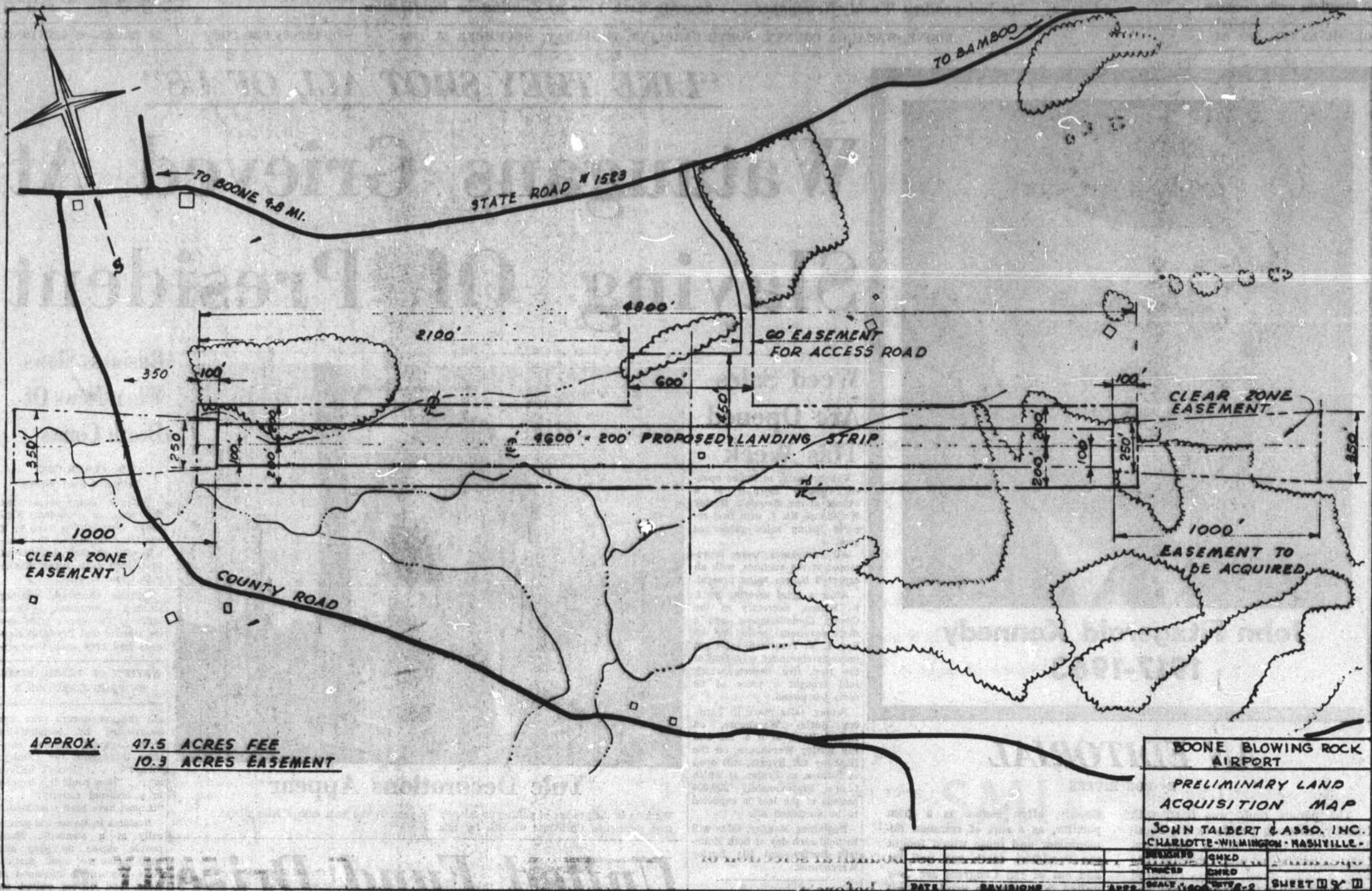


# Map Of Proposed Boone-Blowing Rock Airport Site



—Map from Winston-Salem Journal

## Carolina's Growth To Reach 5,500,000 By 1980; Mountain Counties May Lose

Raleigh — North Carolina's population will exceed five and one-half million by 1980 if present trends continue.

