SURRY COUNTY

Providing Service and Progress
For All Citizens



SURRY COUNTY COURTHOUSE

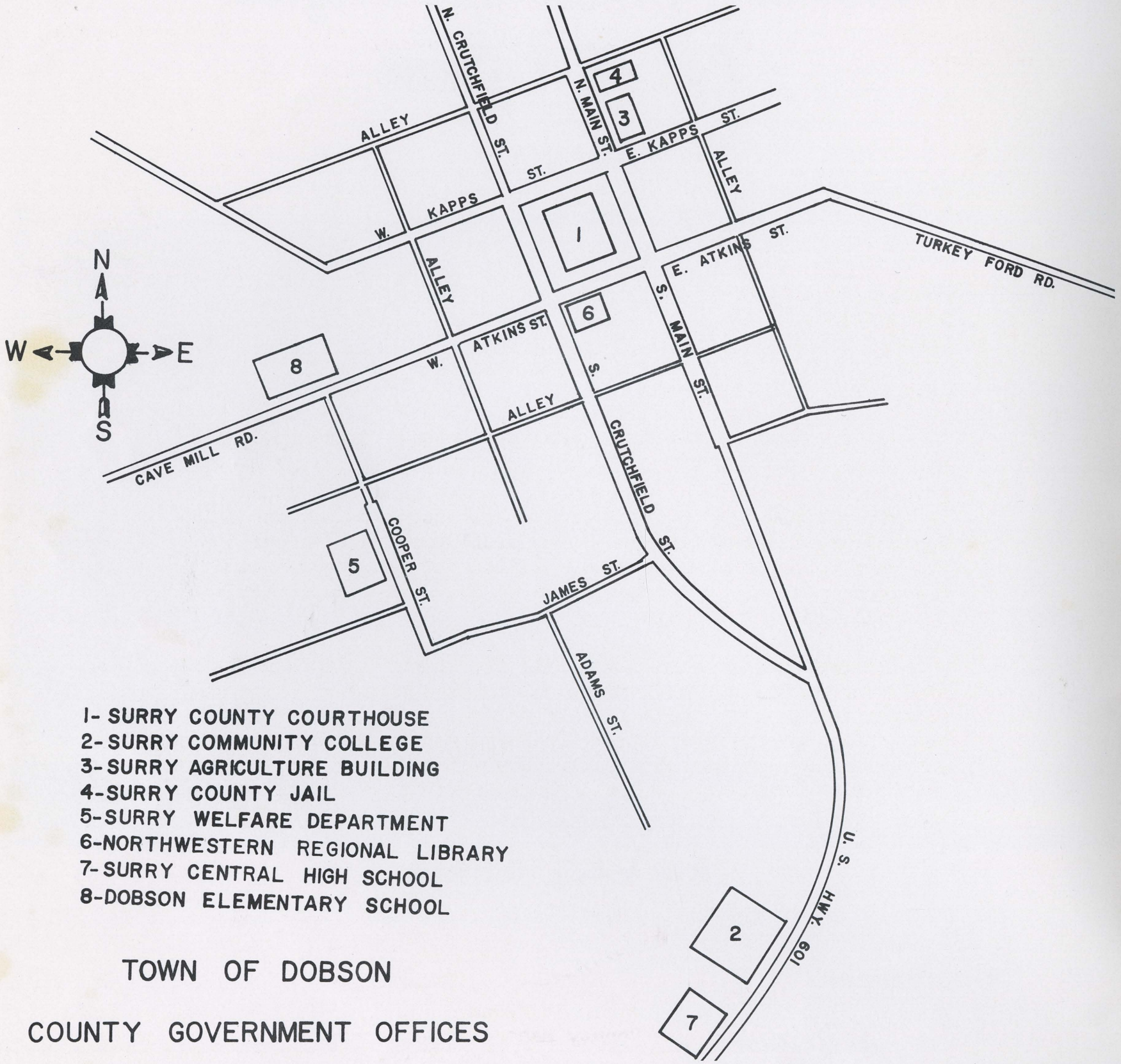
Government . . . . . .

Activities . . . . . .

Organization . . . . . .

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1- SURRY COUNTY COURTHOUSE
2- SURRY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
3- SURRY AGRICULTURE BUILDING
4- SURRY COUNTY JAIL
5- SURRY WELFARE DEPARTMENT
6- NORTHWESTERN REGIONAL LIBRARY
7- SURRY CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL
8- DOBSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

TOWN OF DOBSON

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OFFICES

COUNTY OF SURRY, NORTH CAROLINA

Formed In 1770

Soon To Observe 200th Anniversary

J. VANCE THOMPSON
COUNTY MANAGER

TELEPHONE 386-5565

DOBSON, NORTH CAROLINA

Board of County Commissioners
Surry County
Dobson, North Carolina 27017

Gentlemen:

In accordance with your expressed wishes, the following report has been prepared. Because of the complexity of county government, we could not necessarily cover in detail each department; however, the information selected is accurate and indicative of activities and responsibilities carried out in the various departments. More detailed information regarding the functions and responsibilities of any departmental activity is available upon request.

Recognition is accorded to all Department Heads and their staff for compiling the information in this report. A special recognition is also accorded to Miss Judy Stone, Secretary to the County Manager; Mr. Gilmer Dockery, Assistant Tax Supervisor; and Mrs. Katye B. Simpson and Mr. Wayne Edmonds of the Tax Office for help in compiling, editing and supervising the production of this report.

Sincerely yours,

COUNTY OF SURRY

Vance Thompson

Vance Thompson
County Manager

VT/js

M. C. WHITENER, Chm.
State Road, N. C.

R. T. REEVES, Vice-Chm.
Pilot Mtn., N. C.

COUNTY OF SURRY

Formed In 1770

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

PAUL D. MELTON, Clerk
DOBSON, NORTH CAROLINA 27017

W. F. HARRIS, Member
Mt. Airy, N. C.

FOLGER & FOLGER, Atty.
Mt. Airy, N. C.

To the Citizens of Surry County:

For several years, there has been an increasing number of requests from citizens, civic groups and students for information regarding the activities, finances and operation of our county government.

This report was produced by the joint effort of the members of the Surry County Government. It is designed to outline the responsibilities and duties of the various Boards and Departments. No more than a general survey of the county government is intended in this book; however, it was felt that this report would serve as a basis for a better insight into your county government.

To the best of our knowledge, this is the first report of this kind to be attempted by Surry County. It is submitted in the belief that a better informed citizenry is conducive to good and responsive government. It is the desire of this Board that you will read this report in its entirety.

Respectfully presented,

Marion C. Whitener, Chairman

Randall T. Reeves, Vice-Chairman

W. Fletcher Harris

INTRODUCTION

By: Vance Thompson

From the earliest colonial days, the inhabited areas of North Carolina have been divided into counties. Counties are creatures of the State created to carry out state policies and have no powers other than those authorized by the State. Counties were formed initially to hold court, to operate a jail and to build roads. Over the years, many additional activities have become the responsibility of county government.

Surry County was formed from Rowan County in 1770 (the final enactment bill was January 26, 1771) and included at that time what is now Forsyth, Stokes, Yadkin, Wilkes, Ashe, Alleghany, Watauga, Avery, and parts of Caldwell, Burke, Mitchell and Alexander Counties.

The first courthouse was established in 1774 in what is now Forsyth County in the village that is now known as Old Richmond. Stokes County was created from the territory of Surry County about 1790, and the courthouse was moved from Richmond Town to Rockford. As the area became more thickly settled, other counties were formed from its territory until about 1850 when Yadkin County was created from the territory of Surry County. The county seat was moved from Rockford to near the geographical center at Dobson.

Early settlers in the area which is now Surry County were principally German and Scotch-Irish. It is the belief of many older citizens that the beautiful and fertile Mitchell River Valley was the first part to be settled. The Thompsons, Cockerhams, Tellfarioes and the Bryans were among the early settlers.

President Andrew Jackson was admitted to practice law in Surry County, and the records here in the courthouse in Dobson do show and attest to that fact. Surry County played a very prominent role in the early public affairs of the state and nation and furnished the following members of the United States House of Representatives: Jesse Franklin, Meshach Franklin, Lewis Williams, Robert Williams, Richard Puyrear, John M. Brower, A. D. "Lon" Folger, John H. Folger, Ralph J. Scott and Thurmond Chatham. Jesse Franklin represented Surry and Wilkes in the General Assembly. He was also elected to the United States Senate on two different occasions and climaxed his public service with a one-year term as Governor of North Carolina.

From the time of its early settlement until the middle of the 19th century, Surry County had a frontier economy largely because of the mountain barrier to the north and west and the inaccessibility of roads with the rest of the State. Industry began to move into the County about 1850; and by the time Chatham Manufacturing Company opened in 1877, the County was well on its way to industrialization. Tobacco factories, producers of shoes, wagons and finally furniture manufacturers were to be found in Surry by 1885. Surry County today is primarily an industrial county of rural residents. In the city of Mount Airy and the city of Elkin, the number of people on the industrial payroll exceeds the resident population. In recent years, new kinds of industries requiring skilled workers have come in the County. Today we have more than 12,200 people employed in industry with a total annual income in the excess of $50,000,000. In 1967 the per capita income of Surry County was $2,276, ranking 25th in the State. The state average is $2,277. Retail sales for 1966-67 in the County were $91,258,003. Surry ranks 28th in the State in retail sales. In 1967 the tourist income in Surry County was $19,310,000.*

In 1960 the population of Surry County was 48,205; however, the estimated population of 1967 was 50,277 with 20.6 per cent of the population being in the urban areas and 51.2 per cent of the population being in the non-farm rural areas and with the remaining 28.2 per cent in the farm rural areas.

Surry County, as well as the other counties, was governed by Justices of the Peace until 1868; then under the North Carolina Constitution of 1868, the Board of County Commissioners replaced the Justices of the Peace as the governing board of the County. The Surry County Board of Commissioners is composed of three members and meets on the first Monday of each month and at other times when the business of the County requires it. The State Constitution imposes on the Board of County Commissioners the duty to exercise a general supervision and control of penal and charitable institutions, schools, and levying of taxes and finances of the County. The Board does not have complete authority over the finances of the County, but the State Legislature requires that certain things be done. The Board must appropriate sufficient funds to build and maintain necessary school buildings. It must appropriate sufficient funds to care for the poor and sick. It must appropriate sufficient funds to provide for the administration of justice through the courts and to provide for the operation of the offices of the Clerk of Court, the Register of Deeds and the Sheriff. The Board must also appropriate sufficient funds to conduct elections and maintain an account for county funds. The Board of Commissioners does have authority over the finances of other activities. These activities include the Public Health Program, the Agricultural Extension Program, the Library, Veterans Service Office, Civil Defense, Electrical Inspection, Rural Fire Protection and others. Prior to 1931, the Board of Commissioners had extensive responsibility for construction and repair of county roads and bridges; but in that year, these responsibilities were transferred to the North Carolina State Highway Commission. The Highway Commission today has final authority in all such matters, and the Board of County Commissioners serves in an advisory role only.

