

The Open Door. William Fox Talbot. 1843



"The Open Door" illustrates a deeper meaning to "Back in the Day." As we see "The Open Door" is shown to have a broom right alongside the open door and this old home is a representation of what used to be the old homelike area. During this time society was starting to move into the city and spending money on fast paced items. Talbot was trying to tell us the city is nothing like homemade items and not what used to be the everyday life. Therefore my historical methodology is Semiotics because the open door has a much deeper meaning than its name.

This photograph was also seen in The Pencil of Nature which was the first books illustrated with actual photographs.

"Among the most widely admired of Talbot's compositions, The Open Door is a conscious attempt to create a photographic image in accord with the renewed British taste for Dutch genre painting of the seventeenth century. In his commentary in The Pencil of Nature, where this image appeared as plate 6, Talbot wrote, "We have sufficient authority in the Dutch school of art, for taking as subjects of representation scenes of daily and familiar occurrence. A painter's eye will often be arrested where ordinary people see nothing remarkable." (The Metropolitan Museum of Art)