

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Moore, Alexander Farm

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number end of SR 2646 (Clyde Rd.) 0.5 mi. NW of jct. w/SR1004 N/A for publication

city, town Catawba vicinity

state North Carolina code NC county Catawba code 035 zip code 28609

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>5</u>	_____ buildings
<u>1</u>	_____ sites
_____	_____ structures
_____	_____ objects
<u>6</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:

Historic & Architectural Resources
of Catawba County, North Carolina

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

William S. Price, Jr.
Signature of certifying official

2-28-90
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official _____

Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper _____

Date of Action _____

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)
 Domestic: single dwelling
 Agriculture/Subsistence: storage
 Agriculture/Subsistence: animal facility
 Agriculture/Subsistence: processing
 Agriculture/Subsistence: agricultural field

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
 Domestic: single dwelling
 Agriculture/Subsistence: storage
 Agriculture/Subsistence: animal facility
 Agriculture/Subsistence: agriculture

7. Description

Architectural Classification
 (enter categories from instructions)

Other: Vernacular late Federal

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone
 walls weatherboard
 roof metal
 other wood
stone

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The **Alexander Moore Farm** consists of Moore's 1843 frame farmhouse with its remaining nineteenth and twentieth century log and frame outbuildings. Currently owned by Alexander Moore's great-great-grandson, the property includes approximately 27 acres of what was originally a tract of 320 acres. Located in a rural setting on the edge of the Catawba River/Lake Norman in eastern Catawba County, the Alexander Moore House itself is a typical mid-nineteenth century vernacular farmhouse. Although the house has been somewhat altered on both exterior and interior, and although several of the early outbuildings have been lost, the property still presents a relatively coherent picture of a nineteenth century piedmont farmstead.

The **Alexander Moore House** ("A" on attached Sketch Map) is a two-story frame structure of vernacular design with minimal late Federal details. It features weatherboard siding, metal sheathed gable roof with overhanging boxed eaves, stone pier foundation infilled with brick, single-shouldered Flemish bond brick chimney with "1843" inscription and stone base located on the east end, and one-story frame rear ell which is a later nineteenth century addition. The three-bay-wide facade (south side) has a flush-sheathed first story sheltered by a hip-roofed, screened porch with wood posts set on brick plinths. This full-length front porch is either a remodelled version of the original or is altogether a replacement made early in the twentieth century. While the facade (south side) now displays a symmetrical arrangement with center bay four-panel door flanked by six-over-six sash windows, and two six-over-six windows on the second story, physical evidence indicates that the first story window to the west of the central door was once a door itself. One window on the east side of the house next to the chimney may retain its original appearance with four-over-six sash, but the other windows on east and west sides have twentieth century replacement four-over-one or four-over-two sash. All windows have plain surrounds. A rear shed room with replacement window adjoins the northwest corner of the house.

The one-story rear ell projecting from the northeast corner

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Alexander Moore Farm
Catawba County, N.C.

of the house has a central brick chimney and variety of windows, mostly with replacement sash. One nine-over-six sash window on the east side may be original. An exterior entrance to the cellar is found on the east side of the ell, and a partially enclosed porch runs along the west side, with two-panel door leading to the north room.

The main body of the Moore House features a two-room plan, although at one time a partition divided the west room, creating a three-room plan. Two six-panel doors still lead to this room. Door casings in the Moore House are either plain or have a single face with beaded inner edge, and molded backband. The interior walls of the Moore House are sheathed with vertical flush boarding, now concealed in most places by a fabric wall covering. The ceilings were also flush boarded, but have been covered with celotex panels. The floors are carpeted. The focal point of the first story east room is the handsome mantel with paneled pilasters and frieze with coved molding under the mantel shelf. In the northeast corner of this room an open stair with square newel, plain balusters and handrail with beaded edge leads to the second story. A four-panel door opens to a closet beneath the stairs. The second story is divided into two rooms with a six-panel door between. The east room has a small fireplace with paneled mantel related to, but more simple than, the downstairs mantel. Closets have been added to these rooms. The shed room on the northwest corner of the house has been converted to a bathroom, with a two-panel door leading to it. The south room of the ell, the dining room, retains a pilastered Greek Revival-inspired mantel, but the north ell room has been modernized as a kitchen and has had its fireplace enclosed.

