

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED NOV 11 1976
DATE ENTERED NOV 17 1977

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Cardwellton (Chenoweth-Slavens-Cardwell House)

AND/OR COMMON
Cardwellton

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
103 East Broadway

CITY, TOWN
Harrodsburg

STATE
Kentucky

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Sixth

COUNTY
Mercer

CODE
167

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
(Miss) Carolyn H. Grimes

STREET & NUMBER
103 East Broadway

CITY, TOWN
Harrodsburg

STATE
Kentucky

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Mercer County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER
Main Street

CITY, TOWN
Harrodsburg

STATE
Kentucky

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky

DATE
1971

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS
Kentucky Heritage Commission

CITY, TOWN
Frankfort

STATE
Kentucky

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Cardwellton is located on the northeast corner of North Main Street and East Broadway in Harrodsburg, the first permanent settlement in Kentucky in 1774. The town creek, originally one of the town's major water sources, flows behind the house.

The nucleus of the house is a log cabin, which may be the structure platted on lot 86 in 1786 when the town was incorporated as a village by the Virginia legislature and ordered surveyed (First Trustee Book, Mercer County Courthouse).

According to tradition the main block was built circa 1820. The proportions are not those of a log structure and the details of the front window frames suggest those often attributed to the distinguished local cabinet-maker Matthew Lowery. It seems unlikely that such exquisite woodwork would have been installed in a log structure (yet the clapboarding does seem in the photographs to have been superimposed on the window frames, not vice versa) (see photos 1, 2, & 5).

The five-bay, two-story structure, with a one room two-story ell extending to the north is built on a stone foundation. Interior brick chimneys with corbelled tops are located at the east and west ends of the main block and the north wall of the ell. The windows, which were originally shuttered, are narrow and have two-over-two pane sash. The window frames and casings are deeply reeded and have carved rosettes in the top corners. Three false windows are located on the west end of the block. The central door frame with its grouped reeding and concentric circles on the corner blocks seems later than the window frames. The present arched front door and larger window sash date from a late 19th century alteration (see photos 2 & 5).

It was surely between 1831, when the property was bought by John Chenoweth for \$400, and 1837, when it was sold to Dr. John Slavins (or Slavens) for \$3,000, that the handsome Greek Revival portico was added. The great difference in value of the property gives evidence of much improvement during that period. As Rexford Newcomb pointed out, "log structures were often covered with clapboarding to make them appear as frame houses. It is unusual, however, to have added features that stamp the house as Greek Revival. That, precisely, is what happened to [Cardwellton] which was given a tetrastyle Ionic portico during the Greek Revival period" (*Architecture in Old Kentucky*, 1953, p. 136). The two-story portico, which is applied over the central three bays of the earlier five, is fine in itself, but no attempt has been made to integrate it with the older portion by means of a superimposed cornice, even on the front as at nearby Clay Hill (Beriah Magoffin Sr. House, forwarded to Washington July, 1976). The unfluted Ionic order has the further peculiarity of resting directly on square blocks without the usual and proper curved base. Thus, the portico seems to belong to

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
	<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES Before 1786; ca. 1820; 1831-37; and later BUILDER/ARCHITECT unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Cardwellton stands on one of the original in-lots of the old town of Harrodsburg, on the street then known as Water Street laid out by James Harrod who founded the town in 1774. The house, which was for many years the residence of Dr. Slavens, a prominent Harrodsburg physician, and the Cardwell family, is an unusual example of an early log house that has been altered several times, having both Federal and Greek Revival characteristics.

The nucleus of the present structure is a very early log house, which may date from before 1786. The main block, probably built ca. 1820, has a Federal character with fine carved details attributed to the well-known cabinet-maker Mathew Lowery. An impressive early Greek Revival Ionic portico was added most likely in the 1830s when extensive improvements were made to the property. Only minimal alterations have been needed since then to keep the dwelling--located in a transitional zone between downtown and residential Harrodsburg--fashionable and functional.

