Photograph album of Great Britain, Ireland, and the Channel Islands, 1885-1905

Processed by Jane Carpenter with assistance from Simon Elliott; machine-readable finding aid created by Caroline Cubé.
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Descriptive Summary

Title: Photograph album of Great Britain, Ireland, and the Channel Islands

Date (inclusive): 1885-1905

Note

Range of years from dates on photographs.

Collection number: 94/39

Physical Description: 1 album (109 photographic prints) : albumen, 42 x 31 cm (album)
Photographs (29 x 19 cm or smaller) are mounted on rectos and versos of 30 leaves of heavy white stock, one or two to a page, with one photo affixed to verso of front endpaper; a large number of the photos are signed and captioned in negative along lower margin; in some cases, captions have been added in ms. below photo, while some photos lack signatures or captions altogether.

Bound in dark green cloth and black leather binding; textured white endpapers; small inkstamp of album manufacturer [?] "J&S" in upper right corner of front pastedown.

Spec. Coll. copy: in beige cloth clamshell box, with title "View of Great Britain, Channel Islands, and Ireland."

Abstract: Collection of photographs by various photographers, dated 1885-1905, documenting the architecture and landscape of Great Britain, Ireland, and the Channel Islands.

Language: Finding aid is written in English.

Language of the Material: Materials are in English.

Repository: University of California, Los Angeles. Library Special Collections.

Los Angeles, California 90095-1575

Physical location: Stored off-site at SRLF. Advance notice is required for access to the collection. Please contact UCLA Library Special Collections for paging information.

Restrictions on Access

Open for research. STORED OFF-SITE AT SRLF. Advance notice is required for access to the collection. Please contact UCLA Library Special Collections for paging information.

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Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Photograph album of Great Britain, Ireland, and the Channel Islands (Collection 94/39). UCLA Library Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, UCLA.

UCLA Catalog Record ID

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Scope and Content

The London photographs, signed by the London Stereoscopic & Photographic Co. ("L.S.& P.C."), and G. W. Wilson & Co. ("G.W.W."), photographers to Her Majesty, Aberdeen, Scotland, portray St. Paul's Cathedral and Westminster Abbey with its clock tower, Parliament, and the Home Office building in Whitehall in all their glory. They also include architectural shots of London Bridge, the Tower of London, and the Mansion House, residence of the Lord Mayor of London. G.W. Wilson & Co. also produced photos of the harbor in Tarbert, Ireland, and Tarbert Castle; and in Scotland, Abbotsford, the historic home of the poet and novelist Walter Scott, Neidpath Castle from the River Tweed and Jedburgh Abbey. The Channel Island photos, several of them by Guernsey photographer Thomas Singleton ("T. Singleton Photo.") highlight the rocky beauty of the coves, caves, and lighthouses of the islands, as well as the charm of the small churches of St. Brelade's and St. Peter Port, the fishing harbors and beaches of St. Heliers, Havre de Pas, and Greve d'Azette, the latter's wide beach dotted with small gypsy caravans, and country lanes of Guernsey, Jersey, and Sark. Singleton also photographed the grounds and interiors of some of the grand homes of Guernsey: Hautevile House, in which Victor Hugo lived during his exile from France, and the Old Government House Hotel, as well as the steamship S.S. Lydia (twin screw) which serviced the Southampton-Channel Islands route. The Southwold photos, signed "Martyn S'wold", include views of the River Blyth ferry boat, which carried passengers between Southwold and Walberswick; and the seafront promenade along Centre Cliff, Southwold. The Scottish photographer, William Dobson Valentine, who signed his photos "J.V." [for his father, James Valentine, also a well-known photographer], shot several of the great resort hotels: in Scotland, the Royal Hotel in Tighnabruaich, the Alexandra Hotel in Oban, and the North British Railway Hotel in Fort William, and in England, the Empire Hotel in Buxton, in the Peak District.
Francis Frith's F. Frith & Co. produced splendid views of the Headland Hotel, standing alone on the rocky coast of Newquay, England. Views of Holyrood Palace in Edinburgh, official residence of the British monarch in Scotland, are signed with the photographer's monogram "A.I." Valentine captured the stark beauty of the isle of Iona in the Hebrides, a holy island where several kings of Scotland and Ireland were buried, and where the Book of Kells was produced, highlighting the exterior and chancel of the cathedral there, as well as the Celtic St Martin's Cross, sculpted on both sides. Of particular interest are his photographs of the basalt columns of the "Colonnade," on the isle of Staffa, in the Inner Hebrides, and the mysterious sea cavern known as Fingal’s Cave, immortalized in Mendelsohn's Hebrides Overture. Both G.W. Wilson and Valentine photographed Ben Nevis in the Scottish Highlands, the highest mountain in the British Isles; Valentine also captured the beauty of nearby Glen Nevis. The Killarney photos, signed "W.L." by W. Lawrence of Dublin, include a view of Innisfallen, an old woman carrying a load of firewood on her back, Eagle Mountain, and Colleen Bawn Caves. Other Killarney views of Sullivan's Cascade and a whitewashed thatched cottage are signed "L. Anthony." The album concludes with a large (26 x 39 cm) print of Lands End on the Penwith Peninsula in Cornwall, dated 1904.

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

Subjects
Great Britain. Home Office --Photographs.
Westminster Abbey --Photographs.
Hauteville House (Saint Peter Port, Channel Islands) --Photographs.
St. Brelade Church (Jersey) --Photographs.
Palace of Holyroodhouse (Edinburgh, Scotland) --Photographs.
Abbotsford (Scotland) --Photographs.
Melrose Abbey --Photographs.
Jedburgh Abbey (Jedburgh, Scotland) --Photographs.
Lydia (Steamship : 1890) --Photographs.
Church buildings --Channel Islands --Photographs.
Lighthouses --Channel Islands --Photographs.
Ferries --England --Suffolk --Photographs.
Architecture, Domestic --Channel Islands --Saint Peter Port --Photographs.
Cliffs --Channel Islands --Guernsey --Photographs.
Harbors --Channel Islands --Guernsey --Photographs.
Hotels --Scotland --Tighnabruaich --Photographs.
Castles --Ireland --Tarbert --Photographs.
Saint Helier (Channel Islands) --Photographs.
Guernsey (Channel Islands) --Photographs.
Jersey (Channel Islands) --Photographs.
Sark (Channel Islands) --Photographs.
Channel Islands --Photographs.
Saint Peter Port (Channel Islands) --Photographs.
Blyth, River (Suffolk, England) --Photographs.
Southwold (England) --Photographs.
Tighnabruaich (Scotland) --Photographs.
Tarbert (Argyll and Bute, Scotland) --Photographs.
Staffa (Scotland) --Photographs.
Fingal's Cave (Scotland) --Photographs.
Land's End (England) --Photographs.

**Genres and Forms of Material**
Photographic prints.
Photograph albums.
Architectural photographs.

**Other Index Terms Related to this Collection**
Singleton, Thomas.
Valentine, William Dobson, 1844-1907.
Lawrence, W. (William), b. 1841.
Anthony, L. (Louis), d. 1933.
G.W. Wilson & Co.
London Stereoscopic Company.
F. Frith & Co.

**Related Material**
Part of the Photograph Album Collection (Collection 94) in UCLA Library Special Collections.
Additional information on Dublin photographer William Lawrence available at the website of the Lawrence Collection (lawrencecollection.com) ; search Anthony Collection on askaboutireland.ie for background on Killarney photographer Louis Anthony.