

Staying or Leaving?

As you go through the Flood Museum, you will see many artifacts, photos, and stories that will help you imagine what citizens of the Conemaugh Valley went through during and, if they survived, after the Flood. Think of all these things as clues about how your survivor decided whether to stay and rebuild his or her life in Johnstown or move to another place to start over. In the chart below:

1. **LIST** on the left all the reasons you can think of to stay and rebuild in Johnstown;
2. **LIST** on the right all the reasons you can think of to move to another place to start over;
3. **CONSIDER** all areas of your life, including jobs, school, church, friends and neighbors, and family members.

REASONS TO STAY		REASONS TO LEAVE	
Museum object or story	Why it's a reason to stay	Museum object or story	Why it's a reason to leave
Facts and figures			
Stories and quotes			
Images and artifacts			
Other clues			

4. **TAKE** into account clues from the city directories (addresses and occupations) [HINT: Check whether their homes or businesses were in the flooded area in an old Johnstown map];
5. **WRITE** a letter explaining your decision to a friend. Your explanations may be emotional as well as logical.