

(Alabama) by Chris Edwards and Faye Axford (1978). On pages 17 – 19 in the story about the Mason – Looney house at 416 East Washington Street in Athens, a brief summary of the Looney family history is included. This information is shown below.

#### 15. MASON-LOONEY (ca. 1820?)

When Aubrey Looney purchased his grandfather's house in Athens in 1967 it was the culmination of a long-cherished desire. As a youngster he had "skinny-dipped" in the little pond southeast of the house near the site of an old brick yard; explored the evidence of an old spring through the dense woods behind the house; and dreamed of owning the covered log dogtrot with its high-ceilinged rooms flanking the hallway, and rear ells extending to either side.

The house was willed to Aubrey's spinster aunt, Norah. After her death it was sold to Aubrey by the Looney heirs. Aubrey and Annie Mae (Brakefield) Looney had gained much experience in remodeling through their 39 years of residence in the old Barksdale house (see *Barksdale House*). They lowered the twelve-foot ceilings, and raised the roof line to accommodate a second floor in the Athens house.

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