

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received
date entered

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic The Henry Connor Bost House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Southwest side SR 1948 (Potneck Road) 0.25 mile northwest of
junction with U.S. 601 not for publication

city, town South River vicinity of ~~Congressional district~~ Congressional district
8th

state N. C. code 037 county Rowan code 159

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Dr. Donald Lomax

street & number 1125 Emerald Street

city, town Salisbury vicinity of state N. C. 28144

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds, Rowan County Office Building

street & number 402 N. Main Street

city, town Salisbury state N. C. 28144

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

An Inventory of Architectural and Historical Resources in Rowan County
title has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1977 federal state county local

depository for survey records Survey and Planning Branch, Division of Archives and History

city, town 109 East Jones Street, Raleigh state N. C. 27611

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Henry Connor Bost House, erected about 1869 for Henry Connor Bost and his wife who that year acquired the tract which remains with the house to the present, is a two-story weatherboarded frame house with Greek Revival finish. The house is one of the few known to have been erected in rural Rowan County in the immediate post war years and, not unexpectedly, its finish continues the antebellum pattern of Greek Revival detailing. The general appearance and fabric of the house, both exterior and interior, has remained largely unchanged except for the installation of a kitchen and bathroom in what was originally the rear shed porch. Thus the house is significant as a little altered and well preserved example of domestic architecture from the immediate post war period and, as an example of the final stage of the Greek Revival influence in Rowan County, a form and decorative program in which antebellum wealth had found its highest expression.

The Bost House sits atop a knoll--probably the highest point on its farm tract in a gently landscaped park with ornamental trees and shrubs in the front and side yards and fruit trees in the back yard. When built, the house was only a short distance from Potneck Road which in this century was re-routed to the north. A walk lined with English boxwood leads from the front porch to stone steps descending to the old road bed. Now a long lane leads to the house and its lawn which is surrounded on three sides by pasture lands. To the west of the lane is the vegetable garden and a wooded tract. By 1961 when the present owner acquired the property, the two-story kitchen/dining room ell (off the west corner of the house) and the outbuildings had fallen completely into disrepair. The kitchen was taken down and materials salvaged and used in the construction of the present shed. A horse barn and pump house were constructed in the mid-1960s.

The two-story house rests on stone blocks and piers with a partial brick infill. Stone also serves as the base of the brick chimneys standing in the center of the north-west and southeast gable ends.

On the front northeast elevation the hipped roof of the porch extends completely across the facade while the floor stops just short of the corners of the house. Its stone piers have a lattice infill and a short flight of three steps rise to the porch's wood floor. The porch is supported by four posts, rectangular in plan, and pilasters which enframe the flush sheathed wall of the house behind the porch. The entrance and windows here boast symmetrically molded surrounds with corner blocks. The surrounds of the windows continue to square blocks set in the baseboard carrying along the bottom of the elevation. The entrance consists of two doors each having two tall vertical panels flanked by sidelights of four panes each over blind panels. On the second story the window openings have plain board surrounds and contain six-over-six sash. This form is repeated on the remainder of the house. As noted earlier brick chimneys in a random bond with some glazed headers stand in the center of the gable ends and are flanked by fenestration on both levels. Whereas the roof is terminated with a bold box cornice on the front and rear elevations the gable ends have flush eaves with a molded rakeboard. The shed across the rear elevation features both standard and diminutive openings containing six over six sash. A door is set near the center of the elevation. On the second story the window openings are diminutive and contain six-over-six sash windows. The center bay was originally a door opening off the stair landing onto the second story of the rear porch. The two-tier porch carried across the rear of the house and continued along the southeast side of the kitchen ell.

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The interior of the house is built on a center-hall plan and retains its full complement of Greek Revival woodwork including fluted and molded surrounds. All the door and window surrounds rest on square blocks set into the plain baseboard. The doors have a tall two-panel division. The walls are sheathed with flush horizontal boards throughout the house; only in the second-story east bedroom have they been covered with wall-paper. The floors are all heart pine.

