a trickle of water, mineralized and warm from hot springs, but enough to form algal soup -- any fossils that had eroded to the surface would soon have been pulverized /by the heavy travelling/. I also realized that there would be few vertebrate fossils at Ananu in any case, because most of the sediments consisted of deep- to shallow-water lake deposits."

Ananu is 110 km south-west of the middle Pliocene deposits at Hadar.
"Pure, brilliant, white diatomite in the greater Ananu area cropped out over some 25 square kilometres -- in layers up to 3 or more metres thick, indicating a lake of long duration. I guessed it was one of the richest deposits of the industrial mineral /diatomite/ in Ethiopia."

[J Kalb, Adventures in the bone trade, 2001 p 171-172]
"Over two weeks, Sleshi and I documented 28 fossil localities in the greater Ananu area. Most were clustered at Bikirmali just north of Ananu -- The rest were spread out over surrounding areas in -- terrain made striking by the diatomite, dark-green stratified tuffs, and basalts that I had seen six months earlier."
"We found two more kinds of proboscideans during these surveys: Deinotherium and Primelephas. The latter is the ancestral elephant -- first described by Maglio. -- While we were camped at Ananu, we received several harassing visits from a man called Morado, who lorded over the area, imposing his personal tax on trade goods and contraband moving up and down the trail to and from the highlands. -- The local Afar feared him and warned us that he had 'killed many men.' Morado came from higher up the trail and was Oromo; at least that was the language he spoke when he came riding into our camp on a mule accompanied by several of his minions, who were on foot. At the time, I had two very capable Oromo with me -- neither of whom was intimidated by Morado. Both refused his orders to serve him food and to water his mule."
"I have to say that Morado was a fierce and malevolent-seeming character with a face that looked like it had been hammered together with rocks. I called him Bent Finger because one of his fingers obviously had been broken and had grown back together at an odd angle -- Pulled squarely over his head was a wide-brimmed hat in a fashion made famous by Emperor Menelik in his later years."
"On several occasions Morado's henchmen approached our camp at night and lobbed stones into our midst, but by then I had sought the assistance of the local Afar chief to provide guards -- The showdown -- came at the end of two weeks in the late afternoon the day before we planned to leave the area. Morado rode into camp and insisted that we leave unless we paid him protection money, or else."
Kalb thought of what Henry Stanley would have done and if it would be possible to snatch Morado's rifle from the saddle holster, but he judged that to attempt opposition would be too dangerous. "Let's break camp and get the deuce out of here."
"In record time we packed up and left Morado and his men standing there. That was the last I saw of him. When we returned to the area a few weeks later, he was gone. Perhaps the Afar chiefs had something to do with his disappearance."
[Kalb as above, p 203-204]
The first encounter between Imam Ahmed Grañ and the 400 Portuguese took place in 1542 at Anasa between Amba Alage and lake Ashenge. Ahmed was defeated and wounded, and in a battle a few days later he succeeded to escape only because the Portuguese had no cavalry with which to pursue him.

[Trimingham, Islam in Ethiopia, 1952 p 89]

Anbasa: anbessa, ambessa (A,T) lion; anbaza (A?) a kind of catfish found in the Little Abay water system

anchara (A) strip of leather sewn to a shield so that it can be hung on a peg

anchiro: anchiro (O) white millet, Sorghum arundinaceum

ancheba (A) kind of tree, Ocimum suave
ancheto: anchote (anchot'e) (A) yams, Dioscoea speciosa

HCK82 Ancheto, see Areka

HDM30 Anchi Awgi 09°19'/39°22' 2710 m 09/39 [Gz]

HDL89 Anchikorer (Anch'ik'orer, Anchekorer, Ancicurer) 09°48'/39°17' 2682 m, near map code HDM80 (centre in 1964 of Wayu sub-district)

Its market, held on Saturdays, in the 1870s was regarded as one of the richest and most important in Shewa. It was mainly a market for Abichu Oromo, who had plenty of animals to offer for sale. 100-200 horses might be for sale in one day.

[A Cecchi, vol I, 1886 p 308]

HEK. Anchim (Anchem) (battle site) 11/38 [+ Pa]

see under Debre Tabor

HDG77 Anchiini (Anch'ini) 09°42'/35°25' 1884 m 09/35 [Gz]

H.... Ancho 10/36? [Ch]

Place for crossing the Abay when going between Gojjam and Wellega.

anchora: anchura (anch'ura) (O) a herb with fleshy leaves, Kalanchoe macrantha, K. lanceolata, not liked by domestic animals; (Bale O) Kalanchoe deficiens

HCU22 Anchura (Anciora) 07°21'/39°27' 2497 m 07/39 [Wa Gz]

HC... Anchuteho (in Welamo awraja) 06/37? [Ad]

The primary school in 1968 had 243 boys and 15 girls, with 5 teachers.

HCR03 Anciano, see Rufael

HDL89 Ancicurer, see Anchikorer

HCU22 Anciorea, see Anchora

HDM21 Ancober (Ancobar), see Ankober & HDM54

HFF22 Ancot, see Ankot

HET60c Ancua, see Ankwa

HER48 Ancudib, see Ankudib

HCU91 Ancufcia, see Ankfola

HCR68 Ancurri, see Unkuri

HCR67 And Aja 11°35'/39°09' 2991 m 11/39 [Gz]

HEL39 And Aymetir 12°04'/39°16' 2844 m 12/39 [Gz]

HEM20 And iyela 11°57'/39°23' 3555 m 11/39 [Gz]

HEE81 Anda 11°36'/38°32' 2524 m 11/38 [Gz]

HFF51 Anda Mariam Suta, see Maryam Setta

andabiet: andebet (andäbät) (A) tongue

HED44 Andabiet 11/37 [Gu]

HED74c Andabiet 11/37 [Gu]

/which Andabiet? a little village south-west of Debre Tabor:/

The artist Jembere Hailu, with the title Qangeta indicating his being a priest, was born in October 1913 near the church of Jemal Mikael in Andabiet. He became one of the few painters living in Addis Abeba who had received a traditional education as church artist. He started in a church school near his home when he was four years old and completed that stage of his education in seven years. Then he moved to a monastary in Gojjam as the next stage.

[12th Int. Conf. of Ethiopian Studies 1994 p 369]

KCP54 Andadaha (wide area) 07°43'/46°06' 07/46 [WO Gz]

JCR48 Andafidiye (area) 07/42 [WO]

HED44 Anderi Meter 11/37 [WO]

andakko, indakko (O) chicken, fowl

JEJ33 Andakoros (Andacoros) (area) 12/41 [+ WO]

JEA08c Andalee, circa 10°53'/40°30' 10/40 [20]

Archaeological site identified by that name when finds of stone tools were published in
scientific journals. The name refers to a stream among low hills just east of the Awash river in the Afar depression.

[J Kalb, Adventures in the bone trade, 2001, p 160]

1975: "What Andalee means or originally stood for I never found out. But that is the name for the stream that I put on our maps of the Middle Awash, which we later published in a dozen scientific journals. -- /We/ examined the Andalee stone tools. Among the artifacts were crudely made core axes, small bifacial handaxes, flakes, and abundant rock cores and debris." They also found fossils of monkeys and other small animals. John Kalb and Herb Mosca did not collect any fossils or artifacts during their survey of the site.

[Kalb as above, p 161-164]

1976: "In several hours at Andalee, Craig and the rest of us recovered nearly 500 fossils. - - evidence suggested that Andalee was once forested, but until more fossils were identified we still did not know the age of the site, other than that it was broadly later Pleistocene, nor did we have more information about its archaeology, other than Herb's suggestion that the tools were Sangoan and may have involved woodworking." The expedition wondered whether the water would cause bilharzia. According to investigations, Afar plantation workers did not have this disease, but workers from the highland had it.

[Kalb as above, p 161-164]


HDE76 Andama 08/39 [WO]
HCH96 Andaracha, see Anderacha
JEC20 Andarchelu (waterhole) 11/41 [MS WO]
JDS41 Andarley (Andarlei) (area) 10/42 [+ WO]
HEC79 Andasa (Andassa) (river = Angassam? & place) 11/37 [Ch n]

River which rises in the foothills of the Amedamit mountains, passes about 16 km below Bahir Dar and joins the Abay as its first right-bank tributary. There the water /in May 1926/ was 10 m wide and 0.3 m deep, with a steady flow.

[Cheesman 1936]

Place in Gojjam, the nearest town is Bahir Dar.

An elementary school building was constructed in 1969 Eth.Cal. (1976-77 Greg.Cal.), with Swedish assistance through ESBU.

?? Andassam ../.. [x]

A livestock station was established there in 1964. It was experimental with the purpose to evaluate the beef production potential under a mixed farming system of Fogara cattle. This type of cattle is found in the Lake Tana region between Eritrea in the north and Dangila in the south. They are probably the product of cross-breeding between European and Zebu types of cattle.

[Official pamphlet, A.A. 1964]

HER36 Andeinaba (area) 12/37 [WO]
HER27 Andeinada 12°56'/37°17' 1221 m 12/37 [Gz]
JEP15 Andele (Andelei, Anderley) (well) 12°51'/41°03' 12/41 [Gz WO]

anderara (andära) (A) a short, broad-leaved plant which bears a blackish, sour fruit

HEB79 Andera 11°30'/36°30' 1168 m 11/36 [WO Gz]
HCN46 Anderaccia dei Moccia, see Inderacha

anderacha: anderocheh (O) kind of shrub or tree, Cussonia ostinii, with leaves branching out several from a common stalk
HCH96  **Anderacha** (Anderaccia, Andaracha, Andaraca) 07/36  [Gz Gu Pa x]  
(Andracha, Enderach) 07°12'/36°17' 1629 m, see also under Bonga  
Kaffa was ruled by Ras Wolde Giyorgis on Emperor Menilek's behalf. The ras set up his capital at Anderacha and it is only in recent decades that Bonga, the site of the former royal capital, has been re-occupied.  
[Greenfield 1965 p 105]

1898  On 2 February 1898 Ras Wolde Giyorgis marched out of Anderacha at the head of an army of 16,000 men for an expedition to the south, in which also the Russian officer Bulatovich took part.  
On 26 May Bulatovich returned to Anderacha, where he took his leave of the Ras, and three weeks later he was in Addis Ababa.  
[P J Imperato, Quest for the Jade Sea, USA 1998 p 185, 188]

1910s  According to F.J. Bieber for the 1910s, market was held four times a week and was sometimes attended by 5,000 people though it was said to have been much larger in former times. In 1905 an Indian by name Abdul Hussein set up a branch of the big firm Mohamediya, mainly for the purpose to export coffee.

1930s  It is not known clearly whether a post office of the Italians started functioning at Anderacha before it was transferred to Bonga, but the cancellation stamp ANDERACCIA * GALLA E SIDAMA seems to have been used in the Bonga post officeat its start on 2 August 1937.  
[Philatelic source]

HCN27  Anderacha (Andracha) (mountain chain), cf Inderacha 07°30'/35°30' 2360 m

HCN26  Anderacha sub-district? (-1997-) 07/35  [n]

HCN26  Anderacha wereda (centre in 1964 = Gеча) 07/35  [Ad]

HEJ66  Anderjiha 12°21'/37°12' 1835 m 12/37  [Gz]

HEL63c  Anderkwe (Andercue) 12/38  [+ Gu]

JEP15  Anderley (waterhole), see Andele

HCK09  Andida 06°24'/38°21' 1844 m (near Dilla, in Deressa awraja) 06/38  [Gz Ad]  
The primary school in 1968 had 211 boys and 54 girls, with 8 teachers.

JDP53  Andido (area) 10/41  [WO]

JEG49  Andido 12°09'/40°37' 629 m 12/40  [Gz]

HF...  Andiel (historical? area south-west of Adigrat) 14/39  [x]

HET98  Andin 13°30'/39°10' 1943 m 13/39  [WO Gz]

HFE07  **Andin** (Andino) (mountain) 13°28'/39°09' 2104 m 13/39  [Gz Gu]  
"-- action on March 2nd /1936/ by the 1st Eritrean Division, resulting in the occupation of positions at Mount Andino and Enda Mariam Quorar, in the course of which the enemy lost more than 1,000 dead and left in our hands about 100 prisoners."  
[Badoglio (Eng.ed.) 1937 p 108]

JDR46  Ando Bet (small railway station) 10°22'/42°13' 10/42  [Gz]

JDR25  Ando Beyd 10°08'/42°08' 726 m 10/42  [Gz]

**andode, andodie** (O) soap-berries, plant giving a kind of soap, Phytolacca dodecandra

HCR99  Andode 08°06'/37°30' 1833 m, cf Endode  
Andode, near map code HCS90  
08/37  [Gz]

HDE73  Andode (near Akaki) 08°49'/38°44' 2046 m 08/38  [Gz]

HDE73  Andode (near Akaki) 08°51'/38°46' 2095 m 08/38  [Gz]  
Andode (Anduodi) was the first halt on 3 July 1878 on the large journey to the south-west of the explorers Cecchi and Chiarini. They described the place as a miserable village inhabited by about 3,000 people who were mostly slave traders.  
A Shewan force under Kenyazmach Worku with about 5,000 men was encamped a
few kilometres from there. The caravan men of the Italian explorers demanded that the baggage should be divided into less heavy pieces, and with material bought at the market this was done. Worku's force started on 4 July, prepared for war, so the explorers understood that Worku would hardly be a protection for their caravan.

[A Cecchi, vol II, 1885 p 5-7]

HDH78 Andode 09/36 [WO]
HDK58 Andode 09°33′38″19′ 2337 m 09/38 [AA Gz]
HDL26 Andode 09°19′38″59′ 2721 m 09/38 [AA Gz]
HDD63 Andode Abo (church) 08°45′37″48′ 08/37 [Gz]
JDJ92 Andolisse (area) 09/41 [WO]

andolla: andola (Afar) large savannah bird, bustard, Choriotis spp. etc

JEB77 Andolla (area) 11/41 [WO]
?? Andotnah ./... [Pa]

The army of Imam Ahmed around 1541 was in the area toward Zikwala and arrived at Andotnah, "a town of the King -- There was a house there belonging to the King of Abyssinia where there were paintings: representations of lions, men and birds, painted in red, yellow, green, white and other colours. The Muslims entered this house, admired its contents and burnt it."

[Pankhurst, .. Chronicles 1967 p 56]

HCH96 Andracha, see Anderacha
JBP15 Anduk (locality) 04°35′41″08′ 04/41 [WO]
HDL46c Anduod Uascia, see Endod Washa
HDM42 Anduod Uascia, see Segele

andurah: andura (O) 1. umbilical cord; 2. special gift which a father gives to his son at the birth

?? Andurah (recorded in the 16th century) ..../.. [Pa]

In present Dewaro 12/37 or Dewero 09/42?

"Andhura means umbilical cord, and in this sense it is a special gift which a father gives to his son at birth. This is the only property over which the son has full authority before the death of his father. However, in the case of adoption, andhura symbolized a father-son relationship between the clan and its new member." [Mohammed 1994 p 21]

1530s Imam Ahmed 'the left-handed' set out from Andurah and defeated Emperor Lebne Dengel's men decisively on 31 March 1531 at Ayn Feres.

"Around this time the Imam and his companions arrived at 'Andurah. There they found an imposing church built by Wäsän Sägäd, which, it is said, had taken no less than eleven years to erect. A structure the like of which, according to the Futuh, had never been seen in Däwaro it was an immense, and splendidly ornamented, building on raised columns. It was guarded by a thousand Duba'ah foot soldiers, armed with poisoned spears called jato, but these defenders fled on the enemy's approach. Ahmäd then entered the edifice in wonder, admiring both its construction and its paintings. His men seized a large number of carpets, pieces of cloth, silks and other valuables. After taking everything that could be found, they burnt the church to the ground.

Ahmäd and his men stayed in 'Andurah for six days, during which time they also made a number of expeditions into various parts of Däwaro, on foot and on horseback."

[Pankhurst 1997 p 174]

Anduro, a small society in eastern Gemu-Gofa

H.... Anech Bila (centre in 1964 of Nazret sub-district) 10/38 [Ad]
H.... Aneded sub-district? (-1997-) 10/37? [n]
H.... Aneded wereda (centre in 1964 = Amber Kirkos) 10/37? [Ad]
JD.... Aneno (centre 1964 of Welabu sub-district) 09/42 [Ad]
anf (Ge'ez) nose
HFF25 Anf' Baati (with rock-hewn church) 13/39 [x]
see under Atsbi

*anfar* (A) 1. large savannah bird, bustard, Choriotis spp. etc;
2. kind of large bush or tree, Buddleia polystachia

*anfarro* (A,O) /lɪən's/ mane; cape of similar material
usually from baboons;

*anfari, anfera, anfar* (A,O) common shrub or small tree with
narrow leaves, Buddleja polystachya; *anfere* (T) flush;

*anfari* (A) one who boils water or cooks with it

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**HDM.? Anfar (with church Giyorgis), in Bulga/Kasim wereda 09/39? [x]**

**JEJ03 Anfara Eyla (waterhole) 11°48'/41°51' 11/41 [WO Gz]**

**HC... Anfarara (area) 06/38 [Mi]**

An area at the Shashemene-Kibre Mengist road.

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**HE... Anfargey Giyorgis 11/38 [n]**

The church is off the turnoff south to Simada, about 50 km east of Debre Tabor. At the
turnoff for Muja is the church up the hill. "The site was not promising. There was a
standard stone wall around a standard round stone church -- The interesting stuff was
around back, where the well preserved ruins of an old church stood. -- The walls and
pillars were at least 4 meters high. The round outer wall of the church was at least 10
meters in diameter -- Within was the square Holy of Holies, about 4 meters on each side."

"The story we were told was that the church had been built by Atse Seifa Ara'ad -- It had
taken 42 years to build, and had only been used for 12 years before it burned down --
there were old pieces of wooden door frames which showed signs of being burnt. Much of
the church was built with large clay bricks, some of them as much as 70 by 40
centimeters."

"One explanation for the deteriorating state of the ruins was that the new church had
clearly raided it for building materials. -- Behind the ruins of Anfargey Giyorgis there
were even older looking stone circles - probably grave markers."

[John Graham in Addis Tribune 1999/09/10]

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**JFA17 Anfeitale, see Aufeitale**

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**HFF52 Anfeka (Anfiqa, Anf-Eqa), see under Sinkata 14/39 [x]**

(with rock-hewn church Gebre Menfes Kidus)

"A 1 h de marche au S de /Arbatu Insisa/. Petite basilique hypogée à nef centrale
surrélevée mais ayant un plafond plat. Le maqdas arrondi comporte une fenêtre à l'E, ce
qui rapprocherait cette excavation de hypogées funéraires de Degoum. Grand narthex en
partie construit à l'ouest, comme à Degoum." [Sauter 1976 p 164]

***text***

Ruth Plant *in Ethiopia Observer* vol XIII no 3 Dec 1970 p 225

with plan, drawing, and photo

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**HF... Anfesaeri (Anfesa'eri) 14/39? [Ad]**

(sub-district & its centre in 1964)

*anfila* (A) meat from a leg, prepared in a certain way

Anfillo (Southern Mao), ethnic group living north of Baro river in western
Wellega. Estimated around 1995 that there were only 500 speakers of the
language Anfillo, all of them being elder people. The rest of this ethnic group
of about 1000 mainly speak Western Oromo.

