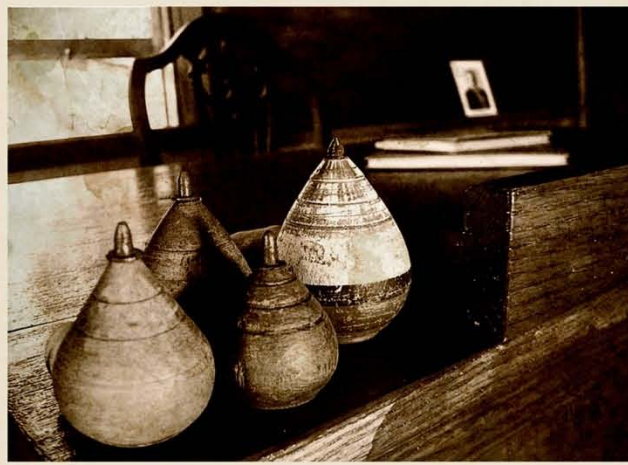


Rural Hill

PRESENTS...

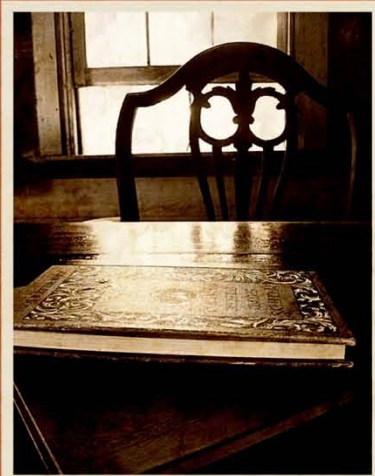
Take a field trip back in time to 1905, when Theodore Roosevelt was President, Charles Brantley Aycock was Governor and the American Flag still had 45 stars. Your class will be taught for a half or full day using 1905 methods and materials in Davidson School, Rural Hill's original 1890 one room school house, the oldest in Mecklenburg County!



Your class will be delighted by the opportunity to make and use their own copybooks, write with chalk on slate and blackboard, practice their penmanship skills, read from McSuffey's readers, and practice arithmetic, spelling, and grammar using materials and lessons that are over a century old. Contact us today to schedule your special memory!

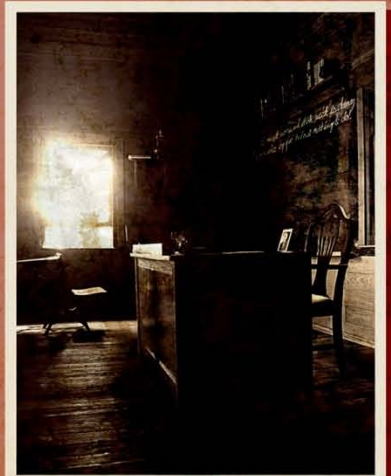
THE DAVIDSON SCHOOL

1890 - 1923



CONTACT INFORMATION

Rural Hill
4431 Neck Road
Huntersville, NC 28078
Education Manager: Zac Vinson
zac@ruralhill.net
704-875-3113 phone
704-875-3193 fax
www.ruralhill.net



Teachers:

It means so much to us here at Rural Hill that you have chosen us to be the destination of choice for your students. We know that your time and theirs is precious. If there is anything that we can do to make your trip more enjoyable please do not hesitate to let us know. Our programs are designed to fall within grade specific NC Curriculum guidelines but are generally suitable for all ages and can be modified within reason to suit your needs. Please take the time to review the following materials, which serve as an introduction to your trip and program. Again, do not hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns that you may have.

Thank you so much,
The Rural Hill Staff

Rural Hill is an historic site and working farm owned by Mecklenburg County and operated by Historic Rural Hill, Inc., a non-profit 501c-3. With two hundred and fifty years of history behind it, Rural Hill is a restoration in progress. Enjoy two hundred sixty five acres of magnificent rural vistas, a variety of farm animals and wildlife, a 5k wooded trail that encircles the property, and our historic buildings and reconstructions. With eleven structures in all, we have the perfect setting to provide cultural heritage events, educational programs, self or guided tours, and so much more! We welcome all visitors and students to Rural Hill, where history springs alive!

