



FHS Collections

Panel of FHS Volunteers

Improving Community Access to Historical Materials

The Falmouth Historical Society

October 15, 2019

Falmouth Heritage Museum



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!



Falmouth Heritage Museum



Falmouth Heritage Museum—Inside

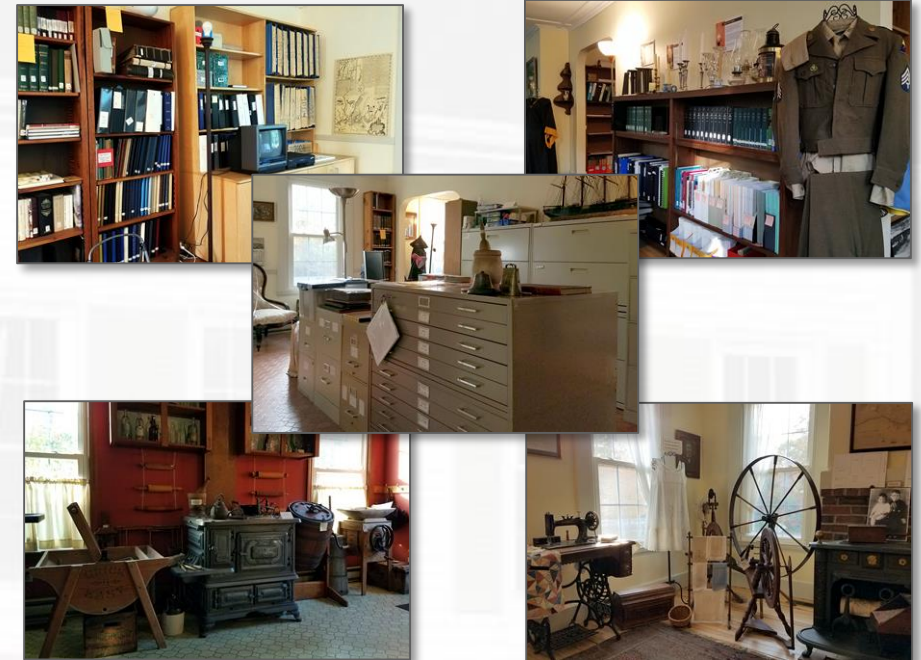
Rearranging the collections area

- 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!



Falmouth Heritage Museum



FHS Online—Digital Catalog

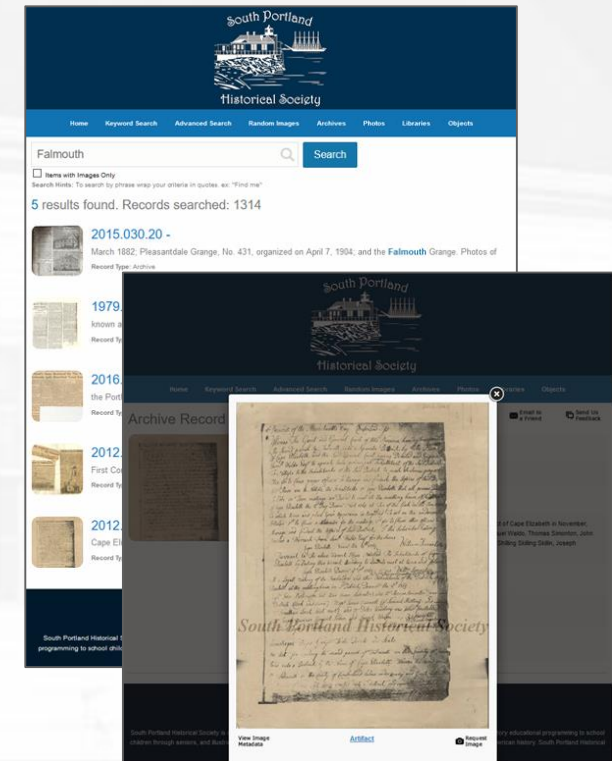
Building our digital catalog

- 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!



South Portland Historical Society Website

Falmouth Heritage Museum



FHS Online—Digital Research Tools

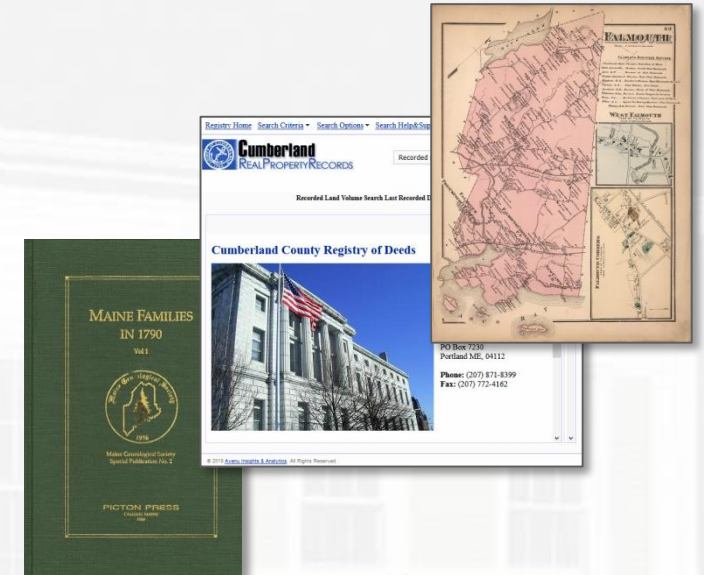
Building an online guide to researching the history of families and properties in Falmouth

- 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!



Falmouth Heritage 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



Falmouth Heritage Museum