The Moore House faces south on a knoll surrounded by large trees. Behind the house on the north the land slopes downward to the Catawba River/Lake Norman. East and west of the house the land slopes down to small streams which empty into the river. Southwest of the house, opposite the front drive, is a log ~~wagon shed~~ (B, contributing) with broad gable roof, dating from the mid-nineteenth century. Until recently, a granary and tack house stood adjacent to the wagon shed. Behind the house to the north of the ell stands a log ~~smokehouse~~ (C, contributing), also dating from the mid-nineteenth century, with front overhang to its gable roof. West of the smokehouse is the site of what is believed by the Moore family to have been Alexander Moore's first house, built circa 1831 and later used as a kitchen. This heavy timber frame, single pen structure with loft deteriorated and was

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demolished in recent years. A rail fence separates the house lot from the barns to the west, on the next knoll beyond a stream. The southern-most of these two buildings is a large **frame barn** (D, contributing), dating from the turn of the century, with central passage and broad gable roof with slatted vents under the eaves. To the immediate north is a **log barn** (E, contributing), dating from the mid-nineteenth century, with gable overhang on the south side and frame addition on the north side. Sheds run along the east and north sides of this barn. All of the log outbuildings display half-dovetail notching. The accompanying **farm acreage** (F, contributing) of the Alexander Moore Farm consists of horse pastures around the barns, a heavily overgrown and wooded area west of the barns, and small pastures, which lay fallow now, south of the house. The lake frontage along the north edge of the property creates a very picturesque setting.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Agriculture

Significant Person

N/A

Period of Significance

1843-1939

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Significant Dates

1843

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Summary

The Alexander Moore Farm is an intact nineteenth century farmstead which has remained in the Moore family for five generations, spanning nearly 150 years. It is located in eastern Catawba County on the south bank of the Catawba River/Lake Norman. The farmstead consists of an 1843 two-story vernacular late Federal style frame farmhouse, typical of the conservative plain houses of Catawba County during the antebellum period. Outbuildings on the farm include a log smokehouse, log wagon shed, and a relatively large log barn, all which appear to be contemporary with the house, if not earlier. A large frame barn of a late nineteenth/early twentieth century date also contributes to the farmstead. Alexander Moore was a successful antebellum farmer, cultivating staples such as corn, wheat, hay and cotton, as well as rye, oats, wool, peas, beans, Irish potatoes, sweet potatoes, butter, flax and honey. The farm, though now diminished from 350 to 27 acres, is related to the Historic Context "Agricultural Development in Catawba County: 1820-1939." The house and typical log and frame outbuildings meet the registration requirements for their association with the Property Types "Houses of Catawba County: Antebellum," and "Rural Outbuildings of Catawba County" under Criterion C.

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Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 1Alexander Moore Farm,
Catawba County, N.C.Historical Background

The Alexander Moore House is located at the eastern edge of Catawba County, near the river of the same name. A date on the chimney identifies the date of construction as 1843. The house was built by Alexander Moore and has remained in the Moore family until the present.

Alexander Moore was born in 1793. Like many in the western piedmont he was of Scotch-Irish descent. He served in the War of 1812 as a private in the sixth company of the First Lincoln regiment. After the war, in 1817, he married Anna Rhyne. They had at least four children. Moore purchased 320 acres on the Catawba River for \$3,000 in 1831 and began farming. The first house Moore built on the property was replaced by the 1843 house. The earlier house was used as a kitchen for many years, however, is no longer extant.¹