*SOURCE: Travel Council of North Carolina

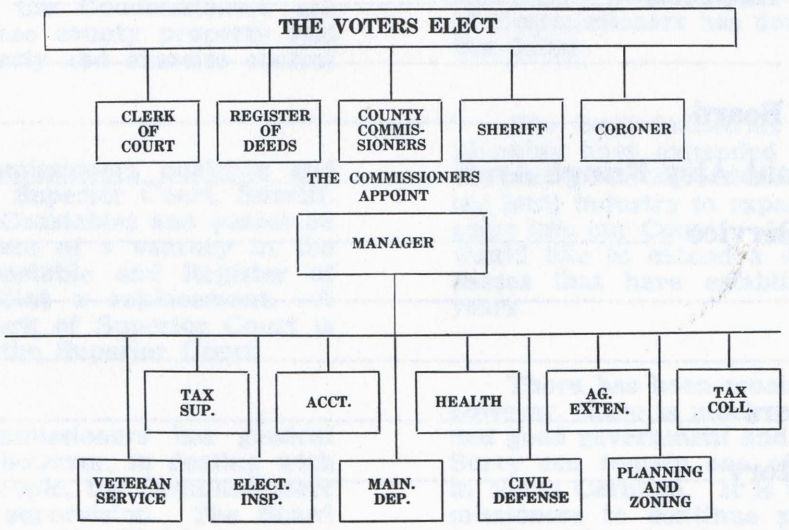


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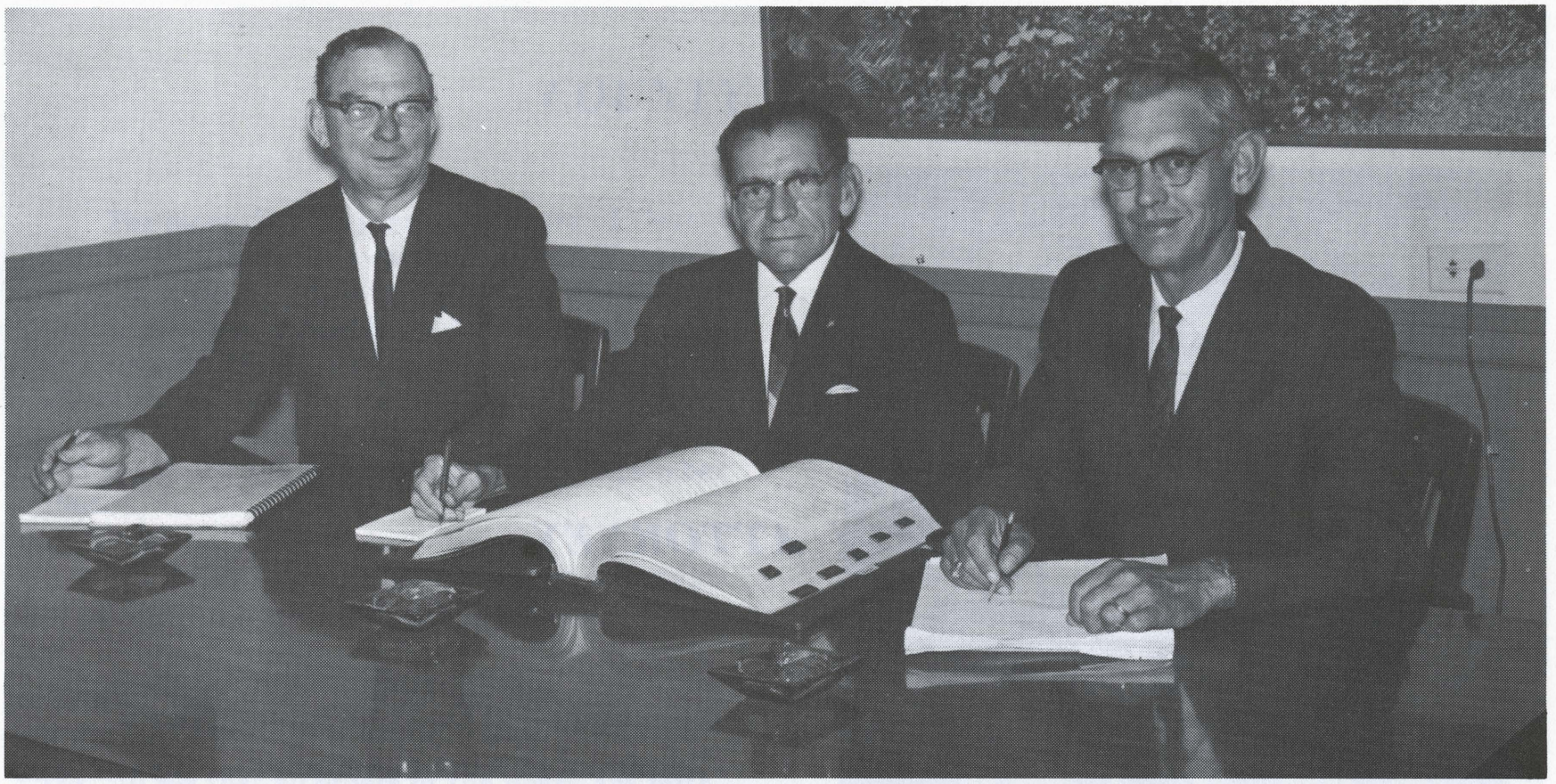
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COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



SURRY COUNTY BOARD of Commissioners, from left, W. Fitcher Harris, Chairman M. C. Whitener, Vice Chairman Randall T. Reeves.

Surry County government is administered by a Board of three Commissioners elected at large for a two-year term. The Chairman is elected by the other members to preside at meetings, represent the Board at public functions and perform many other duties on behalf of the Board.

The Board of County Commissioners is charged with determining what money is needed to operate the county government — its various boards, offices and agencies. It is further charged with the responsibility of obtaining the funds to finance these programs. It must balance the county budget. The Board thus has responsibility to scrutinize all county financed programs, weigh their financial requirements, appropriate available funds as needed and levy the taxes essential to finance these appropriations.

The County Commissioners under North Carolina law are required to provide offices and buildings to house its county government. Thus, the Commissioners are empowered to buy, sell and lease county property and erect and maintain county property and exercise control over their use thereof.

The Board of County Commissioners qualifies and inducts into office the Clerk of Superior Court, Sheriff, Coroner, Register of Deeds and Constables and passes on their official bonds. In the event of a vacancy in the offices of Sheriff, Coroner, Constable and Register of Deeds, the Commissioners appoint a replacement. A vacancy in the office of the Clerk of Superior Court is filled by the Resident Judge of the Superior Court.

The Board of County Commissioners has general supervision over all employees; however, in dealing with county officials elected by the people, the Commissioners have less authority to exercise supervision. The Board does have the authority to require such officials to report under oath at anytime on matters connected with their duties. Thus, supervision of the work of elected officers can be exercised only indirectly, through the budgetary process, by fixing hours, workdays and holidays for county officers. The Board has the authority to set salaries. In July 1967 the Board adopted a formal pay plan covering non-elected officials.

There has been much progress made in Surry County in the past ten (10) years. Many new programs and services have emerged. To name a few: the consolidation of all of our high schools, the creation of the Surry Community College, the expansion of health services plus many, many more services. The Board has met most of the demands for services that the citizens have requested.

Surry County citizens have enjoyed a low tax rate for many years. The present rate of 98c per $100 valuation is one of the lowest rates in the State. This did not come about by accident; it came by long range planning and steady economic growth of the County. Your Board of Commissioners has done a good job in expending your tax dollar.

The local industries through good management and planning have expanded their operations. The local Industrial Parks have done an outstanding job in encouraging local industry to expand and inducing new industry to come into our County. Members of your local government would like to extend a warm welcome to the new businesses that have established in our County in recent years.

There has been much progress made in recent years; however, there is much yet to be done. Through continued good government and sound planning, we believe that Surry can remain one of the more progressive counties in North Carolina. It is the desire of the Board of Commissioners to continue providing services and progress for the citizens of Surry County.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

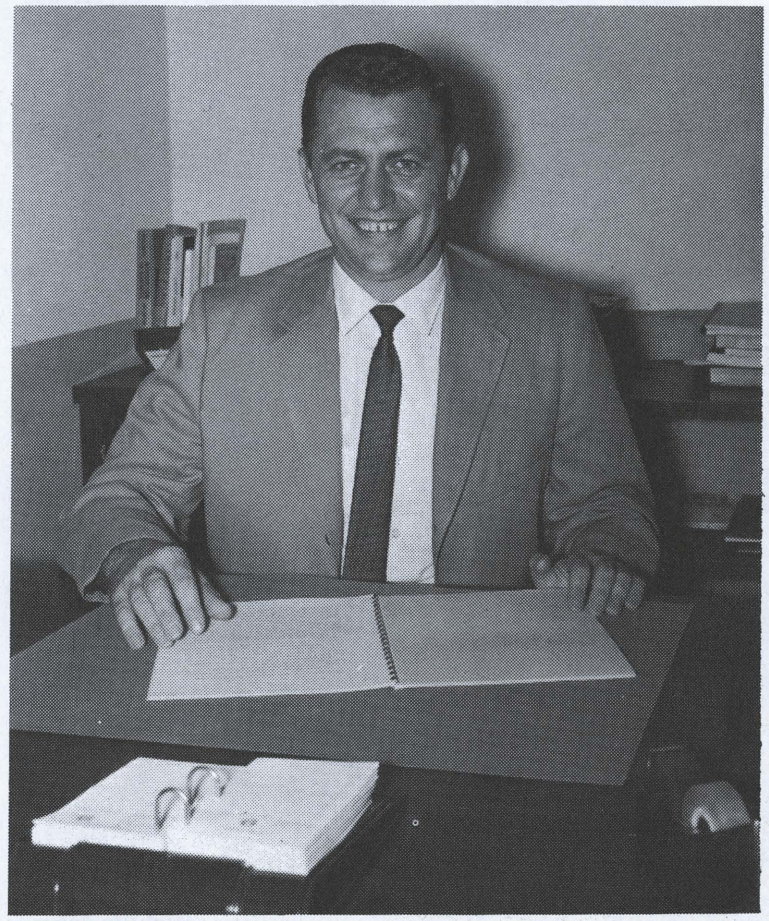


FRED FOLGER JR.

Counties are subject to almost unlimited legislative control, which is exercised through the enactment of North Carolina laws. The law firm, Folger & Folger, has served Surry County for many years as their County Attorney. The Attorney attends all the first Monday meetings and such other meetings as the Board may require.

County government has become so complex in recent years that the need for an attorney who is able and willing to devote adequate time to county business is an essential part of county government. The Attorney is called upon to give legal opinions and advise Commissioners in legal matters, to construct contracts, leases, and to prepare legal documents and many other instruments.

COUNTY MANAGER



J. VANCE THOMPSON

For more than 35 years, the Board of County Commissioners in each county has had the authority to appoint a county manager. The County Commissioners, recognizing the increasing size and complexity of county government and in an effort to achieve a more efficient government, adopted the county manager form of government and appointed the present Manager in September 1966.

The duties of the County Manager, as provided by North Carolina law, are as follows:

(1) to be the administrative head of the county government for the Board of Commissioners

(2) to see that all orders of the Board are faithfully executed

(3) to attend all the meetings of the Board and recommend such measures for adoption as he may deem expedient

(4) to make reports to the Board from time to time upon the affairs of the County and to keep the Board fully advised as to the financial condition of the County and its future financial needs.

(5) to appoint and remove, with the approval of the County Commissioners, such subordinate officers, agents and employees for the general administration of county affairs as the Board may consider necessary, except such officers and employees who are required to be elected or whose appointment is otherwise provided for by law; and

(6) to perform such other duties as may be required of him by the Board.

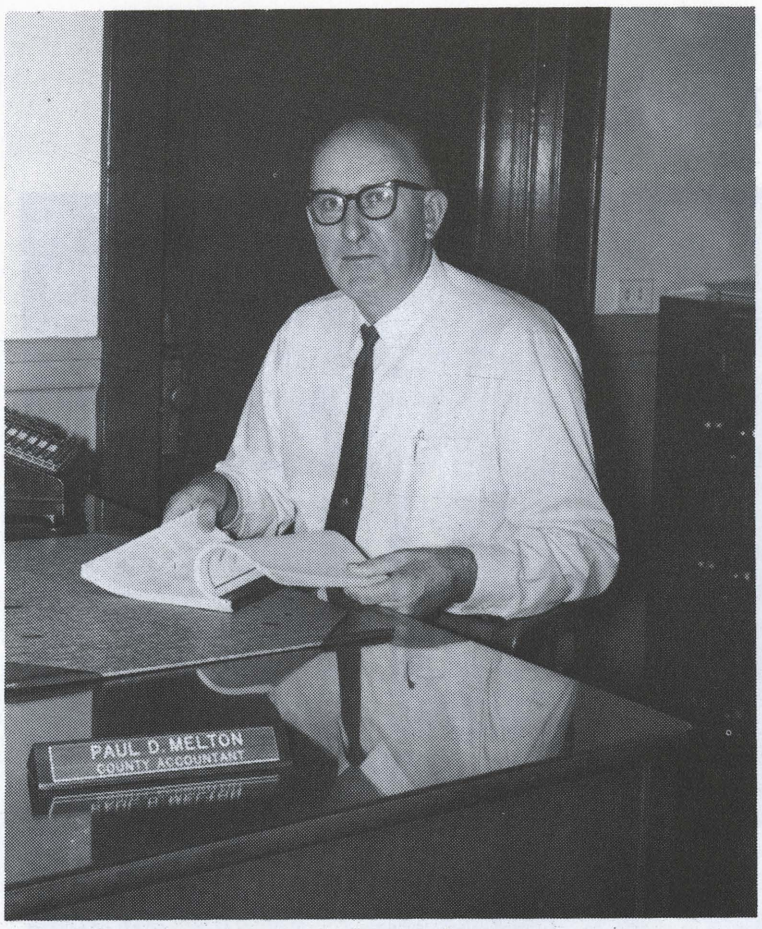
In Surry County, the County Manager also acts as the Purchasing Agent and is responsible for all county purchasing; and any purchases made and charged to Surry County shall be directly under his authority and supervision, except those which have to be budgeted or purchased through bids.

