

COWAN MUSEUM OF HISTORY AND SCIENCE

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TO RENOVATE THE ONE-ROOM SCHOOLHOUSE
AT THE COWAN MUSEUM OF HISTORY AND SCIENCE**

Bids will be accepted until Friday, August 11, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

Background:

The building is a log structure, 17' x 13'7", and was donated to the Cowan Museum by Bill Jones of Wallace, NC in 1988. Its original location was on Hwy 117 in Wallace, where it functioned as a granary, or corn crib. Since it was moved to the museum grounds and renovated, it has been used as a one-room schoolhouse for demonstration/educational purposes.

Currently, the museum does not have an adequate space for educational programs, which are sometimes messy. Therefore, our staff would like to have the building repaired and have portions of the building that are not original modified to create a more efficient, comfortable space to deliver programs.

*Images: Top: The structure in its original location, ca. 1988.
Bottom: The schoolhouse on the museum grounds, 2023.*



Project Details:

Exterior

- Repair rotted wood.
- Repair chinking between logs.
- Install a new roof with wood shingles.
- Add two (2) skylights.
- Repair or rebuild the bell tower and remount the schoolhouse bell.
- Tear down the front stairway and rebuild. Also, expand the width of the landing/deck.
- Move the outside well pump from the right front to the left side of the building.
 - Remove current concrete foundation.
 - Create a new mount for pump (concrete, or one more authentic – brick and/or wood base).
- Replace the front door with a more durable, wooden one that has a window.
- Weather treat the exterior.

Interior

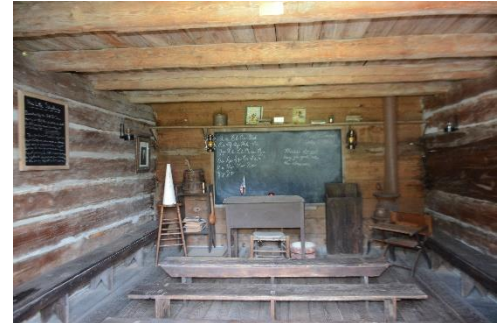
- Cut out a portion of the right back wall (which is not original) and install a window.

- Remove ceiling boards (also not original) to let light from the skylights into the room (keep the support beams in place).
- Clean space above ceiling boards.
- Add insulation to ceiling area (e.g., insulating boards).
- Remove recessed lighting system and replace with four to six (4-6) imitation/electric kerosene wall sconces operated by a dimmable switch.
- Move the non-functional wood-burning stove from the right back to the left back of the room.
- Clean/oil wood floor.
- Clean interior walls.
- Remove the two long side benches and salvage parts of it to make four (4) additional benches.

Image: The school's interior, 2023.

Replace HVAC System

- According to museum records, the current HVAC system is a 1.5 ton unit from Warsaw Heating & Air, installed by Duplin County Maintenance in or around November/December, 1988.



Desired Date of Completion

October 18, 2023

Worksite Location

Cowan Museum of History and Science
411 S. Main Street
Kenansville, NC 28349

Contact

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