

PH0010154

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Alabama	
COUNTY: Barbour	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 70,10,01,0011	DATE 10/6/70

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
The Tavern

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
River Tavern

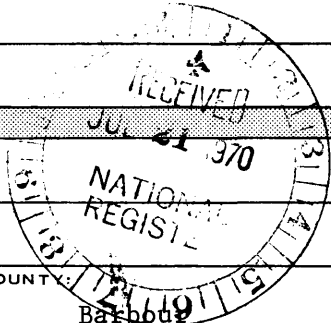
**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
105 Riverside Drive

CITY OR TOWN:  
Eufaula

STATE: Alabama

CODE 01	COUNTY: Barbour	CODE 005
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**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
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 type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>Lower floor rented</u>

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Cowikee Mill Foundation

STREET AND NUMBER:  
107 Riverside Drive

CITY OR TOWN:  
Eufaula

STATE:  
Alabama

CODE:  
01

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

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

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Broad Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Eufaula

STATE:  
Alabama

CODE:  
01

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
HABS

DATE OF SURVEY: 1936  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Washington

CITY OR TOWN:  
Washington

STATE:  
D.C.

CODE:  
08

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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**7. DESCRIPTION**

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Tavern is a two story English type structure with double galleries and unusual column design.

The upper gallery is enclosed by balusters. The contrast of the two-level portico is interesting: the ground floor is styled with square columns, while the upper floor has delicate round columns of a classical order. Central doors flanked by two windows, both upstairs and down, present a symmetrical appearance. The door on the upper porch has only side lights, but the front entrance has side lights and transom of clear glass. Large hand-hewn timbers, 6" x 10", give sturdy support to the structure. End chimneys are large, constructed of hand-made brick, and plastered. The steep gabled roof is covered with split-cedar shingles.

The Tavern was one of the few houses of the pioneer period that was built without a central hall; however, an open hallway divides the two rooms at the rear. Three large rooms run across the entire front. There was an open stairway to the second floor, but when the porch was later enclosed, it presented the appearance of a secret stairway. The carved banisters show outstanding workmanship for pioneer days. The north wing appears to be an addition; however it is part of the original structure. In early days, guests debarking from steam boats could go directly upstairs to their rooms.

The lower back room was a dining room. The 4' thick and 6' wide stone chimney still stands, but is plastered over. The flooring is 2' x 6' pine boards. Pegs and square nails were used in construction. Baseboards are 10" with 1-1/2" crown. The mantels are pine. Upstairs and downstairs rooms are identical in size and arrangement.

During restoration, the outside was painted light tan and trimmed in off-white.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**6. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1836

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/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic     | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |  |  |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Tavern was the first permanent structure built in Irwinton (forerunner of Eufaula), an early nineteenth century settlement established on the western banks of the Chattahoochee River as a trading center with the Lower Creek Indians.

Built in 1836 by Edward Williams, it was used for many purposes through the years. Built as an inn, it served as a stopping place when the steamboats plied on the Chattahoochee. On October 15, 1842, Williams deeded The Tavern to his daughter, Cynthia William Raines, who used it as a residence. In 1844, it was used as a temporary Episcopal Church.

During the War Between the States, it was converted into a Confederate Hospital. Later it was ransacked by Union Forces, leaving axe clefts in the wide flooring. In 1871, The Tavern was deeded to J. F. Hartung; his widow sold it to Captain Archer Ferrell, and, in 1966, it was purchased by the Cowikey Mills Foundation. Under this foundation The Tavern was restored. The architect for this restoration was Arthur Joe Grant of Montgomery who worked in conjunction with C. A. Blondheim.

Today the Tavern, only a few blocks from downtown Eufaula, occupies an imposing point on the high bluff overlooking Lake Eufaula, a large impoundment on the historic Chattahoochee River.

A marker placed in front by the United Daughters of the Confederacy states:

Confederate Hospital  
 "Sanctuary for Valiant and Courageous Men"  
 Built for River Tavern 1836

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Brown, Virginia P. and Helen Morgan Akens. Alabama Heritage. Huntsville: The Strode Publishers, 1967.  
 McMillan, Dr. Malcolm C. The Land Called Alabama. Austin: Steck-Vaughn Company, 1968.  
 Owen, Dr. Thomas M. History of Alabama and Dictionary of Alabama Biography, Volume II. Chicago: The S. J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1921.  
 Sulzby, James F. Historic Alabama Hotels and Resorts. University, Al.: University of Alabama Press, 1960.  
 Walker, Anne Kendrick. Backtracking in Barbour County. Richmond: The Dietz Press, 1941.