In the center hall the stair rises against the southeast wall to the southwest of the door into the living room--and carries across the back of the hall and then continues upward along the northwest wall to the second story. At the back of the stair a door opens into the rear shed (kitchen). The stair's handrail rises from a simple newel, square-in-plan, and carries its railing to the second story landing. The mantel in the living room was badly damaged by 1961 and was replaced by a brick floor-to-ceiling panel which acts as a backdrop for a Franklin stove. The bricks were salvaged from the chimney on the kitchen ell. The back southwest wall of the living room was reduced to a squared opening connecting it, in plan, to the kitchen dining area in the shed. Across the hall in what is now used as a second living room the mantel has recessed panel pilasters rising to the frieze which contains a third recessed panel above and across the fire opening. A shelf carries across the top. A door near the center of the southwest wall opens into the bathroom and a second door--to the west--opens into a closet both of which are contained in the northwest end of the shed.

The second floor plan follows that of the first story with a single room on either side of the hall. The mantels in the two rooms are identical--and in fact, handsomer than those on the first story. They have symmetrically molded pilasters resting on bold square bases and rising to the frieze. The frieze has a pair of symmetrically placed recessed horizontal panels below the projecting shelf.

The weatherboarded frame barn was built in the mid-1960s south and down grade from the house; it rests on a cement block foundation and is covered with a sheet tin roof. The central entryway has an east-west axis with three stables on the north side and two stables and a feed room on the south side. More recently a large pole shed has been added along the south side of the barn. It too is covered with sheet tin. The pumphouse stands to the west of the barn.

8. Significance

Period	Area of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates	Builder/Architect
Unknown	Unknown

Statement of Significance (In one paragraph)

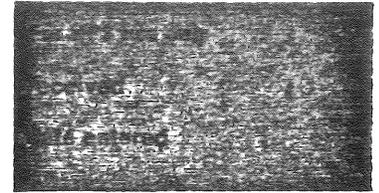
The Henry Connor Bost House, standing on the top of a shaded knoll between the runs of Second and Third creeks which empty nearby in the South Yadkin River, is a small two-story weatherboarded frame house of local architectural and historical significance. The house was built for Henry Connor Bost and his wife shortly after he acquired the property, a tract of some 136 acres in 1869 from John Click. Bost (1840-1887) gained a reputation as one of Rowan County's most enlightened farmers and while serving in the North Carolina State Legislature introduced several bills concerning livestock. Like other prominent farmers in the county he was also active in his church and served as a vestryman at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. After his death the house remained the residence of his wife Dorcas Elizabeth Fraley Bost until her death in 1893 and was afterward the residence and property of his descendants, principally that of their daughter Fannie Bost (1879-1948) and her husband William Frohock Kelly (1877-1962). It was not until 1961 that the house was sold out of the family to the present owner. Architecturally the house is one of the few houses erected in Rowan County in the depressed years after the end of the Civil War and represents with its well crafted and completely intact program of Greek Revival woodwork the continuation of the vernacular Greek Revival tradition in the post war period.

Criteria Assessment:

- A. The house is associated with the traditional agricultural economy of Rowan County having been the seat of the farm cultivated by Henry Connor Bost, one of the county's most progressive and enlightened farmers of the post-war recovery period.
- B. The house is associated with the life of Henry Connor Bost, a veteran of the Civil War who in his role as a prominent Rowan County resident, was an enlightened farmer, church lay leader (at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church), and politician--having served a term in the North Carolina State Legislature. The house was also the childhood home of his children, several of whom achieved prominence in their respective fields.
- C. The Henry Connor Bost House embodies the distinctive characteristics of the Greek Revival style with its symmetrically molded detail applied to a traditional two-story frame house and represents the continuation of the vernacular Greek Revival style into the post-war period, maintaining a continuity with its popularity in the antebellum period. The house is one of the very few houses built in the county in the depressed post war economy.

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HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE Item number 8

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The Henry Connor Bost House is located in rural Rowan County, north of the county seat of Salisbury. The house was built by Bost, a Confederate veteran, around 1870, following the conclusion of the war, his marriage to a local girl, and his purchase of land near the Yadkin River.

