

Walk back in time among an amazing collection of historical artifacts from the 1800s and early 20th Century.....

And see the finest collection of Native American artifacts and geological specimens in the region; a display honoring our military veterans, with authentic uniforms, war trophies, and equipment from the World Wars; and a natural history exhibit.



MUSEUM HOURS

Open Tuesday through Friday

10:30am - 4:00pm,

Saturday 10:00am - 2:00pm

Call the Museum to schedule a tour of the Historic Courthouse for your class or family reunion or for your own special group of any kind, at (276) 728-4113. Admission is free but your donations will help to keep our doors open

LOCATION

Located at 515 N. Main Street (U.S. Route 52) in the Historic District of Downtown Hillsville. Just minutes from I77 Exit 14 and the Blue Ridge Parkway at Fancy Gap.

WHILE VISITING THE MUSEUM

Stroll Historic Downtown Hillsville, with its hometown shops and the Hillsville Diner, serving customers since the 1940s. Available at the Museum is a self-guided walking tour.

Just minutes from Hillsville, enjoy the fantastic mountain scenery along the Blue Ridge Parkway and New River Trail. Experience the warmth of traditional mountain music and arts in Downtown Galax and at the National Park Service's Blue Ridge Music Center on the Blue Ridge Parkway--all part of Virginia's Heritage Music Trail, The Crooked Road.

For more information:

VisitTheBlueRidge.com

Visit the museum online at:
HistoricalSociety.chillsnet.org

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THE CARROLL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM

IN THE 1873 COURTHOUSE



Featuring tours of the 1873 Courthouse and the fascinating history of a unique mountain community, including the infamous 1912 Courthouse Tragedy.



Located in Historic
Downtown Hillsville,
Virginia



The grand posse preparing to take the trail

THE 1912 COURTHOUSE TRAGEDY

On a cold rainy day, March 14, 1912, a gunfight broke out during the trial of prominent citizen Floyd Allen, leaving the judge, prosecutor and three others dead and seven wounded. The tragedy rocked the nation. A massive manhunt followed, led by the Baldwin Felts Detective Agency, with the eventual capture of the "Allen Clan." Floyd Allen and his son Claude were executed. The tragedy and manhunt remained in the nation's headlines, eclipsed only by the sinking of the Titanic.

The Museum brings to life this tragic story with artful displays and a tour of the old courthouse.



J. SIDNA ALLEN'S INCREDIBLE HANDICRAFTS



Billed as the Eighth Wonder of the World, the items handcrafted by Allen while serving in the state penitentiary from 1912 until 1926, are the finest examples of "marquetry" in the world. Allen's "Masterpiece Table" (shown above in 1926 and now on display in the Museum) had 75,000 pieces made from 79 different types of wood, which he crafted from common prison items using only basic hand tools.

Allen toured with and exhibited his works, which are now on display in the Museum, after his release from prison in 1926, charging 25 cents.



The Museum provides a vivid look at life in a rustic mountain community in the 1800's and early 1900's, with a faithful reproduction of a one-room school house, a reconstructed log home from the mid-1800's, and hundreds of rare artifacts that tell the story of life in a simpler time.

