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**NEW LONDON ACADEMY (FOREST, VIRGINIA) PAPERS**

The collection includes a typescript of the minutes of the Academy board of trustees, covering elections, regulations, appointments to the faculty and financial matters. A copy of a physiology exam given in 1896, an invitation to and program for the 1945 graduation ceremony, and newspaper clippings about the school are also included in the collection.

**FOLDER 1** Minutes, 1 July 1826 - 27 May 1881

**FOLDER 2** Miscellaneous clippings, Programs, Newsletter (1945), Physiology exam (1896)

**NEW LONDON ACADEMY**

The oldest secondary school in Virginia, New London Academy was chartered by the General Assembly in 1795. It first operated as a private classical school for young men. Francis EPPES, a nephew of Thomas JEFFERSON, was a student at the Academy. In 1879, the school became coeducational.

Although originally funded by local subscription, a lottery was held in 1797 to raise money to erect buildings and to establish a permanent fund for the support of the Academy. Lotteries were held for fifty years for the Academy and were its chief source of revenue.

In 1887 the Academy became part of the public school system. In 1892, the Academy held the first specialized summer training school for teachers in Virginia. In 1910, the Academy was the first to offer classes in agriculture and home economics. The Academy was eventually changed to an elementary school in 1964.

In 1971, the Academy was named a historic landmark and was placed on the Virginia Historic Register. In 1972, it was placed on the National Historic Register. The oldest remaining building of the Academy was constructed ca. 1837 and was restored by a grant from the General Assembly of Virginia.

[New London Academy Papers, Mss., MS2071, Jones Memorial Library, Lynchburg, VA; Calder Loth, ed., *Virginia Landmarks Register*, 3rd ed. (Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, 1986), p. 54.]