

1819

Demol. by owner, 1991

Dbl. sashes on front = Italianate features
Mantels = " "
Basin base, w/o later porch, = Greek Revival
Probable date 1850's (late) or 1860, w/o porch



↑ Prairie Ave
↓ N. to Cr. 124

Adjusted
pres. of hse.
They thought
it was
"just Victorian"

Eutaw, AL, Prairie Ave.

S. of Cr. 124 ± 2 blks on W. side

Late Greek Revival (c. 1860-70?) w/ later Vic. Porch (c. 1900?) Ital. mantels

Photos Martin Sisson, AIA, + H. Jones, April 1991

Being demol. by previous owner, for site of new Co. Lib. by JFH.

EUTAW
c. 1860
HSE



→ N



→ N



Later Vis. porch

→ N

2



Sash looks 1860-75



NOTE
Mortises
for
various
rail
designs

3r18 Later vic. col. & porch

N



N →

↘



mod. makeshift balustrade

N



Later vic. porch
(± 1 3/4" wide joists & rafters
& dbl-bead deck indicate
c. 1890-1910, along w/
smaller bricks at porch piers)

Top



Sash-blind



S.W. next rm,
N. wall
(dbl. windows)



added bath
c. 1920's

→ N

Vic.
porch

Added
bath

→ SW

70518



N. W. M
(later vic. porch)

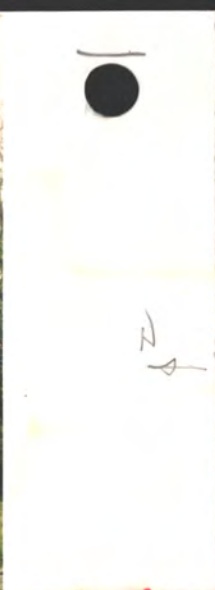
ca 1920's →
bath addition
on S. wall



PSW
corner

→ ca. 1920's
bath

NOT



N

Note
difference
in bricks
at porch
piers vs.
earlier
has piers

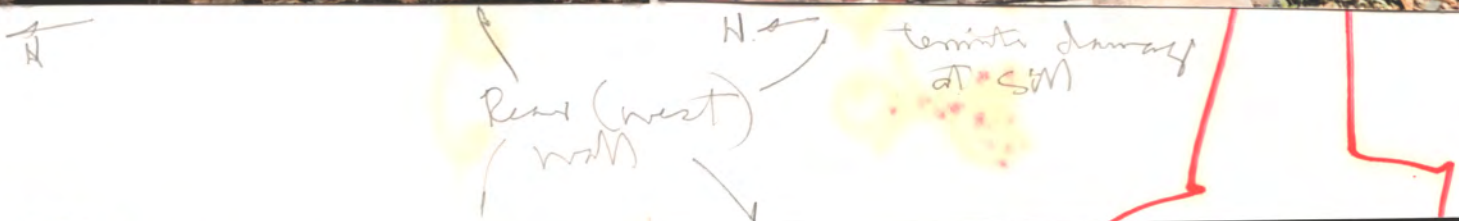
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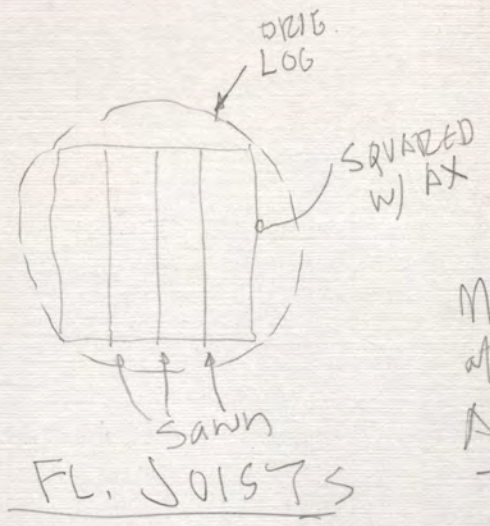
Porch fl. frame
is also
lighter

6
5
18



Makeshift recent
porch balustrade





Main sill, at W. wall.
 AX - heavy.
 Termites damage.



