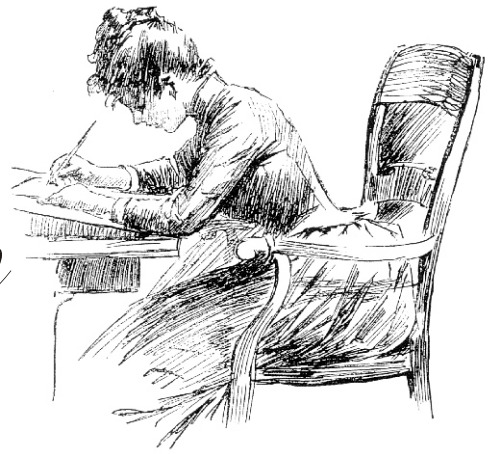


Preservation Wisdom



"Photographs, letters, diaries, scrapbooks, heirlooms, and memorabilia are priceless family treasures. But, Mother Nature and human nature conspire to make them 'endangered species.' If our records and objects are to survive, it is vital for us to know and apply proper preservation principles - - not just for storing them but for creating them in the first place. These are simple to learn and apply. Ignore them, and our treasures will not survive. Guaranteed."

William G. Hartley
Prof. Family History BYU

Whatever you do make sure it's not permanent.

- Do not glue certificates or black & white original photos
- Do not laminate valuable papers and original photos
- Do not crop or cut original photos
- Do not write with ink on the back of a black & white photo

Use your nose and smell things. If it has any odor - do not use it.

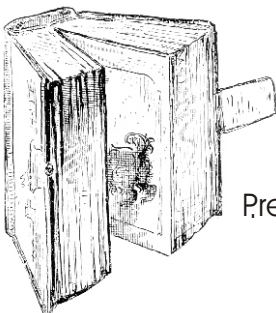
- Do not use markers that have a strong smell.
- Check plastics for a plastic smell. Safe plastics do not smell.
- Smell a glue after it is dry checking for an odor.

Store everything in cool, dry, dark and acid-free storage

- Do not store valuables in the garage, attic, damp basement.
- Do not use acidic boxes - shoe boxes, dress boxes, apple boxes
- Use acid-free paper when making copies of photos, histories & genealogy
- Use acid-free paper and safe plastics in all photo albums & scrapbooks
- Do not store fabric treasures in plastic - dry cleaning bags, vinyl storage closets, storage containers, zip locking bags
- In a cedar chest, wrap all items in acid-free tissue or put in cloth bags.

Identify all valuables

- Label backs of photos with a photo marking pencil
- Use permanent ink pens for labeling in photo albums & scrapbooks
- Label fabric items by writing on wide twill tape or cotton muslin using a permanent marker



By: Jeanne English

Preservation Source PO Box 9384 Salt Lake City UT 84109 801.278.7880