

Learning from Primary Resources Early Photography



Camillus Kessler (American). Cartoon of George Eastman carrying equipment for wet plate photography, 1923. George Eastman Museum.

This cartoon is an example of a primary resource. Primary resources are evidence, they provide information of a certain time, and the work is original.

Discussion Questions

1. What is the first thing you notice in the cartoon?
2. Where is it located in the cartoon?
3. Describe the location or setting?
4. Describe the time of day, weather, and season.
5. What sounds might you hear?
6. What kind of motion is there and in what direction?
7. How would you describe the people in the cartoon?
8. The two men in the Rochester Savings Bank, under the sign don't have speech bubbles. What do you think they might say?
9. How does this cartoon help you understand history?
10. What other objects could be considered primary resources?