D Street Bridge to Daniel’s Hill

The City closed D Street Bridge to vehicles in March 2008 as inspectors noted structural failures. The first bridge in that location was a six foot wide footbridge with wooden supports linked to the Rivermont Bridge which was completed in 1891. In 1908-09, the current D Street Bridge was built of reinforced concrete according to City annual reports. The Williams Viaduct Bridge, completed in 1919 and demolished in 1988, crossed the James River where the current John Lynch Bridge stands. The Williams Viaduct Bridge had a ramp that connected to Cabell Street, providing another route to Daniel’s Hill. That bridge’s demolition in 1988 removed that ramp and with the closing of the D Street Bridge, the neighborhood lost two of its three access points.

The City budgeted $3 million for the D Street Bridge project and the first step will be to hire an engineering firm to evaluate the structure and determine if repair or replacement is the best option. It will be approximately two years before this connector will be back in service. In the meantime, Daniel’s Hill and Point of Honor traffic must use Cabell Street off Rivermont Avenue for access.

D Street Foot Bridge in foreground, Rivermont Bridge on right, circa 1900

If there are errors or omissions, please notify the Museum at 455-6226. It is never too late to help—please send your contribution to Lynchburg Museum Foundation, Box 529, Lynchburg, VA 24505. The Foundation is a 501-c-3 organization dedicated to the advancement of the Lynchburg Museum System.
The Lynchburg Museum System had several major accomplishments in FY 2008 with the reopening of the Museum in the Old Court House, a new medical exhibit at Point of Honor, and increases in programs and special events. Here is a summary of activity from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008:

**THE LYNCHBURG MUSEUM: TOTAL VISITORS: 5,073**
From July through October 2007, the Museum operated at Bragassa’s Toy Store. The Museum was closed November, December, and January and reopened in the Old Court House in February 2008. Visitors to Bragassa’s totaled 1,411 in FY 2007.

**VOLUNTEERS: TOTAL HOURS 2,230**
The Volunteers of the Lynchburg Museum System with 42 active members provided 2,230 hours of service with a value of $49,260 based on the Federal volunteer rate of $22.09 per hour. These volunteers each provided over 100 hours service this past year: Doris Chapin, Frank Craddock, Irene Cranston, Laura Crumbley, Patsy Meyer, and Bob Ware.

**ANNUAL FUND GIFTS:**
The Lynchburg Museum Foundation received $27,805 in gifts, grants, and bequests in FY 2008 compared to $9,825 received in FY 2007.

**Upcoming Events**

**SEPTEMBER 27-28**
Kaleidoscope Weekend
Lynchburg Museum, 901 Court Street and Point of Honor, 112 Cabell Street (434) 455-6226
FREE ADMISSION
Special programs, Gift Shop sale Saturday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday: noon to 4 p.m.

Don’t forget to take the Daniel’s Hill Historic House Tour sponsored by the Lynchburg Historical Foundation on Sunday from 1 to 4:30 p.m. Call (434) 528-5351 for information.

**OCTOBER 11**
Day at the Point
Point of Honor, 112 Cabell Street (434) 455-6226
FREE ADMISSION
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Living history, food, kid’s games, music, pony rides, and a batteau are just a sampling.

**OCTOBER 24**
Apple Tasting with Tom Burford
Noted Apple Historian, Point of Honor Carriage House, 109 Norwood Street 6 to 8 p.m. (434) 455-6226 or 847-1867
$25 PER TICKET
limited to first 45 people who register.

**DECEMBER 7**
Christmas Open House
Point of Honor, 112 Cabell Street noon to 4 p.m. (434) 455-6226 or 847-1867
FREE ADMISSION
Period music and decorations, refreshments, and Gift Shop sale.

**Visit our websites:** www.pointofhonor.org and www.lynhburgmuseum.org for updates

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**FIRST ANNUAL DISCOVER LYNCHBURG SUMMER CAMP**

The Museum held its first Discover Lynchburg Camp in June 2008 with 17 children attending. Museum Educator Rachel Deddens took the group to City Hall, the Clay Street Fire Station, the Police Department, the Water Treatment facility, and held a picnic on Percival’s Isle. During the week, they also experienced programs and activities at Point of Honor and the Museum ranging from Native American life to classic architecture. Based on the positive response from campers and their parents, the 2009 camp is already scheduled for June 22-26, 2009.

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**Lynchburg Restoration just completed a project at Point of Honor as work continues on the difficult brick moisture problem. The most recent phase involved repointing the upper section of brick and the chimneys on the rear and Cabell Street facades. The lower areas were done in summer 2007. John Milner and Associates will come back in mid-August to measure moisture readings and make recommendations on next steps. The City Street Department also resurfaced the rear drive with crushed brown stone and replaced crumbling stones in the pathway from the Carriage House to the main house in May. Thanks go to them for a beautiful job!**

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**Point of Honor Update**

The exhibit “Medicine in Early Virginia” was installed in the Katherine Garland Diggie Gallery at Point of Honor in the spring. Since the home was built by Dr. George Cabell, an early Lynchburg physician, the exhibit explores the medical practices of his day—training, common diseases, cures (or attempted cures), instruments, and herbal medicine.

Featured artifacts include a rare doctor’s chest from the early 19th century, a full size reproduction skeleton, tooth keys, bone saws, forceps, and other implements that a doctor such as George Cabell might have used. The story of the death of Patrick Henry is also presented as Dr. Cabell, his friend and physician, was present in his last hours.