

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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

**1. Name**

historic The Caldwell-Cobb-Love House

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number 218 East Congress Street

not for publication

city, town Lincolnton vicinity of

state	North Carolina	code	037	county	Lincoln	code	109
-------	----------------	------	-----	--------	---------	------	-----

**3. Classification**

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

**4. Owner of Property**

name Mr. Thomas J. Wilson, Sr.

street & number Post Office Box 737

city, town Lincolnton vicinity of state N. C. 28092

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Lincoln County Court House

street & number

city, town Lincolnton, North Carolina 28092 state

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Lincoln County Survey Files has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date Ongoing  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Survey and Planning Branch

city, town Raleigh, North Carolina state

## 7. Description

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

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Caldwell-Cobb-Love House is outstanding architecturally because it represents three very distinct periods of construction; a transitional Federal/Greek Revival house built by Dr. Elam Caldwell, ca. 1841; then an extensive reworking in the Victorian Cottage style by Dr. Beverly Cobb, ca. 1877; and a remodeling and expansion by Edgar Love, an industrialist, at the turn of the century.<sup>1</sup> Beverly Cobb's remodeling of the house in the Victorian Cottage style with its three cross gable ells, wall dormers, inset porch, balconies and large two-over-two sash windows dominates its present exterior appearance; however, architectural details from the original construction, ca. 1841,, are important features of the front facade, especially the molded pediments with anthemian cresting above the original window openings and the entrance. Architectural details from the 1841 construction on the east and west elevations include eight six-over-six sash windows with paneled blinds in the original basement which is laid in Flemish bond. A chimney base, laid in Flemish bond on the west side, also dates from the first building. The interior architectural elements surviving the 1841 construction include the pine floors, eight panel doors and their surrounds and mantelpieces. The present house, a one-and-a-half story, L-shaped main block on the original basement with a two-story rear wing and a front and rear inset porch, reflects Cobb's and Love's expansion and remodeling. The house retains the center-hall (now offset), two-room-deep plan of the 1841 house. Originally the house consisted of a two-story main block on a high basement with a rear shed. It had three known, but possibly four, outside chimneys, two each on the east and west sides.<sup>2</sup> Cobb removed all but the base of the west chimney which now supports a balcony and built two inside chimneys. He extended the northeast room north by several feet creating the front ell, built an inset porch on the west end of the front elevation, losered the second story walls, and reworked the roof which has three cross-gable ells and wall dormers. Edgar Love built the three-story rear wing, the rear inset porch, and a porch on the east side, which connected with the front and rear porches, at the turn of the century.<sup>3</sup> John Shuford, who bought the house in 1930, removed much of the Victorian sawnwork and the east porch. He built a shed over the south rear porch, extending the second story rear hallway. The house was unoccupied from the 1970's when Shufford vacated it until 1983 when Thomas Wilson restored it.

The house, facing north on Congress Street, is located on an acre<sup>4</sup> approximately 100' x 239', of land purchased by Caldwell from the Motz estate in 1841. By 1848, Caldwell owned all the land in the city block bounded by Congress Street, Academy Street, Rhodes Street, and Popular Street.<sup>5</sup> The same house and lots, known as the "Caldwell Estate,"<sup>6</sup> were purchased by Cobb in 1877 and then by Edgar Love in 1900. Edgar Love's heirs sold the house and a reduced portion of the house tract to John Shuford in 1930, the same property being nominated. The lot has a large magnolia which is probably contemporary with the house, a thirty-year-old dogwood in the front, and a large ash in the back.

The present house has a one-and-a-half-story main block on the original basement, a two-story projecting gable ell on the rear southwest side, a north front porch and a south rear porch. Each of its elevations has architectural details from the three periods of construction. It is covered with weatherboard, the original type of siding, and a slate roof, both of which probably date from Cobb's time. The north front facade most characterizes the Victorian Cottage style with its cross-gable projecting ell and balcony on the east side, an inset porch extending from the ell to the northwest corner, large picturesque windows, and a gable roof wall dormer in the second story over the porch. A

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only  
received  
date entered

Continuation sheet   Description   Item number   7   Page   1

---

three-part Greek Revival front entrance has a single pane glassed door which is turn of the century, a transom with a beveled glass center pane, and two smaller square panes of glass and sidelights, and rectangular panes of glass on each side. The entrance has deep molded surrounds, a molded pediment cresting with an anthemian and a scalloped edge along the frieze. There are two large two-over-two sash windows with slightly arched heads and blinds on the first floor, one behind a balcony in the northeast gable and another west of the centered front entrance. The window west of the entrance, like the entrance, has a molded pediment cresting with a central anthemian. The balcony has robustly turned balusters and decorative support brackets. It is covered by a projecting hood with a triangular cap. Above the window are a pair of smaller one-over-one casement windows with a simple molded pediment. Centered in the second story wall above the porch and under a gable roof is a single one-over-one sash window with a slightly arched head. The front porch which extends north just beyond the gabled ell has chamfered posts and turned balusters. The wood steps rise at the east end in front of the entrance. In front of the basement there are three panels of lattice work between brick piers under the northeast gabled projection and sheaths of lattice work under the porch.

