

Telling stories with museum objects – *information noise*
or *information with historical source value* in future.

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Possible solutions in creation of high-quality data

Possible solutions are:

1. Documenting descriptions and stories with background data (sender - receiver - time - place – situation: the framework of information flow)
2. Documentation system, in which cataloguing /describing and the creation of the receipt document and of the usage documentation is presented in the same system.
3. A registrar's significant role in creating high-quality information/ knowledge.
4. Collecting activities as the 1st step in creation of high-quality data.

The 1st solution. Documenting descriptions and stories with background data.

- The description of any museum object is a museum specialist's or narrator's mediation of the object's „information“, i.e. one must remember that the given information is also influenced by several subjective factors.

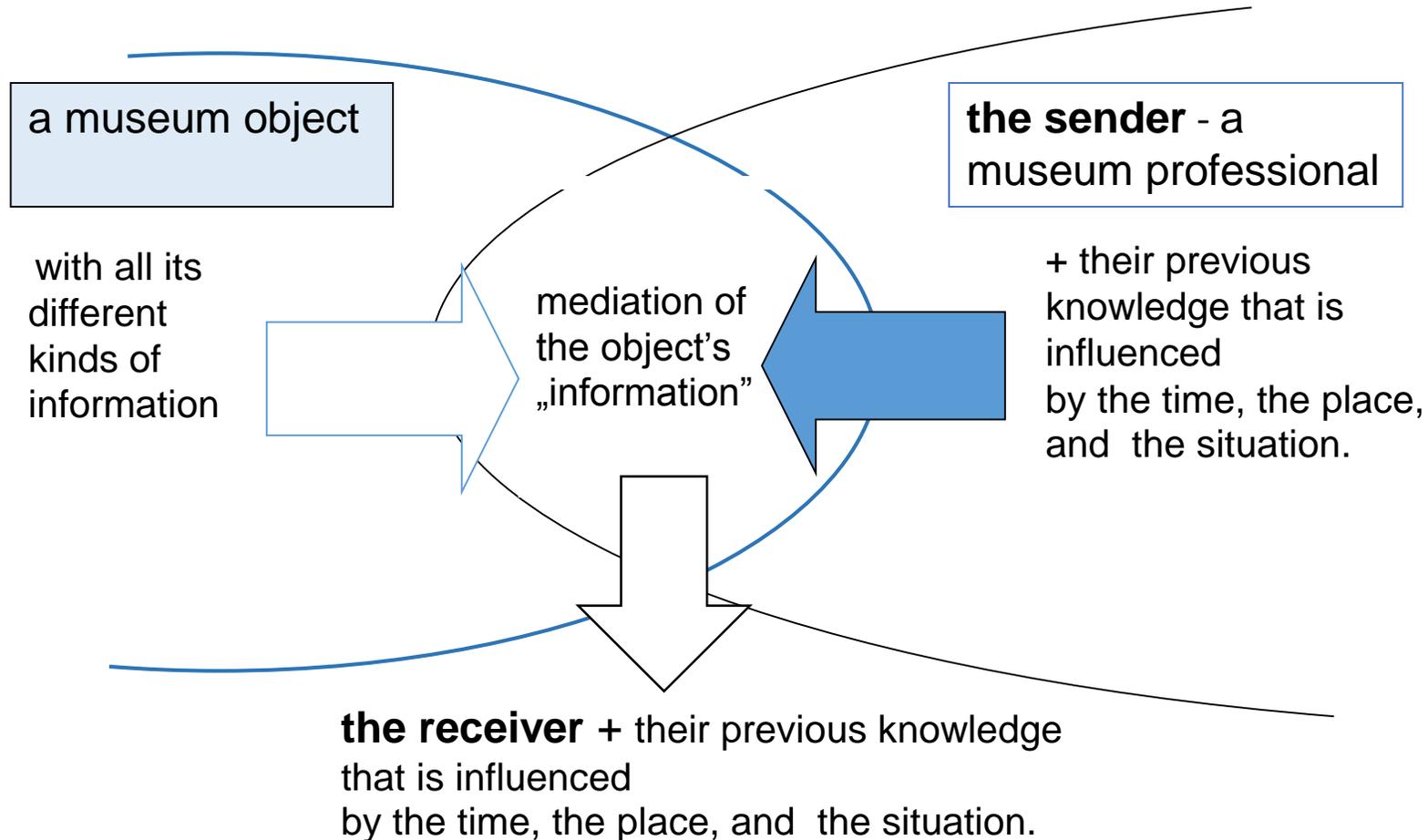
Subjective factors:

