Legeros Fire Blog Archives 2006-2015 - Fire Horns of « Black Mountain Fire D... » Smokin' Steak House i... Rowan County

Fire Horns of Rowan County

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As photographed this week at the <u>Rowan Museum</u> in Salisbury, as part of their newly opened exhibit "Where's the Fire?", here are three vintage fire alarm horns. Top is a horn from the Faith Fire Department. Middle is a horn from the Salisbury Fire Department. Bottom is a hornas-amplifier from the Bostian Heights Fire Department. There were four on the top of their fire station, amplifying an air raid siren in four directions. **See more photos** from the museum. Or <u>read a recent FireNews.net story</u> about the exhibit.







Regarding Salisbury's fire alarm system, Sanborn Maps tell these historical details: By February 1902, the fire alarm was a bell at the town hall. By November 1913, a Gamewell fire alarm system with 16 alarm boxes had been installed, along with a bell at the fire station. By February 1922, there were 23 alarm boxes. By January 1931, there were 49 alarm boxes, and a bell in a tower at Station 1. By March 1950, there were 50 alarm boxes and an electric horn on the roof of Station 1. Here's a list of fire alarm signals as displayed at the museum. From the font face, guessing this is circa 1960s? And check out such signals as 555 for "National Guard mobilization" and 666 for "Disaster, call Red Cross." Wonder if they were ever used!? Click once or twice to enlarge:

