

OBJECT RESEARCH



Alfred Stieglitz (American, 1864–1946)

Equivalent

1930

Gelatin silver print

Alfred Stieglitz Collection

AIC accession number: 1949.796

Stieglitz Estate number: 152E

Inscriptions: Inscribed recto, on second mount, lower left, in graphite: "[faded star]"; inscribed verso, on second mount, upper left, in black pencil: "152 E"; verso, on second mount, upper right, in blue pencil: "AA" [encircled]; verso, on second mount, lower left, in graphite: "Ex 1932"; verso, on second mount, lower left, diagonally, in graphite: "1930 [underlined] 12 / 15"

Dimensions: 9.3 x 11.9 cm (image/paper/first mount); 34.9 x 27.5 cm (second mount)

Print thickness: N/A

Surface sheen: Medium gloss (17.2 GU @ 60°)

Paper tone: N/A

Mount: Original

Mount tone: L*94.19, a*0.54, b*10.6

Ultraviolet-induced (UV) visible fluorescence (recto): None

X-ray fluorescence (XRF) spectrometry:
N/A

Fourier transform infrared (FTIR) spectrometry:
N/A

TECHNICAL SUMMARY

This photograph is a gelatin silver print. Due to its size, the same as a standard 4 x 5 negative, it is believed to be a contact print. This work is fully adhered to its original white mounts. The inscription "152 E," at the top left corner of the original mount, correlates to the estate or "Leica" number that Georgia O'Keeffe and Doris Bry assigned to mounted prints from the same negative that were in Stieglitz's possession at the time of his death. Also in graphite is an encircled "AA," which was used by Stieglitz during printing to characterize the quality of his prints.¹ When the surface of the print is viewed under high magnification, fibers from the photographic paper are not visible, indicating the presence of a thick baryta layer beneath the emulsion. The baryta layer created a smooth surface over the paper upon which the gelatin emulsion was applied during manufacture. The print does not fluoresce when exposed to long-wave UV radiation.

¹ Sarah Greenough, *Alfred Stieglitz: The Key Set; The Alfred Stieglitz Collection of Photographs*, vol. 1 (Abrams, 2002), p. 13.