

(Ruins) of ~~Old~~
Augusta Evans Wilson Home^{Co.}
Ashland Place
Mobile, Alabama

HABS No. ALA-68

HABS
ALA,
49-MOBI,
65-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORIC AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
DISTRICT NO. 16

Historic American Buildings Survey
E. Walter Burkhardt, District Officer
Auburn, Alabama

ALA

RUINS OF OLD AUGUSTA EVANS WILSON HOME.
Ashland Place.
Mobile, Mobile County, Alabama.

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Ownership:

Present Owner: Robinson Lumber Company.

Previous Owners: Samuel G. Swift.
Lorenzo M. Wilson.
Augusta Evans Wilson.
George Fern.
Anna P. Ambrect.
Robinson Lumber Company.

Date of Erection: 1826 - 1827.

Architect: Unknown.

Builder: Samuel G. Swift.

Present Condition: Destroyed by fire 1927.

Number of Stories: One.

Material of Construction: One story frame; Colonial type;
columns to the front.

Other Existing Records:

See: "HISTORIC HOMES OF ALABAMA AND THEIR TRADITIONS"
By Alabama members of National League of American
Pen Women.

Additional Data: The ruins of this house stands upon land that was a part of the second grant by the Spanish to Thomas Price consisting of 500 acres. 65-

This structure was built by Samuel G. Swift, who later sold it to Lorenza M. Wilson, husband of Augusta Evans Wilson, a noted novelist, whose books made a wide appeal. 1624-27

It was a broad, high, one storied - house; wide galleries across the front, and the two wings; and a hall through the center.

To the east of the house were the double parlors, whose long French windows opened upon the galleries. It was in this house that Augusta Evans at the age of fifteen completed her first novel, "Inez - a tale of the Alamo", and presented it to her father as a birthday surprise. Titles to her later books are : "Beulah", "Macaria", "St. Elmo", "Vashti" and "At the Mercy of Tiberius".

This lovely home was destroyed by fire in 1927, only the pillars and parts of the walls remain standing like classic ruins.

Source of Material:

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