Lesson Activity 1: Mattie Gunterman

**Discussion Questions:**

1. The film acknowledges the Bulls-Eye Camera as a technology that made photography more acceptable. How did it do so? What sort of things could be easily photographed that could not be before? List examples from the film.
2. Matte Gunterman is not a well-known historic figure, nor are the people or events she photographed. Yet, they represent very personal and important histories to have a more complete view of life in early British Columbia. Why do you think these images and their creator, Matte Gunterman, are not well-known? What role did class and social standing play in this?
3. Matte Gunterman’s life could be described as extra-ordinary and different from that of a traditional Victorian woman. Do you agree with this statement? If so, in what ways was she different? What ways was her life limited by the class and gender barriers of the time?
4. Matte Gunterman’s photographs are examples of PRIMARY SOURCES in the study of history. These sources are created at the specific time in history for reasons that need to be considered when analyzing them. Matte Gunterman took these images for her own purposes -- without an eye to future historians or generations. What were the reasons for her photography? What could be the reasons they would be useful to current historians wanting a window to study the past?