A sender + (time and place, situation) = “background data” / this gives *the framework of information*

A receiver + (time and place, situation) = “background data” / this gives *the framework of information*

A sender (t+p+s) + a receiver (t+p+s) = this gives *the framework of information flow*

Figure 1. The description of any museum object is mediation of the object's information. The given information is influenced by subjective factors.



In conclusion – while recording and storing of information, we must record and store the background data of the information.

It is necessary **to fix the background data**: the person who enters it, the time and the place, the situation of entering and the additional sources used in the description, on each description and on each piece of collected information.

This will form *the framework* of the layers of different descriptions (*so-called information architecture*)

- Keywords:

understanding

interpreting

veritability

reversibility

Adding the *information framework* to the different layers of description will help to separate the different layers of description.

The 2nd solution.

It is important to use the documentation system in which cataloguing/describing, the creation of the receipt document and the formation of the usage documentation are all presented in the same system

- A documentation of a museum object and the description of a museum object is a continuous process.
- The importance of linking descriptive and administrative data of museum objects.

The first aspect - documentation of museum objects is a continuous process.

- It begins with the registration of a museum object and ends with deaccession of the museum object.
- Every research and exhibition adds new and interesting information to the object. The description of an object is created a layer by layer during the time, during daily work in a museum.
- Only through continuous documentation it is possible to ensure the tracking of change over time, which is vital for adding information about a museum object. All new systems have to take into account the previously recorded information, so the integrity of the information related to the museum object is ensured.

The second aspect - the importance of linking descriptive and administrative data of museum objects.

The documentation system of the museum can be of help here.

Estonian Museum documentation system is a system in which documenting the usage of museum objects takes place in the same information system where their receipt is documented and catalogued.

As a result,

- the **new information** /the name of the exhibition or the project, and the description of the content of the exhibition or the project/
- **with its background data** /the time, the place, the people who are related to this activity/

is added to the object description automatically at the same time when any of the usage documents is created.

Figure 2. Data input forms a description of the museum object - documents related to an object.

Kirjeldamise I etapp **a description of the museum object**

Minimaalne info | Kirjeldamise I etapp | Andmete parandamine

Museaali nr: EKM | 31719 M 5973 | Numbri ühendamine

Museumikogu: M: Maalikogu | Vastuvõtu nr: | Üleandja: | Muuseumile omandamise viis: | Ssendvorm: kunstiesee | Objekti seisund: retrospektiivselt seestatud

Autor/Kunstnik: Mälo, Lepo | Jooksev asukoht: <suba 14> | Esmane üldinfo: | Tullelegend: |

Nimetus: Kartulivõtmine | Kogusse registreerimisaeg: 24.04.2009 | Koolkond: |

Teised nimetused +++ | Teised numbrid |

Eesti muuseumide veebivärava informatsioon

Availik museaal mitte-availiku museaali puhul ei kuvata

Availikusta praegused andmed availikusta museaal

Välisviited +++

Admin sündmused

Sündmus	Aeg	Ossijad	Dok.
Tagastamine	17.08.2014	Üleandja: Jeeser, Linnam, Kale Vastuvõtja: Jeeser, EKM, Kale	Tagastamisakt nr 2014:0018 lae alla
Väljaandmine	17.08.2014	Üleandja: Jeeser, EKM, Kale Vastuvõtja: Jeeser, Linnam, Kale	Väljaandeakt nr 2014:0023 lae alla
Hoiustamine	13.08.2014	Üleandja:	Hoiustamisakt nr 2014:0005 lae alla
Retrospektiivne sisestus	24.04.2009	Kallula, Uusa	

Tõhista muudatused | Salvesta ja kopeeri andmed uuele objektile | Salvesta lehelte lahkumata | Salvesta, lahku le

I etapi kirjeldaja: Jeeser, EKM, Kale | Kirjeldamise I etapi aeg: 17.08.2014 | Märki kirjeldamise I

Muudatuste ajalugu

Here you can see **documents** that are related to an object, **the time** when the documents are created, the **persons** who are related to this activity

You can open these documents here and you can see the reason of the usage; the name of the project where the object was used; the relation to the other objects used in the same way.

Figure 3. A view of the description of a museum object – new information with background data is added to an object from a document.

The end result of creating documents for each museum objects is saved to the description of an object and the information is visible and usable both now and in the future.

EKM j 31719 M 5973 Mikko, Lepo. Kartulivõtmine
Dateering: umbes .1943
Objekti olemus: maal

tervik
õli
vineer
kõrgus: 44.5 cm, laius: 62.5 cm

Seisukord
Seisund
13.08.2014 hea (hoiustamine 2014:0005)

Kunstiese:

Kirjeldus:
Museaali kultuuriajalooline kontekst:
umbes.1943 valmistamine
autor: Mikko, Lepo
1942 - 1943 kartulivõtt
Kartulivõtt toimub käsitsi. Naised korvidega kartuleid korjamas ja mees hobusega kartulivagu lahti ajamas.
Eesti

Administratiivsed sündmused
17.08.2014 Tagastamine
Tagastamisakt nr 2014:0018, aktiiv
üleandja:Jeaser, Linnam,Kaie
vastuvõtja:Jeaser, EKM,Kaie
/////////
17.08.2014 Väljaandmine - väljaandmine näitusele: Kartulivõtt / POTATOEHARVEST
Väljaandeakt nr 2014:0023, arhiiv
üleandja:Jeaser, EKM,Kaie
vastuvõtja:Jeaser, Linnam,Kaie
ruum: 107. xoxoxoxoxoxox

Museaaliga seotud failid
M 5973 Mikko. Kartulivõtmine.jpg avaikk



New information with background data is added to an object description automatically when any of the documents is created.

Here you can see the added documents related to the object. For example, a loans-out document with the name of an exhibiton, the time, the added text etc.

The preparation of an exhibition

During the preparation of an exhibition, the theme and the museum objects which are related to the theme are explored. This often entails multitude of additional information to be added to the museum objects.

The reason of an exhibition:

long and thorough texts and catalogues;

educational programs;

lectures.

All this forms important additional information, this is also something that must reach the end-user.

Filling out the document that regulates the usage of the museum object already in the system, background information and new contextual information will be automatically attached to many museum items immediately.

Figure 4. Exhibition page.

Exhibition name: Mängud tapeetidega / Games with wallpapers.

Exhibition page Mängud tapeetidega / Games with wallpapers.

Näituse passi nr: 2014:0010

Nimetus: * Mängud tapeetidega

Algne kuupäev: * 27.10.2014

the time 30.04.2015

Näituse olek: * koostatud

Näituse liik: * ajutine ekspositsioon

Näituse asukoht: * 106

the place Näitus asub põhiliselt ruumis 106, kuid haaratud on ka õpituba (endine kohvik) ruum 104 - seal toimub käeline tegevus.

