Finding aid for the Antoin Sevruguin photographs of Persia

Beth Ann Guynn
Descriptive Summary

Title: Antoin Sevruguin photographs of Persia

Date (inclusive): 1880s-1890s

Number: 2017.R.25

Creator/Collector: Sevruguin, Antoin, 1851-1933

Physical Description: 3.5 Linear Feet (97 photographs in 2 boxes)

Repository:
The Getty Research Institute
Special Collections
1200 Getty Center Drive, Suite 1100
Los Angeles 90049-1688
reference@getty.edu
URL: http://hdl.handle.net/10020/askref
(310) 440-7390

Abstract: The 97 photographs in this collection are representative of Antoin Sevruguin's all-encompassing documentation of Persia, and comprise a mixture of studio portraits, outdoor vernacular scenes and landscapes.

Request Materials: Request access to the physical materials described in this inventory through the catalog record for this collection. Click here for the access policy.

Language: Collection material is in French

Biographical / Historical

Antoin Sevruguin (1851-1933) was the first successful commercial photographer in Iran. Russian by birth (he was born in the Russian embassy in Tehran), Sevruguin nevertheless had a deep and passionate commitment to Persia and its culture. Sevruguin opened his first photography studio in Tbilisi in 1870 with Dmitri Ivanovitch Yermakov, and shortly thereafter undertook an expedition to Iran with his brothers, Kolia and Emmanuel, to document the ancient monuments, landscapes and peoples of Azerbaijan, Kurdistan and Lorestan. The photographic images from this trip supplied the first stock for the studio they subsequently established in Tehran. Sevruguin made over 7,000 glass plate negatives in the course of his career, most of which were destroyed in the early twentieth century - fewer than 700 of his negatives are known to have survived.

Conditions Governing Access
Open for use by qualified researchers.

Publication Rights
Contact Library Reproductions and Permissions.

Preferred Citation

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Processing Information
Processed by Beth Ann Guynn and Linda Kleiger in 2017, who also wrote and encoded the finding aid.

Digitized Material
The collection was digitized in 2017 and the images are available online:
http://hdl.handle.net/10020/aspace_3dda0882d23566b28c864cf628feaeae0

Scope and Content of Collection
The 97 albumen photographs in this collection are representative of Antoin Sevruguin's all-encompassing documentation of Persia, and comprise a mixture of studio portraits, outdoor vernacular scenes and landscapes. Portraits of "types" include "Persan(es)" (Persians); professions such as tea seller, druggist, fig vendor and street banker; mendicants; dervishes; courtesans and prostitutes, shot in the studio or in their typical locales. All levels of society are present here from court treasurers, represented by the retinue of Ghavam-al-Dowleh, to unnamed opium smokers, and to a portrait of a Chaldean Christian woman.
There are numerous views of Tehran, including views of four of the city's six gates; the English legation; arsenal; gas factory; and the Place des Canons. A photograph captioned "Mosquée de Khoum" provides an intimate glimpse of two men sitting on an open balcony with the impressive mosque as their backdrop. Daily life is represented in views of Tehran's markets and street life.

Other locales represented include Anzali Lagoon with views of its shores and the shah's palace, and the province of Gilan, especially local industry and life in the town of Rasht. Trade routes in the environs of Gilan and other areas to the north and west of Tehran are also pictured, with a focus on way stations; bridges leading to trade centers; and the movement of the goods themselves in covered wagons, on camels and in caravanserais. From further afield come images of the nomads of Taliche in Mazandaran province and from Lorestan in the west, as well as of the inhabitants of Imamzadeh, Kurdistan. Also included are a few views of bas-reliefs at Persepolis and other ancient sites.

**Arrangement**
The collection is arranged in a single series: Series I, Photographs, 1880s-1890s.

**Subjects - Topics**
Indigenous peoples -- Iran
Occupations -- Iran
Relief (Sculpture), Ancient -- Iran -- Persepolis
Streets -- Iran
Trade routes -- Iran

**Subjects - Places**
Anzali Lagoon (Iran) -- Description and travel
Gilan (Iran : Province) -- Description and travel
Persepolis (Iran) -- Antiquities
Iran -- Description and travel
Rasht -- Description and travel
Tehran (Iran) -- Description and travel

**Genres and Forms of Material**
Albumen prints -- Iran -- 19th century
Studio portraits -- Iran -- 19th century
Photographs, Original

**Contributors**
Sevruguin, Antoin, 1851-1933
Photographs, 1880s-1890s

Scope and Content Note
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Titles are from captions written on the mounts. Most of the photographs are numbered in the negative.

Arrangement
In original order.

box 1

2017.R.25-1 Ruines de Persepolis
Scope and Content Note
Bas-relief with mounted soldiers and infantry. Numbered in negative: 38.

