

Farmville Female Seminary - Original Building Cornerstone PlaqueLU.442

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1839



Title Statement

Farmville Female Seminary - Original Building Cornerstone PlaqueLU.442

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

LU.442

Unit Date

1839

Language

English .

Creator

Farmville Female Seminary

Extent

1 Frame 1 Frame 13 5/8"x13 1/4"

Repository

Greenwood Library Archives and Special Collections

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access

There are no restrictions to access or use for research purposes.

Biographical sketch

The origins of Longwood University can be traced to 1839 with the founding of Farmville Female Seminary. It was not, however, until 1842 that the first school building was constructed and the doors opened for pupils. That original building remained in service, mostly unchanged, for over fifty years when a major construction project started in 1897. That renovation incorporated a portion of the original building into what would become Longwood's main building, The Rotunda. During that 1897 renovation, the contractors uncovered and removed the cornerstone plaque from the original building. The silver-plated plaque is inscribed in cursive script with details regarding the school's origins and reads: "Farmville Female Academy, Built by Joint Stock Company, AD 1839." In 1984, during Longwood's Teacher Education Centennial, then-professor of biology, Dr. Carolyn Wells had the plaque cleaned, re-silvered, and framed by conservators at Colonial Williamsburg. Just below the plaque, she included an engraved silver placard which reads: "CORNERSTONE PLAQUE FROM THE ORIGINAL BUILDING OF THE FARMVILLE FEMALE ACADEMY, A PREDECESSOR OF LONGWOOD COLLEGE. THE ORIGINAL BUILDING WAS LOCATED WHERE WEST RUFFNER NOW STANDS." The framed plaque was then presented to then-Longwood President Janet D. Greenwood.

Scope and content

This collection consists of a silver-plated copper (or bronze) plaque inscribed "Farmville Female / Academy / Built by Joint Stock / Company AD 1839." The plaque is mounted on blue velvet and framed.

Keywords

Farmville Female Seminary
Longwood University

Ownership and Custodial History

The framed cornerstone plaque was accessioned by the Longwood Center for Visual Arts (Acc. # 1983.03) in March 1983. In 2006, the LCVA Collections Manager, Janet Lundy, made the decision to deaccession the plaque after which it was transferred to the Greenwood Library Archives.

Description of Subordinate Components

Farmville Female Seminary, original building cornerstone plaque

Unit Date 1839

Artifact Plaque (frame)

Extent 1 Object Silver-plated copper (or bronze) plaque inscribed, "Farmville Female / Academy / Built by Joint Stock / Company AD 1839." 5"x9"

Extent 1 Frame The plaque is mounted on blue velvet and framed 13 5/8"x13 1/4"