

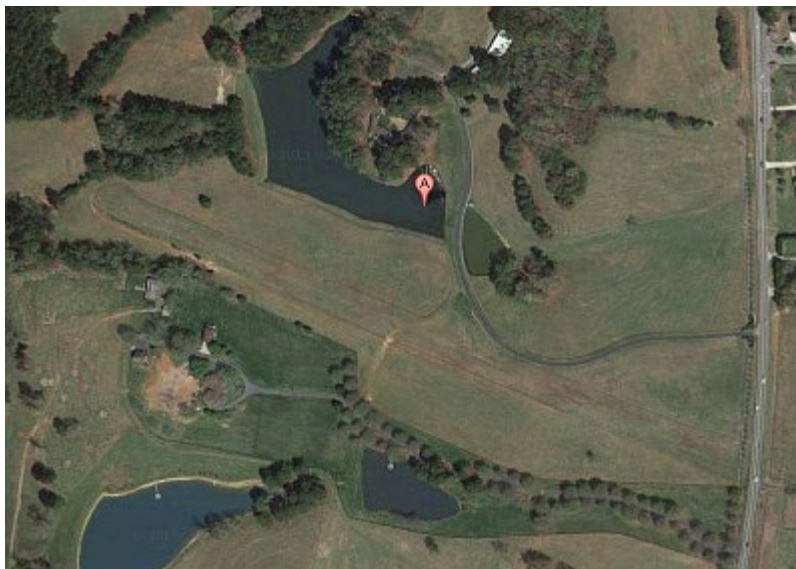
Yesterday's Barn Fire in Garner / Bagwell Airport

01/09/14 346 W, 3 I - + 7 - 3

The Garner Fire Department yesterday morning battled a barn fire at 1836 Benson Road. The run card included most or maybe all active Garner units, plus a tanker from Fairview. The Raleigh Fire Department was requested for coverage at Station 1, and Engine 10 was dispatched. Recalling a bit of the radio traffic, the barn was located a ways off the road, and filled with burning hay bales. Heavy equipment was sought to break apart the bales, to further extinguishment. Jason Thompson from JocoFire went to the scene, and [took some photos](#). Readers and/or Jason can add more details.



Most interesting about the incident was that the barn was (or might've been) a former aircraft hanger. There's a landing strip on the property and that's labeled Bagwell Airport by Google Maps. The [aerial view](#) clearly shows said runway:



Looking more closely, via the [Bing Maps Bird's Eye View](#), at least two hangars are located on the property. Don't have the first idea if the landing strip's still active, or if the hangar buildings are still used as such. Maybe one of these was the building that burned yesterday.



The hangar buildings are located down a paved access road, which doesn't quite make sense. But they're also located along a short strip of straight land, which gets me thinking about the topography of the site. Was there a second strip that intersected the first, and that was later partially turned into lake? Again, we'll have to look to readers here.

Google finds a few matches for "Bagwell airport Garner," including this [AirNav.com page](#). The airport's FAA Identifier is NC99. The airfield was activated in 1980. The runway is 2,200 feet long. There are three single-engine airplanes on the site. That information is current effective December 2013.

Next question, my friends. Just how many airports, period, are present in Raleigh, Wake County, the Triangle, or the greater Triangle area?

Private: <http://www.airnav.com/airports/us/NC?use..>

We get Bagwell NC99, and Peacock, 4NC7, Angier NC44 Barclaysville Field, and C A G Farms Airport, 27NR; Fuquay-Varina 78NC; and 51NC, Zebulon, Philip R. Bunn Airport.

<http://www.airnav.com/airports/us/NC>

We get 5W5 Triple W Airport, Raleigh;

And of course, there's Raleigh East, W17; aka Knightdale-Wendell-Zebulon International Aerodrome;

Cool place: vfrmap.com

Warning: Timesuck. May be as bad as fire photos.

Chuk Gleason - 01/09/14 - 10:01

The barn was full of hay, feed and some farm equipment (backhoe). There was no electricity to the barn. I think this one has always been a barn. There are a few hangars on the site. Dr. Bagwell used to fly quite regularly and in fact has crashed on the site before and fire/EMS have

responded in years past. The air strip is very well kept/groomed and has the appearance of being active. Raleigh E10 answered at least one call while in Garner, a MVC on Timber Drive. I rode by there on the way home but didn't stop (no PI, off the road).

Jason Thompson ([Email](#)) ([Web Site](#)) - 01/09/14 - 10:35

My iphone app says there are over 20 airports within 24 miles of north Raleigh (it quit counting there).

Pretty much every county in the area has a public airport of some kind named as such (Harnett, Johnston, Person, Oxford-Henderson, Chapel Hill) and a handful of privately owned ones.

Though some of them try to get cute with the names "Triangle north" is Franklin county and Raleigh Executive Jetport at Sanford Lee County (I am a member of the flying club based there, we just say Raleigh exec on the radio or sometime just Sanford... would take too long to say the whole name.)

Durham county is the exception, no public airport there unless you count the parts of RDU itself that exist there. And only one private one I can see, Lake Ridge Aero.

There are even a few privately owned paved strips around. Gilliam-Mcconnell near Carthage is a popular fly in spot for the pick-n-pig BBQ joint.

RaleighRez - 01/09/14 - 13:52

Name: (real name preferred)

E-mail: (optional)

Web Site: (optional)

Remember personal info?

Yes

No

Comment:

/ [Textile](#)

Comment moderation is enabled on this site. This means that your comment will not be visible on this site until it has been approved by an editor.

To prevent spam we require you to answer this silly question

What are the FIRST TWO LETTERS of the word 'fire'?

[\(Register your username / Log in\)](#)

Notify: Yes, send me email when someone replies.

Hide email: Yes, hide my email address.

Small print: All html tags except and <i> will be removed from your comment. You can make links by just typing the url or mail-address.