Kommentaari: Näituse kuraator Kadri Kallaste ja kujundaja Tuuli Auli. Näituse idee sai alguse Tartust 1986 aastal leitud 19 sajandist pärineva Pompei stiilis tapeedifragmentidest. Leitud tapetid konserveerimiseks püüti leida raha juba 1986 aastal, kuid tulemusteta ja nii otsustati anda tapeedid hoiale Ülikooli raamatukogule. Seal seisid antud tapeedifragment kuni 2013. OÜ "Mandradora" (endine TÜ raamatukogu restaureerimisosakond) algatusel asuti (2012- 2013) aastal otsima vahendeid tapeetide konserveerimiseks. 2013. aastal oli Tartu Linnavalitsus valmis raha eraldama, kui tapeet eksponeeritakse linnarahvale. Tartu Linnamuuseum oli meeldi selleks valmis, kuid kuna muuseumi puudus tapeediajaloolane, siis leiti näituse kuraatoriks Kadri Kallaste, kes oli just kaitsnud oma doktoritööd teemal

Osaleja nimi Osaleja roll

Paris, Silja osaleja Muuda osalejat Kustuta

Jeeser, Kaie korraldaja Muuda osalejat Kustuta

Tommas, Merike korraldaja Muuda osalejat Kustuta

Lisa osaleja

the persons who are related to this activity

The name of the exhibition must be entered in a special data field. The name of the exhibition is visible and available in all borrowing and lending documents. It starts the linking of various loan documents based on the name of the exhibition by summing all the museum objects in the exhibition page.

A comment field where you can add a description of the exhibition, such as the idea of the creation of an exhibition etc.

Information presented here, including the name of the exhibition, will automatically remain attached to each object, which is listed on this page.

Eksponaadid The list of the items that have been chosen for the exhibition.