The original owner was John Chenoweth, who sold the property to Dr. Slavens in 1832. Dr. Slavens was born in Virginia in 1791. His father was Isajah Slavens, a Revolutionary War soldier. It is recorded that Dr. Slavens enlisted in the War of 1812 at Mount Sterling, Kentucky. After that war he married Sophia Graham from Bath County. Slavens received his medical degree from Transylvania University in 1821. He practiced in Mount Sterling for fifteen years. He then moved to Greencastle, Indiana, for one year. In 1837 he moved to Harrodsburg where he practiced until his death in 1863.

At that time the house was sold to the Cardwell family. Dr. T. H. Reed is listed as the owner on the 1876 Atlas (see Map 2).

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Newcomb, Rexford. Architecture in Old Kentucky. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1953.

Price, A. D. "Those Who Have Been and Are Not." Harrodsburg; 1910 (Pamphlet). Additional information from Miss Carolyn Grimes, Harrodsburg, Kentucky.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1

UTM REFERENCES

A 16 690010 4181580
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Mary Cronan-Oppel, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Kentucky Heritage Commission

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

Bridge Street

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Frankfort

STATE

Kentucky

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Eddred W. Newton

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

11/5/76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Robert B. Rettig

DATE

11/17/77

ATTEST:

Charles Adams

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

11-16-77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED NOV 11 1976

DATE ENTERED

NOV 17 1977

Cardwellton
CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

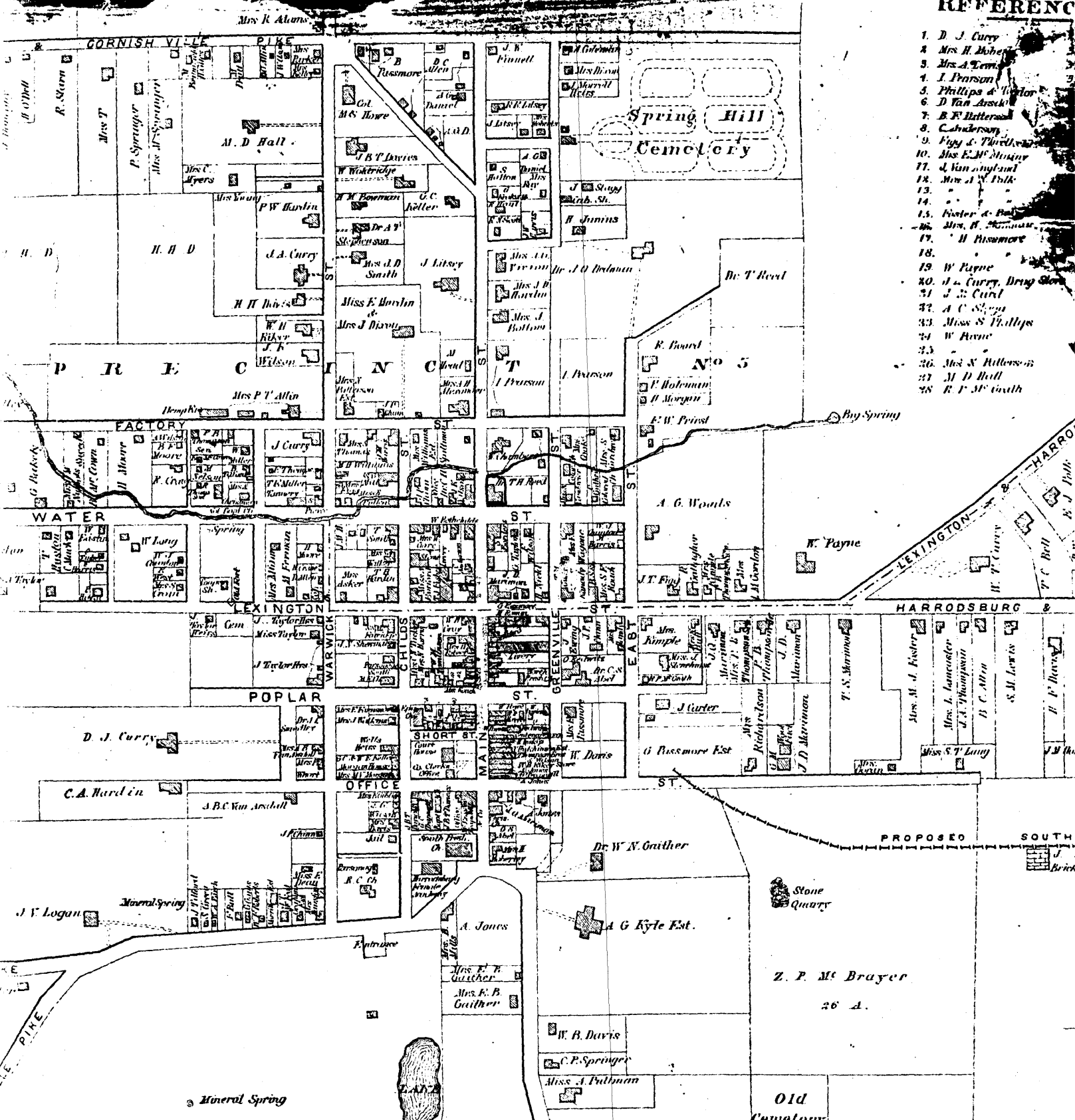
the early phase of Greek Revival design in Kentucky when authentic imitation of classical models was ardently sought, but not fully accomplished, nor had it yet been transcended as in the inventive later phase.

