

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: North Carolina	
COUNTY: Orange	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON: Ruffin-Roulhac House
AND/OR HISTORIC: Little Hawfields

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Northeast Corner of Churton and Orange Streets			
CITY OR TOWN: Hillsborough (Fourth Congressional District, Hon. Nick Galiafianakis)			
STATE North Carolina	CODE 37	COUNTY: Orange	CODE 135

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>not in use</u>
Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Mrs. Charlotte Trant Roulhac		
STREET AND NUMBER: 3 Leewood Circle, 2R		
CITY OR TOWN: Eastchester	STATE: New York	CODE: 36

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Orange County Courthouse		
STREET AND NUMBER: Margaret Lane		
CITY OR TOWN: Hillsborough	STATE: North Carolina	CODE: 37

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:			
DATE OF SURVEY:	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> State	<input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE:	

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Ruffin-Roulhac House was built about 1820 by Martin Hanks as a one-and-a-half-story frame dwelling with a side-hall plan two rooms deep. Ten years later Frances Blount added two rooms to the east side, creating the present center-passage plan. Several minor alterations were accomplished about 1908, but the main block of the house has remained essentially unchanged since the 1830 addition.

The house, covered with molded weatherboards, rests on a half basement of brick laid in common bond. On both the front and rear slopes of the roof are three gable dormers containing six-pane casement windows. The main (south) facade is five bays wide with a central entrance protected by a one-bay twentieth century replacement porch. The wall under the porch is flush-sided and framed by original Doric pilasters. The entrance contains a flat-paneled double door flanked by sidelights and surmounted by a shallow blind lunette. Surrounding the door and the sidelights is a symmetrically molded architrave with plain cornerblocks. The large windows, containing nine-over-nine sash, provide the only noticeable indication of the different dates of construction on the main facade. To the west of the central entrance (the ca. 1820 section) the windows are set high above the foundation and have slightly molded sills, while those to the east (the ca. 1830 section) are set at least ten inches lower and have plain square sills.

More obvious differences arise when the east and west sides are compared. The pedimented west gable contains four bays and a pair of interior end chimneys which rise on either side of a large central double window in the tympanum. All bays at the first level originally contained windows, but now a small gable roof addition housing a bathroom encloses the third bay, and a covered basement entrance has been added below the fourth bay.

The east side, which is not pedimented, is dominated by a massive double-shoulder exterior chimney of brick laid in common bond. The chimney is flanked by narrow eight-pane casement windows in the gable. At the first level, early twentieth century additions enclose the front and rear bays.

Protecting the three west bays on the rear (north) facade is a twentieth century shed porch supported by stuccoed molded brick columns. This, like the front porch, appears to be a replacement for an earlier porch since the wall under it is sided with original flush weatherboards. The placement of the windows on this facade is similar to the front, but the central entrance contains a single flat-paneled door framed only by a molded architrave.

The interior shows an interesting and generally successful blend of elements of Federal, Greek Revival, and Victorian elements. The main hall is quite wide and has walls plastered above an unusually high wainscot consisting of a horizontal range of flat panels above a vertical one. The Federal-style stair, rising from the rear of the hall, has treads adorned with delicate scroll brackets and a ramped balustrade with balusters square in section and a rounded handrail. The wainscot continues up the stair and repeats the line of the balustrade.

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7.

The two west parlors contain both Federal and Greek Revival motifs. The southwest room, originally the main parlor, has walls plastered above a wainscot similar to that in the hall. The windows are bordered by early Greek Revival architraves adorned with cornerblocks and rondels. Extending to the baseboard, the architraves frame a single flat panel beneath each window. The three-part mantel has a crossetted architrave and slender engaged Doric colonettes. An unusual feature is the addition of projecting horizontal bands semicircular in section that connect the end blocks with the central tablet. The mantel is flanked by a pair of high arched openings framed by molded architraves with keystones. Each leads to a small room lighted by a single window and, containing built-in book shelves. A large flush-paneled double door located in the north wall opens into the northwest room. This room was the dining area and was finished in the same manner as the main parlor. Minor changes were made in the room when the house was expanded.

The east rooms are much less elaborate with molded cornices and heavy baseboards accenting the plaster walls. The windows and doors have molded architraves with cornerblocks and rondels which are copies of the older trim in the west section. The doors in these rooms are typically Greek Revival with two long vertical flat panels on each, while the doors in the earlier section contain six flat panels. Each east room contains a corner fireplace with a Victorian replacement mantel which does not complement the Greek Revival trim.

The attic contains two rooms divided by a central stair hall. The west room appears to have been partitioned originally into two rooms, each with a separate fireplace, but only the south mantel remains. The east room is similarly finished with plaster walls but contains a single fireplace with a simple mantel consisting of a horizontal flat panel below a molded shelf.

