Dealing with Unprecedented Disaster and Damage: Real-time Responses to Hurricane Sandy

Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference Philadelphia, 9 November 2013



Keansburg Historical Society Museum

Society was formed in 1995. Building was gifted to the Society and opened as a museum in 1999.

www.keansburg-historical.org



www.keansburg-historical.org



www.keansburg-historical.org

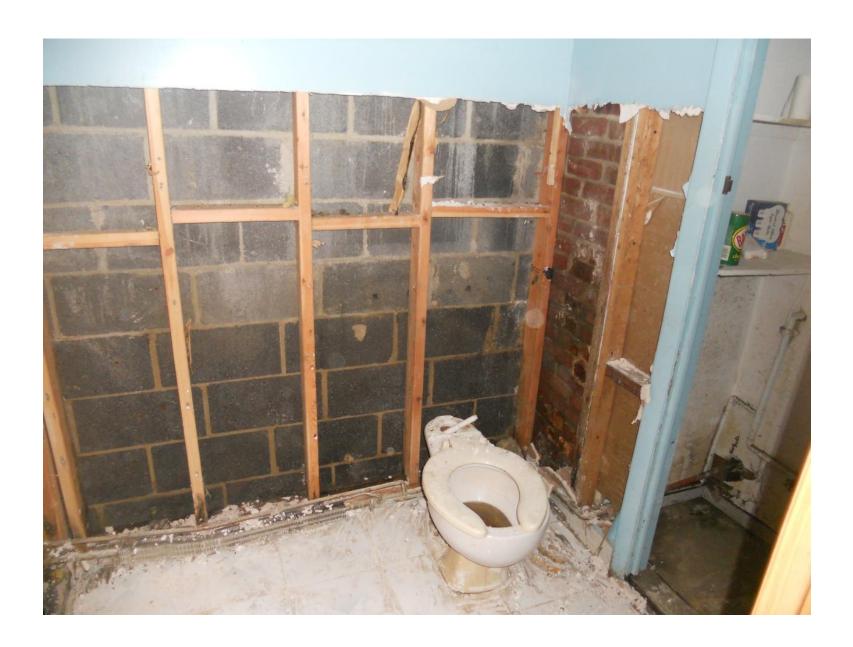


www.keansburg-historical.org



"Keansburg" and "City of Keansburg" models

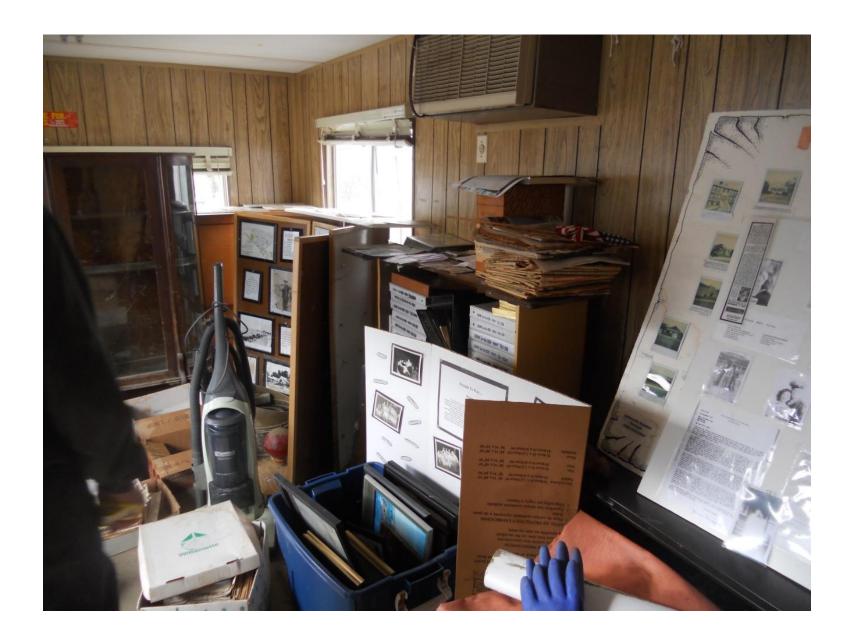
















Keyport Historical Society's Steamboat Dock Museum

Society formed in 1972. Building originally owned by the Keansburg Steamboat Company and built in 1948. The museum opened in 1976 with over 4,000 items.

