

# Raffaele Monti, sculptor and writer on art: papers, ca.1830-ca.1881

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## Introduction and summary description

<b>Creator:</b>	Rafaelle Monti
<b>Reference:</b>	AAD/2011/3
<b>Extent:</b>	0.04 cubic metres

## Context

Raffaele Monti (1818-1881) was born in Switzerland. He studied under his father, Gaetano Monti (1776–1847) of Ravenna, who worked on Milan Cathedral and on monuments initiated under Napoleon. He also studied in Milan but was averse to the emergence of new realism around him, throughout his studies Monti remained more traditional. Early on in his career he spent time in Vienna, working with the Munich sculptor Ludwig Schaller on a monumental pediment in zinc for the National Museum in Budapest. He returned to Milan for a couple of years and then moved to London in 1846 where he executed a marble structure of a veiled Vestal for the Duke of Devonshire. From this commission onwards Monti became linked with veiled female sculptures. When Italy was defeated by the Austrian army in 1848 Monti fled back to London where he remained for the rest of his life. It was from here in 1859-1861 that he contributed to a series of letters on the tendencies of the English for a French art journal. In 1851 his work *Eve After the Fall* was shown at the Great Exhibition and he began working on tomb sculptures, the most conspicuous of these works being a high-church monument to Lady de Mauley in Gloucestershire. Aligning himself with architects and manufacturers Monti became involved with the Crystal Palace Company, providing statues for the palace and grounds as well as overseeing the installation and colouring of the reconstructions of the Parthenon sculptures in its Grecian Court. In 1857 he worked on the Rothschild's country house in Buckinghamshire as well as the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden. Monti was most prominent in the public eye in the early 1860s; his equestrian bronze statue of the Marquis of Londonderry in hussar's uniform was placed in Durham and in 1862 he exhibited his poetic allegory of the Italian Risorgimento, *The sleep of sorrow and a dream of joy*, at the London International Exhibition.

## Scope and content

This collection contains correspondence and documents relating to the Great Exhibition, 1851 and Crystal Palace Company commissions (1851 – 1855); other professional and personal correspondence and documents (1844-1872); and design drawings (ca.1830-ca.1881).

## Access

This archive is available for consultation in the V&A Archive and Library Study Room, which is located at Blythe House, 23 Blythe Road, Olympia, London, W14 0QX. The Study Room is open Tuesday to Friday between 10.00 am and 4.30 pm, by appointment only. To request an appointment please email [archive@vam.ac.uk](mailto:archive@vam.ac.uk) or telephone 020 7603 7493. Access to some files may be restricted; these are identified individually with the catalogue.

## Acquisition

Purchased with the assistance of the Crystal Palace Foundation, 2011.

## Restrictions on use

For conservation reasons the photocopying of archival material is not permitted. Archives may be photographed for study purposes only, at the discretion of the archivist.

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## Detailed catalogue

### Correspondence and documents relating to the Great Exhibition, 1851 and Crystal Palace Company commissions, Feb 1851 - July 1855

Reference: AAD/2011/3/1

Extent: 4 files

Reference	Description	Dates
AAD/2011/3/1/1	Correspondence regarding Eve After the Fall sculpture for the Great Exhibition 1 folder Letter dated February 1851 from Digby Wyatt to [Monti] regarding a prior request for space in the Great Exhibition; letter containing a poem dated 30 September 1851, written in Italian from Carlotta Ferrari to Monti stating the verses were inspired by Monti's statue Eve After the Fall, made for the Great Exhibition; letters from Winpole to R. W.	1851
AAD/2011/3/1/2	General correspondence regarding the Crystal Palace Company commissions 1 folder Correspondence regarding material prices, progress, payments to Monti, the Alhambra fountain, sculptures and fountains for palace, from Thompson, W. Shields, G Grove, Owen Jones, Purchase, Cockrane, Digby Wyatt and unidentified.	22 Feb 1853 - 30 July 1855
AAD/2011/3/1/3	Correspondence between Joseph Paxton, Monti, and others regarding Crystal Palace Company commissions 1 folder Correspondence between Joseph Paxton and Monti, as well as on behalf of both (written by Harris Shields, Stokes, William Simpson and unidentified); competition letter requesting drawings from architects and sculptors to design for the Crystal Palace Company; correspondence specifically regarding Monti's work including material prices, progress, payments, argument between Owen Jones and [Monti] and discussion of Monti's delay in work due to incorrect planning of pipes for fountain.	16 June 1853 - 14 July 1855

