

History on the Rocks: Gadsby's Historic Ice Well

It's Melting! It's Melting!

Ice Well Temp: 45; Alexandria Temp: 55

If you have been following this blog from the beginning, you have seen a dramatic change in our ice mound from day one to today. Brace yourselves; yes, our ice is melting. It is especially apparent on the side closest to the window which gets the sun every afternoon. The ice blocks on the other side of the mound are nice and cold under a bunch of straw, so they are faring better. And Mother Nature will be challenging us more. As the temperatures goes up outside, the temperature in the ice well is going up as well. It used to hover around 41-42 degrees. Now we are seeing more 44-45 degrees.



It's Melting!



What remains of a 50 pound block of ice, from the sun side.

But as Gretchen and I are down in the well; each day hauling water out and being present in the space, it reaffirms why we are working so hard to raise the money to restore it. There are so many issues that the restoration will address, but one I want to focus on today, we are leaking. In the 1970s during the initial work on the ice well, glass viewing windows were installed so people could peer down into the ice well and see this architectural marvel. Like any window 30+ years later, the seals are decaying or are just plain gone. So during rain storms, like the one last week, water drips drips drips. It was getting so bad we had to set up a bus tub caravan to catch all this water. Just imagine years and years of water drip drip drip. Please help us and consider a donation to stop this drip drip drip.



Bus Tub caravan

On that note, I need to head to the little girl's room.

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