The yard behind the house contains an interesting group of outbuildings, including an office, carriage house, meat house, and slave quarters. The buildings are all frame and in fair to good condition except for the carriage house, which is in ruins. The many young deciduous trees in the yard provide a wooded setting that enhances the architectural beauty of the house.

3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The oldest part of the Ruffin-Roulhac house is thought to have been built about 1820 by Martin Hanks on lot 181, which he had purchased from the commissioners of the town of Hillsborough at a public sale. Hanks sold the lot in March, 1823, to William H. Phillips for \$650. This price indicates that a house stood on the property at this time even though the deed from the commissioners to Hanks has not been found.

Two years later Phillips sold the house to Francis Lister Hawks, the grandson of the John Hawks who designed Tryon Palace at New Bern. Francis Hawks had a distinguished and varied career. As a young man in New Bern he went into law and served as a member of the General Assembly. After moving to Hillsborough he was reporter to the state supreme court (1820-1826). It was while he lived in Hillsborough that he "determined to abandon law for the pulpit." He studied theology under Reverend William Mercer Green, rector of St. Matthew's parish in Hillsborough. It has been suggested that Hawks may have designed St. Matthew's Church (built 1825-1826). He was ordained as deacon by Bishop John Stark Ravenscroft in 1827 and as priest soon after. During the years that followed he served as rector in many parishes from Connecticut to Louisiana, and was elected first president of the University of Louisiana. Hawks also gained considerable prominence as a writer and historian, being the author of many works of the early history of the Episcopal church in America, several biographies, and a history of North Carolina.

By September, 1830, Walker Anderson, an agent of Hawks in Hillsborough, had sold the house to Frances Blount. She is thought to have been renting the house for some time before she purchased it. Miss Blount, who bought the adjacent lot (180) as well in 1830, enlarged the main block of the house to its present size shortly after she acquired it.

In December, 1865, Paul C. Cameron bought Frances Blount Hill's house in Hillsborough along with lots 181 and 180 for Thomas Ruffin. In November, 1866, Ruffin bought lots 177, 178, 179, 204, 205, and 206 (which adjoined his house) from Pride Jones. Thomas Ruffin, a distinguished jurist, served in the state legislature in the years 1813, 1815, and 1816, and was chosen speaker the latter year. In the same year he was elected judge of the superior court, in which capacity he served two years being appointed to the North Carolina Supreme Court, a position he held until he resigned in 1852. He was selected once more in 1856 but retired permanently in 1858.

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Although opposed to secession, he chose to "follow the fortunes of his state" and voted for withdrawal at the state convention held in Raleigh. Ruffin, who referred to the house he lived in after the Civil War as "Little Hawfields" in memory of his Hawfields plantation, died in 1870, leaving the house and lot to his wife, Anne M. Ruffin. In the same year Anne Ruffin completed a transaction begun before her husband's death, buying lots 202 and 203. After this purchase the Ruffin property included an entire block of city property, approximately ten acres, which remains intact today. Anne M. Ruffin, who died in 1875, left the house and lots to her children. It was used by various members of the family until the twentieth century.

Under a judgement of the superior court, March term, 1904, Allen J. Ruffin was appointed commissioner to transfer the title to "the old Ruffin place . . . containing 10 acres" to Mrs. Nannie Russell Roulhac of Rockingham County for \$100 in cash and a promissory note for \$1,455 secured by a mortgage on the land. Mrs. Roulhac, who remodeled the house considerably, died in 1909. The property was inherited by her son, William Sterling Roulhac. Roulhac died in 1954 leaving the property to his wife, Charlotte Trant Roulhac, who is the present owner.

The city of Hillsborough is currently negotiating for the purchasing of the property. Plans have been made to restore the building for use as city government offices.

The Ruffin-Roulhac House is a valuable example of the transition from Federal to Greek Revival architectural styles in North Carolina. The ca. 1820 building date makes the house one of the earliest known dwellings in the state containing sophisticated Greek Revival motifs. It is historically significant as the residence of two of North Carolina's most prominent men. It was the home of Francis L. Hawks during the time when he changed from a career in law to that in which he would become outstanding, theology. Thomas Ruffin lived there after his retirement from an illustrious career as a jurist.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Engstrom, Mary Claire, "The Ruffin-Roulhac House." An unpublished report, State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina.

National Cyclopedia of American Biography. . . . New York: J. T. White and Company, 1893 to present.

Orange County Records, Orange County Courthouse, Hillsborough, North Carolina, Office of the Register of Deeds. (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills).

