

Come Join Us!



Drake House Museum Presents

602 West Front Street
Plainfield, NJ 07060



“Ere the Shadows Fade: New Jersey’s Civil War Era Photographers “

Sunday, May 19, 2019, 2:00 PM

Lecture by Gary D. Saretzky, Archivist, Educator, and Photographer.

Why were photographers important during the Civil War Era? The then-new ability to capture images at that time resulted in an increase in demand – from soldiers and families – for images of loved ones. More galleries opened and photographers moved to cities and towns. Gary Saretzky will guide the conversation about the evolution of the photography industry and the significance of the images captured.

The Historical Society of Plainfield will have on display a small collection of images by Guillermo Thorn (1837-1920) who moved to Plainfield in 1864. Thorn established a photography studio on East Front Street, and he took portraits and scenes of the Plainfield area.

Gary D. Saretzky has been the Monmouth County Archivist since 1994. Saretzky taught history of photography at Mercer County Community College from 1977 to 2012 and coordinated the Rutgers Public History Internship Program from 1994 to 2016. He has served as a consultant on archives and photographic conservation to more than 50 different repositories, has taught numerous workshops, and lectures on the history of photography and preserving photographs.

This program is funded by the New Jersey Council for the Humanities, and is in honor of the City of Plainfield’s sesquicentennial celebration. Seating is limited and is on a first-come first-serve basis. Light refreshments will be served. Program is free, and visitor will receive a Guillermo Thorn Union County History card. Donations are always appreciated.



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