
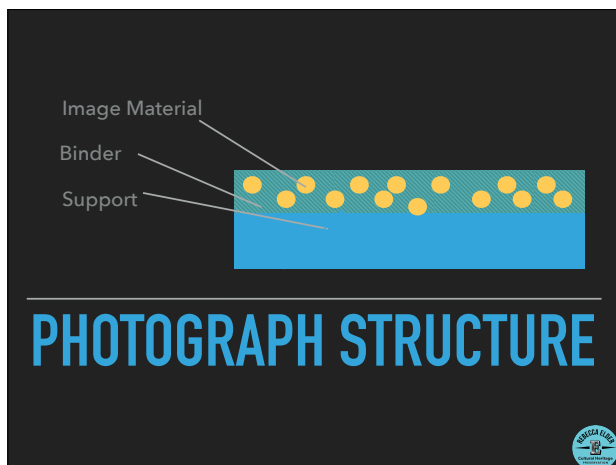
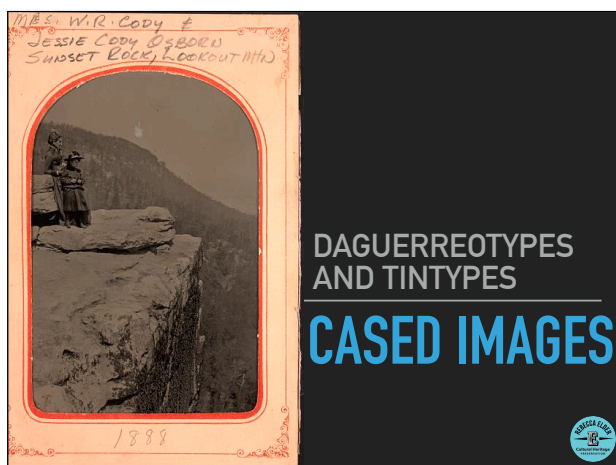


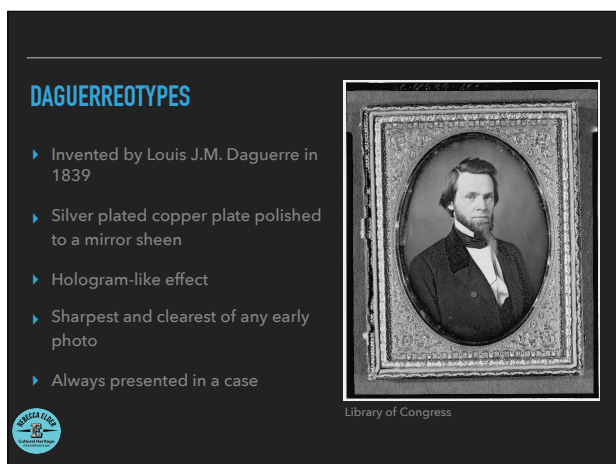
ON TODAY'S AGENDA

- ▶ Photograph Structure
- ▶ Cased Images
- ▶ Prints
- ▶ Storage Solutions
- ▶ Handling
- ▶ Resources









DAGUERREOTYPE DETERIORATION

- ▶ Tarnish
- ▶ Glass corrosion
- ▶ Damage from case



TINTYPES

- ▶ Introduced in 1856
- ▶ Direct positive images printed on a lacquered sheet of iron
- ▶ Overall gray or brown tone with milky highlights
- ▶ Presented cased or mounted in paper folders



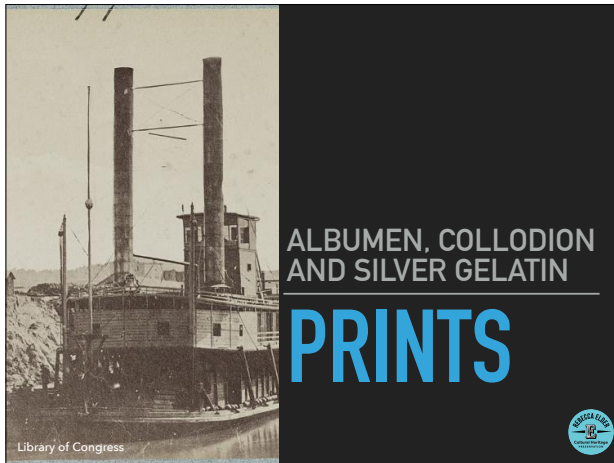
Library of Congress



TINTYPE DETERIORATION


- ▶ Rusting of iron support
- ▶ Abrasions on emulsion
- ▶ Cracks in emulsion and varnish