Moore was not listed in the 1850 census. The 1860 census is, therefore, the first in which his farm can be examined in detail. During that year Moore owned 320 acres, of which 150 were improved. Moore's livestock, including 4 horses, 5 mules, 10 milk cows, 14 other cattle, 26 sheep, and 40 swine was valued at \$869. He grew 1,200 bushels of corn, 358 bushels of wheat, 1,200 pounds of cotton, and two tons of hay. The Moore farm also produced rye, oats, wool, peas and beans, Irish potatoes, sweet potatoes, butter, flax, and honey. Both Daniel and Jacob Moore remained on the farm to help their father, who was 68 in 1860. Moore owned 14 slaves. His real estate was valued at \$2,500 and his personal estate at \$14,450. The variety and scope of the Moore farm indicates the self sufficient nature of antebellum Catawba County farm life.²

The Civil War and its aftermath left many Catawba County farms in bad shape. The Moore farm appeared to weather the storm better than most. The 1870 census lists the value of Moore's 120 acres at \$3,000 up \$500 from 1860. His personal estate was diminished to \$400, reflecting the loss of slaves. Livestock was valued at \$400 and production of corn, wheat, potatoes and other staples was down. Alexander Moore, at age 77, was still head of a household that included his wife Anna, his son Daniel, daughters Mary and Eliza and one farm laborer.³ By 1880 both Alexander and Anna Moore were invalid and the farm was under the direction of Daniel Moore, who had 190 acres under cultivation. The real estate was valued at \$4,000 and livestock at \$400. The farm

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produced 800 bushels of corn and 1,350 pounds of cotton.⁴

Daniel Moore inherited the house and land upon his father's death in 1885.⁵ He continued to farm. Tax lists for the 1890s show that he owned 170 acres, valued at \$1,200. Moore never married. His sisters Mary and Eliza also never married and continued to live in the Moore House. Daniel Moore died in 1915. He left the house and farm to his nephew Robert Gordon Moore, the son of Jacob and Emma Jones Moore who also owned a farm in the area.⁶

Robert Gordon Moore (1879-1957) also remained a farmer. He owned 150 acres valued at \$1,725 in 1915, \$4,050 in 1935, and \$3,700 in 1945. Moore and his wife, the former Aida Stiles had five children. Mrs. Moore died in 1955 and her husband in 1957. The house and property were willed to their son Robert Gordon Moore, Jr. The house is presently owned and inhabited by Robert Gordon Moore III, who continues light farming.⁷

The bulwark of Catawba County's economy in the nineteenth century was the self sufficient family farm. The Moore farm is highly representative of this trend. The continuous ownership of the farm by the Moore family for nearly 150 years makes this an unusually good example of the type.

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FOOTNOTES

¹William L. Sherrill, Annals of Lincoln County (Charlotte: The Observer-Printing House, Inc., 1937), 77; Lincoln County Marriage Bonds; Lincoln County Deed Book 34, p. 386.

²Eighth Census of the United States, 1860, Catawba County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule, Population Schedule, Slave Schedule.

³Ninth Census of the United States, 1870, Catawba County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule, Population Schedule.

⁴Tenth Census of the United States, 1880, Catawba County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule, Population Schedule.

⁵Catawba County Will Book 2, p. 306.

⁶Catawba County Tax Scrolls, 1891-1893, 1895; Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900, Catawba County, North Carolina; Catawba County Will Book 4, p. 144.

⁷Hickory Daily Record, August 28, 1957; Catawba County Tax Scrolls, 1915, 1935, 1945. Tax Records for 1925 are not available for Moore; Catawba County Will Book 8, p. 143.

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Alexander Moore Farm
Catawba County, n.C.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Catawba County Records. Tax Scrolls, Will Books. Microfilm copies. Raleigh: Division of Archives and History.

Hickory Daily Record. August 28, 1957.

Lincoln County Records. Deed Books, Marriage Bonds. Microfilm copies. Raleigh: Division of Archives and History.

Sherrill, William L. Annals of Lincoln County. Charlotte: The Observer Printing House, Inc., 1937.

United States Census Office. Eighth Census of the United States, Catawba County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule, Population Schedule, Slave Schedule; Ninth Census of the United States, 1870, Catawba County, North Carolina, Agricultural Schedule, Population Schedule; Tenth Census of the United States, 1880, Catawba County, North Carolina. Agricultural Schedule, Population Schedule; Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900, Catawba County, North Carolina. Microfilm copies. Raleigh: Division of Archives and History.

