



Smithsonian

*National Museum of Natural History*

Richard Lynch Garner photographs of African  
peoples and primates, circa 1892-1910

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National Anthropological Archives  
Museum Support Center  
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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	National Anthropological Archives
<b>Title:</b>	Richard Lynch Garner photographs of African peoples and primates
<b>Date:</b>	circa 1892-1910
<b>Identifier:</b>	NAA.PhotoLot.81-58A
<b>Creator:</b>	Garner, R. L. (Richard Lynch), 1848-1920
<b>Extent:</b>	49 Lantern slides
<b>Language:</b>	Undetermined .
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Image(s): Richard Lynch Garner photographs of Africans and apes</a>

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## Administrative Information

### Provenance

Lantern slides possibly sent by Garner to Ales Hrdlicka for a lecture. Transferred to the National Anthropological Archives by Ed Garner of the Department of Anthropology Processing Lab, 1981.

### Location of Other Archival Materials

The National Anthropological Archives holds the Richard Lynch Garner papers, 1891-1941.

### Location of Other Archival Materials

Garner sent African artifacts to the Department of Anthropology in accession 36893.

### Location of Other Archival Materials

Artifacts from the Collins-Garner Congo Expedition can be found in the Department of Anthropology in accessions 62237 and 64018.

### Location of Other Archival Materials

Notes and papers by Garner can be found in the National Anthropological Archives in the John Peabody Harrington papers, the Ales Hrdlicka papers, and the records of the Department of Anthropology.

### Location of Other Archival Materials

The Smithsonian Institution Archives holds the expedition history of the Collins-Garner Congo Expedition in the Interests of the Smithsonian Institution (SIA AH00413).

### Available Formats

Digital surrogate is available online.

### Preferred Citation

Photo lot 81-58A, Richard Lynch Garner photographs of African peoples and primates, 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.

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## Biographical Note

Richard Lynch Garner (1848-1920) was a scholar of primate behavior who studied how apes communicate through vocalizations. He began his research at zoos in 1884, employing sound recordings to study the monkeys' sounds and test reactions. In 1892, he began to study apes in their natural habitat in the Ogawai River region in central Africa. He spent time in an elevated cage among chimpanzees and gorillas as his studies expanded, observing general primate behavior as well as communication. While in Africa, he also observed the local people and wrote articles about their customs and circumstances.

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## Scope and Contents

Photographs of primates, apparently those used by Garner in his experiments, as well as African people, villages, and plantlife. The collection also includes a few charts comparing the mental capabilities of apes and man, as well as maps of Africa; this suggests that the slides were used for lectures. The slides may have been used by Garner in his lecture entitled "The Land of Monkeys."

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## Local Call Number(s)

NAA Photo Lot 81-58A

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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:

Africans  
Dwellings -- Africa  
Primateology

### Cultures:

Africans

### Types of Materials:

Lantern slides  
Photographs

### Places:

Africa