

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED

**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 GRAHAM CAVE 23-MT-2

AND/OR COMMON
Graham Cave State Park

2 LOCATION

T. 48 N., R. 6 W., part of Sec. 27

STREET & NUMBER North Side of Interstate 70, on State Route TT
in Graham Cave State Park

CITY, TOWN _____ NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT _____

Mineola

VICINITY OF

Ninth

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Missouri

29

Montgomery

139

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME State of Missouri, Missouri State Park Board: James Wilson, Director of Parks
Lawrence Shelton, Archeologist

STREET & NUMBER
P.O. Box 176, 1204 Jefferson Building

CITY, TOWN Jefferson City VICINITY OF STATE
Missouri 65101

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Missouri State Park Board

STREET & NUMBER
P.O. Box 176, 1204 Jefferson Building

CITY, TOWN Jefferson City STATE
Missouri 65101

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
University of Missouri, Missouri Archeological Society Survey

DATE
 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS Missouri Archeological Society

CITY, TOWN Columbia STATE
Missouri

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Graham Cave is located in a State Park near Mineola, Missouri, in the Loutre River Valley about 15 miles north of the Loutre's confluence with the Missouri River. Situated near the top of a hill in a picturesque side ravine of the Loutre, the cave is hollowed out between the St. Peter sandstone and Jefferson City Dolomite formations which overlie much of the area surrounding the site. The cave was formed by percolation of water through the sandstone coupled with the action of streams playing upon the differential hardnesses of the stones. As the cave is approached from the south, its mouth appears in the slope as a semi-elliptical shape with its long horizontal axis measuring roughly 100 feet. Prior to any excavation, the cave opening ranged from 6 to 8 feet high; but today it is 14 to 16 feet in height because much of the fill in the front has been removed in the course of excavations to just below the bottom of the culture-bearing deposits. No one knows how far back the cave extends; for with the present amount of fill in the rear portions, one can walk about 60 feet to the north, crawl about 20 or 30 feet, and see for another 10 or 15 feet with the aid of a lantern. At the time of excavation, the ground surface area of the cave floor was only about 3500 to 4000 square feet, not all of which was living area because of the sloping ceiling. At the time of the first occupation of the site, the ground surface was probably over 8000 square feet in area.

The cave derives its name from Dr. Robert Graham who bought the land grant in 1816. In the mid-1800's, Graham gave permission for a French Indian by the name of Foster to live in the cave. The remains of the cabin dating from this final occupation of the site were still evident in the 1940's when they were destroyed by a fire.

Excavation of the site first occurred in 1890 when Dr. Franklin Graham, Robert's son, aided by Charles Johnson, unearthed several points and portions of a burial. These materials were probably in the collections of artifacts donated to the University of Missouri, Columbia, and to Central College, Fayette, Missouri, by the Graham and Johnson families, respectively.

With the exception of animal disturbance, the cave deposits remained relatively intact for the next 55 years until 1945 when the owner, at that time, a Mr. Ward Darnell, began to clear out the cave with a bulldozer in an attempt to make it into a barn. This bulldozing operation came to the attention of the University of Missouri in 1949; and Carl Chapman, the Director of American Archeology there, immediately conducted salvage excavation at the site to determine its importance. Once the scientific value of the site was definitely established and explained to the owners, Chapman was able to convince them to stop further bulldozing and allow slow and careful excavation. Chapman continued field work at the site from 1949 to 1955; in 1950, W. Logan served as the assistant director of the project. After Chapman's work, the cave reverted to its former use as a shelter for domestic animals until its designation as a national historic landmark and donation to the Missouri State Park Board. In 1966, the Park Board hired

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input 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 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 Intermittent occupation 8000 B.C.--1200 A.D. BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Graham Cave is located in a State Park about one mile north of Mineola, Missouri. Excavated in 1949 to 1955 by the University of Missouri and in 1967 to 1968 by the Missouri State Park Board, the site was found to have deposits spanning much of the Archaic period and dating back to about 8000 B.C. These remains from Early and Middle Archaic times give the site its importance and illustrate a merging of Eastern and Plains influence in Missouri. Overlying the Archaic levels is a more disturbed Middle Woodland component containing some Hopewellian type potsherds which resemble Hopewell wares from Illinois and thus provide further evidence for the distribution of cultural influence throughout the country in prehistoric times.

DISCUSSION

Graham Cave's greatest contribution to the study of prehistory lies in the information which it has provided concerning the Archaic period. At the time of the 1949 excavations of the site, the remains dating to 8000 B.C. were among the earliest known for the Archaic period. This early occupation, overlain by thousands of years of subsequent deposits, has led to various speculations about life in Archaic times.