AAD/2011/3/1/4	<p>Other documents related to Crystal Palace Company commissions</p> <p>1 folder</p> <p>A letter from Owen Jones and Digby Wyatt to Monti dated 7 December 1852 announcing the creation of a 'Modern Sculptors of Europe' collection and inviting Monti to participate, attached to a series of documents detailing prices for materials and projects relating to Crystal Palace including prices and estimates for specific contracts (15 Aug 1853 to 1 June 1854); report of the state of Monti's work (two fountains in northeast transept, vases in Sicilian marble, dolphins and tazzas, fountains for cascade); price list for Monti's Crystal Palace works.</p>	7 Dec 1852-1854
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## Documents and correspondence relating to Monti's other work, 1 March 1852 - 16 May 1859

**Reference:** AAD/2011/3/2

**Extent:** 3 files

<b>Reference</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dates</b>
AAD/2011/3/2/1	<p>Correspondence about other work</p> <p>1 folder</p> <p>General information and price requests, payments and bills, material details (size, type, price), as well as letters concerning specific works; correspondence between Monti and Lord Meath regarding Monti's decorations for Piazzala dated 1 June 1852; confirmation, sent to unknown recipient, of receiving £50 for the sculptures Circassian Slave and Indian Mother dated 3 September 1853; John Scott's letter to Monti on behalf of Lord Charles Townshend with an offer to purchase the sculptures Boy and Leopard dated June 20 [no year]; letters from Mr Wooley, Owen Jones, Mr Brown; letter to Monti dated 29 June 1855 concerning finance from unidentified correspondent</p>	1 March 1852 - 5 March 1857
AAD/2011/3/2/2	<p>Other documents related to non-Crystal Palace Company sculpture work</p> <p>1 folder</p> <p>Lists of material prices and expenses for projects (many of which are written in Italian) including a sketch of a machine or contraption; scrap paper with notes about a paper machine; subscription list of Monti's clients with prices for each item; list of materials for the furnishings of a house with a small sketch of a room and man for scale.</p>	undated
AAD/2011/3/2/3	<p>Project contract dated 16 May 1859 detailing the agreement between Monti and Mr W. Mackenzie for Monti to write articles for Mackenzie's <i>Imperial Dictionary of Universal Biography</i></p> <p>1 folder</p>	16 May 1859

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## Social correspondence , 8 July 1852 - Dec 1854

**Reference:** AAD/2011/3/3

**Extent:** 1 file

<b>Reference</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dates</b>
AAD/2011/3/3/1	Social correspondence 1 folder	8 July 1852 - Dec 1854

Correspondence regarding informal social calls and visits to view Monti's work from Franchi Garland, Charlotte [Chetergind], Katherine, Lady [Londonderry], Dutchess of Caledon, Andrew MacKay, Owen Jones (two letters), Lady Ashworth (three letters), Dr Schwarz, C L Eastlake's letter dated 12 June 1853 stating he could not attend Monti's lecture, Lady Devonshire (five letters), drafts of unsigned letters of well wishes to Monti, written in Italian dated 27 July [1854]; unsigned letter in Italian to unknown recipient dated 30 September [1857] regarding bad news the author received.

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## Personal documents and correspondence, 1844 - 30 October 1865

**Reference:** AAD/2011/3/4

**Extent:** 8 files

<b>Reference</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dates</b>
AAD/2011/3/4/1	Certificate for a law doctorate from the University of Pavia dated 28 March 1844 to Achille Monti of Milan 1 folder	28 March 1844
AAD/2011/3/4/2	Notice from the National Guard of Milan to Monti dated 19 July 1848 notifying Monti of his being elected the head of the battalion 1 folder	19 July 1848
AAD/2011/3/4/3	Achille Monti's Swiss visa dated 6 September 1850 1 folder	6 Sept 1850
AAD/2011/3/4/4	Monti's tax exemption form dated 1851 from Saint James, Westminster 1 folder	1851
AAD/2011/3/4/5	Letters of support from the Italian Board regarding immigration (two letters, both in Italian, 1851 to [1853]) 1 folder	1851 - [1853]
AAD/2011/3/4/6	Letter dated 1 November 1851 from the Royal Panopticon of Science and Art informing Monti of his election at an associate of the institution 1 folder	1 Nov 1851
AAD/2011/3/4/7	Certificate of baptism in Italian, 25 August, 1852 for unidentified person 1 folder	25 Aug 1852
AAD/2011/3/4/8	Signed photograph of Monti 1 folder	30 Oct 1865

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## Miscellaneous documents and correspondence, 28 Feb 1846 - 29 Oct 1872