Bost was born in 1840 in adjacent Cabarrus County, the son of Israel Bost. The Bost family was of French Huguenot descent. Around 1760 several members of the family came to Rowan and Cabarrus counties from Pennsylvania. Henry Bost studied at Trinity College, now Duke University, prior to the Civil War. Following the outbreak of hostilities in April, 1861, he lost little time joining the Confederate cause. On June 11, 1861, he enlisted in the Ninth Regiment, North Carolina State Troops (First Regiment North Carolina Cavalry) and served in that unit for the duration of the war. Bost enlisted as a private, was promoted to corporal in 1863, and was promoted to sergeant in 1864. The regiment saw action in Virginia and in eastern North Carolina and for a good portion of the war was under the command of legendary cavalry commander J. E. B. Stuart.¹

Bost married Dorcas Elizabeth Fraley, a native of Salisbury in January of 1865. In 1869 Bost purchased a 136 acre tract from John Click for \$1,700. This fertile tract was bordered by Second Creek and the South Yadkin River. Bost quickly gained a reputation as one of Rowan County's most progressive and enlightened farmers. He was "the first man in his district to keep blooded livestock and was the first to use a reaper."² The 1880 census indicates that Bost had only 75 acres under cultivation. However, he was able to grow 2,400 pounds of tobacco, almost 5,000 pounds of cotton, 500 bushels of corn, 120 bushels of oats, 223 bushels of wheat, and 100 bushels of apples. His livestock was valued at \$300 and included 60 chickens, 16 swine, and 14 sheep. His farm was valued at \$4,000.³ Bost also owned a tobacco warehouse. In 1878 he was elected to the North Carolina State Legislature, where he authored several bills concerning livestock. He served only one term. Bost was a vestryman and active member of Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church. He was also a Mason.⁴

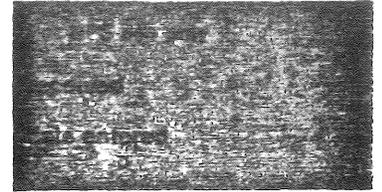
Bost and his wife had eleven children. Several of these grew to positions of prominence, including William Thomas Bost, a longtime writer for the Greensboro Daily News; the Reverend Sidney Stuart Bost, an Episcopal clergyman; and Edwin Heathman Bost, an executive with Erwin Mills. Bost died prematurely in 1887 of pneumonia.⁵ His wife died in 1893. The Bost property was left to the children. The 1900 census lists William Bost, age 23, as farmer and head of a household which included three siblings and his maternal grandmother Isabella Fraley. The older Bost children had moved away by this time. As the younger children married and moved away the house became the residence of Fannie Bost and her husband William Frohock Kelly whom she married in 1918.⁶

William F. Kelly was born in nearby Davie County in 1877, making him two years older than his wife. He was educated in Rowan County and attended Rutherford College. His wife attended Saint Mary's College in Raleigh and was a music teacher in Rowan County prior to her marriage. William Kelly was "a prominent farmer" in the area and also worked in the automobile business in Salisbury. He and his wife had two children, Mary Elizabeth, born in 1921, and Francis, born in 1925.⁷

Mrs. Kelly died in 1948. In that same year William F. Kelly acquired a life estate in the house and property from the Bost estate. In 1961 he and his daughters sold the house to Dr. Donald Lomax, a Salisbury physician. Dr. Lomax and his wife, the former Marie Smith of Orangeburg, South Carolina have seven children.⁸ Dr. Lomax lives in Salisbury but uses the Bost House as a summer home.

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NOTES

¹ Archibald Henderson, North Carolina: The Old North State and the New (Chicago: The Lewis Publishing Company, 5 volumes, 1941), IV, 291, hereinafter cited as Henderson, North Carolina; North Carolina Herald, February 3, 1887; Louis A. Manarin and Weymouth T. Jordan, Jr., North Carolina Troops, 1861-1865: A Roster (Raleigh: Division of Archives and History, 7 volumes, 1966-1979), IV, 1, 54.

