



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

Linnaeus Tripe photographs

Table of Contents

Collection Overview	
Administrative Information	1
Biographical / Historical	1
Scope and Contents	2
Arrangement	2
Names and Subjects	

Collection Overview

Repository:	Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery Archives
Title:	Linnaeus Tripe photographs
Date:	circa 1856-1858
Identifier:	FSA.A2001.10
Creator:	Tripe, Linnaeus
Extent:	3 Prints (albumenized salt paper; images 25 x 37 cm. or smaller, mounted 44 x 57 or smaller.)
Language:	English .
Digital Content:	Image(s): Linnaeus Tripe photographs Image(s): Linnaeus Tripe photographs Image(s): Linnaeus Tripe photographs
Container:	Box 1

Administrative Information

Provenance

Gift of Charles Isaacs and Carol Nigro, 2001.

Preferred Citation

Linnaeus Tripe photographs, FSA A2001.10. National Museum of Asian Art Archives. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

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

Biographical / Historical

Linnaeus Tripe (1822-1902) was an official photographer for the British Government, employed to document Southern Indian archaeological remains before they further decayed. He photographed widely in southern India, including Rayakottai (Ryakotta), which was then a British stronghold. Around 1858 Tripe took this image of sculptures from the ruined Buddhist stupa at Amaravati, which was a large monument built approximately 2000 years ago in what is now Andhra Pradesh. The stupa was a mound-like structure made of brick, adorned with bas-relief medallions, paneled friezes made of limestone and freestanding sculpture. As time passed, the stupa fell into disrepair and was eventually buried under rubble. Eventually, the structure was excavated and some of the

decorative elements were shipped to the British Museum, London. These pieces were referred to as the 'Elliot marbles' after Walter Elliot, the antiquarian, linguist and member of the Madras Council who recovered them.

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of three photographs: I. Albumenized salt print from wet collodion negative, 22 x 28 cm., circa 1858, on original mount, 33 x 45 cm. Depicts a piece of sculpture from the Great Stupa at Amaravati; these sculptures were then known as the Elliot marbles. II. Albumenized salt print from wet collodion negative, 18 x 29 cm., circa 1858, on original mount, 34 x 46 cm. Depicts an Indian sculpture with a measuring device. III. Albumenized salt print from wet collodion negative, 25 x 37 cm., circa 1856, on original mount, 44 x 57 cm. Depicts the idgah and tomb at Ryakotta (Rayakottai).

Arrangement

One flat box.

Local Numbers

FSA A2001.10

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Amaravati (India) -- Antiquities
- Buddhist sculpture -- India -- Amaravati
- Monuments
- Tombs -- India

Types of Materials:

- Photographs
- Salted paper prints

Places:

- India
- India -- Andhra Pradesh -- Amaravati