

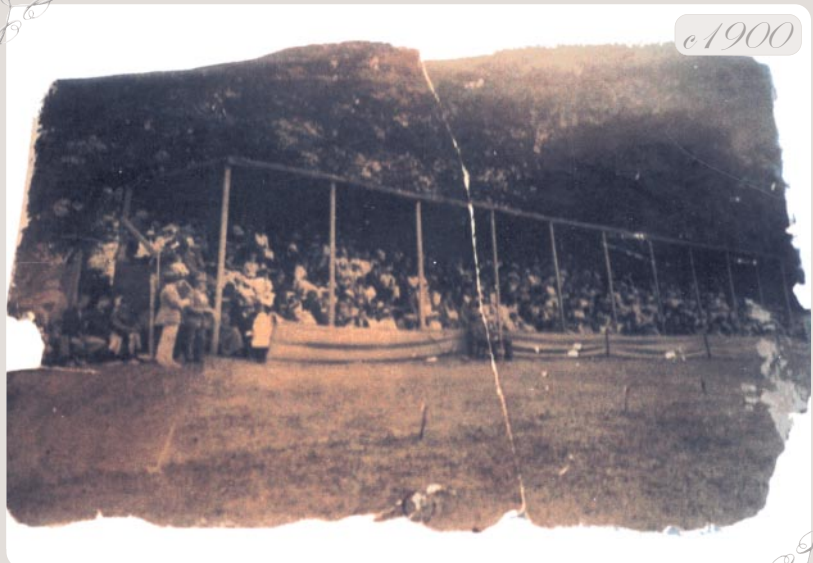
Images of Haverhill Conservation at Work



Above: Photographer Henry Wilson at work, assisted by History Group member Basil Rowley



Conservator Philippa Ellison removing degraded mount board from a photograph



Photograph of Haverhill Gala at Hamlet Croft c 1900 after conservation

Many photos in the History Group's collection have needed professional conservation. Treatments have ranged from dry cleaning mount boards to removing adhesive tape from the photos.

Before conservation, digital photos are taken of the images. The digital pictures will eventually be included in a computerised catalogue of the collection. 35 mm film negatives are also kept of all key photos.

The photographic conservator assesses each photo individually to determine what treatment is needed. If the mount board is degraded, the photo is removed from the board either by soaking the photo in water to soften adhesive or by using a specialist fine knife. If the photo is torn, the conservator places it on lens tissue paper for support then mounts the photo on archival board.

Finally, the treated photograph is placed in an archival sleeve and stored in a controlled environment.