The County Manager also acts as Tax Supervisor and has direct supervision over all tax matters and has general supervision over all other areas of county government.

The County Manager derives his authority from the Board of Commissioners and, in carrying out his duties, is delegated the full authority of the Board. The Manager does not establish policy but will function within the policy as established by the Board.

With the employment of a man with experience in general governmental operations, he can be expected to coordinate various functions of county government. By a general approach to all county operations, he can eliminate duplication of effort, avoid conflict of interest and encourage harmony and cooperation among all agencies.

CLERK TO THE BOARD



PAUL D. MELTON

In Surry County the Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners is the County Accountant, and he is appointed by the Commissioners.

Under G. S. 153-41, it is the duty of the Clerk to attend all meetings of the Board and record in the minutes all proceedings of the Board, including resolutions, contracts and other documents presented to or considered by the Board, all of which must be kept available for examination by any citizen. During fiscal year 1967-68, minutes of the twenty-nine (29) meetings of the Board required one-hundred and thirty six (136) pages, duplicates of which were furnished to many agencies.

The Clerk writes the resolutions of the Board and cooperates with the County Manager in preparing the agenda for each regular and special meeting.

COUNTY ACCOUNTANT

As required by G. S. 153-115, the County Commissioners appoint the County Accountant. His principal duties and powers are outlined by North Carolina law under the County Fiscal Control Act and the County Finance Act. Additional duties and responsibilities may be imposed upon the County Accountant by the Board of Commissioners.

The County Accountant acts as accountant for the County and its subdivision in making settlement with all county officers. He keeps complete records of all receipts and disbursements. He requires all officers and employees receiving or disbursing money of the County to keep complete records of such funds and submit to him at least each month a report in detail. The Accountant prescribes the type of records to be kept and audits the records of the Recorders Court, Justices of the Peace and all other Offices unless relieved of such duty by the Board of Commissioners.

The Accountant consults with the County Manager and department heads concerning budget requests and prepares the budget estimate, together with sources of revenue and taxes required for review by the Commissioners. He maintains budget accounts for all departments and supervises budget control. He approves or disapproves all claims requiring the payment of money and signs all contracts. He issues checks in the payment of salaries and all expenses incurred by the County.

The Accountant maintains complete payroll records, administers the retirement, hospital insurance and workmen's compensation programs. He is responsible for Federal and State Withholding taxes and Social Security.

As Chief Financial Officer of the County and performing the duties of Treasurer, the Accountant is responsible for the receipt and disbursement of all county monies, including schools, the Community College and the Northern Hospital District. He makes monthly reports to the Commissioners covering taxes, receipts and disbursements. He is required to make semi-annual reports to the Local Government Commission, Raleigh, North Carolina, concerning the financial condition of the County and publish annually a financial statement showing the financial condition of the County Government.

TAX SERVICE



WAYNE EDMONDS (LEFT), APPRAISER, AND GILMER DOCKERY, ASSISTANT TAX SUPERVISOR

The Board of County Commissioners is required to appoint a tax supervisor to serve for a two-year term. The present Tax Supervisor also serves as County Manager. The Tax Supervisor is responsible for the administration and supervision and the directing of a program of listing, appraising and assessing real and personal property for tax purposes. He is responsible and accountable for operations and results of the department. He works in accordance with the requirements and policies of the Board of County Commissioners. The Tax Supervisor is responsible, with the approval of the Board of County Commissioners, for appointing township list takers. Every person owning property, both real and personal, is required by law to appear before the list taker and list each item of property he owns in January of each year.

In 1958 Surry County conducted a revaluation program and established a permanent property record card system. In 1959 the General Assembly enacted a law requiring each county to conduct a revaluation program each eight (8) years. In compliance with this law, Surry County completed a complete revaluation program in 1967.

It is the responsibility of the Tax Supervisor's office and the County Appraiser to appraise new construction annually and update property record cards where changes have occurred. There is in the excess of 4,000 changes to be made annually.

The Board of Equalization and Review, in this County, composed of the Board of County Commissioners, is required to meet before the first Monday in May of each year. During its brief annual life, the Board of Equalization and Review has both the power and the duty to review and revise valuations. It exercises this responsibility in three situations: (a) on its own motion, as a result of its own review of the valuations; (b) on the request of a property owner with regard to the valuation that has been assigned his property; and (c) on the request of a property owner with regard to the valuation that has been assigned the property of some other person in the County. The Tax Supervisor serves as Clerk to the Board of Equalization and Review and, as such, must "be present at all meetings and give to the Board such information as he may have or can obtain with respect to the valuation of taxable property in the County."

We now have county-wide maps and the land transfers are worked currently. These maps have proved to be an asset not only to the County but to the taxpayers and title abstracters.

There are more than 21,000 tax listings that have to be processed each year. List takers start with a blank listing form on January 1; and approximately nine (9) months later, the taxpayer receives his tax bill.

The details of the work are too varied and complex to cover in the allotted space.

The Collectors are appointed to serve at the will of the County Commissioners. They are charged with the responsibility to collect the taxes levied in their collection

district. The Tax Collectors were charged with the following amounts for the year 1967: (This does not include back year taxes). The County Tax Collector's office in Mount Airy was charged with $1,085,612.00. The Elkin office was charged with $477,267.57. The Dobson office was charged with $217,405.84. The Pilot Mountain office was charged with $209,120.47. Each Collector has to meet certain qualifications and is under an approved bond.

Surry County has four Tax Collectors that are assigned specific areas. One Collector is located in the courthouse, one Collector in the town of Mount Airy, one Collector in Elkin and one Collector in Pilot Mountain. These four offices are maintained for the convenience of the public and to allow for a much more orderly and efficient collection system.

The Collector's job has grown more complex during the past several years. The Collector is not only responsible for the collection of taxes and fees, but he instigates legal action to collect delinquent taxes and collect schedule B taxes and many other duties that are too numerous to mention.



LEFT TO RIGHT MRS. ELIZABETH B. LAWRENCE, MRS. ISLA T. THOMPSON, MRS. GRACE S. JAMES AND MR. N. O. FOWLER

SUMMARY OF COLLECTION 1967 LEVY

Collector	1967 Levy*	Balance Outstanding June 30, 1968	Percent Collected
Mr. N. O. Fowler	$1,085,612.00	$ 99,510.28	90.83%
Mrs. Grace S. James	477,267.57	60,873.72	87.25%
Mrs. Lib Lawrence	217,405.84	24,955.91	88.52%
Mrs. Isla Thompson	209,120.47	17,040.50	91.85%
TOTAL	$1,989,405.88	$202,380.41	89.61%

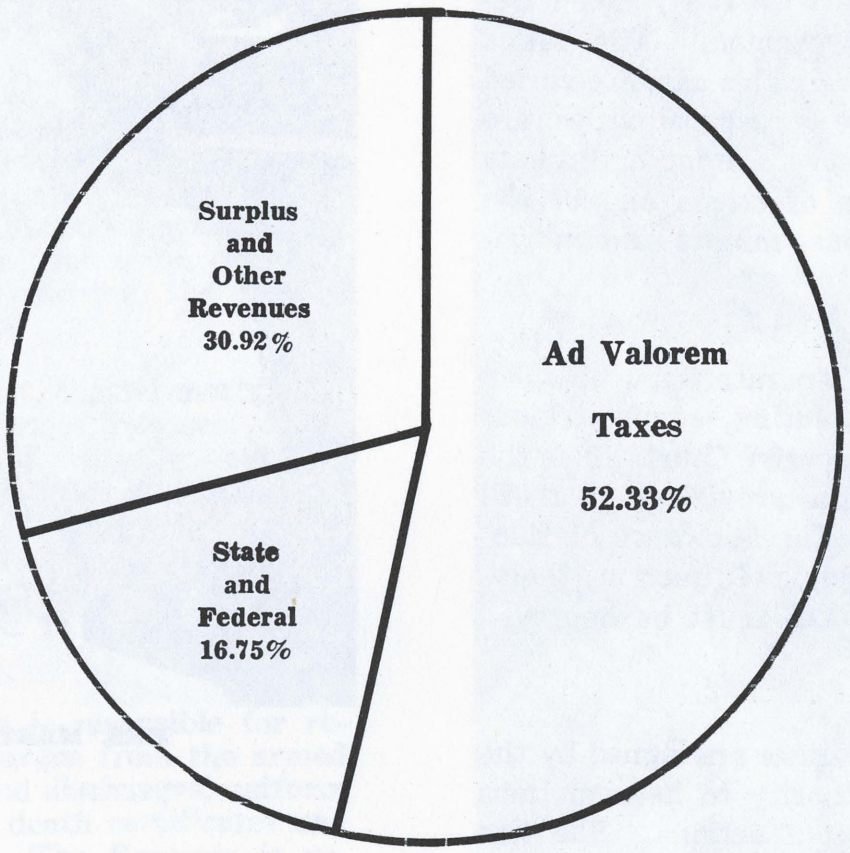
* Taxes charged to Collector on or about October 1 each year. The collection period represents nine (9) months.

COUNTY OF SURRY, NORTH CAROLINA
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION JUNE 30, 1968
RECEIPTS and DISBURSEMENTS FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1968

FUND and DESCRIPTION:	Cash Balance July 1, 1967	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash Balance June 30, '68
County General Fund (Incl. Health, Welfare)	$239,325.46	$ 869,930.84	$ 878,244.19	$ 231,012.11
Debt Service (Incl. Schools & College)	83,746.75	326,519.68	322,140.45	88,125.88
County Capital Outlay	22,738.15	51,880.99	7,742.42	66,876.72
Dog Tax Fund	0	11,707.22	10,821.94	885.28
Revaluation Fund	17,575.71	7,130.19	8,845.00	15,860.90
College Maintenance & Operations	0	73,835.10	73,835.10	0
College Construction Fund (Federal)	129,165.81	134,373.30	82,067.10	181,472.01
College Construction Fund (State)	321.92	50,000.00	1,840.00	48,481.92
College Construction Fund (County	$ 449.26	0	74.16	375.10
Total	$493,323.06	1,525.377.32	1,385,610.36	633,090.02
PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDS:				
County Schools ESEA Funds (Federal)	$(20,530.76	554,124.60	527,502.11	6,091.73
County School Current Expense	111,158.52	595,586.96	563,184.91	143,560.57
County School Capital Outlay	196,230.34	372,334.62	258,517.68	310,047.28
Mt. Airy School Capital Outlay	116,386.04	106,685.87	158,408.63	64,663.28
Elkin School Capital Outlay	0	12,560.23	11,959.72	600.51
Total	$403,244.14	1,641,292.28	1,519,573.05	524,963.37
GRAND TOTAL COUNTY-WIDE FUNDS	$896,567.20	3,166,669.60	2,905,183.41	1,158,053.39
SPECIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT FUNDS:				
Mount Airy Special School Taxes	0	75,565.57	75,565.57	0
Mount Airy Per-Capita Current Expense*	0	98,446.92	98,386.46	60.46
Total $	0	174,012.49	173,952.03	60.46
Elkin Special School Taxes	$ 0	67,949.77	67,949.77	0
Elkin Per-Capita Current Expense*	0	113,886.01	113,857.80	28.21
Total $	0	113,886.01	113,857.80	2821
*From County School Funds.				
NORTHERN HOSPITAL DISTRICT:				
Northern Hospital Dist. Maint. & Op. Fund	$ 0	93,729.17	93,729.17	0
Northern Hospital Debt Service Fund	8,191.64	119,292.94	119,819.29	7,665.29
Total $	8,191.64	119,292.94	119,819.20	7,665.29
GRAND TOTAL ALL FUNDS	$904,758.84	3,573,861.04	3,312,812.53	1,165,807.35

