CAPES at 25 Years!

Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference
Baltimore, 18 October 2014
Monmouth County Historical Association

• In 1997, rudimentary way to access images
• Poorly housed
• Inappropriate shelving
• Over 125 cased images: daguerreotypes and ambrotypes
• Particular expertise that staff did not have
Daguerreotypes

Silas Halsey

.... and his legs
Cased Ambrotypes

Eleanor Conover Schenck
c.1855

DeLafayette Schenck
c.1855
Ambrotype
Barracks at Camp Vredenburgh, c.1862
Impact on Priorities

• Identified a need for preservation, access, and information sharing
• Staff not experienced in this particular area
• Needed to bring collection up to a higher standard
• A CAPES was suggested
Impact on Budgeting

• Funding needed for improving collection management and preservation
• Funding needed for improving information sharing (i.e. intellectual access, cataloging)
• Possible funding through grants
• A CAPES was considered a first step to a grant
The Evaluation Survey

• CAPES application submitted and approved
• Consultant surveyed collections and submitted report
• Report was used to apply for grant to fulfill CAPES recommendations
• Grant approved
Preservation Project

From this .... .... to this!
Impact on Planning

• Policy for future re-housing, cataloging, preservation, and access
• Availability for in-house exhibition and loan
• Storage space saved by centralizing collection
• Positive changes in collections preservation and management
Ongoing Preservation Management

Photograph Collection

Digitization
The Other Side

• Became a CAPES Consultant in 2008
• Specialization: Historical Societies!
• Each one different, each one unique
Eatontown Historical Museum

The Read House, c.1730

A room dedicated for a Library
Eatontown Historical Museum
Farmingdale Historical Society

Elizabeth Grove Museum

One Big Room
Farmingdale Historical Society
Historical Society of Ocean Grove

Former Kite Store, late 1800s

Separate area for Library
Historical Society of Ocean Grove
In conclusion .....
............... it goes on!
Laura M. Poll, Librarian/Archivist
monmouthhistory.org