

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

| |
|--------------------------|
| STATE: North Carolina |
| COUNTY: Catawba |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY |
| ENTRY DATE |

1. NAME

COMMON:
Rudisill-Wilson House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
2 miles south of intersection at Startown

CITY OR TOWN:
Newton vicinity

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
Tenth
The Hon. James Broyhill

STATE: North Carolina CODE: 37 COUNTY: Catawba CODE: 035

3. CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY (Check One) | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC |
|---|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object | <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both | Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress |
| PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate) | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum | <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____ |

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Mr. Samuel F. Keener

STREET AND NUMBER:
Route 1, Box 279

CITY OR TOWN:
Newton

STATE:
North Carolina

CODE:
37

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Catawba County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Newton

STATE:
North Carolina

CODE:
37

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: North Carolina
COUNTY: Catawba
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|---|--|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| CONDITION | (Check One) | | | | | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good | <input type="checkbox"/> Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins | <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed |
| | (Check One) | | | (Check One) | | |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered | <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered | <input type="checkbox"/> Moved | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Rudisill-Wilson House is a two-story, three-bay, central hall plan dwelling covered by molded siding. The frame house rests on a high stone foundation. At the north and south ends are exterior chimneys of brick laid in Flemish bond. A shed porch with late nineteenth century brackets, turned posts, and balustrade extends across the main (west) facade. The windows of the main block have three-part Federal architraves with molded sills; much of the nine-over-nine sash of the first floor and nine-over-six sash of the second floor appears to be original. The six-panel front door, surmounted by a four-light transom, has flat panels and its original hardware. This arrangement is repeated at the rear doorway of the central hall, though the door lacks original hardware. At the front and rear of the main block are simple molded box cornices with pattern boards adorned with a tiny truncated pilaster. The main block is one room (two bays) deep, with shed rooms contemporary with the main block to the rear. The roof line of the shed rooms at either end extends unbroken across the length of the rear facade, originally leaving the central area open to form a porch. This was enclosed at a later time to form a third room. Originally the shed rooms had chimneys on their exterior end walls, but these were recently removed.

The wainscot in the first floor hall has a molded chair rail over vertical flat panels. A molded wooden cornice separates the plastered walls from the flush sheathing of the ceiling. Six-panel doors with panels raised on fillets lead to the flanking parlors which are finished like the hall. The handsome three-part Federal mantel in the south room is the largest and most elaborate in the house. Its molded shelf is vertically reeded and breaks out over the center tablet and end blocks, each of which is ornamented by a sunburst in relief. Bands of diagonal reeding occur above and below the frieze. Pairs of slender, reeded, engaged colonnettes support the entablature at either side of the fire opening. The mantel in the first-floor north room is smaller but takes the same form. It lacks sunbursts and has less elaborate reeding patterns. A large six-panel door with panels raised on fillets, near the rear of the hall, opens through the north wall to an enclosed stair which rises through the north room to the second floor. The walls of the second floor have horizontal flush sheathing above and below a small molded chair rail. Both second-floor rooms have Federal mantels similar in form to that in the first floor, north room, but are much less elaborately decorated. Some of the original hardware is retained on the second-floor doors. A small door to the rear of the second floor, north room, leads to the attic crawl space of the shed portion. In this area a good view of the structural timbers with their nogging can be observed.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Rudisill-Wilson House, one of the earliest houses in Catawba County, is remarkable for its retention of original fabric including hardware and interior Federal trim. The architectural sophistication of the detail is unusual in this up-country area.

The house was originally the residence of Michael Rudisill, a member of one of the numerous German families which came to the area from Pennsylvania. He was probably the son or grandson of an earlier Michael Rudisill whose daughter was married to Johann Gottfried Arendt, the "first resident minister west of the Catawba River."

Michael Rudisill, Jr., obtained a marriage bond in 1817. In the tax lists of 1818 and 1819 he is not shown as the possessor of any land, but in 1821 he is shown as the owner of two tracts, the latter of 251 acres, the higher valued and therefore probably containing his house, completed by that year. In 1837 Rudisill had 275 acres worth \$2,475, and three slaves. In 1855 he sold this tract, then containing 284 acres, to Ezekiel Wilson for \$3,000. When this transfer occurred the old Andrew Wilson home on the adjacent tract was evidently abandoned in favor of the Rudisill homeplace. This house thus became identified with the Wilson family and attracted to it the name of the earlier Wilson settler. The agricultural schedule of the 1860 United States Census shows an Ezk [sic] Wilson the holder of 300 improved acres and 500 unimproved, the whole valued at \$8,000. The house was allotted to Wilson's widow, Sarah, in 1877 and was lived in by members of the Wilson family until 1949. It is now owned by Samuel F. Keener of Newton, North Carolina.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

| | |
|-------------------------|------|
| STATE North Carolina | |
| COUNTY Catawba | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |
| | |

(Number all entries)

9.

Preslar, Charles J., Jr., ed. A History of Catawba County. Salisbury, North Carolina: Rowan Printing Company, 1954.
Sherrill, William L. Annals of Lincoln County North Carolina. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Company, 1967.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Research by Charles Blume, Jr., survey specialist; architectural description by Charles Greer Suttlemyre, Jr., survey specialist.
 Catawba County Records, Catawba County Courthouse, Newton, North Carolina, Office of the Register of Deeds (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills).
 Catawba County Records, Office of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills).
 Lincoln County Records, Lincoln County Courthouse, Lincolnton, North Carolina, Office of the Register of Deeds (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills).
 Lincoln County Records, Office of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina (Subgroups: Deeds, Wills).

