

24. ATTOWAY R. DAVIS HOME  
305 Main Street

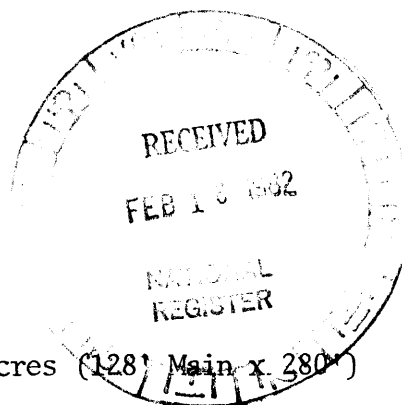
Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Richardson  
305 Main Street  
Eutaw, Alabama 35462

Lot 92; Tax Map: 35-18-08-33-1-12-7 .82 acres (128' Main x 280')

Latitude: 32° 50' 24"

Longitude: 87° 53' 19"

Early 1840's front portion  
? c. 1817 rear portion



**SIGNIFICANCE:** The oldest portion of this structure is said to have been transported across the Warrior River from its original site in Erie, the now vanished county seat of Greene County. Since nothing now remains of that historic village, this remnant has special significance for Greene County and Alabama. There are no recorded documents one way or the other pertaining to the validity of this pedigree, but the descendants of the Meriwether family are still residents of the town and no reason exists for refutation of their family tradition concerning this house. Attoway R. Davis's addition made in the early 1840's is certainly of consistent design and presents a pleasant and well maintained facade to Main Street. The 1840's addition moreover, is significant as yet another variation a prevalent Eutaw form.

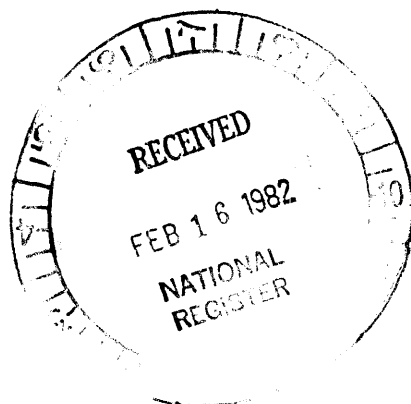
**DESCRIPTION:** The building said to have been re-erected here, is two-storied and composed of two rooms downstairs and two up, with an enclosed stairway at the north-west corner. The steps either ascended from an open porch or had winders at the base connecting with the west room. A center chimney serves four fireplaces. Existing mantels are of the plain early type with moldings enframing the opening, simple fascia boards, and shelves above. Windows have nine-over-nine paned sashes. Present doors are later.

