

## Progress Amidst Prejudice:

# Portraits of African Americans in Missouri, 1880-1920

Missouri State Archives

### **Original Document Worksheet: Exploring the African American Portrait**

After you have selected the portrait you'd like to analyze, use it to answer the following questions.

- 1) What is the name of the photograph you selected? What would you name it if you were selecting a name that was more personalized?
  
- 2) What is the first thing you notice about the portrait? (This is not a "right or wrong" question. Use your first instinct.)
  
- 3) Who are the subjects of your portrait? Male or Female? Child, Adult, or Elderly? What are they wearing? What are they doing?
  
- 4) Using the Fact Sheet, what assumptions might you make about the subject(s) of your portrait, especially regarding education, business, literacy and home life?
  
- 5) Can you tell where in Missouri your portrait was made?
  
- 6) Using the Census Data Worksheet, what can you assert about the black population in the community where your portrait was created?
  
- 7) Why is it of historical interest to preserve and make available to the public these portraits?