19th century Photograph



Girl wearing two artificial legs, 1890-1910.

Studio photograph of a young girl wearing a pair of artificial legs manufactured by James Gillingham

What does the photograph tell you about the photographer?

The photographer has a good understanding of composition and depth, he also managed to capture the expression of the girl vividly, the use of props is great, especially the doll. I think this was a studio photographer who knew what he was doing

What does it tell you about the subject of the image?

That she is happy and proud to be standing, she indeed is standing tall.

Does the technical quality of the image (or lack thereof) help or hinder the success of the photograph?

I think the quality was pretty good for those days standards, and still now the picture looks good, even though the focus is soft, still a lot of detail is shown and composition is good for the intended purpose.

Where did the photographer stand when he or she took this picture? How does his or her camera position or angle affect the outcome of the image?

The photographer stood in the centre, right in front of the main subject, the angle was eye level and straight forward, therefore the main subject appears centred.

Why does this picture interest you?

This pic caught my attention because what it represents, the look on the little girls face while holding her standing doll, The prosthetic legs might been the original subject, but I love the way she poses and the look on her face priceless.