DIRECTIONS:

From I-77 North:

From I-77 North take Exit 16B, Sunset Road West, traveling 0.2 miles. Merge onto Sunset Road and travel 0.6 miles. Turn Right onto Beatties Ford Road. After traveling 6.5 miles turn Left onto Neck Road. Rural Hill is located 2.1 miles on the right. Pull into the SECOND driveway for parking.

From I-77 South:

From I-77 South take the Exit 23, Gilead Road toward Huntersville, traveling 0.3 miles. Turn Right onto Gilead Road and travel 0.6 miles. Turn Left onto McCoy Road and continue onward for 1.7 miles. Take a Right turn onto Hambright Road, traveling 1.6 miles, then turn Right onto Beatties Ford Road. After 0.7 miles, turn left onto Neck Road. Rural Hill is located 2.1 miles on the right. Pull into the SECOND driveway for parking.

From NC-73 West:

From NC-73 West turn Left onto Beatties Ford Road, continuing 3.6 miles. Turn Right onto Neck Road. Rural Hill is located 2.1 miles on the right. Pull into the SECOND driveway for parking.

From NC-73 East:

From NC-73 East turn Right onto Beatties Ford Road, continuing 3.6 miles. Turn Right onto Neck Road. Rural Hill is located 2.1 miles on the right. Pull into the SECOND driveway for parking.

BEFORE YOU COME:

Please review the following reminders and recommendations prior to your departure:

- Return the enclosed Group Reservation Form with your deposit payment. Please make checks payable to: *The Catawba Valley Scottish Society Inc. (CVSS)*. This will confirm your reservation on our calendar, as well as let us know exactly when you will arrive and how many students to expect.
- Teachers, Parents, and other Adults are free with student groups.
- Please review the page entitled “*Site Etiquette*” with your students prior to arriving to Rural Hill and ensure that they understand what is expected of them.
- We would like you to arrive about 10 minutes early to allow the students plenty of time to check in and group themselves away from the bus(es).
- *Rural Hill is open all year in all weather.* If there are concerns regarding inclement weather and your group, please call ahead to let us know whether you are coming or rescheduling.
- There is no such thing as poor weather, just poor preparation! Please ensure that students are dressed appropriately for the outdoors and the weather at hand. Being one of Mecklenburg County’s highest elevations, Rural Hill is naturally windy. Because of this, it can feel 10-15 degrees cooler here than

where you are. Our historic buildings have no climate control measures, if it is cold outside, it will be cold inside. *Please dress appropriately.*

- The maximum number of students per program is 30. If there is more than this, your group will be divided into two or more groups.

SITE ETIQUETTE:

Rural Hill has over two hundred and fifty years of history on site and the staff here have the obligation to protect it for the future. Please abide by the following written rules as well as any verbal instructions our staff may provide to you during your stay. Students who fail to follow these rules may be separated from the group, asked to hold a teacher / parent's hand, and / or made to leave the site. We request that you obey these rules and honor us as much as we honor your group for spending time with us.

- I. Rural Hill is a working farm. This means live animals and working machines and tools. Please do not chase, yell at, hit, or throw anything at the animals. Do not offer the animals any food unless instructed to do so. Please do not climb on or touch any piece of farm equipment. If a staff member or your teacher tells you to stop, **STOP**.
- II. Do not climb on, touch, step, or jump over fences: They are electric and **WILL SHOCK YOU**.
- III. Be aware that many of the things in and around our buildings are very old and fragile. Do not touch or pick up anything unless you are told its okay.
- IV. For the safety of our guests, do not climb on, in, or jump off any part of our buildings.
- V. Please keep any and all trash on your person until you can locate a proper receptacle. **DO NOT LITTER**.

- VI. No food, drink, or gum is allowed inside any of the buildings. Please finish all snacks prior to entering or leave them outside.
- VII. The entirety of Rural Hill is a Non-Smoking site due to the dry and combustible nature of our land, crop, and buildings.