Approximately two-thirds of the predicted gain of 99,764 by 1980 in population over the official census of 4,566,155 in 1960 will occur in four counties—Mecklenburg, Guilford, Forsyth and Wake.

Net gains in population by 1980 are predicted for 52 of the State's 100 counties, with losses indicated for the remaining 48.

Most of the increase of almost a million persons by 1980 is indicated in the urban Piedmont

counties. Heavy population losses are predicted for some rural eastern and mountain counties, with Warren County suffering a 37 per cent loss. Madison, Yancey and Hyde are also predicted to sustain heavy losses in population by 1980 as compared with that of 1960. Watauga, with a 1960 population of 17,529, is expected to have 15,270 in 1980 by the forecasters.

These figures and predictions are taken from a major study recently completed by demographers Josef (cq) Perry, formerly with the Division of Community

Planning of the State Department of Conservation and Development, and Dr. C. Bruce Hamilton, a member of the faculty of North Carolina State, at the University of North Carolina at Raleigh.

Known as "1980 Population Projections for North Carolina Counties," the study contains a detailed projection for each county by age, race and sex for 1970 and 1980 as well as the official 1960 census.

Commenting on the report, Director Robert L. Stallings, Jr., of the Department of Conservation and Development, said:

"Calculations in this study are based on present known trends which can be favorably changed and are being favorably changed by local and State efforts to provide more job opportunities."

The authors said they devised a program for high-speed computer analysis of population trends to make projections for ten-year periods. They said the projections are precise statistical results of a continuation of past and present age-specific net trends in births, deaths, and migration.

The 230-page report is now

available at \$3 per copy from the Division of Community Planning, State Department of Conservation and Development, Raleigh.

The authors said the projections also reveal changes in the structure of the future population of North Carolina.

Mecklenburg County, which had a 1960 population of 272,111, is expected to have a 1980 population of 512,242. Guilford's 1960 population is predicted to be 407,024 as compared with 246,520 in 1960. Forsyth is predicted to have a 1980 population of 315,205 as compared with 189,428 in 1960. Wake County's projected gain to 289,421 in 1980 is more than 100,000 over that of its 1960 census of 189,082.

By 1980, the projections show, there will be 2,066,449 white males, 2,180,924 white females, 623,218 nonwhite males, and 677,328 nonwhite females comprising the State's population.

A 74 per cent increase is predicted in North Carolina's senior citizens, ages 65 and over, by 1980 as compared with the number in 1960.

By 1970, the projections show, there will be 183,000 more young adults, ages 15 to 24, than there were in 1960, indicating State needs for larger increases both in jobs and in college capacities within a few years, the authors said.

The "baby boom," which followed World War II, has already leveled off, the authors point out, adding the number of children under 15 will scarcely increase until after 1970.

Dr. Hamilton and Perry said the continued effects of out-migration of young adults from the State are apparent in projections of absolute losses in adults, ages 39-49, particularly among nonwhites and in predominantly rural areas. By race, the projected 1960-1980 State rate of population increases for whites of 25 per cent is more than double the 12 per cent predicted for nonwhites.

George J. Monaghan, administrator of the Division of Community Planning, said the age projections in the Hamilton-Perry study are particularly important in planning school and college facilities, recreational and social services, public welfare and health services, in estimating the potential labor supply for new industries and businesses, and in evaluating the future market potential for products whose need

## Wataugans Grieved At Slaying Of President

(Continued from page one)

escape. A reporter noticed several cars parked alongside the highway, their drivers apparently overcome momentarily with grief.