On the east side, the windows are symmetrically arranged. There are two large two-over-two sash windows with slightly arched heads and original blinds on the first story. Two smaller two-over-two sash wall dormer windows with arched heads and original blinds are set at the top of the elevation. Three six-over-six sash windows with paneled blinds, ca. 1841, remain in the basement wall. There is also lattice work under the front ell and the south rear porch.

The south rear elevation has a two-story-on-basement main block with a dominant east gable end, and a gabled roof wing attached to the west end of the main block. A porch supported by brick piers extends from the southeast corner to the tall ell. An open space under the porch opens into the basement. Over the porch in the second story is a shed room. In the gabled end of the main block there is a large two-over-two sash window with a slightly arched head, a simple molded pediment in the first story, and a pair of casement windows with a molded pediment in the second story. The second story shed over the porch has paired two-over-two sash windows. The gabled wing has a two-over-two sash window in the first and second stories and three modern six-over-nine sash windows side by side in the basement. On the porch, an eight panel door, ca. 1841, opens into the main block and has a simple molded pediment and a ca. 1900 screen door from the east side of the ell onto the porch. The porch, supported by three brick piers, has chamfered posts, simple square balusters and steps that descend southward at the east end. Underneath the porch there is a hinged two-part door, ca. 1841, into the basement.

On the west side, the main block has a dominant north gabled end. The attached rear wing is slightly recessed. The fenestration in the gabled end is the same as that in its pendant gable on the north front ell. The balcony is supported by the base of the 1841 chimney. There are two other windows in the main block, a first-story window, like the first-story window on the east side, and a second-story replacement one-over-one sash window with blinds. There is no wall dormer on this side. In the basement of the

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only  
received  
date entered

Continuation sheet	Description	Item number	Page
		7	2

main block, a modern door just south of the balcony--in an original opening--has four glass panes above three panels. A six-over-six sash window, ca. 1841, is just south of the door. In the attached rear ell, there is a one-over-one sash window with blinds in the first and second stories.

The interior of the house retains the original center hall, offset two-room-deep plan with the addition of one room each on the first, second, and basement level in the rear ell. Some of the 1841 pine floors, eight-panel doors and fluted door surrounds survive throughout the house, especially in the center halls and in the rooms in the original main block. The walls, once plastered, have been sheetrocked, except for those in the second-story closets. The first floor hall has Greek Revival baseboards and the original pine floors. The hall stairway, probably dating from the 1877 remodeling, appears to be in the original position. It rises south to north. It has turned balusters, a shaped handrail, and a robustly turned newel. The front entrance has fluted surrounds which appear to be original. The four doors into the four rooms off the center hall have fluted surrounds on plinths with corner blocks. The original doors into the two back rooms have eight panels. The four-panel doors into the front rooms are late Victorian. The wide four-panel door onto the rear porch has fluted surrounds on plinths with corner blocks. A replacement lock with "M.W. & co." is on the Renaissance Revival plate.

The northeast room, now the living room, was extended north of the main block, ca. 1877. All the dark stained woodwork dates from Cobb's remodeling. The window and door surrounds have plain boards with a fillet inner edge. The tall baseboards have a half round cap. Large windows, two-over-two sash, one each on the north and east walls, rest on a projecting apron which is higher than and in front of the baseboard. Both windows have a sliding screen with a white porcelain knob. The seven-panel door into the southeast room has a stained finish and a white porcelain knob. There is a Renaissance Revival mantel, ca. 1870's, on the south wall. The coal grate is probably ca. 1900.

In the southwest corner bedroom, the Greek Revival baseboard, with its 45 degree angle top molding, survive. Plain board surrounds on the large two-over-two sash window dates from the 1870's. The Federal/Greek Revival eight-panel door to the hall has channeled surrounds and cornerblocks. The door is pegged and the hardware is turn of the century. Closets on either side of the chimney breast are fitted with turn-of-the-century five-panel doors. The replacement flooring near the east wall at the south edge of the window is evidence that there was originally a fireplace, ca. 1841, here.

The interior woodwork in the northwest corner dining room dates from the 1870's. The Greek Revival baseboard is the same as that in the southeast corner room. The doors into the present kitchen and the hall have fluted surrounds with corner blocks. The eight-panel door to the kitchen has a white porcelain center knob and a Renaissance Revival box with a "M.G. & co." lock. The eight-panel door into the hall has replacement hardware and a white porcelain center knob. A late 19th-century closet west of the chimney has a four-panel door. The window treatment on the north and west walls is the same as that in the northeast living room. The mantel is Romanesque Revival

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only  
received  
date entered

**Continuation sheet****Description****Item number****7****Page****3**

with a tablet behind the mantel shelf. The location of the Federal chimney is visible in the replacement flooring in front of the west window. The electric chandelier is turn of the century.