Reference: AAD/2011/3/5

Extent: 1 file

Reference	Description	Dates
AAD/2011/3/5/1	Miscellaneous documents and correspondence 1 folder  Four documents in French; envelope; scrap of paper in Italian dated 11 Marcg 1851; photocopies of correspondence between Monti and Mr [Bulford] and possibly related press clipping and family bible, 1864-1891; testimonial dated 29 October 1872 from Mr. John Dignan regarding Mr. James Gregson's completion of an apprenticeship in the Printing Business of Liverpool Chronicle and European Times; news in Italian from the Garden Society regarding a dance party on the night of 28 February 1846; poem in Italian Verra, various romantic characters ask questions of their hopes, dreams, secrets, and futures with the response of "it will come, yes it's coming"; patriotic poem in Italian titled Italia, signed F.G. Urbino, July 1849; untitled poem in Italian, patriotic verses about Lombardy and Milan.	28 Feb 1846 - 29 Oct 1872

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## Drawings of identified works by Monti, 1830-1881

Reference: AAD/2011/3/6

Extent: 30 files

Drawings and sketches of works identifiable by labels or by comparison to labelled drawings including 13 drawings ordered by Joseph Paxton of the Crystal Palace Company and other works, mainly fountains or sculptures, including Eve After the Fall, Circassian Slave, Cybeles, Leda, The Wife of the Warrior, Margaret from Goethe's Faust, The Kingdom of Nature fountain, and 45 Great Marlborough Street fountain.

Reference	Description	Dates
AAD/2011/3/6/1	Pencil and ink drawing of sculptures of Arctic and Pacific Oceans for a fountain, commissioned by Joseph Paxton, Sydenham 1 item	27 Feb 1854
AAD/2011/3/6/2	Pencil and ink drawing of sculpture of Indian Ocean for a fountain, commissioned by Joseph Paxton, Sydenham 1 item	27 Feb 1854
AAD/2011/3/6/3	Ink drawing of No. 4 Fountains to Cascades, representing Mercury and Fortune, commissioned by Joseph Paxton, Sydenham 1 item	Feb 1854
AAD/2011/3/6/4	Pencil and ink drawings of Atlantic Ocean and Amazon River sculptures for a fountain, ordered by Joseph Paxton, Sydenham 1 item	27 Feb 1854

AAD/2011/3/6/5	Pen and ink drawing of the Nile River and Ganges River sculptures for a fountain, ordered and approved by Joseph Paxton, Sydenham 1 item	27 Feb 1854
AAD/2011/3/6/6	Pencil and ink drawing of Fortune and Mercury sculptures and drawings of No. 12 Tazzas to Terrace Gardens on reverse, ordered by Joseph Paxton 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/6/7	Ink drawings of No. 10 and No. 14 Vases for Terrace Gardens, No. 70 Tazzas to Bastions of Low Terrace and No. 86 Tazzas to Upper Terrace and Stairs, ordered by Joseph Paxton 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/6/8	Pencil and ink drawings of No. 36 Fountains to Cascades, ordered by Joseph Paxton, Sydenham 1 item	19 Jan 1854
AAD/2011/3/6/9	Pencil and ink drawing of Fountains for Basin in North-east Transept, ordered by Joseph Paxton, Sydenham 1 item	Dec 1853
AAD/2011/3/6/10	Ink and pencil drawings of the Thames River Statue for a Fountain, No. 8 Vases to Stairs of Upper Terrace and No. 18 Vases to Bastions of Lower Terrace on reverse, ordered by Joseph Paxton, Sydenham 1 item	27 Feb 1854
AAD/2011/3/6/11	Pencil and ink drawing of No. 51 Adornment to Alcove of Upper Terrace, ordered by Joseph Paxton, Sydenham 1 item	22 Nov 1853
AAD/2011/3/6/12	Ink drawings of tazzas labelled No. 16 to the Basins in the Nave, 'No. 16 to Fountains 1 and 6 of Terrace Gardens, No. 32 to Fountains 2 and 5, No. 24 to Fountains 3 and 4, ordered by Joseph Paxton, Sydenham 1 item	19 Jan 1854
AAD/2011/3/6/13	Ink drawings of two basins or tazzas, labelled Stairs of Upper Terrace No. 8 and Upper Terrace No. 86, signed by Monti 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/6/14	Pencil and ink drawing of statues of Filosofia (philosophy) and Poesia (poetry) flanked by angels, reverse reads 15 University St. Tottenham Court Road 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/6/15	Ink drawing of the sculpture Circassian Slave, labelled Italy, 1851 1 item	1851
AAD/2011/3/6/16	Page of book with plate listed as Austria, no. 746, p. 1044, depicting the sculptures Eve After the Fall, Circassian Slave, and Cupid 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/6/17	Page of book with plate depicting the bronze fountain at the Crystal Palace by Monti, taken from a photograph by P. H. Delamotte 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/6/18	Photograph of the sculpture Eve After the Fall 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/6/19	Pencil and ink drawing of the sculpture labelled Cybeles 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/6/20	Pencil roundel drawing of sculpture labelled The Wife of the Warrior, initialed R.M. 1 item	1849