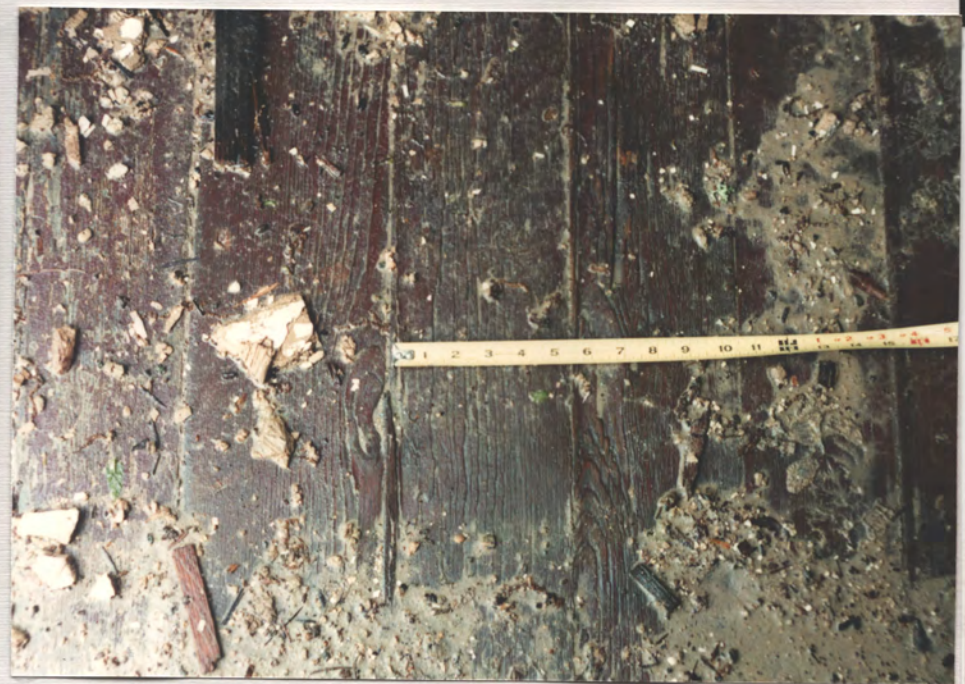
Rear (West) Yard

→ N



N. Wall, N.W. RM.
HSE. N.W. CORNER ↘

↑ N



Type 5/4 T&G
dense pine fl
widths vary as shown
(± 6 1/2" - 4 1/2")



N

blind
 ↑
 Typ. window, N.W. Rm., N.W.M



↑
 TYPICAL STUD
 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11
 * 13 1/2" *
 Note Rotary
 Sawn Clapbd
 indicates
 c. 1860 or later



N

N.W.
 Rm.
 WEST
 WALL



↓



Typical Mantel (all same)



N
Z

14

N.W. Rm F.P. — Lined w/ firebrick for small coal grate. Lining appears later. 566 p. 8





Mantels (all same)



