

Tips on Saving Family Ephemera

In today's digitalized and computerized world, it is important to understand why family members should save the original paper items because the original far outweighs the value of a reproduction.

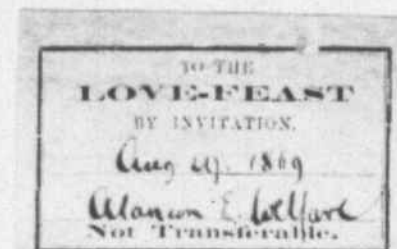
Here are just a few general rules for storing:

- **Light, moisture, and time** are enemies.
- **Use archival quality boxes**, preferably non-plastic.
- **Use clear archival envelopes** and folders that are acid free.
- **The quality of color in photographs fades over time.** Today there are many new products for storing the original (before digital cameras). Look for products which have archival approved quality or clear envelopes that will prevent further damage.
- **Store items of similar kind and/or size in the same space.**
- **Use a soft brush to dust** off the items before you do put them in storage.
- **Make sure that the air is well circulated** where you store the boxes and in a clean dry place.
- **Mark exterior boxes with the information that is inside.**

While there are no hard or fast rules for what you chose to keep or store, remember that you are keeping alive memories and history for future generations to enjoy!



Rare ticket from the Steamship Independence which burnt at sea in Spring of 1853. Over 300 passengers and crew lost their lives.



Love-Feast Invitation from Salem Home Moravian Church 1869

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