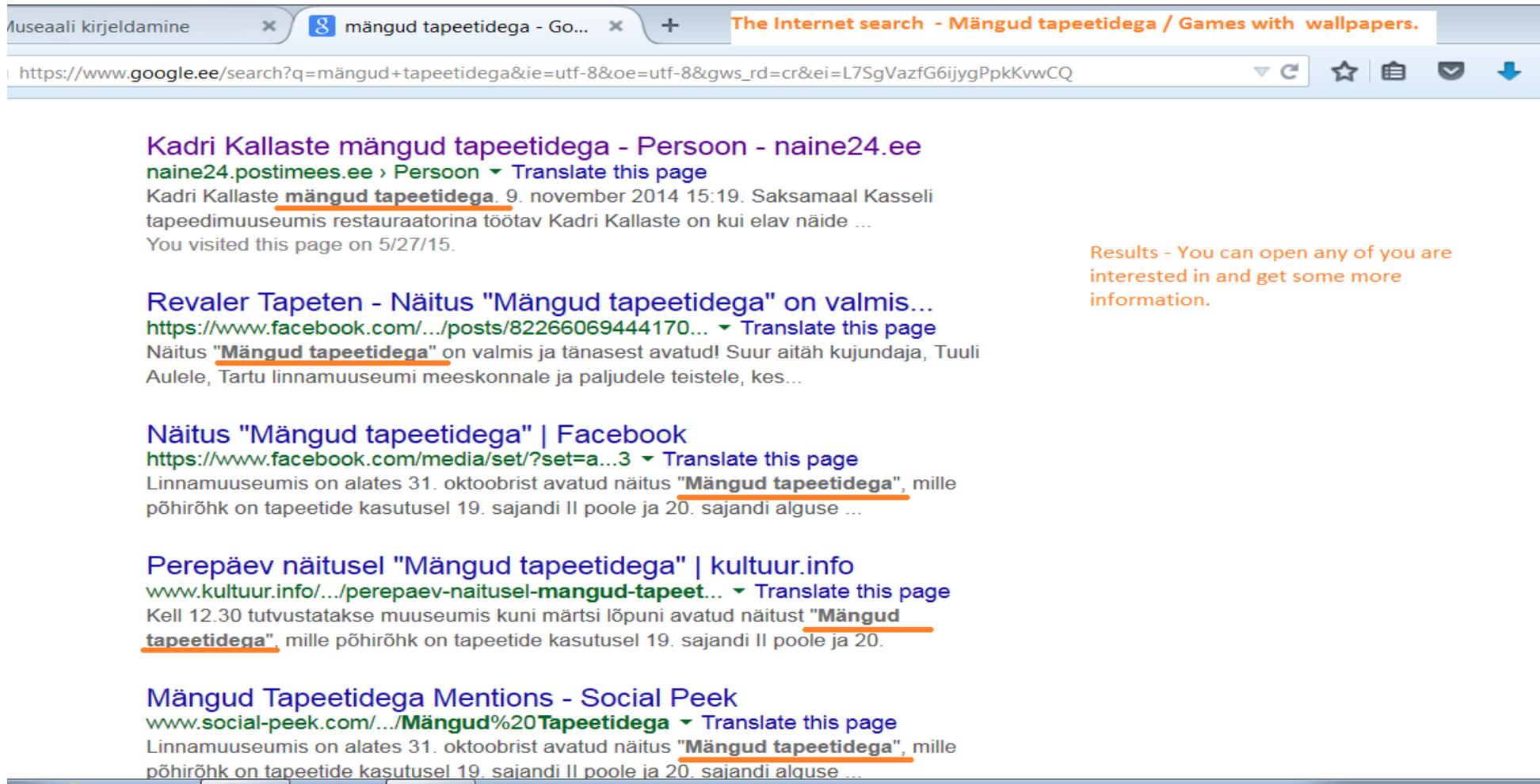
Excel LibreOffice CSV

<< < 1 > >> 1-13 / 13 Lehe suurus: 10 20

Nr	Kujutis	Museaali nr	Muuseum	Autor	Nimetus	Asukoht	Olek	Märkused	Objekti ID	Kustuta
1		TLM _ 11891 KA 2737	Tallinna Linnamuuseum		Pildiraam	106	tagastatud	museaal on originaal	Objekti ID	Kustuta
2		TLM _ 23166:3 KA 7799	Tallinna Linnamuuseum		Pildiraam	106	tagastatud	museaal on originaal	Objekti ID	Kustuta
3		ERM A 706:15	Eesti Rahva Muuseum		tool				Objekti ID	Kustuta
4		KMM GR 7522	Tartu Ülikooli kunstimuuseum	Steffen, L	Sein Casa de' Bronzi majast Pompeis	106	tagastatud		Objekti ID	Kustuta

Opens (by pressing the button „Objekti ID“) a description of the museum object.

Figure 5. The result of the Internet search - Mängud tapeetidega / Games with wallpapers.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the following elements:

- Browser Tabs:** "Museaali kirjeldamine", "mängud tapeetidega - Go...", and "The Internet search - Mängud tapeetidega / Games with wallpapers." (highlighted in orange).
- Address Bar:** "https://www.google.ee/search?q=mängud+tapeetidega&ie=utf-8&oe=utf-8&gws_rd=cr&ei=L7SgVazfG6ijygPpkKwCQ".
- Search Results:**
 - Result 1:** "Kadri Kallaste mängud tapeetidega - Persoon - naine24.ee". Subtitle: "naine24.postimees.ee > Persoon > Translate this page". Description: "Kadri Kallaste mängud tapeetidega. 9. november 2014 15:19. Saksamaal Kasseli tapeedimuuseumis restauraatorina töötav Kadri Kallaste on kui elav näide ... You visited this page on 5/27/15."
 - Result 2:** "Revaler Tapeten - Näitus 'Mängud tapeetidega' on valmis...". Subtitle: "https://www.facebook.com/.../posts/82266069444170... > Translate this page". Description: "Näitus 'Mängud tapeetidega' on valmis ja tänasest avatud! Suur aitäh kujundaja, Tuuli Aulele, Tartu linnamuuseumi meeskonnale ja paljudele teistele, kes..."
 - Result 3:** "Näitus 'Mängud tapeetidega' | Facebook". Subtitle: "https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a...3 > Translate this page". Description: "Linnamuuseumis on alates 31. oktoobrist avatud näitus 'Mängud tapeetidega', mille põhirõhk on tapeetide kasutusel 19. sajandi II poole ja 20. sajandi alguse ..."
 - Result 4:** "Perepäev näitusel 'Mängud tapeetidega' | kultuur.info". Subtitle: "www.kultuur.info/.../perepaev-naitusel-mangud-tapeet... > Translate this page". Description: "Kell 12.30 tutvustatakse muuseumis kuni märtsi lõpuni avatud näitust 'Mängud tapeetidega', mille põhirõhk on tapeetide kasutusel 19. sajandi II poole ja 20. sajandi alguse ..."
 - Result 5:** "Mängud Tapeetidega Mentions - Social Peek". Subtitle: "www.social-peek.com/.../Mängud%20Tapeetidega > Translate this page". Description: "Linnamuuseumis on alates 31. oktoobrist avatud näitus 'Mängud tapeetidega', mille põhirõhk on tapeetide kasutusel 19. sajandi II poole ja 20. sajandi alguse ..."