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Section number Photos Page 1 Alexander Moore Farm, Catawba County, NC

The following applies to all photographs:

- 1) Alexander Moore Farm
 - 2) Catawba vicinity, North Carolina
 - 5) North Carolina Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, NC
-
- A.
 - 3) Randall Page
 - 4) March 1982
 - 5) House, northwest
 - B.
 - 3) Randall Page
 - 4) March 1982
 - 6) House, northeast
 - C.
 - 3) Randall Page
 - 4) March 1982
 - 6) House, south-southeast
 - D.
 - 3) F. Bogue Wallin
 - 4) June 1979
 - 6) House interior, downstairs mantel
 - E.
 - 3) Laura Phillips
 - 4) March 1983
 - 6) House interior, downstairs doors
 - F.
 - 3) Laura Phillips
 - 4) March 1983
 - 6) Smokehouse (C), east
 - G.
 - 3) F. Bogue Wallin
 - 4) June 1979
 - 6) Barns (D, E), northwest
 - H.
 - 3) F. Bogue Wallin
 - 4) June 1979
 - 6) Wagon shed (B), south

NOTE: Some of the photos in this nomination were taken as early as June 1979. All resources have been thoroughly field checked by Barbara Kooiman in 1989 and have been determined to be unchanged from their appearance and condition portrayed in photos taken prior to 1989.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 27 acres

UTM References

A

1	7
4	9
9	9
1	0
3	9
5	0
8	0
0	0

3	9	5	0	8	0	0
Zone	Easting	Northing				

B

1	7
5	0
0	1
4	0
3	9
5	0
7	0
0	0

5	0	0	1	4	0
Zone	Easting	Northing			

C

1	7
5	0
0	0
0	0
3	9
5	0
5	1
0	0

3	9	5	0	5	1	0
Zone	Easting	Northing				

D

1	7
4	9
9	7
9	0
3	9
5	0
5	4
0	0

4	9	9	7	9	0
Zone	Easting	Northing			

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries of the Alexander Moore Farm encompass all of Block 2, Lot 2 on Catawba County Tax Map 13-Y, excluding approximately 5 acres at the west end of the property described as follows: Beginning at a point at the northwest corner of Lot 2, go 300 feet northeast along the line; then go 800 feet south to the south line of Lot 2; then go 300 feet west along the line to the southwest corner of Lot 2; then, following the property line, go 650 feet north to the point of beginning.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

Entire remaining parcel historically associated with property, excluding a five (5) acre section on the west side of the property which contains a group of noncontributing buildings screened from the rest of the property by heavy foliage.

