



Saint Louis County

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NEWS RELEASE

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1910 time capsule opened at Virginia Courthouse

A 104-year-old time capsule, laid into the cornerstone of the Virginia Courthouse in 1910, was opened today during the St. Louis County Board meeting in Virginia.

The contents of the time capsule were not seen by anyone before the unveiling, according to Tucker Nelson, 17, who researched the capsule before it was recovered.

The capsule was filled with a variety of documents and books, including a Roosevelt High School yearbook, copies of newspapers that served Virginia in 1910, a two-volume history of Duluth and St. Louis County, and seven 1910 Lincoln pennies. Before the official opening, Nelson gave a presentation on the history of the Virginia Courthouse and what was expected to be inside the time capsule.

“The items themselves aren’t unique,” Nelson said. “But they haven’t been touched in 104 years, and that was a very different time.”

When the contents of the time capsule were finally unveiled, Nelson was allowed to do the honors of taking the lid from the box.

“We knew what was supposed to be in there,” he said. “I was just hoping it would be in good shape, and it was. Everything is in amazing condition.”

“This was a fantastic opportunity to get a glimpse into our rich past,” said Commissioner Keith Nelson. “The passion this young man shows toward the history of St. Louis County is inspiring, and we’re all appreciative of his efforts.”

Items from the time capsule will be put on display in the Virginia Courthouse for the public to enjoy. Meanwhile, plans are underway to form a small committee to gather and

place new items back in the time capsule and have it resealed in the building's cornerstone for future generations to unveil.

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