Annotation: "Results - You can open any of you are interested in and get some more information." (highlighted in orange).

In conclusion - the 2th solution

It's important that using a documentation system that

- supports continuous documenting possibilities

and also

- enables linking descriptive and administrative data about museum objects

will save working time and additional information is automatically recorded along with its background information.

- The absence of correct documentation unavoidably reduces the value of a museum object as a source of information by affecting options for interpretation and the usage of the object.

The 3rd solution – a documenter's significant role in creating high - quality information.

- What kind of information will be inserted into certain data fields depends on the describer, who is solely responsible for the content of the description. Though the system is able to verify if a certain data field is filled or unfilled, it is unable to control the content. Museums professionals are the ones who have substantial knowledge on the entered material.
- The scientific value of the content of the comment field depends solely on the concrete museum employee.

Figure 6 - A loan document with a comment field that is filled in.

Valjaandeakt **A loan document with a comment field that is filled in. You can write down the loan related context in this field.**

Akti nr: 2014:0016 Eesmärk: väljaandmine süsteemi välisele näitusele

Vormistatud: 26.09.2014

Kinnitatud: 26.09.2014

Alusdokument

Leping nr:

Garantikiri:

Kasutamise tingimused

Vastuvõtja tagab esemete nõutekohase eksponeerimise ja kahju tekitamise korral katab klulud.

Kasutuseesmärk

Esemed on eksponeerimisel näitusel "Tartu-vabaduse saar? Narva versioon" Näitus osaleb Narvas Muuseumide festivalil. Samanimeline näitus toimus Tartu Linnamuuseumis, kuid Narva viimine ja olemas olev näituseruum Narva Muuseumis nõudis väikseid muudatusi esemete valikus. Seega on sisult näitus küll sama mis oli Tartus, kuid vormilt veidi erinev. Näituse aukoht: Narva Muuseum, Narva kindluse peatorn 4. korrus. Lisaks põhikogu materjalile on näitusel ka TA 466 ümmargune laud ja TA 466 kohvikusein ning nendest loosunnid 2tk kohvikuland

Üleandja: Jeaser, Kaie Tartu Linnamuuseum **Tagastamise tahtaeg** Vāja antavate objektide arv
 Vastuvõtja: Judina, Anna Narva Muuseum Kuupäev: 19.12.2014 Neist tagastatud Tagastamisel 0 6

Museaalide nimistu detailsus

Kõik museaalid Tagastamata museaalid Tagastatud museaalid Näita autoreid museaalide nimistus

Rakenda valikud

Museaalid *In the comment field, the text will remain independently related to each item in this document.*

<< < 1 > >> 1-6 / 6 vali kõik

<input type="checkbox"/>	Olek	Museaali nr	Nimetus	Väärtus	Elem.arv	Seisund	Kahjustused	Märkused	Sihtkoht	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tagastatud 18.03.2015	TM_1895:10 Aj 1113:10	Teekann, emailitud		1	hea			Narva Muuseum nr. 1	Täiskirjeldus
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tagastatud 18.03.2015	TM_2444:1 Aj 1393:1	V.I. Lenini büst, kipsist		1	rahuldav			Narva Muuseum nr. 1	Täiskirjeldus
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tagastatud 18.03.2015	TM_2884:2 Ar	Loosung, Armastage raamatut!		1	rahuldav	määratud, kulunud		Narva Muuseum nr. 1	Täiskirjeldus

Figure 7 - a comment field with non-existent information in the loan document.