→ N Bens (west) entry sidewalk



↖ N

↖ Bens (west) entry



↖ N Bens entry



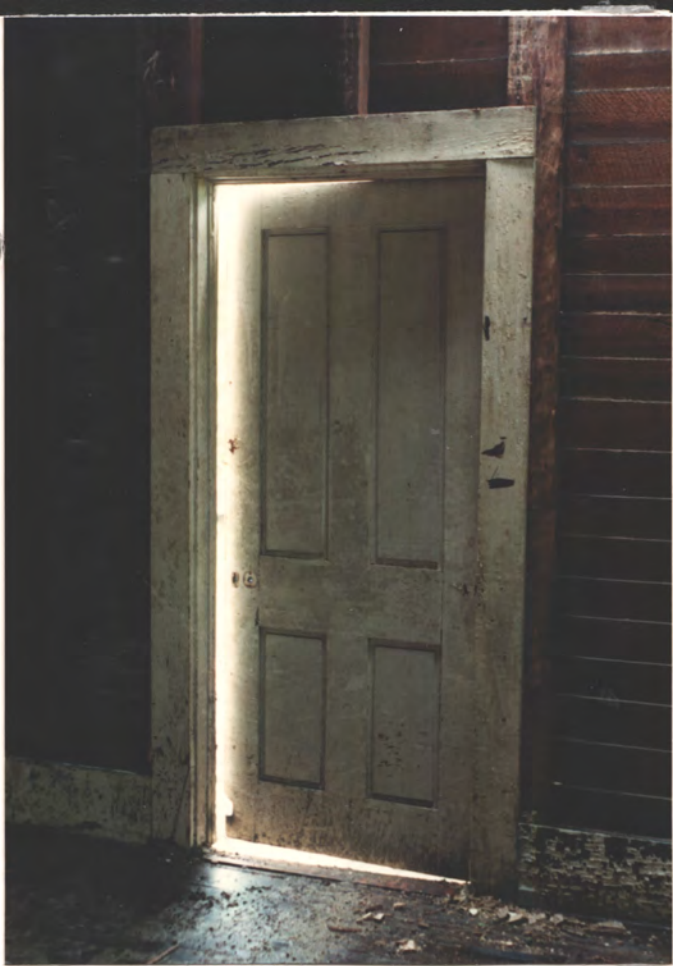
S.W. corner of Hx N →



N ← Rem S.W. Rm.

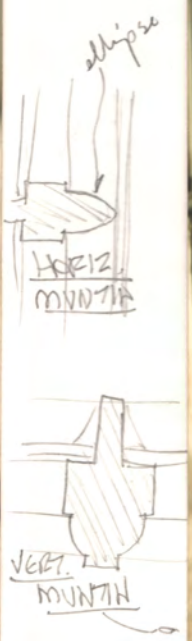


N →
Front
S.E. Rm



7/2

Typ. door. This is N.W. Rm., west door to ext.



Front (east) sashes

17 of 18

"Excelsior" firebrick for small coal grate. Appears added. See p. 18



N → HALL



HALL HJres



Front (S.E.) f.p. → N
 w) later coal grate lining (note worn edges of horiz. bricks)

Note pole-rafters (roof deck is m'hem)



Roof 17M



fig. 47 Restored North Side and Front Elevations of the Phillip Schoppert House (before 1856), Prairie Street.

any further husband." The Schopperts' son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. George W. Mabe, were living on the south half of the lot, and Mary Sparrow sold it to Samuel W. Cockrell for \$450 several months later (Chapter Twelve). The latter price being reasonable indicates that the house on the land was of little consequence, and indeed it was replaced soon afterward; but the conveyance to Mrs. Schoppert was virtually a gift, testifying to a close relationship between the two women and disregarding the house. Stripping off the late-nineteenth-century alterations, its early characteristics provide evidence that the present building predates the Sparrow-Schoppert transfer.

The front part of the Phillip Schoppert house is two-storied and follows the Grassdale plan, and it has a hipped roof like the Duncan Dew residence. The last is a Renaissance innovation differing from the indigenous steep gabled roofs of Northern Europe and England and referred to as the "Italian" roof. By contrast, the chimneys of the Schoppert house are strictly Medieval. They are not merely "shouldered," like the Mesopotamia examples, but they are given three setbacks on each side, the lowest and least being at the base. Surely this was a memory image of early examples brought from South Carolina by the builder. Also unusual in Western Alabama are the narrow windows, now fitted with replacement sashes of single panes, whose measurements indicate that of standard-size panes they would have contained 8-by-10-inch lights arranged three wide and seven tall. A pair of this species survives in the north wall of the Littleberry Pippen house at the southwest corner of Springfield and Pippen streets, matching in height the nine-paned-sash windows (of larger lights) in front. In opposition to the narrow fenestration, the doorway of the Schoppert house is unusually wide, containing a pair of full-sized doors, and relatively large panes of glass in the sidelights and transom. The discrepancy between the widths of openings may have been masked by a portico throwing the entrance in shadow; but no trace of it remaining, such exists only in the realm of conjecture and thus outside the ken of restoration graphics.

