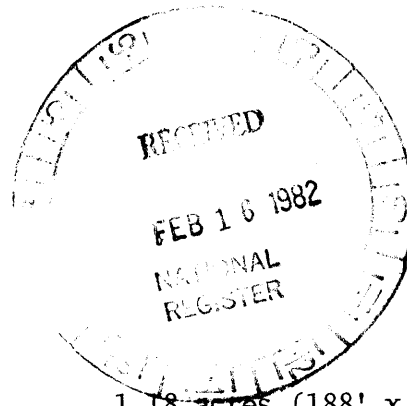


15. JOHN W. ELLIOTT HOUSE  
244 Prairie Street

Mrs. Wilkes C. Banks  
500 Springfield St.  
Eutaw, AL 35462



Lot 114 Tax Map 35-18-08-34-3-8-12

1.18 acres (188' x 275')

Latitude: 32° 50' 17"

Longitude: 87° 53' 3"

c. 1850                      Jessee Gibson/Builder

1857 rear room addition

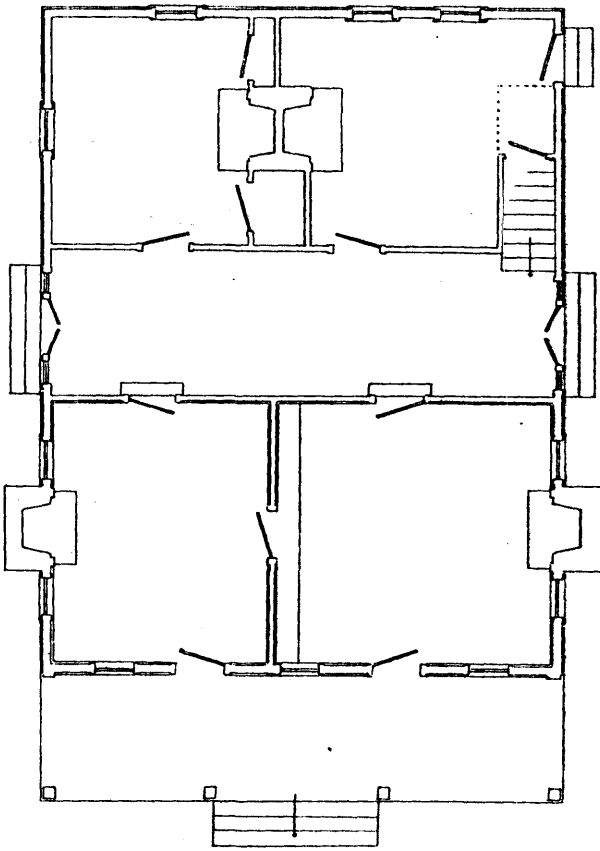
**SIGNIFICANCE:** This is a good example of the typical story-and-a-half structure with the cut-under porch which is locally termed "Creole Cottage". It is a typical home of a well-to-do store-owner in this rich plantation town.

**DESCRIPTION:** This is a 1½ story, frame structure with a roof that covers the porch that spans the entire front. The rear rooms being considerably more shallow than the main rooms, the first pair of chimneys are close to the peak of the gables on the sides, and serve fireplaces in the upper rooms. The front porch is treated somewhat like that of the Attoway R. Davis Cottage on Main Street (#33), with paneled dado up to window-sill level. The wall surface above is plastered, as at the Hall House (#13). The plan is standard, with the staircase in the front hall rising around an open well. The tapered newel post is round and has a molded base on a square plinth. Woodwork throughout is plain. Mantels are pilastered, and windows are set close to them. Those of the upper story begin at floor level and rise to within a foot of the flat plane of the ceiling. Fireplaces in the rear rooms below were close to the partition, as in the Asa White House.

**REMODELING:** John W. Elliott sold the property to Robert Emmett Watkins on February 2, 1857, including in the sale Lot #54. Watkins added a room about 17 by 18 feet on the southeast corner of the house. Since the house was set far back on the lot, when the Watkins' two daughters were grown and married they were given each a section off the front yard for their houses, leaving a center strip about 25 feet wide leading back to the old house from Prairie Street.