The early excavators (1949-1955) of Graham Cave claimed that the tool assemblage changed through time, for the earliest levels appeared to contain a larger percentage of lanceolate points than the upper levels which contained more stemmed and notched varieties. Logan (1952) viewed the early levels (1000-6000 B.C.) as transitional between Paleo Indian and Archaic because the earlier lanceolate points resemble artifacts from the western Paleo sites. According to Logan (1952), the upper levels (6000-4000 B.C.) exhibit increasing Southeastern traits and thus reflect a gradual change to a complex representative of a variation of the Southeastern Archaic horizon. Willey (1966) has considered the site in a different way and believes that the Graham cave tool assemblage represents an Archaic culture influenced by Paleo Indians. According to Willey (1966), in post-glacial times, a Plains type environment extended eastward into Missouri. He does not find it surprising that the Plains hunters following the eastern extension of the prairie came in contact with the early Archaic inhabitants of Graham Cave between 8000 and 6000 B.C.

The Archaic is currently viewed as a time during which post-glacial man became progressively adapted to and more efficient in his use of the changing environment.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See continuation sheet

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approximately 135

UTM REFERENCES

A	15	624190	4307360	B	15	624180	4306740
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	15	623300	4306610	D	15	623280	4307370
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See continuation sheet

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

Francine Weiss, Archeologist, Landmark Review Project

ORGANIZATION

Historic Sites Survey, NPS

DATE

visited July 1975

STREET & NUMBER

1100 L Street, N.W.

TELEPHONE

202-523-5464

CITY OR TOWN

Washington, D.C. 20240

STATE

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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

Jan. 20, 1966
George Emery
Jan. 24, 1979

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

4/24/79

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)

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CONTINUATION SHEET Graham Cave ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

Walter Klippel and an assistant to clean out the cave, reestablish the previous grid system, and help construct a fence to prevent destruction of the remainder of the site by visitors to the park. Klippel also excavated a portion of the cave during 1967 and 1968.

The excavations provided evidence for the presence of four natural levels. The uppermost level, grayish brown in color, resulted primarily from Euro-American stabling activities in the cave and consisted of organic material such as corncobs, straw, and dung. Generally about 16 inches thick, this deposit ranged from 6 to 30 inches in thickness in places. The next underlying level is poorly consolidated and exhibits disturbance by animals. Ranging from less than 1 inch to more than 7 inches in thickness, this grayish brown layer contains decomposed organic material in combination with clay, silt, and sand. This zone yielded most of the Woodland materials. The next underlying layer, yellowish brown silt with some sand and clay, ranges from less than 6 inches to 42 inches in thickness. The lowest level which extends to bedrock is pale brown in color and consists of sand with some silt and clay. Twenty-seven inches thick, this level yielded cultural material in its upper 6 to 12 inches.

Features discerned during these various excavations include numerous hearths, some burials, and a few pits. Artifacts include: points, bifaces, retouched and utilized flakes, scrapers, drills, cores, hematite, manos, metates, nutting stones, a grooved ax, bone awls and sharpened bone splinters, worked antler, antler points, bone pins and needles, and a fragment of clay with weaving and basketry impressions in it. The remains from the lower two levels of the cave date from the Archaic period. The earliest radiocarbon dates indicate an initial occupation at about 8000 B.C. (9700 B.P. \pm 500). The next overlying level contains materials including some pottery dating to late Middle Woodland times. There have also been several small triangular points of late Woodland or Mississippian date along with some shell-tempered pottery from the upper levels of the site, but any extensive occupation from these time periods would probably have been in the front of the cave and would therefore have been destroyed by the bulldozing.

The site is currently in good condition. A chain link fence protects the remaining cultural deposits from destruction. Artifacts, excavation equipment, and interpretive signs are set up in the fenced area to explain archeological methodology in general and the site in particular to interested visitors. The only disturbance at present is caused by rodents and burrowing animals, especially groundhogs. The park is well maintained with a grassy open area in front of the cave opening. A trail leads through the wooded area up the hill to the cave. The landmark boundary does not

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CONTINUATION SHEET Graham Cave ITEM NUMBERS 7, 9 PAGE 3, 1

7. encompass the entire State park but includes the cave and its setting. Trails, a parking lot, and picnicking facilities are included within landmark boundaries but do not contribute to the national significance of the property.

9. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Logan, Wilfred D., Graham Cave, An Archaic Site in Montgomery County, Missouri, Memoir of the Missouri Archeological Society, No. 2, 1952.

Klippel, Walter E., Graham Cave Revisited, A Reevaluation of Its Cultural Position During the Archaic Period, Memoir of the Missouri Archeological Society, No. 9, 1971.