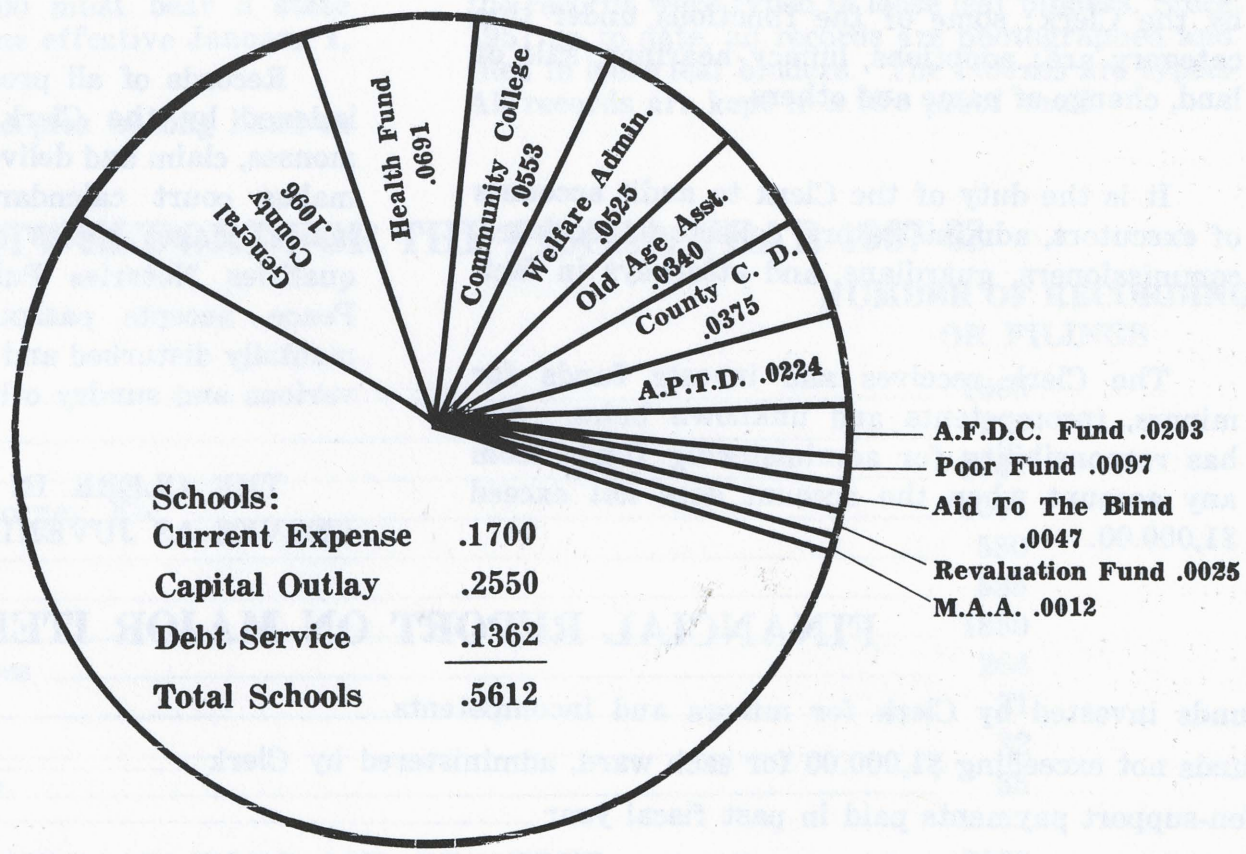
FINANCE

SOURCES OF REVENUE



EXPENDITURES

HOW YOUR TAX DOLLAR IS SPENT



CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT

The office of the Clerk of Superior Court is provided for in the North Carolina Constitution, in Article IV, which deals with the Judicial Department of our state government. The duties and functions of this office, in this age, are varied and complex. The gravest responsibilities are attendant upon the function as Judge of Probate and in the administration of trusts and of the estates of deceased persons, minors and incompetents.

The Clerk acts as a separate tribunal when probating wills and appointing administrators and not as a part of the Superior Court. It is the Clerk's duty to see that the provisions of a will are carried out properly. The allowance of fiduciaries' commissions is a judicial function; therefore, all commissions allowed must be approved by the Clerk.

Judgments in certain cases are signed by the Clerk, who, also, has authority to hear motions which may be filed in civil actions. She has jurisdiction to hear and decide all questions of practice and procedure and all other matters over which jurisdiction is given to the Superior Court, unless the Judge of the Court, or the Court at regular term, is expressly referred to.

Special proceedings are handled exclusively by the Clerk; some of the functions under this category are: adoptions, lunacy hearings, sale of land, change of name and others.

It is the duty of the Clerk to audit accounts of executors, administrators, collectors, receivers, commissioners, guardians, and attorneys in fact.

The Clerk receives and invests funds for minors, incompetents and unknown heirs. She has responsibility for administering funds from any account when the account does not exceed $1,000.00.



MRS. MARTHA O. COMER

The bookkeeping system in the Office of Clerk is very tedious and time consuming. Collections consist of funds deposited for minors and incompetents, judgments, fees and fines, non-support and alimony, court costs, up-set bids, cash bonds, J. P. State taxes, and many more items too numerous to mention.

Records of all proceedings are recorded and indexed by the Clerk. She, also issues summonses, claim and delivery, executions, subpoenas, makes court calendars, approves and accepts bonds, makes copies of records for the public, qualifies Notaries Public and Justices of the Peace, accepts passport applications, commits mentally disturbed and inebriates to hospitals and various and sundry other duties not stated.

THE CLERK IN SURRY COUNTY ALSO SERVES AS JUVENILE JUDGE.

FINANCIAL REPORT ON MAJOR ITEMS

Funds invested by Clerk for minors and incompetents	$458,017.63
Funds not exceeding $1,000.00 for each ward, administered by Clerk	70,886.93
Non-support payments paid in past fiscal year	30,864.00
Civil judgments collected in past fiscal year	550,611.49

REGISTER OF DEEDS

The Register of Deeds is elected by the people for a four-year term. If a vacancy occurs, the County Commissioners may appoint a successor to fill out the unexpired term.

Since the formation of Surry County in 1770, the duties of the Register of Deeds have become increasingly numerous and varied. The responsibility of the office has become more important with the increased amount of documents to be recorded. A fee is charged for some of these services, and the money is paid into the County Treasury.

All deeds, deeds of trust, chattel mortgages, conditional sales contracts, leases, releases, agreements, contracts, powers of attorney, options, substitution of trustee, deeds of separation, right of way agreements, State Highway Commission plans, memorandums, partnerships, articles of incorporation, plats and maps must be probated, filed, recorded and indexed in the Register of Deeds office.

The Register of Deeds is resonsible for recording and indexing discharges from the armed services, federal tax liens and discharges, uniform commercial code, birth and death certificates and delayed birth certificates. The Register is responsible for issuing, filing and indexing marriage licenses.

The Register assists the public in checking records in which they are interested and furnishes certified copies of same if requested.



MRS. BERTHA M. SHINAULT

Each deed filed in the County with a consideration of more than $1.00 must bear a state tax stamp. This law become effective January 1, 1968.

All instruments were copies in long hand in bound books up to 1927. From 1927 up to 1951, the records were typed in loose leaf binders. Since 1951 up to date, all records are photographed and filed in loose leaf binders. The indexes are typed. All records are kept in a fire proof vault.

ACTIVITY REPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1967-68

	NUMBER OF RECORDINGS OR FILINGS
Uniform Commercial Code	1666
Miscellaneous	175
Deeds of Trust	1647
Deeds, Leases, Powers of Attorney, Etc.	3094
Marriage License	580
Death Records	585
Birth Records	1880
Discharges from Armed Forces	264
Federal Tax Liens	31
Federal Tax Discharges	32
Articles of Incorporation, Etc.	35
TOTAL NUMBER OF INSTRUMENTS FILED AND RECORDED	**9988**

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

The Surry County Health Department was organized in 1920. Dr. L. L. Williams was the first Health Officer. The staff was then composed of a Health Officer and secretary. The following year a nurse was added. The office was originally located in the City Hall of Mount Airy. In 1956 a large granite building was purchased jointly by Surry County and the Town of Mount Airy.

The local Health Department is the official health agency of the community. It is an organization of specially trained people, serving the public health needs of the community, preventing illness, and prolonging life of citizens against disease and promoting general health and well-being.

The TB program and Communicable Disease Control are the most well-known services we offer. We are constantly checking by X-ray and TB skin tests for possible cases. Protection from small pox, diphtheria, whooping cough, typhoid, polio and measles has gradually eliminated or lessened these communicable diseases. This program begins with infants and is carried on into the adult years.



HEALTH DIRECTOR DR. ROBERT M. CALDWELL

Maternal Health and Infant Services offer prenatal, obstetrical care, postpartum and infant care and continues with a Family Planning Service, Prescheel and Head Start Clinics and Dietetic instruction as well as general health education information.

Sanitation services to the County are carried out to insure safe standards in public eating places, pure water and effective sewage disposal. Studies of air pollution are done periodically.

All the birth and death certificates are recorded through our office. General statistical information and records of all transactions regarding patients and other services are kept and classified.

The past year has seen our Dental Service grow into a full time program. This offers dental education, check-ups and dental work to school children throughout the County.

In addition to our regular staff, we receive the assistance of seventeen (17) consulting personnel in specialized fields. They are: Nutritionist, Physio-Therapist, Psychiatrist, Internists, Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist, Orthopedist, Family Planning Consultant, TB Consultant, Ob-Gyn. Specialist and four (4) Resident Physicians.

Chronic disease care is covered by our public health nurses plus the services of Home Health Aide. They provide visits and consultations with physicians.

Our regularly scheduled clinics are as follows: (1) Maternal and Infant (Prenatal, Postpartum, Gyn., Family Planning, Pediatric and Child Health), (2) Orthopedic Clinic, (3) Eye Clinic, (4) Chest X-ray (daily clinic and periodic clinics by specialists), (5) Diabetic Screening, and (6) Immunization and V. D. Special Clinics are set up as the need arises.

A regular service is the issuing of health and work cards for food and milk handlers, domestic servants, cosmetologists and barbers.

PICTURES OF SURRY COMMUNITY COLLEGE



SURRY COUNTY Board of Education, from left, Supt. J. Sam J. Sam Gentry, Dr. Joe Folger, J. Ford Cockerham, Chairman Joe A. Pell, Jr., Clinton Mosley, and Cecil Ring.

SURRY COUNTY SCHOOLS

The schools of Surry County are administered by three school administrative units: the Mount Airy Unit with B. H. Tharrington as superintendent. the Elkin unit with N. H. Carpenter as superintendent; and the county unit with J. Sam Gentry as superintendent. Each administrative unit has a separate board of education. (The Surry County Superintendent and Board of Education are shown from left to right: J. Sam Gentry, Superintendent; Board Members: Dr. Joe Folger, J. F. Cockerham, Chairman Joe A. Pell, Jr., C. W. Moseley, and Vice-Chairman Cecil E. Ring.)

There are five modern senior high schools in the county. Three are located in the county system, one in Mount Airy and one in Elkin. There is one junior high school located in Mount Airy. There are seventeen elementary schools in the three units.

The school properties in the county have an estimated value of twelve million dollars. Including current expense, capital outlay and debt service, fifty-seven cents of the ninety-eight cents levy is used for school purposes. In addition, the Elkin unit has a special levy of twenty cents and Mount Airy a special levy of fifteen cents for school operation.

In 1962 the Surry County Board of Commissioners adopted a pay-as-you-go capital outlay program for financing school construction in the three administrative units in the county. This program has made available more than $2,000,000 for school construction in the past five years. This program has resulted in the saving of several hundreds of thousands of dollars in interest costs for the taxpayers and has taken care of the most urgent school building needs on a current basis without the county issuing additional bonds for financing school construction. Under this program new facilities have been constructed in Mount Airy, Elkin, and in the county system at North Surry High School, East Surry High School, Surry Central High School and at Dobson, Copeland, Flat Rock, White Plains, Mountain Park, Franklin, Beulah, and Westfield Elementary Schools.

The total school enrollment in the three units was 12,037 in 1967-68. The teaching and administrative personnel in the three units totaled 550.

All of the schools have modern cafeterias that provide nutritious lunches at nominal cost under the Federal School Lunch Program.

There are 119 buses traveling 4,000 miles each day

transporting 9,000 children daily. All buses are operated by students who are paid according to the federal wage scale for hours driven each month.

The Surry County schools are among the most completely consolidated systems in our State. Beginning in 1959, the establishment of three new consolidated high schools gave the county five modern high schools of sufficient saze to more adequately meet the needs of all the children of the county. All five high schools are fully accredited by the Southern Association of Schools and Colleges. Most of the elementary schools have been recognized by the North Carolina State Department of Public Instruction with an accredited rating.