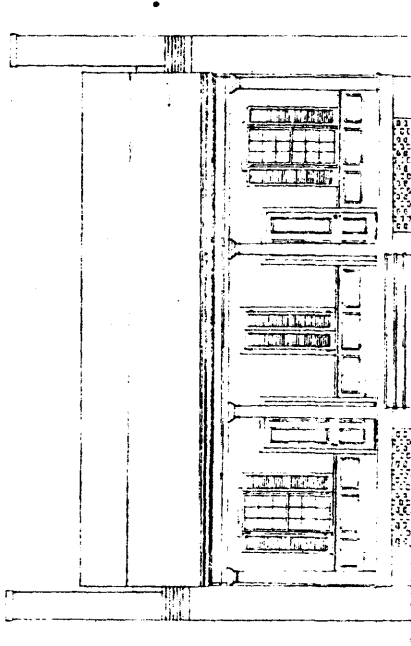
About 1920 the younger daughter, Mrs. Edwin Wilson, enlarged her parents' residence for her own occupancy. The rear wall of the building was moved back about 5 feet, and the two east rooms were given new chimneys, with windows on either side, all elements except flooring matching the original features. The rear slope of the roof was angled up and lengthened to cover the addition. Folding doors were inserted in the wall between the parlor (in the southwest corner) and dining room (behind), the north wall of which was moved over to the edge of the door between front and back halls. The dining room thus became 17 by 21 feet in size. The room appended for Mrs. Wilson's grandfather was divided into a bathroom, kitchen and pantry. Later a new room was built on the rear of the 1920s addition, occupying an area of from 13 to 14 feet in depth.