The first-floor plan of the Phillip Schoppert house has been returned to its original disposition through discovery of the early newel-post hole in the hallway, noting the former division wall here, and completing the southeast corner of the building (evidently

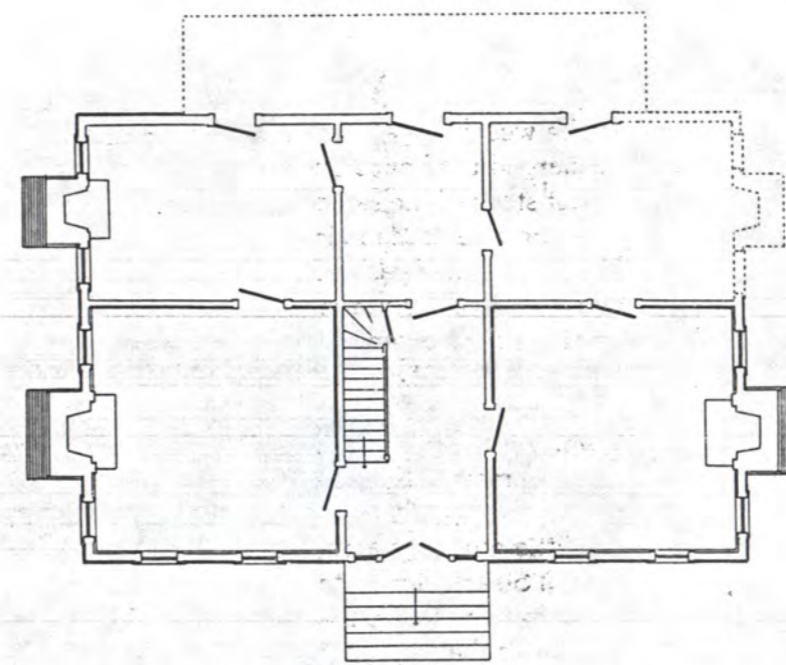


fig. 48 Restored First Floor Plan of the Phillip Schoppert House.

changed after some catastrophe, such as a fire) to match that opposite. Doors of the lower story have two vertical panels, in the early Greek Revival manner, and they are enframed with running moldings and plain corner blocks. Paneled dado exists in the two principal rooms. The mantel in the upper south chamber seems early, and it is provincial; pilasters have a high plinth, shaft, necking and a capital composed primarily of a rounded member in place of a square abacus; the fascia is bare and surmounted by a cove and splayed-edge shelf.

The rear part of the Schoppert house is single-storied and covered by a low-pitched shed roof. A lean-to arrangement would have been more normal, though hardly feasible here because of the hip roof on the main pavilion. The summit of the shed roof is below the sill of the second-story rear windows, and the slope is gentle because ceilings to the back rooms are level with those in front. Chimneys on the ends are miniatures of the greater pair, and windows flanking them are set a few inches lower than those in the fore part of the house, for what reason remains a mystery, though the same feature appears on the story-and-a-half Head house next door (Chapter Twelve). There probably would have been a shallow gallery at the back, and kitchen and other dependencies in the yard.

The house officially belonged to Phillip Schoppert for several years. His wife died on 25 August 1869 and left it to him, and he lived until 5 January 1871.¹³ Their heirs sold the property at auction to Mary E. Ustick for \$3,075 a year later.¹⁴ Remarried, as Mary E. Mundy, she conveyed it to her son, Edward A. Ustick, for money she owed him (amounting to \$2,000) early in 1889.¹⁵ Edward Ustick must have had the big fancy porch added, including the change of the upper center window to a door. Probably the stairway was altered then, and some of the corner blocks to the door trim became later versions with incised circular motifs in them.