[Summer Institute of Linguistics]

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**GDF63 Anfilo, T. (hill) 08/34 [WO]**

**GDF42 Anfilo sub-district (Anfillo ..) (centre in 1964 = Mugi) 08/34 [Ad n]**

(-1964-1997-)

*angach* (A) armed guard or soldier
The Angacha primary school (in Kembata wereda) had 50 boys and 17 girls in grades 1-3, with 1 male and 2 female teachers - unusual to have more female than male! /this Angacha?:/ About 7 km from Angacha town, near Azgi river, there is on a stone wall a rock engraving 420 cm in length and 270 m in width. It contains more than twelve animal figures.

This was one of the most severely affected areas in the Kembata/Hadiya region during the drought of 1973-1974.

An island about 400 m long. A church dedicated to Tekle Haymanot was said to have been there, but Cheesman failed to find its ruins in 1933. [Cheesman 1936]

Angar, bed, of the type occurring in all Eastern Africa

Angareb, (Angereb) 13°15'/37°06' 2190 m 13/37 [WO Gu Gz]

Angareb (mountain) 13°03'/37°37' 1929 m 13/37 [WO Gz]

Angareb (river near Gondar) 13/37 [It x]

The Fasil dildiy stone bridge was supposedly built by Emperor Fasiledes on the instructions of a saint whom he had asked how best he could obtain forgiveness of his sins.
Angela: angele (T) nourish, sustain, maintain; angwel (A) brain

GCT74  Angela (Anghela)  07/33  [+ WO Gz]
07°51'/33°48'302 m

HDJ..  Angela Menesh, in Decha awraja  09/37  [n]
One of a few villages where there live Nayi (Nao) people
who speak a language of their own.

JDG44c  Angelele Bolhamo (Awash valley), near Amibara farm  09/40  [n]
By 1968 there was not yet any irrigation of a potentially very wide area.

HEJ04  Angelit (Anghelit) (with church Kidane Mihret)  11/36  [+ It]

H....  Angentu (centre in 1964 of Arena Bulk wereda)  05/39?  [Ad]

HFD04  Anger (Angher) (mountain) 13°34'/37°55' 1317 m  13/37  [+ WO Gz]
see under Adi Arkay

??  Anger (waterfalls on the Didessa river)  ../..

HDH..  Anger Gutin (about 40 km NNW of Nekemte)  09/36  [x]
During the resettlement programme until 1985 villages of approximately 500 families
were erected in clusters in the Anger Gutin area.

In December 1985 when the programme was still young, Jean Gallais visited the
settlement which he regarded as an average example of the resettlement policy, and
he wrote a fairly detailed description:
"Le milieu naturel est relativement accueillant: le settlement occupe un large bassin à
grands glacis réguliers s'étendant sur 15 km Nord-Sud, 8 km Est-Ouest, drainés par l'Uké
Wenz /HDH38 at 09°24'/36°28'/ et le Hanjer Wenz affluents du Didessa -- Dans une
situation au vent et à 1 400 m d'altitude, la région reçoit entre 1 800 mm et 2 000 mm de
pluies annuelles entre mai et octobre. Comme ailleurs, le centre est ici constitué d'une
vingtaine de constructions légères en bambou à usage public, administration -- école ...
Dans un rayon de 10 km se dispersent les unités groupant chacune 200 familles. Parmi les
fort sommaires sont alignées sur plusieurs rastes, distantes l'une de l'autre d'environ 20
mètres. Elles ont été construites par les 'campagners', étudiants de l'Université d'Addis
Ababa venus travailler lors des vacances d'été."
"Les infrastructures sanitaires sont inexistantes, en particulier il n'y a pas d'eau potable.
Aucun puits dans les unités. Le long d'un ruisseau je remarque les femmes se baignant et
remplissant leurs récipients en plastiques ; un peu plus loin les bovins s'abreuvent. Les
dysenteries sont les maladies les plus répandues. Le dispensaire du centre est dépourvu de
médicaments et l'évacuation des malades graves n'est pas assurée faute de véhicules
suffisants. Franchir les 80 kilomètres de mauvaise piste pour atteindre la grande route
nous demande en décembre quatre heures de temps."
"Du point de vue agricole, les déclarations officielles parlent de deux hectares cultivés par
famille. En fait, les travaux ont lieu sur les champs collectifs et les unités fonctionnent
comme des coopératives. --"
"Les vingt unités créées en 1985 commencent à défricher la bambouserai et à ouvrir leurs
champs avec l'aide des bulldozers que leur loue la Ferme d'Etat voisine de Ouké. En 1985,
1 839 hectares auraient déjà été cultivés par ces nouvelles unités, mais la population
continuera à recevoir l'aide alimentaire pendant trois années : 500 grammes de grain par
jour et par personne m'assure-t-on. Chaque famille cultive la parcelle qui sépare sa case de
la voisine : belles cultures de piment et de légumes. --"
"Le resettlement réunit environ 20 000 personnes. L'encadrement est léger tant du point
de vue du personnel technique et administratif, 79 personnes nous déclare-t-on, que du
point de vue matériel, dix tracteurs pour 3 800 hectares en décembre 1985 pour 10 000
hectares en 1988. La Ferme d'Etat d'Ouké Loko, eloignée d'une dizaine de kilomètres,
fournit un matériel complémentaire."

[J Gallais, Une géographie politique .., Paris 1989 p 186-187]
HEJ91 Angidessa, see Anjidessa
HCB99 Angila (Anghila) 06°21'/36°33' 1233 m 06/36 [+ WO Gz]
Coordinates would give map code HCH09
HEC75 Angirti Abo (Anghirti Abo) (church on hilltop)
angirti alo: alo (O) grudge, rancour
11/37 [+ It]
HEC75 Angirti Alo (Anghirti Alo) 11/37 [+ WO]
HES00c Angiva, see Anjiva
JDB89 Aniya Genemi, see Genemi
KC... Anglo 07/46 [n]
towards the northern easternmost part of Ethiopia
ango (O) physical strength
HF... Angloila (centre in 1964 of Aygoila sub-district) 14/38 [Ad]
angol, angwel (A) brain; marrow
HEM73 Angolaba 12°27'/39°45' 1555 m 12/39 [Gu Gz]

Angolala: mentioned as a name but not explained as a word in Baeteman's Amharic dictionary 1929

Angidebba (Anjidebba?) (in the Gondar region) ...
"The /Italian/ column rejoined Martini at Angidebba on 5 February /1941/, having marched 339 kilometres in 14 days, fought four actions against the ribelli, and suffered altogether casualties of one officer killed and four wounded and 129 ascari killed and 222 wounded (about 35 per cent of the force). This was a high price to pay for the relief of the garrison, but one the Italian commanders and their troops were prepared to pay, believing that if the relief failed the result would be a massacre. Braca, a world-war veteran aged 41, stood up to the gruelling march as well as the younger men, marching always on foot to show an example. His report to his superior officer, dated 28 February 1941, is still extant in the Ufficio Storico in Rome and describes the operation in detail, together with an excellent map as one would expect from a cartographer." [Shirreff 1995 p 76]
Once a capital, with a church of Kidane Mihret. "A Gospel held now at the church of Endafaré Maryam at Angoläla in Shäwa contains seven different grants" of Eskender (1478-1494).

[Crummey 2000 p 32]

1820s Sahle Selassie erected the fortified town of Angolala, in the heart of Abichu Oromo country, in the 1820s.

[Abir 1968 p 153]

1835 The French travellers E. Combes and M. Tamisier reached Angolala on 1 November 1835. "They were at once interrogated by one of the officers of the king, Sahle Sellasie, as to whether they were skilled in any craft and in particular if they could make rifles or gun-powder."

[3rd Int. Conf. of Ethiopian Studies 1969 p 184]

In 1830 Sahle Selassie built a new camp outside Debre Birhan on the open plateau which developed into a town called Angolala. The British mission 1841-1843 under Major Harris spent their time in Ethiopia mostly in Ankober and Angolala.


Angolala was threatened by a coalition under a general Medoko, but Sahle Selassie succeeded in putting down the rebellion in 1834 or 1835. There had also been a disastrous epidemic of cholera, and afterwards there was a serious drought for a couple of years. The famine was over in 1836 or 1837.

[Abir 1968 p 156-157]

1840s The young British naval surgeon Charles Johnston and his servant Welde Qiros reached King Sahle Sellasie's residence at Angolala in 1841.

"An irregular stockade of splintered ted -- twelve or fourteen feet high, is carried around the edge of the ridge, and the enclosed area, in its longest direction, exceeds three hundred yards."

Through this /first/ court we passed, for about twenty yards, between two rows of noisy beggars, male and female, old, middle-aged, and young; who, leprous, scrofulous, and maimed, exhibited the most disgusting sores --"

"I was glad to escape from their piteous importunity, and I passed quickly through another row of palings by a narrow wicket into a second court, something more extensive than the other, where I found a crowd of people listening to an orator, who, with shoulders and body bare to his middle, was addressing three or four turbaned monks who sat in an open alcove, beneath the long projecting eaves of a thatched roof. This I was given to understand -- was a court of justice --"

"As we passed through a third wicket, a small enclosure on one side attracted my attention, from the circumstances of several prisoners, shackled by the wrists and ankles with bright and apparently much-worn fetters, endeavouring to get a peep at me through the interstices of their wooden prison."

"In the next court was collected a great heap of stones, upon which a number of people were sitting -- I did in Shoa as I saw the Shoans do, and sat down with the rest upon the hard stones." 

"I found his majesty in the next court, which was nearly circular, and surrounded by a low stone wall instead of the high, ragged palisades -- Several low low houses stood around, serving as stores and offices, and conspicuous among them was the little round cottage, about twenty-two feet in diameter, that was then being erected by Capt. Graham. One of the thatched houses was raised to a second story, open in front, each side of which was ornamented with trellice-work of very rude carpentry. In this elevated alcove, upon a couch, covered with red velvet, and reposing upon large cushions of yellow-coloured satin lay the Negoos of Shoa, Sahale Selasssee, whilst many-coloured Persian carpets covered the floor, and hung over outside into the court."

(Johnston set about making some gunpowder for the king out of local ingredients:)

"-- several men standing around huge mortars two feet and a half high -- and pounding the
charcoal, or else the saltpetre into fine powder. -- Several others were on their knees on
the ground, leaning over coarse flat stones, grinding the sulphur -- a learned scribe, who
had been desired by the Negoos to watch the proceedings, and mark the proportionate
amounts of saltpetre, charcoal, and sulphur, I used. The scales were produced, and then it
was discovered there were no weights, but this difficulty I soon got over by employing
bullets -- " (Later the Englishman brought the King a sample.)
"The saltpetre obtained in Shoa, although very plentiful, abounds with another salt, that
not decomposing by explosion leaves a residuum of white globules -- The presence of this
salt occasions the powder to be of a very light grey colour, not unlike wood ashes. From
not possessing any chemical tests, I was unable to decide its mineral character, but I
supposed it to be the nitrate of soda."

[Ch Johnston cited in Pankhurst, Travellers in Ethiopia, Oxf. Univ. Pr. 1965 p 90-94]
"Angollála, on the Galla frontier -- is now the capital of the western portion of Shoa, and
during the greater part of the year it forms His Majesty's favourite place of residence.
Thither he proceeded on the morning following the festivities /of Meskel 1841/.
" [W C Harris, The highlands .., vol II, London 1844 p 87, with description of life
around the king's court and his justice p 88-95]
"Near the commencement of this stupendous precipice, and barely a gunshot from its
brink, stands Angollála, the Galla capital of the kingdom, commanding the upper pass
into the Christian land. Three small hills which rise abruptly from the plain, and enclose a
 circular area, had been judiciously selected as a site by the wary founder, but the
settlement was at this date /1841/ in all the disorder of infancy. Only a few hundred
hovels, composed of most flimsy materials, had been hastily erected on the sloping sides
of two of the hillocks; but the smallest was distinguished by the more imposing edifice
dedicated as a church to the Ark of the Holy Covenant /Kidane Mihret/, and its table
summit was crowned with an ample residence for the Negoos."

[Harris p 125]
Battle of Angolala: "Both parties were anxious for the combat which was to decide
the question of supremacy, for they were equally hard-pressed for the means of
subsistence. -- The supplies brought to the royal camp were nearly exhausted; and the
king, galled by the presence of the rebellious array within sight of his capital, having now
succeeded in assembling a much superior force, resolved upon giving battle on the
morrow."

"-- the ark of the cathedral of St. Michael had been transported from Ankóber under
a canopy of red cloth, to shed its holy influence over the Christian army. At an early hour
the king -- with his band of matchlockmen, took up position about a mile from the town. -
- the warriors of Amhara formed a deep line of horse and foot on either side of the
monarch, one narrow plain and the river Chácha alone separating them from the enemy. --
The battle commenced by repeated discharges from the king's gunmen; but the distance
was too great -- Down came the pagan host like the rushing blast, and the stones flew far
under the clatter of their hoofs. -- At length, each individual singling out his foe, the
contest assumed the confused appearance of a chance medley."

"Medóko and his gallant sons were everywhere in the thickest of the fight. -- suddenly, in
the very heat of the action, a large body of warriors, clothed in black mantles, and armed
with long heavy spears, rushed down the hill on foot, and, prostrating themselves as they
passed the royal umbrellas, descended fresh into the arena. The fierce inhabitants of Mans
/ M NZ/ had sped to the rescue from their hereditary estates -- A panic seized the pagans;
and, dismayed and broken-hearted, they fled tumultuously in every direction."

"The sun had reached the meridian when the hot pursuit commenced, and the arm of
vengeance was not stayed until long after his sinking below the western horizon. -- After
galloping for some miles with the few chiefs who had escaped from the fatal field, a short
hast was allowed to refresh the horses, and Medóko proclaimed his intention of
accompanying the party no further. -- Medóko and his surviving son Chára, now
commenced the more difficult undertaking of threading their path back again among the
advancing Amhára; but a perfect knowledge of the localities enabled them to take
advantage of every hill and hollow. -- they passed the capital undiscovered, and urging their horses to speed, took the road to Ankóber. -- The king's watchmen had left their cold posts -- and long ere the voice of the brotherhood had risen in the matin chant, the rebels had been formally admitted to sanctuary, and were safely reposing in the sacred monastery of Affaf Woira."

[Harris as above, p 131-135]

"An extensive barrier of loose stones hastily thrown up during the rebellion of Medóko, fortifies the south-eastern environs of Angollála -- we passed through a palisaded wicket in this breastwork, which is dignified with the title of 'the King's Gate,' and forms the scene of the few public executions that take place."

[Harris p 151]

Major Harris accompanied King Sahle Selassie on a military campaign /in late 1841?/. "Queen Besábesh was to await the issue of the foray at Angollála, and the command of the town meanwhile devolved upon the eunuch Wolda Mariam, with a garrison sufficient to deter visits on the part of the Galla --"

"Little order or arrangement is attempted during the first march, which invariably terminates at or near Yeolo, in order to afford time to stragglers to rejoin -- Immediately in advance of the army -- were borne on an ambling mule the Holy Scriptures and the ark of the cathedral of St. Michael /of Ankober/ -- the king rode next -- Numerous governors, judges, monks, priests, and singers followed -- Beyond, far as the eye could penetrate -- every hill and valley swarmed with masses of equestrians and pedestrians --"

[Harris vol II p 166-168]

They were going westwards. See under Finfinne about the goal of the foray. The army then returned home.

"Before sunrise -- the victorious troops, reduced by one third, marched upon Angollála, driving exultingly before them upwards of thirty thousand head of cattle, the entire of which were -- the property of the king."

The king himself estimated the number of cattle as 37,042.

[Harris p 216, 225]

1843 King Sahle Selassie in May 1843 decided to give Rochet d'Héricourt a treaty for French trade in Shewa. Lefebvre assisted in the matter, but he and Petit left on 11 May for Gondar, after having accompanied the King to Angolala. It was probably when Rochet returned to Angolala to say farewell to Sahle Selassie that the treaty was signed in early June 1843. As kept in archive in Europe, it is a scroll of parchment 71 cm long and some 17 cm wide, and the historian Sven Rubenson is very critical of its wording. He thinks this document is only a draft, and a fraud because not properly signed. The Ethiopian government professed ignorance of the content of the treaty in the 1880s and 1890s, but in 1935 the Ethiopian minister of foreign affairs published an almost identical text.

[S Rubenson, The survival .., 1976 p 160-161]

A treaty between France and Ethiopia was signed in Angolala on 7 June 1843.


[H Tristant (Engl.ed.) vol I 1977 p 40]

1847 When Sahle Selassie was fatally ill in 1847, he ordered his servants to carry him from Ankober to Angolala. There he called a meeting of all the Oromo chiefs of Shewa and called upon them to remain loyal to his descendants. Next he was carried to Debre Birhan.

[Abir 1968 p 177]

1850s When the successor Haile Meleket some years later was close to death because of illness, the Oromo rebelled and burnt Angolala in 1855.

[Abir 1968 p 177 & Henze p 131-132]

1870 The Oromo surrounded and burnt Angolala around 1870, while Negus Menilek was absent rather far away. (Angolala had been destroyed by Oromo once much earlier and been rebuilt by Sahle Selassie.)

1880 Gustavo Bianchi said that Angolala was nothing in 1880, "ora ridutta a nulla".
1990s Situated to the west of the present main road to Ankober. There can be seen the rests of a palace erected by two Greek artisans, Demetrios and Johannes, at the time when Ankober was the seat of the king. [Camerapix 1995]

pict E Berlan, Addis-Abeba, Grenoble 1963, at p 26 the site seen from a distance across a plain

Angolela : Cherkos (near the main town)

"Embowered in a dark grove of junipers on the opposite brink of the Chácha rises the silent village of Chérkos, rendered famous a few years since through the massacre of one thousand of its Chistian inhabitants by Medóko, a celebrated rebel."
[W C Harris, The highlands .., vol II, London 1844 p 99]

"A wide meadow stretches from the palace tumulus to the very brink of the abyss; and on the opposite height is situated the lovely village of Chérkos, which, from its beauty, had been formerly designated by the Galla 'The Queen of the Hill.' Sheltered by a magnificent grove of evergreens, the hamlet overlooked the pleasant slope which extends to the verge of the precipice, gaily diversified with rich fields of cultivation and plots of green pasture land. It had been captured from the heathen by the last king of Shoa; and although colonised by favourite Christians of the court, the revenues were bestowed upon the church of the Saviour /Medhane Alem/, which had been erected immediately below the village, in the dark depths of the Chácha ravine, and which was now under the direction and guidance of Father Asrát."

