



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

Mura Bayly photographs and papers, circa 1908-1910

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2014 February 10

National Anthropological Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Anthropological Archives
Title:	Mura Bayly photographs and papers
Date:	circa 1908-1910
Identifier:	NAA.PhotoLot.2010-22
Creator:	Bayly, Mura (Collector)
Extent:	58 Lantern slides 192 Prints (silver gelatin, albumen, halftone, chromolithograph, collotype, and platinum) 0.5 Linear feet (papers)
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Provenance

The collection was donated by Paul. R. Greenhall in 2010. Greenhall had received the collection through his mother and grandmother. In the early 1920s Mura Bayly gave the items in this collection along with other artifacts to her friend Alice Lydia Jones (grandmother of donor Paul Greenhall).

Other Finding Aids

Detailed inventory of photographs available in the repository or on request.

Preferred Citation

Photo Lot 2010-22, Mura Bayly photographs and papers, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

The collection is open for research.

Access to the collection requires an appointment.

Conditions Governing Use

Contact the repository for terms of use.

Biographical Note

Mura Bayly was born in South Africa and educated in England, France, Germany, and Austria. In the 1910s Bayly traveled throughout Indonesia and the Pacific islands, pursuing ethnological interests. She became well known in New York as a lecturer on Indonesia, Japan, New Zealand, and the Pacific islands, and in 1911, when she was about 25 years old, she was elected as a fellow of the American Geographical Society. Bayly published stories of her travels in American, European, and other periodicals, and she designed her

own silk clothing. During her travels Bayly collected skeins of silk fibers and her trips may have focused on clothing design and the acquisition of textiles.

Scope and Contents

The collection is comprised of papers and photographs relating to Mura Bayly's travels in Indonesia and the Pacific islands. Photographs including prints and lantern slides document daily life, arts, architecture, ceremonies, and various events of Javanese, Fijian, Samoan, Maori, and other people. Some photographs were made by professional photographers, including O. Kurkdjian studio, Carli Studio, Josiah Martin, and other photographers in the region. Bayly's papers include handwritten notes for her illustrated lectures, a typed manuscript for a story titled "Peter goes to Java," a journal kept during her time in Java, and an autograph album containing signatures and seals acquired during her travels.

Local Call Number(s)

NAA Photo Lot 2010-22

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Dance
- Fijians
- Javanese (Indonesian people)
- Maori (New Zealand people)
- Markets
- Samoans
- Wayang plays

Cultures:

- Fijians
- Javanese (Indonesian people)
- Maori (New Zealand people)
- Samoans

Types of Materials:

- Photographs

Names:

- Martin, Josiah
- O. Kurkdjian & Co.
- Sigrist, J.
- Wegner & Mothe

Places:

- Fiji
- Java (Indonesia)

New Zealand
Samoa

Container Listing

Series 1: Photographic prints

Box 1

Indonesia

Notes:

Most of Bayly's photographs of Indonesia were made and collected on the island of Java and many relate to the sultanate of Yogyakarta.

Fiji and Samoa

New Zealand

China, Japan, and Vietnam

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Series 2: Lantern slides

Box 3-4

Scope and Contents: The lantern slides were probably used to illustrate Bayly's lectures and may be referenced in her lecture notes. Some lantern slides are copies of prints also in the collection.

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Series 3: Papers

Box 2, Folder 1	Typed comments from attendants at Mura Bayly's lectures
Box 2, Folder 2-3	Typed manuscripts for "Peter Goes to Java," by Mura Bayly
Box 2, Folder 4-5	Handwritten notes for lecture on Java Notes: A newspaper clipping for article "The Moon Maiden" and a letter from A. D. Graswinckel of Djokja from August 12, 1910 are interfiled with the notes.
Box 2, Folder 6	Handwritten notes for lecture on Fiji and Samoa
Box 2, Folder 7	Journal of Bayly's notes made while in Java, 1909
Box 2, Folder 8	Autograph album with signatures, seals, and other scraps, 1908-1909
Box 2, Folder 9	Booklet on Samoa
Box Vertical Oversize	Certificate from "The Greenhall's Trust" and notes on Bayly provided by the Greenhall family

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