ALBUMEN PRINTS

- ▶ Introduced 1850
- ▶ Albumen is egg white
- ▶ First widely used printing paper
- ▶ Dominant 19th C paper
- ▶ Glossy surface, red or purple tones, and sharp detail





Google Cultural Institute



ALBUMEN DETERIORATION

- ▶ Crazing
- ▶ Highlight and overall yellowing
- ▶ Fading
- ▶ Loss of image detail in highlights
- ▶ Brittle mounting boards



COLLODION PRINTS

- ▶ Introduced in 1867
- ▶ Much more stable than albumen prints
- ▶ Toned to reddish brown and burnished to a high gloss
- ▶ Very susceptible to abrasion and scratches
- ▶ Common until around 1910



SILVER GELATIN PRINTS

- ▶ Available from 1873
- ▶ Most popular after 1905
- ▶ Ubiquitous until 1960s
- ▶ Very stable
- ▶ Used primarily for enlargements



SILVER MIRRORING

Primary form of deterioration



CARTES DE VISITES

- ▶ Invented in 1854
- ▶ Ubiquitous between 1860-1866
- ▶ 2 1/2" x 4" card
- ▶ Most cards have back mark with info on photographer and location
- ▶ First photograph albums invented for CdVs



CABINET CARDS

- ▶ Larger version of CdV
- ▶ Measures 6 1/2" x 4 1/2"
- ▶ Photographer's imprint on front
- ▶ Introduced 1866
- ▶ Popular to early 1900s



STORAGE AND HANDLING



ENVIRONMENTAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- ▶ Very cool temperature and low rH
- ▶ Minimal light exposure
- ▶ Always exhibit copies of photographs instead of originals
- ▶ Frost free refrigerators are an easy way to store photos at low temperatures

STORAGE

- ▶ Separate prints from negatives
- ▶ Separate originals from copies
- ▶ Store similarly-sized items together
- ▶ Store by photographic process?

LAYERS OF PROTECTION

- ▶ Individual enclosures
- ▶ Folders
- ▶ Boxes

ALL SUPPLIES SHOULD PASS THE PHOTOGRAPHIC ACTIVITY TEST (PAT).

A tip to remember



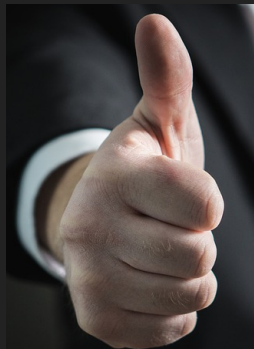
PAPER OR PLASTIC?

- ▶ Paper enclosures require handling
- ▶ Plastic may accelerate deterioration
- ▶ Only acceptable plastics
 - ▶ Polyester
 - ▶ Polyethylene
 - ▶ Polypropylene



STORAGE RULES OF THUMB

- ▶ Store photos larger than 10"x12" flat.
- ▶ Label enclosures in pencil.
- ▶ If you must write on a photo, use soft pencil and write lightly in the margins.
- ▶ When in doubt, choose paper enclosures.
- ▶ Store cased photographs in four-flap enclosures, either flat or on edge.



CARE AND HANDLING TIPS

- ▶ Provide copies rather than originals whenever possible.
- ▶ Wash hands and wear nitrile gloves.
- ▶ Handle photos by edges only.
- ▶ Use a secondary support for photographs that are large or fragile.
- ▶ Use both hands to transport and turn over.



RESOURCES

- ▶ THC Resources
- ▶ Sustainable Heritage Network
- ▶ IPI Graphics Atlas
- ▶ *Care and Identification of 19th c Photographic Prints* - James C. Reilly
- ▶ *Photographs: Archival Care and Management* Mary Lynn Ritzenthaler and Diane Vogt-O'Connor

THANK YOU!

- ▶ Let's stay in touch!
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