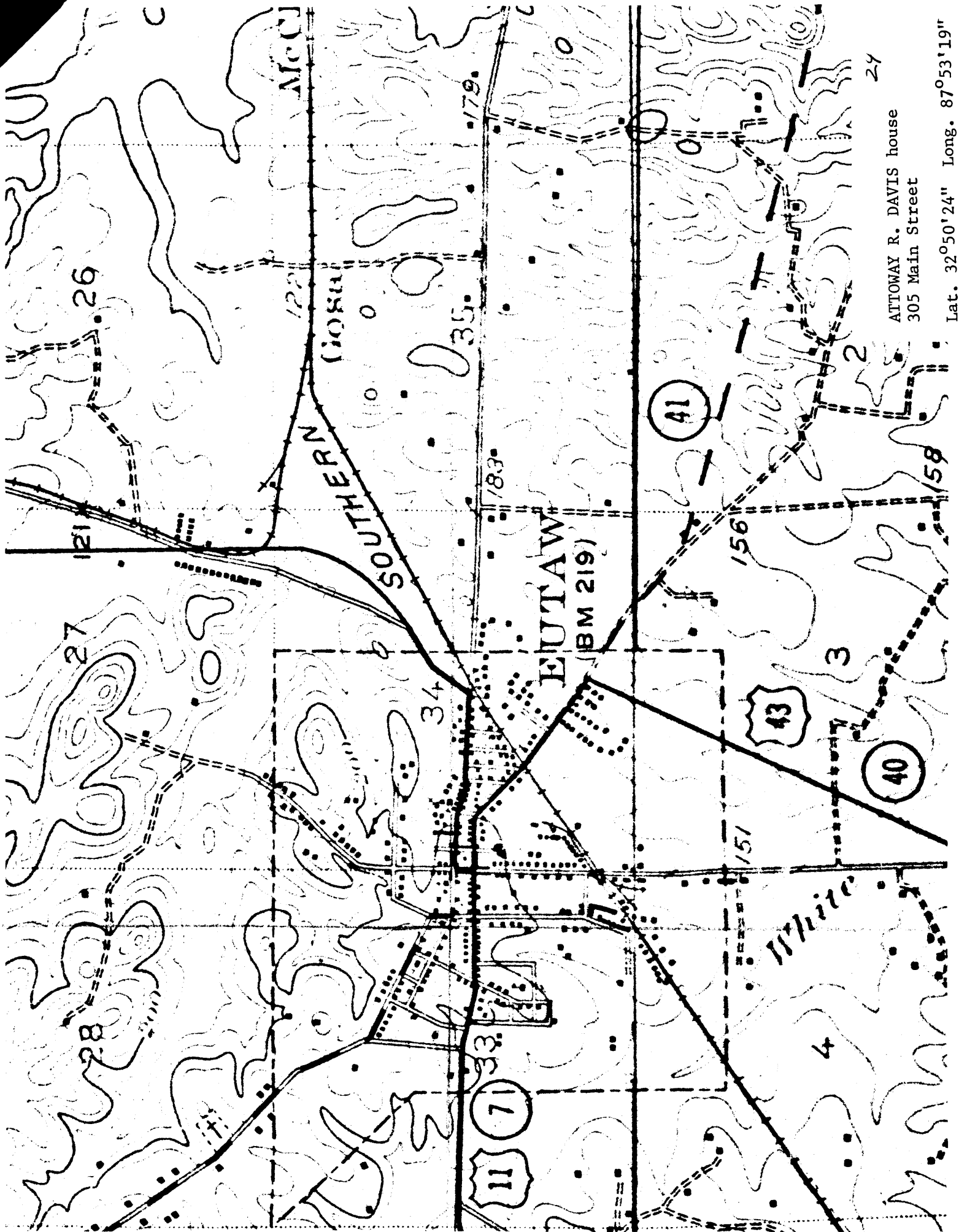
A low pavilion in front has the scale and features of a dwelling built in Eutaw during the early 1840's, resembling, specifically, the Iradell P. Vaughan house (#8) directly across the street. That the new front mass is exactly the width of the rear structure indicates that it was devised as a screen for the older part. Due to the break in the north slope of the roof it is questionable whether the porch is original. It first had square wooden posts, slightly tapered, matching the pilasters remaining at the corners. The facade is five-bayed, with three windows identical to those in the old rear structure. They are set on the top rail of a paneled dado, and the upper wall is of flush boards. The two doors are four-paneled and open into separate rooms. There is paneling below the chairrailing, and fireplaces are in external chimneys at opposite ends. That to the east is pilastered, the other being a later replacement. Floor boards run crosswise in two sections and are of equal length. The partition is set about 20 inches to the east of their junction. The lean-to roof at the back covers the hall that separates the two parts of the house. Transom and sidelights encompass double doors at either end, making the hall a breezeway. It is two steps below the level of the front floor, indicating replacement of an earlier porch, as suggested above.

**Remodeling:** Attoway R. Davis sold the house to John Haywood Capman for \$1,500 on December 13, 1848. Shortly after mid century a one room office, with entrance from the street, was added on the east for the next owner, Thompson W. Taylor, a physician, who sold the house to John S. Meriwether in 1866. The latter also was a physician, and one of thoses owners closed up the middle window in front, removing the frame and

ATTOWAY R. DAVIS HOME CONTINUED

plastering the wall inside. The Meriwethers retained the house into the twentieth century, and they replaced the front posts with wooden scrolled lattices and bracket supports, which were succeeded by brick piers sponsored by the present owner.





McC

SOUTHERN COAST

EUTAW (BM 219)

White

Marian

24

ATTOWAY R. DAVIS house  
305 Main Street

Lat. 32°50'24" Long. 87°53'19"

126

121

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