PRESERVATION
OF FAMILY PHOTOGRAPHS

COMMON SENSE STORAGE
✓ NO ball point pen identifications (either side)
  Use pencil or Staedtler Pigment liner sketch pen (acid free)
✓ NO self-adhesive tape
  This causes discoloration and may rip photos
✓ NO staples or paper clips
  These cause rust discoloration and bend documents
✓ NO rubber bands
  Over time, rubber bands break down and may ruin photos

STORAGE SPECIFICATIONS
✓ CLEANLINESS: Exclude dust but not air flow
✓ TEMPERATURE: Approximately 70 degrees- minimal fluctuation
✓ HUMIDITY: 40%-60% with minimal fluctuation. Humidity causes water damage and mold
✓ LIGHT: Avoid light- especially fluorescent and sunlight that may cause fading

STORAGE CONTAINERS
✓ NO corrugated cardboard boxes (or department store boxes)
  High lignin and acid content causes discoloration
✓ NO untreated wooden containers
✓ NO newspaper wrapping
  High lignin content causes discoloration
✓ NO airtight plastic bags, plastic containers, or laminating
  This locks in dust, mold, and moisture

NEVER DO ANYTHING THAT CAN’T BE UNDONE AS TECHNOLOGY ADVANCES! WHEN IN DOUBT, DON’T!

If you have a question about the preservation of your family’s heirlooms, call the Massillon Museum at 330-833-4061.

MASSILLON MUSEUM
121 Lincoln Way East Massillon, Ohio 44646
Phone: 330-833-4061   Fax: 330-833-2925
Open Tuesday-Saturday 9:30am-5:00pm, Sunday 2:00pm-5:00pm
http://www.massillonmuseum.org