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		36° 04' 48"	79° 05' 57"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Five Acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Survey and Planning Unit, John Wells, III, Supervisor

ORGANIZATION: State Department of Archives and History DATE: 19 July 1971

STREET AND NUMBER:
109 East Jones Street

CITY OR TOWN: Raleigh STATE: North Carolina CODE: 37

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name H. G. Jones

Title Director, State Department of Archives and History

Date 19 July 1971

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

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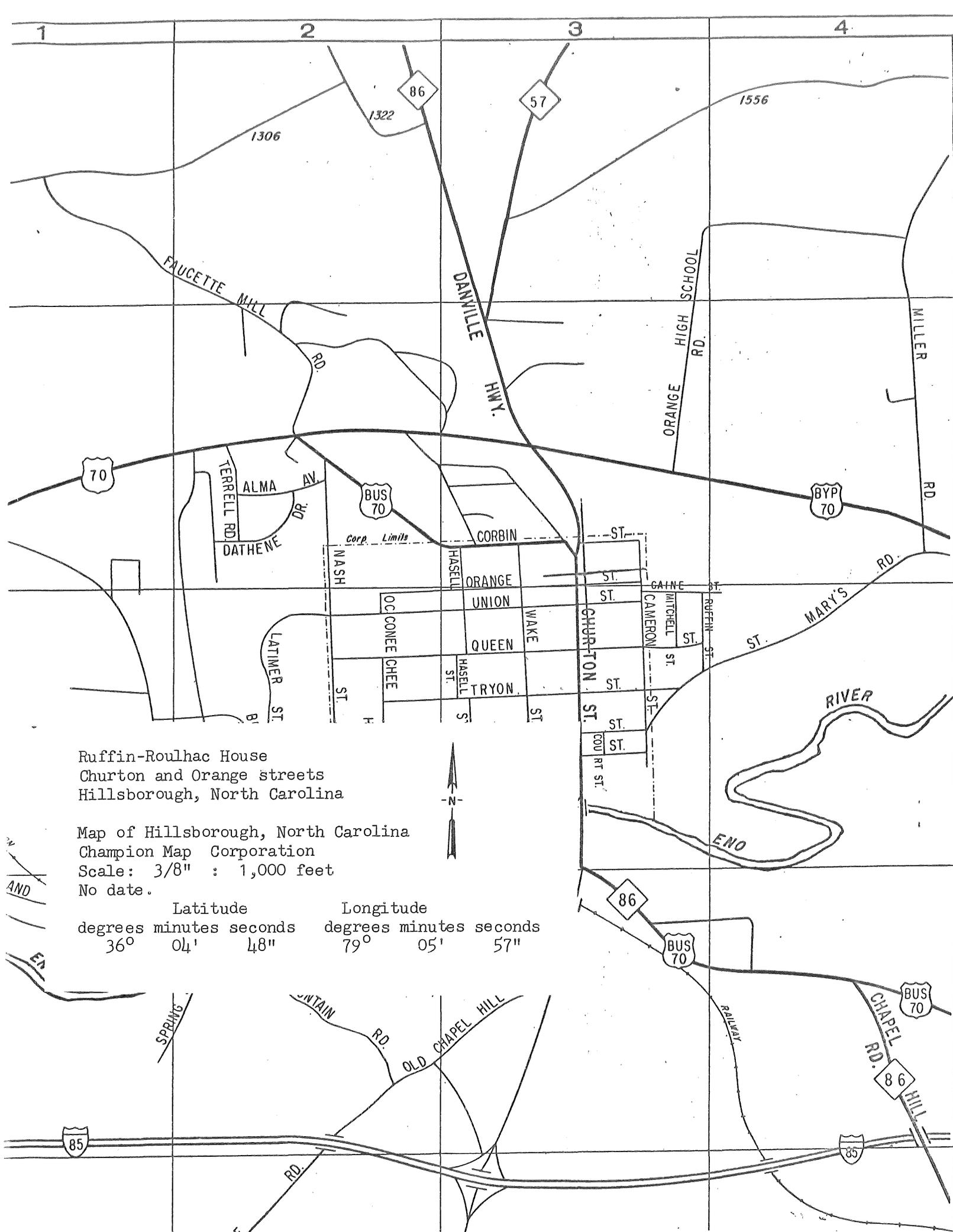
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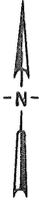
9.

Orange County Records, State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh,
North Carolina. (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills).



