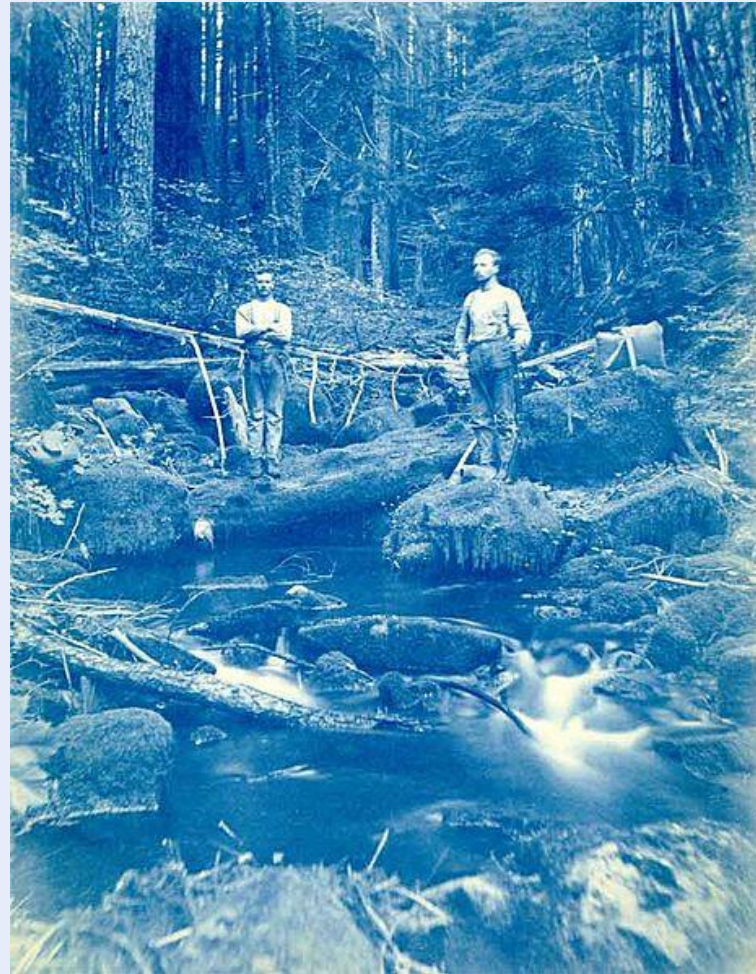# Cyanotype

Photography Printing Process

Cyanotype

- This is a photographic printing process.

- This is a process to make affordable copies and is basically a "blueprint" because the mix of chemical that create a blue color.

History of cyanotype

- This process was developed back in 1842 by a guy named Sir John Herschel.

- He was born March 7th 1792 in England.

- He developed this process to make copies of his notes and books.

- Sir John Herschel died at the age of 79 on May 11, 1871.

The Cyanotype Process

- The solution to create a cyanotype is potassium ferricyanide and ferric ammonium citrate.

- If you wanted the increase the contrast you can use potassium dichromate.

- Cyanotypes can be printed on any surface that can soak up the chemicals and they must dry in a dark place.
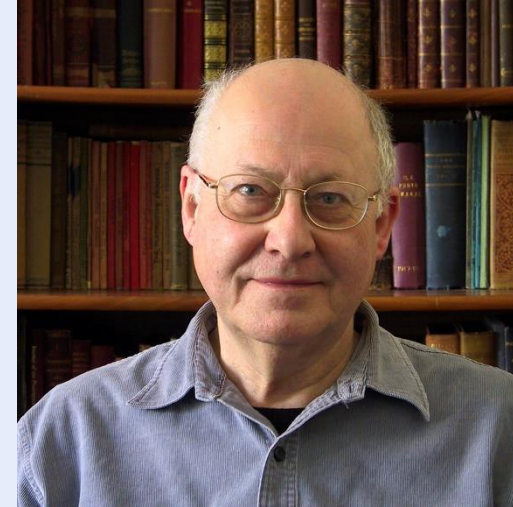
Well Known Cyanotype Users

- Anna Akins was born in 1799 in England.

- She create series of books related to flowers and ferns. She used the cyanotype process to creates silhouette of the plants by placing the plants on to the paper that developed into a silhouette.

  ◦ *Cyanotypes of British and Foreign Ferns* (1853)

  ◦ *Cyanotypes of British and Foreign Flowering Plants and Ferns* (1854)

