THE WORK OF OLD FRANCE

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MOMA ANNOUNCES EXPANSION OF SPRINGS MILLS SERIES ON THE ART OF PHOTOGRAPHY

The Museum of Modern Art recently announced that Springs Mills will expand its commitment to the support of photography through the underwriting of the entire four-part series of exhibitions of the work of Eugène Atget. This announcement represents not only a major expansion of the Springs Mills Series on the Art of Photography at the Museum, but also marks the first time a corporation has undertaken the continuing sponsorship of photography books published by the Museum.

"The Springs Mills Series reflects a remarkably enlightened understanding of the obligations and potential rewards of corporate philanthropy," stated John Szarkowski, Director of the Museum's Department of Photography, "for it projects support for a wide range of programs over an extended period rather than selecting a single exhibition that might seem to promise extraordinary public attention. The program is an expression of faith in the art of photography and in the Museum's ability to serve that art with intelligence."

The series, which began in 1978, has included: JERRY DANTZIC and THE CIRKUT CAMERA (1978); GRAIN ELEVATORS: PHOTOGRAPHS BY FRANK GOHLKE (1978);

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ANSEL ADAMS AND THE WEST (1979); AMERICAN CHILDREN (1981); and AMERICAN LANDSCAPES (1981).

THE WORK OF ATGET: OLD FRANCE, which opens to the public October 3, 1981, launches the four-part exhibition and publication of the Abbott-Levy Collection of photographs by Eugène Atget. This extraordinary collection offers a unique and comprehensive perspective of Atget's profoundly intelligent, creative vision.

THE WORK OF ATGET will be presented in four successive exhibitions, all sponsored by Springs Mills: OLD FRANCE, THE ART OF OLD PARIS, THE ANCIEN REGIME, and MODERN TIMES. Concurrent with the exhibition the Museum will publish the four volumes of <u>The Work of Atget</u>, co-authored by John Szarkowski and Maria Morris Hambourg, which also received support from Springs Mills, Inc.

Walter Y. Elisha, President and Chief Executive Officer of Springs Mills, said, "Our programs with The Museum of Modern Art recognize both the Museum's leadership in photography and the growing awareness of the contributions photography has made to art. We hope that our support will enable many thousands of people throughout the nation to develop a keener appreciation of the work of talented photographers and a more sensitive grasp of the world around us."

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