2017.R.25-2 Ruines de Persepolis
Scope and Content Note
Bas-relief with three standing figures. Numbered in negative: 46.

Scope and Content Note
Standing and sitting figures near a small pool in front of a bas relief cut into a rock face. Numbered in negative: 1388.

2017.R.25-4 Téhéran - Porte de Dochantepé
Scope and Content Note
Numbered in negative: 1399.

2017.R.25-5 Téhéran - Porte de Schimran
Scope and Content Note
Numbered in negative: 1396.

2017.R.25-6 Téhéran - Porte de Schaz-Abdul-Azim
Scope and Content Note
Numbered in negative: 1361.

2017.R.25-7 Téhéran - Porte de Duan
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1   | 2017.R.25-8 | *Place des Canons à Téhéran - cavalerie persane*  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 1043. |
| 1   | 2017.R.25-9 | *Un canon sur la Place des Canons à Téhéran*  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 834. |
| 1   | 2017.R.25-10 | *Usine à gaz de Téhéran*  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 832. |
| 1   | 2017.R.25-11 | *Téhéran - Drie. Almanieh - Avenue des Diamants*  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 1306. |
| 1   | 2017.R.25-12 | *Légation d'Angleterre (Téhéran)*  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 136. |
| 1   | 2017.R.25-13 | *Mosquée de Khoum*  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 613. |
| 1   | 2017.R.25-14 | *Arsenal (Téhéran)*  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 771. |
| 1   | 2017.R.25-15 | *Théâtre de la Régie à Téhéran*  
Caption continues: Spécialement aménagé pour une fête de charité donnée / le 4 mai 1892.  
Scope and Content Note  |
| 1   | 2017.R.25-16 | *Près de la Mormaie de Téhéran*  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 1119. |
| 1   | 2017.R.25-17 | *Khamrameh (Schimran)*  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 1354. |
| 1   | 2017.R.25-18 | *À Schimran, Kane Malak*  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 333. |
| 1   | 2017.R.25-19 | *Jardin à Téhéran - intérieur d'une pièce*  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 1358. |
| 1   | 2017.R.25-20 | *Cachis persans (Téhéran)*  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 1358. |
| Box 1 | 2017.R.25-25 **Téhéran pendant le mois de muharem - tortures volontaires**  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 39. |
| Box 1 | 2017.R.25-26 **Téhéran - mendiants et Persane**  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 946. |
| Box 1 | 2017.R.25-27 **Md. de thé (Téhéran) [Marchand de thé (Téhéran)]**  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 1345. |
| Box 1 | 2017.R.25-28 **Téhéran - pendaison des condamnés à mort (Sauris)**  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 589. |
| Box 1 | 2017.R.25-29 **Gavame - el dohwlet et sa suite**  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 59. |
| Box 1 | 2017.R.25-30 **Lac d'Enseli (Murd-ab ou eau morte): Enseli (perse) et le palais du shah**  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 716. |
| Box 1 | 2017.R.25-31 **Lac d'Enseli**  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 456. |
| Box 1 | 2017.R.25-32 **Lac d'Enseli et rivière du...**  
Scope and Content Note  
The caption continues: ...Barque pour aller d'Enseli à Piri - Bazar / et tirée par les hommes d'équipage sur une partie de la rivière. Numbered in negative: 1300. |
| Box 1 | 2017.R.25-33 **Lac d'Enseli**  
Scope and Content Note  
Shows two boys, a man and cattle on the beach. Numbered in negative: 1178. |
| Box 1 | 2017.R.25-34 **Lac d'Enseli - autres barques**  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 1181. |
| Box 1 | 2017.R.25-35 **Oliviers forêt du Ghilan** |
| Box 1 | 2017.R.25-36 **Fileuse de soie dans le Ghilan**  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 1166. |
| Box 1 | 2017.R.25-37 **Tissage de la soie dans le Ghilan**  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 1187. |
2017.R.25 Photographs, 1880s-1890s

