

Clues In Old Photographs

Presented by Marion Peterson on May 7, 2007

1. Protect the original
2. Use a worksheet
3. Ask other relatives
4. Identify the type of photograph
5. Identify the photographer
6. Check the scene / background
7. Look for clothing and hairstyle clues
8. Distinctive features
9. Compare with family information

Resources:

Books

Uncovering Your Ancestry through Family Photographs by Maureen A. Taylor (CPL)

Unlocking the Secrets in Old Photographs by Karen Frisch-Ripley (AFHS)

Dating Old Photographs by Robert Pols (AFHS)

Looking at Old Photographs by Robert Pols (AFHS)

Dating Nineteenth Century Photographs by Robert Pols (AFHS)

Dating Twentieth Century Photographs by Robert Pols (AFHS)

More Dating Old Photographs 1840-1929 by Maureen Taylor (AFHS)

Dressed for the Photographer by Joan Severa (U of C)

Websites

General:

http://www.genealogy.com/73_taylor.html

<http://www.olaweb.org/quarterly/quar7-4/pho.shtml>

<http://www.familychronicle.com/dating.htm>

Types of Photographs:

<http://www.ajmorris.com/roots/photo/types.php>

<http://www.familychronicle.com/Dating19thCenturyPhotos.html>

<http://www.cycleback.com/photoguide/mounted.htm>

<http://www.vintagephoto.com/reference/dating.html>

Clothing Clues:

<http://www.ajmorris.com/roots/photo/datep18.htm>

<http://www.cartes.freeuk.com/time/date.htm>

http://www.fashion-era.com/Dating_Costume_History_Pictures/how_to_date_photographs_top.htm

Photographers:

<http://findingphotographers.homestead.com/files/FF-FindingPhotographers.htm>