-----, Prehistoric and Environmental Change Along the Southern Border of the Prairie Peninsula During the Archaic Period, PhD dissertation, University of Missouri, Columbia, 1971.

Willey, Gordon R., An Introduction to American Archeology, Volume I, North and Middle America, Prentice Hall Inc., Englewood Cliffs, 1966.

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Graham Cave

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

The most recent interpretations of Graham Cave stemming from results of the 1967-68 excavations by Klippel (1971) attempt to view the site in conjunction with this recent concept of the Archaic. Klippel's approach is thus different from that of the previous excavators. Klippel contends that pedological analyses of Graham Cave suggest that the locality was probably cooler and moister when the site was first occupied at 8000 B.C. Sometime between 6000 and 5000 B.C., the area became dryer. According to Klippel, this environmental change was reflected in the vertebrate remains excavated from the site, for the earliest levels yielded mammals which prefer a forested habitat while the overlying levels have yielded those which prefer forest edge or mixed prairie and forest habitat. Klippel expected that this environmental change would also be reflected in the tool assemblage at the site. However, a statistical analysis of artifact types from his 1967-68 excavations indicated that the frequencies of artifact types remained relatively unchanged throughout the Archaic sequence at the site. Klippel thus maintains that, despite shifts in the environment and in the types of vertebrates hunted, the use of the cave and the types of activities performed in the cave remained relatively unchanged throughout the entire span of its occupation. Klippel attributes this lack of change to the fact that the surface area in the cave available for living space contracted as the cave became filled and thus limited the number of people who could use the cave at any one time. Klippel does believe that the general trend toward specialization and more efficient utilization for the environment is apparent at other sites in the area but that the decreasing amount of living space at Graham Cave prevented the manifestation of this Archaic trend there. Thus, Klippel concludes that the site served as a camp for hunters and gatherers who utilized similar tools for their activities throughout the thousands of years of visiting the cave.

Klippel has also analyzed the artifacts at the site to discern the presence of any exotic materials from the Plains area. The presence at the site of artifacts manufactured from exotic materials would support early suppositions that people were moving around in this changing environmental zone. However, Klippel found that about 99% of the artifacts were made from locally available materials. He concludes that although the presence of exotic materials would have offered definite evidence for movement, the absence does not necessarily mean a lack of movement, for the people may have been moving gradually and manufacturing tools of locally available materials as they moved.

Thus, Graham Cave has been the subject of a great deal of discussion on the Archaic. The most recent evidence indicates that the site was a local manifestation of the Archaic in Missouri which did not change greatly through time. Earlier reports noted the influences from the Plains and the Southeastern woodlands which must

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 3

have affected these hunters and gatherers who lived in a transitional zone between the environments. Further study of the Archaic at the site is definitely possible, for there are numerous relatively undisturbed layers--probably of Archaic origin--in the rear of the cave. Further testing might enlarge the sample for study and should include other environmental indicators such as pollen analysis, analysis of plant remains, analysis of invertebrate animals, etc. Some changes through time might be evident in the cave's sequence with the consideration of these aspects. Better dating of the upper levels of the Archaic is also necessary, for a time sequence which does not span the entire Archaic might also indicate why changes are not as apparent as at other Archaic sites (for example, Modoc Rockshelter, Illinois--also a landmark).

The pottery levels overlying the Archaic materials date from the late Middle Woodland period. The pottery has not been thoroughly studied, but some tends to show affinities with late Hopewell types in Illinois. Thus, although the site is mainly important for the information it has yielded concerning the Archaic period, further study of the upper levels may provide insight into later cultural manifestations.

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CONTINUATION SHEET Graham Cave ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 1

Refer to Maps A and B for a clarification of the boundary description. Beginning at a point on the southern right-of-way of State Route TT about 1350 feet west of the east section line of Section 27, T. 48 N., R. 6 W., the boundary proceeds west along the southern right-of-way of State Route TT about 500 feet to its intersection with the north section line of said Sec. 27, then west about 1950 feet to its intersection with State Route TT, then in a general southern direction along the eastern right-of-way of State Route TT (the entry road into Graham Cave State Park) about 2250 feet to the point where the road turns into the parking lot, then due south about 500 feet to its intersection with the northern right-of-way of Interstate 70, then east along the northern right-of-way of Interstate 70 about 2450 feet, then north about 1950 feet to the point of beginning.

The boundary basically includes the cave with its deep stratified deposits plus an area surrounding the cave which is in a natural state. This natural area serves as a necessary setting for the site and enables visitors to appreciate more fully the lifestyle of the cave's inhabitants.