



Smithsonian
National Museum of Natural History

Mura Bayly photographs
and papers, circa 1908-1910

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National Anthropological Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Anthropological Archives
Title:	Mura Bayly photographs and papers
Identifier:	NAA.PhotoLot.2010-22
Date:	circa 1908-1910
Extent:	29 Lantern slides 192 Prints (silver gelatin, albumen, halftone, chromolithograph, collotype, and platinum) 0.5 Linear feet (papers)
Creator:	Bayly, Mura
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).

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

Geographic Names:

Fiji
Java (Indonesia)
New Zealand
Samoa