

British India photograph album

Ms. Coll. 1137

Finding aid prepared by Holly Mengel.

Last updated on December 10, 2015.

University of Pennsylvania, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts

2015 September 28

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Summary Information

Repository	University of Pennsylvania: Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts
Title	British India photograph album
Call number	Ms. Coll. 1137
Date	circa 1930-1935
Extent	08 linear feet (1 volume)
Language	English
Abstract	<p>This photograph album was probably created by a British subject traveling (or possibly living) in Karachi, in what is now Pakistan. For the most part, these beautiful photographs which were carefully mounted and captioned appear to be travel photographs, although the time frame of the album, dating from 1930 to 1935, indicates the photographer and compiler was in the country for longer than a mere visit. The album appears to cover areas of what is now Pakistan and northern India, with a focus on Karachi, Port Said, Sandspit, New Delhi, Agra, Fatehpur Sikri, Seringapatam, and Sivasamudram. Photographs focus largely on urban and scenic vistas, but the photographer also documents the people of India.</p>

Cite as:

British India photograph album, circa 1930-1935, Ms. Coll. 1137, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts, University of Pennsylvania

Biography/History

This photograph album was probably created by a British subject traveling (or possibly living) in Karachi, in what is now Pakistan. For the most part, these beautiful photographs which were carefully mounted and captioned appear to be travel photographs, although the time frame of the album, dating from 1930 to 1935 indicates the photographer and compiler was in the country for longer than a mere visit. One loose photograph documents the Indian Technical Section in Karachi in 1930, in which four British men in military uniform are included. One of the British men may also be pictured in another photograph in the album, but it is uncertain if it is the same individual.

Scope and Contents

Photographs in this album are listed in the finding aid with the exact caption provided by the photographer/compiler in the order in which they are bound. The album appears to cover areas of Pakistan and northern India, with a focus on Karachi, Port Said, Sandspit, New Delhi, Agra, Fatehpur Sikri, Seringapatam, and Sivasamudram. Photographs focus largely on urban and scenic vistas, but the photographer also documents the people of India. For the most part, the photographs of the people of India are candid, documenting them at work, although there are a few more posed portraits included. There are also photographs of animals, in particular camels and oxen. Religious structures and famous buildings are well represented in the volume. The photographer appears to have appreciated the architecture, culture, and beauty of India and Pakistan. All photographs are black and white; all but four are mounted into the album; and almost all are captioned in decorative script.

Administrative Information

University of Pennsylvania, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts

2015 September 28

Finding aid prepared by Holly Mengel.

Access Restrictions

This collection is open for research use.

Use Restrictions

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Custodial History note

Sold by McBlain Books, 2000.

Controlled Access Headings

FORM/GENRE(S)

- Photograph albums
- Photographs

GEOGRAPHIC NAME(S)

- India--History--British occupation, 1765-1947--Photographs
- India--Photographs

SUBJECT(S)

- Voyages and travels

Collection Inventory

	Volume
British India photograph album, circa 1935.	1
Karachi furniture removers.	
[Uncaptioned], oxen working.	
Cleaning pots in a Karachi Street.	
Mixing mortar at Drigh Road, [Sina].	
Tomb at Magai Pir near Karachi.	
Doudh Mallah.	
A Sindi Musician.	
Local beauties at Malir or Karachi.	
Water carriers.	
[Uncaptioned], oxen working.	
Our friend the camel.	
English Church, Port Said.	
A Mosque, Port Said.	
[Uncaptioned], building, possibly religious.	
Bunder Boats in Karachi Harbour.	

Scene at Sandspit.

Bail cart at Karachi.

Fruit Mallah, Manora.

Palms Museum, Karachi.

New Delhi.

Changing the Guard at Viceregal Lodge, New Delhi.

Akbar's Pillar, Fatehpur Sikri near Agra.

Tomb of Shaikh Salim Chishti, Fatehpur Sikri.

The Taj Mahal, Agra (3 images).

A corner of the Taj Mahal, Agra.

A marble-lattice screen at Fatehpur Sikri.

A general view of Fatehpur Sikri showing the "Panch Mahal" and Gate of Victory (Buland Darwaza).

Shahdara near Lahore (2 images).

The Shalimar Gardens, Lahore.

Tomb of the Emperor Jahangir at Shahdara.

The Golden Pavilions, Agra Fort.

The outer defences overlooking River Jumna, Agra Fort.

Tomb of Safdar Jang [Safdarjung], Delhi.

Kutb Minar, Delhi.

New Delhi.

On the way to Ootaramund.

By the Falls at Sivasamudram [Shivasamudram], Cauvery River, Mysore.

Tomb of Tippu Sultan, Seringapatam.

Sri Rayanatika Sinami Temple, Seringapatam.

Hindu Gods on road to Mettupalayam.

Temple at Bhavani.

By the river at Seringapatam.

The Darya Daulat Bagh, Seringapatam.

Bhar Chukki Fall at Sivasamudram, Cauvery River.

Gagana Falls, Sivasamudram.

Young India.

[Uncaptioned], two Indian men with guns.

Four loose photographs ("Indian Technical Section, Karachi, 1930;" "Carving on South Side of Somanathapura;" and two images of a lighted building).