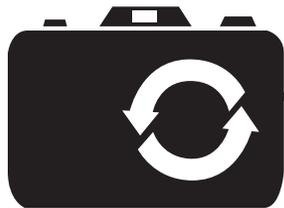


# How to Create a Repeat Photograph

[go.nps.gov/PhotoBlitz](https://go.nps.gov/PhotoBlitz)

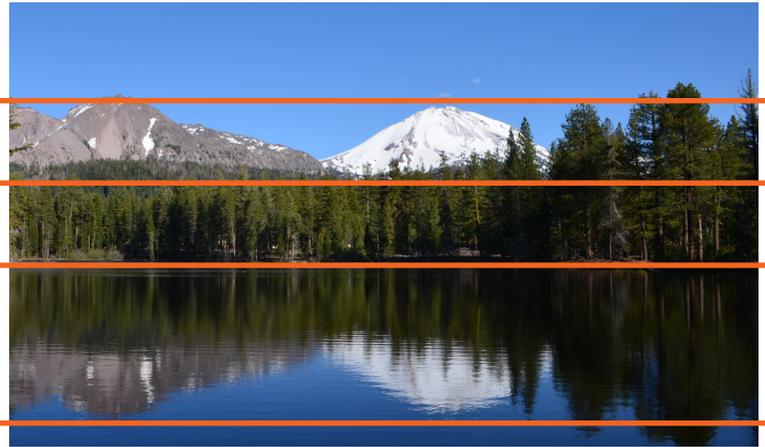


## Why Repeat?

It's fun to see how things change, or stay the same! Repeat Photography has been used for decades as a way to document changes in an environment. This tool has become extremely useful in science, as a qualitative way to document the effects of natural events, humans on an area, succession in vegetative communities, seasonal changes, and much more.

1. Study the historical photo for season\*, weather, and time of day. Try to capture your repeat photo at the same time of day and in similar weather conditions, the angle and intensity of the sun dramatically changes the appearance of features in a landscape.
2. Identify prominent features such as mountains, ridgelines, shorelines, distinctive rocks or trees, or roads to help approximate the photo point.
3. Use the prominent features along with any other information about the photo to determine a starting point within the vicinity of the original photo point. Be sure to take the historic photo to repeat with you.
4. Using the prominent features, move around and try to match the angle seen in the historical photo. The dominant feature and area in front and around it should look the same as in the historical photo.
5. When you have matched the angle of the most dominant feature, move towards or away from it, matching more features. Remember that the original photographer may have been very tall, or liked to squat down to take photos. Your position can change the angle quite a bit, so don't be afraid to move around. Use your zoom or wide angle to frame and reframe your repeat photograph.

\*A repeat photo may be taken in a different season than the original photo and can actually help highlight interesting seasonal variances.



The lines above illustrate how to match features in your repeat photograph with the same features in the matching historical image. In this repeat photo pair, Lassen Peak, the shoreline, and the peak's reflection are closely matched.

6. Fine tune your repeat photograph for exactness by matching as many features as possible. Take note to match the horizon line, the edges of the image, and the size of the features. Consider using a tripod if possible.
7. Take your repeat photograph. If possible, use your camera's screen to check your repeat photograph against the historical photo to make sure it matches as closely as possible.
8. If possible, note the GPS coordinates of the photo point for future repeat photographs.
9. Share your repeat photo\* and its GPS coordinates with *LassenNPS* on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, or Flickr with #LassenPhotoBlitz or email [lavo\\_information@nps.gov](mailto:lavo_information@nps.gov), subject: Centennial PhotoBlitz.

**#LassenPhotoBlitz**



\*By sharing your photo, you agree to allow the National Park Service full use of the image.