David Rinehart Anthony (1801-1871) came from North Carolina to build William M. High's house at Forkland in lower Greene County. High purchased land here in 1835, consisting of an eighth of a section (perhaps 80 acres), to which he added 160 acres in

Chapter 10 One-Story Houses

The Eutaw domestic manifestation, with residence of limited extent, having few rooms though of surprisingly good size, and detached dependencies serving the practical functions, was well expressed in the single-story house. High ceilings, with air space between them and the sloping roof, were conducive to temperature stability. The last house discussed in the preceding chapter, on Lot #129, serves as an example of the minimum structure of two rooms. Farther out the same street, beyond the town limits, on the opposite side of the Springfield Road, stood another small dwelling, its plan amplified by including a hall between two rooms. The passageway had double doors, front and back. The house was covered by a hipped roof; it had fifteen-paned windows, and the chimneys were on the ends. A porch was added on the front. The house had been abandoned and was demolished in May of 1977.

The oldest existing example in town originally must have resembled the cottage on the Springfield Road. It was built on Lot #112, now 238 Prairie Street, containing 1½ acres, purchased by Caleb W. Taylor from Asa White for \$337.50 on 9 December 1839.¹ Taylor's house was L-shaped, having a third square room extending back from the northwest corner of the front mass. All had external chimneys on the outermost walls. Windows were eighteen-paned. Interior features were of early type, doors being six-paneled, mantels having moldings around the fireplace opening, fascia boards and shelves above, and chairrailing encircling the rooms.

The house was standing when Caleb W. Taylor sold Lot #112 to Elizabeth Bell for \$1,000 on 24 December 1840.² Elizabeth's son, Alexander Bell, resided in it; and Mrs. Bell conveyed it to White and Pippen on 8 October 1841. Asa White resold it to Luther Hoadley and Catlin Wilson, from whom William C. Oliver purchased it for \$600, the latter deed recorded on 16 April 1856; but Oliver must have acquired it upward of seven months earlier, as he bought land behind from John W. Elliott on 1 September 1855, and

description states that Oliver was the owner of the property to the west.³ William C. Oliver, who had been the sheriff of Greene County, later a judge, enlarged the house by having it elevated to become the second story supported on a new first story of the same plan. A staircase was installed in the hallway, lower doors were four-paneled and mantels were pilastered, in the Greek Revival manner. The new windows have six-paned sashes. A portico was added at the front, whereby the old doorway opened on a balcony. Later the area alongside the rear wing, behind the hall, was covered by a low-pitched extension of the south slope of the ell roof.

Descendants of Judge Oliver's second wife resided in the house into the twentieth century. About 1930 the tall portico was exchanged for a low one with square piers, and the upper door became a window.⁴ An old dependency in the back yard may have been the former kitchen.

Asa White sold Edwin Reese, the carriage maker, Lot #103, of a little over one acre, for \$330 on 17 September 1841.⁵ Reese built a house, now 236 Wilson Street, similar to that of Caleb W. Taylor, except that the plan was inverted, and chimneys were inside the end walls. Details within were Greek Revival, the mantels pilastered (that in the southeast room is extant), and doors have two vertical panels. Reese lived here until he built the big house on adjoining Lot #102 during the following decade (Chapter Fourteen). He sold the cottage to Salina S. D. Riddle for \$3,140 on 24 December 1863.⁶ Mrs. Riddle transferred it to her son, Alvis T. Riddle, for \$1,900 on 1 February 1866; and when he died on 1 September 1868, he bequeathed his estate to Dr. James R. Ward as trustee for his mother.⁷ Mrs. Riddle having died, the property was sold to E. F. Campbell for \$1,200 on 26 February 1880.⁸ Campbell enlarged the house by having a full second story added to the front section and a one-story room (with steep gable) at the rear of the north end. There was a portico at the entrance, probably two-storied, now replaced by a short version; and the new windows had six-paned sashes, though equal in size to those with nine-paned sashes below. In the enlarged Taylor and Reese houses the window-light pattern is reversed as regards first and second stories. The house on Wilson Street was conveyed to Campbell's daughter, Mrs. Martha C. Byrd, and from her the present owner acquired it.

fig. 59 Restored Front Elevation of House Formerly on East Side of Springfield Road beyond Town Limits.



SCALE 20 FT.

no porch