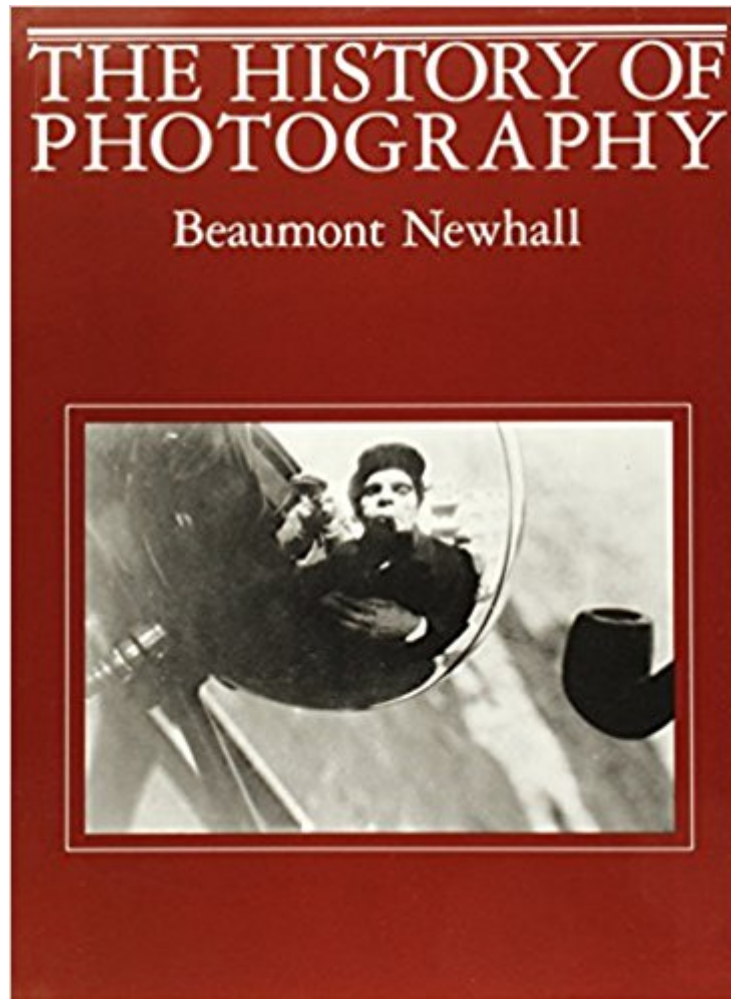


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# The History Of Photography: From 1839 To The Present



## Synopsis

Since its first publication in 1937, this lucid and scholarly chronicle of the history of photography has been hailed as the classic work on the subject. No other book and no other author have managed to relate the aesthetic evolution of the art of photography to its technical innovations with such an absorbing combination of clarity, scholarship and enthusiasm. Through more than 300 works by such master photographers as William Henry Fox Talbot, Timothy O'Sullivan, Julia Margaret Cameron, Eugène Atget, Peter Henry Emerson, Alfred Stieglitz, Paul Strand, Alvin Langdon Coburn, Man Ray, Edward Weston, Dorothea Lange, Walker Evans, Ansel Adams, Brassai, Henri Cartier-Bresson, Harry Callahan, Minor White, Robert Frank and Diane Arbus, author Beaumont Newhall presents a fascinating, comprehensive study of the significant trends and developments in the medium since the first photographs were made in 1839. New selections added to the fifth edition include photographs made in color, from hand-tinted daguerreotypes of 1850 to turn-of-the-century autochromes by Edward Steichen, to works by contemporary masters such as Eliot Porter, Ernst Haas, William Eggleston, Stephen Shore and Joel Meyerowitz. Beaumont Newhall (1908–1993) was an influential curator, art historian, writer and photographer. In 1935 he became the Librarian at The Museum of Modern Art, New York. In 1940, he became the first Director of MoMA's Photography Department. He served as Curator of the International Museum of Photography at the George Eastman House from 1948 to 1958, then as its Director from 1958 to 1971. While at the Eastman House, Newhall was responsible for amassing one of the greatest photographic collections in the world.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

If you're even remotely interested in photography and its development, this book is a wonderful way to learn about it. It details the emergence of all the important photographic processes with just enough technical detail to be interesting and not so much as to be overwhelming. There are many pictures in it that provide examples and show how images changed over the years. It also includes the personal aspects of this history and how photography has affected our culture. The writing is smooth and easy to read. In short, I highly recommend it; you won't be disappointed.

As a student, I was forced to buy this book during my 2 year tenure at photography school. It remains one of the most comprehensive, detailed and well written references on the history of photography. History books can be a little "dry" to read but this one is exceptionally well written and covers a vast amount of ground in an admirable fashion.

The many photos reproduced are interesting and sometime beautiful, but the first thing to do is to read the story, which covers the first hundred years of photography (1850 - 1950.) The first time I read this book I was very surprised about the many different ways different peoples believed photography should be used and not used, how many different solutions were suggested and used to make artworks (or not) using a camera. Many years later we are still influenced by their ideas and works without actually knowing them in most cases and the new possibilities that digital photography bring to us make some old questions very interesting ones.

I can't remember the first time I read this book, decades ago. Although it's quite dated in light of the advancements in digital photography in recent years, this is still the first reference to check for information about the first 140 years of photography. Even with Wikipedia available, this is the book I check for information. I happened to live in Rochester near the end of his time as curator of George Eastman House, and got to see first hand his influence on the medium. Newhall's book will remain on my shelf for as long as I am interested in photography.

The first edition of this book was in 1937, ninety-eight years after the birth of photography. This edition is the 5th and last, published in 1982. The book is a now classic, scholarly history of photography and should not be ignored if you are interested in the subject. It is not a breezy read,

but it is rewarding and lays a good foundation for further study. Over half the book is concerned with photography in the 19th century and more than half of the rest is devoted to photography from 1900 to 1940. There is a companion volume from 1980, which I haven't seen, edited by Newhall and entitled *Photography: Essays & Images: Illustrated Readings in the History of Photography*.

Love this book. As an avid photographer I wanted to learn more about the older photo techniques, like platinum prints, gelatins silver prints and carbon prints. Best book I have come across on the subject, and the quality of the prints inside is excellent.

Great photos, but I will be ordering another for more color and a longer look for women in the history of photography. It will be used in a history of Photo class, so I think I need just a little ore info..

I bought two of these books one for a friend who opened a photography studio and he uses it as a coffee table book as we do. The rich history in this book is quite remarkable. This is a great book and anyone looking for a phenomenal book for a photographer of all ages who wants to learn the history of this book we highly recommend it.

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