torm 10-300 (Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPAR MENT OF THE NO ERI NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF ELSTORIC PLACES

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7.	DESCRIPTION								
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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (II known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The James Mangum House is picturesquely sited on the slope of a rather steep hill rising from Little Beaver Dam Creek. To the front (south) stand several outbuildings, including a small frame structure partitioned into two rooms and covered with beaded siding, and a large stone chimney—the remains of an early structure that survived until a few years ago.

The Mangum House is a large, two-story L-shaped dwelling, its proportions suggestive of the Federal era. It is by far the most impressive structure of its area in this hilly, sparsely settled area of Wake County. The house faces south and its facade is five bays wide. Extending north from the west two bays of the rear facade is a one-room ell that is one-story high with an attic. Running across the front facade and across the rear facade and inner side of the ell are one-story porches probably of later vintage than the house. Exterior end chimenys of brick laid in common bond rise at either end of the main block and at the end of the ell. The house is said to be sided with plain weatherboards beneath the existing composition covering. The boxed cornices return into the eaves, and the door and window frames are plain ones. The front and rear doors are surmounted by simple transoms.

The interior of the house follows an orf-center hall plan one room deep, with a single room occupying the ell. The stair rises front to back in the hall. The finish is an interesting combination—often naive but vigorous and consistent—of earlier stylistic elements combined with Greek Revival ones. Employed consistently throughout is a flat—paneled wainscot with half—round moldings below a narrow molded chair rail that serves as window sills. In the hall there are two ranges of paneling in the wainscot; other rooms have a single range. One room has new surfaces applied over the original, but for the most part upper walls and the ceilings are finished with wide flush sheathing. Also consistent is the use of six—panel doors; on one side are raised panels, on the other, flat panels with narrow Greek Revival—type moldings. Most of the doors retain box locks, some with the Carpenter emblem. Most door and window frames are symmetrically molded ones with plain corner blocks, except those in the ell room, which are mitered molded ones—with moldings similar to those of the doors.

The mantels are simply but imaginatively executed Greek Revival designs. That in the east room has pilasters somewhat suggestive of termini, with molded caps below elongated fluted end blocks, which carry a heavy and eccentric molded cornice and simple shelf. The frieze is adorned with bold polygonal flat panels. The mantel in the west room features pilasters articulated with a series of concentric oblongs forming a long panel. The tall frieze has a range of flat panels beneath a single horizontal panel like the vertical ones on the pilasters. Above is an overmantel of a type that recurs throughout the house (except in the east room where one may exist under the gypsum board there). A large single flat panel occupies the center of the overmantel and is surrounded by horizontal and vertical ranges of square and oblong panels. These are quite simply made, without any moldings. In the ell room is a handsome Greek Revival mantel, with bold Greek key motifs on the end blocks, and a plain center tablet.

Form 10-300a (July 1969)

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7.

The stair in the hall, which rises in a single flight front to back, begins with a turned newel with a heavy block base, and a similar block capped by a ball forming its cap. The rounded rail is carried by plain balusters, and the open string is unadorned. The second-floor finish is like the first, but the wood surfaces retain perhaps their original condition in the two rooms. The east room door, baseboard, wainscot and mantels have dull blue and red paint—evidently the only coat—in good condition. The mantel consists of pilasters adorned with the concentric panels, and the frieze has two similar horizontal panels. The west room has unpainted pine wood throughout, and the simple mantel has a paneled overmantel. The area over the ell is an unfinished attic.

SIGNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	☐ 16th Contury	18th Century	20th Contury
15th Century	☐ 17th Century	☑ 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicat	ble and Known)		
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch	eck One or More as Appropri	ate)	
Abor iginal	Education	▼ Political	Urban Planning
Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
☐ Historic	Industry	losophy	
☐ Agriculture	Invention	Science	
Architecture	Landscape	Sculpture	
☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
Commerce	Literature	itarian	
☐ Communications	Military	Theater	
☐ Conservation	Music	Transportation	
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The James Mangum House is an interesting vernacular farmhouse, the most impressive surviving dwelling in a hilly, sparsely settled area of Wake County to be inundated by the Falls of the Neuse reservoir project. The pleasantly sited house, Federal in form, contains consistent and well-preserved vernacular interiors—ambitious yet naive versions of rather academic motifs from both Greek Revival and earlier styles. The house was the home of General James M. Mangum a locally prominent planter, general in the militia, and state legislator.

James Manuel Mangum was born in North Carolina on December 28, 1796. He was married to Lydia Ferrell about September, 1816, and later became the father of three daughters and a son.

Lydia Mangum apparently inherited an interest in several tracts of land on Beaver Dam Creek in northwestern Wake County before 1817. Her husband freely bought and sold a number of tracts in this vicinity during the 1820s and 1830s, but it is uncertain when he built his homeplace.

James Mangum (no apparent relation to the notable Senator Willie Person Mangum) was elected to the North Carolina House of Commons in 1838 and 1840 and was elected a brigadier general in the Seventeenth Brigade, Seventh Division, North Carolina Militia, in May, 1842. He retained the title of "general" for the remainder of his life. The census of 1850 lists Mangum as a farmer and values his real estate at a modest \$4,000.

Mangum died November 22, 1854. In his will he provided his widow with a life estate in the homeplace and directed that the property be sold upon her death or in the event she remarried. Lydia Mangum remained alive twenty years, dying in 1874 at the age of eighty-four. The administrator c.t.a. of James Mangum's estate thereupon sold the homeplace tract, comprising some 555 acres, at public auction to Henry K. Sandling, high bidder at \$3,756.48. The present owner of the house is an heiress of Sandling's descendants; the property is owned by the Army Corps of Engineers.

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Research by Robert Topkins, survey specialist; architectural description by Catherine W. Cockshutt, survey supervisor.

"FALLS LAKE PROJECT," United States Army Engineers District, Savannah, Grave Description, December 16, 1971, Mangum Cemetery, Wake County, North Carolina.

Governors Papers, John M. Morehead, General Correspondence.

U. S. Census Office. Seventh Census of the United States, 1850: Wake County, North Carolina, Population Schedule.

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9.	
	County Records, Wake County Courthouse, Raleigh, North Carolina
	(Subgroups: Deeds, Wills, Estate Papers, Marriage Bonds).
Wake	County Records, Division of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina
	(Subgroups: Deeds, Wills, Estate Papers, Marriage Bonds).
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	Baltimore: Regional Publishing Company, 1964.











