



ANSEL ADAMS (1902-1984)

Mount Williamson, Sierra Nevada from Owens Valley, California

Signed in pencil, lower right, "Ansel Adams" and stamped by the studio verso.

silver gelatin print

14 x 18 7/8 in.

35.56 x 47.94 cm

1944

43738

PROVENANCE:

Harry H. Lunn Jr., 1978

Light Gallery, New York, 1978

Private Collection, New York, 1978

Wach Gallery, Ohio, 2006

Private Collection, 2006

Ansel Adams' exploration of the Owens Valley and views of the towering eastern side of the Sierra Nevada Mountains hold immense significance. They are among the most iconic photographs that allowed Adams to capture the sweeping majesty of the Sierra Nevada while also giving a vivid impression of the depth and expanse of the arid valley floor. The dramatic contrasts are startling revelations that invite viewers to contemplate the sublime beauty of the natural world and a deeper appreciation for the environment. Mount Williamson, Sierra Nevada, from Owens Valley showcases Adams' mastery in capturing light and texture. Likely photographed in 1944, a few years after incorporating the Zone System that allowed for a wide tonal range and balanced exposure with clarity in both highlights and shadows, the arrangement of the foreground, mid-ground, and the towering Mount Williamson creates a sense of grandeur and vastness that captures Mount Williamson in all its magnificence and spiritual essence. The present example was printed in August 1978. Mount Williamson, Sierra Nevada, from Owens Valley, is in the collection of many museums, but among collectors, it is among the rarer prints by Ansel Adams.

Ansel Adams was an American photographer and environmentalist, best known for his black-and-white photographs of the American West, especially in Yosemite National Park.

Along with Fred Archer, Adams developed the Zone System as a way to determine proper exposure and adjust the contrast of the final print. The resulting clarity and depth characterized his photographs and the work of those to whom he taught the system. Adams primarily used large-format cameras despite their size, weight, setup time, and film cost, because their high resolution helped ensure sharpness in his images.

The information and material herein represents Gallery's best efforts and understanding of the current history and scholarship with respect to the provenance of the Work(s) of Art described and is not part of any warranty.





James Beland













Photograph by Ansel Adams

Route 1 Box 181 Carmel, California 93923

Mt. Williamson, Sierra Nevada

from the Owens Valley, California

Print made Aug. 1978 Negative made 1944