Oromo attack: "All the governors and great men had taken leave and departed to their respective provinces, the capital was well nigh deserted, and as night closed in, the few remaining serf inhabitants were seeking a dry corner in their frail huts -- As the moan of the wind is heard preceding the coming storm, so the hum of a confused multitude first struck upon the practised ear of the vigilant. -- Then was distinctly heard the clattering of hoofs over the opposite hightes above the Chácha, as the pagan host surrounded the devoted hamlet of Chérkos."

"The wild shout of triumph, mingling with the shrill shriek of despair, now rolled in fitful notes across the intervening plain. The whole firmament was illumined by the flames of the burning village, and they were witnessed in terror by the assemblöed inmates of the palace; for the sacred precincts of the church itself had now been invaded, and a group of priests in their last extremity could be distinctly seen, surrounded by a mass of the savage foe. -- The priest Asrát shuddered at the thoughts of his narrow escape --"

The king was advised to avail himself of the protection of darkness, and retire to Ankober, but instead he gathered as large an armed force as rapidly as he could.
[See at 1840s above for a story of the battle of Angolala.
[W C Harris, The highlands .., vol II, London 1844 p 126-128, 130]

1990s Remains of the palace built by the Greek craftsmen Demetrios and Yohannes can still be seen.
[Camerapix 1995]

HDM.. Angolela & Tera sub-district (-1997-) 09/39 [n]

HDF97 Angollo (area) 09/39 [WO]

HDL83 Angorcha (Angorch'a, Angorchan) 09/38 [AA Han]

09°50'/38°46' 2355 m (with church Silase), see under Fiche

angot: angote (angot'ä) (T) tell; betray

?? Angot (historical area) ./. [Pa]

It was in southern Tigray and Angot (northern Wello) that the Christian kingdom had its political centre for three centuries after the decline and fall of Aksum.

1330s Around the 1330s one of three divisions of troops of the ruler of Ifat, Sebr ad-Din II, set forth for Angot. Later, however, the forces of Emperor Amde Seyon ravaged Ifat itself. [Pankhurst 1997]

1400s Emeror Zärä Ya'qob (1434-1468) appointed nine princesses as female governors of
provinces, among them also Bahr Mangäsa for Angot. [Pankhurst (1990) 1992 p 68]
In the world map of Fra Mauro completed in 1460 is included Dangu, interpreted to mean Angot.

1500s
There were local Franciscan monks from that area, such as Raphael from Demna and Thomas from Ganget, who told about their home country to Zorzi in Venice in 1522 and 1523.
When the Oromo made their first appearance in Amhara, roughly in the first part of the reign of Emperor Serse Dengel (1563-1597) they advanced northwards as far as Angot around 1562-1570.
On a map published at the Hague in 1599 Angote is shown too far to the south. [Pankhurst 1997]

HE...
Angot sub-district (centre in 1964 = Angot) 11/38? [Ad]
HE...
Angot sub-district (centre in 1964 = Lem Dingay) 11/39? [Ad]
HEM32
Angot (Anguot) 12/39 [Ad WO Gu]
Angot sub-district (centre in 1964 = Telgo)
HE...
Angot sub-district (centre in 1964 = Ametsge) 13/37? [Ad]
HEM53c
Angoteraz (recorded in 1841) 12/39 [Ha]
Harris seems to have derived the name from Alvares in the 1520s. The Portuguese embassy described by Alvares stayed with the Ras of Angote (written Angoteraz by Alvares) 15-17 September 1520. [Beckingham & Huntingford, The Prester John, vol I, 1961 p 230-234]

HDL34
Angoye 09°23'/38°51' 2812 m 09/38 [AA Gz]
HDL67
Angoye 09°37'/39°03' 2572 m 09/39 [Gz]
HDF16
Angula 08°19'/39°55' 3006 m 08/39 [Gz]
HDR79
Angut, see under Dembecha
angwa (A) joint /of bamboo or reed/
HFF21
Angwa (Anguatu) (with rock-hewn churches) see under Geralta churches - southern 13/39 [x]
HEJ95
Angwara (Anguara), see under Chilga angwarra (A) one who refuses to agree 12/37 [+ WO]
HEC84
Angwasek (Anguasech) 11°35'/37°02' 11/37 [+ WO]
HFF63
Angwel 14°06'/39°38' 2780 m 14/39 [Gz]
HDJ04
Anho, see Ano Anika, a small ethnic group
HCC86
Anika (Anik'a, Aniqa) 06°10'/37°10' 1539 m 06/37 [Gz q]
HCJ07
Anika (Anik'a, Aniqa, Anica) 06°24'/37°16' 1117 m 06/37 [Gz q WO]
HEC...
Anjaver a village perched on a hill-top in Agew Midir. The hunter Powell-Cotton passed there in March 1900 and Ras Mesfin was local governor in the region at the time.

Aniya, Ania, a branch of the Barentu/Umbana Oromo; they used to be partially converted to Islam. They cover a wide extent of territory south-west of Harar. [Trimingham 1952]

JDB89
Aniya sub-district (centre in 1964 = Genemi) 08/41 [Ad]
Administrative district in the early 1930s. [Zervos 1936] The primary school (in Gara Muleta awraja) in 1968 had 101 boys and 32 girls, with 5 teachers.

??
Anjarro (Angiarro) (in Wello) ../.. [x]
pict
C.F. Rey, travelling around 1926, at Anjim took leave of Grazmach Desta, who had been sent by the governor of Gudru to see the party safely over the Abay river into Gojjam. Desta was an old gentleman keeping a flow of conversation and jokes. [Rey, London 1927 p 122]

Coal deposits of the Mesozoic system have been found at the right tributaries of the Didessa river. [Mineral 1966]

Anja, name of an Afar tribe of the Ado Mara main branch, have been Christianized and are origin of the name Dankali?

Ankola, name of a rich lady said to have lived in the area;
ber (A) /here:/ mountain pass

HDM24  Ankober (Ancober) (mountain?)  09/39  [Gz Gu]
09°18'/39°46' 1312/3603 m

HDM54  Ankober (Ancober, Ankobar, Gorebela, Gourabela)  09/39  [Gz Ha WO 18]
(with sub-post office) 09°35'/39°42' 2463/2815 m
25 km east of Debre Birhan.
Within a radius of 10 km there are at km
??SE  Aferbaini (former forest)
5SE  Lai Mieda (village)
10SE  Kollifiye (Collifie) (area)
4S  Astit (area)
5S  Astit Kidane Mihret, intended residence 1700s
10SW  Addas Agar (village)
4W  Motatit (area)
7W  Mitak Amanuel (Mitaq A.) 2624 m
10NW  Atakilt (Adguo, Adgo Ager) (village) 3156 m
6N  Dens (area)
9N  Membret (mountain) 2611, 3350 m
10N  Gunde Giyor (G.Ghior = G.Giyorgis?) (village)
7NE  Let Marefia (Lit M., Marafiya) 2408/2468 m
??  Chakka (saddle with market)
??  Rasa, remains from the 1200s

geol  In 1886 the Frenchman A. Michel-Levy made some detailed geological observations in
the neighbourhood of Ankober. He found trachytic tuff with obsidian, rhyolites, trachytes,
and labradorite basalts. NE of Ankober there is a 100 m long deposit with coal seems that
are 1.6 and 2.3 and 4 m thick. [Mineral 1966]
At Ankober the detailed succession (base not seen) is reported as being:
  9. Compact basalt, with labradorite-andesine plagioclase in the groundmass
  8. Porphyritic basalt
    7. 'Weathered' trachyte
  6. Augite trachybasalt
  5. Porphyritic trachyte with large phenocrysts of sandinine,
      and biotite in the groundmass
  4. Porphyritic rhyolite with quartz phenocrysts
  3. Rhyolite obsidian and perlite
  2. Trachytic tuff
    1. Trachytic tuff with fragments of obsidian.
This succession, over 1000 m thick, has not been conclusively confirmed.
[Mohr, Geology 1961 p 130]
Lignite beds are known north-east and south-east of Ankober.

1700s  Ankober, an Oromo settlement, was captured by the then ruler of Shewa, Abiyé, also
known as Qadámi Qal (1720-1745), who received the title of Mardazmach from the rulers
of Gondar.
[Rita Pankhurst]
As a capital of the Shewa kingdom, Ankober was initially founded by Amha Iyasus
(1745-1775). Until the opening of the railway it was an important centre for caravan
communication as far as the sea. There were many small handicraft enterprises such as
silver-smiths, blacksmiths, tailors, embroiderers, weavers, and tanners, but they had
almost disappeared by the 1930s. The built-up area was on a flat hilltop, and there is also
a higher conical top.
[Guida 1938]
"Emmaha Yasoos, who -- reigned thirty-two years, introduced several matchlocks from
Gondar, conquered Ankóber, and removed his capital thither from Dokáket."
[W C Harris vol III 1844 p 8]
The capital of Shewa was moved from Doqaqit to Ankober Ammehayes / Amha Iyesus/, sometimes in the 1750s-1770s. The royal family remained for the time being in the former capital at Har Amba.

Asfa Wossen ruled from Ankober, from the 1770s until his death about 1808. He became totally blind in the last years of his reign, and he was buried in Ankober. His son Wossen Segged became the next ruler and called himself Ras. He moved to a capital Qundi, north of Ankober.

Merdazmach Asfa Wossen accessed the throne of Shewa /in 1773 or 1774 A.D.?: on 29 Tir. He was not inclined to be commander in wars but rather devoted himself to studies and religious matters. He stabilized his residence in Ankober and was eager to improve the town. His generals conquered much land for Shewa but two of them also rebelled. Then Asfa Wossen proved that he could also be a victorious commander.

Asfa Wossen died at Ankober on 23 Hamle (1807 A.D.) after having reigned for 33 years and 6 months. He was buried at the church of Maryam in Ankober.

Negus Sahle Selassie of Shewa (1813-1847) had another residence built, partly of stone by Greek masons.

1830s

In June 1839 the Evangelical missionaries Carl Wilhelm Isenberg (b 1806) and Johann Ludwig Krapf (b 1810) arrived after having crossed the border of Shewa on 31 May. They were received as honoured guests by Sahle Sillassé in the royal camp near Ankober. It became obvious that the king had invited them for practising skills as physicians or craftsmen and not for preaching the gospel. Isenberg returned to Europe in November 1839. Krapf stayed on, studied Oromo, and by accompanying Sahle Sillassé on military expeditions had the opportunity to visit all territories of the kingdom within two years of his arrival. The king flatly refused Krapf to stay in Oromo territory. [Arén 1978 p 71-72]

An Armenian silversmith by name Stefanos was active for a few years in the 1830s, but fled when he was accused of coining money. A Greek or Armenian merchant called Petros is said to have introduced the art of dying leather red and green. [Pankhurst as above p 238]

Jules Dufey, an agent of the French firm Étienne Rolland et Cie at Alexandria, concluded some agreements at Adwa in January 1838, and he then proceeded to Debre Tabor and Ankober. [Rubenson 1976 p 73]

1840

The French Compagnie Nanto-Bordelaise in 1840 sent a vessel which they had named Ankober to the Red Sea coast. It visited Assab, Massawa and other ports. Beke in the 1840s estimated that 2,500 to 3,000 slaves passed through Ankober each year. Harris (1844) writes of 3,000 slaves at the palace in Ankober.

C. Johnston observed Gurage labourers in Ankober in the early 1840s.

1841

Captain Harris describes how the British diplomatic mission arrived to Ankober and how they experienced the town.

"Instantly on emerging from the forest, the metropolis of Shoa, spreading far and wide over a verdant mountain, shaped like Africa's appropriate emblem, the fabled Sphynx, presented a most singular if not imposing appearance. -- these rude habitations, the residence of from twelve to fifteen thousand inhabitants, cover the entire mountain-side to the extreme pinnacle - a lofty spire-like cone, detaching itself by a narrow isthmus to form the sphynx's head. Hereon stands the palace of the Negoos, a most ungainly-looking edifice with staring gable ends, well fortified by spiral lines of wooden palisades."

"Ankõber, literally translated, signifies the gate of Anko. She was queen over the Galla tribe, by which this mountain was peopled from the invasion of Graan until its reconquest by the crown of Shoa -- At length we reached a newly erected building fronting the
palace, which had been set apart by His Majesty for our occupation, and which was now completely thronged by porters, and beleaguered by clamorous spectators. Wistful looks were exchanged as we entered this barn-like and dreary abode, which for months, if not for years, was to form our asylum."

[W C Harris, The highlands .., vol II, London 1844 p 7-10]

"The markets /for buying supplies for the English/ are at a great distance from the capital, and held at long intervals: -- Hence much trouble and inconvenience arose from the necessity of dispatching messengers simultaneously to the various remote bazzars;"

[Harris p 15-16]

"In utter abhorrence of the country and its inhabitants, the Moslem servants who accompanied the Embassy from India all took their departure, willing rather to brave the dangers and difficulties of a long journey -- than to prolong a hateful sojourn in Abyssinia. One half of the number were murdered on the way down --"

The Harris party attended mass in the church of Mikael, which "came first in order" of the five churches in Ankober. They were forbidden to visit Maryam and the mausoleum of Asfa Wossen "since the English were in the habit of drinking coffee and smoking tobacco."

There were paintings on the walls inside the church of Mikael.

[Harris p 17, 19-20, 22]

At the end of the rainy season, the Harris embassy acquired better lodging in a newly-erected building which they bought from "Ayto Melkoo, the Baldarás, or King's Master of the Horse."

Ato Wolde Hana is described as governor of Ankober and president of the king's kitchen. Ato Kidane Wold "may be termed the viceroy" and was in charge of the secret police.

[Harris p 37, 39]

After having stayed at Angolala for quite some time after the arrival of the Harris embassy, the King returned to Ankober /in late 1841?/.

A description of the royal palace fills chapter XXXI of volume II:

"The entire slope of the palace eminence is studded with thatched magazines and out-houses; and -- form the scene of the daily labours of three thousand slaves. -- Blacksmiths are banging away at the anvil under the eaves of the banqueting hall. -- Under one shed, notaries are diligently committing to parchment elaborate inventories of tribute received. - - The open Arâda before the great gate is choked with idlers, gossips, and immovable beggars, -- During the absence of the Negoos on military expeditions, the most inquisitorial espionage is exercised over the actions of every foreigner -- Children only are suffered to leave the houses after dark;"

There was an eclipse of the moon: "During the whole period of the moon's obscuration, the wailing continued without intermission; and when /the moon/ sailed again through the firmament in all her wonted brilliancy, a universal shout of joy burst from the lips of the savages, in the firm belief that the prayers and sobs of the multitude had prevailed -- His Majesty had been previously apprised /by the English/ of the precise hour and minute at which the obscuration was to commence and terminate, and his incredulity in the first instance was followed by equally unfeigned surprise at the powers of divination displayed."

[Harris vol II p 257-264]

The Harris embassy made meteorological observations of temperature, rain and wind at Ankober August 1841-July 1842 and published a table of these data.

[Harris p 389]

The scientists of the British embassy were astonished at the number of distinguishable kinds of grain cultivated. "Within a circumference of five miles around Ankober are found, of juwarree 28 varieties /word from India = durra, mashila/; of wheat 24; of barley 16; of rye 2; of teff 4; of oats 2; of maize 2."

Bamboo was not found to be indigenous around Ankober, so the groves on the king's ground had been planted.

"The potato has not yet been introduced into Shoa."

"Euphorbia Abyssinica (Kolqual) -- gives charcoal for gunpowder."
[Harris vol II appendix p 395, 397, 404, 407]
"The domestic cat is a rarity in Shoa; only great men place them as guardians in their storehouses."
Dogs were common and regarded as useful. "Not the tenth part of the quickly-multiplying race possess owners; but their utility as scavengers proves their safeguard."
[Harris p 420-421]
In February 1941 the Evangelical missionaries received 200 portions of the Bible in Amarinya, and they distributed them within a day and a half. Of the five churches at Ankober, two upheld the Alexandrian faith, and three propounded a divergent view on the natures of Christ.
[Arén 1978 p 75-79]
The missionary Krapf left Ankober on 12 March 1842 and was never to return to Shewa.
[Arén 1978]
The British diplomatic mission of 1841-1842 included two medical practitioners, Kirk and Impey, who handled 2,000 to 3,000 patients in and around Ankober.
At Timket all the churches in and near Ankober brought their tabots to the open space Arada, immediately in front of the palace. They were received by the governor of the town, who escorted the procession to the river Airara. There was much nude immersion into the water. Since four years before the Harris party saw the ceremony, Sahle Selassie did not himself go down into the water any more.
"Pots and pans that have been defiled by the unclean touch of a Mohammadan, are on this day purified by immersion in the water that has been blessed by the priest."
The bishop of Shewa declared the British to be no better than Muslims, since they did not kneel when the holy ark passed.
[Harris vol III 1844 p 203-209]
1842
In 1842 there was heavy seismic activity near Ankober and the town was destroyed.
[P Gouin]
The French traveller Rochet d'Héricourt made a journey to Ankober in Sept-Oct 1842 and wrote a publication about it.
In 1843 the King received a portrait of the French king Louis Philippe through French visitors.
1844
On 19 August 1844 a boy was born at Ankober and named Sahle Maryam (= the future Menilek II). Other dates 13 and 17 are given in certain sources, but 19 is the date on which Menilek himself used to celebrate his birthday.
His mother was Ijjigayyehu and it is uncertain whether she was of the nobility or of very humble origin, more likely the latter alternative. The boy was supervised by a tutor and guardian, Ato Nadew.
"Menelik's father, Haile Malakot, is unknown in terms of written documents and oral tradition. This dearth leads one to believe that his reign was undistinguished."
He ruled Shewa from 1847 until Tewodros's conquest of the kingdom in 1855-56.
[Marcus, Menelik II, (1975)1995 p 7, 16-17]
1847
Sahle Selassie died at Debre Birhan in 1847. His body was transported secretly to Ankober and buried at the church of Mikael, which Sahle Selassie himself had initiated to be built. In later time there are ruins of his mausoleum.
[A Cecchi, vol I, 1886 p 248]
After his death much fighting took place in Shewa. The Abichu Oromo attacked Ankober, and the capital was saved only because of the firearms accumulated by Sahle Selassie and because of the loyalty of some of the Oromo chiefs and a few of the generals of the deceased king.
[Abir 1968 p 178]
1850s
The Ankober market in the 1800s was held on Saturday, the day after the more important market at Aliyu Amba. The Ankober market was frequented mostly by Christians. Welde Hanna was governor in Ankober in the mid-1800s. Aleqa Ser'at was chief of the church at the same time.
A Greek armourer Eleyas worked in the town in the mid-1800s. Aleqa Sahle was a learned man in the 1800s, and he was a Catholic. Aleqa Desta was a church artist.

Wehni Azaj Welde Sadeq (1838-1909) was chief of the state prison and governor of Ankober, with certain jurisdiction over the Danakil lowlands throughout the reign of Menilek II until his own death. Antonio Cecchi met him at Ankober in 1877 and left a description (Cecchi vol I 1886 p 421). During the more than 40 years that Welde Sadeq ruled Ankober, no innovation or reform was introduced. After Menilek moved his seat to Entoto, Welde Sadeq resided in the old Imperial Palace at Ankober.

