



"RIVERVIEW"

LOCATION: Follow Vonore Road (Highway 72) to Molar Giles store and turn left onto Davis Ferry Road. House is beside the Little Tennessee River and is located near the ferry.

Jonathan Davis and his wife, Sally, purchased this land in 1782. Located approximately eight miles from Loudon, this Davis family land at one time included 1200 acres. The couple had only one son, C. T. P. Davis, who built the old log home near the river in 1811 with the assistance of two Negro slaves. The bricks for the chimney were burned on the place, and the logs and other timber were cut from the Davis land. The appearance of the home when first built was very similar to that of the Carmichael Inn (See House #14). Originally, there was a log porch, the roof of which was supported by long rafters running the entire length of the house. The stairway to the second floor was not enclosed until the house was remodeled in 1940, at which time weatherboarding was laid over the logs and a double porch was placed at the entrance way. In the living room, the fireplace is stone faced with brick, and the floors are logs split in half and laid over

sills. The remainder of the house has a wide, heart-of-pine flooring. The living room has exposed log beams in the ceiling.

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The Davis family dearly loved to square dance, and in the summer they built a platform in the orchard for use as a dance floor. Dances during the winter were held in a large, one-room wing especially built for this purpose. Above the dance floor was a dormitory-type room to accommodate the dancers, who sometimes stayed a week. The house also had, above the kitchen, a separate room in which the Davis family allowed slaves to hide. At one time there were eighteen slaves living there. The family later kept and educated two Negro children, one of whom became a lawyer and the other a teacher.

The Davis line of descent ran out with the death of Charlie Davis and his sister, Nettie, neither of whom married. The land had dwindled to 340 acres which, along with the house, were sold at public auction to Mr. and Mrs. William A. Graham. Extensive remodeling done in 1940 to this early log house has helped preserve it as one of the oldest homes in Loudon County.