





























The Ideal Material:

- Transparent support
- Highly photosensitive
- Sensitive to all colors
- Ready-to-use photosensitive layer
- Lightweight and flexible
- Chemically and dimensionally stable

Calotype negative, Hill & Adamson (Soc active 1843-1848), [Two Newhaven Fisherwon ca. 1845. 21.3 x 15.8 cm (8.375 x in.). Gift of Georgia O'Keeffe, George Eas





















The Use of Glass as a Support











Gelatin Dry Plate: 1880-1925

- Smooth surface
- Machine cut
- Black and white
- May fade and discolor
- Gelatin deterioration

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RAPID DRY PLATES

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Deterioration

- Base becomes brittle and discolors
- Gelatin becomes soft
- Silver image fades and discolors









	Cellulose Nitrate Film Stages of Deterioration
Stage 1.	No deterioration
Stage 2.	The negatives begin to mirror and yellow
Stage 3.	The film becomes sticky and emits a strong order
Stage 4.	The film is amber and image begins to fade
Stage 5.	The film can degenerate into a brown powder





Nitrate Film is a hazardous material and flammable

- What you must do is dependent on local fire codes, institutional and insurance policies, and local officials
- Hire a consultant
- Determine the amount and condition of your nitrate film
- Become familiar with the National Fire Protection Association 40
 Standard
- Make cold storage a priority

Nitrate film in the last stage of degr Library of Congress Preservation V









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Advocacy

- The negative is the link between the captured scene, the camera and the print
- The negative process selected reveals:
 intention
 - preferences
 - choice of materials
 - processing techniques
 - printing techniques
- The image is the witness of time
- The negative is the testimony of the recording of the image



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Homework

- Using the negative identification guidelines and additional resources presented, determine what type of negatives you have in your collection.
- · What type of negative do you have most of?
- Briefly describe some negatives or groups of negatives in your collection that are of concern to you. Tell us specifically why they are of concern-is it their condition? Or their significance or value? Or the number of them? Or your ability to care for them? Or a combination of these reasons?
- Briefly describe how the negatives you described above are housed. Describe the enclosures, storage furniture, and environmental conditions.