

Basic Detail Report



Title James and Almyra Ford Augur

Date 1853-1860

Primary Maker Samuel Peck

Medium Daguerreotype; silver-plated copper plate in brass mat package in thermoplastic case; purple velvet pad in the left side of the open case

Description Sixth plate daguerreotype portrait of James and Almyra Ford Augur taken in a studio, with the painted backdrop behind them showing a generic landscape. The case, made of thermoplastic, was probably made by S.[amuel]

Basic Detail Report

Peck & Co. Peck was a New Haven-based daguerreotypist who patented the

pressed shellac and sawdust method used to make what he called union cases

(also known as gutta percha or thermoplastic). James and Almyra are pictured

in middle age. He is on the left and is wearing a jacket, waistcoat with lapels, a

white shirt, a stiff, upturned collar, and a cravat or other necktie around his

neck. His hair is worn slightly long, almost to the ends of his ears, and parted on

the side. Almyra is wearing either a lightweight bonnet that sits far back on her

head or a ruffled daycap. The ribbons are tied under her chin and arranged so

that they lie on her shoulders. She is also wearing eyeglasses. Her hair is parted

in the middle and styled into ringlets over her ears. She is wearing what appears

to be a dress with a v-shaped neckline and a chemisette under it. There are two

brooches (or one brooch and one button), one at her neck and one just above

the point of the v. Her dress has long sleeves that appear to have some fullness,

as they are gathered into a cuff at her wrist. The bodice of the dress has

horizontal decoration or closures on it, which are somewhat obscured by the

residue of a sticker that was adhered to the glass covering the daguerreotype.

Dimensions Plate (height x width): $3 \frac{1}{4} \times 2 \frac{3}{4}$ in. (8.3×7 cm) Other (height x

width x depth): $3 \frac{3}{4} \times 3 \frac{3}{8} \times \frac{7}{8}$ in. ($9.5 \times 8.6 \times 2.2$ cm)