

CASE STUDY

WATER DAMAGE

ROYAL OAK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ROYAL OAK, MICHIGAN

February 2007 - During the night, a pipe burst, sending hot water flowing onto a wooden cabinet housing items from the Abraham Lincoln/George A. Dondero collection, which shows the connection between Dondero, Royal Oak's first mayor and a U.S. representative, and Lincoln's son, Robert Todd Lincoln, through original documents and photographs. Steam from the pipe spread throughout the museum and created condensation on items on display. Many of the paintings were thought to be completely ruined, and others had damage accompanied by 30 years of nicotine stains.

ART was able to restore a majority of all of the damaged documents and historical paintings. "...making some items look even better than they did while on display." said, Muriel Versagi, Museum Curator. The experts at ART patiently and painstakingly cleaned, repaired and rebuilt this historical collection to be preserved for future generations.



"I can't believe they did it!"

*-Muriel Versagi
Curator
Royal Oak Historical Society
Museum*