² Henderson, North Carolina, 291; Rowan County Deed Book 44, p. 113. Henry Miller, an army friend of Bost, married one of Bost's sisters and purchased a nearby tract.

³ Tenth Census of the United States, 1880, Rowan County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule, Population Schedule.

⁴ Henderson, North Carolina, 291; North Carolina Herald, February 3, 1887.

⁵ Henderson, North Carolina, 291; North Carolina Watchman (Salisbury), February 3, 1887.

⁶ Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900, Rowan County, North Carolina, Population Schedule.

⁷ Salisbury Post, June 30, 1962; Telephone interview with Mrs. W. A. Hannah, April 8, 1982, notes in file, hereinafter cited as Hannah interview.

⁸ Hannah interview; Rowan County Deed Book 309, p. 410; Book 450, p. 233. Dr. Lomax purchased 139.1 acres.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 139.1 acres

Quadrangle name Cooleeemee

Quadrangle scale 1:24 000

UMT References

A	<u>117</u>	<u>54361610</u>	<u>31951841410</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	<u>117</u>	<u>541401810</u>	<u>3195184610</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	<u>117</u>	<u>541461010</u>	<u>31951811010</u>
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D	<u>117</u>	<u>541461010</u>	<u>31951781010</u>
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E	<u>117</u>	<u>541411610</u>	<u>31951761110</u>
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F	<u>117</u>	<u>541361510</u>	<u>31951771010</u>
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G	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
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H	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
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Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet. See also tax map outlined in red.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	county	N/A	code
state		code	county		code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Architectural description, statement of significance, and criteria assessment by Davyd Foard Hood: historical research by Jim Sumner

organization Division of Archives and History date July 8, 1982

street & number 109 East Jones Street telephone 733-6545

city or town Raleigh, state N. C.

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

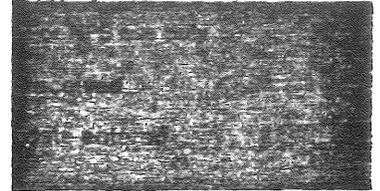
State Historic Preservation Officer signature William S. Paig, Jr.

title State Historic Preservation Officer date August 30, 1982

For NPS use only
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register
date
Keeper of the National Register
Attest:
Chief of Registration
date

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Continuation sheet

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Page 1

Carolina Watchman (Salisbury). February 3, 1887.

Hannah, Mrs. W. A. Telephone interview with. April 8, 1982. Notes in file.

Henderson, Archibald. North Carolina: The Old North State and the New. Chicago: The Lewis Publishing Company, 5 volumes, 1941.

Manarin, Louis A. and Jordan, Weymouth T., Jr. North Carolina Troops, 1861-1865: A Roster. Raleigh: Division of Archives and History, 7 volumes, 1966-1979.