In the southwest corner of the house, the original room and the one in the ell have been renovated as a kitchen/breakfast room. In this southwest room, the upper portion of the south wall has been cut away to form a partition. A modern bathroom has been built in the southeast corner of the room between the door to the hall and the passage to the kitchen in the south wall. The plain 5-inch board window surrounds, the Greek Revival baseboard, and the 1841 pine floors survive here. The window on the west wall is two-over-two sash. The eight-panel door to the hall has replacement hardware. Its channeled surrounds rise to corner blocks. The mantel on the north wall is Greek Revival with channeled pilasters on plinths rising to corner blocks. It has a horizontal frieze and a projecting shelf with a pedimented back band. Replacement flooring near the west wall and just north of the west window indicates an original Federal chimney. The room in the southwest rear ell, once a bathroom, has been renovated as the kitchen. The two two-over-two sash windows, one each on the south and west walls, have plain board surrounds. A seven-panel turn-of-the-century door onto the porch also has plain board surrounds.

There are four bedrooms off the second floor center hall which was expanded southward in the 1930's. The northeast, northwest, and southeast rooms and the north end of the hall have 5-inch pine board flooring, ca. 1841. The southwest bedroom and the south end of the hall have later narrow pine flooring. Original doors into the northeast and the northwest bedrooms have eight panels and the original carpenters locks and knobs. The lock on the northeast room door has a Renaissance Revival box with a patent stamp, "November 18, 1873." The surrounds in the northeast and northwest rooms are vernacular Greek Revival, 6 to 7-inch board. The baseboard is plain with a projecting round edge shelf.

The larger northwest bedroom has a one-over-one sash window on the east wall and a pair of casement windows on the north wall. The window sills and apron rest on the baseboard. The east wall window is fitted with an interior sliding screen. The mantel on the south wall has plinths, capitals, and a shallow triangular back splash.

The woodwork in the southeast bedroom dates from the Victorian expansion. It has plain board surrounds. There is a casement window on the south wall, a sash window on the east wall, and a seven-panel door into the hall. On the west side of the chimney, an eight-panel door, shorter than the other eight-panel doors, opens into a closet. The lock on the door has a patent stamp, "July 31, 1863." The closet has plaster walls except on the north wall, which is tongue and groove and the east wall which has shelves.

On the south wall of the northwest bedroom, the original Greek Revival mantel has channeled pilasters, plinths, and corner blocks and a triangular back band. There are two windows, a large two-over-two sash on the north wall, and a pair of casement windows on the west wall. The eight-panel door to the hall has the original brass plate lock box. The closet west of the fireplace has a turn-of-the-century seven-panel door with a white porcelain knob.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only  
received  
date entered

Continuation sheet   Description   Item number 7   Page 4

---

The southwest bedroom was reworked at the turn of the century with plain board surrounds. It has a one-over-one sash window on the west wall and two seven-panel doors, one with porcelain knobs opening into the hall and one opening into the bathroom in the ell. The mantel in this room is a simple Eastlake style with a shelf above.

The bathroom in the twentieth-century ell has a pair of two-over-two sash windows on the west wall and a one-over-one sash window on the south wall. It is sheathed with tongue-and-groove ceiling. A tub, commode, and sink are intact. A door on the east wall, which once opened onto a landing over the porch, now opens into the expanded south end of the hall.

The basement, including the 1841 block and the southwest rear twentieth-century addition, has concrete floors and plastered walls. The space in the northwest corner was originally used as a kitchen and the northeast corner was a dining room. The basement has no interior partitions. All six-over-six windows in the old block date to the 1840's except for the southern most window, a one-over-one sash which replaces the 1841 chimney. All four windows on the north wall and the northern most windows on the east and west walls have channeled surrounds to the sill. On the east wall, two replacement windows have plain board surrounds. There are three brick fireplaces. One has been fitted with a china cabinet. The ceiling is whitewashed except for the northeast corner where the lath marks are still visible. There are two doors to the outside. The replacement one on the west wall, south of the chimney, has six panes of glass over three panes, an old lock box and plain but original Greek Revival surrounds with corner blocks. The one on the south wall under the porch is a board-and-batten double door which appears to be in its original position. It has tapering battens, long strap hinges, and plain surrounds with corner blocks.

