



Smithsonian
*Freer Gallery of Art and
Arthur M. Sackler Gallery*

Still Prints of Asia: The Fort,
Agra with Taj in Distance

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery Archives
Title:	Still Prints of Asia: The Fort, Agra with Taj in Distance
Identifier:	FSA.A1999.16
Date:	circa 1860s-1880s
Creator:	Bourne, Samuel, 1834-1912
Extent:	1 Print (albumen)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Image(s): Still Prints of Asia: The Fort, Agra with Taj in Distance

Administrative Information

Provenance

Purchase, 1999.

Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Permission to publish, quote, or reproduce must be secured from the repository.

Biographical / Historical

Samuel Bourne (1834-1912) had already begun to earn recognition for his work in England, having exhibited at the London International Exhibition of 1862, when he decided to give up his position in a bank and depart for India to work as a professional photographer. He arrived in Calcutta early in 1863, initially setting up a partnership with William Howard. They moved up to Simla, where they established a new studio Howard & Bourne, to be joined in 1864 by Charles Shepherd, to form Howard, Bourne & Shepherd. By 1866, after the departure of Howard, it became Bourne & Shepherd, and within a few years, the firm had become the most successful studio in the subcontinent, with their work widely distributed throughout India and in Britain. Although Bourne only spent 6 years in India, his time there was extremely productive. He undertook three major expeditions in the Himalayas, creating an impressive body of work which combined the highest technical quality and a keen artistic eye, while working under difficult physical conditions. Bourne left India for good in 1870, selling his interest in Bourne & Shepherd shortly thereafter and abandoning commercial photography. He was replaced as principal photographer by Colin Murray. Shepherd returned to England in 1879. The firm changed ownership numerous times in the early 20th century and currently operates under the same name in Calcutta -- perhaps the oldest photographic studio still in operation.

Biographical / Historical

This photograph depicts The Fort, Agra with Taj in Distance.

Scope and Contents

One albumen print, circa 1860s-1880s, depicting The Fort, Agra with Taj in Distance, India. Signed "Bourne 1221 in the lower left corner of image.

Arrangement

Organized in one flat box.

Local Numbers

FSA A1999.16

Names and Subject Terms

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

Types of Materials:

- Albumen prints
- Photographs

Places:

- Agra (India)
- India