FHS Collections

Panel of FHS Volunteers
Improving Community Access to Historical Materials
The Falmouth Historical Society
October 15, 2019
Falmouth Heritage Museum—Outside

Improved appearance and accessibility
- Steps & ramp
- Lighting
- Landscaping
- New, more visible sign!!!
  *Old sign will be restored & preserved*

Increased awareness of Museum
Drawing more people to collections!
Rearranging the collections area
  • Research area
  • Archival area
  • More room for static and rotating thematic exhibits

Culling the collections
  • Focus on ties to Falmouth
  • Look less like town’s attic

Improved access to collections!
FHS Online—Digital Catalog

Building our digital catalog
• Migrating card files into an online database
• Creating a consolidated view of our collections
• Using PastPerfect—like other societies
• Finally getting traction on a strategic goal

Accessible from the Internet
• Extension to our website

Will expand access to the collections!
FHS Online—Digital Research Tools

Building an online guide to researching the history of families and properties in Falmouth
- Historical context and relevance
- Links to helpful resources
- Digital copies of key books & documents

*In public domain or out of copyright*

Many researchers will need assistance
- Tools and context—our “special sauce”

Will bring more people into the Museum!
Why?

It’s all about serving our communities

• Students and teachers
• Property owners & local businesses
• Family history researchers
• New and prospective residents

A town historical society in the 21st century

• Other societies making similar improvements
• “Go to” resource for information about a town’s past
• We have the knowledge, documents, artifacts & tools
• Preserving and sharing the heritage of our towns