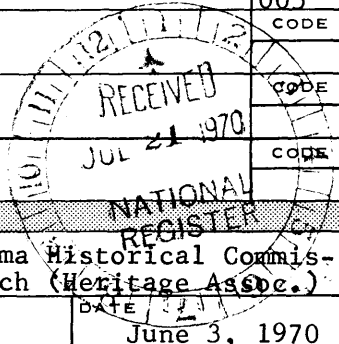
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

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 ' "		31° 53' 30 "	85 ° 08 ' 30 "	
NE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SW	0 ' "	0 ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **approximately 3 acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
All in Alabama	01	Barbour	005
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: **W. Warner Floyd, Executive Director, Alabama Historical Commission and Mrs. George Alexander, Historic Eufaula Research (Heritage Assoc.)**

ORGANIZATION: **Alabama Historical Commission**

STREET AND NUMBER: **305 South Lawrence Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Montgomery**

STATE: **Alabama**

CODE: **01**

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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:

National  State  Local

Name *Wils B. Howard Jr.*  
 Title *Chmn. Ala. Historical Com. State Liaison Officer*  
 Date *July 15, 1970*

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

*Ernest Allen Cunnally*  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

**OCT 6 1970**

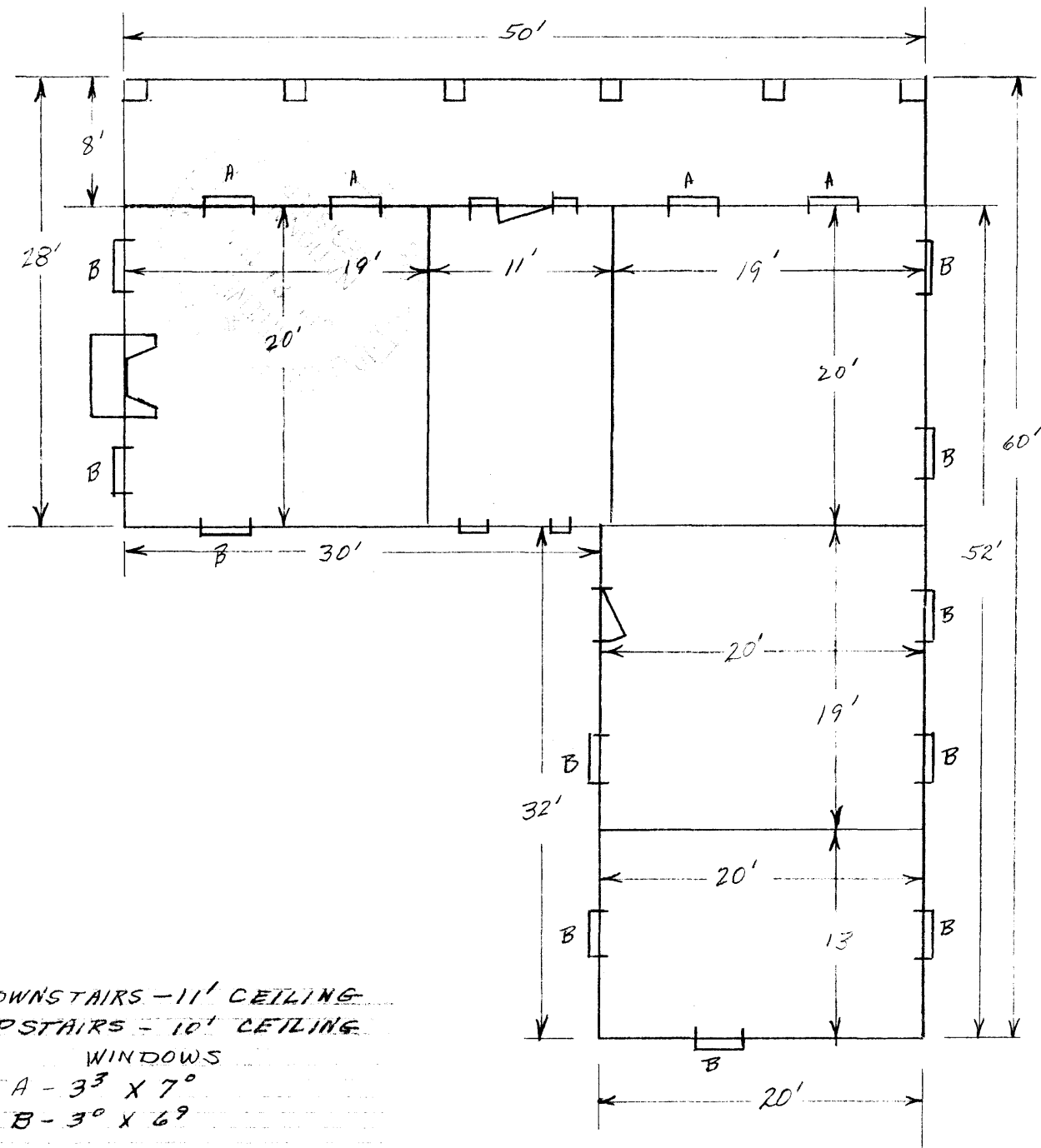
Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

*William J. Mumby*  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date **AUG 12 1970**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



DOWNSTAIRS - 11' CEILING

UPSTAIRS - 10' CEILING

WINDOWS

A - 3<sup>3</sup> X 7<sup>0</sup>

B - 3<sup>0</sup> X 6<sup>9</sup>

THE TAVERN

