

PROJECT I2: INNOVATION & IDENTITY 1° ROUND TABLE – MACERATA 27-30 SEPTEMBER 2021

The educational use of school photographs in the museum/in schools

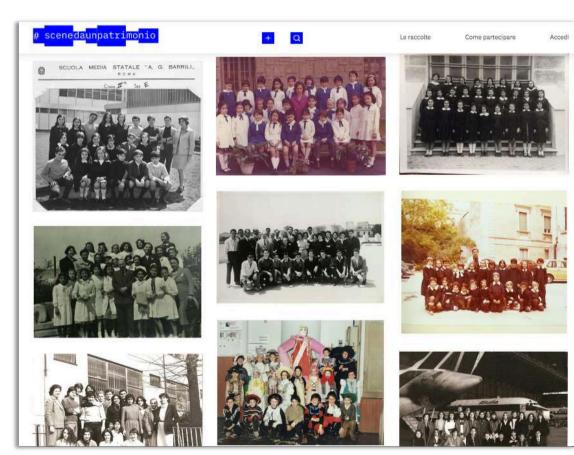
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Paolo & Ornella Ricca Museum of School History





1. SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS: A STEREOTYPED GENRE?



Photographs:

- mere Iconographic complement of the historical discourse?
- or historical sources able to add new information?

Variety of:

- subjects,
- situations,
- purposes.

Source: #Scenedaunpatrimonio. Section: Storie di classe (classy histories). Project by the ICCD-Central Institute for the Catalogue of the Ministry of Cultural Heritage.

URL: https://scenedaunpatrimonio.beniculturali.it/search/themes/una-storia-di-classe

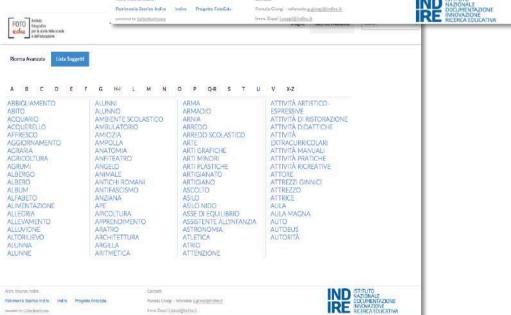


2. SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS A COMPLEX (RE)SOURCE

FOR HISTORIANS AND EDUCATORS







Official website of INDIRE:

https://www.indire.it/progetto/fotoedu/

3. VARIETY OF SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

Subjects:

- School groups,
- School activities
- School buildings/ spaces/facilities.

Situations:

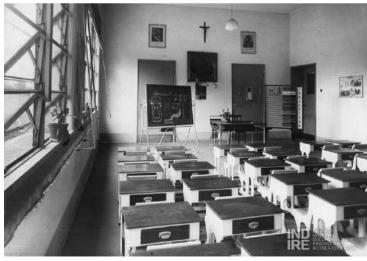
- Formal situations (a lesson "put on stage"),
- Official and public events or celebrations,
- Informal situations (school parties)

Aims:

- External circulation,
- Internal use

Authors:

- Photographers
- Teachers
- Students
- Others



"S. Lorenzo" Kindergarten in Novara, 1930s (courtesy INDIRE)



Photo-souvenir of the first day of school. Photo-atelier "G. Borghese", Rome, late XIX century (Museum's collections)



First day of school, Year 1982. Digitization donated to the Museum

4. WHERE ARE SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS?

- School archives and Yearbooks
- Local a/o state libraries and archives
- Private archives (former teachers, alumni)
- Photographic ateliers
- Social networks & websites
- Antiques market
- Specialised a/o generalist photo-libraries

Website: https://www.alinari.it/





A school day, ca. 1934-1956 Teacher Giovanni Lucaroni fund, Museum's collections



A sericolture lesson in primary school, ca. 1920s Teacher Maria Riccini fund, Museum's collections

5. (SCHOOL) PHOTOGRAPHS IN EDUCATION

Photographs are used:

- To promote "visual literacy" (observation, analysis, Interpretation of images),
- To enhance learning in different subjects.

School photographs can be used:

- to build a visual history of the school,
- to promote digitization a/o conservation projects,
- to offer exhibitions or other events focused on the school as a "social object" for the entire community,
- and... to create "historical photo mashups".



Photo-souvenir of the school-year 1960-61.

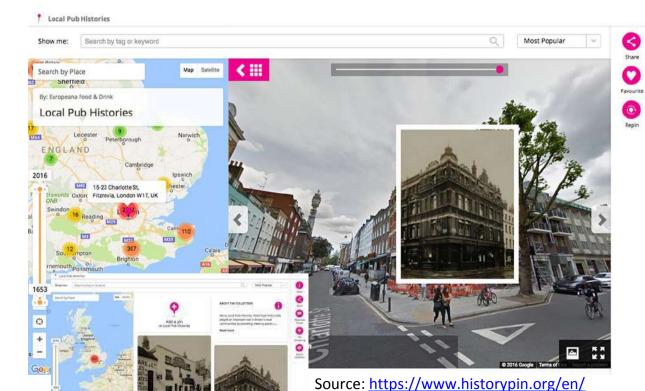
Digitizations donated to the Museum



Teacher training school, S. Ginesio (MC), 1913. Museum's collections



- 6. WHAT IS A MASH-UP?
- ... A PHOTO-MASHUP?
- ... A HISTORICAL PHOTO-MASHUP?