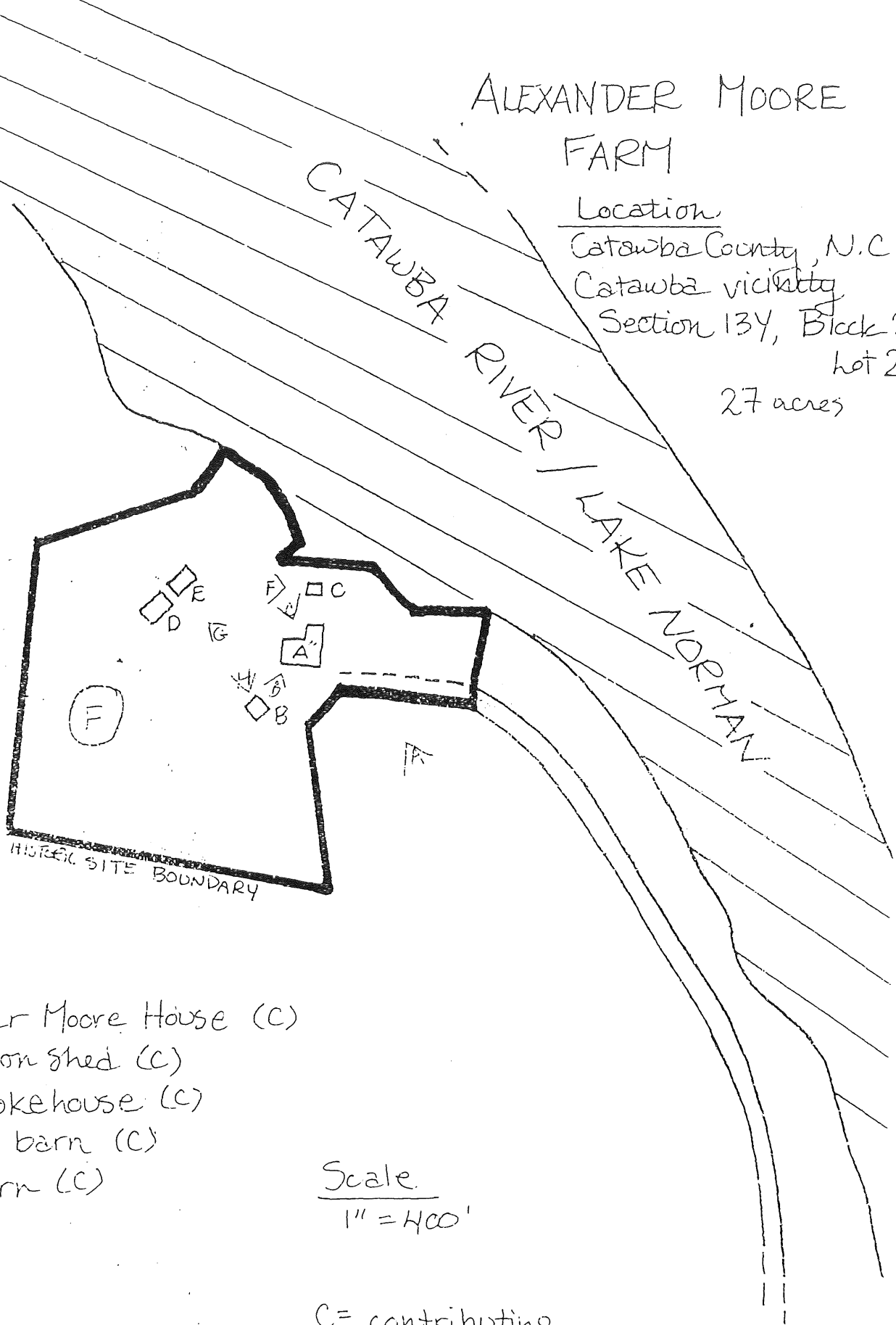
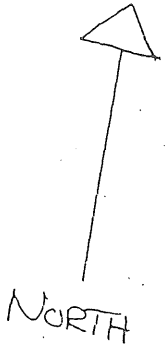
See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Barbara Kooiman, compiler; Laura A. W. Phillips, description; Jim Sumner, history
 organization Catawba County Historical Assn., Inc. date 7/31/89
 street & number Rt.1, Box 76AB telephone 704/256-3040
 city or town Conover state N.C. zip code 28613

ALEXANDER MOORE FARM

Location
 Catawba County, N.C.
 Catawba vicinity
 Section 134, Block 2
 Lot 2
 27 acres



Buildings

- A - Alexander Moore House (C)
- B - Log wagon shed (C)
- C - Log smokehouse (C)
- D - Frame barn (C)
- E - Log barn (C)

Scale
 1" = 400'

Site

F - Farmland (C)
 (all acreage within Historic Site Boundary)

C = contributing
 N = noncontributing
 A = photo + direction to camera

CATAWBA QUADRANGLE
 NORTH CAROLINA
 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

4855 N
 (STATESVILLE
 WEST)

496 2' 30" 497 1 400 000 FEET 498 STATESVILLE 7 MI. 81° 00' 35° 45'



3955
 730 000
 FEET
 3954
 3953
 3952
 42' 30"
 CATAWBA QUAD
 ZONE 17
 ALSO TROUTMAN ROAD
 3951
 A ALEXANDER MOORE FARM
 B
 C
 D
 3950

- A. E 499910
 N 3950800
- B. E 500140
 N 3955700
- C. E 500000
 N 3950510
- D. E 499790
 N 3950540

