



Untitled (from the South Bronx series)

Date

1983

Primary Maker

Ray Mortenson

Medium

Gelatin silver print

Description

In the mid-1970s, an economic downturn combined with complex social and political pressures caused the gradual decline of the

South Bronx. By the 1980s, crime, middle-class exodus, fires, and the lack of public services had taken their toll—little was left standing. The photographs were intended to present an objective, wide-ranging survey of the devastated urban landscape. Images of crumbling architectural facades and dark, fading interiors suggest both Classical and Romantic approaches to ruin and decline. On a personal level, the landscape seemed not dissimilar to that of the Meadowlands, deserted, quiet, and visually compelling. -- Ray Mortenson SOURCE: <https://www.raymortenson.com/south-bronx-info>

Dimensions

Image: 5 3/4 × 8 3/4 in. (14.6 × 22.2 cm) Sheet: 9 1/2 × 12 5/8 in. (24.1 × 32.1 cm)