[Journal of Eth. Studies vol VI 1968 no 1 p 123-125]

1855 The successor, at the age of about 22 and for only 8 years, was Haile Melekot. After a few pitiful skirmishes in 1855 with the army of Tewodros II, Haile Melekot destroyed his food stores and burnt the capital Ankober so that they would not fall into the hands of the enemy. Haile Melekot himself died of illness on 9 November 1855, at the age of only thirty years.

[Abir 1968 p 181]

1856 Tewodros entered Ankober, being in ashes, in late February 1856 and received the homage of the local clergy and some political leaders. The ceremony at Ankober formally ended Shewan independence until 1865. Tewodros appointed Haile Melekot's brother Haile Mikael governor of Shewa and went into Gojjam already in March.


Haile Melekot's 11-year old son Sahle Maryam (the future Menilek II) was taken prisoner and brought to Mekdela (although he, according to Abir, was first with some nobles who escaped to the southern provinces).

[Äthiopien 1999 p 222]

There was a rebellion in Shewa by Seifu Sahle Sellassie. Quelling Seifu's uprising by the forces of Tewodros II did not take long. By late 1859 Seifu had been driven from Ankober and his army dispersed.

[Marcus 1994 p 68]

In the mid-1800s merchants from Tigray and northern areas had to stay in Ankober, while Hararis were allotted to Aliyu Amba, and other groups to other localities in the area.

[Abir 1968 p 62]

1858 In 1858 there was a budding revolt in Shewa, led by Haile Mikael's brother Seifu. Haile was suspected of disloyalty to Tewodros and was replaced as governor by his brother-in-law Abboye and another man Bezabih.

1859 Seyfu's rebellion spread, and when he captured Ankober in 1859, Tewodros went by forced marches to Shewa to meet him. After a day's hard fighting, Tewodros defeated Seyfu's army of perhaps 700 men. Seifu had made himself proclaimed Negus of Shewa, but now he retreated eastwards into Oromo country. Tewodros handed over the province to his appointed governors before he hurried north again.

[A Cecchi, vol I, 1886 p 257 + S Rubenson, King of kings .., 1966 p 77-78]

1870s An expedition of the Italian Geographical Society, led by Orazio Antinori, reached Ankober on 1 October 1876 where they were met by Welde Tsadiq, who escorted them to Menilek in Liche. See further under Let Marefia.

[Acta aethiopica III p 275]

"Returning from Gojjam in 1877, Menelik had to contend with a plot hatched by a charming courtesan -- Bafena, whom he had taken as consort shortly after returning to Ankober from Magdala. She had previously been married to five other men and had several children. -- In Menelik's absence in Gojjam her accomplices occupied Ankober in April 1877 and Bafena proclaimed herself regent. -- Even after he returned, it took Menelik some time to recognize how treacherous Bafena had been. He did not neutralize her and the plotters until early 1878."


1877 "Mardazmach Haile entered Ankober where, surrounded by a large, heterogenous group of political dissidents, Qarra Haymanot partisans, and Gallas, he was declared king of Shoa."
On 4 May 1877 a battle was fought, in which Menilek's partisans were victorious. Haile was wounded, captured, and imprisoned at Ankober.

[Marcus (1975)1995 p 51]

In May 1877, Menilek's commanders Dejazmach Girmane, Afe Nigus Bedane and Azazh Engida fought against the rebel Merid Azmach Mikael, and he was captured at Ankober.

[Gäbrä Selassie 1959 E.C.]

Antinori and Chiarini of the Società Geografica Italiana arrived to Ankober on 1 October 1877/?/ but continued to Liche where Menilek resided at that time.

1878

On 5 January 1878 the explorer Cecchi went together with Chiarini to Ankober to make astronomical observations and to buy skins to manufacture containers for their journey southward. It was a walk of two hours from Let Marefia to there, and they considered Ankober at that time to be one of the most populated and industrious centres in Shewa. The royal gibbi was situated to the east on a perfectly conical hill. Its entrance was on the northern side, with a more difficult approach on the southern side. Churches were so near to each other that "singing could be heard from one church to the other."

The view to the north ended with the mountains Emamret and Fikre Gimb. Even if Ankober by 1878 had lost much of its former importance, it was still considered as the principal seat of the Shewan clergy. Its population was estimated by Cecchi at about 6,000. Market was held on Saturdays.

[A Cecchi, Da Zeila ..., vol I, Roma 1886 p 290-292]

The German Protestant missionaries Otto Mayer and Grainer had lived for some years at Ankober and both had married Ethiopian women. Grainer around 1878 received letters which had been sent two years earlier from Europe.

The house of missionary Krapf in Ankober, built from Juniperus (Tid) wood, was still in good condition many years later.

[Cecchi p 294, 456]

Ankober was the main seat of Menilek until 1878 when he moved to Intoto.

1879

At the arrival of three Swissmen on 2 January 1879, engineer Alfred Ilg was 25, accompanied by mechanic Zimmerman and carpenter Appenzeller. Ilg soon joined with the young Frenchman Léon Chefneux.

Menilek was obviously in Ankober again when he wrote a preserved letter to King Leopold II of Belgium, in February or March 1879.

[Acta aethiopica III p 311]

The German missionaries Mayer and Greiner as well as Azaj Welde Tsadik with some followers came forward to greet Ilg and the others. Ilg was received by Menilek in February, but this took place in Liche. There was a waiting time of a couple of weeks to get the baggage up from Fare. Menilek appropriated Ilg's rifle and gave him a less good one in exchange. Ilg, Appenzeller and Zimmermann were assigned to have their residence at Intoto and moved there in April 1879.

[G Keller, Alfre Ilg, Leipzig 1918 p 24, 26]

Foreigners living in Ankober around 1879, apart from Mayer and Greiner (see above) and Bremond and Labatut (see below, and 1887) were master mason Tissier, and Furer who was Swedish-Norwegian vice-consul in Aden and on temporary visit.

[G Bianchi 1896 p 238]

1880

On 5 January 1880 an excursion from Let Marefia to Ankober was made by Marchese Antinori, Gustavo Bianchi and Alfred Ilg. They met the French merchant Bremond who represented a firm in Marseille His house of local shape was furnished in a rather European way. They also met Labatut, a Frenchman from Gascongne who used to do small commerce in Shewa on his own account and who used to wear Ethiopian dress.

Menilek had started his gibbi on a hill and abandoned it again. There were three rectangular buildings and some round houses.

Gustavo Bianchi around 1880 considered the market of Ankober to be insignificant compared with those of Liche and Aliyu Amba.

[G Bianchi 1896 p 262-264]

1883

The church Medhane Alem in Ankober was the site of Menilek's marriage to Taytu Betul.
on 29 April 1883 on Easter Sunday. (He had abandoned his first wife Baffana because of her traitorous activities in 1877. Taytu had already been married several times earlier.)

[Prouty et al 1981]
The wedding was a grand occasion, presided over by Abuna Matewos and attended by all the notables of Shewa. Among the guests was Abba Jifar of Jimma, who presented the couple with sumptuous gifts. The event of the royal marriage, curiously, was not mentioned by any of the foreigners who were in Ankober on that day, presumably because the service was conducted between midnight and dawn.

Count Pietro Antonelli (b 1859), on his second trip to Shewa, arrived to Ankober on 29 April 1883, in the week after Menilek's marriage. (He had left Italy already on 27 August and had negotiated an agreement with the Sultan of Awsa on his way from Assab.) Antonelli never mentioned in his reports that the king was newly married. He was bringing 2,000 Remington rifles and gifts for the king and carrying credentials for the Marchese Antinori to represent the Italian government. However, Antinori had died in August 1882, so Antonelli became the diplomat.

Antonelli claims that he had intense discussions with Menilek, "for three days no other European could see him and I stayed from morning to evening." However, Menilek did also see Paul Soleiljet, the French arms supplier.

Menilek signed an Ethio-Italian treaty with Antonelli on 21 May 1883. The treaty as such is here regarded as national - not local - history and not further commented.

Antonelli wrote several publications in 1889-1892.

(Menilek's wife Taytu had her household far away at Entotto, where she was building a church for the new capital.)


1885
In 1885 the Swedish Evangelical Mission had obtained permission from King Menilek to pass through his land with the 'Third Galla Expedition' led by Axel W. Pålman and August Bergman. They reached Shewa in April 1885, but by then Menilek had changed his mind and wanted them to get out from there immediately. However, they succeeded to stay for a while, see under Aliyu Amba.

1886
Jules Borelli reported that he met the Italian engineer Capucci at Ankober in 1886. The Armenian jeweller Dikran reached Ankober in Menilek's time. He made crowns for Menilek and Taytu, even for their coronation in 1889.

1887
The French poet and trader Arthur Rimbaud passed Ankober in early February 1887, on his way from the coast to Intoto. He had a caravan carrying arms to be sold to Emperor Menilek. It had taken four months from the coast to arrive as far as Ankober. Rimbaud initially had a companion Pierre Labatut who died before the journey even started. For some unknown reason, Rimbaud while in Ankober burnt Labatut's memoirs so that they were lost to posterity. In August, Rimbaud published an article in Bosphore égyptien, a journal published in Cairo. Rimbaud met the explorer Borelli at Ankober.

[A Rimbaud, Correspondence 1888-1891, publ. 1995? + O Hemer, Äventyraren ..., Sthlm 2003 p 84]

1889
On 3 March 1889 Alfred Ilg arrived in Ankober returning from a journey to Europe to buy equipment for Menilek, who received him almost immediately in Ankober on his arrival.

[Keller as above, p 73]

1892
Casimir Mondon-Vidailhet, correspondent for the French newspaper, Le Temps, arrived to Ankober in 1892, but he wrote his first column from Harar in May.

1894
A post cancellation stamp for Ankober was manufactured in Paris in 1894, but no post office was opened there before World War I.

1897
The king of Kafa was captured in September 1897. On the initiative of Empress Taytu he was made prisoner in Ankober at the age of 34 years. He was kept there for twelve years until 1910, when he was released in connection with the coup against Taytu.

[H de Monfreid, Ménélik .., Paris 1954 p 244-246]

1900s
King Kennito of Kefa was kept prisoner at Ankober 1897-1902 and Ras Mengesha
Yohannes of Tigray (son of Yohannes IV) was prisoner there 1902-1907. He had surrendered to Menilek at Dessie in February 1899 and was first taken to Addis Abeba but then sent to Ankober, where he later died in the prison.

The Italian telegraph line Asmara-Addis Abeba was constructed in 1902-1904 and had an office in Ankober.

Ankober used to be the place where traders and travellers changed camels for mules. The railway introducing a trade route through Dire Dawa changed this, and Ankober's source of vitality was removed.

1906 Ras Mengesha of Tigray lived in captivity and died in prison at Ankober in December 1906/or beginning of 1907?/. He was a son of Emperor Yohannes IV and had once been regarded as Menilek's principal rival.

[Marcus (1975)1995 p 217]

1907 F. von Kulmer, being at Aliyu Amba on 2 December 1907, writes that Ankober at the time was used only as government prison and depot for army supplies.

1909 Welni Azaj Welde Sadeq, chief of the state prison, ruled at Ankober during more than 40 years until his death in 1909.

After him (~1920s-) Dejazmach Mettaferiya was supervisor of prisons in Ankober.

1915 L. De Castro claimed in 1915 that some Falasha could be found in Ankober, to where they may have been transported as slaves.

1916 On 14 October 1916 Negus Mikael occupied Sela Dingay, and Ras Lul Seged retired to Ankober, where he was reinforced by an army of 6,000 men. On 17 October Mikael made a frontal assault on Ankober, almost completely wiping out its defenders and killing Ras Lul Seged. His troops occupied Ankober on the 18th, but the next day the Wello army began moving up Sheno and the main Shewan forces.

[Marcus p 280]
"On 17th October, the most advanced body of the Shoan army under Ras Lul Saggad was attacked at Ankober by Negus Michael. The telephone operators took to their heels, and Addis Ababa only learnt two days later that Ras Lul Saggad had been killed, his army cut to pieces, and Ankober taken by the enemy. Between the Wallo army and Addis Ababa there was now a force of fewer than 10,000 men led by Fitaurari Hapta Georgis."

[A W Hodson, Seven years .., 1927 p 128-129]
Lij Iyasu came up from the lowlands and on 26 October 1916 he looted Ankober, the day before the important and decisive battle at Segele (see under this name), won by Ras Teferi.

Ras Wale Betul was imprisoned in Addis Abeba in 1910, and he remained in detention in Ankober until the battle of Segele (Sagale) in 1916.

[Bahru Zewde 1991 p 120]

1920s Aleqa Atsme, who in the 1920s/?/ wrote a history of Ethiopia, was from Ankober. His work was printed in Amharic and later also published in English language in Britain. Near Ankober, the later patriot Fitawrari Farde was a shifita long before the Italians invaded.

[T Fernyhough 1997]

1930s About 3,000 inhabitants living on two hilltops of different height. The Italian Vice Residenza was on the higher hill. On the lower hill were the two round churches Maryam and Medhane Alem. [Guida 1938]

The Italians partly moved Ankober to a more accessible plateau.

On 22 October 1932 a boy was born in Ankober, with Feleketche Yematawork as mother and Tekle Mamo as father. From the age of 15 he was educated in England and with time became Ethiopia's leading artist, Afewerk Tekle. He made at least one painting of his home town, "The wood-carrier by the church village", in 1955.

[Eth. Artists]
Concerning Patriots fighting the Italians, Dejazmach Zewde Abakoran operated at Ankober in collaboration with Abebe Aregay and with minor chiefs.

[3rd Int. Conf. of Ethiopian Studies, 1969 p 306]
The Italians carried out some bombing at Ankober during the fights with the Patriots. The Italian Castagnia, an old-timer in Ethiopia, was permitted to meet Abebe Aregay in a large oval house (banquet hall?) in Ankober. Castagnia thought a fine empty chair was for him. 'No, this is for the Emperor.' There was no real result from the negotiations, but Castagnia could return safely to Debre Birhan.

There were many Italian punitive expeditions to the Ankober area and large tracts of land were depopulated. The house where Abebe /Aregay/ usually slept may still be seen on a ridge in that precipitous region.

The Italians partly moved the built-up settlement to a more easily available plateau.

1940s

"I reached Ankober myself not from the desert, but from the western (highland) side. -- It was a day's march /from Debre Birhan/ with mules over the high, undulating plateau - a cold and windswept, mostly treeless landscape with occasional rocky outcrops -- Our small caravan threaded its way quietly among the network of tracks which intersect the plateau. -- the Ethiopian baggage-mule moves at rather less than a normal walking speed - - Then, abruptly, we came to the edge of the plateau. One felt that an absent-minded person might have fallen over it. The ground suddenly dropped away before us to a depth of several thousand feet --"

"A little farther on we came among the huts of Ankober - the newer Ankober, built on the lip of the main escarpment. A few hundred feet below we would see the ridge, jutting out from the face of the escarpment, which was the site of the old town and is still partly inhabited. Two or three round churches could be seen among the trees. At the nearer end the ridge rose higher to form a curious hill of artificial aspect, perfectly conical in shape and flattened on top. This, we were told, was the site of the old residence of the kings of Shoa. -- My camp was pitched on the edge of the escarpment, overlooking the old town."

"Here and there in the fields grew fine specimens of the Kosso tree -- One is grateful to the tradition that spares these characteristic trees, with their handsome large divided leaves and hanging clusters, tapering to a point, of tiny red flowers. -- Looking down from Ankober, I could see clearly, once it was pointed out to me, the village of Aliu Amba -- among broken hills."

1950s

Population 9,234 as counted in 1956.

1960s

"In the 1960s the social anthropologist Wolfgang Weissleder studied in Ankobär -- a form of land tenure known as målkāñña. Weissleder never published his study, and, as a result, it has not received the attention which it deserves. In Ankobär the målkāñña, local lords, were the principal holders of the land, of which they were truly landlords. -- up until the 1940s the local farmers were tenants of the målkāñña without independent right to the land which they tilled. They were not restāñña. -- the målkāñña and their tenants /in Ankobär/ were predominantly Amhara."

1970s

The ruins of an old Shewan fort can be seen on a hill outside the town.

1990s

The shift of royal residence resulted almost inevitably in the decline of Ankober. The lion's share of the country's import-export was taken over by the railway, after which Ankober lost most of its raison d'etre. The population then dwindled greatly, the palace and many other buildings of the town were abandoned, and before long they fell into ruin.