Non-sequiter comments never ceased to fill the air. "I'm all a-tremble" . . . "What will happen to us now?" . . . "We're all responsible—God help us" . . . "Will they ever catch the man who did it?"

The report also contains tables showing population projections by age, race and sex for 1970 and 1980 for the United States, North Carolina, the State's metropolitan counties, 11 designated economic areas within North Carolina, and for each of its 100 counties.

Farmers voiced their fears that tobacco prices would plummet in the sales scheduled to begin Monday. But tobacco prices almost seemed to be of minor concern to them at the time, in the wake of the President's death.

Then the news came that Dallas police were holding a suspect in the assassination. Anger was evident in the exclamations at this news: "He should burn" . . . "They should hang him up and torture him" . . . "They should put his picture in all the papers and then turn him loose—that would be the worst punishment."

But the anger soon subsided somewhat as the first effects of shock and disbelief wore off, to be replaced by a terrible sense of loss. People remained glued to radio or TV sets, attempting to absorb the reality of what had happened in Dallas.

By five p. m., the county appeared deserted. One unidentified man, when asked to voice his reactions, seemed to sum

up the feelings of county people when he said: "I liked him because he was a great man, not just a politician or a President. I don't know what'll happen to us now. It's like they shot all of us."

How did Mrs. Greer reach her great age? "I reckon by working just as hard as I can, and leaving off the medicine that most folks take," she says. Mrs. Greer takes no medicine, and has never been a patient at a hospital.

"I've done almost any kind of work that women or men do," Mrs. Greer says, and then goes on to recount the varied types of farm work that she has done, from cutting tobacco to shearing sheep.

Does she plan a special celebration for her hundredth birthday? "Margie does," she laughs. "I don't." The celebration is to be held at Rutherford Baptist Church, where Mrs. Greer is a member, and will be attended by many members of her family, which is considerable.

Mrs. Greer claims four generations of descendants, making up 63 people all told. She has had six children, three of which are still living; in addition to Mrs. Michael, there is Joe Greer, 79, of Caldwell County, and Raleigh Greer, 76, of Deep Gap.

## C. Of C. Board Meets Tuesday

The Board of Directors of the Boone Chamber of Commerce and Merchants Association meets Tuesday, December 3, at 12 noon at the Daniel Boone Hotel.

This is a most important meeting, according to Herman W. Wilcox, President of the Chamber of Commerce and Merchants Association. Many matters will be discussed, among them Christmas Holiday closing and remaining open hours.

Mrs. Greer also has 24 grandchildren, 25 great-grandchildren, and 11 great-great-grandchildren, many of whom will attend her birthday celebration.

Mrs. Greer has been offered her first airplane ride, free of charge, for her hundredth birthday, but she thinks she will decline the offer. "I'm better off on the ground," she says.

## UF Drive Opens

(Continued from page one)

in the county)—\$350.

Expenses and Contingency Fund—\$1,000.

Total \$14,520.55.

For the past several years, Watauga County has been 100 percent successful in meeting its budget goals for the UF Appeal.

Committeemen for this year's drive include:

Advance Gifts Division—J. M. Greer and Stanley A. Harris, Co-Chairmen; Maj. J. H. Thomas, A. J. Adams, Sam Dixon, Phil Vance, Dennis Greene, E. F. Coe.

Industry Division—Fred Gragg, chairman; Clyde R. Greene, Hal Johnson, R. D. Ray.

College Division—Ned Trivette.

Schools—Guy Angell, John Marsh, James Greene.

State Highway Employees—Tom Winkler.

County Employees, Government Workers, Mail Carriers—J. D. Cook, Roy Isley, Ralph Beshears.

Ministerial Association—Rev. E. F. Troutman, Rev. C. O. Vance, Rev. J. Boyce Brooks.

There is little honesty left in conversation these days.

A foolish idea a day keeps the mind working at least.