Unique architecturally, the Caldwell-Cobb-Love House evolved from three periods of construction roughly thirty years apart and coinciding with three locally prominent and affluent owners. Nearly one hundred and forty-six years old, it survives as one of Lincolnton's most outstanding examples of nineteenth century architecture.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only  
received  
date entered

Continuation sheet    Description

Item number    7

Page    5

FOOTNOTES

<sup>1</sup> Lincoln County Will Book 2, p. 52; Lincoln County Deed Book 39, p. 322; William L. Sherrill, Annals of Lincoln County, North Carolina (Charlotte: The Observer Printing House, 1937), 124, hereinafter cited as Sherrill, Annals of Lincoln County. It is also possible that Motz built the house shortly before his death around 1840. His will indicates that he and his wife Catherine were living in Lincolnton at the time of his death but is not clear as to the exact location of their residence.

<sup>2</sup> The base of the west side chimney exists. It now supports the balcony on that side. In the northwest, southwest, and southeast rooms on the first floor, there is replacement flooring indicating where the original chimney hearths were located.

<sup>3</sup> A photo of the front of the house, ca. 1930, shows the extended porch and sawnwork.

<sup>4</sup> Lincoln County Register of Deeds, Book 39, page 322.

<sup>5</sup> Property tax list, Lincolnton, N.C., 1848, for Dr. Elam Caldwell, North Carolina Archives and History.

<sup>6</sup> Lincoln County Register of Deeds, Book 49, page 471 and Book 81, page 294.

<sup>7</sup> Lincoln County Register of Deeds, Book 166, page 349.

<sup>8</sup> John Shuford, the fourth owner of the house, said that the kitchen and dining room had been located in the basement until he bought the house in 1930.

## 8. Significance

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

Specific dates	Builder/Architect	Unknown

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Caldwell-Cobb-Love House, a transitional Federal-Greek Revival style dwelling remodeled and overbuilt in an eclectic Victorian fashion, is one of Lincolnton's most important 19th century houses. The strong local prominence of three of its owners--notable in the fields of medicine, law, politics and industry--makes the house one of the county's most important historical properties. The two story plus basement house is thought to have been built in the early 1840s by Dr. Elam Caldwell, a grandson of William Sharpe, a member of the Continental Congress, and Elizabeth (Motz) Caldwell, the granddaughter of the influential German Reformed minister Andrew Loretz. In 1877 the house and its grounds was acquired by Beverly Cobb, a local political leader and state legislator, who remodeled the house in a Victorian cottage style. Following Cobb's death in 1900, the house was acquired by Edgar Love, a prominent political leader, legislator and industrialist who lived here until his death in 1920. For about forty years in this century the house was occupied by John Oscar Shuford, Jr. and his family. After a decade of neglect, the house was acquired and restored by a local attorney, Thomas Wilson, Sr.

### Criteria assessment

- A. The Caldwell-Cobb-Love House is associated with the lives of three of its owners who have enjoyed local and regional prominence in the fields of medicine, law, politics and industry: Dr. Elam Caldwell, a physician who was a member of one of the area's most prominent families and a grandson of William Sharpe, a member of the Continental Congress; Beverly Cobb (1848-1900), a lawyer, legislator, and mayor of Lincolnton (1889); and Edgar Love (1868-1920), an important local industrialist, civic and political leader.
- B. The Caldwell-Cobb-Love House represents two major movements in 19th century architectural history. The original two-story weatherboarded frame house raised on a high Flemish bond brick foundation was a distinguished transitional Federal-Greek Revival house.
- C. In the late 1870s or early 1880s it was remodeled and overbuilt in an elaborate Victorian cottage style. In that remodeling, most of the original interior wood-work, including door and window casings, doors and mantels, was left intact. Although portions of its 1870s period embellishments were removed in an early 20th century remodeling, the house survives today as a remarkable example of the architectural taste of two generations of 19th century Lincolnton residents.

600-100000  
National Register

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 0.55 acre

Quadrangle name Lincolnton, West quadrangle

Quadrangle scale 1:24 000

UTM References

A 

1	7	4	7	6	9	8	0
Zone	Easting	Northing					

B 

Zone	Easting	Northing					

C 


D 


E 


F 


G 


H 


Verbal boundary description and justification

The property included in this nomination is the house lot shown as parcel number 3, Block 11, Lincoln County Tax Map 201.

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

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

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Architectural description, statement of significance and criteria assessment by Cindy Craig and

Davyd Foard Hood: historical research report by Jim Sumner, staff,

organization Division of Archives and History date December 10, 1985

street & number 109 E. Jones St. telephone (919) 733-6545

city or town  state

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

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

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

title	State Historic Preservation Officer	date	December 10, 1985
-------	-------------------------------------	------	-------------------

For NPS use only

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

*Moved in the  
National Register*

date 26-86

*for William S. Pin, Jr.*  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only  
received  
date entered

Continuation sheet Historical Significance

Item number 8

Page 1

The Caldwell-Cobb-Love House is located in the Lincoln County seat of Lincolnton. The house was constructed prior to the Civil War by Dr. Elam Caldwell and has housed a number of important Lincoln County citizens.

