



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

Linnaeus Tripe Photographs of India

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery Archives
<b>Title:</b>	Linnaeus Tripe Photographs of India
<b>Date:</b>	circa 1856-1858 (bulk dates)
<b>Identifier:</b>	FSA.A2017.06
<b>Creator:</b>	Tripe, Linnaeus
<b>Extent:</b>	4 Prints (albumenized salt paper)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Image(s): Linnaeus Tripe Photographs of India</a> <a href="#">Image(s): Linnaeus Tripe Photographs of India</a> <a href="#">Image(s): Linnaeus Tripe Photographs of India</a> <a href="#">Image(s): Linnaeus Tripe Photographs of India</a>

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## Administrative Information

### Provenance

Gift of Charles Isaacs and Carol Nigro, 2001.

### Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

### Conditions Governing Use

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

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## 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.

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## Scope and Contents

This collection consists of three photographs on 2 disaggregated album pages and 1 loose print: 1. Album page with two mounted salt prints showing Elliot marbles from Amaravati. Album page: 45 x 33 cm.; print 1: 16.7 x 19 cm; print 2: 19.7 x 19 cm. 2. Album page with one mounted albumenized salt print showing Elliot marble stupa relief from Amaravati. Album page: 45 x 33cm.; print: 25.5 x 24 cm. 3. Unmounted albumenized salt print, Facade of the West Side of the Nayakar Durbar Hall, Tanjore. 28 x 37.7 cm.

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## Arrangement

One flat box.

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## Local Numbers

FSA A2017.06

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## 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  
Tanjore (India)