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY | | | O R | LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES | | |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------|---|-------------------------|--|
| CORNER | LATITUDE | LONGITUDE | | LATITUDE | LONGITUDE | |
| | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds | | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds | |
| NW | 0 , " | 0 , " | | 35 ° 36 ' 58 " | 81 ° 15 ' 23 " | |
| NE | 0 , " | 0 , " | | | | |
| SE | 0 , " | 0 , " | | | | |
| SW | 0 , " | 0 , " | | | | |

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 9.9 acres

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

| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
|--------|------|---------|------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Survey and Planning Unit

ORGANIZATION: Office of Archives and History DATE: 5 July 1973

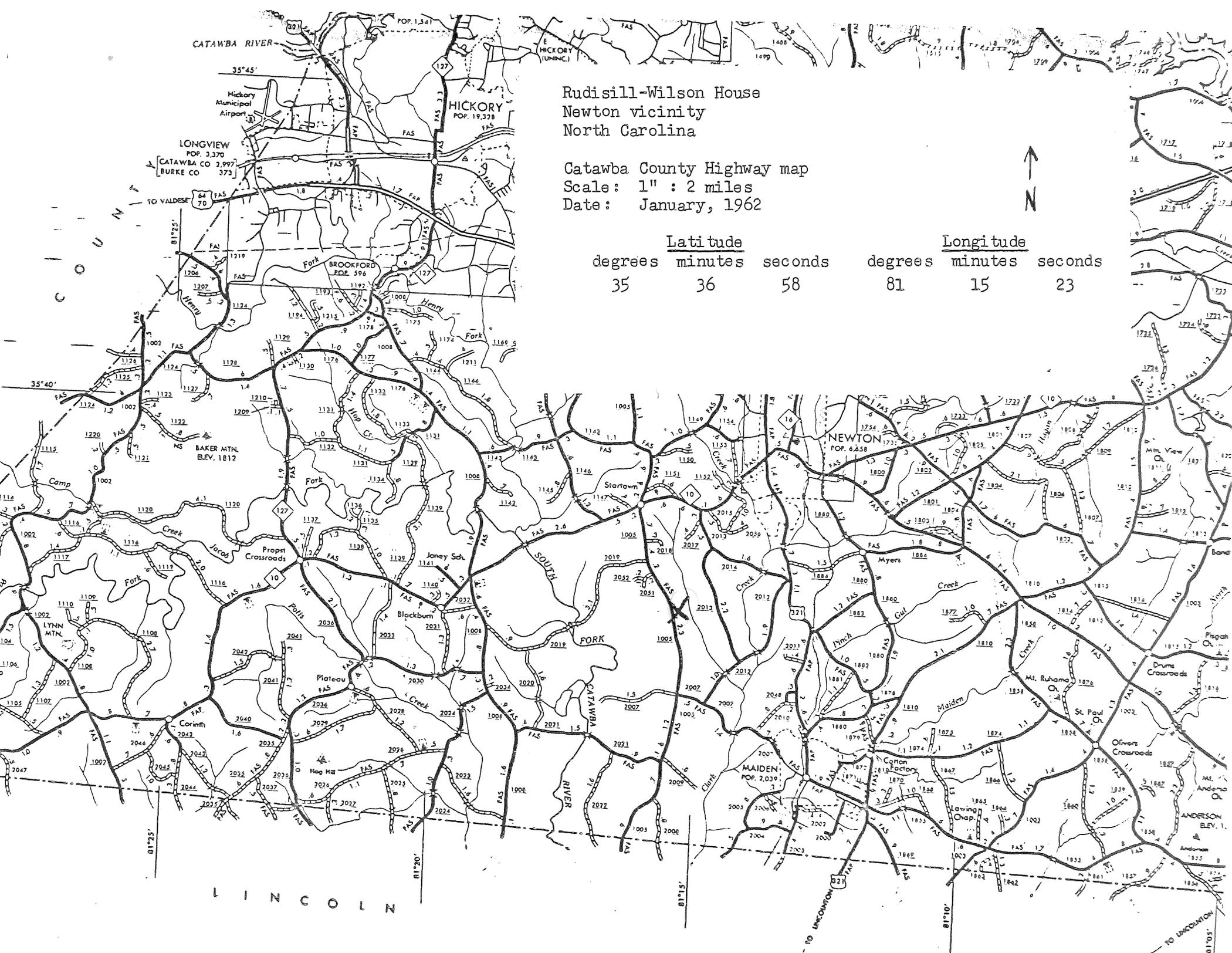
STREET AND NUMBER:
109 East Jones Street

CITY OR TOWN: Raleigh STATE: North Carolina CODE: 37

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name <u>H. G. Jones</u></p> <p>Title <u>State Historian/Administrator</u></p> <p>Date <u>5 July 1973</u></p> | <p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p>_____ <i>Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</i></p> <p>Date _____</p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p>_____ <i>Keeper of The National Register</i></p> <p>Date _____</p> |
|--|--|

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



Rudisill-Wilson House
 Newton vicinity
 North Carolina

Catawba County Highway map
 Scale: 1" : 2 miles
 Date: January, 1962

| Latitude | | | Longitude | | |
|----------|---------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|
| degrees | minutes | seconds | degrees | minutes | seconds |
| 35 | 36 | 58 | 81 | 15 | 23 |



CATAWBA RIVER

35°45'

Hickory Municipal Airport

HICKORY
POP. 19,328

LONGVIEW
POP. 3,370
[CATAWBA CO 2,997
BURKE CO 373]

TO VALDESE

Fork BROOKFORD
PDE 596

NEWTON
POP. 6,658

C O U N T Y

L I N C O L N

TO LINCOLN

TO LINCOLN

