



OBJECT ID	F2013.55
OBJECT NAME	Photograph
DATE CREATED	1920 – 1940
OBJECT ENTITIES	hadrian, (is related to)
ACCESS POINTS	Acropolis black and white column Memorial Monument Parthenon photograph print Roman Arch Rome stone

#### OBJECT DESCRIPTION

Black and white photo of the Arch of Hadrian in Athens with a white (now yellowed) mat and a black frame. The arch is the center and the focus of the photograph. The arch itself has two levels, the bottom level has a single arched passage way flanked by stone pilasters. The space between the arch and these bookending pilasters is filled with smooth rectangular stones. The top level is composed of columns and pilasters that divide the upper register into three rectangular spaces. Over the middle of these spaces, resting on the columns, is a triangular pediment.

Just under the rounded arch, the Parthenon is barely visible on the Akropolis. On the road behind the arch there is a car holding people in it with one man

outside the vehicle interacting with the driver and passenger. Behind these figures a couple of buildings are visible in the background.

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#### ORIGIN

The Arch of Hadrian is a gateway that spans the ancient road into Athens. The arch was built to celebrate the Emperor Hadrian's visit to the city and as a monument to his patronage. On the side facing the Akropolis an inscription reads "This is Athens the ancient city of Theseus" on the other side an inscription reads "This is the city of Hadrian, and not of Theseus." Since Hadrian donated a significant amount of money and new buildings to the city he was being labeled as the refounder of Athens. The arch was designating a new chapter in the city's history.

The car in the background indicates the date of the photo was probably sometime from the 1920's to the 1940's.

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#### CITATION

Photograph, 1920 – 1940, *National Hellenic Museum*, <https://collections.nationalhellenicmuseum.org/Detail/objects/>. Accessed 05/05/26.

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