Bethlehem Area Public Library
Local History Collections
Finding aid for Samuel Yost Family Daguerreotypes

Creator: Yost family
Title: Samuel Yost Family Daguerreotypes
Dates: undated (possibly between 1840-1860)
Extent: 2 boxes (1.08 linear feet)
Location: Bethlehem Room
Language: English

Abstract: This collection contains daguerreotypes and possibly one tintype of Samuel Yost, Sr., a local grocer, and his family.

Access to materials: Access to this collection is restricted due to the delicate condition of its contents. The contents have been digitized and the digital images can be viewed on a USB drive that is included in the collection. Please see a Reference staff member for access to the USB drive.

Conditions for Reproduction and Use: The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, U.S. Code) governs the reproduction of copyrighted material. The user assumes full responsibility and any attendant liability for the fair use of materials requested in total compliance with the copyright law of the United States (Title 17, U.S. Code) that may arise through the use of any requested materials.

Preferred Citation: [Item], Samuel Yost Family Daguerreotypes, Local History Collections, Bethlehem, PA.

Historical Note: The Yost family were early settlers of Bethlehem. Samuel Henry Yost Sr. was born on November 12, 1821. “Pappy” Yost operated the first penny store in Bethlehem, which was located on Church Street. Samuel married Mary Catharine Vognitz in 1842 and they had a daughter, Ellen, in 1843. Following Mary’s death in 1871, Samuel married Mary Hortense Peifer. Their son, Samuel Henry, Jr., was born in 1875.

Scope and Content: This collection contains twelve daguerreotypes and possibly one tintype of Samuel Yost, Sr. and his family. Only one of the daguerreotypes is labeled and is identified as a portrait of Samuel Yost, Sr. The rest are portraits of unidentified family members.

Names:
Yost, Samuel, Sr. (1821-1905)

Subjects:
Families – Bethlehem (Pa.)
Grocers – Bethlehem (Pa.)
Yost family

Related Materials:
Local History

974.822 - *A Bethlehem family photo album, 1845-1990: an exhibit of 350 photographs selected from over 600 photos submitted by community residents… displayed June 1991 to July 1992* - contains a photo of Samuel Yost, Sr. with two of his granddaughters, Helen and Mary. A digital copy of this photo can also be found in the A Bethlehem Family Photo Album digital collection.

Administrative/ Biographical History

Acquisition and Appraisal
Collection donated by Caroline Kelley in August 2026.

Notes:
Processed by Caitlin Cuba, 2026

Container Listing

Description	Box	Image Number
Unidentified man	1	sy01
Samuel Yost Sr. (grandpa)	1	sy02
Unidentified man	1	sy03
Unidentified man	1	sy04
Unidentified woman	1	sy05
Unidentified woman	1	sy06
Unidentified woman	1	sy06-a
Unidentified woman	2	sy07
Unidentified woman	2	sy08
Unidentified woman	2	sy09
Unidentified girl	2	sy10
Unidentified girl	2	sy11
Unidentified woman	2	sy12
USB drive containing digital images	2	