The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release September 1995

MAJOR PUBLICATION ACCOMPANIES ALFRED STIEGLITZ AT LAKE GEORGE

The Museum of Modern Art is publishing a major catalogue to accompany the exhibition **ALFRED STIEGLITZ AT LAKE GEORGE**, on view at the Museum from September 14, 1995, through January 2, 1996. With an extended essay by John Szarkowski, Director Emeritus, Department of Photography, and organizer of the exhibition, this is the first publication to examine the private and radical work created in Stieglitz's later years at his summer home at Lake George, New York. In the richly illustrated book, sixty-four of the black-and-white photographs -- half of which have never before been published -- are meticulously reproduced.

ALFRED STIEGLITZ AT LAKE GEORGE and its accompanying publication are made possible by a generous grant from Springs Industries, Inc., and are part of The Springs of Achievement Series on the Art of Photography.

In his essay, Mr. Szarkowski discusses Stieglitz's early life as a writer, a publisher, a photographer, and an art dealer and promoter. The author examines how Stieglitz, after giving much of his formidable energy to his public career, turned again to his own photography. Throughout the 1920s and 1930s, he explored his personal world at Lake George in the Adirondacks, where he spent summers at a farmhouse that had been part of his father's estate. He photographed the place and the things around him -- the farm, the landscape, the sky, and details of the intimate life he led with family and

- more -

friends, especially his young wife, the painter Georgia O'Keeffe. The book, the first to consider the Lake George photographs as a coherent whole, discusses why the late work of this master photographer is little known, despite his fame.

Mr. Szarkowski, himself a photographer, describes with insight and empathy the aesthetic and technical problems Stieglitz set for himself in the making of these pictures. He also speculates on the influences and philosophical revelations that led this hypnotic, stubborn, contradictory, and dedicated man in his late years to a fundamentally new approach to his experience of art and life. Among the author's many other books on photography are *Photography Until Now* (1990), *Winogrand: Figments from the Real World* (1988), the four-volume *The Work of Atget* (1981-85), *Looking at Photographs* (1973), and *The Photographer's Eye* (1966).

Published by The Museum of Modern Art, *Alfred Stieglitz at Lake George* contains 112 pages and 109 illustrations. The hardbound edition (\$35.00), distributed in the United States and Canada by Harry N. Abrams, Inc., New York, and the paperbound edition (\$19.95) are available at The MoMA Book Store.

* * *

No. 42.1

For further information contact Mary Lou Strahlendorff, Department of Public Information, 212/708-9750.

2