Only a few small stone walls on one of the highest hills provide evidence of this splendid past.
2000s At the northern end of Debre Birhan, just as you enter the wide open spaces, is a large
turnoff to the right onto a gravel road which takes you to Ankober. The road is not too
bad -- although it gets rough near the end of the 42 km drive. The town of Ankober is
quite large - on Saturdays the market has a couple of thousand people milling around.
Just beyond the town you come to a hill with a church, which is the site of the old fortress
of Ankober. Five Shewan kings made this their capital.
You can park at the base of the hill and enjoy a scenic half hour walk around and up to the
top. It is heavily forested, in fact the forest industry is very active there. You pass the
small old church first, then follow the path with great views and some steep drops off to
the side. Towards the end there are some stairs and a clear path up.
The only remains of the fortress are a low wall which surrounds most of the flat top of the
hill, and a single standing stone wall of a palace. It is about 30 feet long and 6-7 feet high,
with a surviving window.
[John Graham in Addis Tribune 2000/03/03]
"The 2 km ascent up to the ruins of the old fort -- makes for a great walk. -- On the way,
several historic churches and their treasures can also be visited (Ankober Mikael, Maryam
and Medhane Alem). With your own vehicle, you can drive to the foot of the fort."
The rocky escarpment near Ankober has become a more recent fixture on the bird-
watcher's itinerary, on account of the discovery in 1976 of the endemic and very localised
Ankober serin.
[Lonely planet 2000 p 213, 59]
texts R. Kirk, Journey from Tajura to Ankober, 1841, in
Transactions of the Bombay Geographical Society, vol 4;
C.T. Beke, Route from Ankober to Geden, in Royal
Geographical Society Journal, vol 12, 1842;
C.T. Beke, Route from Ankober to Dima, in ditto
vol 12, 1843;
R. Kirk, Report on the route from Tajurra to Ankobar,
travelled ... under charge of Capt. W.C. Harris ..., in Royal
picts Rochet d'Héricourt 1846, view from distance,
reproduced in Ethiopia engraved 1988 p 53;
J M Bernatz 1852 vol II p 6 type of houses, 7 interior of large
house, 8 the king sitting in judgement, 9 banquet in palace,
23 Mikael church, reproduced in Ethiopia Engraved 1988
p 56, 113, 58, 120, 57;
J L Krapf, Travels ..., London 1860 p 35 wide view;
E Reclus 1885 p 315 whole town,
reproduced in Ethiopia engraved 1988 p 53;
G Massaia 1885-95 vol VIII p 195 wide view,
reproduced in Ethiopia engraved 1988 p 54;
G Bianchi, In Abissinia ...,Milano 1896 p 261 view from the north;
C Keller, Alfred Ilg, 1918 at p 24 steep parts seen from the east;
Nat. Geog. Mag. vol LIX no 6 June 1931 p 733
painting of the devil in a church;
F Wencker-Wildberg, Abessinien, Berlin 1935 /pl 28/ view fr west;
overall view from above;
J Doresse, Ethiopia, (1956) London 1959 p 76 ditto from above;
E Berlan, Addis Abeba, Grenoble 1963, at p 26 volcanic cone
where Menilek's gibbi was at the summit;
Addis Reporter 1969 no 18 p 23 a 19th century mural
from Maryam church copied as a line drawing;
G Gerster, Ethioipien, Zürich 1974 pl 102
Air view of farmstead in the neighbourhood;
wall of the ruin of a fortress;
general view including neighbouring mountains;
B Zewde, A history of modern .., London etc 1991 p 69 mountain;
Camerapix guide 1995 p 121 countryside in the neighbourhood

Ankober: Aferbaini (Aferbeine)
Area near Ankober which when the Harris embassy arrived in 1841 was full of trees.
"The latter portion of the road lay through the forest of Aferbeine. -- junipers, dried up by
the blast of centuries, rearing towards the sky their tall skeleton forms, rocked to every
breeze. -- drooping and silvery woira, of which the pensive branches were hoary with
ancient moss hanging in fanciful festoons -- Deep in the recesses of Aferbeine stands the
church and monastery dedicated to Tekla Haimanot -- Instantly on emerging from the
forest the metropolis of Shoa /Ankober/, spreading far and wide over a verdant mountain -
- presented a most singular if not imposing appearance."
"The portals of /the monastery of Tekle Haymanot/ are guarded by a blind dwarf, two feet
four inches in stature, who never moves from his post save on men's shoulders."
[W C Harris, The highlands .., vol II, London 1844 p 6-7, 364]

Ankober: Astit
Merdazmach Amde Yesus of Shewa (around the 1740s) founded Astit Kidane Mihret
about 5 km south of Ankober. He wanted to make it his residence, but it was soon
abandoned for Ankober.
[A Cecchi, vol I, 1886 p 240]

Ankober: churches
Most of the following about churches is cited from Rita Pankhurst in 12th Int Conf. of
Amha Iyasus around the 1750s founded the first church in Ankober, dedicated to Saint
Giyorgis. When Charles Beke visited a century later, it was still the principal place of
worship.
According to Krapf, the church of Giyorgis in the 1830s was attended by 60 children who
received instruction from six teachers. Ten pupils were studying reading; twenty, singing;
and thirty, poetry. Krapf was told that in 1839 the church possessed 70 book. At another
of the town's churches a teacher called Arkälédes taught church chanting to about a
hundred pupils.
At the termination of the fast of Lent in 1842, Captain Harris estimated that eighty priests
from Giyorgis entered the procession. The priests were known for their adherence to the
belief in the two births of Christ. In 1839 Sahle Selassie dismissed the head of the
Giyorgis church, Aleqa Mulat, on account of that heresy.
When the church libraries were microfilmed (see the following churches) Giyorgis
became left out, but it is believed that the valuable manuscripts there had in any case
disappeared. Missionary Krapf was once told that Giyorgis had 70 manuscripts.
On 30 October 1937, there was fighting between Patriots and Italians. The banda troops
burnt Giyorgis, killed one of the priests, and many manuscripts disappeared.
The second church in Ankober, Maryam, was founded by Asfa Wossen (1775-1808). On
its roof stood a bronze cross. Asfa Wossen intended to build a second church, but it did
not materialize in his lifetime. He was buried in a mausoleum in the cemetery of Maryam.
On 19 July 1936 fighting between Patriots and Italians broke out around the church of
Maryam. One deacon was killed, and the church of Maryam was looted.
Sahle Selassie established three churches in Ankober during his reign (1813-1847).
At microfilming in late 1970s-1980s there were recorded 24 pre-1856 manuscripts and a
total of 37. The texts surveyed in four churches presented no particular surprises. No
chronicles of kings or other strictly historical works were found. Printed texts of ritual
literature may largely have replaced the manuscripts of earlier times. That 15% of the texts microfilmed are in Amharic is a comparatively high figure. Isenberg herd a sermon in Amharic (and not Geez) in 1839.

The round Maryam church was still in the 1990s a well-frequented place of worship. The first of these, Mikael in 1836, stood on a hill to the east of the palace. It was the church regularly attended by Sahle Selassie and its tabot, reportedly from Gondar, accompanied him on his campaigns. Emperor Menilek in 1892 completed the re-building of Mikael, which had been sacked several times.

The church was "searched" by Italian forces on 31 October 1937. At microfilming in late 1970s-1980s there were recorded 11 pre-1856 manuscripts and a total of 18. An unfinished copy of a theological work 22 Sena fettraitàt, The 22 Creations, was found at Tekle Haymanot in a manuscript from the 1700s.

The third church, Medhane Alem, was built by craftsmen requested from Gondar and took seven years to finish, in the reign of Haile Malakot (1847-1855). The soldiers of Tewodros, from 1855 onwards, to some extent looted the churches. Concerning Menelik's marriage in Medhane Alem, see at 1883 in the general text above.

There are paintings in the Medhane Alem church made by Aileqa Eleyas who was born around 1861 and is claimed to have been trained in Paris.

On 31 July 1936 Medhane Alem was caught up in fighting between Patriots and Italians. The church was searched and also looted. On 10 November 1937 the church was searched again and one priest was killed.

At microfilming in late 1970s-1980s there were recorded 19 pre-1856 manuscripts and a total of 34, but old manuscripts donated to Medhane Alem by Menilek are excluded from these figures. Early inventories say that the church once owned as many as 52 manuscripts.

The round Medhane Alem was still in the 1990s a well-frequented church.

**Ankober : Rasa**

At Rasa there are remains of an otherwise unknown town of the sultanate of Ifat in the 1200s.

[J Doresse 1957 vol II p 32]
anna, hanna (O) theft, stealing; Anna, name in the Bible; 
Anna, a clan of the Arsi Oromo

HEC57 Anna (church) 11/37 [It]
HBL92 Anna Guia, see Web
?? Annajina ./. [20]
Locality with the shrine of Sheik Husayn, cf Shek Husen.
JDD04 Annakulu (Annaculu) 08°12'/42°56' 1248 m 08/42 [Wa Gz]
anan, aanan (O) milk; milky sap
JDA53 Annnenno (area) 08/40 [WO]
HDJ04 Anno, see Ano
Annya, Ania, an Oromo group in eastern Ethiopia
JDC56 Annya (Annia, Annia Bombe?) (area) 08/42 [+ WO]

ano: anno (Borana O) small cactus-like tree,
Euphorbia tirucalli, mostly leafless

HC... Ano (Anno) (which one? in Sidamo) ./. [Mi]
geol A serpentinite body is found in this area. Contents of nickel have been investigated and found to be low. [Mineral 1966]
HCD57 Ano 05°58'/38°12' 2061 m 05/38 [Gz]
HCK04 Ano (island), see Gidicho
HDJ04 Ano (Anho, Anno) (sub P.O.) 09°05'/36°58' 1820 m 09/36 [Gz Po WO]
The primary school (in Nekemte awraja) in 1968 had 217 boys and 32 girls in grades 1-5, with 5 male teachers and one female.
HDL53 Ano 09°35'/38°42' 2412 m 09/38 [AA Gz]
HDL81 Ano (Anno) 09°48'/38°35' 3025 m 09/38 [AA Gz WO]

HE... Anoba (in Yeju awraja) 11/39 [n]
Enrollment in the Environmental Education Project at Anoba Basic Development Education Centre was 200 in 1985/86 and the same in the following year. [Relief project with Swedish participation]
JDJ18 Anod 09°13'/42°24' 1373 m 09/42 [Gz]

anole: annole (O) cattle

HBL70 Anole, with prehistoric well 04/38 [WO]
HDE.? Anole (in Arsi about 25 km north of Asela) 07/39 [n]

1880s
Ras Darge chose to exterminate the Arsi at Anole in 1887. "At the time the war was practically over, and there was no military imperative to do so. He gathered Arsi men and women under the pretext of making peace. -- When they arrived they were told to come in through a one way entrance -- All who entered were either killed or mutilated; right hands of men were cut off and the right breast of the women. Thousands of mutilated hands and breasts were tied around the necks of victims who were sent back to their villages. -- Surprisingly, the Shoan sources have ignored this important event, which marked Arsi memories more than all other Arsi-Amhara confrontations taken together. -- from that day onwards the Arsi, shocked and struck by fear, suspended the struggle and surrendered becoming colonial subjects."
[Abbas Hadji, also cited by Mekuria Bulcha in 1988]

1990s
"Just two years ago /1992/ Arsi and Oromo representatives from different parts of Oromia convened at Anole to commemorate Menelik's victims."
[Abbas Hadji in Oromo Commentary (Sweden) 1994 no 2 p 22]

HDE34 Anole (mountain) 08°29'/38°51' 1848 m 08/38 [Gz]
HEM.. Anoma Maryam 11/39 [x]

(mud-built cave church north-west of Weldiya)

view inside the screen-wall
anon (O) same?/ tree as anona below

JBR12 Anon (mountain) 04°37'/41°51' 235 m 04/41  [Gz]

anon (Borana O) kind of small to medium tree, Trichilia emetica, T. roka, the wood of which gives red colour

HBM94 Anona, see Gundul 04/39  [WO]
HCE21 Anona (area) 05/38  [WO]
JDJ68 Anono Mite (A. Mit'e) 09°40'/42°21' 1399 m 09/42  [Gz]
JBS32 Anoune (Anune) 04/42  [WO Wa]

HDL55 Anqete, see Ankete

JEB26 Ansalela (area) 11/41  [WO]

HCM75 Ansawe (Ansaue) (area) 4015 m 06/39  [+ WO]
anse (T) kind of medium-sized tree, Anogeissus leiocarpus; (A) the person / in a philosophical sense /

HFD20 Anse 13/37  [WO]
HEU74 Anseba, see Awseba & HEU82, cf Akeseba

HE... Anseta (Ansäta), in Gayint 11/38  [x]
Yekuno Amlak from the Amhara region finally attacked the Zagwé army directly. The last Zagwé king Yethabrik was killed at Anseta in Gayint, north of the Bashelo river, where he evidently made a last stand. After wiping out also Agäw resistance, Yekuno Amlak was firmly established on the throne by 1270 and this is called the Restoration of the Solomonic dynasty.

[Dictionary of Eth. biography]

HCS31 Anshid (Anscid) 07/37  [+ WO]

?? Anso (historically recorded) ../..  [Pa]

1700s After Emperor Dawit III's death in 1721, the Kenisa (Känisa) servants at the palace, perhaps archers who had taken part in a plot, were banished from Gondar and returned to their land in Anso. [Pankhurst 1997]

HDK83 Ansoyie (centre in 1964 of Lemmat sub-district) 08/37  [Ad]
HEC85 Answi Giyorgis 11/37  [Ch]
HFF03 Antafo (pass) 13°37'/39°39' 2335 m 13/39  [WO Gu Gz]

see under Agula

HEC88 Antagussa (Atangusa, Atangussu) (village) 11°40'/37°20' 1784 m 11/37  [WO Gu It]

see under Zege, cf Atangussa Maryam

H... Antakiyah, see Antiokiya

JCE25 Antalale (Antallale) (mountain) 05°38'/43°57' 253 m 05/43  [WO]

antalo (A) kind of lichen, Osrería sp.; (O) 1. kinds of shrub or small tree, Boswellia spp., Polyscias ferruginea; 2. servant girl, women

HEU61 Antalo (Antalow) 13°19'/39°28' 2050/2102 m 13/39  [Gz WO Gu Ha]
Antalo (here until 1900)

HEU71 Antalo (modern), see Hintalo

gel
The formation of Antalo limestone stretches from about 100 km north of the locality to about 30 km south of it. It extends considerably also in the E-W direction. The formation is thin-bedded. [Mineral 1966]

1600s During a rebellion in southern Tigray in 1678 some Lasta leaders threw in their lot with the insurgents, but they were defeated at Antalo, and some men fell over the precipices. [7th Int. Conf. of Ethiopian Studies, 1984 p 220]

1700s "The family of Kefla Yessous and Welda Selassy were of distinguished origin, and came from Antalo -- of which place they were chiefs / in the 1770s? / "[Parkyns vol II p 109]

1800 Capital of Tekle Giyorgis around 1800, but with Ras Welde Sillase having the real power.
An expedition consisting of ten persons with Henry Salt as leader, sent by Lord Valentia (not himself taking part), after a journey of a month from the coast, arrived at Antalo on 28 August 1805 and met Welde Sillase there as it was his capital in southern Tigray. Salt's commercial negotiations with Welde Sillase had little success. He was not allowed to pass on to the imperial seat in Gondar, which was controlled by Welde Sillase's bitter opponent, Ras Gugsa Marsu. Henry Salt started for the coast again on 10 October 1805.

In 1807 at the funeral of Debeb, brother of Ras Welde Sillase, soldiers fired matchlocks.

Henry Salt made a second visit to Welde Sillase's court from 15 or 16 March 1810. He was not permitted to continue to Gondar to meet the Emperor there. The presents intended for the Emperor, Henry Salt handed over to the Ras. They included a picture of the Virgin Mary, a marble table, a painted glass window for a church, and a cannon. On 30 April Salt received a letter in Geez for the King of England and Pearce explained its contents. Later the letter was translated in England by a scholar from Scotland.

1813 An impressive soldiers' review held in front of Ras Wäldä Sellasè at Antalo in 1813 was described by N. Pearce. It was not without some danger. The musketeers opened fire prematurely, with the result that one man was killed and a horse shot through the leg. - A Greek craftsman Nassar Ali was at Antalo in the early 1800s.

1816 Welde Sillase died in 1816.

1868 In a meeting between Dejazmach Kasa Mircha (the future Yohannes IV) and Sir Napier on 25-26 February 1868, Kasa undertook to deliver 15,000 kilograms of grain per week to each of the British camps at Antalo and Adigrat.

During Napier's expedition, Antalo was one of his temporary headquarters where many provisions for the troops were bought.

"Marched to Antalo. The camp is five miles from the town, which is on a hill in sight. Good supplies come in of wheat and mixed grain which does for horses, also much bread, but we are very short of fuel. Road good except steep descent the last eight miles over a plain, nearly all of which has been burnt and looks very arid and dismal. Camp on an elevation near river and considerable cultivation, but very stony. -- We have now overtaken the Pioneer Brigade and we are the most advanced. The people very curious and more intelligent as we get on."

From Colonel Milward's diary for 20 February 1868. He stayed at Antalo also 21 February - 11 March. "The Mahomedans and Christians inhabit different quarters but appear friendly. The place i very poor and ruinous."

English mail arrived on the 24th, letters of Flad from Mekdela on the 25th, a lot of English papers on the 29th. Milward was given command of the Artillery of the 1st Brigade, 1st Division. They practised some artillery shooting near the camp. One double shell fired on 7 March did not burst and was recovered. The 42 elephants carrying artillery pieces arrived on 11 March. Mail for England left on 14 March and even money could be sent with it.

William Simpson sent sketches to The Illustrated London News from Napier's expedition. He and an Austrian captain Kodolitsch travelled on their own, but they followed the track of the British army and camped at Antalo on 10 April. On the way back Simpson was there again around 13 May. An engraving of the weekly market at Antalo was published in the important London magazine on 6 June 1868.

During the return of the British expedition in mid-May 1868, Emperor Tewodros's wife Tiru-Werk died there and was buried in Antalo by the local Orthodox priests.

Henry Stanley's description in 'Coomassie and Magdala' is here cited from the Swedish translation:
"En marknad ägde rum hvar onsdag i staden Antalo, då alla landets bönder samlade sig. -- Marken som var utstakad för lägret var i sjelfva midten af en slätt, som sträcker sig från Antalo vesterut till Afgool på 15 mils afstånd ostvart, och var på nära lika afstånd emellan den förra staden och den gamla intressanta staden Chelicut. -- En bergskedja, som höjde sig allt högre och högre, tills den kröntes af de skarpa topparne af Amba Antalo, der, under skyddet af en öfverhängande massa, staden var byggd."

"Höjden var fulla 2.000 fot öfver slätten. Då vi öfverkommit den yta, på hvilken Antalo var byggd, passerade vi två tornprydda byggnningar, som krönte toppen af platån. Dessa funno vi vara kyrkor; på toppen af hvarje byggnad var ett kors formad af strutsägg, som liknade kulor af alabaster. Uppstigande ännu högre för en brant klippa, inkommo vi på en smal gata, flankerad på hvar sida med adobe-murar, en del 10 till 12 fot i höjd; och då vi passerat denna en hundra steg eller så, befunno vi oss på sjelva torgplatsen - en stor öppen fyrkant, omgifven på alla sidor af befolkningens hus, af hvilka alla voro skyddade för nyfikna blickar genom lerväggar. --

Allt hvad en europé behöfde taxerades till en dollar, fastän det i verkligheten ej var värdt två pence. --

Från staden gingo vi att besöka kyrkorna, som sågo ganska pittoreska ut, omgifna af sykomorernas rika grönska. Likt många andra saker som på afstånd synas förtjusande, försvann det pittoreska hos kyrkorna allt efter som vi kommo närmare. Det yttre liknade ett fähus, och insidan var icke mycket bättre."

1890 The Antalo market had trade in ivory in the 1800s. It was estimated (Alamanni) that around 1890 there were sold annually 16,000 oxen, 8,000 cows, 8,000 goats, and 17,000 sheep.

1895 On 9 October 1895, Major Ameglio with six companies and two pieces of artillery made the Ethiopians of Mengesha at Antalo take to the flight. The Italians caught about 200 prisoners, a thousand head of cattle and many rifles. The indigenous troop on the Italian side lost 11 dead and 30 wounded, while 16 Tigrayans were counted dead on the battle site and 60 wounded were said to have been carried from there.

[U Caimpenta, L'impero .., Milano 1936 p 230]

1936 In February 1936 the field hospital of the Ethiopian Red Cross was bombed near Antalo and partly destroyed. Its leader was a young Austrian doctor Schüppler and with it was also an Irish captain Brophil. At the plain below the amba were herds of cattle collected by Ras Mulugeta for the feeding of his troops.

[Ethiopia Observer vol XI (1968) no 4 p 312-313]

After the 'battle of Enderta' at Amba Aradam the Italian front was moved forward to Antalo. The march of the 3rd Corps against the rases Kassa and Seyoum started from Antalo on 17 February.

[Gentizon 1937 p 51, 63]

picts Ill. London News, 18 April 1868 village under the Antalo Amba; ditto 6 June 1868, weekly market at Antalo; R Acton 1868 p 45 village and market, reproduced in Ethiopia engraved 1988 p 23.

