You are looking for photos of family who lived during the period of photography: 1839 until present.

Where to look / who to ask:

Relatives (close and distant) - photo albums, scrapbooks, portraits on walls, loose photos, cards, etc.

Neighbors of ancestors, Family friends, co-workers, siblings

DNA matches (close)

Visit homeplaces

Locate church histories and directories

Tombstones; obituaries – in newspaper and online, especially tribute videos

Yearbooks (school and military)

Career publications and photos

Clubs, activities, sports, hobbies

Veterans: Special publications; unit yearbooks; Navy cruise books; career publications; buddies

Libraries: genealogy rooms; family histories; vertical files; local interest books, microfilm

Historical and genealogical books: Heritage books; city and county histories; special publications

Local, regional, state, and national archives; museums

Newspapers: especially local and also online

Websites: Ancestry, Family Search, My Heritage; online family trees

Websites: Library of Congress, Digital Public Library of America, Digital Library of Georgia

Orphan photo websites: Cyndi's List – Lost and Found link (click on Photos); Ancient Faces; FB groups

Genealogical societies; historical societies – in person and online websites

Family and class reunions; eBay; family Bibles; inside books; Google Books; Google image searches

Facebook, Instagram, blogs

Remember:

Always keep copyright in mind and ask for permission. Always give credit to the source. Cite your sources.

Never give up! New photos are discovered and posted every day, especially by 'orphan angels.'

Finding Family Photos Handout

Photos and Family series:

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