The exact construction date of the house is not known. However, it is likely that Dr. Caldwell built the house shortly after his 1840 marriage to Elizabeth Motz and his 1841 purchase of several city lots from the estate of his late father-in-law, John Motz, Sr.<sup>1</sup> Dr. Caldwell, a Lincolnton physician, was a member of one of the area's most prominent families. His maternal grandfather, William Sharpe, was a member of the Continental Congress, the North Carolina Council of Safety, the North Carolina Provincial Congress, and the North Carolina General Assembly. His father, Andrew Caldwell, also served in the General Assembly as did two brothers, David Franklin and Joseph Pearson Caldwell. David F. Caldwell was also a judge while Joseph P. Caldwell served two terms in the United States Congress. Dr. Caldwell's wife was a granddaughter of Andrew Loretz, an influential German Reformed minister in Lincoln County in the latter eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Her father, John Motz, was a Lincolnton businessman.<sup>2</sup>

Elam Caldwell and Elizabeth Motz were married in August of 1840. About one year later they purchased two lots in Lincolnton from the Motz estate for \$120. Lincoln County tax records show that these lots were valued at \$800 in both 1848 and 1851, but in 1856 they were valued at \$1,500, suggesting that Caldwell may have improved the house during this period. The Caldwell's had at least three children, but the house passed out of the family following Dr. Caldwell's death in the mid 1870s.<sup>3</sup> Beverly Cobb purchased the house and seven city lots from the Caldwell estate in 1877 for \$2,500. Cobb greatly remodeled the house in the cottage style.<sup>4</sup>

Cobb (1848-1900) was the son of Joseph C. Cobb and Margaret Butts Cobb. Joseph Cobb was one of Lincolnton's leading merchants. Beverly Cobb was a lawyer and leading political figure in the town. He represented Lincoln County in the North Carolina General Assembly in 1877 and 1879 and was mayor of Lincolnton in 1889. He married Jeannie McBee Justice in the late 1870s. They had no children although she had a daughter, Elizabeth Justice, from an earlier marriage.<sup>5</sup>

Following Cobb's death in 1900, the house again changed families. Edgar Love purchased the house and three lots from the Cobb estate for \$4,000.<sup>6</sup> He enlarged the house, adding bathrooms, porches, and outbuildings.

Edgar Love was important to Lincoln and surrounding counties in a number of areas. He was born in adjacent Gaston County in 1868. He was educated at the University of North Carolina. Love operated a grocery business in Gastonia until 1899 when he moved to Lincolnton, where he and his uncle Daniel Rhyne organized the Daniel Manufacturing Company. The next year he organized the Saxony Mill in Lincolnton. He later became president of Love Cotton Mills in Lincolnton, two Melville Mills in Cherryville, and Avon Mills at Gastonia. He was also one of the organizers of the Southern Yarn Spinners Association.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only  
received  
date entered

Continuation sheet Historical Significance

Item number 8

Page 2

In addition to his business successes, Love was also an important civic and political leader in the area. He was one of the organizers of the First National Bank of Lincolnton and was a member of the city council and board of education. Love served as mayor of Lincolnton from 1907 until 1908 and again from 1915 until 1918. During his first tenure as mayor, Lincolnton received its first electricity, waterworks, and sewer systems. Love served two terms in the North Carolina General Assembly (1916, 1918). At the time of his death in 1920, Love was chairman of the Lincoln County Executive Committee of the Democratic Party and was a member of the party's state executive committee. He was killed October 8, 1920 when the car he was driving was struck by a train at a Gaston County crossing. His funeral was said to have been the largest in Lincoln County history.

Love married Katharine McLean, the daughter of Lincolnton doctor Augustus McLean. She succeeded her husband as a member of the Democratic State Executive Committee following his death and was also active in Lincolnton's cultural life. Their four children were James Franklin; Katharine; Edgar, Jr.; and Mary. J. Franklin became president of Saxony Mills after the death of his father.

In 1930, the Caldwell House was sold to John Oscar Shuford, Jr.<sup>8</sup> He lived in the house with his father, his mother Frances, and a brother and sister. Ironically, John Oscar Shuford, Sr. was an electrical engineer brought to Lincolnton by Edgar Love around 1906 to begin installing electric lights for the city and also for the Love home. The elder Shuford died in 1934. In 1940, the younger Shuford married Ellen White Holland, a Gaston County native. The Shufords lived in the house until around 1970, along with their three children, Charlotte; John, III; and William. John Shuford, Jr. was an antique dealer while his wife was a schoolteacher. The Shufords made only a few modifications in the house, the most notable being the removal of a large porch. The Shufords moved out of the house around 1970 and it has remained unoccupied since. In 1983, they sold the house to Thomas Wilson, Sr. who restored it as a residence for his son Thomas Wilson, Jr.

