

# Conclusions of the Salvaging of the Ráday Collection

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# Chronological Overview

- 23 January 2019 Fire and flooding
- 24 January 2019 Assessment of damages in the collection
- 25 January 2019 Agreement on immediate in situ salvaging and removing material to BCA
- 28 January 2019 Start of in situ salvaging and removing material to BCA
- 5 March 2019 Removing of materials from Ráday to BCA finished
- 28 May 2019 Conference of the Association of Hungarian Archivists on *„Ráday Archives, After the Disaster”*
- 5 September 2019 Relocation of Ráday Library and Manuscripts of the Ráday Collection to BCA









# Damages/Collection Preservation

- 48 hours after water damage mould starts to develop
- 5 shelf-metre water damaged records (mainly economic and church administration documents, plans, church renovation documents, bound journals from the 1980s and 1990s and 2000, and the foreign publications from 1601 to 1850) immediately transported to BCA in plastic crates
- In the drying room and temporary storage area of BCA designed especially for this purpose, our colleagues spread the material on 24 running-metres, on 35 drying racks. |
- Professional assistance on the spot (library, damaged displays, position of vault), professional cooperation
- Result: No mould developed, books and records damaged physically but not irreversibly
- IADA Conference, Isabella Chavanne: Flooded IGI Manuscripts, Paris Restorer Centre, Docusave <https://www.docusave.ch/en/home>).

# Professional cooperation

## Who can help?

- **Archives:** immediate physical help, lending a dehumidifier
- **Museums:** lending 6 dehumidifiers
- **Professionals:** saving museum book collection
- **Professionals:** lending measuring devices
- **Professionals:** disinfection of books
- transport companies



















# MŰSZAK

Tárgy: A PATAJOKLOSI REFORMÁTUS  
TEMPLOMNAK BELSŐ  
MUNKÁI

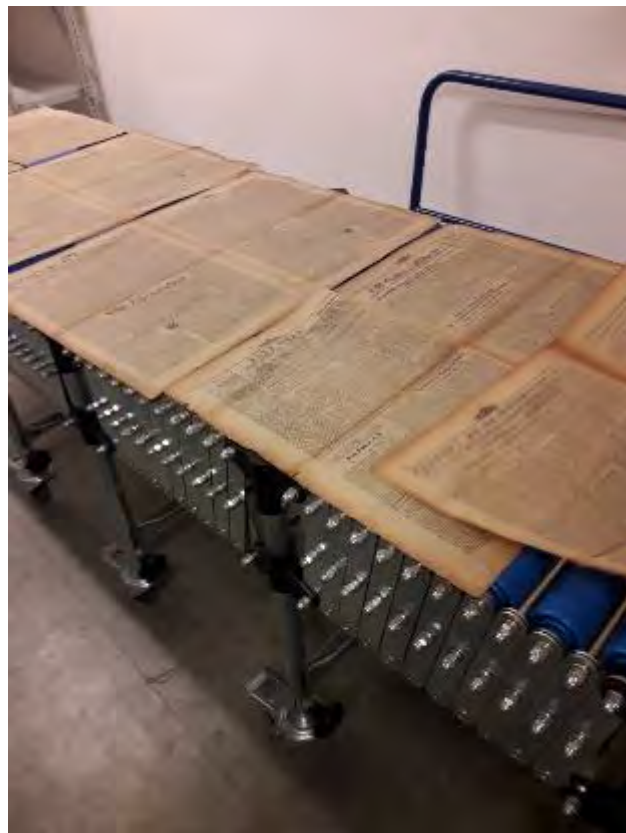
TEMPLOM FELÚJÍTÁSA

TERVEZÉSE

KELETI HOMLOKZAT









# Relocation of Ráday Archives

- The RH of documents arriving at BCA was 20-25 %. Restorers dried them in the temporary storage area to achieve the ideal level of 10–15%. To stop the formulation of moulds ultrasound humidors were used to distribute essential oils in the rooms. Documents from wet boxes were unloaded and dried separately, then the dried documents were packed into new boxes.
- The relocation took 17 days. The Preservation Department of BCA spent 352 hours drying the papers while continuously measuring and controlling the RH content of the paper and the air. In cooperation with the archivists of Ráday Archives and the colleagues of the removal company, the work was finished on March 5.







































































# Summary

- Ráday Museum Book Collection: 446.6 shelf-metre and the Manuscript Collection.
- Foreign publications from 1601 to 1850
- Relocation of the 850 shelf-metre records of the Ráday Archives to BCA 623 storage rooms.
- Document salvaging, relocation fast and professionally, observing preservation priorities
- Success of professional cooperation
- Communication, immediate help, exploiting opportunities
- Lacking:
  - Measuring devices, dehumidifiers (there are few dehumidifiers in Public Collections)
  - Mass disinfection machines, freeze-frying facilities
  - Common Emergency Protocol Standard and infrastructure (headed by the National Museum)