

INSTITUUT VIR EIEITYDSE GESKIEDENIS

Die Universiteit van die Oranje-Vrystaat

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OYEARS OF

PHOTOGRAPHY-

TREFWOORDE

:Phy the Local History Museum has arrange
.three events to highlight the discovery.. â\200\230The
Silver Image: 150 Years of Photography in

Natal" will be opened by the founder. of the
-Bensusan Museum of Photography in Johan-
-nesburg,
9.30PM. eee ae eee

Photography is a medium of communication that has transformed our world and our perception. The exhibition focuses on images of important historical events and changes in Natal and highlights the work of Natal photographers who have catalogued the province's past. The photographers are important because they provide us with the visual legacy of our past.

-To mark the 150th anniversary of photography: 5

The Local History Museum has 70000.

images in its collection and the exhibition can

only hope to give visitors a brief glimpse of the wealth and extent of our photographic heritage.

Also organised by the Local History Museum, but presented at the Elizabeth Gordon Gallery, is an exhibition called "The Natal Vignettes: A Portrait Of Your Province", which consists of a selection of photographs that have been contact printed from the Original glass plate negative; images that were captured over a century ago.

The photographs have been archivally processed and selenium toned to museum standards (which specify that, properly cared for,

the image will not change perceptively within |

have. will be. produced to these high stan-

DrAB Bensusan, on Wednesday at.

100 years) Only a limited number of these | Bey eoculetuees eeertre ta aot

ards, for public purchase; and each is a color
Nectar TEM ae ee a a | cy |

"The majority have been reproduced from :
30x40 cm glass plate negatives taken from |
the collection donated by museum photogra- |
pher, J H Murray, who travelled Natal in the -
- 1880's in a horse-drawn trap, taking his ||}
bulky camera, tripod and portable darkroom |
with him and doing all the. development on
the spot. eae Stk Seer

The negatives show Durban, Tongaat,
Richmond, Newcastle and Colenso. They are !
of Ox-wagons and trains, just to mention a few
subjects, and are as crisp as the day |
they were taken. The quality is so good that
some of the photographs were exhibited at
the Colonial Exhibition in London in 1880.

At the opening, next Friday at 6pm, Tony
Smith will be taking "Victorian Studio" portraits

traits.

QO THE third event, a â\200\234Museum and Pho |
tography Workshopâ\200\235 will be held at the Local
History Museum from Wednesday to Friday, :
November 1-3. -

It features specialist speakers and the pro- #p
gramme focuses on identifying old photo- ;
graphic processes, the proper care, storage
and restoration of images â\200\224 especially con-
sequential to museologists. The number Of | Stelios kno Lennon ok
delegates will be limited and booking for the |
workshop is essential. Telephone. Gillian:

Berning for more information on 3006240, -

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