

Resources for Dating and Identifying Photos

Identifying historical photos timeline: <https://ipgg.files.wordpress.com/2012/04/identifying-photographs.pdf>

Tips for identifying old family photos: <https://www.familysearch.org/blog/en/3-tips-identifying-family-photos/>

How to date family photographs: <https://blog.nationalarchives.gov.uk/how-to-date-family-photographs/>

Identifying 19th century photos by fashion, hair style, photo type, and studio: <http://ancestralfindings.com/researching-old-photo-studios-to-identify-19th-century-photographs/>

Dating family photos: <https://www.reclaimingkin.com/dating-family-photographs/>

Dating and identifying old family photos: <http://thephotoorganizers.com/dating-identifying-old-family-photographs/>

Identifying historical photos timeline: <https://ipgg.files.wordpress.com/2012/04/identifying-photographs.pdf>

Tricks to dating family photos: <https://thephotoorganizers.com/photo-detective-dating-family-snapshots/>

Use the internet to identify people and places in old photos: <https://turbofuture.com/misc/Identify-Old-Photos-Using-the-Internet>

How to date your old photos: <https://www.aarp.org/relationships/genealogy/info-11-2011/dating-old-photos.html>

How to date photos even if your family can't remember them: <https://www.scanyourentirelife.com/how-to-date-photos-family-photo-collections-sort-organize/>

Royal Photographic Society list of finding aids for 19th-century photographers: <https://rps.org/resources/researching-historical-photographers/>

Fashion and Hairstyle

Dating vintage photos by clothing and hairstyle: <https://www.sheknows.com/living/articles/814584/genealogy-research-dating-vintage-photographs-by-clothing-and-hairstyles-1/>

How to date photographs by fashion: <https://blog.scienceandmediamuseum.org.uk/how-to-date-photographs-by-fashion/>

Two sites for fashion history by decade (University of Vermont and Vintage Fashion Guild):
<http://www.uvm.edu/landscape/dating/index.php> (clothing and hairstyles, 1850-1950);
<http://vintagefashionguild.org/fashion-timeline/> (1800-2000)

University of Georgia historic clothing collection: <https://www.fcs.uga.edu/tmi/historic-clothing-and-textile-collection-the-collection> (men's, women's, children's clothing and accessories, as well as textiles, 1850 to present)

Findmypast guide to historical fashion: <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/blog/help/family-photos-what-are-they-wearing>

Gallery and Case Studies sections help identify dates by fashion: <http://www.phototree.com/>

Library of Congress period photographs for comparisons: <https://www.loc.gov/photos/>

Fashions through the decades help date photographs: <https://www.historicalemporium.com/>

Fashion history by decade, 19th century: <https://fashionhistory.fitnyc.edu/category/19th-century/>

20th century: <https://fashionhistory.fitnyc.edu/category/20th-century/> 21st century: <https://fashionhistory.fitnyc.edu/category/21st-century/>
Women's fashions through the decades: <https://www.fashion-era.com/>
Boards on specific fashion eras can be found on Pinterest (Example: Search for "fashion 1860's" for Civil War era fashions.) <https://www.pinterest.com/>
Historical timeline of men's fashions: <https://hespokestyle.com/mens-fashion-history-timeline/>
Historical girls' clothing: <https://histclo.com/girl/girl.html>
Historical boys clothing: <https://www.histclo.com/photo/photoguidec.html>
Breeching (when boy first dressed in breeches/trousers): [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Breeching_\(boys\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Breeching_(boys))
Historical patterns 1789-1940s: <http://www.pastpatterns.com/>
Ties through time: <https://fillingsclothing.com/2018/03/ties-through-time/>
Use photo image for a reverse image google search: <https://support.google.com/websearch/answer/1325808?co=GENIE.Platform%3DDesktop&hl=en>