The high schools of the county offer a variety of courses in language arts, social studies, foreign languages, the sciences, mathematics, business education, homemaking, vocational agriculture, distributive education, industrial cooperative training, trades, and industral arts.

Trained guidance counselors help each student select a curriculum appropriate to his interests and abilities.

Physical fitness occupies an important place in the school curriculum. Special facilities for health and physical education are available at most of the schools.

Under the state-wide North Carolina Driver Education Program 800 Surry County students take a course in driver education each year. The training consists of 30 hours of classroom work given during the school term and six hours of under-the-wheel instruction given during the summer.

Special programs of instruction are provided for the handicapped with the employment of 21 teachers in this area. Three teachers provide special instruction for those handicapped in speech and hearing and eighteen teachers conduct special classes for trainable and educable handicapped children.

The people of Surry County are endeavoring to provide a good educational program for the youth of the county. This is being done at considerable cost to the taxpayers of the county, but it is generally felt that this investment will pay rich dividends in the years ahead. In general, our people feel that when we invest in our most valuable resource—our boys and girls—we are making the wisest investment we can make.

LIBRARIES



MRS. KATHLEEN GILLELAND, LIBRARIAN

The Surry County Library, a part of the Northwestern Regional Library, exists to assist Surry County residents of all ages and any occupation to acquire the new knowledge, skills and outlooks that will enable them to make meaningful contributions to their communities.

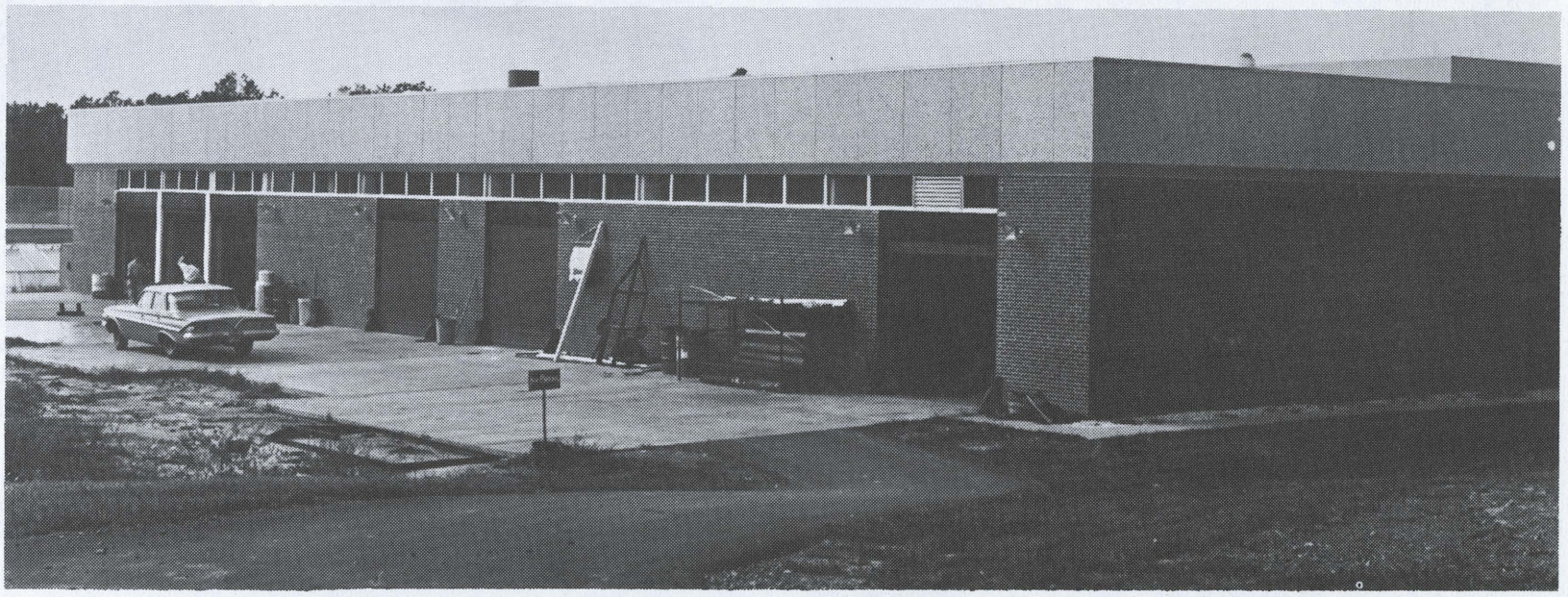
The library system offers books without charge to the residents of Surry County at the Public Libraries in Dobson, Elkin, Mount Airy, Pilot Mountain and on the Bookmobile, which goes to all parts of the County once a month. Some of the services provided are information and reference, books for children, films and phonograph records, periodicals for business and industry and books on local history.

In addition to the services provided through the use of the 107,000 books owned cooperatively by the member libraries of the Northwestern Regional Library, an IN-WATS line to the North Carolina State Library makes it possible for local libraries to provide easy and quick access to the resources of the State Library.

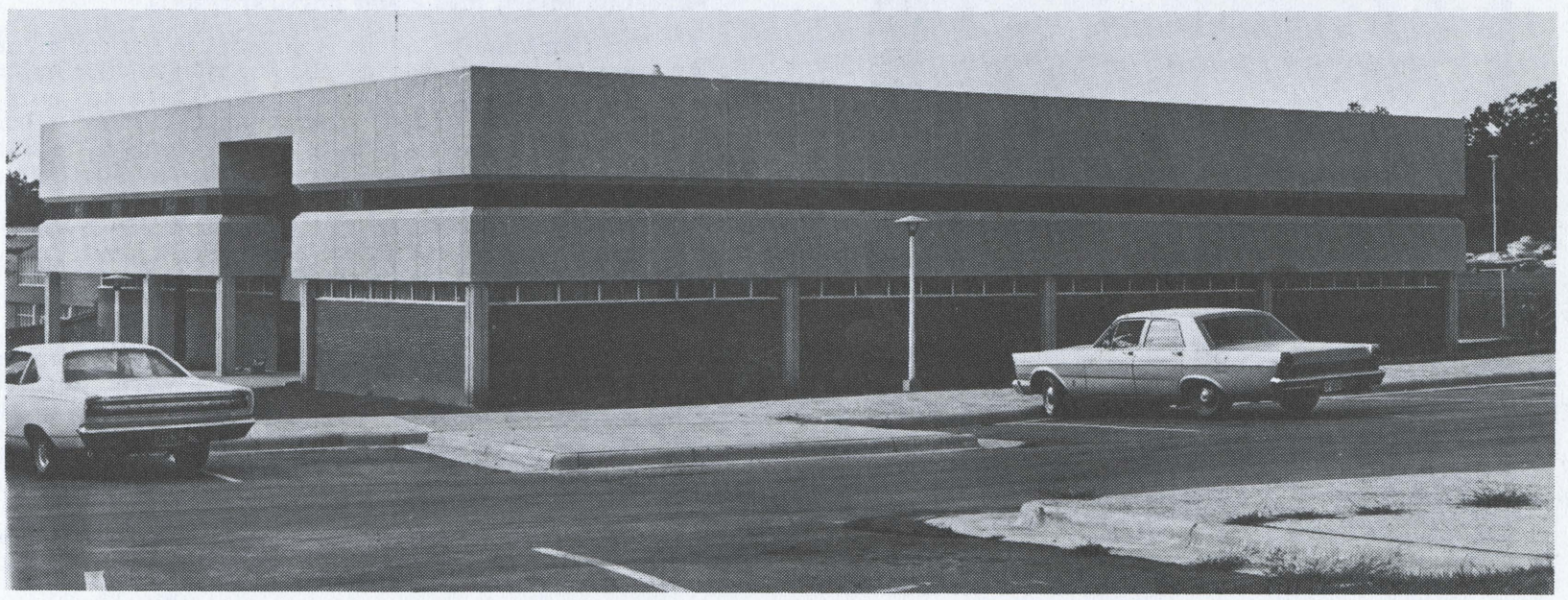
PICTURES OF SURRY COMMUNITY COLLEGE



SURRY COLLEGE BUILDING HOUSES SNACK BAR, AUDITORIUM, SCHOOL OFFICES AND OTHER STUDENT AIDS



SURRY COMMUNITY COLLEGE WORKSHOP PROVIDES VOCATIONAL TRAINING SITE



MAIN CLASS BUILDING ON SURRY COLLEGE CAMPUS

SURRY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Surry County citizens recognized the need for establishing a community college or an institution to provide education beyond the high school level before the General Assembly of North Carolina enacted statutes to establish the community college system in 1963.

Upon completion of a study of the community college concept in 1960, civic organizations and public officials began discussing the possibility of a college for Surry County. By May 1963 interest had reached the point that a county-wide meeting was called to discuss procedural steps for making a formal application. Following the meeting, the Surry County Board of Commissioners and the three Boards of Education endorsed the community college project.

In December 1963 a delegation from Surry County met with the State Board of Education to present the formal application. Following approval of the project application, the Surry County Board of Commissioners sanctioned a proposal for the Community College. In order to begin operations and start a campus, a site near Surry Central High School in Dobson was selected. A bond issue for $500,000 was voted March 21, 1964, as well as a .04 rate to provide funds for current operations. The State allocated $500,000 for construction of a campus which began in 1966. In addition, a federal grant of $674,672 was made to carry on construction. By 1967 the college investment totaled $1,709,025.

The College is sponsored by Surry County. As a comprehensive Community College, it serves the needs of high school graduates and adults, 18 years or older in providing educational opportunities which include basic education, vocational, technical and two-year college training.



SCC PRESIDENT I. JOHN KREPICK



STUDENTS CHECK SURRY CATALOG IN LOBBY OF SCHOOL'S BUILDING

The Academic program: Complete two years toward a four-year degree. Transferable credits. Students study for entrance into law, science, teaching, engineering, government, social work, art, mathematics and other fields.

The Technical Program: Prepares in one or two years for immediate employment in: drafting, design, secretarial, business management, accounting, automotive mechanics, electronics, electrical, welding and other fields.

Adult Education: Provides programs to make up deficiencies, upgrade skills, self-improvement, continuing education in art, music and physical fitness.

The Community College is an asset to the community. An average student spends about $350-$400 for tuition, lunches, supplies and transportation. There are no dormitory fees. The student lives at home, studies at home and on campus. Surry County dollars circulate in Surry County, thereby improving the economy in this area.

Costs: annual tuition . . . $96 to $126; books and supplies . . . $50. Individual three credit hour rate: $3 per hour. Operating costs are shared as follows: state . . . 65%, local . . . 15% and student . . . 20%.

The governing body consists of twelve trustees. Serving on the charter board in 1964 were: Robert S. Burrus, Robert E. Merritt, Richard G. Chatham, Charles L. Folger, Thomas L. Folger, John P. Frank, Will I. Monday, Roxie B. Roth, Oscar W. Smith, David L. Webb, Howard O. Woltz, Jr. and Robert A. Yarborough.

New members appointed recently are: Robert Lowe, Frank Comer, Foy Clark and W. M. Allen, Jr.

The College President is I. John Krepick.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE

Public Welfare, to aid the poor, was recognized in the adoption of the State Constitution in 1868. It provides a means of meeting this obligation with federal, state and county funds.

The responsibilities and duties of the Department of Public Welfare are defined through law, policies and procedures adopted by the State Department of Public Welfare in compliance with state and federal laws. The three-member Welfare Board serves three-years appointments with one member's term expiring each July 1. Staff members are certified for employment through State Personnel office.

Financial and Non-Financial Assistance directed toward the prevention of need by rendering specific services are functions of the department whose social workers concern themselves with helping people to help themselves.

The Financial Assistance Programs are for those TOO OLD TO WORK, TOO YOUNG TO WORK, and deprived of parental support and TOO DISABLED FOR WORK — Old Age Assistance, Aid to Families with Dependent Children, Aid to the Permanently and Totally Disabled and Aid to the Blind. In the past two years, there has been a steady reduction in the number of persons receiving financial assistance but a decided increase in persons requesting non-financial assistance.

