THE WORK OF ATGET THE ART OF OLD PARIS

NO. 31 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART, NEW YORK OCTOBER 14, 1982–JANUARY 4, 1983

SECOND ATGET VOLUME TO ACCOMPANY PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION

<u>The Work of Atget: The Art of Old Paris</u> will be published in conjunction with the exhibition of the same title, on view in the West Wing Galleries of The Museum of Modern Art from October 14, 1982 through January 4, 1983. The book is the second of four exploring the art of the French photographer Eugène Atget. Support for <u>The Work of Atget</u> volumes has been generously provided by Springs Industries, Inc.

During his lifetime, Atget was best known as a photographer of Old Paris, the subject of this volume. To create his portrait of Paris as it had appeared prior to the French Revolution, he photographed not only the famous sites and monuments--Notre Dame, the Pantheon, and the Luxembourg Palace--but also the little-noticed corners and artifacts that had escaped the urban renewal projects of the 19th century--the quiet courtyards, private townhouses, and unexpected passageways. Perhaps no more intimate portrait of Old Paris exists than the one Atget painstakingly fashioned.

John Szarkowski, director of the exhibitions and of the Museum's Department

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This exhibition is part of the Springs Industries Series on the Art of Photography at The Museum of Modern Art. NO. 31

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of Photography and Maria Morris Hambourg, art historian and Atget scholar, are co-authors of <u>The Work of Atget</u>. A biography of Atget by Mrs. Hambourg forms the text of the 192-page <u>The Art of Old Paris</u>. Drawing on new research, Mrs. Hambourg reveals more fully the life of this hitherto elusive and shadowy artist and offers new insights into his intellectual pursuits and his political and artistic associations.

The 117 photographs in the exhibition are reproduced as full-page plates, printed in three color offset to insure the utmost fidelity to the original prints. The plates are fully annotated and accompanied by 95 reference illustrations.

The Museum of Modern Art will publish <u>The Work of Atget: The Art of Old</u> <u>Paris</u>, to be priced at \$40.00, in a clothbound edition only. The New York Graphic Society Books/Little, Brown and Company, Boston will distribute the book. Other volumes in <u>The Work of Atget</u> series are <u>Old France</u> (vol.I) published in 1981, <u>The Ancien Regime</u> (vol. III) scheduled for 1983, and Modern Times (vol. IV) in 1984.

THE WORK OF ATGET exhibitions are part of the Springs Industries Series on the Art of Photography and are being generously supported by a grant from Springs Industries, Inc.

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