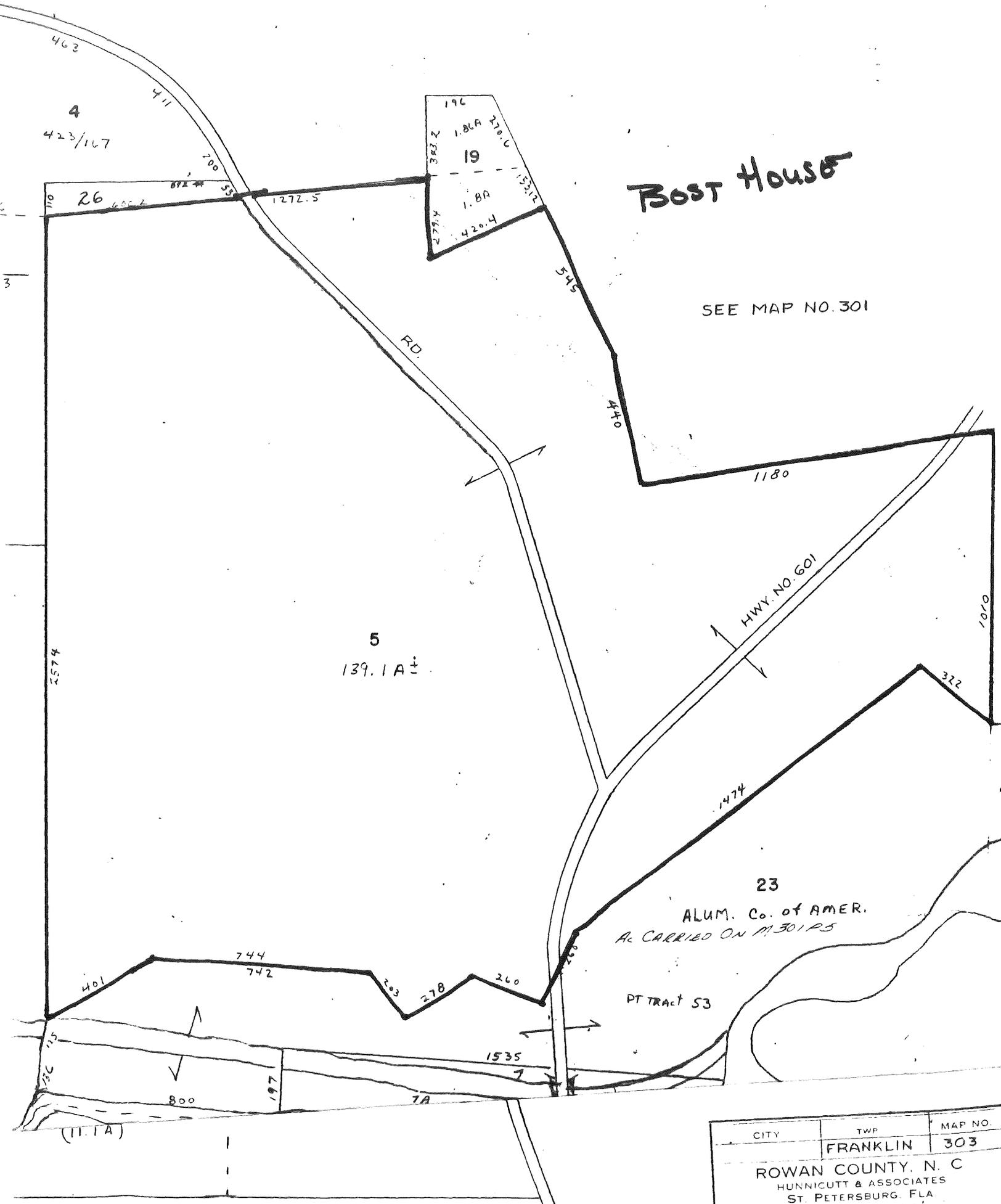
North Carolina Herald. February 3, 1887.

Rowan County Deed Books. Microfilm copies. Raleigh: Division of Archives and History.

Salisbury Post. June 30, 1962.

United States Census Office. Tenth Census of the United States, 1880, Rowan County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule, Population Schedule; Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900, Rowan County, North Carolina, Population Schedule. Raleigh: Division of Archives and History.