HET78 Antebat (Ant'ebat) 13°18'/39°13' 2358 m 13/39 [Gz]
HEE90 Antebatbi (Ant'ebat'bi) 11°42'/38°28' 2874 m 11/38 [Gz]
HFF01 Antefa (Ant'efa) 13°39'/39°32' 2181 m 13/39 [Gz]
HEJ44 Anteta 12°12'/37°01' 1845 m 12/37 [Gz]
H.... Antiokiya (Antakyah, Antukyah) 10/39 [+ Pa]

"In the battle of Antakyah south of lake Hayk in 1531, an olive tree standing in the centre of the Ethiopian army was cut in two by the first shot of Grañ's cannon. The chronicler claims that the Christians -- were immediately defeated. The Muslim army then proceeded to ravage the country -- Grañ feared that his men would lose interest in the campaign and desire to return home with their booty."

When starting to march toward the south-west, the Imam was at the head of the army and
stopped at a narrow passage. There he forced the soldiers to throw away most of their booty before continuing past him.

[Pankhurst, .. Chronicles 1967 p 55-56]

**Antiokiya (Antiochia, Antsokiya)** 10/39  [+ WO 18]

In Menilek's time (-1870s-) a district in Efrata province, governed by a Kenyazmach. As province in the old time Antsokiya was always governed by the Zanje family and was inhabited purely by Amhara.

[A Cecchi, vol I, 1886 p 521]

The primary school (in Menz .. awraja) in 1968 had 156 boys and 24 girls, with 3 teachers.

?? Anto (area, left bank of the Abay)  ... [Ch]

"Good views of the small district of Anto were seen on the left bank of the Abay, and there also the big valley of the Wajo river comes down."

[Cheesman 1936]

**Antonius, see Abba Antonios**

**Antotto, see Intoto**

**Antsokiya (Antzochia) (recorded in 1841)** 10/39  [n Ad Ha 20]

[Which Antiokiya?:] Imam Ahmed 'the left-handed' proceeded from Dewaro to Antiokiya in Ifat and near that place, in February 1531, he achieved a decisive victory over Emperor Lebne Dengel's army. The Imam's force reached the town, which had been one of the Emperor's capitals in the province, and destroyed its church and burnt the town. In the battle of Antiokiya the Imam made use of a cannon and a number of Arabs, including two skilled archers from Egypt.

[Pankhurst 1997]

"The significance of /imported weapons/ was apparent at the battle of Antukyah, south of Lake Hayq, in the spring of 1531. The Imam /Ahmed/ began the engagement by ordering his men to fire a cannon at the Christian army. The shell landed in the middle of the enemy ranks, where it hit an olive tree, which was cleft in two."

[Pankhurst, The Ethiopians, 1998 p 87]

1700s King Asfâ Wossen (1775-1808) expanded into Antsokiya and other regions.

**Antsokiya sub-district (centre in 1964 = Nigirie)** 10/39  [n Ha]

(-1964-1997-)

?? Anu (with sub-post office)  ... [Po]

*anuna* (O) cow given to a bride's mother

**Anwak, Anuak**

Anune, see Anoune

(Anwak, Yambo), ethnic group living in the Gambela region towards Sudan and numbering about 45,665 according to the 1994 census, with possibly 3% Christians

*anunnu, hanunnu* (O) tall

**Anyale (Agnale)** 08/34  [+ WO]

**Anza** 14°16'/39°36′ 2249 m 14/39  [Gz]

The scientist Antonio Mordini acted as archaeologist in Italian East Africa 1937-1944, and among many other things he discovered a stele with ancient inscription at Anza near Hawzen.

texts

C. Conti Rossini, Un iscrizione su obelisco di Anza,  
*in* Rassegna di Studi Etiopici 1(1941);  

anzar: *antsar* (A) opposite, facing, across from

**Anzar (mountain)** 13/37  [WO]

**Anzaymerkum, in the Aykel region** 12/37  [n]
A well of mineral water down in a small cave. According to K'eman't belief it is so holy that it is open to the public only two days a year, in October and July, with ceremonies led by K'eman't priests.

[13th Int. Conf. of Ethiopian Studies I, 1997 p 532-533]

HDD08  Anzire, see Yesreye
HDJ73  Anzucha 09°44'/36°55' 1699 m 09/38 [AA Gz]
(with church Maryam), see (at HDL75?) under Debre Libanos

HDF81  Aoarti, see Awarti
HDS91  Aocohe, see Choke
HDE96  Aogue, see Awoge
HEC64  Aonaraghen (village) 11/37 [It]
HEC84  Aonaraghen (with church) 11/36 [It]
see under Yismala Giyorgis

??  Aonomite, in the Harar region? ../..
In February 1978 the Somali forces were driven back from Aonomite.

HFC08  Aora, see Awra
HEK72  Aosaharoa, see under Belesa 12/37 [WO]
HER40  Aossa 13/36 [WO]
HEC76  Aota 11/37 [WO]
JDA94  Aouache, see Awash
HFE54c  Aoulti, see Hawelti
GDE19  Apalla (Tulu A.) (hill) 08°16'/34°19' 08/34 [WO]
GCL98  Apanango, see Apanauane
GCL98  Apanauane (Apanango) 07°11'/34°11' 434 m 07/34 [Gz WO]
HDC39  Aprus Gesta (Aprus Ghesta) (area) 08/37 [+ WO]
HFC23  Aptonogol (mountain) 13/36 [WO]
HFE50  Aqab Se'at, see Akab Saat
aqal (Som) house
JED12  Aqale (area) 10/42 [WO]
HDK12  Aqaqi, see Akaki  & HDL06
HDK88  Aqaqo, see Akako
HDT98c  Aquesta, see Akista
HEC27  Aquali, see Akwali

ar (A) /not polite:/ excrement, shit

JBU82  Ar Shevel (Ar Sciavel) 05°20'/44°34' 200 m 05/44 [Gz WO]

ara (Som) crater, bowl? aara, hara (O) 1. smoke, fume;
2. new; 3. hara, common land; ara (A) free man; arra (A) defecate;
areh (aräh) (A) slope, side of a mountain;
the Italian Guida explains ara as an almost circular cone,
typical of a landscape where the word occurs in its names.
Ara (people in Gemu Gofa, the following quotation refers to 1934).
"Dafarsha -- belonged to a people whom the Amharas designated as Shankala. -- In the early days they had borne the heaviest brunt of slave raiding and were a subdued people. They called themselves Ara, and although they had their own language, those living close to the Gofa people were bilingual."
"Our people don't bury their dead quickly the way the Gofas and the Amharas do. They keep them on a platform like that for a year."
"It is taboo for women to sit on stools. A plantain leaf was brought for Enid. Accepting her position as a woman, she sat on it."
"Some anthropologists would have suggested that for people like the Ara, the gospel should be interpreted within the context of the local culture. But Dafarsha was the interpreter of his own tribal culture and as far as he was concerned much of it would have
to go. For him the gospel would be the dominating force."
[M Forsberg, Land beyond the Nile, New York 1958 p 74-77]

Ara, cf Era, Haro

HBM40 Ara (Gebel Ara) (mountain) 04°03'/39°23' 1218 m 04/39 [WO Gz]
HCN97c Ara (small village, with tomb) 08/35 [Gu]
1920s An important tomb, described by Ernesto Cerulli, was made to commemorate the Oromo leader Wayesa (Uaiéssa) who died in 1926. A circular grave chamber in dry masonry, height 130 cm, was covered by a clay cupola. There was a wooden statue of Wayesa, with a small statue of a servant carrying his gun. Two sycamores were planted in the valley and one on top of the cupola, according to local custom. [Guida 1938]

HEU62 Ara (Adi Araha, Addi A.) 13°15'/39°35' 1919 m 13/39 [Gz WO]
JBN05 Ara 04°35'/40°20' 988 m 04/40 [WO Gz]
JEA14 Ara (Aro) 11°01'/40°09' 1118 m 11/40 [Gz]
JEH42 Ara (area) 12/40 [WO]
JEN88 Ara (hills) 13/40 [Ne]

ara ali, cf Ali as first part of name

JCB63 Ara Ali (Haro Ali) 05°58'/41°02' 902 m 05/41 [WO Gz]
JBP89 Ara Ararsa, see Haro Ararsa
ara arba: arba (O) elephant
JCB49 Ara Arba (Haro Arba) 05°45'/41°34' 615 m 05/41 [WO Gu Gz]
Coordinates would give map code JCB39
JCB88 Ara Bacalle (A. Bacale, Haro Bacale) (seasonal spring) 05°32'/41°30' 609 m 05/41 [WO Gz]
JCB54 Ara Bele, see Haro Bele
JCH54 Ara Bisharayla (A. Bisciaraia, A. Bisciaraitu) (Hara Bisciaraia) 06°47'/41°10' 1053/1158 m 06/41 [+ WO Gz]
Coordinates would give map code JCH45
JCB94 Ara Bonel (Haro Bonel) 06°18'/41°03' 953 m 06/41 [WO Gz]
ara bure: bure (Som) milk vessel made of wood; (A) black and white; buree (Som) beat with a club; buri (O) blue-grey root which is boiled and eaten; Bure is given as a geographical name and not as an Oromo word in Tilahun Gamta's dictionary
JCH27 Ara Bure (A. Buri, Haro Buri) 06°33'/41°17' 884/926 m 06/41 [Gz WO]
Coordinates would give map code JCH26

?? Ara Chercher (A.Cercer) ../.. [+ Gu]
A wide depression with ponds at the bottom.

JCP01 Ara Colla, see Hara Kola
JCB65 Ara Fanna, see Arefen
ara gabana, private land? gabana (O) one’s private affairs
JCB65 Ara Gabana (Haro Gabana) (area) 05°58'/41°07' 928 m 05/41 [WO Wa Gz]

JCH58c Ara Gaggai 06/41 [Wa]
ara goro: goro (O) wild rose shrub; (A) young elephant; gooroo (O) mound
JCB56 Ara Goro (Haro Goro) 05°48'/41°18' 604 m 05/41 [WO Gu Gz]
Coordinates would give map code JCB46
Having the last euphorbias on the road southwards?/.
ara gulube: gulubi (O) ankle

JCP28 Ara Gulube 07/41 [WO]
JCB07 Ara Illibir, see Haro Illibir
JCH03 Ara Lughei (Ara Lughi, Ali Lughei) 06°20'/41°01' 993 m 06/41 [Gz WO Gu]
Coordinates would give map code JCB93
ara matina: *matino* (O) kind of /small/ bread

HBT11 Ara Matina 04/38 [WO]

HEU62 Ara Mikael Gedam (monastery) 13°15'/39°35' *ara more*, *more* (O) civet cat, civet

JCH23 Ara More (Hara More) 06°39'/41°01' 1026 m Coordinates would give map code JCH33

JCH13 Ara Mumed (Haro Mumed) 06°25'/41°04' 885, 1171 m Coordinates would give map code JCH04

JCB55 Ara Munna, see Haro Munna

JCB25 Ara Oda, see Oda

ara samanter: *samantar* (Som) doer of good, philanthropist

JCB57 Ara Samanter /Batare/ (Haro Samantar) 05°42'/41°20' 640 m 05°42'/41°20' 640 m [WO Gz] 05°42'/41°20' 640 m

HFE47 Ara Suru 14°00'/39°09' 1910 m 14°00'/39°09' 1910 m [Gz] 14°00'/39°09' 1910 m (with church Maryam to the south)

HCK39 Ara Terra (arid area) 06°30'/38°28' 2605 m 06°30'/38°28' 2605 m [Gu Gz] 06°30'/38°28' 2605 m

JCH32 Ara Terra (Ara Tera, Haro Terra) 06°40'/40°57' 1139 m 06°40'/40°57' 1139 m [Gz LM WO] 06°40'/40°57' 1139 m (which Ara Terra?:) The area on the road /southwards?/ becomes arid of the Somali type, and the track very dusty.

Guida 1938]

JCB66 Ara Unne (Haro Unne) 05°45'/41°20' 636 m 05°45'/41°20' 636 m [WO Gz] 05°45'/41°20' 636 m

JDC93 Arab (mountain) 08°59'/41°54' 2227 m 08°59'/41°54' 2227 m [Gz] 08°59'/41°54' 2227 m

HEF94 Araba 11°41'/39°43' 1489 m 11°41'/39°43' 1489 m [Gz] 11°41'/39°43' 1489 m

araba duba: *arraba* (O) 1. tongue; 2. abuse, insult; *arebe* (aräbä) (A) tanned /skin/; *duba* (O) sheep's tail; *duuba* (O) behind

HEJ48c Araba Duba (small island or reef) 12°37' [Ch] 12°37' "A rock reef 2 feet above high-water level, 100 yards in diameter, and half a mile from land, on which there was nothing but a few fair-sized trees."

[Cheesman 1936]

?? Arababni ./. [x] [x] Possibly a small kingdom around 1300, situated between Hadya and Dewaro south of present-day Addis Abeba.

JCH62 Arabatti (Arabati) 06°53'/40°54' 1182 m 06°53'/40°54' 1182 m [WO Gz MS] 06°53'/40°54' 1182 m

JEC07 Arabdura (Arabdera, Arabdara) (mountain) 10°42' [Gz Ha WO] 10°42' Arabdura 10°52'/42°10' 463 m

JCG78 Arabe (mountain chain) 07°03'/40°32' 1762 m 07°03'/40°32' 1762 m [Gz] 07°03'/40°32' 1762 m

HEJ69 Arab Medani (church) 12°37' [WO] 12°37' Arab Medani (church) 12°37' [WO]

JDK92 Arabi 09°56'/42°43' 1091 m 09°56'/42°43' 1091 m [Gz] 09°56'/42°43' 1091 m

JDR26 Arabi 10°11'/42°08' 709 m 10°11'/42°08' 709 m [Gz] 10°11'/42°08' 709 m

JDS00c Arabi (centre in 1964 of Denbel wereda) 10°42' [MS Ad] 10°42' Radio Ethiopia said on 2 July 1995 that Ato Shemsedin Ahmed of the Ethiopian Somali Democratic League (ESDL) won a federal council seat with 127,531 votes in Arabi constituency.

JCN17 Arablig (mountain) 07°21'/40°28' 2471 m 07°21'/40°28' 2471 m [WO Gz] 07°21'/40°28' 2471 m

JCN17 Arablig Dai, M. (area) 2804 m 07°40' [WO] 07°40' [WO]

HDD29 Arach (Arach') 08°23'/38°21' 3316 m 08°23'/38°21' 3316 m [Gz] 08°23'/38°21' 3316 m

HCD08 Arachi, see Araki

HDU10 Arad Amba (area) 10°39' [WO] 10°39' [WO]

*arada* (A) 1. hill; 2. market area; *arada ber* (A) mountain pass; *arada, aaraadaa* (O) 1. main centre of a town; 2. habit /drinking, smoking/
There are local people belonging to the Kanche clan of the Arsi Oromo.

Village on a sandy bank in the valley of Gira, surrounded by cotton fields and some gardens with citrus fruits.

[Guida 1938]

aradda, araddaa (O) farm, courtyard

About 35 km NW of Negele in Sidamo, in the Haddessa Mulug area. Chlorite-talc lenses in the schists were found /in 1958/ to be asbestos-bearing.

[Mineral 1966]

During the Italian occupation there was an administrative entity named Vice Residenza di Aragurè, with seat in Mekele.

[WC Harris vol III 1844 p 288]

A village in the district of Ankober. Ato Atsme was born and educated at Aramba.

He came in contact with the Catholic missionaries at an early period and acquired knowledge of the Arabic and Latin languages and new ideas. He was later appointed by Emperor Menilek to conduct foreign affairs under Ras Makonnen in Harar.

[3rd Int. Conf. of Ethiopian Studies, 1969 p 285]
aremi (A?) heathen, Muslim; aramu (O), arem (ărăm) (A) weed, weeding

GDF95c Arami (near GDM05, see Leka
JEAn8 ARAMIS (archaeological site in Afar) 10°30'/40°30' Stream north of Gewane, circa 72 km south of Hadar where "Lucy" was found.
A first survey of the site was made in 1976.
In December 1992 a joint team of paleoanthropologists, led by Prof. Timothy White of USA, Dr Gen Suwa of Japan and Dr Berhane Asfaw of Ethiopia, found fifty-odd fragments of 17 to 20 individuals, constituting an entirely new species of primates.
[R Pankhurst, The Ethiopians, 1998 p 3]
In 1992 and 1993 a team led by Tim White found all together 17 specimens of hominin fossils, at Aramis in the central Awash Complex. The fossils were dated at 4.4 million years: 500,000 years earlier than the oldest *aframe* fossils found in the eastern Middle Awash. It was published on the front page of New York Times in September, and later a new genus and species of hominids was proposed, Ardiptithecus ramidus. The most skilful in discovering fossils was Alemayehu Asfaw.
[J Kalb 2001 p 3002-303]

JEB34 Arammuda (Aramuda) (mount.) 11°01'/41°12' 1133 m 11/41 [WO Gz]
JEB92 Arammuda (area), see under Tendaho 11/40 [WO]
aran, aaran (Som) 1. abundance of water and green grass;
2. young camels who are no longer sucklings;
arran (O) on the upper side
?? Aran Arek (in the Harar region) ./. ./. [It]
JDE96 Aran Arrei (A. Areh) 09°02'/43°54' 1360 m 08/43 [WO Gz n]
HCL36 Arana, see Aranna
HCE87 Aranfana, see Arenfana 06/39
arangama (O) climber or creeper with tough thorns, often used as a fence
HCL36 Aranna (Harana) (mountains) 06°40'/39°00' 2756 m 06/39 [It n Gz]
It took two days' travel on a fast horse to reach Arana from Dinsho. An important landowner Haji Adem had families at both places. Arana was a settled region on the south side of the /Bale/ mountains. There was good pasture there and rich land tilled by Oromo who rarely came north of the mountains.
JDR44 Arannuno (area) 10/42 [WO]
JEH99 Arapta (area) 12/41 [WO]
ar i.: imba (T) mountain, (A) tears
HEU02 Arar Imba 12°42'/39°33' 2349 m 12/39 [Gz]
arara, araraa (O) very hot and bright, blazing /sunshine/
HDS89 Arara 10°43'/38°21' 1554 m 10/38 [Gz]
HEU13 Arara (Amba Arara) 12°46'/39°42' 1647 m 12/39 [x Gz]
/this Arara? mountain in Inda Mehoni:/
When Emperor Menilek camped at Sefeho (Säfeho) in the vicinity of Arara when marching towards Adwa in December 1895, he ordered Bejirond Balcha to attack some shiftas in the neighbourhood. Balcha broke down their stronghold with artillery and handed it over to Shum-Agame Tesfaye, who was /or had been/ an official of Ras Mengesha Yohannes.
JDB31 Arara 08°29'/40°49' 1603 m 08/40 [Gz]
JDH47 Arareyti (Areareti) (area) 1612 m 09/41 [+ WO]
?? Arari (historically recorded) ./. ./. [Pa]
There is a record that Emperor Bä'eda Maryam visited this place, in or near Wäj.

