

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY
POST OFFICE BOX 1881
RALEIGH 27602

Historic Sites Division
Western Region

August 22, 1967

Mr. Charles E. Johnson
Town Clerk
Town of Murphy
Murphy, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Johnson:

I suppose you have heard that we are going to have a meeting in Murphy the night of Thursday, August 31st, to get action started on the Fort Butler project. We have done enough talking in the past; it's time now for a little work.

One thing I did get settled during my last trip to Raleigh is that the Ft. Butler project must be done on its original site---for better or for worse.

Therefore, when I do come down on the 31st one purpose will be to find out exactly what land we can get for the project from the Bournes. I understand that Mr. Bourne, Sr. has suffered some strokes recently, so we probably will have to deal with his son in the future.

What I would like to do is to get out to the site with you and Mr. Bourne, Jr. and actually stake out the land they plan to contribute. Then we can have the area surveyed at a later time.

Mr. Tarlton also wants us to make every effort to acquire all the land now occupied on both sides of the road by the junk yard.

A third consideration will be to start planning immediately for construction of a new access road into the site of the project.

Finally, we will discuss ways to set up some temporary exhibits until such time that we can get funds for the construction of a museum building to interpret the story of the Cherokee removal.

Can you speak with Mr. Bourne to see if he can go out with us to Ft. Butler about 3 p.m. on August 31st?

Sincerely yours,

Bob Conway
Route 1
Vance Birthplace Museum
Weaverville, North Carolina