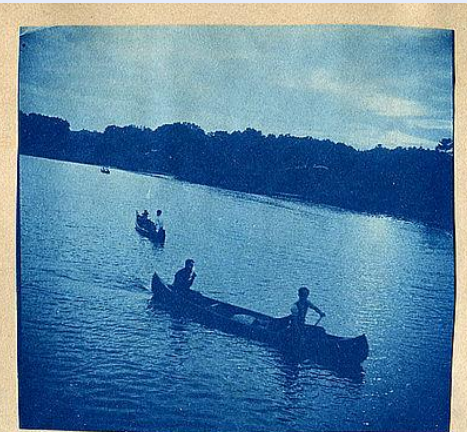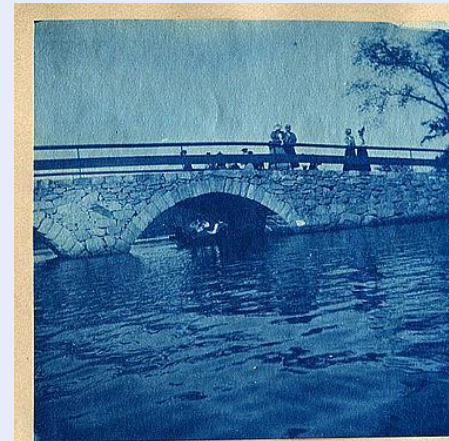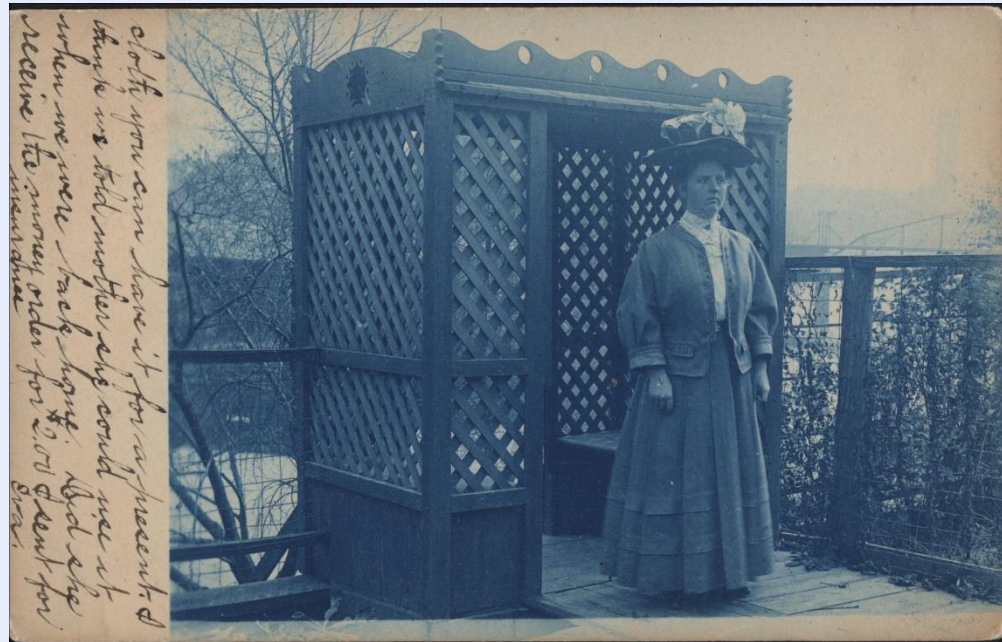- She died June 9, 1871 at the age of 72.
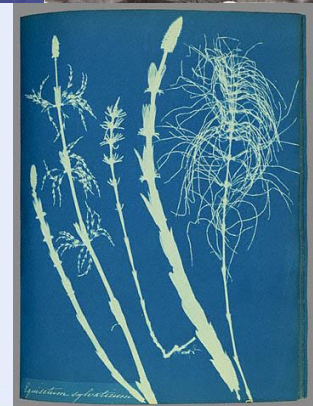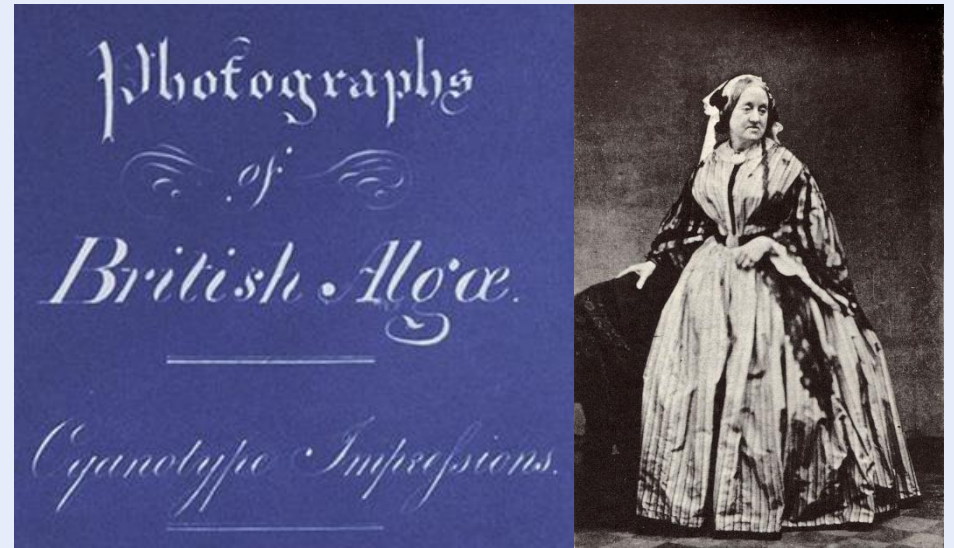
Well Known Cyanotype Users

- Michael Ware was born in 1939.

- He is modern day user of the Cyanotype.

- He is a chemist and photographer that uses early methods of processing like cyanotypes and he has written books with lengthy formulas for different colors.

  ◦ *Cyanotype: The History, Science and Art of Photographic Printing in Prussian Blue*

  ◦ *Mechanisms of Image Deterioration in Early Photographs*

Examples of Different cyanotypes

Resources

- http://www.freestylephoto.biz/alternative-process/cyanotype

- http://www.alternativephotography.com/cyanotype-classic-process/

- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cyanotype

- http://www.mikeware.co.uk/mikeware/main.html