Väljaandekt **A loan document** **A comment field with non-existent information in the loan document.**

Akti nr: 2014:0013 Eesmärk: väljaandmine näitusele
 Vormistatud: 22.10.2014 Näitus: Mängud tapeetidega
 Kinnitatud: 28.10.2014
 Taotlus: nr. 2014:1651 22.10.2014

Alusdokument
 Leping nr:
 Garantiikiri:

Kasutuseesmärk: **TM** Kasutamise tingimused:

Üleandja: Kriis, Lelli Tartu Ülikooli muuseum
 Vastuvõtja: Jeesser, Kaie Tartu Linnamuuseum

Tagastamise tähtaeg
 Kuupäev: 31.03.2015

Välja antavate objektide arv: 2
 Neist tagastatud: 2
 Tagastamisel: 0

Museaalide nimistu detailsus
 Kõik museaalid Tagastamata museaalid Tagastatud museaalid Näita autoreid museaalide nimistus
 Rakenda valikud

Museaalid
 << < 1 >> 1-2 / 2 vali kõik

<input type="checkbox"/>	Olek	Museaali nr	Nimetus	Väärtus	Elem.arv	Seisund	Kahjustused	Märkused	Sihtkoht	Objekti ID
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tagastatud 07.04.2015	ÜAM_664:97 Ar	Vergleichende Untersuchungen der wichtigeren zum Nachweise von Arsen in		1	rahuldav *	kõiteselja kattepaberil roostetanud metallklambrate jäljed		106	Objekti ID
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tagastatud 07.04.2015	ÜAM_798:1 AjM	Mapp tapeediproovidega, nr. 1-182		1	rahuldav *	tapeediproovide sisenurgad murdejoontega, esineb kadusid, kaaned kulunud, kattepaberi kaod		106	Objekti ID

Tühista [Kinnitamisel loodud PDF](#)

The 4th solution - the creation of high -quality data begins with collection activities.

Any collected material is affected by the target that is set before the collecting activity actually begins.

- Who finances the project?
- Is the project a part of another project?
- Who were engaged in the collection?

There are lots of ways to collect information, but this information becomes scientifically valuable only when it is clear whose views are presented. Only so presents the collected information historical source value.

All in all – to collect and record high quality data, a museum has to:

1. Document descriptions and stories with its background data (the framework of information flow: a sender – a receiver - time - place - situation)
2. Use a documentation system, in which cataloguing and describing, and the creation of the receipt document and of the usage documentation is presented in the same system in the museum.
3. Guarantee a sufficient number of highly qualified registrars employed by museums. A registrar's role in creating high-quality information and knowledge is critically important.
4. Take into account that collecting activity is the first foundational step in the creation of high-quality data. The description of an object will begin from this activity, added layer by layer in future. Museums should involve people from outside a museum in collecting and recording of high quality data by using modern technical solutions.

To sum up – acting in this way, we are able to collect and record the material that would lay the foundation for creating information and telling stories in future, without the fear to lose the "original truth and also to provide an opportunity for a wide range of different, but still scientific, interpretations.

Thank you!

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University of Tartu Institute of Social Studies.

For more information look at the full text on this topic „**Telling stories with museum objects – information noise or information with historical source value in future**“.
http://network.icom.museum/fileadmin/user_upload/minisites/cidoc/ConferencePapers/2015/Kaie JEESER-Telling_stories-vers07.pdf