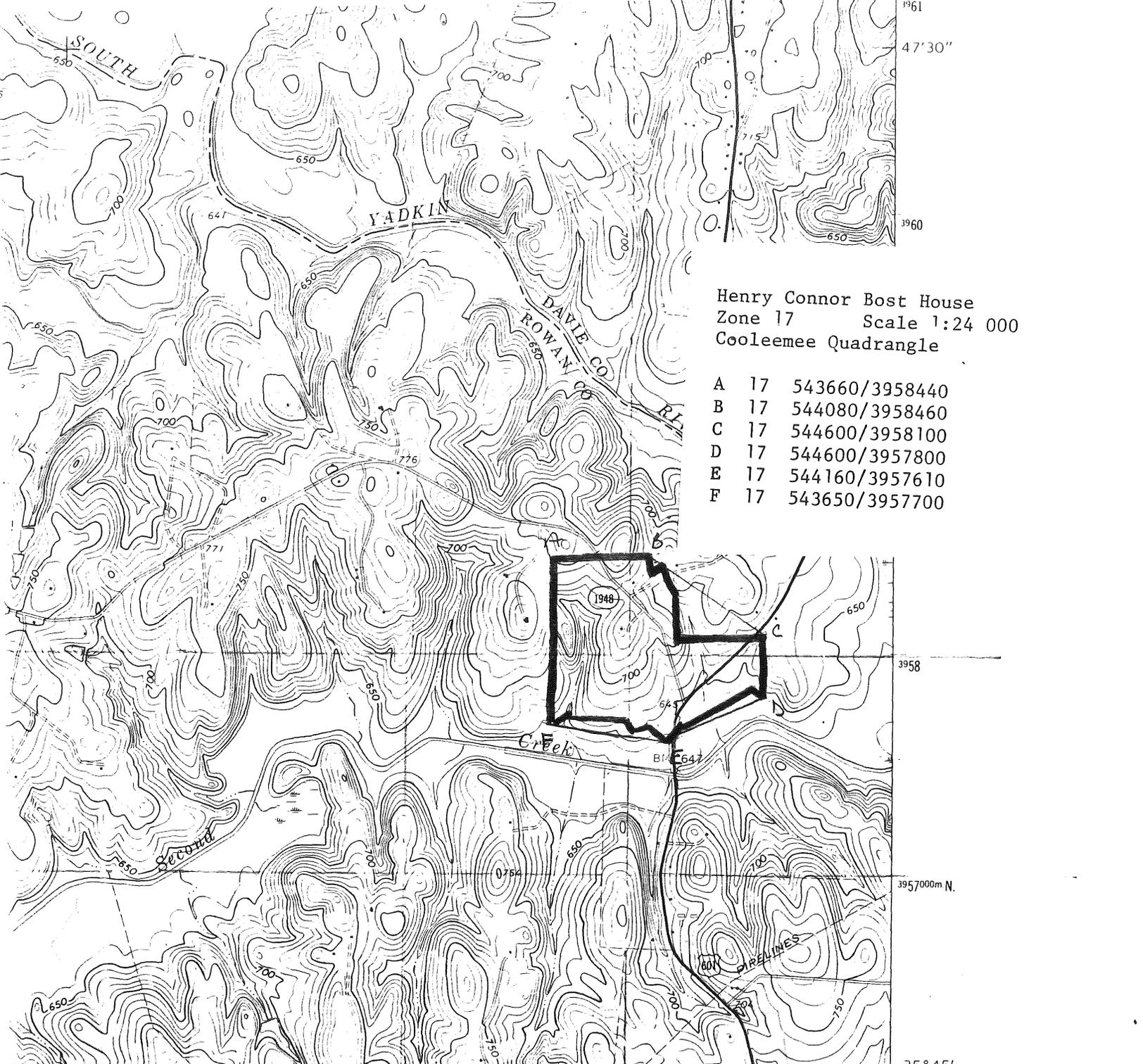
SEE MAP NO. 302



BOST HOUSE

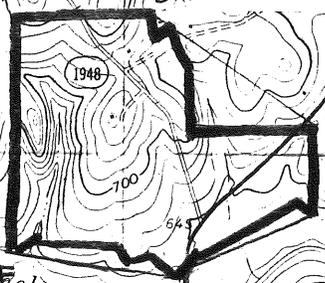
SEE MAP NO. 301

CITY	TWP	MAP NO.
	FRANKLIN	303
ROWAN COUNTY, N. C.		
HUNNICUTT & ASSOCIATES		
ST. PETERSBURG, FLA.		
SCALE 1" = 400'		



Henry Connor Bost House
 Zone 17 Scale 1:24 000
 Cooleemee Quadrangle

A	17	543660/3958440
B	17	544080/3958460
C	17	544600/3958100
D	17	544600/3957800
E	17	544160/3957610
F	17	543650/3957700



U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1972-460-348/1
 SALISBURY 6 MI. N. 545000m E.

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

- Primary highway, hard surface
- Secondary highway, hard surface
- Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
- Unimproved road
- Interstate Route
- U. S. Route
- State Route



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

COOLEEMEE, N. C.
 N3545 — W8030/7.5

1969

AMS 4855 I SE—SERIES V842

(SALISBURY)
 4955 III NW