The non-financial services are many and for some services, financial need is not a prerequisite to eligibility. They include: adoptive placements and studies of adoptive applicants; casework services to unmarried mothers, to children in their own homes, in foster homes and child care institutions. Foster Home Program for children is developed through efforts of the department in locating, evaluating and preparing necessary reports as basis for state licensing and providing supervision to foster parents in the care of children. For the aged, supervision is provided for the rest homes and family care homes. Additional services include: certifying eligibility and processing applications for PACE and male Job Corps applicants; admissions to child care institutions including correctional schools, specialized state institutions for the retarded and physically handicapped children; certifying eligibility for Crippled Children's Funds, School Health Funds, Pre-Natal Clinic, Eye Clinics, State Sanatoriums and Cancer Institute and completing referrals for psychological services. Social histories on individuals and families are prepared for Selective Service Boards, various courts, mental hospitals, Alcoholic Rehabilitation Centers and the North Carolina Eugenics Board. Work permits are issued for minors, and non-support payments are received and disbursed.



CARL BRITTAIN

The Food Stamp Program, for which the department is the certification unit, is the most recently adopted program.

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

The Sheriff's Deparment is a vital part of maintaining law and order in Surry County. The department is staffed with a sheriff, chief deputy, six regular deputies, secretary, and a jailer and his wife.

Duties of the department are varied. Deputies serve civil and criminal papers such as: summonses, warrants, subpoenas, capiases, commitment papers, and special court orders. Transporting prisoners, mental patients, and inebriates to institutes for confinement or treament; directing traffic for funerals and other public gatherings; attending fairs, sports events, and other gatherings are some of the other duties of the department.

Officers are able to respond quickly and efficiently to complaints and trouble reports by means of the two-way radio. Calls received by the secretary or deputy in the office are relayed to the men on duty for prompt action.

The department remains in close contact with other departments in law enforcement such as: The State Highway Patrol, Police Department, the F.B.I., S.B.I., and ATTD Agents, in order to render any help or assistance needed.

The County Jail is a direct responsibility of the Sheriff. The jail is staffed with a jailer and a matron who are appointed by the Sheriff.



SHERIFF JIM TAYLOR

CORONER

The Coroner is elected to serve a four-year term. Although the Coroner is in many respects concerned with enforcement of the criminal laws, he is not an enforcement officer in the general sense. He is more properly called an investigative officer with certain judicial powers. The principal powers and duties of the Coroner with respect to law enforcement arises when an unattended death within the County is reported to him. It then becomes his responsibility to make a preliminary investigation for the purposes of determining whether or not the death may have resulted under suspicious circumstances and holding an inquest, if necessary, with a six-man jury to ascertain the cause of death.

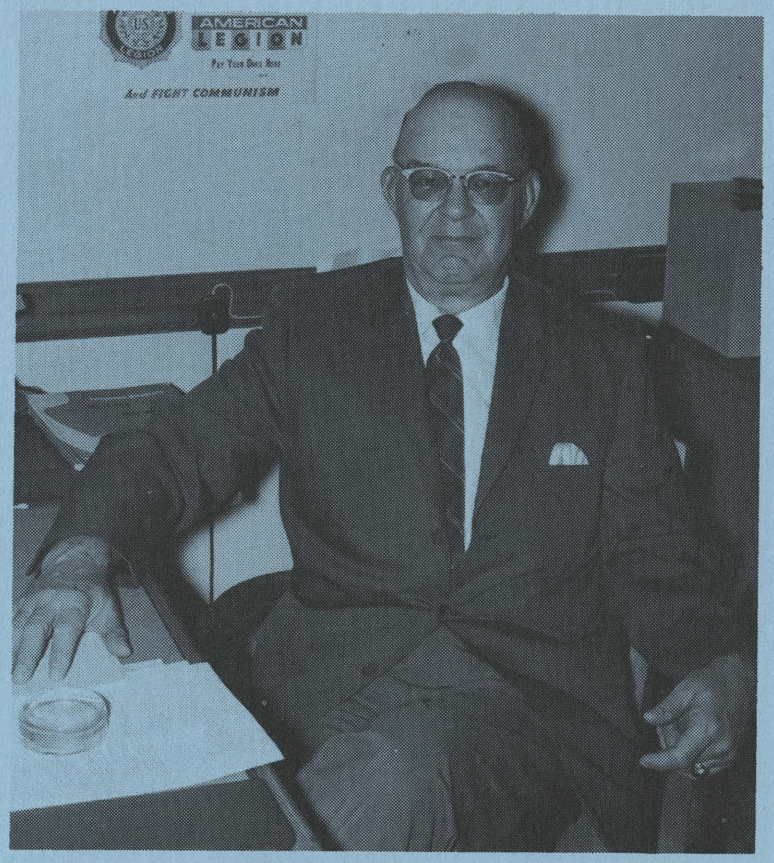
VETERANS' SERVICE OFFICER

The Veterans Service Office is part of a nation-wide network of centers providing information to veterans. The Veterans' Service Program developed following World War II to assist veterans, their families and their dependents in processing, presenting and establishing claims and obtaining benefits to which they are entitled under federal, state and local laws.

The Veterans' Service Program provides information on benefits to disabled veterans including compensation, pensions, vocational rehabilitation, hospitalization, death pensions for survivors and other benefits. It supplies information on educational benefits including college education, technical training and apprenticeship training.

It advises veterans on their preference in obtaining jobs in government, particularly in connection with civil service and merit system examinations. It advises veterans on procedures for obtaining loans for buying or building homes and farms. It answers questions about government insurance, re-employment compensation, rights to government hospitalization, education benefits for children and other benefits under state and federal laws and regulations.

The North Carolina Department of Veterans Affairs and the Veterans Administration provide the County Veterans' Service Officer with up-to-date information on claims and benefits. The State also participates in the cost of the County office.



ROBERT A. FREEMAN JR.

SOME OF THE SERVICES RENDERED DURING 1967

	No. Persons Receiving Assistance
Education — college, technical school and on-the-job training	367
Hospitalization — for treatment and operations	204
Compensation and Pensions — for veterans and their dependents	2077
Employment — help secure jobs	237
Scholarships for children and disabled veterans — Value $50,000	6

Benefits received from the Veterans Administration for the year 1967 by Surry County veterans and their dependents was $1,638,432.00. This does not include the value of hospitalization and out-patient treatment.

The Service Officer drove 16,892 miles during the year in the performance of his duties.

DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES



EMERGENCY SERVICES DIRECTOR ROY KANE

The office of Civil Defense Director was established in Surry County in 1957. The Civil Defense Director prepared an operational Survival Plan which is to be the guide for emergency operation in the event of a disaster in the County. This plan includes operating procedure for all governmental agencies or services and also includes operating procedure for such other agencies within the County who will supply and support the governmental agencies. At the time of the establishment of the Civil Defense Program, the extent of emergency services in the County was one rescue squad, the ambulance service as furnished by the funeral services and the municipal fire departments. A county-wide police or fire communications system did not exist at this time.

In 1967 the office of Director of Emergency Services was established. The office of the Director of Emergency Services is responsible for the functions previously performed by the Director of Civil Defense and the County Fire Marshal. In the event of a disaster, either man-made, natural or enemy caused, the Director would be responsible for the coordination of all emergency services. Normally, the duties assigned to the Civil Defense and the Fire Marshal's office are performed by the office of Director of Emergency Services.

To date in Surry County we have three rescue squads, adequate ambulance service furnished by private funeral directors, a communications system linking all police agencies within the County, a fire and rescue radio system and a good training program for the emergency services.

RURAL FIRE PROTECTION

Organized fire protection was one of the earliest activities of cities and towns; however, fire protection in rural areas is a relatively new activity. The organized rural fire protection districts have many advantages over the volunteer fire departments of years gone by. Perhaps most important for the individual property owner is that his property is protected where he previously has had little or no protection. Also property in the district is entitled to fire insurance rate reductions once a department operating in the district is approved by the North Carolina Fire Insurance Rating Bureau.

In 1965 a County Fire Marshal was appointed. The duties of the Fire Marshal are to coordinate the plans and training of the fire departments, to make inspections of the fire departments as required, to investigate fires as to origin and cause, to assist in the organization of new fire departments and to make inspections of schools. The Fire Marshal has assisted in the organization of nine (9) new departments and two (2) new rescue squads. To date in Surry County we have thirteen (13) fire departments.



MEMBERS OF VOLUNTEER fire departments, rescue squads, and law enforcement agencies comb the wreckage of a general store and service station at Level Cross after a series of explosions and a fire claimed two lives.

SURRY COUNTY ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR



BRUCE GWYN

In September 1959 the Surry County Board of Commissioners recognized the need for an electrical inspection system and created the office of an electrical inspector.

The Inspector is appointed by the Board of County Commissioners who provide for him the instruments necessary for him to properly make electrical inspections; and before beginning his duties, he must be approved and certified by the State Insurance Department. It shall be the duty of the Electrical Inspector to enforce all state and local laws governing electrical installations and materials. The Inspector is required to make a monthly report of all inspections made and fees collected. One copy is sent to the County and one copy is sent to the North Carolina Insurance Department.

The duties and responsibilities of an electrical inspector are many and highly technical; however, the purpose for the inspection system is for safeguarding life and property and to regulate and provide for the inspection of the electrical wiring, devices, appliances and equipment.

Surry County is served by one full time Inspector who works all the areas east of Mitchell River with the exception of the city of Mount Airy and the town of Pilot Mountain. West of Mitchell River is served by a part time Inspector who serves at the will of the Board of County Commissioners.

DOG AND RABIES CONTROL

The dog warden law was promoted by livestock interest; but soon after its passage, local health departments and the State Board of Health realized that it could be used effectively to provide one of the most important instruments of rabies control.

Dog and Rabies Control in Surry County is carried out by the Dog Warden and his assistant. They are employed by the County and supervised by the Health Department. They are primarily concerned with eliminating stray or wild dogs and protecting the citizens and livestock from rabid animals. They arrange and carry out an extensive program to see that dogs are registered, licensed and vaccinated.



MALO REECE (LEFT) ASSISTANT, AND DOG WARDEN TAFT W. MOSER

SURRY COUNTY PLANNING BOARD

Planning for the Future Growth of Surry County

Members of Surry County Planning Board

Kester Sink, Chairman; Fred Norman, Vice-Chairman; Tom Lewis, Thurmond Miller, Earlie Gilley, John C. W. Gardner, Hugh Atkinson.

Planning, as a formal part of county government, is a relatively recent idea. In the past many towns and communities have allowed land to develop in a haphazard manner. The principal way available to citizens for guiding the growth of their community toward desired ends is the use of the Planning-Zoning process. More and more people are doing this through their local governing bodies aided by the county planning board.

Planning and zoning boards have been established for the towns of Dobson, Elkin, Mount Airy, and the County. The County Board is appointed by the County Commissioners. Public hearings at which all interested citizens may appear and be heard are required before proposed plans and zoning regulations, or changes in them, can be officially adopted. Appeal procedures and other safeguards are provided by law. Effective planning and zoning depends on the sustained interest and support of the county's citizens. The County has zoning and sub-division regulations. Besides the town, the Mount Airy Fringe Area has a zoning ordinance. All new subdivisions are required to meet set standards.

A comprehensive Water and Sewer Study has been developed for the County.

Watershed improvements have been planned for Stewarts and Lovills Creeks. Fisher River is being studied for future improvement.

ZONING ORDINANCE OF MOUNT AIRY FRINGE AREA

Adopted July 6, 1964

An Ordinance regulating the uses of buildings, structures and land for trade, industry, commerce, residence, recreation, public activities or other purposes, the size of yards, courts, and other open spaces, the location, height, bulk, number of stories and size of buildings and other structures, the density and distribution of population, creating districts for said purposes and establishing the boundaries thereof; defining certain terms used herein; providing for the method of administration, amendment and enforcement, providing penalties for violation, providing for a Board of Adjustment and defining the duties and powers of said Board; repealing conflicting ordinances and for other purposes.

