

## Southwest Landscape, History and Architecture: Classic Views 1874-1954

Andrew Smith Gallery at 122 Grant Ave, Santa Fe, NM, celebrates mid-summer with a special exhibition of important historic and classic photographs taken in the Four Corners region of the Southwest (New Mexico, Colorado, Utah and Arizona) from the era of exploration in the 1870s through the classic art movements of the 1950s. Titled “**Southwest Landscape, History and Architecture: Classic Views 1874-1954**”, the exhibit contains masterworks by Ansel Adams, Edward S. Curtis, John Hillers, William Henry Jackson, Adam Clark Vroman, George Wharton James, Laura Gilpin, Karl Moon and Arnold Genthe. The show opens July 14, 2017 and continues through September 14, 2017.



William Henry Jackson, “156. Ancient Ruins in the Cañon of the Mancos, 1874, 4.3 x 7.3” albumen print on Survey Mount”. The iconic photograph of the discovery and exploration of Mesa Verde during the Hayden Survey.

The exhibition covers three periods. The first is the era of government exploration and documentation in the 1870s and early 1880s. John Hillers (1834-1925) worked with the Powell Survey and the Bureau of American Ethnography in the 1870s and 1880s. William Henry Jackson (1843-1942) worked with the Hayden Survey in the 1870s and then continued exploration and documentation of the mountains and towns of Colorado in the 1880s. Their sweeping, timeless photographs were part of government survey albums and private business presentations to show the abundance of resources as well as the interesting geologic and archeological sites, and the native people. Beyond that they were masterpieces of early photography.



John K. Hillers, "San Filipe [sic] [Felipe], NM", 1880 c. 9x11.5" albumen print

From about 1895-1905, a number of Pasadena-based photographers were devoting their efforts to documenting the Indians and geology of the Southwest. George Wharton James traveled extensively in the canyons and Pueblos of the area. The foremost photographer of this era was Adam Clark Vroman (1856-1916), whose straightforward platinum documentary and ethnographic images of Indian life are considered the highlight of this period of photography.

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Adam Clark Vroman, "No. 1088 "00" On The Way To Acoma (Katzimo From Acoma), NM", 1900, 6 x8" platinum print.

Concurrent with this and extending into the 1910s was the pictorial/ethnographic movement when such renowned photographers as Edward Sheriff Curtis (1868-1952) celebrated the legacy of Native Americans by showing all the mobility and drama of both the people and the art. Similar in sentiment were the photographs of Karl Moon, who worked along the railroad route of the Southwest with a studio at the El Tovar in the Grand Canyon, and the legendary San Francisco pictorial artist Arnold Genthe, who visited Hopi and the Southwest in the 1920s.



Karl Moon, "Home From The Hunt", 1910 c., 13.25x16.5, gelatin silver print



Edward S. Curtis, "Pl. 405 Watching The Dancers, 1906", 15.25x11.25", original photogravure on Japan Vellum paper 22x18".

The third group of photographs were made by the masters of high photographic art in the early to mid-twentieth century.

Laura Gilpin was a true westerner, born in Austin Bluffs, CO in 1891 and dying in Santa Fe, NM in 1979. Regarded as one of the leading twentieth century masters of photography, her artistic production ranged from pictorial portraits, still lifes and landscapes of the 1910's and 1920's, to sharply focused landscapes, ethnic studies and architectural views of indigenous cultures, Gilpin's work is diverse and intimate. Her thirty-year project photographing the Navajo was the last great rendition of Native Americans by a non-Indian photographer.

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Laura Gilpin "The Little Shepard, 1950," 10x13.2" gelatin silver print 1974 c.

Ansel Adams (1902-1984) spent his life in California but he loved New Mexico and traveled there frequently to photograph its scenic and cultural wonders. New Mexico was the location of many of his greatest feats of artistry.



Ansel Adams, "Thunderstorm, Great Plains, Cimarron, New Mexico", 1961 c. 14.625x19.5", gelatin silver print c. 1973