

For Immediate Release

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Planning Committee for "The Way We Worked" exhibition

Contact: Pat Underwood, Chairman, 931.691.0722

Smithsonian Exhibit Coming to Cowan in 2012

"The Way We Worked," a traveling exhibition of the Smithsonian Institution, will be on view at Cowan Center for the Arts March 10 through April 21, 2012.

Cowan Railroad Museum and the surrounding community were chosen by Humanities Tennessee to host the exhibit as part of the Museum on Main Street project—a national, state and local partnership to bring National Archive programs and exhibitions to rural areas. The exhibition will tour six communities in Tennessee.

"The Way We Worked" is adapted from an original National Archives exhibition that explores how work has become a central element in American culture. Many changes have affected the workforce and work environments over the past 150 years, including the impact of technology on American workers and the growth of industrial and white-collar work. The exhibition draws from the Archives' rich collection of photographs, stories, film, audio and interactives to show how work shapes our lives and forms the cultural fabric of our communities.

"We are very proud to host "The Way We Worked,"" said Pat Underwood, director of Cowan Center for the Arts where the exhibition will be on display. "History will come to life and take a whole new meaning for people of all ages." Mrs. Underwood also chairs the local planning committee whose mission is to promote integrated cultural enlightenment in Cowan and surrounding Middle Tennessee.

Any business or organization that would like to take a leading role in program planning, lectures, demonstrations, or supplemental displays should contact Pat Underwood at 931.691.0722 for more information. The exhibition will also be in need of volunteer tour guides to help welcome visitors.

Museum on Main Street is a unique collaboration between the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES), state humanities councils across the nation, and local host institutions. Support for Museum on Main Street has been provided by the United States Congress.

To learn more about "The Way We Worked" and other Museum on Main Street exhibitions, visit www.museumonmainstreet.org. For more information about the exhibition in Cowan, visit www.smithsonian.cowanrailroadmuseum.org.