The Caldwell-Cobb-Love House is one of Lincoln County's most important historical houses due to its association with a number of prominent personages. The Caldwell, Cobb, and Love families were important in medicine, law, politics, industry, business, education, and civic betterment.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only  
received  
date entered

Continuation sheet

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Item number 8

Page

3

NOTES

<sup>1</sup> Lincoln County Deed Book 39, p. 322; William L. Sherrill, Annals of Lincoln County, North Carolina (Charlotte: The Observer Printing House, 1937), 124, hereinafter cited as Sherrill, Annals of Lincoln County.

<sup>2</sup> William S. Powell (ed.), Dictionary of North Carolina Biography (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1979), I, 302; Sherrill, Annals of Lincoln County, 74-76.

<sup>3</sup> Sherrill, Annals of Lincoln County, 124; Eighth Census of the United States, 1860, Lincoln County, North Carolina, Population Schedule; Ninth Census of the United States, 1870, Lincoln County, North Carolina, Population Schedule; Lincoln County Property Tax Lists.

<sup>4</sup> Lincoln County Deed Book 49, p. 479.

<sup>5</sup> Sherrill, Annals of Lincoln County, 269, 284, 299, 502; Tenth Census of the United States, 1880, Lincoln County, North Carolina, Population Schedule; John L. Cheney, Jr. (ed.), North Carolina Government, 1585-1974: A Narrative and Statistical History (Raleigh: North Carolina Department of the Secretary of State, 1975), 457, 459, hereinafter cited as Cheney, North Carolina Government.

<sup>6</sup> Lincoln County Deed Book 81, p. 294.

<sup>7</sup> R. D. W. Connor, North Carolina: Rebuilding an Ancient Commonwealth (Chicago and New York: The American Historical Society, four volumes, 1928), III, 161-162; Charlotte Observer, October 9, 1920; Sherrill, Annals of Lincoln County, 248, 362, 502.

<sup>8</sup> Shuford bought the house from E. B. Thomason and L. O. Lohman, who had purchased it from Mrs. Love in 1927. Thomason and Lohman were unable to pay the mortgage and John Shuford purchased it at auction for \$3,125. Lincoln County Deed Book 154, p. 599; Book 166, p. 349.

<sup>9</sup> Telephone interview with Mrs. Ellen Shuford, November 14, 1983, notes in file.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only  
received  
date entered

Continuation sheet

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Item number 9

Page 1

Charlotte Observer. October 9, 1920.

Cheney, John, Jr. (ed.). North Carolina Government, 1585-1974: A Narrative and Statistical History. Raleigh: North Carolina Department of the Secretary of State, 1975.

Connor, R. D. W. North Carolina: Rebuilding an Ancient Commonwealth. Chicago and New York: The American Historical Society, 4 volumes, 1928.

Lincoln County Records. Deed Books, Property Tax Lists, Will Books.

Powell, William S. (ed.). Dictionary of North Carolina Biography. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1979, Volume One.

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

Shuford, Mrs. Ellen. Telephone interview with. November 14, 1983. Notes in file.

United States Census Office. Eighth Census of the United States, 1860, Lincoln County, North Carolina, Population Schedule; Ninth Census of the United States, 1870, Lincoln County, North Carolina, Population Schedule; Tenth Census of the United States, 1880, Lincoln County, North Carolina, Population Schedule. Microfilm copies. Raleigh: Division of Archives and History.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Caldwell--Cobb--Love House  
Lincoln County  
NORTH CAROLINA

resubmission  
 nomination by person or local government  
 owner objection  
 appeal

Substantive Review:  sample  request  appeal  NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Working No. JAN 8 1986

Fed. Reg. Date: 2-3-87

Date Due: 2/6/86 - 2/22/86

Action:  ACCEPT 2-6-86

*Entered in and* National Register RETURN

REJECT

Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Recom./Criteria \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_

Discipline \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: technical corrections cited below  
substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

7. Description

Condition

excellent  deteriorated  
 good  ruins  
 fair  unexposed

Check one

unaltered  
 altered

Check one

original site  
 moved date \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

summary paragraph  
 completeness  
 clarity  
 alterations/integrity  
 dates  
 boundary selection

---

## 8. Significance

Period      Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates      Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*)

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

---

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

---

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References

Verbal boundary description and justification

---

## 11. Form Prepared By

---

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

\_\_\_\_\_ national      \_\_\_\_\_ state      \_\_\_\_\_ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title      date

