



COUNTY OF AMHERST

Public Information Officer

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For Immediate Release

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FIELD TRIP TO CABELLSVILLE – Home of Amherst County’s First Court House

Amherst -- Archaeologists Randy Lichtenberger and Keith Adams will lead us on a tour of the original courthouse site and share their findings and the stories that archaeological excavation revealed. Meet at Woodland Baptist Church at 9 a.m., 4434 Thomas Nelson Highway, Arrington. Program is free but reservations are required, 434-946-9068.

The first courthouse was built near the present village of Colleen in what is now Nelson County. It appears to have been completed by March 1, 1762 as court was held there for the first time according to records. Justices had been meeting at the house of Henry Key, a member of the court. The justices had decided that the courthouse should be erected on the land of Lunsford Lomax “on the Main Road through the County” and locally known as the “Nassau Tract.” We don’t know much about the building, but it was probably a framed structure with several rooms and high ceilings. In 1803 a town called Cabellsville was established at the courthouse, the name coming from Congressman Samuel J. Cabell whose family had acquired the Lunsford Lomax property thirty years earlier.

This program is made possible by The Greater Lynchburg Community Trust and is open to the public with no admission fee.

The Amherst County Museum and Historical Society is a nonprofit educational organization whose mission is to discover, collect and preserve objects related to the history and genealogy of Amherst County. The society exhibits, interprets and offers its collections to provide educational experiences for people of all ages.

For additional information contact Octavia Starbuck, Director, Amherst County Museum and Historical Society at 434-946-9068 or by the website email: staff@amherstcountymuseum.org.

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