



Smithsonian
National Museum of Natural History

Portraits of Samuel Pierpont
Langley, circa 1890-1906

Sarah Ganderup

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National Anthropological Archives
Museum Support Center
4210 Silver Hill Road
Suitland 20746
naa@si.edu
<http://www.anthropology.si.edu/naa/>

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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Anthropological Archives
Title:	Portraits of Samuel Pierpont Langley
Identifier:	NAA.PhotoLot.73-26E
Date:	circa 1890-1906
Extent:	5 Negatives (glass)
Language:	Undetermined .

Administrative Information

Provenance

Transferred from the Smithsonian's central photographic laboratory in 1973.

Location of Other Archival Materials

The Smithsonian Institution Archives holds records relating to Langley's time at the Smithsonian as well as the Samuel P. Langley papers (SIA RU007003).

Location of Other Archival Materials

Additional photographs of Langley held by the National Anthropological Archives can be found in Photo Lot 70 and Photo Lot 99-41.

Preferred Citation

Photo lot 73-26E, Portraits of Samuel Pierpont Langley, 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

Samuel Pierpont Langley (1834-1906) was an astronomer, physicist, and inventor and served as secretary of the Smithsonian from 1887-1906. Born in Roxbury, Massachusetts, Langley graduated from Boston High School in 1851 and sought a career in astronomy. After touring observatories and laboratories

in Europe, he was hired as an assistant at the Harvard Observatory. Over the next two decades, Langley worked to reestablish the US Naval Academy Observatory, taught at the Western University of Pennsylvania, and acted as director of the Allegheny Observatory. In 1886, Langley was appointed the Smithsonian's assistant secretary in charge of international exchanges, the library, and publications, under then-secretary Spencer Fullerton Baird. Upon Baird's death, Langley succeeded him as secretary. During his tenure, Langley helped establish the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, National Zoo, and Freer Gallery of Art.

Scope and Contents

Portraits of Samuel Pierpont Langley, probably made by a Smithsonian photographer.

Local Call Number(s)

NAA Photo Lot 73-26E

Names and Subject Terms

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

Types of Materials:

Photographs

Names:

Langley, S. P. (Samuel Pierpont), 1834-1906