---

## 13. Other

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



NEGATIVE NUMBER K.85-5-1522

PHOTOGRAPHER MARVIN A. BROWN

PHOTO DATE 6/3/85

SUBJECT CALDWELL-COBB-Love House

LINCOLN Co



NEGATIVE NUMBER N.85-5-1516

PHOTOGRAPHER MARVIN A. Brown

PHOTO DATE 6/3/85

SUBJECT CARDWELL-COBB-Love House

LINCOLN Co



NEGATIVE NUMBER N-85-5-1528

PHOTOGRAPHER MARVIN A. BROWN

PHOTO DATE 6/3/85

SUBJECT CALDWELL - COBB - Love House

Lincoln Co



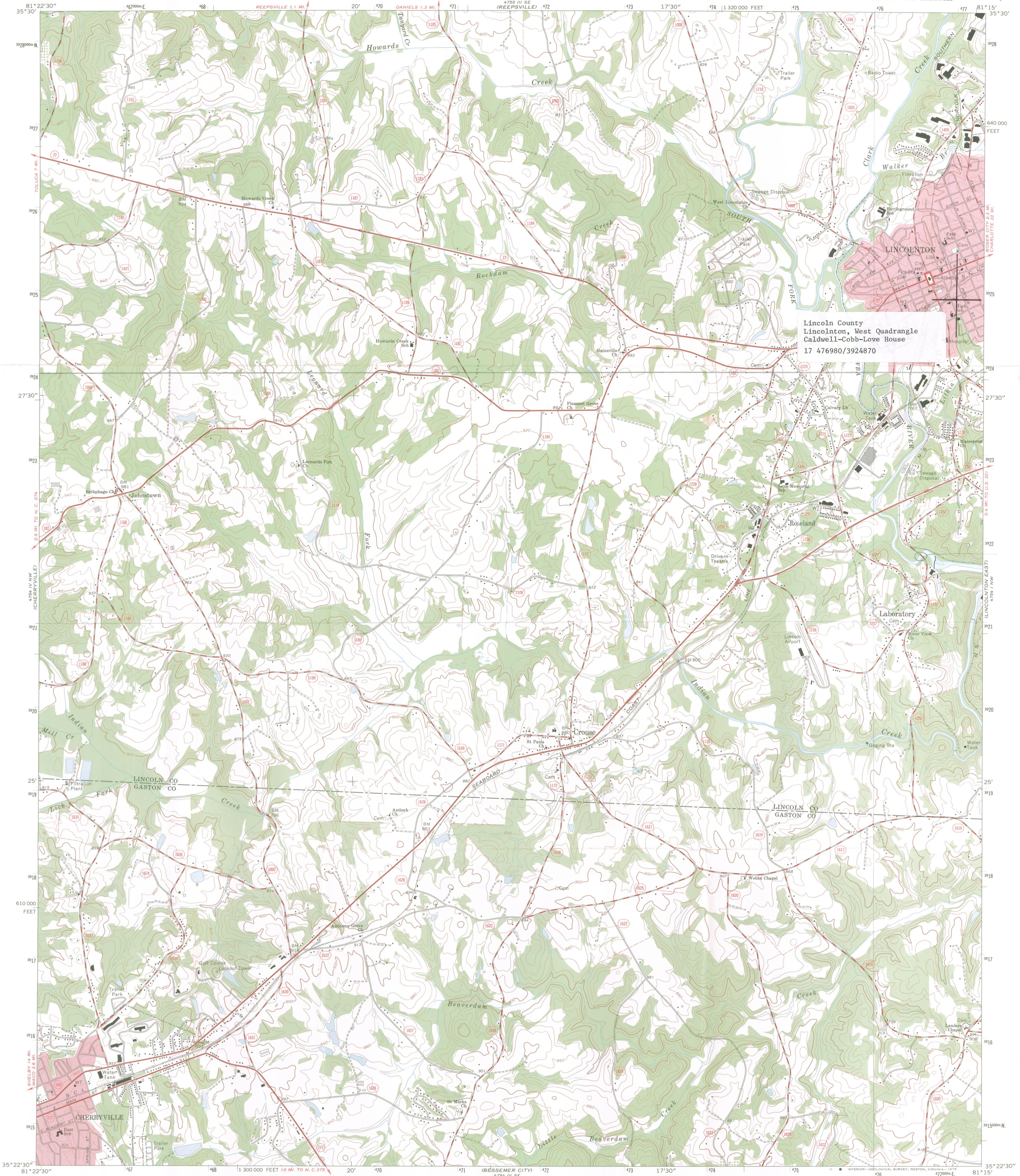
NEGATIVE NUMBER N.85-5-1531

PHOTOGRAPHER MARVIN A. BROWN

PHOTO DATE 6/3/85

SUBJECT CALDWELL - COBB - Love House

LINCOLN Co



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1973. Field checked 1973

Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: North Carolina coordinate system, (Lambert conformal conic)

1000-metre Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 17, shown in blue. 1927 North American datum

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown

UTM GRID AND 1973 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

3° MILLS 0' 11" 3 MILLS

SCALE 1:24,000  
1 MILE  
1 1000 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET  
1 0 1 KILOMETER

CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET

NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface

Secondary highway, hard surface

Unimproved road

Interstate Route

U.S. Route

State Route

LINCOLNTON WEST, N.C.