Davidson School Schedule of Programming

***** Due to its small size, Davidson School can only hold 18 students and 3-4 adults. If your class is larger than this please call or email us so that we can try to better accommodate your group. *****

Bring your class out to Rural Hill's historic one room Davidson School for a day of learning the way it used to be in 1905 when the school was in full operation. Built in 1890, Davidson School served the surrounding farming community until 1923, when the school was closed and children began going to nearby Long Creek School. Restored in 2003, the school now serves as an educational facility and service of our community. Your class will be taught by one of our expert staff members using only materials and methods available in 1905, when Theodore Roosevelt was president, George Bryant Aycock our governor, and the US was made up of only 45 states. Readings and exercises are taught from our large collection of vintage and reproduction textbooks, including those by McGuffey, Ray, Webster, and Harvey, leading educators of the period. Looking for a little more writing and a little less arithmetic? Just ask our staff prior to the day of class and they will be glad to customize a program to suit your needs.

Teacher Tips:

For a full day schedule each person (including teachers) should bring:

- 1- Outdoor clothing appropriate for the weather. There is no heating or air conditioning inside the school. (If desired, period clothing suggestions for both teachers and students are available from Rural Hill staff)
- 2- A picnic lunch
- 3- A pencil (No ballpoint pens or markers!)
- 4- The Davidson School Copybook and extra note paper. (The Copybooks will be emailed for your printing after scheduling)

Each teacher should bring for the class:

- 1- Additional drinking water, paper cups
- 2- Garbage bags for trash removal
- 3- Cell phone in case of emergency

Rural Hill will provide the following:

- 1- Use of restroom facilities and covered eating area for 20 people.
- 2- Readings and exercises from vintage textbooks, slates, and chalk
- 3- Appropriate seating for 18 children and three adults

4- Copybook construction and finishing materials for constructing a take-home book for each student

Full Day Schedule (4 - 6 hours)

(times and exercises shown are guidelines only and can be extended, shortened, rearranged, or omitted according to class needs and time restraints.)

Morning		
15 - 30 minutes	Opening Exercises	Pledge, Discussion of Schoolhouse, Construction of Copybooks, Memory Reading
15 - 30 minutes	Handwriting	Group Discussion, Copy Memory Reading in Copy Book, Perform Writing Drills
30 minutes	Grammar & Spelling	Readings and Exercises From Vintage Spelling Books (McGuffey's, Harvey's, New England, and / or Blue Back)
15 - 30 minutes	Reading	McGuffey's Readers
30 minutes	History	History of Davidson Land and Early North Carolina
30 minutes	Geography	Mapping Activity
1 hour	Lunch and Organized Games	Outside, weather permitting
Afternoon		
15 - 30 minutes	Group Discussion of Morning Activities	
30 minutes	Arithmetic	Board Work, Slate Work, and Drills Taken From Vintage Arithmetic Books (Ray's)
15 - 30 minutes	Memory Reading	Recite Assigned Reading, Discuss Meaning
30 minutes	Writing	Write About the Day's Experience

Half Day Schedule (3 - 4 hours)

(times and exercises shown are guidelines only and can be extended, shortened, rearranged, or omitted according to class needs and time restraints.)

10 - 30 minutes	Opening Exercises	Pledge, Construction of Copybooks, Discussion of Schoolhouse
30 minutes	Arithmetic	Board Work, Slate Work, and Drills Taken From Vintage Arithmetic Books (Ray's)
15 - 30 minutes	Handwriting	Group Discussion, Copy Memory Reading in Copy Book, Perform Writing Drills
15 - 30 minutes	History	History of Davidson Land and Early North Carolina
30 minutes	Geography	Mapping Exercise
30 minutes	Reading Exercises	McGuffey's Readers
1 hour	Lunch and Recess	Lunch (outside if weather permits), Followed by Historic Games or Nature Walk

Davidson School Rules:

- 1- Students may enter the school only after the teacher or staff person has given permission, not before.
- 2- Coats and hats must be hung on the coat hooks at the back of the classroom.
- 3- Lunches are to be left on the bus, placed on the shelves above the coat hooks, or on the floor below them. They are not to be kept at the student's seat.
- 4- Students should leave backpacks on the bus, carrying what they need for the day with them in order to preserve the historic accuracy of our school.
- 5- Only the teacher or staff person may ring the school bell.
- 6- No chewing gum is permitted in the school.
- 7- Books are for reading only. Written work must be done on the slates or inside the copybook.

