

OBJECT RESEARCH



David Octavius Hill (Scottish, 1802–1870) and Robert Adamson (Scottish, 1821–1848)

## Portrait of Mrs. Rigby

1844, printed 1844

Salted paper print

Alfred Stieglitz Collection

**AIC accession number:** 1949.682

**Stieglitz Estate number:** N/A

**Inscriptions:** Unmarked recto; inscribed verso, on mount, upper left to upper center, in graphite:

"Taken in 1844 + printed at that date / Portrait of Mrs Rigby."

**Dimensions:** 20.6 x 15.9 cm (image/paper); 35.5 x 28.1 cm (mount)

**Print thickness:** N/A

**Mount:** Original

### CONTEXT

The work of David Octavius Hill and Robert Adamson was an inspiration to Pictorialist photographers active in later decades. J. Craig Annan, who helped popularize the duo's work by making and circulating photogravure reproductions, kept a print of this portrait on his mantel—writing in *Camera Work* that “there is no sweeter presentment of old age.”<sup>1</sup> This photograph is an original salt print, and the inscriptions indicate that it was printed while Hill and Adamson were still active.

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<sup>1</sup> J. Craig Annan, “David Octavius Hill RSA – 1802-1870,” *Camera Work* 11 (July 1905), p. 17.