Dating Photo Format

Fixed in Time, a guide to dating daguerreotypes, ambrotypes and tintypes by mats and cases: For a link to download the free pdf: <https://fixedintimebook.blogspot.com/>
Dating guide for photomatic portraits (photobooths): <https://www.dropbox.com/s/dpl0qksye9fvudc/Photomatic%20dating%20guide%20v1.1.pdf?dl=0>
Series on dating early photographs by process and format (first of a series), links to others: <https://blog.scienceandmediamuseum.org.uk/find-out-when-a-photo-was-taken-identify-daguerreotype-photography/>
Daguerreotypes with discussion board to ask questions: <https://www.flickr.com/groups/dags/>
Craig's Daguerreian Registry, American photographers 1839-1860: <http://craigcamera.com/dag/>
Dating photos with early photo types: <https://blog.genealogybank.com/how-to-date-old-ancestor-photographs-with-early-photo-types.html>
19th century photo types: a breakdown to help you date old family pictures <https://familyhistorydaily.com/expert-help/19th-century-photo-types-a-breakdown-to-help-you-date-old-family-pictures/>
Identifying photographic processes: <http://www.graphicsatlas.org/>
Victoria & Albert Museum guide to photographic processes: <https://www.vam.ac.uk/articles/photographic-processes>
The Photographic Materials Group of the Institute of Conservation: <https://icon.org.uk/groups/photographic-materials>
Science and Media Museum guide to photographic processes and formats: <https://blog.scienceandmediamuseum.org.uk/tag/date-a-photograph/>
What vintage photograph formats can tell you: <https://www.sheknows.com/living/articles/814635/genealogy-research-what-a-vintage-photograph-s-format-can-tell-you-1/>

Find Old Family Photos

Tips and resources to find old family photos: <https://lialisson.com/find-old-family-photos/>
Ancestor search <http://www.searchforancestors.com/records/photossearch.html>
Ellis Island Passenger Ship Search <http://stevemorse.org/ellis/pictures.html>
British towns, villages photos 1860-1970: http://www.francisfrith.com/us?locale_confirmed=true
Images of England: <http://www.imagesofengland.org.uk/>

National Portrait Gallery: <http://www.npg.si.edu/>

Library of Congress Historic Photos Flickr Project:

https://www.flickr.com/photos/library_of_congress/collections/72157601355524315/

Forces War Records advice on identifying military photographs: <https://www.forces-war-records.co.uk/blog/2018/06/21/military-photograph>

Military History Institute Civil War and Vietnam War photographs:

<http://www.carlisle.army.mil/ahec/research.cfm>

Civil War pictures: <https://www.archives.gov/research/military/civil-war/photos>

U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum photo archives: <http://www.ushmm.org/research/research-in-collections>

Dead Fred - Over 148,000 pictures and 22,400+ surnames, reuniting families and pictures:

<http://www.deadfred.com/>

Family Search user-submitted photos: <https://familysearch.org/photos/find>

Old family photographs from various sources reunited with the proper family

<http://www.facesfromthepast.net/photo-inventory.html>

Genealogy photo collections from across the web: <http://www.cyndislist.com/photos/lost-and-found/>

Vintage photos by surname and location: <http://familyoldphotos.com/>

Archives and large libraries are using Flickr to house digital collections including many photographs:

<https://www.flickr.com/>

To search for images on google: <https://images.google.com/>

Newspaper Photograph Sites (Location Specific)

Phoenix: Phoenix Jewish News Photographs Collection 1948-2007 Jewish American newspaper, only photographs, not the text of the articles.

Los Angeles: Charlotta Bass/California Eagle Photograph Collection 1870-1960 African American newspaper, includes photographs published in the *California Eagle*.

Tallahassee: Tallahassee Democrat Collection 1955-1970s A collection of photos taken by *Tallahassee Democrat* photographers.

Atlanta: Atlanta Journal-Constitution Photographs 1950s-1980s Photographs only, not articles. Most of the photographs are from the 1950s-1980s, but some are from other years.

New York City: New York Call Photographs No article text, just photographs from the *New York Call*.

Cleveland: Cleveland Press 1878-1982 Includes selected articles and photographs

Getty Images, world news photos: <https://www.gettyimages.com/editorial-images/news>

Historical Online Picture Databases:

BYU historical photographs collection: <https://lib.byu.edu/collections/historical-photographs/>

Digital Photography Collections at the National Archives:

<https://www.archives.gov/research/alic/reference/photography>

California libraries and archives historical images: <https://calisphere.org/>

Cornell University digital collections: <https://digital.library.cornell.edu/>

Digital Library of Appalachia: <http://dla.acaweb.org/>

Cincinnati Library digital collection: <https://digital.cincinnati.library.org/digital/>

For Pennsylvania residents, free access to Pennsylvania Power Library digital collections:

<https://powerlibrary.org/collections/#.XZlhxFVKibg>

Library of Congress digital collections: <https://www.loc.gov/collections>

Twentieth century Germany digital collection: <https://www.bild.bundesarchiv.de/dba/en/>

Getty Museum free historical digital photos collection:

https://www.getty.edu/art/collection/search?open_content=true

Harvard digital collections: <https://library.harvard.edu/digital-collections>

Library and archives of Canada (select *Images* from the dropdown): <https://recherche-collection-search.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/Home/Search>

Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois offers historical images, manuscripts, sound recordings and more: <https://collections.carli.illinois.edu/>

The British Library's online holdings of landscape imagery. <http://www.bl.uk/picturing-places> (website suffered a cyber-attack in March 2024 and was not up at the time of the printing of this handout—check back later).

Picture Australia initiative: <https://trove.nla.gov.au/>

National Library of Ireland digital collections: <https://www.nli.ie/collections/our-collections/photographs>

National Library of Scotland photo collections: <https://digital.nls.uk/gallery/category/photography>

Tulane University digital collection: <https://digitallibrary.tulane.edu/>

University of Washington, American Indians of the Pacific Northwest collection: <https://content.lib.washington.edu/aipnw/>

YIVO digital archive on Jewish life in Poland: <http://polishjews.yivoarchives.org/>

New York Public Library digital collections: <https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/>

Free Photo Editing Software

12 Best Free Photo Editing Software in 2024 (Updated): <https://expertphotography.com/best-free-photo-editor/>

Best free photo-editing software for 2024: <https://www.digitaltrends.com/computing/best-free-photo-editing-software/>

18 Best Free Photo Editing Software for Windows PC in 2024: <https://www.cyberlink.com/blog/photo-editing-best-software/327/best-free-photo-editors-windows>

Best free photo editors for PC and Mac for April in 2024 so far: <https://www.techradar.com/best/free-photo-editor>

YouTube Videos for More Learning

Dating & Identifying Old Photos with Photo Detective Maureen Taylor

Tips on dating old pictures: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W_3-Z2xKZgQ

Identifying old family photographs: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cgONkrap-dc>

Identifying old photos by time period or date: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=af5bvMNsBDI>

Search youtube dating family photos videos:

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=Dating+family+photos

Other Resources

Tips and resources to find old family photos: <https://lisa-lisson.com/find-old-family-photos/>

Find family history and/or county biography/history books at <https://archive.org/>

Find family history and/or county biography/history books at <https://archive.org/>

Preserve photos on your computer: <https://www.sheknows.com/living/articles/810607/how-to-preserve-your-family-photographs-on-your-computer/>

Share Large Files

Best free programs and online services for sending and sharing large files:

<https://www.howtogeek.com/133761/the-best-free-programs-and-online-services-for-sending-and-sharing-large-files/>

20 best free online file sharing and storage sites: <https://techcult.com/best-free-online-file-sharing-and-storage-sites/>

10 best free online file sharing tools" <https://fossbytes.com/10-best-free-online-file-sharing-tools-you-need-to-use/>

20 best free websites to send large files online: <https://itigic.com/best-free-websites-to-send-large-files-online/>

Best free ways to share large files online: <https://www.itpro.com/collaboration/31937/the-best-free-ways-to-share-large-files-online>

How to share photos on google drive: <https://www.technewstoday.com/how-to-share-photos-on-google-drive/>

Google Drive, share photos privately: <https://edu.gcfglobal.org/en/techsavvy/sharing-photos-privately/1/>

Wetransfer, no account required; transfer folders or files up to 2GB free: <https://wetransfer.com/>

Free Zip Software

Large files may be zipped when downloaded; so you may need to install a free zip/unzip program.

Best free WinZip alternative: <https://www.techradar.com/best/free-winzip-alternative>

3 free compression tools for easy file zipping: <https://www.pcworld.com/article/447728/free-compression-tools-for-file-zipping.html>

15 Best FREE unzip programs: <https://www.softwaretestinghelp.com/free-unzip-programs/>

14 Best free zip and unzip programs: <https://www.lifewire.com/free-unzip-programs-1356643>

Social Media

Remember that family members who have no interest in genealogy may still have pictures to share.

Facebook: Genealogy and history (in English) Facebook groups/pages, a 436-page PDF file containing 16,700+ links (updated Jan 2021): <https://moonswings.files.wordpress.com/2021/01/genealogy-on-facebook-jan-2021.pdf> File includes clickable table of contents. *Note:* As of January 2021, future updates and maintenance of list is being handled by Cyndi's List at <https://cyndislist.com/facebook>.

Download Canadian list that includes French-speaking groups at

https://genealogyalacarte.ca/?page_id=10169, and an Australian list at

<https://www.lonetester.com/2020/12/facebook-for-australian-history-and-genealogy-2/>