DANIEL R. WRIGHT HOUSE/MURPHY-DUNLOP HOUSE 501 Pickens Street

Reverend and Mrs. William Dennis 501 Pickens Street Eutaw, Alabama 35462

Lot 131

Tax Map: See attached

map

NATIONAL REGISTER

.68 acres (171! Springfield,

177' Pickens)

Latitude: 32° 50' 33"

Longitude: 87° 53' 9"

1847

Builder/Architect unknown

Late 19th century: dormers

Significance: This is the best example in Eutaw of the house form established by the Vaughn House (#8). It exists in very near its original form and is in excellent condition. It can be considered as an enlarged version of the Vaughn House with considerably higher piers, taller posts, a lifting of the entablature well above the level of the window heads, and two doorways. The building is also unique for having a basement kitchen (located under the north wing of the house). It reflects more self-conscious attention to "style" in the studied symmetry of each facade and application of heavy Greek Revival detail.

Description: This is a one-story raised structure with gabled roofs and and L-shape followed by the one-story verandas. Two doorways are centered in the east and south fronts. There are two chimneys in the north end. The basement kitchen under the north wing of the house has inside stairs to the main level. There was a summer kitchen located to the north of the house.

It has a free and interesting floor plan. The two rooms to the north are chambers; in the southeast corner is the parlor; and at the west end is the dining room, with great folding doors opening into the larger middle section, connected to the gallery by one of the two pilastered doorways, the combined interior making an ample banqueting hall. The chimney between this room and the parlor provides off-center fireplaces for both. It may be noted that the room assignments in the Vaughn, Pippen and Wright houses have corresponding positions. In the last axis between the sleeping and social rooms is a hall that ends in a porch. The staircase curves around a 90° arc halfway up, the higher flight cutting crosswise across the chambers, and an open well in front. A small bedroom is over the two north chambers, and the rest of the upstairs is a single large space, originally lighted only by two small windows in the west gable, apparently serving for parties. Plain interior trim, with vertical-panel doors and simple pilastered mantels, is consistent with the bold Column treatment.