A British diplomatic mission passed the weekly market of Ararki in April 1897 and were "struck by the poverty of the wares displayed - nothing to be had but a little grain and a good many sheep."

[Count Gleichen 1898 p 113]

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JEC82 Ararti (area) 11/41 [WO]

HET66 Arashmane 13°15'/39°03' 1955 m (with church Silase) 13/39 [Gz]

HDL75 Arasho 09°43'/38°56' 2184 m (with church Maryam), see under Debre Libanos 09/38 [AA Gz]

HDS72 Arat Mekera Kir (A. Makeraker, A. Macaracher) (A. Makanaker) (mountains) 10°36'/37°45' 3030 m The Rosen party of Germans saw these mountains on 30 March 1905 as four blocks of almost equal size and fairly near to each other. [F Rosen, Eine deutsche..., Leipzig 1907 p 340] 10/37 [Gz 18 n]

HED78 Arata, see Arakse 10/38 [Wa]

HDJ35 Aratu, see Haretu 14/39 [Ad]

HED78 Aratal, see Arakse 10/39 [WO]

HDJ35 Aratu, see under Rike 10/39 [WO]

HE... Aratu Inisa sub-district (centre in 1964 = Biwul) 12/39 [Ad]

HCR95 Araua, see Arawa 08/37 [WO]

HCR95 Araua (Arawa, Haraua) (mountain) 08°06'/37°04' 2131 m [+ WO Gz]
In 1935 the administrative centre of Guma province, west of Didessa inside a loop of the river. The Governor, Bellete Deressa, had his residence there. [Zervos 1936]

arb (A) 1. Friday; 2. weaver's frame; cf arbi (O,T) 

describes market

Arb Gebeya (Arbi Gabaaia) (centre in 1964 of Beddo sub-district) 08/35 [Ad LM Gu WO]

Arb Gebeya (which one?) (centre in 1964 of Begi Bile sub-district) 09/34? [Ad]

Arb Gebeya 08°43'/38°06' 2435 m 08/38 [MS]
Arb Gebeya 08°25'/38°25' 3213 m 08/38 [MS]
Arb Gebeya 09°09'/36°23' 1824 m 09/36 [MS]
Arb Gebeya 09°05'/38°22' 2602 m 09/38 [AA Gz]

see under Addis Alem

Arb Gebeya 09°34'/38°01' 2237 m 09/38 [AA Gz]
Arb Gebeya, 2503m near 09/38 [AA Gz]
Arb Gebeya 11°37'/37°45' 2322 m 11/37 [MS]

Arb Gebeya (Arbi Ghebia) (centre in 1964 of Tach Gayint wereda) (same?: also ctr of Mehal Gayint sub-distr & of Kwassa sub-distr) 11°31'/38°40' or 11°33'/38°33' 1884 m 11/38 [Ad Gz WO Gu]

Main centre of Gayint, in wide meadows where horses are bred. No watercourses but water easily obtained by digging. It used to take two days by mule to go to Debre Tabor. There was an italian Residenza during the occupation. [Guida 1938]

The primary school (in Gayint awraja) in 1968 had 84 boys and 27 girls, with 4 teachers.

Arb (O) elephant, Loxodonta africana oxyotis; Arb (A) forty; memorial service on the 40th day after death

Arb (area) 1083 m 09/40 [WO]

First railway station east of the Awash river, on a dry plain.

In the early 1930s there was a road from this railway station to Bekeksa and Gololcha in Arsí. It could be used by motorcars in the dry season. [Zervos 1936]

Spelling used by the post was ARBA (-1934-),

Population 817 as counted in 1967. At that time only the Telecommunications Board themselves were listed as having a telephone with outside connection. There used to be a checkpoint for entering and leaving the Awash Game Reserve Area.

Around 1978 there was a sub post office and petrol stations of Agip and Shell.

That the small railway buildings have remained unchanged can be seen in a film made in 1994.
The Ministry of Finance Plantations operated (-1955-) a coffee cleaning plant.

After the CADU project had worked for eight years in Chilalo, it was transformed into the still Sweden-assisted ARDU (Arsi Rural Development Unit) and Ticho and Arba Gugu were included. ARDU existed 1975-1985. The majority of the rural population were Oromo and Muslim. No towns in the awraja had electricity. Armed conflict occurred in the awraja from mid-1977 until early 1978.

In the 1980s the state coffee plantation operated by the Coffee Plantation Development Corporation, CPDC, was one of three in Ethiopia. Around 1981 there were 231 Peasant Associations in Arba Gugu, with 47,754 male and 3,688 female representatives.

According to the OLF Foreign Relations office in Khartoum, Derg government forces in late 1983 rounded up 250 civilians in Arba Gugu and Labu in Habro, "98 of whom were massacred in cold blood; 320 head of cattle were stolen from the people."


In 1985 there were 213 Peasant Associations with 48,559 members and 33 Service Cooperatives, as well as 25 Producer Cooperatives.

arba minch (O not A?) elephant pool, not forty springs?

In various localities of Arba Gugu region - the region which witnessed the worst records of ethnic cleansing and government-sponsored anti-Amhara pogroms by -- the OLF/IFLO/OPDO(EPRDF) trio in 1991/93 - recently armed skirmishes are being witnessed."

[from Internet, March 1996]
The town was served by Ethiopian Air Lines.
The telephone line from Addis Abeba was inaugurated by IBTE on 15 July 1967.

1968

Fitawrari Haile Degaga primary school in 1968 had 317 boys and 127 girls, with 9 male teachers and one female.
Another primary school in the town had 149 boys and 22 girls in grades 1-5, with 6 male teachers.
The junior secondary school then had 69 male and 13 female students in grades 7-8, with 12 teachers of which 7 foreign.
The secondary school had 20 students in grade 12 who sat for school leaving certificate in 1968, but only one of the passed.
At Arba Minch secondary school taught an art teacher Girma Agegnehu who was son of an artist father Agegnehu Ingida in Addis Abeba. Girma was born in 1948 and graduated from the Art School in 1973. He later became a planner of art education in the Ministry of Education. [Eth. Artists p 148-149]
The Norwegian mission station was not yet fully organized by 1968.
There was a Bekele Molla hotel in town at least by 1969, one of about 13 Bekele Molla hotels/motels in the Rift Valley region.
According to Urban Survey, Second Round 1969-1970 of the CSO, Arba Minch inhabitants were 59.0% 'Abyssinians', 36.6% indigenous population and 4.4% others.

1970s

In 1970 arrived to the Norwegian Mission the married couple Einar and Anne Sofie Eng (b 1940 and 1945) and also teacher Jon Aardal (b 1933) with wife Ingebjörg (b 1932) who was a nurse.
A trade school was opened for carpentry, metal work and auto-mechanics. This school was integrated into the Mekane Yesus Church.

1971

On 5 June 1971 Per Helland died at the Norwegian mission station after having been ill for a couple of weeks. He was the oldest male Norwegian missionary in the field. Some 80 missionaries were present at the funeral on the following day.
[T Salmelid, Trollørna ..., Oslo 1974 p 105]
A state 'development' farm was established at Arba Minch.
[S Pausewang 1973]

1974

Four persons were killed on 28 March 1974 (in the beginning of the revolution) in clashes between students and police. [News]

1975

Population was estimated at 14,261 in 1975 (either extraordinarily rapid growth within a few years or a wider area than in 1967 included in the count).
Eric von Rosen (age 25, a son of Carl Gustaf von Rosen) had been flying emergency provisions to the south-west. On 15 February 1975 he started from the mission in Arba Minch in direction of Addis Abeba. North-west of Arba Minch he realized that he had entered the wrong valley and tried to turn the airplane. It was pressed down by cold air and crashed into shrubbery. On board were Ato Shimelis Adugna of the Ethiopian relief organization RCC and the Swedish journalist Lars Braw.
When Braw became conscious he was hanging upside down and saw that von Rosen was still unconscious. Braw and Shimelis succeeded to get out of the plane, and von Rosen was pulled out with the help of local people.
Eric's father Carl Gustaf von Rosen in his own plane succeeded to find the crashed plane after eight hours, with the assistance of a Swiss helicopter.
By then the three from the crashed plane had been taken to a mountain village three kilometres away, where they were temporarily cared for. They were thereafter brought to the mission station in Arba Minch where the Norwegian doctor Johannes Olafsson took charge.
[J Waernberg, Svenska vingar över Etiopien, Sthlm 1999 p 46]

Lars Braw's wife tells in a travel book how she hated flying with small airplanes and particularly to fly near Arba Minch.

[Kaj Braw, Kaj reser, Borås/Sweden 1975 p 95-102]

Marta Gabre, the first female member of parliament in Ethiopia, in September 1975 after the revolution fled to Kenya in a Landrover together with a few persons close to her.
When they passed Arba Minch at dusk and came near the police station, there were some students in the street and one of them was caught by the rear mirror of the vehicle and fell to the ground, though he could rise again. The Landrover was not halted and when continuing away from the town they saw the headlights of a Volkswagen behind them and knew that the police used to drive this kind of car. The headlights of the Landrover were put out and the car was driven away from the road among bushes so that they could hide from the police. They waited four hours in the dark field before they dared continue southwards.

[Marta Gabre, (Sheltered by the King, 1983) Swedish ed.: Flykten, 1985 p 134-138]

Around 1978 there was a post office and petrol stations of Agip and Shell. Spelling used by the post was ARBA MINCH.

28% of those living in Arba Minch in 1978 had been born in the town. Head of state Mengistu visited Arba Minch during a grand propaganda tour in March-May 1979.

1980s Population 26,711 stated for 1987. Arba Minch became headquarters of what was first called the Gamu Gofa Synod and later the South West Synod of the Mekane Yesus Church. President of the Synod from about 1990 was Kes Berisha Hunde.

1990s The 193 million birr Arba Minch Textile Mill was inaugurated on 6 May 1992 in the presence of Prime Minister Tamirat Layne. It would produce polyester mixed with cotton grey fabrics. [News]

Population 20,280 as estimated around 1993 (may not indicate an actual decrease?). Capital of the North Omo Zone (-1995-).

The Teacher Training Institute used Wollayto and Amharic as languages in the 1990s. "Arba Mich -- consists of two discrete settlements separated by 4 km of tar road and an altitude climb of almost 200 m. Downtown Sikela is the larger, more bustling commercial and residential centre, while uptown Shecha is a vaguely posher settlement of unimposing government buildings, hotels, and the homes of government employees. Despite its status as provincial capital, Arba Minch retains a small-town character - perhaps because it really is two small towns as opposed to one large one."

"I found Arba Minch to be a friendly and welcoming place. -- I soon found myself being hand-led from hotel to hotel in search of a vacant room. This helpful, friendly attitude is characteristic of the town -- Arba Minch seems a poor town, even by Ethiopian standards -- although their attempts to sell me overpriced cigarettes never flagged, the same children unfailingly escorted me by hand past treacherous puddles and mudpools when I ventured out after dark."

"-- lies in the foothills of the Rift Valley wall, on a cliff overlooking the mountainous sliver that separates the lakes of Chamo and Abaya. With mountains rising to almost 4,000 m to the west, it is difficult to think of a more perfectly sited town anywhere in East Africa."

"If you have the choice, Shecha is the more appealing part of town and it has the better hotels and restaurants. The difference in altitude means that Shecha is significantly cooler than Sikela and there is also far less malaria."

"There is no government hotel in Arba Minch, but the Bekele Mola Hotel suffices. This lies about 1.5 km out of Shecha --- There are several acceptable hotels on the main road in Shecha. The best is the Abaya Hotel --- The nameless hotel immediately opposite the Abaya, distinguished by its green gates, is the oldest in town and it looks it. --- There are several other standard dollar-a-night affairs in Shecha."

"The nicest place to stay in Sikela is the Kairo Hotel next to the Shell Garage --- Cheaper hotels are clustered around the bus station."


"From the town on the ridge of land that divides Abaya and Chamo there are command ing views of the panorama all around, including both lakes with Nechisar on the eastern side and, to the west, the Guge range of mountains."

"The beautifully located but scandalously run-down Bekele Mola Hotel in the town offers
accommodation and serves as a good base from which to explore this alluring area."
[Camerapix 1995]
Around 1995 Arba Minch was the capital of the North Omo Zone of the SNNPRS federal entity (Southern Nations). Its population was then about 40,000. President of the regional government in 2001 was Abate Kisho.
In a newspaper survey in March 1996 of cases when foreigners had been attacked in Ethiopia the following was included:
"An American citizen was killed and a Dutch woman wounded around Arba Minch town when a grenade was thrown at a car in which they were driving."
At the airport, 3 km out of town, there was in 1998 an unpaved runway, length about 1200 m. There were domestic flights of EAL between Arba Minch and Addis Abeba (twice a week), Jinka, Soddo. A new international airport was under construction in the late 1990s.
"-- disturbing is the total destruction of the forests of the Nechisar park by 5,000 or more woodcutters who, every day, attack it for the firewood and construction timber demanded by the 40,000 residents of Arba Minch." [Aubert 1999]
2000s
From tourist guides: The largest town in southern Ethiopia. The town actually consists of two settlements connected by a 4 km stretch of asphalt. Sikela, on the plain to the north, is the commercial and residential centre, with market, bank, main post office, and bus station. Shecha, perched on the hill overlooking the lakes, is where most of the government buildings are found, as well as most of the 'smart' tourist hotels.
"Arba Minch seems a poor town, even by Ethiopian standards." [Bradt]
Wherever you walk, and at whatever time of day, there are stunning views in all directions, and the longer you spend in the town the more impressive it all becomes.
"Arba Minch (Forty Springs) derives its name from the innumerable little springs that bubble up in the forest covering the flats below the town /forty may be a conventional Amharic expression for "many" but there is also the theory that Arba derives from the Oromo word for elephant/ -- You can bathe in the pools around the springs. -- To get to the springs, take the road towards Nechisar National Park. Where the road forks, 1.6 km from Sikela, take the road that bears right. The springs are a further 2.8 km."
Names of the main hotels are Bekele Mola, Abaya, Tesfaye Asfaw, Zeray Derese, Green Pension, Komba, Maskafarra Hoteeliya. There is no government hotel.
"The Bekele Mola Hotel, just 2.8 km from town, has a spectacular position on the edge of a bluff overlooking the lakes and the national park. The panorama must rank among the most spectacular in Ethiopia." The nicest place to stay in Sikela is the Kairo Hotel next to the Shell garage.
The headquarters of the Nechisar National Park lies 1.9 km from the roundabout in Sikela.
"Since the rapid expansion of the town of Arba Minch during the 1960s, great tracts of the virgin forest have been sacrificed in order to grow cotton. Even more disturbing is the total destruction of the forests of Nechisar park by 5,000 or more woodcutters who, every day, attack it for the firewood and construction timber demanded by the 40,000 residents of Arba Minch." [Aubert]
North-east of the town, 10 km from the roundabout at Sikela and past the old airport there is a government crocodile farm. It contains around 9,000 crocodiles. Eggs are collected at the lake and hatched at the farm, and the crocodiles are slaughtered at an age of 7-12 years when their skin is suitable for export to mainly Middle Eastern markets.
Excursions can be made from Arba Minch to see very large crocodiles at Azzo Gebeya (Crocodile Market) at Lake Chamo, where the Kolfo River empties into the lake. "The site has been called Africa's most impressive display of big crocodiles."
There are daily bus connections to Awasa, Shashemene, Addis Abeba, Chencha, Konso, and 3 times a week to Jinka via Weyto. Air connection with Addis Abeba is four times a week.
"In the upper town are found the more beautiful and interesting spots. This includes the
omnipresent Bekelle Molla Hotel -- A nearby restaurant, Rosa's, had been recommended by a guide book and lived up to expectations. Apart from quite good fish, it had a waitress who swayed around in a light cotton dress, much like Sophia Loren in old movies. We talked about her afterwards, and my wife pointed out that the waitress hadn't been wearing any underwear. Regrettably, I hadn't noticed."

[John Graham in AddisTribune 2001/09/07]

Population about 49,000 in 2001.

There is the Arba Minch Water Technology Institute, Arba Minch Textile Factory, Arba Minch Rehabilitation Centre (member of CRDA), and headquarters of the Southwest Synod.

Capacity of the hotels is Abaya 10 rooms, Awassa Kokeb 20 rooms, Bekele Molla 32 rooms, Benalf Deres 10 rooms, and not listed for Cairo and Swaynes.

text

K Braw, Kaj reser, Borás/Sweden 1975 p 91-102 where she describes how she hated to go to Arba Minch with C.G. von Rosen in a small airplane.

map

urban map 1:10,000 by Mapping & Geog. Inst. in the 1960s.

pict

Braw as above, p 94 sculptures on a grave (similar to those in Konso).
Monolithic church detached from the surrounding rock on two sides. Half an hour away is the "Throne of Imrahana", a group of fine-cut stones similar to the "thrones" of Aksum. The church was in a dilapidated condition in the 1960s and urgently in need of repair. [Jäger 1965]

"To the south-west of Yemrehanna Kristos is Arbatu Entsessa, a three-quarter monolith in a wild, overgrown, but rather beautiful state. Though one of the most easily accessible churches, its interior is open only one day a month. An amble around the exterior is free." [Lonely planet 2000 p 208]

HDR97 Arbahawish (Arbausasc) 10/37 [+ WO]
HEK63 Arbaya 12°19'/37°47' 2294 m 12/37 [x Gz]

During famine there was in late 1983 a distribution centre at Arbaya. World Vision, with headquarters in Los Angeles, shuttled food aid to there with an airplane. [Dawit W. Giyorgis, Red tears, USA 1989 p 123, 132]

In the upper valley of Ganale Gambello, with an Italian Residenza during the occupation. 1936 "To speed up the submission of /Ras Desta/, Graziani sent Sebastiano Castagna as his personal emissary. Because Castagna was related to Ras Desta (an uncle by marriage) and was knowledgeable about Ethiopian customs, he was chosen for the delicate mission of convincing his nephew to submit to the Italians. The meeting between Ras Desta and Castagna took place on the evening of 28 December 1936, in the small village of Bulancho (Arbagoma) in the province of Sidamo. During the two-hours-long colloquy Ras Desta expressed his fears to his interlocutor. -- The ras requested that Graziani give him more time to convince his followers to surrender. Castagna's assessment of the talks was that Ras Desta was nervous and anxious to submit, but feared his /about 3,000/ subordinates and particularly the Eritrean deserters who realized that they could expect no mercy from the Italians. Fitaurari Berke, who facilitated the negotiations, admitted that Dejaz. Gebre Mariam opposed Ras Desta's submission." [Sbacchi 1997 p 174]

1937 On 18 January 1937, three military columns supported by fifty airplanes attacked Ras Desta's forces at Arbagoma-Chevenna /=Arbegona-Kibena/.