NE/4 LINCOLNTON 15' QUADRANGLE

N3522.5-W8115-7.5

1973

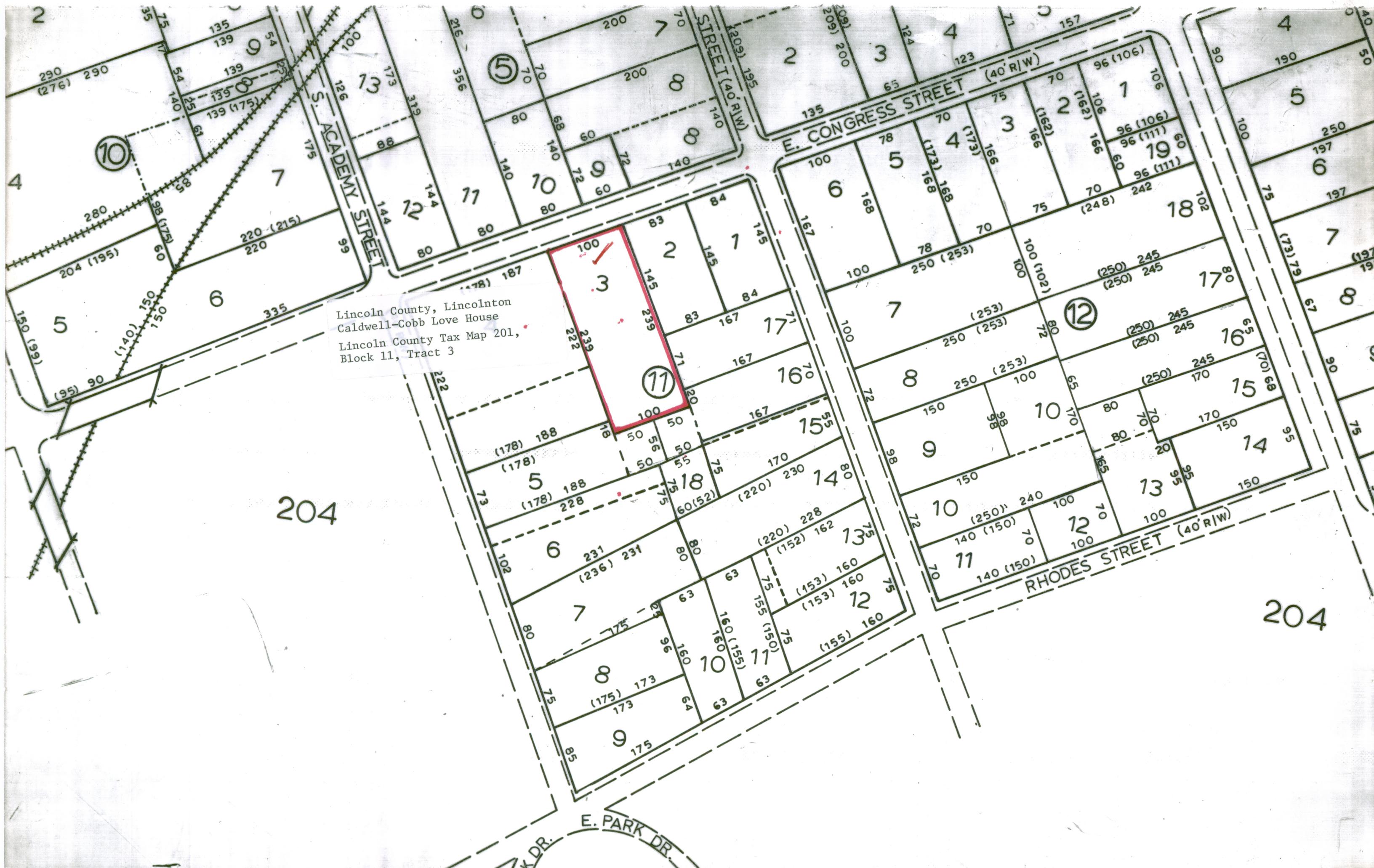
AMS 4754 IV NE-SERIES V842

L 41

Lincoln County, Lincolnton  
Caldwell-Cobb Love House  
Lincoln County Tax Map 201  
Block 11, Tract 3

204

204





## North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources

James G. Martin, Governor  
Patric Dorsey, Secretary

Division of Archives and History  
William S. Price, Jr., Director

December 11, 1985

Mr. Jerry L. Rogers, Keeper  
National Register of Historic Places  
U. S. Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
1100 L Street, N.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Mr. Rogers:

Enclosed is the nomination for the Caldwell-Cobb-Love House in Lincoln County, North Carolina to be entered in the National Register of Historic Places.

We trust you will find this nomination in order. If there are any questions, please call us.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William S. Price, Jr." The signature is fluid and cursive, with "William S." on top and "Price, Jr." on the line below.

William S. Price, Jr.  
State Historic Preservation Officer

WSPjr/gbf

Enclosure

cc: Honorable John East  
Honorable Jesse Helms  
Honorable J. Alex McMillan