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE



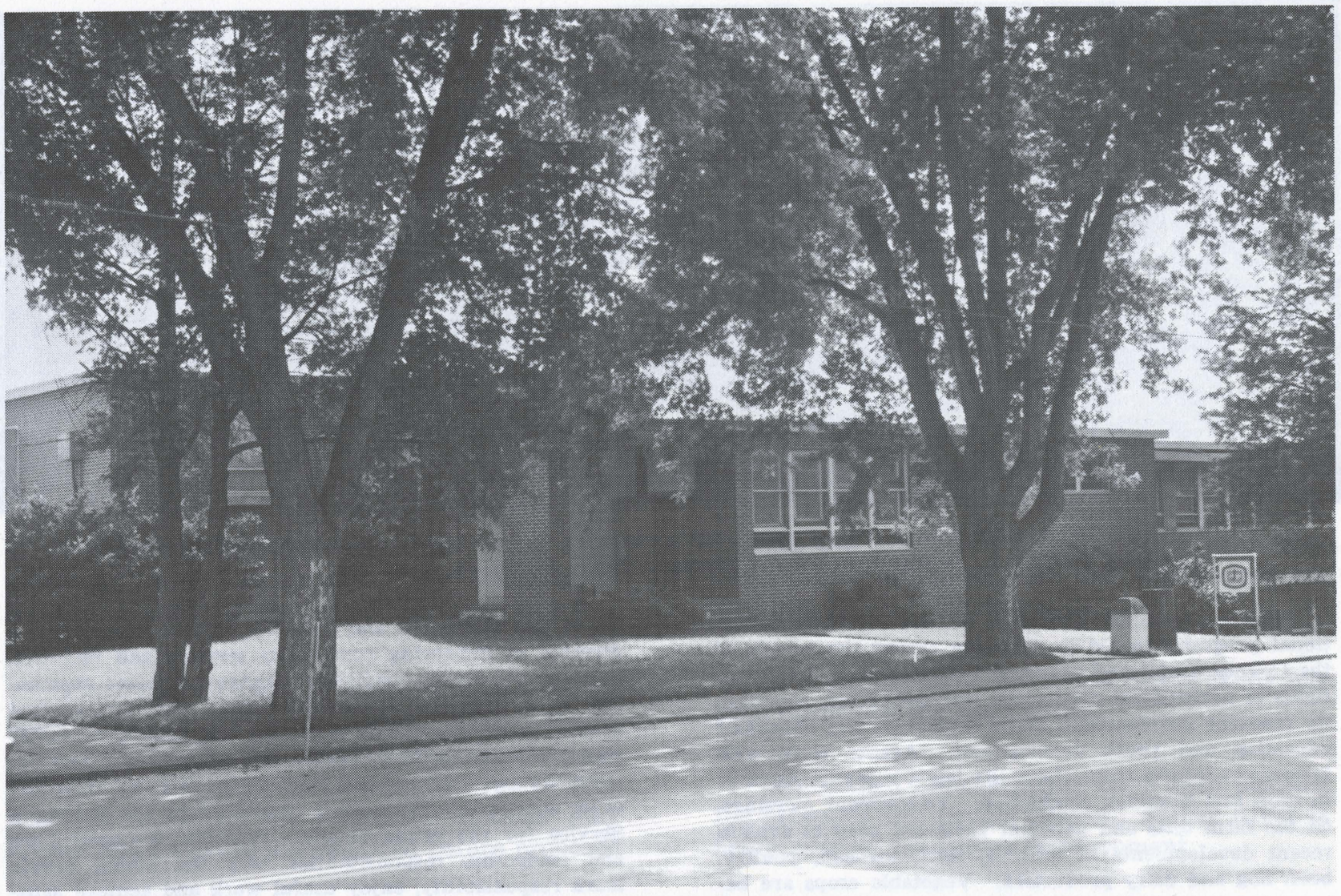
EXTENSION AGENT Sam J. Young points out advantages of new tobacco chemicals to Extension Chairman Charles C. Jackson and County Manager Vance Thompson.

The Agricultural Extension Service conducts educational programs to aid in diffusing among the people of the County useful and practical information in the broad fields of agricultural production and marketing, community resource development, home economics and consumer education and youth development. Agents work with farmers to inform them about the latest research findings in crop and livestock production. Educational meetings, on the farm tests and personal visits are used to explain recent developments in tobacco, corn, soybean, poultry, beef, hog and dairy production. Vegetable crops are being tried to appraise their value to the County. Community Development work is conducted by the agents, and the County belongs to an eleven-county Northwest North Carolina Area Development Association dedicated to improvements in agriculture, community development, travel and recreation and industry. These programs are directed at improving community services and facilities, cultural and living conditions. Extension home economists work through homemaker clubs and unorganized groups to explain family nutrition and health, consumer education, management, family economics, child development, human relations and housing. 4-H Club work and other special interest work is conducted by the Extension Service for the young people. Projects, demonstrations and leadership responsibilities help the young people learn responsibility, enjoy useful work and achieve satisfaction by doing. These educational programs are developed by the County Extension Advisory Board and are jointly financed by the County, State and Federal governments.



MRS. WENDELL PHILLIPS, one of many women and men who produce poultry in Surry County, gathers hatching eggs for use in the county's broiler industry. Broilers and hatching eggs furnish the county's second largest farm income source. Extension Agents assist in promoting the growing poultry industry.

AGRICULTURE BUILDING



AGRICULTURE OFFICE BUILDING

The Agriculture Building houses the Agricultural Extension Service, Soil Conservation Service, Agricultural Stabilization & Conservation Service, Farmers Home Administration and North Carolina Forest Service. Many groups use the auditorium for meetings.

The Soil Conservation Service provides technical assistance through local soil conservation districts for planning special uses of land and technical and financial assistance in carrying out watershed projects for flood and siltation prevention; water supply for agricultural, municipal, industrial, recreational, and fish and wildlife purposes and land-use adjustment. The County provides a secretary for the district.

The Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service provides financial and secures technical assistance for soil, water and woodland conservation projects involving both individual farm and community activities. It also aids through loans, price support of tobacco and adjustments in the development and encouragement of efficient and profitable farm operations.

The Farmers Home Administration makes loans to those unable to borrow from private sources of credit on reasonable terms. Its program includes farm operating loans; farm ownership loans; loans to individuals and associations, including public agencies, for water and land development; loans to local organizations to help finance small watershed projects; rural housing loans and emergency loans to farmers hard hit by natural disasters. County supervisors assist farm families receiving credit in preparing a farm and home plan and provide on-farm assistance in managing family resources.

The North Carolina Forest Service provides forest fire control and forest management services including delivery of tree seedlings.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS



ELECTION BOARD, LEFT TO RIGHT, JOE WATTS, EDWARD SWANSON, JAMES BOOKER

The problems of a Democracy concern every person in our land. They concern every voter as well as those who do not vote; for, in a Democracy, every citizen is in a position of responsibility; and in the final analysis, the kind of government we have depends upon how we fulfill those responsibilities. Finally, we will get the kind of leadership, be it good or bad, that we demand and deserve.

The voting process in Surry County is administered by the Surry County Board of Elections. The Board consists of three members who serve for a term of two years and who are nominated by their respective political parties. The Board chooses its own chairman at its first meeting following the oath of office ceremony as required by law. The present members of the Surry County Board of Elections are: Joseph Watts, Elkin, Democratic member; James Booker, Elkin, Republican member; and, Edward N. Swanson, Pilot Mountain, Democratic chairman.

The Board of Elections works to maintain competent registrars and assistants, seeks to implement effective election procedures and strives to make the act of voting as convenient as possible for every individual. Surry County has in 1968 completed a new registration of all voters in the County. This is the first such registration by the County since the framework of North Carolina's elections laws was constructed in 1901. The purpose of the new registration was to enable the County to adopt a uniform registration procedure which would permit any citizen in the County to determine who is and who is not a registered voter. The new registration used in conjunction with the loose-leaf registration system has reduced the amount of time required for each voter to actually receive and cast his or her ballot in a primary or general election.

Your Board of Elections office is located in the courthouse in Dobson. The office hours are from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.

Always remember! Good government depends upon you. Your Election Board office is open to serve you. If you have a question concerning registration procedures, absentee voting or any election matter, you may call the Election Board office and receive assistance from Mrs. Margie P. Folger, Secretary to the Board; or you may contact the Chairman or any member of the Board of Elections.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS



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The problems of a Democracy concern every person in our land. They concern every voter as well as those who do not vote; for, in a Democracy, every citizen is in a position of responsibility; and in the final analysis, the kind of government we have depends upon how we fulfill those responsibilities. Finally, we will get the kind of leadership, be it good or bad, that we demand and deserve.

The voting process in Surry County is administered by the Surry County Board of Elections. The Board consists of three members who serve for a term of two years and who are nominated by their respective political parties. The Board chooses its own chairman at its first meeting following the oath of office ceremony as required by law. The present members of the Surry County Board of Elections are: Joseph Watts, Elkin, Democratic member; James Booker, Elkin, Republican member; and, Edward N. Swanson, Pilot Mountain, Democratic chairman.

The Board of Elections works to maintain competent registrars and assistants, seeks to implement effective election procedures and strives to make the act of voting as convenient as possible for every individual. Surry County has in 1968 completed a new registration of all voters in the County. This is the first such registration by the County since the framework of North Carolina's elections laws was constructed in 1901. The purpose of the new registration was to enable the County to adopt a uniform registration procedure which would permit any citizen in the County to determine who is and who is not a registered voter. The new registration used in conjunction with the loose-leaf registration system has reduced the amount of time required for each voter to actually receive and cast his or her ballot in a primary or general election.

Your Board of Elections office is located in the courthouse in Dobson. The office hours are from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.

Always remember! Good government depends upon you. Your Election Board office is open to serve you. If you have a question concerning registration procedures, absentee voting or any election matter, you may call the Election Board office and receive assistance from Mrs. Margie P. Folger, Secretary to the Board; or you may contact the Chairman or any member of the Board of Elections.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Many of the activities of the County are administered by dependent and independent boards and commissions. The boards and commissions are usually governed by North Carolina law. However, the Commissioners do have authority, in most cases, over the appropriations beyond the minimum support required by law. As a result, the activities are dependent on good cooperation between boards and officials and the Board of County Commissioners.

THE BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

THE BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
(elective)

WELFARE BOARD
(appointed)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
NORTHERN SURRY HOSPITAL
(appointed)

HEALTH BOARD
(appointed)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
SURRY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
(appointed)

BOARD OF ELECTIONS
(appointed)

MOUNT AIRY — SURRY COUNTY
AIRPORT COMMISSIONS
(appointed)

SURRY COUNTY WATERSHED
IMPROVEMENT COMMISSION
(appointed)

FIRE DISTRICT COMMISSIONS
(appointed)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
NORTHWESTERN REGIONAL LIBRARY
(appointed)

PLANNING BOARD
(appointed)

SURRY COUNTY LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
(appointed)

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION AND REVIEW
(appointed)

SURRY COUNTY BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS
FOR THE MOUNT AIRY FRINGE AREA
(appointed)

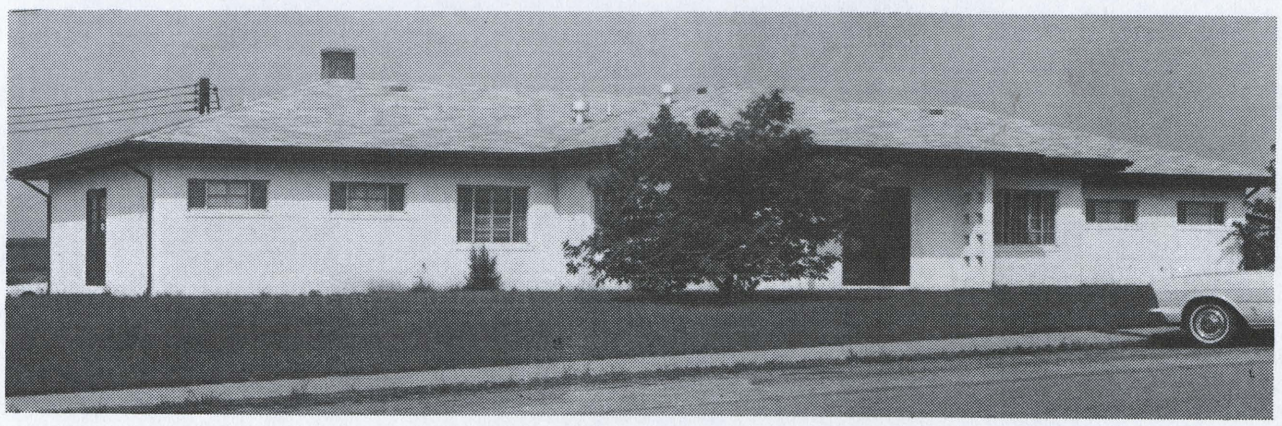
SURRY COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD
(elective)