1960s Population 1,460 as counted in 1967.
The primary school (in Sidama awraja) in 1968 had 314 boys and 59 girls, with 5 teachers. A church school had 29 boys and 13 girls in grade 1, with one male teacher. An elementary school building constructed of concrete elements and with Swedish assistance through ESBU was completed around 1970. [SIDA 1971]
HEF32 Arbero Mikael (church) 11°10'/39°35' 11/39 [Gz]
HE... Arbet sub-district (centre in 1964 = Mindina) 12/39 [Ad]
HCS91 Arbeto (village) 08/37 [x]

arbi (O) 1. Wednesday or Friday, depending on region;
2. loom, tissue, weaving; arbi (T) Friday; (A) breeder of cattle;
tanner, iron-worker

HDA88 Arbi, see under Yubdo 08/35 [WO]
HDG03 Arbi 09°04'/35°07' 1781 m 09/35 [WO Gz]
arbi bila: bila (O) red honey
HDD72 Arbi Bila 08°54'/37°37' 2892 m 08/37 [Gz]
HDA17 Arbi Gabaia, see Arb Gebeya
HEE72 Arbi Ghebia, see Arb Gebeya
HCL33 Arbigna, see Arbigna
arbo: arbu (O) kind of large tree, Ficus sur

HBL08 Arbo (area) 03°40'/39°12' 1218 m 03/39 [WO Gz]
HDL56 Arbo 09°35'/38°58' 2609 m 09/38 [AA Ad Gz]
HDL56 Arbo (centre in 1964 of Abebe sub-district) 10/37 [Gz]

arbora (O) ivory armlet worn by men who have killed a man or big game
Arbore (Arborie, Arbora, Erbore, Irbore) name of a minor ethnic group
in the South Omo Zone, speaking Burji-Geleba language and living south of Jinka,
numbering about 6,559 according to the 1994 census, of which possibly
2% Christians.
The variant Irbore is a name used by officials of the central government.
Most of the Arbore spoke Oromo language already by the 1950s, different from
many other ethnic groups in the south-west.
Their culture is much influenced by the Borana.
It was estimated in 1982 that there are 1,000 to 5,000 who speak Arbore language.
They use Komso as their lingua franca.
[Summer Institute of Linguistics]
texts E. Cerulli, Il linguaggio degli Amarr Cocché e degli Arbore ..,
in Rassegna di Studi Etiopici II, Roma 1942;
M. Ricci, Notizie etnografiche sugli Arbore,
in Rassegna di Studi Etiopici IX, Roma 1950.
picts Altvölker .., Stuttgart 1959, Tafel 17 + 20 three Arbore men.
HBP49 Arbore (area), cf Irbora 04/36 [WO x]
Next to Chew Bahir on its northern side.
HBR52 Arbore (village) 04°59'/36°52' 554 m 04/36 [WO Ca Gz]
Coordinates would give map code HBR42
A small settlement in the Weyto valley among rocky mountains, with a police station.
[Camerapix 1995]
"The Arbore people resemble the Borena people, with their bead and aluminium
jewellery. The people sleep on 5m-high platforms to try and escape the mosquitoes, which
are notorious here; locals outside the village know it as 'mosquito town'."
[Lonely planet 2000 p 240]

HDF23 Arbose Gebriel (church) 08°22'/39°41' 08/39 [Gz]
H.... Arboye (visiting postman under Nazret) 08/39? [Po Ad]
(centre in 1964 of Assenseba sub-district, of wereda in the 1980s)
The primary school (in Arba Gugu awraja) in 1968 had 309 boys and 51 girls,
with 6 teachers.

HDT23 Arbu 10°08'/38°42' 1841 m 10/38 [Gz]
**arbu, arbuu (O) large, thick tree, Ficus sycomorus?;**

**busee, busaa (O) malaria**

**HDK88**

Arbu Buse 09°47'38°19' 2557 m 09/38 [Gz]

??

Arbuk (Arbuq) (historical area in Gojjam) ..../..

[+ Pa]

**JDJ85**

Arca, see Arka

JCE27

Arcandon, see Arka Adon

**HFD75**

Arcai (waterhole) 14/38 [MS WO]

**HER56**

Arca Dereca, see Arkay Dereka

**HES78**

Arcazie, see Dibil

**JCA79**

Arche (Arce, Arre) (mountain) 06°10'/40'40' 962 m 06/40 [+ WO Gz]

**JBH77**

Archei (seasonal well) 04/41 [MS WO]

**HEL46**

Archeko Tekle Haymano (Arch'eko ..) (church) 12°08'/38°59', north of Lalibela 12/38 [Gz]

**HCG64**

Archica, see Arkika

**HEF43**

Archisa, see Arkisa

**HET78c**

Archnao (with rock-hewn church Iyesus) 13/39 [x]

in Seharti, at one hour walk from Gijet/Djibiet


Ruth Plant in Ethiopia Observer vol XVI no 1 1973 p 40-41

with three photos of which one printed in reverse

**HDL33**

Archo (Arch'o) 09°23'/38°46' 2583 m 09/38 [AA Gz]

**JDH10**

Arconcia, see Arkoncha

**HDH37**

Arcumbi, see Arera

**HDH58**

Arcumbi, see Arkumbi

**JEJ14**

Arda (area) 11/41 [WO]

**JDG34c**

Arda Arto, at the Awash river 09/40 [x]

The party of Powell-Cotton hunted elephants there in mid-December 1899. They killed seven elephants and also wounded some. These elephants had small tusks, so Powell- Cotton himself thought it was a pity to kill so much for so little ivory.

[Powell-Cotton 1902 p 47-51]

**HBE98**

Arka Doka (A. Doqa) (mount.) 03°31'/39°09' 950 m 03/39 [+ Gz]

**JDA84**

Ardagia 08°56'/40°01' 1105 m 08/40 [Gz Po]

(visiting postman under Nazret)

**JCC00**

Ardalenga (area) 05°21'/41°32' 587 m 05/41 [WO Gz]

**JDG34c**

Ardata 09/40 [W]a

**JEG54c**

Ardef (mountain on map of 1901) circa 12°15'/40°10' 12/40 [x]

at the western edge of the Afar lowlands and at the latitude of Kobbo

**JDN66**

Ardergera (Ardghera) (mountain) 10°34'/40°16' 857 m 10/40 [Ne WO Gz]

ardi (O, Afar?) earth; world

**HEF44**

Ardidbo (Ardibu) (lake), see Hardibo

**JEC01**

Ardirbeis (area) 10/41 [WO]

**HCA24**

Ardirkimo (Ardichimo) (area) 05/35 [+ WO]

**HEL28**

Ardisa 11°58'/39°11' 2278 m 11/39 [Gz]

**HDF14**

Ardu 08/39 [WO]

??

Arebabni (Aräbabni) ..../..

(historically recorded area)

**HFE49**

Arebay (mountain) 13°58'/39°16' 1883 m 13/39 [Gz]

**HDJ45**

Aреbeke 09°29'/37°03' 2707 m 09/37 [Gz]
Arebia Medhani Alem
(centre in 1964 of Zengaj sub-district)

Arebsa 08°57'/38°56' 2422 m
(area (O) chin, beard, moustache, side whiskers;
aredda (A) break the news of a relative's death;
aredda meret (aräda märet) (A) land /near houses/ where
ashes have frequently been thrown; land cultivated several
times; arede, arrede (A) to slaughter, cut throat;
(arrädä) (A) built a fortification; (T) fortify, entrench;
bara (O) good, wonderful; (Som) home, home surroundings

Areda Baro 09°59'/38°17' 2523 m
(near bridge), see under Tulu Milki
areda g.: godoo (O) small hut

Areda Godo 09°38'/38°00' 2564 m

Areda Kite (A. Kii'e, A. Qite) 09°38'/38°01' 2503 m
areda wari, dark beard? wari (O) time around midnight
/with darkness/; (Som) ask, get information; waari (Som)
make permanent; waarri (Som) walk with a heavy step

Areda Wari 09°59'/38°18' 2545 m
see under Tulu Milki
arede (arrädä) (A) built a fortification

Aredabasa 12°47'/39°46' 1601 m

Aredu 09°44'/36°50' 1561 m (with church Maryam)

Arefa (aräfa) (A) 1. Muslim festival;
2. foam, froth, lather, scum;
arrefe (arräfä) (A,T) to rest; /also:/ die

Arefa 11°01'/37°43' 2349 m

Arefa sub-district (centre in 1964 = Debtera Maryam) 12/39 [Ad WO]

Arefen (Arafan, Araf Fanna, Arafena, Haro Fanna) 06°04'/41°08' 921 m, near map code JCB74

Arega (Aräg) (A) 1. old /person/; 2. creeper, tree-climbing plant;
(A,Gurage) kind of medium-sized branched palm, Dracaena steudneri

Areg Maryam (Areg Mariam) (church, mission) 12/37 [+ WO Gu Gz]

Arega: arege (arägä) (T) to wear out, to become old;
arrege (arrägä) (A) ascend, go up into heaven;
(aräge) (A) senex /?/; areije (aräjjä) (A) grow old

Arega (church), see under Debre May 11/37 [WO]

Areka (Ancheto) (town, with sub-post office) 07/37 [Gz Po 20 Ad]

In the 1980s in Munesa wereda, c10 km from Shashemene road

Aregena 12°10'/39°20' 2561 m, near code HEM40 12/39 [Gz]

Aregzi 12°09'/39°24' 2447 m 12/39 [Gz]

Arega is the first of the Nine Saints, died at Debre Damo

Areqa Medhani Alem
(centre in 1964 of Zengaj sub-district)

Arebsa 08°57'/38°56' 2422 m

Arebsa (O) chin, beard, moustache, side whiskers;
aredda (A) break the news of a relative's death;
aredda meret (aräda märet) (A) land /near houses/ where
ashes have frequently been thrown; land cultivated several
times; arede, arrede (A) to slaughter, cut throat;
(arrädä) (A) built a fortification; (T) fortify, entrench;
bara (O) good, wonderful; (Som) home, home surroundings

Areda Baro 09°59'/38°17' 2523 m
(near bridge), see under Tulu Milki
areda g.: godoo (O) small hut

Areda Godo 09°38'/38°00' 2564 m

Areda Kite (A. Kii'e, A. Qite) 09°38'/38°01' 2503 m
areda wari, dark beard? wari (O) time around midnight
/with darkness/; (Som) ask, get information; waari (Som)
make permanent; waarri (Som) walk with a heavy step

Areda Wari 09°59'/38°18' 2545 m
see under Tulu Milki
arede (arrädä) (A) built a fortification

Aredabasa 12°47'/39°46' 1601 m

Aredu 09°44'/36°50' 1561 m (with church Maryam)

Arefa (aräfa) (A) 1. Muslim festival;
2. foam, froth, lather, scum;
arrefe (arräfä) (A,T) to rest; /also:/ die

Arefa 11°01'/37°43' 2349 m

Arefa sub-district (centre in 1964 = Debtera Maryam) 12/39 [Ad WO]

Arefen (Arafan, Araf Fanna, Arafena, Haro Fanna) 06°04'/41°08' 921 m, near map code JCB74

Arega (Aräg) (A) 1. old /person/; 2. creeper, tree-climbing plant;
(A,Gurage) kind of medium-sized branched palm, Dracaena steudneri

Areg Maryam (Areg Mariam) (church, mission) 12/37 [+ WO Gu Gz]

Arega: arege (arägä) (T) to wear out, to become old;
arrege (arrägä) (A) ascend, go up into heaven;
(aräge) (A) senex /?/; areije (aräjjä) (A) grow old

Arega (church), see under Debre May 11/37 [WO]

Areqa Medhani Alem
(centre in 1964 of Zengaj sub-district)

Arebsa 08°57'/38°56' 2422 m

Arefa (aräfa) (A) 1. Muslim festival;
2. foam, froth, lather, scum;
arrefe (arräfä) (A,T) to rest; /also:/ die

Arefa 11°01'/37°43' 2349 m

Arefa sub-district (centre in 1964 = Debtera Maryam) 12/39 [Ad WO]

Arefen (Arafan, Araf Fanna, Arafena, Haro Fanna) 06°04'/41°08' 921 m, near map code JCB74

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Arega: arege (arägä) (T) to wear out, to become old;
arrege (arrägä) (A) ascend, go up into heaven;
(aräge) (A) senex /?/; areije (aräjjä) (A) grow old

Arega (church), see under Debre May 11/37 [WO]

Areqa Medhani Alem
(centre in 1964 of Zengaj sub-district)

Arebsa 08°57'/38°56' 2422 m

Arega (church), see under Debre May 11/37 [WO]

Areqa Medhani Alem
(centre in 1964 of Zengaj sub-district)

Arebsa 08°57'/38°56' 2422 m

Arega (church), see under Debre May 11/37 [WO]

Areqa Medhani Alem
(centre in 1964 of Zengaj sub-district)

Arebsa 08°57'/38°56' 2422 m

Arega (church), see under Debre May 11/37 [WO]
1985: The government men were lying in wait for the peasant farmers in the market place of the small town of Areka. The harvest of teff -- had not been plentiful in the southern province -- but at least that meant, the peasants thought, that they would get a good price for what little surplus they had. They were reckoning without the fixed-price marketing strategy of Mengistu's government.

There was almost a riot in Areka that day. The officials from the Agricultural Marketing Corporation waited until most of the peasants had brought their teff into the dusty market place and then made themselves known. They announced the official price they had decided on and told the farmers that the AMC would buy their entire stock. The price was ludicrously low. The peasants protested. Some even began to gather up their grain saying they would rather not sell at such a price. The AMC men then announced that no one would be allowed to withdraw his produce. The farmers began to shout and drag their grain away. The AMC men were jostled. Then the government heavies moved in and the peasants knew they had no choice but to comply.

[Vallely cited by R D Kaplan, Surrender or starve, USA 2003 p 26]

Population about 12,300 in 1994, a three-fold increase in ten years?


areke (aräqä) (A) pacify, reconcile

arem (aräm) (A) weed, weeding

aren: arene (aränä) (T) snail

arere: arrere (A) scorch; burnt black /by cooking/ /which Arere?, in Sayo:/ The married couple Ayele Yimer and Feben Hirpé opened and operated a school from 1911 to 1919 under the protection of Qenyazmach Sori Alle. They had been educated at the Swedish Evangelical Mission in Eritrea.

[Arén 1978 p 430]
On 24 December 1935 the Southern Air command of the Italian attackers saturated Areri with 19 yperite and phosgene bombs. The latter was the most deadly of the asphyxiating gases, attacking the lungs, producing suffocation and certain death.

On 2 January 1936 the Italians were successful in an attack on Areri.

[R von Xylander, Berlin 1937 p 27]

Arero, a male name among the Borana; 

*areru* (A) young and brave warrior

**HBT24 Arero** (Meta Gafersa, Araro, Areore) 04/38 [MS WO Wa x] 

MS: 04°40'/38°45' = HBT13, 1755 m; Gz: 04°45'/38°49' = HBT24, 1533 m 100 km east of Yabelo, on the top of a mountain, with a wide view. 

Captain Philip Maud in Menilek's time found that "Arero in Borana is a stockaded village, the only Abyssinian post south of Sidamo. From this centre the Abyssinians control the whole of Dirri, Tertale, and the inhabited parts of Liban."

[3rd Int. Conf. of Ethiopian Studies 1969 p 278]

1930s 

With Italian *Vice Residenza*.

The roads Arero-Negele 170 km, Arero-Yabelo 100 km, and Arero-Wachile 40 km in the 1930s were not maintained and not coated.

1950s 

Used to be regarded as situated in land of the Borana, but by 1950 the heights surrounding the town of Arero had been settled entirely by Guji. Groups of the Uraga lived in the wider Arero area.

[E Haberland 1963]

1960s 

Building of a small station at Arero of the Norwegian Lutheran Mission, with Ethiopian staff, was decided in the early 1970s.

[Hunnestad 1973 p 66] 

The primary school (in Arero awraja) in 1968 had 44 boys and 18 girls in grades 1-4, with two teachers. 

"The towns of Arero and Negelli have a few families of urbanized Borana who regularly take part in the zar cult, a form of spirit possession that seems to be the refuge of marginal men and women."

[Asmarom Legesse, Gada ..., 1973 p 249]

1970s 

An elementary school building constructed of concrete elements and with Swedish assistance through ESBU was completed around 1970. [SIDA 1971]

**HBT24 Arero** (wide area) 04/38 [WO] 

**HBS57 Arero awraja** 05°00'/38°10' 04/38 [Ad Gz] (centre in -1964-1980- = Yabelo) 

Lt.Col. Ayallew Mengesha was appointed Governor on 1 April 1961.

**HBT24 Arero sub-district? (-1997-)** 04/38 [n] 

**HBT24 Arero wereda** (centre in 1964 = Arero) (-1964-2000-) 04/38 [Ad] 

On 28 August 1976, the former administrator of Arero district, Major Takele Wolde, was publicly hanged for ordering the execution of 153 people in his district in early February. His execution was generally believed to be due to a wish by the Derg to find a scapegoat for the army's ruthlessness in trying to put down the revolt in Bale.

[C Legum & B Lee, Conflict in the Horn .., London 1977 p 43]

*aretti* (O) kind of butter-milk

**HDF70 Arerti** (with sub-post office) 08/39 [MS Ad Po] 08°50'/39°24' 1832 m (centre in 1964 of Kombolcha sub-district)
The primary school (in Yerer & Kereyu awraja) in 1968 had 89 boys and 54 girls, with 5 teachers.

JFB00  Arerti 13°57'/40°40' -111 m, below sea level 13/40 [Gz]
HDF81  Arertu 08°56'/39°25' 1713 m 08/39 [Gz]
??     Aresh  ../.. [18]
      A village located half-way down to the lowland /from Ankober/, property of Menilek's concubine Bafena. In the neighbourhood there are rocks almost perpendicular for about 300 m. The explorer Chiarini arrived there in mid-December 1876 and Menilek with his escort arrived soon after. Chiarini departed from there in the night of 17 December. [A Cecchi, vol I, 1886 p 195]
HFE78  Aretetyi 14°13'/39°14' 2376 m 14/39 [Gz]
       (with church Abune Petros)
HDK33  Arewe 09°20'/37°49' 1858 m 09/37 [AA Gz]
HB...  Arfaide (Arfayade) (village 19 km from Konso) 05/37 [20]
      There are some waga, the carved wooden sculptures of dead warriors. [Lonely planet 2000 p 235]
      18 stolen sculptures were refound in the mid-1990s, brought to Arfayade and re-erected a little outside the village.
??     Arfeta (visiting postman under Nazret) ../.. [Po]
HDD61  Arfincho (Arfincio) (area) 08/37 [+ WO]
HDD60  Arfinjo 08°45'/37°34' 2642 m 08/37 [Gz]
HDK01  Arfinjo 09°06'/37°37' 2402 m 09/37 [AA Gz]
      Arfinyo, an adopted clan, of gabaro "impure descent", among the Mecha/Liban Oromo
HEL98  Arfits 12°36'/39°11' 1530 m 12/39 [Gz]