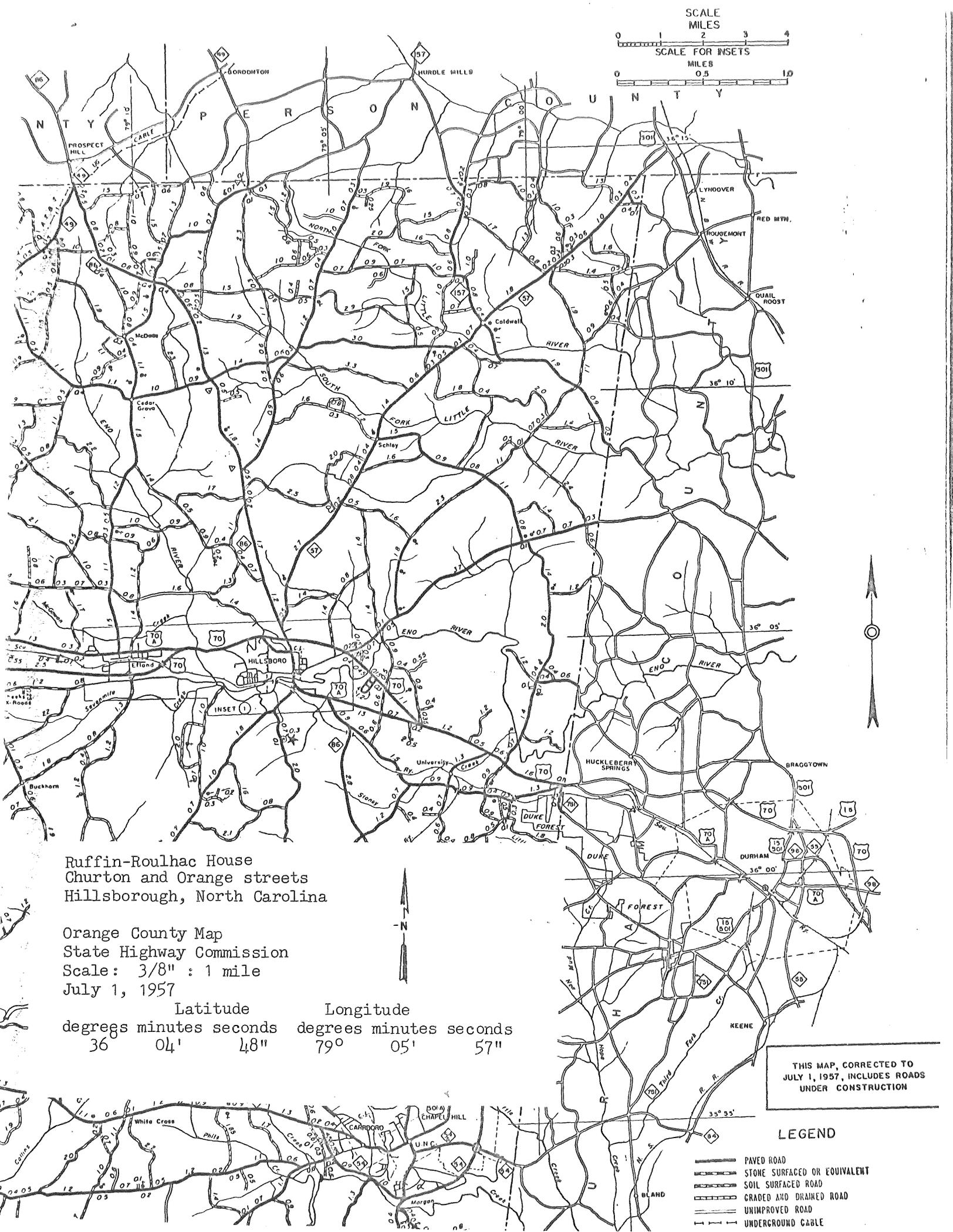
Ruffin-Roulhac House
 Churton and Orange streets
 Hillsborough, North Carolina

Map of Hillsborough, North Carolina
 Champion Map Corporation
 Scale: 3/8" : 1,000 feet
 No date.



	Latitude			Longitude		
degrees	minutes	seconds	degrees	minutes	seconds	
36°	04'	48"	79°	05'	57"	

W
 AND
 EA



Ruffin-Roulhac House
 Churton and Orange streets
 Hillsborough, North Carolina

Orange County Map
 State Highway Commission
 Scale: 3/8" : 1 mile
 July 1, 1957

Latitude Longitude
 degrees minutes seconds degrees minutes seconds
 36 04' 48" 79° 05' 57"

THIS MAP, CORRECTED TO
 JULY 1, 1957, INCLUDES ROADS
 UNDER CONSTRUCTION

- LEGEND**
- PAVED ROAD
 - STONE SURFACED OR EQUIVALENT
 - SOIL SURFACED ROAD
 - GRADED AND DRAINED ROAD
 - UNIMPROVED ROAD
 - - - UNDERGROUND CABLE

