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"These stories may not make the history books, but for the people who lived them, they are as dramatic as any history and much more meaningful. We mean to honor these memories by collecting them, preserving them and sharing them with the world for generations to come."

Fritz Byers President, CEO Vintage Aerial

CONNECT WITH THE PAST... TODAY

Perrysburg, OH (December 7, 2010)—More than 25 million photos from 41 states and every one of those photos has a story. Stories like this:

We moved away when I was 16 years old but a piece of my heart has never left. We visited the farm a couple of weeks ago — it had been exactly 50 years since my older brother and I made our first trip up that driveway to get on the school bus for the first time - our mother holding onto my 2 younger brothers, fighting back tears and waving us on. Most of the original buildings, the trees and orchard are now gone. Aluminum siding covers the beautiful red bricks on the 200-year-old house. My daughters that were with me that day saw a different farm that no longer held the sweetness and simplicity it had in the sixties. In my mind, I could still see it but I wished so much that they could too.

Vintage Aerial is uniquely positioned to share stories like that with the world. Using state of the art technology, this Perrysburg company can help everyday Americans connect with their pasts.

While much of rural America has disappeared, replaced by the urban sprawl of today, Vintage Aerial can help people connect to their roots by allowing them to search the company's database for pictures of the family farm, the way it used to be.

When visitors find that special photo, Vintage Aerial invites them to share online their stories of the past.

Vintage Aerial's Director of Archives and Special Projects Jon Richardson says, "The picture calls up memories and then come the stories. Each story, close to the heart of that particular family, takes on even wider significance when we stitch it into the quilt that is rural America of the past 50 years. And, there are literally millions of stories yet to be told."

The website, http://vintageaerial.com, is easy to use. All you need is a computer and access to the internet. Just let Vintage Aerial know where you want to look, and provide them with as much information as possible and they'll do the rest.

Americans seem to have a dawning realization of the value of the past that is being lost. Interest in documenting and preserving family history and in connecting with relatives is surging thanks to the ability to access troves of data online. Social networking sites, genealogy sites and indexed public-record archives have made it possible for connections to be forged and memories to be preserved, personal stories that would have been lost only ten short years ago.

Vintage Aerial's Chief Operating Officer Paul Clark says, "That's the beauty of our archive: technology has enabled us to convert these fragile filmstrips from their film state to a digital state so they can be shared with millions of people who are a part of American's rich rural past."

Vintage Aerial's archive of 25 million photographs from 41 states is by far the largest collection of rural aerial photographs in the United States. In fact, it's believed to be the largest single-subject collection of photographs in the world.

Vintage Aerial's goal is to combine this photo collection with the personal histories that go with it to create the country's premier archive of rural American history. Every photograph has been carefully preserved on film and each is meticulously transferred to digital to prepare for printing. Photographs can be purchased in the form of original, framed prints.

To see a live demonstration or to schedule and interview, please contact Wyla Brown online at wbrown@vintageaerial.com or call 419.874.0900.

Vintage Aerial—decades in the making, but here for you today.