www.panoramio.com



www. keyporthistorical society. com



www. keyporthistorical society. com



www. keyporthistorical society. com



www. keyporthistorical society. com

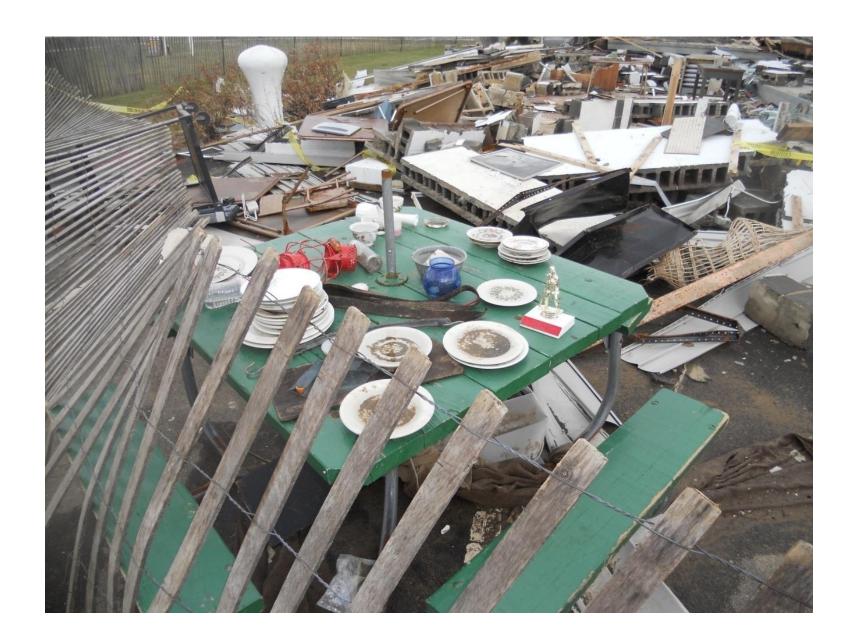










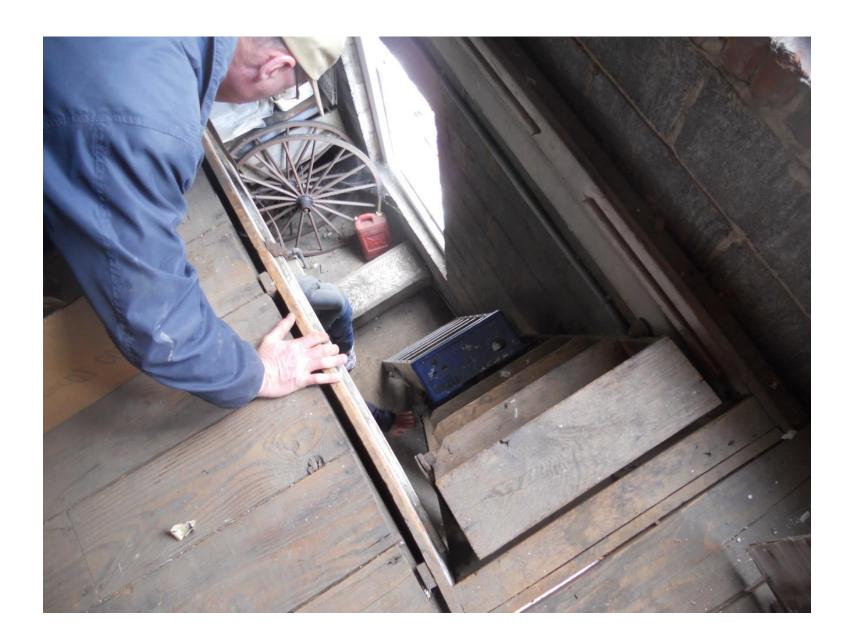




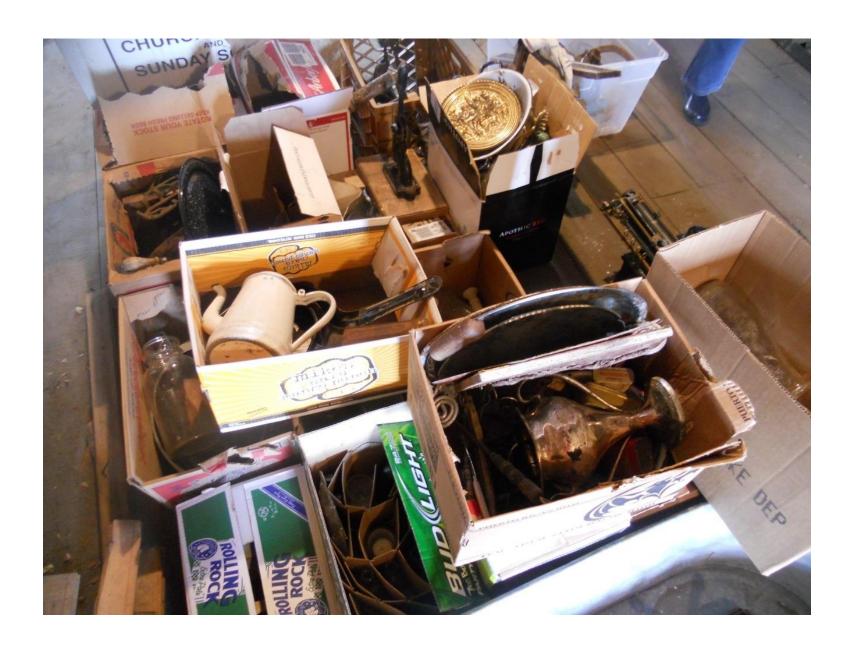
Matawan Historical Society's storage shed