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>box 1</td>
<td>2017.R.25-38</td>
<td>Culture du tabac dans le Ghilan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Numbered in negative: 1182.</td>
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<tr>
<td>box 1</td>
<td>2017.R.25-39</td>
<td>Mendiant (Ghilan)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
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<td>Numbered in negative: 737.</td>
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<tr>
<td>box 1</td>
<td>2017.R.25-40</td>
<td>Régie des tabacs (jardin)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Group of men and women on an exterior stair landing with another group on a floor above. The names of the individuals depicted are written on the right side of the mount.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>box 1</td>
<td>2017.R.25-41</td>
<td>Pont de Recht</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
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<td>Numbered in negative: 730.</td>
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<tr>
<td>box 1</td>
<td>2017.R.25-42</td>
<td>Bazar à Recht</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
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<td>Numbered in negative: 1299.</td>
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<tr>
<td>box 1</td>
<td>2017.R.25-43</td>
<td>Bazar de Recht - fabrication des tapis dits de Recht</td>
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<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Numbered in negative: 1324.</td>
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<tr>
<td>box 1</td>
<td>2017.R.25-44</td>
<td>Ouvriers tapissiers - bazar de Recht</td>
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<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
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<td>Numbered in negative: 1169.</td>
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<tr>
<td>box 1</td>
<td>2017.R.25-45</td>
<td>Endroit de repos, de Recht à Khoudoum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>box 1</td>
<td>2017.R.25-46</td>
<td>Marchand de chapeaux - (Recht)</td>
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<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
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<td>Numbered in negative: 1919.</td>
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<td>box 2</td>
<td>2017.R.25-47</td>
<td>Sefid-Roud (ou fleuve blanc) route de Khoudouni à Rustaniabad</td>
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<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
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<tr>
<td>box 2</td>
<td>2017.R.25-48</td>
<td>Imanizadeh-Hachim - de Khoudouni à Rustaniabad</td>
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<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Numbered in negative: 410.</td>
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<tr>
<td>box 2</td>
<td>2017.R.25-49</td>
<td>Route de Khoudouni à Rustaniabad (ariet)</td>
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<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Numbered in negative (twice): 1190.</td>
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<tr>
<td>box 2</td>
<td>2017.R.25-50</td>
<td>En route de Khoudouni à Rustaniabad</td>
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<td>Scope and Content Note</td>
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<td>box 2</td>
<td>2017.R.25-51</td>
<td>En route de Kasvin à Téhéran</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 2</td>
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Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 412. |
| 2   | 2017.R.25-67 | **À Ourmiah**  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 1261. |
| 2   | 2017.R.25-68 | **Nomades à Zaliehe**  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 486. |
| 2   | 2017.R.25-69 | **Nomades dans le Lauristan**  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 592. |
| 2   | 2017.R.25-70 | **Nettoyage du blé (Salamaste)**  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 1252. |
| 2   | 2017.R.25-71 | **Nomades dans le Lauristan**  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 486. |
| 2   | 2017.R.25-72 | **Chaldéene**  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 392. |
| 2   | 2017.R.25-73 | **Persanes - moulure du blé**  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 540. |
| 2   | 2017.R.25-74 | **Portrait of a Seated Woman in Brocade Jacket and Skirt**  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 480. |
| 2   | 2017.R.25-75 | **Persanes**  
Scope and Content Note  
Two women and a child. Numbered in negative: 543. An inscription in the negative in Cyrillic (?) appears next to the child. |
| 2   | 2017.R.25-76 | **Persanes en rue à Téhéran**  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 508. |
2017.R.25-78 **Persane**  
Scope and Content Note  

2017.R.25-79 **Persanes**  
Scope and Content Note  

2017.R.25-80 **[Nude Reclining on a Carpet]**  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 562.

2017.R.25-81 **Persane**  
Scope and Content Note  
Young woman reclining on a rug with a mirror behind her reflecting the back of her head. Numbered in negative: 1344.

2017.R.25-82 **[Nude Sitting on Carpets]**  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 564.

2017.R.25-83 **[Reclining Nude with Striped Blanket]**  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 510.

2017.R.25-84 **Marchand de figues**  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 522.

2017.R.25-85 **Téhéran - marchand de thé**  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 585.

2017.R.25-86 **Portefaix (Téhéran)**  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 1352.

2017.R.25-87 **Mirza (Ecrivain)**  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 1243.

2017.R.25-88 **Epicier - Droguiste**  
Scope and Content Note  
Numbered in negative: 1334.

2017.R.25-89 **Mendiant à Téhéran**  
Scope and Content Note  

2017.R.25-90 **Mendiant à Téhéran**  
Scope and Content Note  
Young nude boy wearing cap, standing in the street.
box 2 2017.R.25-91 **Fumeur de haschich**
Scope and Content Note
Numbered in negative: 578.

box 2 2017.R.25-92 **Persan**
Scope and Content Note
Portrait of a man with his hand tucked into his jacket. Numbered in negative: 527.

box 2 2017.R.25-93 **Vendeur de sirop à Chiraz**
Scope and Content Note
Numbered in negative: 1339.

box 2 2017.R.25-94 **Derviche**
Scope and Content Note
Portrait of a young dervish wearing a skull cap. Numbered in negative: 511.

box 2 2017.R.25-95 **Derviche à Ispahan**
Scope and Content Note
Dervish riding a bull. Numbered in negative: 832.

box 2 2017.R.25-96 **Derviche à Téhéran**
Scope and Content Note
Three-quarter length portrait of a dervish holding his club over his shoulder. Numbered in negative: 1357.

box 2 2017.R.25-97 **Derviches et fumeurs d’opium**
Scope and Content Note
Numbered in negative: 534.