AAD/2011/3/6/21	Pencil roundel drawing of sculpture labelled Leda 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/6/22	Engraved plate of sculpture labelled La Margherita nel Fausto di Goete, statua in marmo, di Raffaele Monti (Margaret from Goethe's <i>Faust</i> , marble statue by Raffaele Monti) 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/6/23	Ink and pencil sketches of angels, groups of nude women, and unidentifiable figures, labelled One Thing is Needful 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/6/24	Ink preliminary drawing of The Kingdom of Nature fountain 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/6/25	Ink preliminary drawing of The Kingdom of Nature fountain, labelled No. 5 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/6/26	Pencil and pen drawing of The Kingdom of Nature fountain, signed R.M. 1 item	1858
AAD/2011/3/6/27	Pencil drawing of fountain labelled 45 Great Marlborough Street (W), London, signed R. Monti 1 item	Oct 1857
AAD/2011/3/6/28	Ink preliminary drawing of 45 Great Marlborough Street fountain, labelled No. 4 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/6/29	Pencil drawing of 45 Great Marlborough Street fountain 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/6/30	Pencil drawing of fountain labelled '...different views of the Earth...by Fortune and Commerce' and 'civilization [re] fountain for Marlboro', signed R.M. 1 item	undated

## Drawings for or of unidentified sculptures and fountains, 1830-1881

**Reference:** AAD/2011/3/7

**Extent:** 36 files

Drawings for or of unidentified works, likely sculptures and fountains, possibly a monument.

Reference	Description	Dates
AAD/2011/3/7/1	Ink drawing of putti on a cloud, figures holding a globe, a mask, a painter's palette, a lyre and a scroll 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/7/2	Engraving of classical bust from profile view 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/7/3	Pencil drawing for a fountain 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/7/4	Pencil drawing of a monument/fountain 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/7/5	Pencil and ink drawing of statue of a woman on a pedestal, which bares unidentifiable insignia 1 item	undated

AAD/2011/3/7/6	Watercolor drawing of a bust on a pedestal, which bares unidentifiable scene of figures and insignia, drawing reads 'Treatise on Yellow Fever,' reverse has two sketches of similar bust 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/7/7	Watercolor drawing of monument and bust, pedestal has two putti and scene with figures 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/7/8	Ink sketches for a pedestal with standing statue on top, sketches of eyes and face 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/7/9	Ink roundel drawing of a sculpture with two standing women flanking an enthroned veiled woman 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/7/10	Photograph of sculpture of a sleeping or deceased woman, from whom flies a veiled woman 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/7/11	Pencil drawing of a kneeling, veiled woman holding an object in offering, signed R.M., drawing mounted on a board 1 item	1847
AAD/2011/3/7/12	Pencil and ink drawing of two semi-nude women, one seated, one standing and holding a bird, signed R.M. Milan 1 item	1847
AAD/2011/3/7/13	Drawing of a sculpture of a standing woman 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/7/14	Pencil and ink drawing of a semi-nude, seated woman with her head in her hand, in front of her is a cross; reverse bares a scene of three figures and a bust, one figure is seated and the other two are walking away from her 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/7/15	Pencil drawing of a statue with nude angel leaning on a pedestal while holding a small vessel and a bowl, reverse says M 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/7/16	Ink sketches of a face and a standing nude woman leaning on an object 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/7/17	Pencil and ink drawing of a seated young boy 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/7/18	Pencil drawing of a sculpture of two fighting figures, one likely Hercules with a club and lion skin, the other holds a single-headed axe 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/7/19	Ink sketch of a seated nude woman 1 item	undated

