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PHOTOGRAPHS BY FRANK HURLEY Official Expedition Photographer The Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) is home to a remarkable collection of original photographic glass and celluloid negatives captured by Frank Hurley, the official photographer of the 'Endurance' expedition, 1914-1917, and which made the perilous journey with Shackleton, Hurley and the Weddell Sea Party following the destruction of the ship in 1915.

A century later, this iconic collection which documents one of the greatest stories of human survival, has been digitally mastered by leading experts direct from negatives for the first time, using today's most advanced custom-made technology. The result: the highest quality of image achievable using every detail contained in Hurley's original negatives, from which prints can now be produced, that surpass those made by Hurley's own hand one hundred years ago.





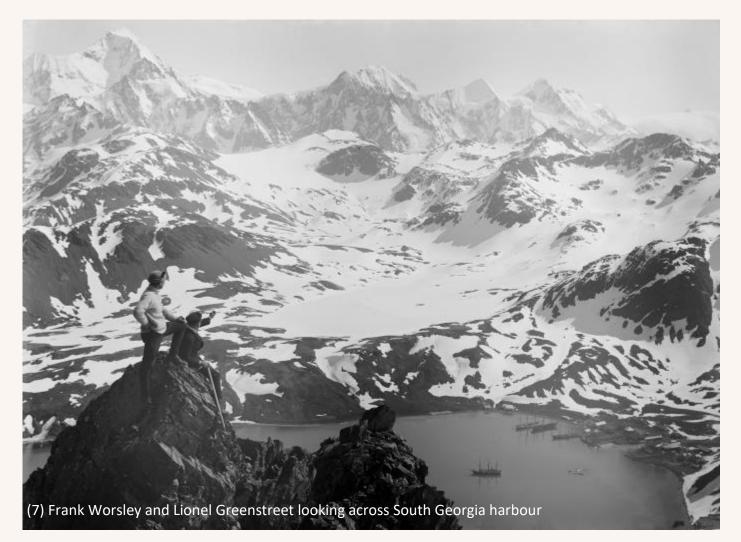




Celebrating the discovery of the wreck of the Endurance, the Society has collaborated with master printmaker Mr Georges Charlier and his team, based at Salto Ulbeek's studio in Belgium, to create the first ever limited edition series of platinum prints from these images. Handmade on the finest cotton paper, the prints are available in four sizes with full supporting provenance documentation.

Salto Ulbeek creates museum-grade platinum prints to the highest possible production values. Each of these newly created platinum prints is testament to the skill and quality of Frank Hurley's photography; they will stand the test of time and are a fitting tribute to the spirit of the 'Endurance'.









THE PLATINUM PRINTS

One of the greatest masters of photography, Alfred Stieglitz (1864-1946), called the platinum printing process "the prince of all media". It is one of the oldest, rarest, most-refined, and stable of all black & white photographic printing processes.

The platinum technique consists in coating specially made drawing paper with a light-sensitive emulsion containing platinum salts using a special brush. The paper is then carefully dried and exposed to UV light through one or more full size contact negatives.









When compared to conventional black and white silver prints, platinum prints exhibit an expanded tonal range, three dimensionality, and a uniquely luminous, painterly quality. Unlike silver prints, where the image is floating, in a gelatin layer on top of the paper, a platinum image is part of the fine paper on which it is printed.

As well as their aesthetic quality, platinum prints are among the most permanent objects produced by man. The platinum metals are more stable than gold, and a platinum image, properly preserved, can last thousands of years.



(14) Mast of the Endurance with the wake of the ship through a field of young ice



(15) The Scientists washing down the "Ritz" (living quarters in the hold)



(16) Camp on the ice



(17) Crystal ice flowers on the surface of the newly frozen ice, with Endurance frozen behind











"During the day I hacked through the thick walls of the refrigerator to retrieve the negatives stored therein.

They were located beneath four feet of mushy ice and, by stripping to the waist and diving under, I hauled them out.

Fortunately, they are soldered up in double tin linings, so I am hopeful they may not have suffered by their submersion."

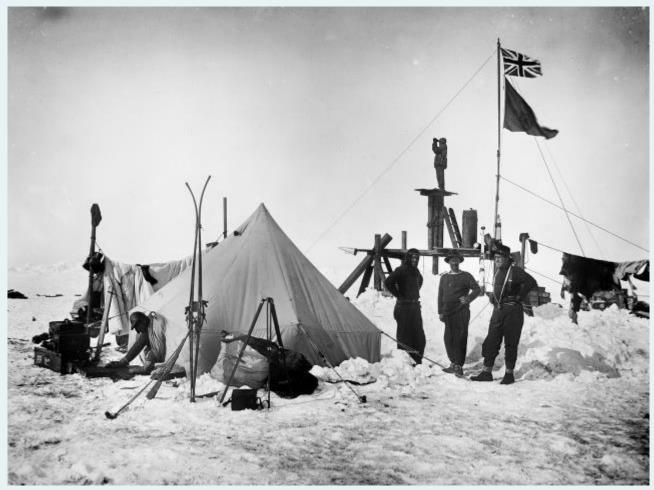
> Frank Hurley's diary, 2 November 1915



(24) Hussey and James taking observations



(25) Ice mounds and rope serve as guidance to crew in darkness and blizzards



(26) The King's flag flying from the look-out platform



(27) Mid-winter Dinner



(28) Ernest Shackleton (right) and Frank Wild (left) scouting for a path to the land through the hummocks



(29) Endurance frozen in the ice





(31) Kennels on the ice in the form of igloos ('dogloos')



(32) The mast of the Endurance and the pylon way on the ice



(33) Dr Leonard Hussey and dog team



(34) Kennels and dogs on the ice at night



(35) Icebergs



(36) The bow of the Endurance enters the ice



(37) Endurance in the ice



(38) On the drifting floe, 'Ocean' Camp



PRINT PRICES & SIZES

PRICES	SIZES
Small from £850 + VAT	Small paper: 32.5 x 26cm, image: 26 x 19.5cm
Medium from £3,100 + VAT	Medium paper: 65 x 53cm, image: 50 x 37.5cm
Large from £4,800 + VAT	Large paper: 95 x 75cm, image: 80 x 60cm

Selected images are also available in 'master' format, please contact us for further information.

Prices include limited edition certification. Prices do not include postage, packaging, shipping, import duties and taxes. Prices are subject to change without prior notice due to currency fluctuation, materials prices and/or unforeseen economic circumstances.



(40) Endurance in the ice



(41) Ernest Shackleton's cabin on the Endurance



(42) 14th January, 74 degrees 10 South- 27 degrees 10 west

CONTACT US

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