



# Smithsonian

*National Museum of African Art*

Bida, Nigeria (Nupe) photographs,  
EEPA 1997-014, 1900-1905

Paul Wood

2011

Eliot Elisofon Photographic Archives, National Museum of African Art  
National Museum of African Art  
P.O. Box 37012  
MRC 708  
Washington, DC 20013-7012  
elisofonarchives@si.edu  
<https://africa.si.edu/collection/eliot-elisofon-photographic-archives/>

# Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	1
Arrangement note.....	2
Names and Subjects .....	2
Container Listing .....	

## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Eliot Elisofon Photographic Archives, National Museum of African Art
<b>Title:</b>	Bida, Nigeria (Nupe) photographs
<b>Date:</b>	1900-1905
<b>Identifier:</b>	EEPA.1997-014
<b>Extent:</b>	146 Negatives (photographic) (dupe negs; black & white; 4 x 5 in.) 146 Photographic prints (dupe prints (2 v.); black & white; 8 x 10 in.) 67 Photographic prints (albumen; black & white; 25 x 30 cm.) 79 Photographic prints ((1 box); black & white; 16 x 11 cm. or smaller)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	Photographs belonging to the fiancée of Mr. A.E. Ball, a missionary with the Church Missionary Society in Bida, Nigeria (Nupe). While she was waiting for him in England, he sent numerous photographs with penciled explanations to her, which she kept even after the engagement had ended. Many of the images appear to be the work of A.W. Banfield, a Canadian missionary and a contemporary of A.E. Ball, whose photographs are now in the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto. Identical images are found in Banfield's book, "Life Among the Nupe Tribe," (1905). Twenty-five of the images are portraits of African men and women in the style and size of cartes de visite. Many more of the images include group photographs of Africans and Europeans. A third subject found among the images is architecture. These images include Nupe buildings in Bida, a cathedral in the Canary Islands, a mosque and the High Commissioner's bungalow in Zumgeru.
<b>Container:</b>	Item 146
<b>Container:</b>	Box 1
<b>Container:</b>	Volume 1
<b>Container:</b>	Volume 2

---

## Administrative Information

### Provenance

Purchased, 1997. Conserved through a preservation grant funded by the Smithsonian Institution Women's Committee, 2006.

### Restrictions

Use of original records requires an appointment. Contact Archives staff for more details.

### Conditions Governing Use

Permission to reproduce images from the Eliot Elisofon Photographic Archives must be obtained in advance. The collection is subject to all copyright laws.

## Arrangement

Images indexed by negative number.

---

## Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

### Subjects:

- Fulbe (African people)
- Hausa (African people)
- Nupe (African people)

### Cultures:

- Fulbe (African people)
- Hausa (African people)
- Nupe (African people)

### Types of Materials:

- Photographic prints

### Places:

- Africa
- Bida (Nigeria)