

IDENTIFICATION	Historic name: <u>S. S. Eaves House</u>	STATUS	Open to public: Yes ___ No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted ___
	Common name: <u>S. S. Eaves House</u>		Visible from road: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No ___
	Address: <u>Eaves Ferry Rd. at Breedenton</u> <u>Decatur, Tennessee</u>		Occupied: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No ___
	Owner's name: <u>Mrs. Abner Bennett</u>		Present use: <u>Private residence</u>
	Owner's address: <u>Route 2</u> <u>Decatur, Tennessee 37332</u>		Current condition: <u>Fair</u>
	Classification: <u>Building-private</u>		Alterations: <u>None</u>
	Tax map reference: <u>Dist. 3, Map 37, Parcel 8</u>		Site features: <u>Former Eaves Ferry Landing;</u> <u>foundation of Eaves Store.</u>
	Acreage: <u>2.4 acres</u>		
UTM reference: <u>Zone 16 N 3935590</u> <u>E 699380</u>			
HISTORY	Date of construction: <u>1909</u>	SOURCES	Bibliographical data: <u>Interview with Mrs. Abner Bennett, Decatur, TN., March 13, 1979.</u> <u>Ingle, Shirley. "Progress Wrecks Romance of Old Steamboat Days," Tennessee Conservationist, August 1966, pp. 17-18.</u>
	Architect/builder: <u>S. S. Eaves</u> <u>Carpenter: B. Bunch</u>		Form prepared by: <u>Ann Toplovich</u>
	Original or previous owners: <u>S. S. Eaves,</u> <u>original owner. Now owned by daughter and daughter-in-law</u>		Title: <u>Cultural Resource Surveyor</u>
	Original use: <u>Private residence</u>		Organization: <u>Tennessee Historical Commission</u>
	Theme/s: Primary <u>Architecture</u> Secondary <u>Commerce</u> Other <u>Transportation</u>		Date: <u>9/8/81</u>
DESCRIPTION	<p>The S. S. Eaves House, reflecting a Steamboat Gothic influence, is a two story frame house with weatherboarded exterior and a brick pier foundation with covering latticework. Basically rectangular in plan with projecting wings, the house is covered by a stamped metal hip and deck roof with a boxed modillion cornice. The cross gable roofs over the wings feature a modillion cornice with open returns. Cresting appears on the deck of the roof and there are finials on the gable ends. There are three interior brick chimneys. The facade (south elevation) of the house has two bays west of a projecting wing; a 1/1 light window with cornice window head is to the west of a doorway with transom and corniced head. (All windows and doors have this treatment.) The projecting wing is one bay wide, featuring a 1/1 light window with corniced head. A two tier veranda with stamped metal shed roof encircles the south, west, and north elevations of the house. The porch is supported by sixteen tapered columns on each floor with a turned</p>		
SIGNIFICANCE	<p>Built in 1909 by Samuel S. Eaves with B. Bunch as carpenter, the S. S. Eaves House is one of the rare houses still standing in Tennessee showing Steamboat Gothic architectural influence. Totally unaltered, the Eaves House is the largest, most impressive house in Meigs County and was the first house in the county to have electricity and running water. S. S. Eaves moved with his father, Pleasant L. Eaves, to Breedenton in 1880. By the turn of the century, S. S. Eaves had become a very prosperous businessman. His large general merchandise store, ferry, and steamboat landing were important to the commerce of the area. His store served as a gathering place for the many local people who would go to Breedenton on Sundays to ride the</p>		

PHOTOGRAPHIC DATA

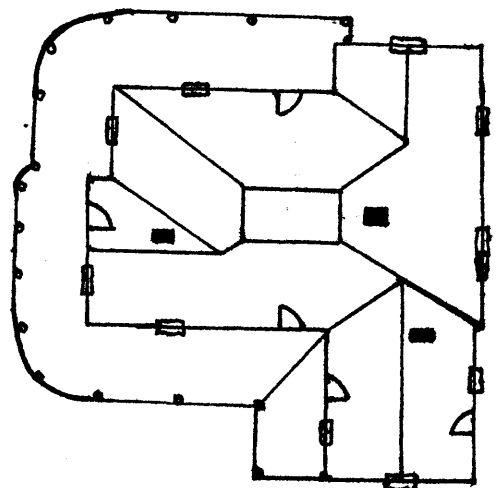
Photographer: Ann Toplovich
Date: 3/13/79
Negatives on file: Tennessee Historical
Commission
Photographer facing: S & W elevation-facing NE
Photograph number 26 of 55.
27 of 55-Facing South

CONTINUATION

Description:
balustrade on each floor. The porch roof has a modillion cornice. Another decorative feature of the house is square attic windows in the gable ends.

Significance:
steamboats that docked there. Eaves's steamboat landing was an essential part of Meigs County's transportation system. With poor roads and no railroad, steamboats served as the best carriers of goods and travellers to Meigs County's primary markets of Chattanooga and Knoxville. Older residents of the county still remember waiting at Eaves Store for the landing of the Joe Wheeler, the main steamboat servicing Meigs County in the early 1900's. The Joe

SITE PLAN - Include North Arrow



**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service****National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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Continuation sheet Historic Resources of
Meigs County, Tennessee Item number Significance Page 2

MEIGS COUNTY MULTIPLE RESOURCE NOMINATION - S.S. EAVES HOUSE (#21)

Significance:

Wheeler made its last excursion to Breedenton in 1916. The importance of Eaves's Landing may explain the style of architecture, Steamboat Gothic, Eaves chose for this impressive home on the banks of the Tennessee River.

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
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MEIGS COUNTY MULTIPLE RESOURCE NOMINATION - S.S. Eaves House (#21)

Verbal Boundary Description and Justification:

21. The boundaries begin at a point on the south bank of the Tennessee River 225 feet north of the S.S. Eaves House, thence in a southeasterly direction 300 feet, thence southwesterly 325 feet to the Eaves-Euchee Road, thence along said road in a northwesterly direction 250 feet, thence along the property line northeasterly 200 feet to the beginning. This boundary roughly takes the form of a trapezoid which encompasses the building. Due to the lack of property lines or visual boundaries on the northeast and southeast sides, imaginary boundary lines were established to include the house and approximately 2.4 acres of land on which it sits.

Historic Resources of Meigs County,
Tennessee
(Partial Inventory: Historic and
Architectural Resources)

S. S. EAVES HOUSE (#21)