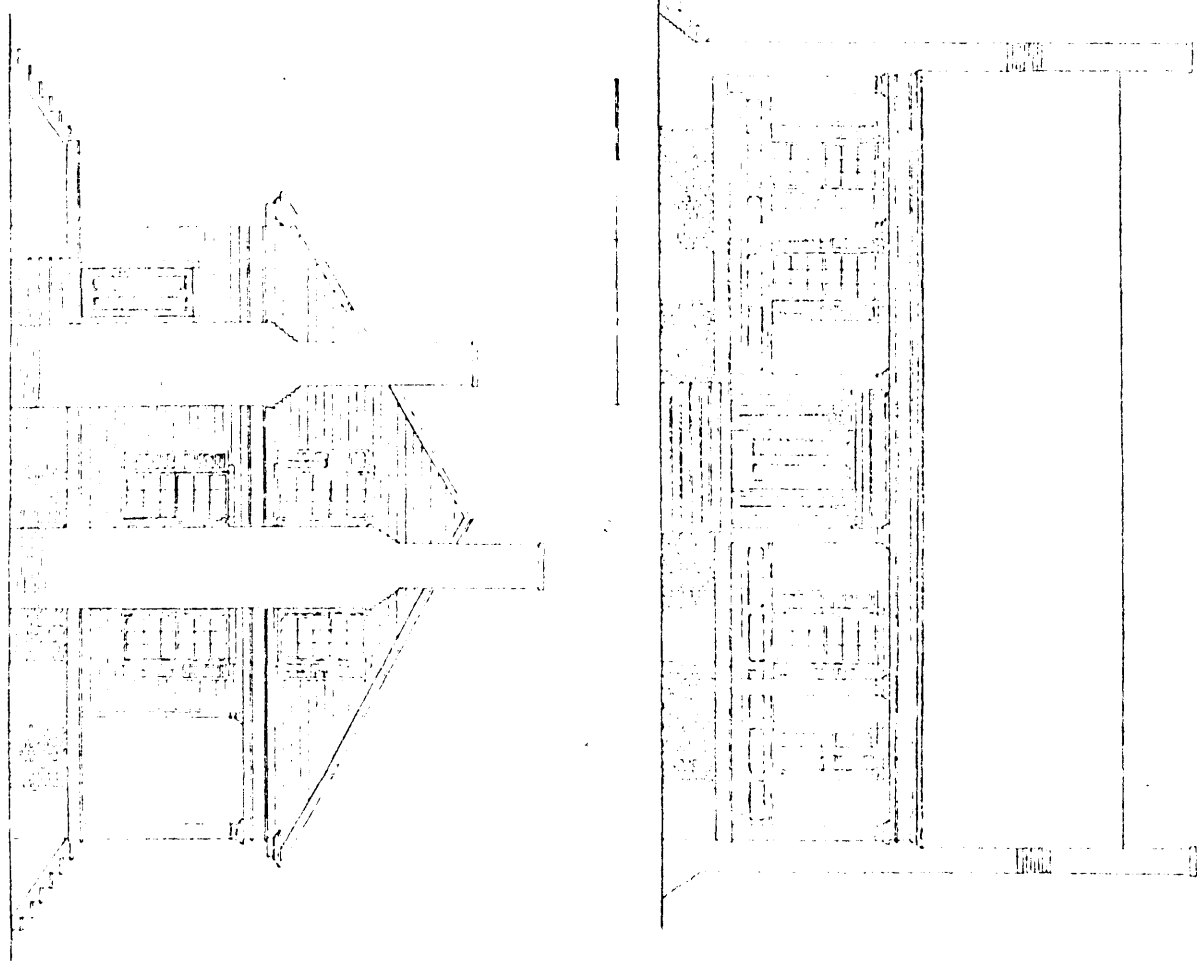
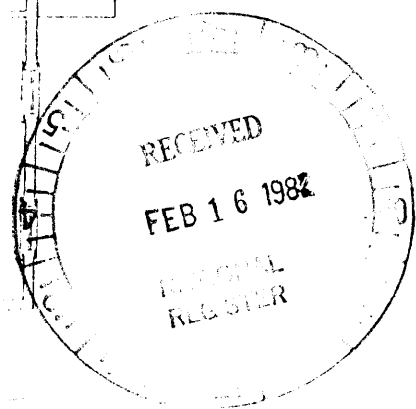
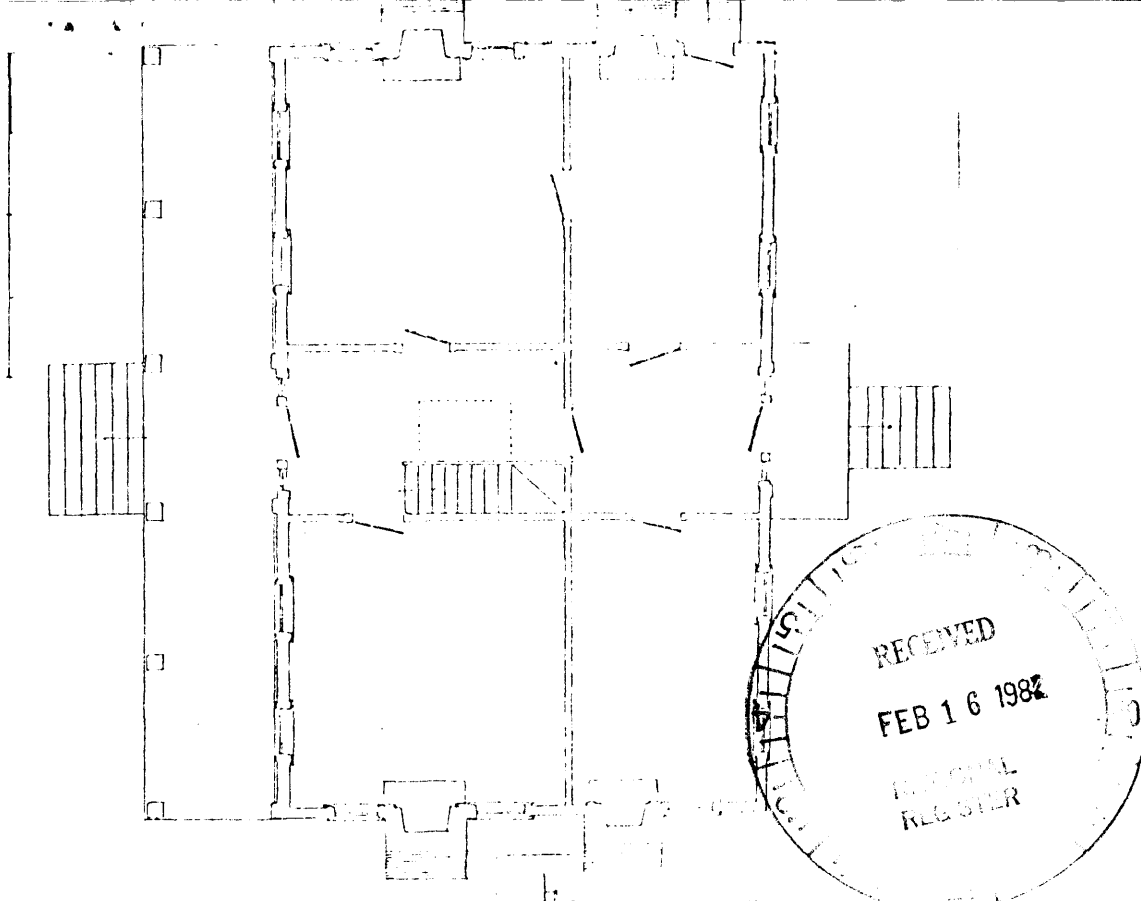


SCALE 00 FT.

FIG. 3-1A



SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"



# 18  
John Elliott House