SURRY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT BUILDING



SURRY COUNTY JAIL AT DOBSON



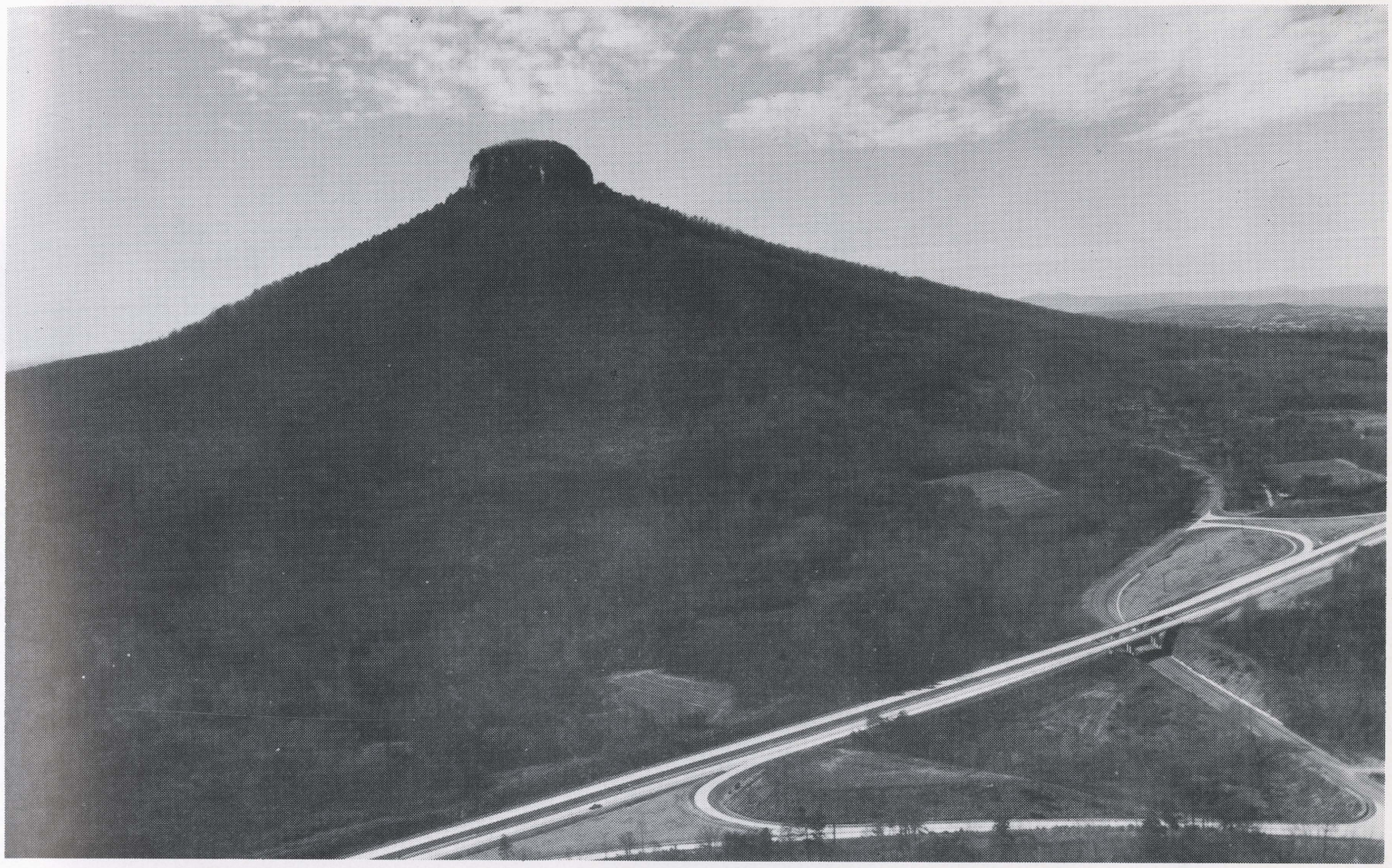
SURRY COUNTY WELFARE BUILDING

IN CONCLUSION

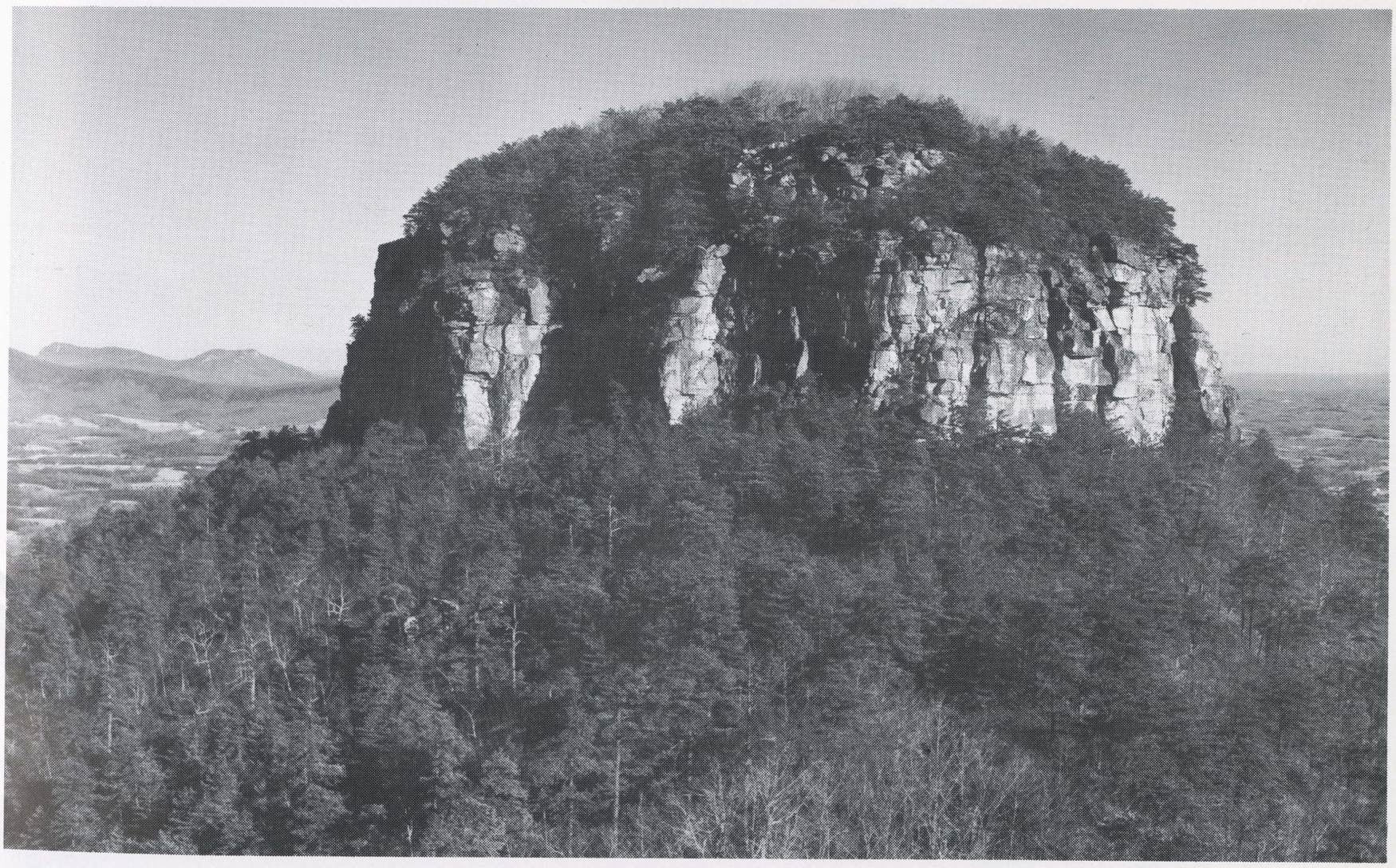
The material presented in this booklet has been prepared for your information. We hope you have found it helpful and informative. We do not pretend that we have covered all phases and functions of the county government in this book; however, we believe that we have emphasized some of the more important duties and responsibilities of county government. Space would not permit a more detailed account of the operations and functions of your county government. More details on any particular function of county government are available upon request.

There have been many changes in our county government in the last quarter of a century, and this period must be considered a period of progress in the field of county government. There have been new and additional services added; yet, Surry County is in the best financial condition that it has been in modern times. Functionally, the County is of greater importance today than a generation ago; and expansion of its service provided by its government appears likely to continue. The challenge that our generation faces can be successfully met only by uniting the resources of our people to permit progress in responsible democratic political action. In the trying times that now exist, no thoughtful citizen can remain idly on the sidelines. A successful county government must have qualified administrators, and it also must have the interest and support of its citizenry.

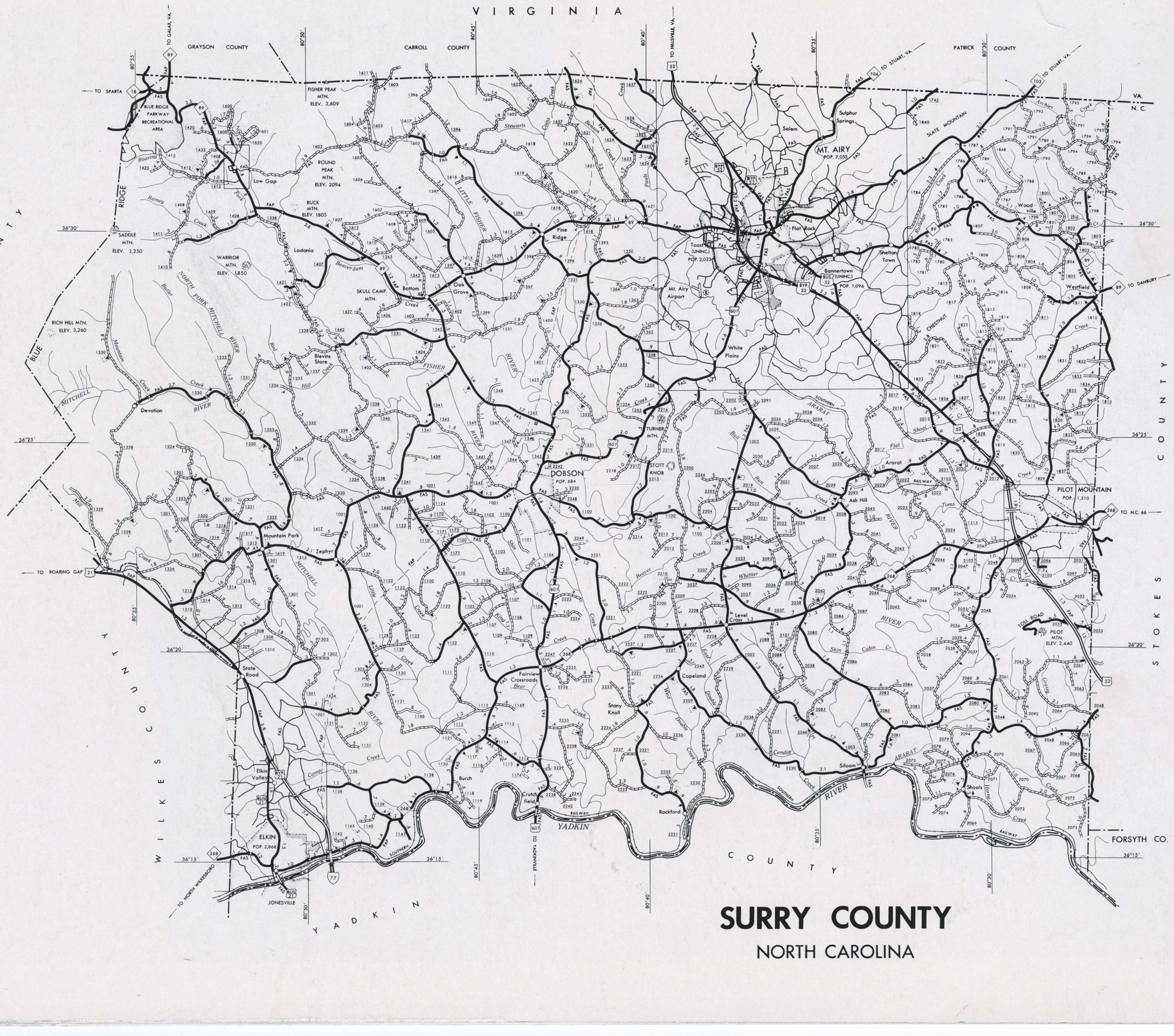
00001.099 Surry



PILOT MOUNTAIN STATE PARK LOCATED IN SOUTHEAST PART OF SURRY COUNTY



FAMOUS PINNACLE LOCATED ATOP PILOT MOUNTAIN, PILOT MOUNTAIN STATE PARK



SURRY COUNTY

NORTH CAROLINA