About Panoramio: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Panoramio

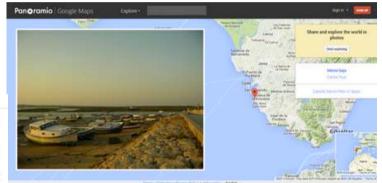




Photo credit: Stephen McMennamy. Source: https://www.focus.it/cultura/arte/due-foto-in-una-questi-collage-vi-stupiranno



7. HISTORICAL PHOTO-MASHUPS THE HISTORY CHANNEL CAMPAIGN "KNOW WHERE YOU STAND" (2004)







Photo credits: Seth Taras.

The History Channel Campaign

"Know where you stand"

(2004). Source:

https://www.sethtaras.com/

KNOW-WHERE-YOU-STAND/

(Courtesy of the Author)

- 1. Saint-Laurent-sur-mer, Normandy, 1944/2004
- 2. On the *Strasse des siebzehnten Juni*, Berlin, 1989/2004
- 3. The terrace of the *Palais de Chaillot*, Paris, 1940/2004





8. HISTORICAL PHOTO-MASHUPS THE "LOOKING INTO THE PAST" PROJECT (2009-)

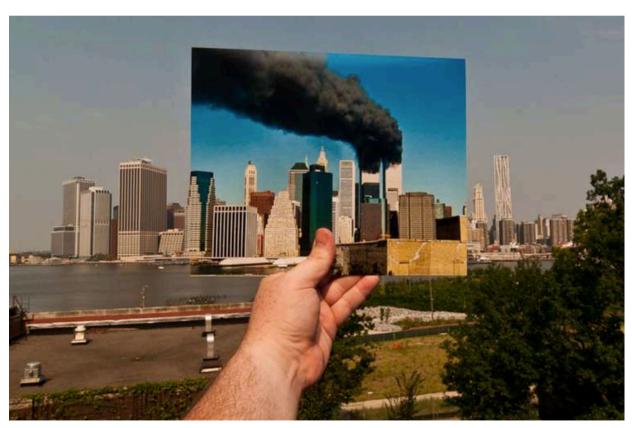


Photo credit: Jason Powell, Looking Into the Past: World Trade Center Burning, September 11, 2001 (Licence: CC BY-NC

2.0) Source:

https://www.flickr.com/photos/ jasonepowell/6128025720/in/ album-72157627501325795/

From the comment of a Flickr user: "I remember the clear crystal sky of that morning. The contrast with the black smoke is startling."

Flickr group:
https://www.flickr.com/groups/
lookingintothepast/



9. EXAMPLES OF (SCHOOL) PHOTO-MASHUPS:

DETROITURBEX PROJECT (2007-2018)





Source: http://www.detroiturbex.com/ (copyright Detroiturbex 2013)







10. MAKING A PHOTO-MASHUP





FOUR PHASES

- 1. Finding historical photographs;
- 2. Digital restoration of the old photos;
- 3. The modern shooting phase;
- 4. Photo-editing.

Photo credits: Marco Crupi.

Source: Messina Ieri e oggi Project, (2016-2020) https://marcocrupi.it/

(Courtesy of the Author)



11. THE PHOTO-MASHUP PROJECT A REACH-OUT ACTIVITY OF THE MUSEUM

FOUR PHASES

- 1. Workshop of visual literacy;
- 2. Selection of historical photographs from the Balelli Archives;
- 3. Recognition of the locations;
- 4. Realization of the hand-made superimposing.





Author: Lucia Paciaroni, Macerata 19 maggio 2017. Source: https://www.facebook.com/museodellascuolamacerata/



12. PHOTOGRAPHS OF DISAPPEARED SCHOOLS AN ONGOING PROJECT https

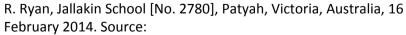
The school in the Diaz Garden, Macerata,

ca. 1930.

Owner: Nazareno Medico.Source:

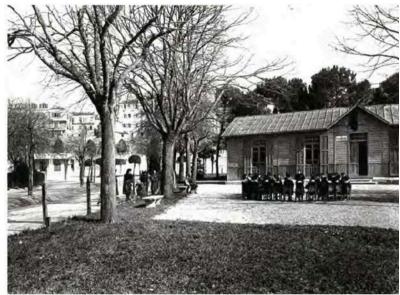
https://www.facebook.com/groups/288079154913153/)





https://www.flickr.com/photos/58878745@N04/5397028598 (courtesy of the Author)









13. CONCLUSIONS

Historical photo-mashups

- Provoking
- Inspiring reflection on the historical meaning of places

Multiple competences

- Visual literacy
- Historical research methodology
- Narrative description
- Digital cataloguing

Transversal competences of creativity and innovation



A 1930s' Postcard representing the Primary Schools in Pedaso (FM). From the Museum's school collections. Digital mashup made by M. Brunelli