



Smithsonian

National Museum of African Art

Russell Hamilton postcards, EEPA
2003-001, between 1900-1909

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Eliot Elisofon Photographic Archives, National Museum of African Art
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Eliot Elisofon Photographic Archives, National Museum of African Art
Title:	Russell Hamilton postcards
Date:	between 1900 and 1909
Identifier:	EEPA.2003-001
Creator:	Hamilton, Russell (Collector)
Extent:	49 Postcards (black & white; 9 x 14 cm.)
Language:	English .
Container:	Volume 1

Administrative Information

Provenance

Collected by the English petty officer Russell Hamilton (d.1911) during his voyages made prior to 1909, likely for the British Merchant Marines. Hamilton gave these postcards as souvenirs to his wife, Ethel Mary, neé Hadwen, who left them to her daughter, Mary Shepherd Slusser. Donated by Mary Shepherd Slusser as part of a larger collection of postcards to the Freer-Sackler Art Gallery, Smithsonian Institution; transferred to the National Museum of African Art, 2002.

Description

All titles are taken directly from the postcards

Preferred Citation

Russell Hamilton Postcards, EEPA 2003-001, Eliot Elisofon Photographic Archives, National Museum of African Art, Smithsonian Institution.

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.

Biographical / Historical

Russell Hamilton was born in England around 1880. He became an officer in the British Merchant Navy and around 1900 married Ethel Mary Hadwen. Throughout Russell's voyages to Africa, Australia, China, Japan and elsewhere he gathered picture postcards and exotic curios to bring back to his wife and son, Oliver, born in 1906.

Russell likely contracted tuberculosis by 1903 and for the rest of his life suffered from the effects. By the end of 1908 the tuberculosis had progressed to the point that the Merchant Navy sent him to recuperate

in Canada. Between extended stays in a sanatorium he worked at various jobs and fathered a daughter in May 1911. Russell died in a sanitarium from the effects of tuberculosis around 1913.

Scope and Contents

The collection includes 49 postcards collected by the English petty officer Russell Hamilton (d.1911) during his voyages made prior to 1909, likely for the British Merchant Marines. The postcards are from Madagascar, Mauritius and Seychelles. Among the twenty-seven postcards from Madagascar (dating 1900-1905) are images showing Betsimisarka women weaving a mat and women pounding rice and a Merina family wearing lambas. Several postcards were taken in and around Antsiranana, formerly Diégo Suarez, and late 19th century European and Indian inspired dress. The most prominent of the eleven Seychelles postcard images is one of King Prempeh of Ashanti and his followers as political prisoners in Mahé. Also included are two studio portraits published by S. Ohasi, which show the sitters in front of a classical landscape backdrop imported from Europe. The remaining eleven postcards are mostly of landscapes. One is a street scene from Port Louis.

Arrangement

Arranged in 3 series by location:

- Series 1: Madagascar, EEPA 2003-001-0001 to
 - Series 2: Mauritius
 - Series 3: Seychelles
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Names and Subject Terms

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

Types of Materials:

Picture postcards

Places:

Africa
Madagascar
Mauritius
Seychelles

Container Listing

Series 1: Madagascar, between 1900 and 1909

27 Postcards (Binder 1; 4 x 6 inches)

1.1: Perrot, Tamatave, Madagascar, circa 1900-circa 1909

Scope and Contents: Photographer Perrot's studio was located in Tamatave, Madagascar.

Binder 1	EEPA 2003-001-0001: Femmes Malgaches récoltant le riz
Binder 1	EEPA.2003-001-0002: Femmes Malgaches pilant le riz
Binder 1	EEPA.2003-001-0003: Femmes Betsimisaraka tressant unde Natte
Binder 1	EEPA.2003-001-0004: Montée des rapides de l'Ivondroo
Binder 1	EEPA.2003-001-0005: Famille Hová
Binder 1	EEPA.2003-001-0006: Cascade d'Ivondroo
	EEPA.2003.001.0007: Vue d'Amboditonono, près Tamatave Marchand de Poulets
Binder 1	EEPA.2003-001-0008: Descente des rapides de l'Ivondroo

