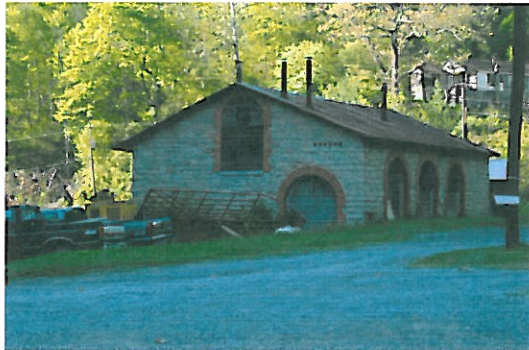


# Virginia Coal Heritage Trail

## Russell County, Virginia



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The Russell County Chamber of Commerce

and

The Russell County Tourism Committee



You may contact the Russell County Chamber of Commerce for information.

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# Virginia Coal Heritage Trail—Russell County, VA

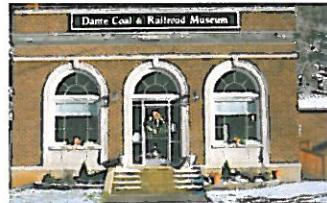
Nestled in the Appalachian Mountains of Southwest Virginia, Russell County is rich in natural beauty, history and a rapidly advancing economy. Founded on January 2, 1786, Russell County was formed from a section of Washington County. Lee, Tazewell, Wise, Buchanan, Dickenson and Scott Counties were formed from parts of Russell County. Our communities take great pride in our history and culture and are passionate about its future. The County was named for Colonel William Russell who participated in the drafting of the Declaration of Independence. Russell County has been home to such public servants as Daniel Boone, Governor H. C. Stuart, State Senator M. M. Long and State Senator Phillip Puckett.

## Driving Directions

Russell County's portion of the trail begins at the Dickenson Russell County line on Virginia



Route 63 coming from Trammel, VA. Follow Virginia Route 63 in Russell County to Virginia Route 627 through Lower Bear Wallow where you can see one of the remaining coal camp communities. Continue to Virginia Route 627 where you can visit the Dante Coal and Railroad Museum which is



filled with photographs and artifacts showcasing

the community's rich history in coal mining and railroad memorabilia. From the museum, turn left onto Virginia Route 608 which will return you to Virginia Route 63, passing by the old depot. When you arrive at Virginia Route 63 directly across the highway you will see the Dante Fire Department where the Dante Coal Miner's Memorial is located.



Once you have visited the Coal Miner's Memorial, return to Virginia

Route 63 which will take you to St. Paul.

Along the way you will be able to view the CSX

Railroad Turntable between Dante and Sun. In St.



Paul, make a left turn onto Virginia Route 270. When arriving at the stop light, the trail will split in each direction at U. S. Route 58A. Turning right will continue through the

Wise County portion of the trail. Turning left will afford the opportunity to continue touring the Russell County portion of the trail. Continue on U. S. Highway 58A into Castlewood. Ma & Pa's Drive In Restau-



rant is a historic icon in Castlewood located along the trail. In St. Paul you will see travel across the Clinch River, which is a

part of the Virginia Scenic Rivers System.



The Clinch River has been ranked the #1 river in the country by the Nature Conservancy for environmental diversity and significance and is the top river in the world for freshwater mussels. In Castlewood you will arrive at a set of traffic lights, one immediately after the other. At the second light, turn left onto Virginia Route 65 (Mew Road). Approximately 2 miles on your right, you will see a historic marker which highlights the period of time Daniel Boone lived at that location. Continuing on Virginia Route 65 will take you to the Russell-Scott County line where you may continue the trail into Scott County. We hope you enjoyed your Russell County visit!