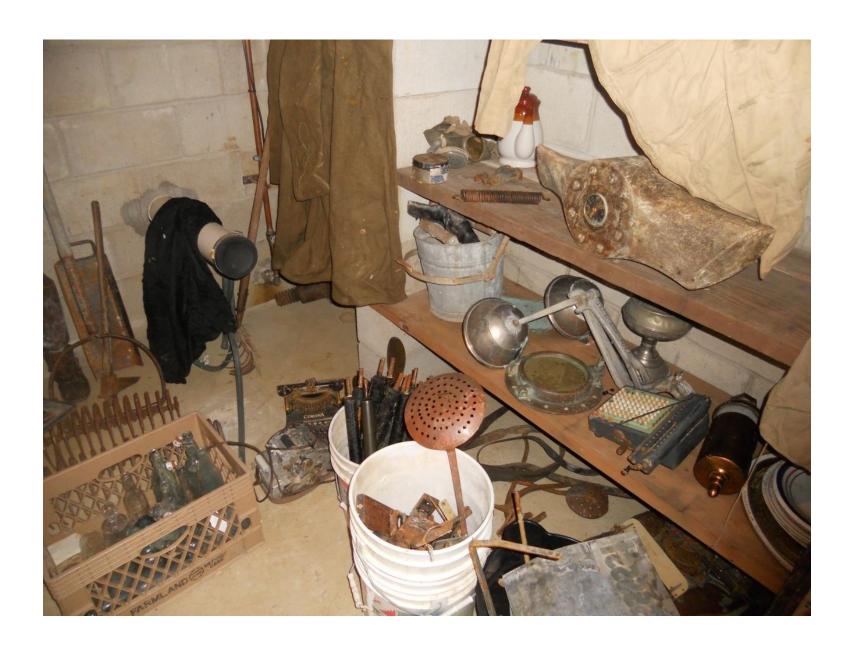
Privately-owned building lent by Keyport resident. Property currently up for sale.



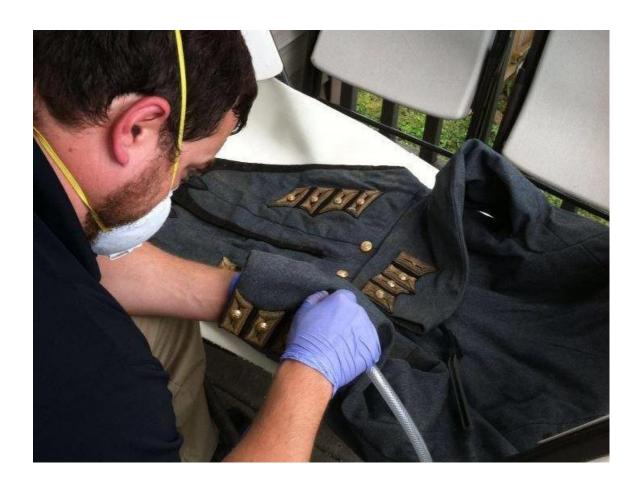












National Guard Militia Museum member using hepa-vacuum to clean uniforms



Monmouth County Historical Association off-site storage facility, with Angel Jeandron, Tom Caruso, MCHA Museum Curator Bernadette Rogoff



Middletown Township Historical Society MacLeod-Rice House at Croydon Hall

Built in 1894, modified in 1910 as part of gentleman's farm, was private boarding school 1946-1975. Township purchased in 1977 and the Society opened it as their museum in 1984. www.middletown-nj.patch.com











Smaller Societies

- Volunteer run; members are older in age
- Little or no operating budget
- No archival background; do not know preservation procedures
- Not members of archival community
- Not aware of resources available
- Tend to be isolated, protective, wary
- No disaster plan in place

Smaller Societies

- Goal is to preserve the history of their specific town
- Focus is on their specific collective memory
- Because of that local focus, they fulfill a need that larger county and state organizations cannot

How Larger Organizations Can Help

- Realize the value of locally-focused historical organizations
- Be more approachable
- Reach out and get them involved in workshops, seminars, lectures, organizations
- Support their events
- Offer to lend a hand or be available to give advice

Support Organizations

- League of Historical Societies of New Jersey
- American Association for State and Local History
- Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference: New Jersey Caucus Archival Projects Evaluation Service (CAPES)

Planning for the Future

- Group emergency plan
- Secure a storage area beforehand so no time lost moving items
- Attend workshops
- See what other organizations do; network
- Perfection is not necessary it can be done correctly at all levels

.... so come visit me and see how!

Laura M. Poll, Librarian/Archivist monmouthhistory.org

