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## **Finding Aid for Views of Algeria, circa 1860**

Finding aid prepared by Beth Guynn

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## Descriptive Summary

**Title:** Views of Algeria

**Date (inclusive):** circa 1860

**Number:** 93.R.122

**Physical Description:** 8.0 photographic prints

### Repository:

The Getty Research Institute

Special Collections

1200 Getty Center Drive, Suite 1100

Los Angeles, California, 90049-1688

(310) 440-7390

**Abstract:** Collection of views showing native and colonial structures and habitation in provincial Algeria.

**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 Note

Alary & Geiser was a photographic firm of long standing in Algiers. The business was possibly begun by Lucien-Jacob Geiser (1810-1852), an ébeniste by trade, who immigrated to Algeria from Switzerland with his wife Julie and three sons in 1850. Jean-Baptiste Antoine Alary (1810-c. 1867), an early daguerreotypist, probably became involved with the business after the death of Geiser père. Eventually the youngest Geiser son, Jean-Théophile (1848-1923) became involved with the business, running it into the 1920s.

### Access

Open for use by qualified researchers.

### Publication Rights

Contact [Library Rights and Reproductions](#).

### Preferred Citation

Views of Algeria, circa 1860, Getty Research Institute, Research Library, Accession no. 93.R.122

<http://hdl.handle.net/10020/cifa93r122>

### Acquisition Information

Acquired in 1993.

### Processing History

Processed and cataloged by Beth Guynn; finding aid encoded by Holly Larson with grant funding from the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR).

### Scope and Content of Collection

This collection of mounted and captioned black and white albumen photographs features exterior views of French colonial Algeria. Two views show the oasis town of Laghouat, featuring mud brick walls, houses, mosques in the town and palm trees in the oasis; one image depicts a group of Arabs meeting at the oasis. A view of an Arab camp near Boughari shows tents beneath a huge rock formation. The effects of colonialism on the landscape and on cities is visible in several images: one shows a French house along a stream in the Gorge de la Chiffa, a popular tourist destination; a panoramic view of Tlemcen depicts the countryside and the city, including both French buildings and the minaret of the Great Mosque; another panoramic view illustrates the small colonial settlement scattered around the hills at Miliana.

Five mounts have the blindstamp: Alary & Geiser, Alger. The collection includes one print captioned "Tlemcen" and "Bois de Boulogne" in different hands; the photographer and actual site are unknown. The captions are transcribed from the original mounts.

### Arrangement

No discernible original order; arranged by cataloger.

### Subjects - Topics

Architecture, Colonial--Algeria

Vernacular architecture--Algeria

### Subjects - Places

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Algeria--Description and travel

**Genres and Forms of Material**

Photographic prints

Photographs, Original--19th century

**Contributors**

Alary & Geiser

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|-------|--|
| Box 1 | 93.R.122-1 <b>Tlemcen</b>  |
| Box 1 | 93.R.122-2 <b>Milianah</b>   |
| Box 1 | 93.R.122-3 <b>Laghouat, 4/8</b><br><b>Scope and Content Note</b><br>In negative: N.9   |
| Box 1 | 93.R.122-4 <b>Boyori, Bogar, Rocher des Empleaz</b><br><b>Scope and Content Note</b><br>In negative: A56. N.100                                    |
| Box 1 | 93.R.122-5 <b>Oasis de Laghouat/Algérie, Oasis de Laghouat, Palmeraie</b><br><b>Scope and Content Note</b><br>In negative: N. 80<br>No blindstamp. |
| Box 1 | 93.R.122-6 <b>Gorge de la Chiffa, Le ruisseau des Singes</b>   |
| Box 1 | 93.R.122-7 <b>Laghouat, vers le Saharh</b><br><b>Scope and Content Note</b><br>In negative: N.A.<br>No blindstamp.                                 |
| Box 1 | 93.R.122-8 <b>Tlemcen, Bois de Boulogne</b>  |