The only major change to the interior is that the L-shaped back porch has been enclosed and made into two rooms and a bath. The original wide board ash, and poplar floors, hen-egg door knobs, and a Carpenter lock are still a part of the house. Located in the west parlor is an elaborate mantel decorated with rope molding under the shelf and rosettes on the corner blocks. The original chair-rail remains. In the east parlor, across the hall there is a simple unadorned Federal mantel with built-in cupboards on each side. There is evidence that a stairway was originally located in this room.

The east bedroom on the second floor has a coal grate and vertical Greek Revival cupboards on each side. The board and batten doors to the rooms, however, appear much earlier and are very low.

REFERENCE

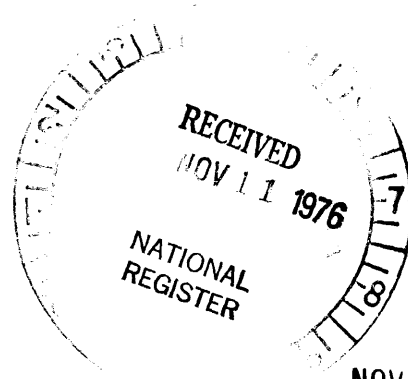
1. D. J. Curry
2. Mrs. H. Bohrer
3. Mrs. A. Terry
4. I. Pearson
5. Phillips & Taylor
6. D. Van Arsdale
7. E. F. Bitterman
8. Chambers
9. Figg & Threlkeld
10. Mrs. E. M. Murray
11. J. Van Antwerp
12. Mrs. J. W. Falk
- 13.
- 14.
15. Foster & Bell
16. Mrs. H. Hammond
17. H. Rossmore
- 18.
19. W. Payne
20. J. A. Curry, Drug Store
21. J. C. Curt
22. A. C. Slogg
23. Miss S. Phillips
24. W. Payne
- 25.
26. Mrs. S. Hiltens
27. M. D. Hall
28. R. F. M. Smith



Cardwellton (Chenoweth-Slavens-
Cardwell House)
Harrodsburg
Mercer County
Kentucky

Map of Boyle and Mercer
Counties, Kentucky. Philadelphia:
D. G. Beers & Co., 1876.
Cardwellton is indicated in red.

Map 2.



NOV 17 1977

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER