**NAME**
Munday House
AND/OR COMMON

**LOCATION**
STREET & NUMBER
See continuation sheet
CITY, TOWN
Denver
STATE
North Carolina

**CLASSIFICATION**
CATEGORY
DISTRICT
X BUILDING(S)
X STRUCTURE
X SITE
X OBJECT
OWNERSHIP
PUBLIC
PRIVATE
SUCH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
IN PROCESS
BEING CONSIDERED
STATUS
OCCUPIED
UNOCCUPIED
WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
IN PROCESS
BEING CONSIDERED
PRESENT USE
AGRICULTURE
COMMERCIAL
EDUCATIONAL
ENTERTAINMENT
GOVERNMENT
INDUSTRIAL
TRANSPORTATION
OTHER
PRIVATE RESIDENCE
RELIGIOUS
SCIENTIFIC
UNOCCUPIED

**OWNER OF PROPERTY**
NAME
Mr. John Gabriel Sigmon
STREET & NUMBER
Sigmon Road
CITY, TOWN
Denver
STATE
North Carolina

**LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Catavba County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN
Newton
STATE
North Carolina

**REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**
TITLE
DATE
FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
CITY, TOWN
DESCRIPTION

CONDITION
- EXCELLENT
- GOOD
- FAIR

CHECK ONE
- ORIGINAL SITE
- ALTERED
- UNALTERED
- RUINS
- UNEXPOSED

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Munday House was originally a one-room, one-story with attic, log house with a huge stone chimney, of uncoursed rubble with brick stack, on the north gable end. The house was expanded to the south with a stair hall and two rooms. The roof was extended to make engaged porches on both the front and back sides. There are two shed rooms enclosed in the rear porch area, and under the front shed there is one small room at the far south end. At the south gable end is a smaller brick and stone chimney flanked by windows with four-over-four sash and shutters containing one raised panel per leaf. Above this are attic windows of the same size. The areas under the front and rear porches are covered with flush sheathing. There is a small, deteriorating chimney on the south side of the rear shed rooms. Each shed room has one window in its west wall. There is a door opening from the north into the shed portion and another giving access to the log portion from the rear. The roof is sheathed with a standing seam metal cover.

The interior contains the most significant features of the house. The parlor (the southernmost room of the main body), and the shed room to the east and the room directly to the north of the parlor have flush-sheathed walls and ceilings elaborately painted to represent architectural features. The parlor is the most elaborate. The walls are covered by a run of large, rectangular panels which reach from the marbleized baseboards to the modillion cornice beneath a large cable molding. The panels have various bands and colors to suggest depth as does the cornice. In the center of the ceiling is a medallion consisting of complex geometric designs of various colors centering around an eight-pointed star. This is surrounded by a large circular panel with panels that radiate to each corner of the room. These elements are all skillfully painted, with some attempt at achieving trompe l’oeil. The mantel is quite plain, having simple colonnettes supporting an undorned frieze and shelf. A pointed backboard above the shelf protrudes into a long, horizontal panel which reaches almost to the cornice; both the panel and cornice are painted on a flat surface. A delicate, unusual, interlocking triangular design adorns the point just above the apex of the backboard on the painted panel. The colors in this room range from cream to yellow to orange to brown to deep blue. This room has a door with six flat panels as well as a door with two vertical panels.

The shed room is also elaborately decorated. The walls are each painted as one large simple panel in cream, salmon, and white. The painted cornice is quite elaborate with inverted fleur-de-lis of alternating lengths which are arced along their tops. Alternating between the arches are circles and diamonds. These figures are painted in blue and white. Outlining the ceiling is a blue border with an urn-like figure in each corner. Each urn has a blue leaf-like outline with a grid of red lines across the body and top, each having a blue dot within.

The third room, the simplest, originally could only be entered from the parlor; a door has since been cut into the stair hall. This room also has a rear window with raised panel shutters which remains even though this portion of the shed porch has been made into a room. This room is cream colored and has a brown stenciled cornice consisting of an M-like swag beneath a course small polygonal panel.

The log portion still contains its original stair in the northwest corner. Also the attic has interesting pegged braces where the logs were cut to provide access from the log portion to the frame portion.
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Munday House is a small, unpretentious nineteenth century log structure expanded by frame additions. Its chief significance derives from the remarkably extensive and well-preserved interior wall and ceiling painting, combining geometric and trompe l'oeil panel designs in a rather ambitious composition, among the best examples in the state.

The Munday House is situated near the Lincoln-Catawba county line on a road leading to the old Rock Springs Camp Ground. It is uncertain when the structure was built, but it probably derived its name from Spencer Munday, whose family resided there for many years.

Spencer Munday probably acquired the site in 1856, when he purchased from Joseph M. Munday a 22½-acre tract known as the "Merry Mack." The deed makes no mention of a house on the property, however, and the modest price of $60 for the tract suggests that it was unimproved; however, the log section may already have been there. (Trustees of the "methodist Episcopal Church of Lincoln circuit" had purchased the 45-acre Rock Springs Camp Ground site from Joseph M. Munday in 1830.)

Census data reveal that Spencer Munday was born in Lincoln County about 1813. He was a farmer and the father of thirteen children. He apparently died late in 1896 at about the age of 83. In his will Munday devised to his widow Susan a life interest in a 160-acre tract of land including the homeplace. At Susan Munday's death about 1907, Spencer Munday's residuary heirs petitioned the Catawba County Superior Court to have the homeplace tract sold at public auction. At the ensuing sale, J. A. Sigmon was the successful bidder for the tract at $2,606. (He later transferred his bid to Carl G. Lineburger.)

In January, 1929, Lineburger and his wife (then residents of St. Louis, Missouri) sold the property "Known as the Munday [sic] land" to G. C. Little for $4,271.50. Little died in 1934, leaving his wife a fee simple title to the old Munday homeplace. The property then descended to Maggie Robinson Little (a widow) and J. Willard Little, who conveyed it to Duke Power Company in 1980. The following year, Duke Power sold two tracts comprising 161 acres to John Gabriel Sigmon and his wife Estelle. The Sigmons are the present owners.
Catawba County Superior Court. Record of Orders and Decrees, 1907-1908, microfilm of original, State Archives.
Lincoln County Records, Lincoln County Courthouse, Lincolnton, North Carolina (Subgroups: Deeds).
Lincoln County Records, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina (Subgroups: Deeds).
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES
Catawba County Records, Catawba County Courthouse, Newton, North Carolina (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills).
Catawba County Records, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills).
Catawba County Superior Court. Record of Divisions of Land and Dowers, 1896-1907, Archives, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA
ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 5

UTM REFERENCES

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

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<th>CODE</th>
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FORM PREPARED BY
NAME/TITLE Research by Robert Topkins, survey specialist; architectural description by Charles Greer Suttlemyre, Jr., survey specialist

ORGANIZATION Division of Archives and History
STREET & NUMBER 109 East Jones Street
CITY OR TOWN Raleigh

STATE North Carolina

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:
NATIONAL ___ STATE X 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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE ______________________

TITLE Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
DATE 14 July 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
Location

North side of S.R. 1374, 1.5 miles northwest of junction with S.R. 1373