

COPYING OLD PHOTOS

Some people do not want to share their old photos because they are afraid of losing them. In the past photos usually had to be sent away to be copied and sometimes were lost. Fortunately old photos can now be copied right in the village or even in the home of the owner if you have the right equipment.

Most schools now have copy machines which can produce good copies. In addition a lot of organization and individuals have computers and scanners with which you can get excellent reproductions. If the original has been damaged in any way – cracks or smudges, etc. – there is a computer program which can clean them up.

If you are using photos primarily to gather historical information, identifying people and places, etc., an enlarged copy is often much better to work with than the original old photo. Enlarged prints can be made for an “Old Picture Party” and you can even make several copies of the photo for different people to work on. If you make paper copies on the copy machine, information can be written right on the page and later transferred to your historical record.