What was daily life like for the people of Catoctin Furnace?

A photographed copy of the daily ledger from the local store at Catoctin Furnace will be furnished in the exhibit to better detail the common goods that people inhabiting the village consumed during the historic period. The Nunemaker family is examined as a case study to develop the daily image of an everyday family at Catoctin Furnace.

Daily use items such as the Siamese pocket comb, tobacco sample, match block, and general grooming goods (pictured above) were recovered in quantity from EAC/A’s 2016 excavation of the area below the floorboards of the circa 1820 Forgemann House (directly below). These and similar items will be displayed at the Museum of the Iron Worker in an interactive “loose floorboard” exhibit, which aims to illustrate the waste patterns and disposal habits of families throughout the historic period.