1.2: Majunga & Nossi-Bé, between 1900 and 1909

1 Postcard (Binder 1; 4 x 6 inches)

Scope and Contents: An Edition de la Compagnie Francaise de Madagascar

Binder 1	EEPA.2003-001-0009: Hell-Ville Nossi - Bé. Allée des Cocotiers
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1.3: Goulamhousen, Charifou, Diégo-Suarez, between 1900 and 1909

18 Postcards (4 x 6 inches)

Scope and Contents: All of the postcards in this subseries were published by Goulamhousen and depict the location Diégo-Suarez

Binder 1	EEPA.2003-001-0010: Village Indigène, Fête a l'arrivée du Général
	EEPA.2003-001-0011: Groupe de Femmes Malgaches
	EEPA.2003-001-0012: Vue de Diégo-Suarez

	EEPA.2003-001-0013: Village Indigène - Attendant l'arrivée du Général
	EEPA.2003-001-0014: Femme de chef indigène
	EEPA.2003-001-0015: La Mère et les filles
	EEPA.2003-001-0016: Rade d'Antsirine
	EEPA.2003-001-0017: Toilettes Malgaches
	EEPA.2003-001-0018: Une Coiffure à la mode
	EEPA.2003-001-0019: Une Beauté
	EEPA.2003-001-0020: Vue générale d'Antsirane
Binder 1	EEPA 2003-001-0021: Le Cap Diego 1 Postcard
Binder 1	EEPA 2003-001-0022: Le Dimanche, Sortie de la Messe
Binder 1	EEPA 2003-001-0023: Group de Femmes Indigenes, between 1900 and 1909 1 Postcard
Binder 1	EEPA 2003-001-0024: Service de la Poste d'Antsirane au Camp d'Ambre, between 1900 and 1909 1 Postcard
Binder 1	EEPA 2003-001-0025: Pretes pour le Bal, between 1900 and 1909 1 Postcard
Binder 1	EEPA 2003-001-0026: A la Fontaine, between 1900 and 1909 1 Postcard
Binder 1	EEPA 2003-001-0027: Vue d'Antsirane, between 1900 and 1909 1 Postcard

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Series 2: Mauritius, between 1900 and 1909

11 Postcards (Binder 1; 4 x 6 inches)

Scope and Contents: All of the postcards in this series were published by Audisson et Vidal, located in Mauritius

EEPA.2003-001-0028: Entrée de la Grande Riviere

EEPA.2003-001-0029: Moka - Cascade du Réduit

EEPA.2003-001-0030: Port-Louis. Tombeau du général Malartic

EEPA.2003-001-0031: Moka - Le Réduit

EEPA.2003-001-0032: Port-Louis - Jardin de la Compagnie - Statue de l'Epinay

EEPA.2003-001-0033: Jardin Botanique Pamplémousses - Bassin de Farquhar

EEPA.2003-001-0034: Cascade de Chamarel

EEPA.2003-001-0035: Savanne. Baie du Cap

EEPA.2003-001-0036: Port-Louis - Place du Theatre

EEPA.2003-001-0037: Notre Dame de Lourdes - Rose Hill

EEPA.2003-001-0038: Antsirane

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Series 3: Seychelles, between 1900 and 1909

11 Postcards (Binder 1; 4 x 6 inches)

Scope and Contents: All postcards in this series were published by S. Ohashi, in the Seychelles

EEPA 2003-001-0039: Creole Girls, Mahé

EEPA 2003-001-0040: Coco-de-Mer, Mahé

EEPA 2003-001-0041: The Coc-de-mer Valley, Anse Marie Louise, Praslin Island

EEPA 2003-001-0042: Port Victoria

EEPA 2003-001-0043: The Victoria Chaussée, Mahé

EEPA 2003-001-0044: The Port and Marine Office, Mahé

EEPA 2003-001-0045: Vanilla

EEPA 2003-001-0046: King Premph of Ashanti and Followers (Political Prisoners)

EEPA 2003-001-0047: St. Paul's Church of England, Mahé

EEPA 2003-001-0048: Denis Island Lighthouse, Mahé

EEPA 2003-001-0049: Creole Musical Instrument and Player, Mahé

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