AAD/2011/3/7/20	Pencil and ink drawing of male and female kneeling and lamenting over a male figure lying on the ground, female and male on ground wear tattered clothes, a small fire is nearby 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/7/21	Photograph of a classical sculpture of two semi-nude reclining figures, one female, the other possibly a male 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/7/22	Pencil drawing of sculpture or part of fountain seen from two angles, depicts two mermaids flanking a seahorse 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/7/23	Pencil roundel drawing of a kneeling woman gathering wheat, wearing a tunic and head scarf, signed R.M. 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/7/24	Pencil and watercolor drawings of two busts of children 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/7/25	Engraving of classical sculpture of a nude woman kneeling and raising right hand 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/7/26	Ink sketches of two kneeling figures, likely nude women 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/7/27	Pencil roundel drawing of sculpture of two seated semi-nude figures, male and female holding a small pointed object, 'after G. Monti' is written below 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/7/28	Pencil drawing of a sculpture of seated woman, possibly Cybele, holding artist tools and wearing a tunic and a mural crown resembling a city, a star is above her head, a large cornucopia is on her right, the outline of possibly a domed building is in the background 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/7/29	Ink drawing of a sculpture of a nude female being attacked by a snake and two or three large birds, one possibly double-headed 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/7/30	Pencil drawing of a scene of three female figures and a small child or putti, two figures standing, one is seated and veiled, child/putti is holding an object resembling an hourglass 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/7/31	Drawing of scene with three semi-nude female figures, one of whom places the flute, with one nude male shepherd, one dog, and two sheep 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/7/32	Pencil and ink drawing of a standing nude female with sheer veil 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/7/33	Watercolor of a sculpture of veiled, floating female figure on a pedestal, framed by a red, green, and yellow domed niche or pavilion, reverse has pencil sketches of dome and ornament 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/7/34	Pencil drawing of two figures embracing while floating above a flowering plant, set in a frame, possibly a drawing for a ceiling decoration, signed R.M. 1 item Drawing is mounted on a board and labelled 'by R. Monti, sculptor Milan'	undated

- AAD/2011/3/7/35 Ink drawing of a seated female figure with a lion skin on her head, holding an axe and fasces or wood bundle 1 item undated
- AAD/2011/3/7/36 Large pencil and ink drawing of vases or basins on pedestals with two figures for scale 1 item undated
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## Architectural drawings, 1830-1881

**Reference:** AAD/2011/3/8

**Extent:** 7 files

Reference	Description	Dates
AAD/2011/3/8/1	Pencil and ink drawing of pedestal labelled Dolphin pedestal to be made in polished ebony 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/8/2	Plan for the lecture room of the Royal Panopticon Institution 1 item Plan reads 'Freiden and [Leurs] architects, 9 John St, Adelphi'	19 Dec 1857
AAD/2011/3/8/3	Colour drawing of the plan for a garden and artist house 1 item Plan includes the notes, 'to Camden street, 15 feet,' 'Site of the Chapel,' and 'Mr Roberts' back garden'	undated
AAD/2011/3/8/4	Pencil and watercolor drawing of architectural elements, possibly from a Gothic church 1 item Details of finial, cornice, and 'planned work above arches'	undated
AAD/2011/3/8/5	Pencil and watercolor drawing of ornamented finial with three suggested quatrefoil decorations 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/8/6	Pencil sketch for windows or series of three niches, the center contains a profile of a man 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/8/7	Pencil and ink drawing of a wall and entrance to ecclesiastic building, sketches of ornamental elements or sculptures 1 item	undated

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## Miscellaneous drawings, mainly of people, 1830-1881

**Reference:** AAD/2011/3/9

**Extent:** 18 files

Reference	Description	Dates
AAD/2011/3/9/1	Watercolor satirical drawing of a man in an oversized top hat labelled Maffei Cappellaio 1 file Text in Italian is a poem about the man who is discontent and hiding, turning something into geese and peacocks, dated the night of 28 November [no year].	undated
AAD/2011/3/9/2	Etching of faces labelled Rembrandt, [1630] 1 item	undated

AAD/2011/3/9/3	Pencil drawing of female face 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/9/4	Pencil drawing of a standing man in profile and modern dress 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/9/5	Engraving of a domestic scene with a barefoot elderly woman carrying a child and dragging a fallen child 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/9/6	Engraving of a bust of a man in profile, wearing modern dress 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/9/7	Engraved roundel with image of a woman wearing a cross 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/9/8	Engraved roundel of a woman in profile, holding a mask, wearing a gown and a feather in her hair 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/9/9	Engraved roundel of the bust of a male in three-quarter profile 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/9/10	Engraving of a male bust in three-quarter profile, possibly William Shakespeare 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/9/11	Watercolor and pencil drawing of a table with elaborate base with a winding tree, putti, and goats 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/9/12	Etching or engraving of a ball 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/9/13	Etching or engraving of a tile or ornamental pattern 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/9/14	Engraving of Egyptian hieroglyphs 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/9/15	Felt pen or colored ink drawing of flags and a cross that reads 'God is Love' 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/9/16	Colour engraving of reptiles 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/9/17	Engraving of exotic smoking scene in an Islamic-inspired interior 1 item	undated
AAD/2011/3/9/18	Engraving of exotic smoking scene in Islamic-inspired interior 1 item	undated

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