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1. Name of Property			
Cave	Spring Farm		
historic name other names/site number	15WA6		
2. Location			
street & number	Rocky Hill Road		NAC not for publication
city or town	Smiths Grove		🖾 vicinity
state Kentucky	code <u></u> county	Warren code	227zip_code42171_
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Cave Spring Farm		Warren County, KY
Name of Property		County and State
5. Classification		
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)Category of Property (Check only one box)		Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)
 ➡ private ➡ public-local ➡ public-State ➡ public-Federal 	 □ building(s) ☑ district □ site □ structure □ object 	Contributing Noncontributing 2 buildings 1 2 3 sites 3 structures 3 5
Name of related multiple p (Enter "N/A" if property is not part NA	of a multiple property listing.)	Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
6. Function or Use		
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions) AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTE	INCE: processing	Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions) WORK IN PROGRESS
DOMESTIC: single dwe	elling	DOMESTIC/hotel (bed and breakfast)
DOMESTIC: institution EDUCATION: school	onal housing	
7. Description		
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions) Italianate		Materials (Enter categories from instructions) foundationbrick
		walls wood weatherboard
		roofasphalt shingles; galvanized steel

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Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Cave Spring Farm	Warren County, KY		
Name of Property	County and State		
8. Statement of Significance			
Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)	Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions) Agriculture		
A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.	Archeology: Historic		
B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.			
C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.	Period of Significance Agriculture: 1900-1940		
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.			
Criteria Considerations (Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)	Significant Dates 1938		
Property is:	·		
A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.			
B removed from its original location.	Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) NA		
C a birthplace or grave.			
D a cemetery.	Cultural Affiliation		
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.	NA		
□ F a commemorative property.			
G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.	Architect/Builder Unknown		
Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)			
9. Major Bibliographical References			
Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one	or more continuation sheets)		
Previous documentation on file (NPS):	Primary location of additional data:		
preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested	 State Historic Preservation Office Other State agency 		
 previously listed in the National Register previously determined eligible by the National Register 	□ Federal agency □ Local government □ University		
 designated a National Historic Landmark recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #	☐ Other Name of repository:		
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Verbal Boundary Description	See	continuation sheet	
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)	· · · ·		
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)	··· · · ·		
11. Form Prepared By			
Bill Marohnic name/title			
organization	date	3/12/96	
street & number PO Box 365	telephone	502-563-6941	
city or town Smiths Grove	stateKY	zip code1	_71
Additional Documentation Submit the following items with the completed form:			
Continuation Sheets			
Maps			
A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the	property's location.		
A Sketch map for historic districts and properties have	ing large acreage or	numerous resource	S.
Photographs			• •
Representative black and white photographs of the p	property.		
Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)			•
Property Owner (Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)		······································	
name Same as preparer, item 11, above			
street & number			
city or town	state	zip code	
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and the a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amen	or applications to the Natio	onal Register of Historic	Places to nominate

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Cave Spring Farm

Warren County, KY

Section number _____ Page ____

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Cave Spring Farm (15WA6), today is a small 17 acre tract of land nestled in the rolling hills of Warren County in South Central Kentucky.

The area proposed for listing contains the main dwelling and bunkhouse as contributing buildings. There are an additional two structures as non-contributing outbuildings. The cave on the property is also listed as a contributing site.

The farm is within one mile of the small town of Smiths Grove, Kentucky. The community is primarily rural with farming as the main economic activity. Tourism is also a key economic component. The many cave attractions and antique shops draw large numbers of tourists.

Cave Spring Farm operates a Bed and Breakfast as well as raises cattle and grows many kinds of flowers and herbs for commercial sale. The Bed and Breakfast offers to the public a stay in a historic home and surroundings reflective of a past era.

In addition to the historic house, there is a large cave on the property which has generated much interest among the public as well as within professional groups. The cave sits at the bottom of a (5) acre sink basin heavily forested with mature hardwood trees. The cave known as "Crumps Cave", is over a mile long with a wide passage trunk and ceiling heights up to 55 feet. Many prehistoric Native American artifacts, both inside the cave and throughout the sink basin, are present. Also, a historic waterworks plant at the mouth of the cave, over a century old, remains intact.

Within a short walking distance from the cave is the main compound. This (3) acre site consists of the main house, several outbuildings, a summer kitchen and worker bunkhouse. The house and all the outbuildings date back to Antebellum times (1863-1869).

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Cave Spring Farm Warren County, KY

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MAIN DWELLING (circa 1863)

The main house is a two-story frame single pile, central passage structure with a service "L" rear section. The house is constructed of Yellow Poplar and Oak materials.

The main dwelling sits back from the road about 500 feet, down a long gravel drive. The house has a hip roof with parallel chimneys. The original back porches were enclosed in the 1930's and now serve as sunrooms. The front porch is open and framed in original Victorianera carved wood. The house is surrounded by mature trees. At the east side of the house is a stone carriage step, sometimes known as a "stiles".

The main house construction materials and methods indicate that the house was built during two separate time periods. The back "L" was probably built first, during the Antebellum era. This rear section has two levels with less formal features. The ceilings are nine feet in height with original doors and windows. The downstairs has a formal dining room, main kitchen, laundry/pantry area and sunroom as well as bath. The floors are wide yellow poplar covered over with narrow yellow pine boards.

The upstairs of the back "L" has two large bedrooms and bath. At the lowest level, is a root cellar. Here one can see the exposed brick foundation along with the ax hewn sills, suggesting a Antebellum period of construction. This rear section was probably built between 1863-65.

The front section of the house was probably built between 1865-69. This section of the house was built by Mr. David Kirby, who was a farmer and president of the local bank. This part of the house is more formal in design. There is a center hall highlighted by a elegant walnut staircase with both a mid and upper landing. The front hall ceiling is 24 feet in height. The floors are wide yellow poplar with 12" baseboards.

The east room off the main hall is a large guest bedroom with 12 foot ceilings and 9 foot interior doors. The upstairs east room also is a guest room with identical room dimensions as downstairs. The west room off the center hall is the downstairs parlor. This room is the most formal of the house which contains original wall mural paintings.

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MAIN DWELLING (circa 1863) continued

In 1988, during the process of removing several layers of wallpaper, an original wall mural was uncovered. The mural was much faded, retaining only one very distinct art pattern. These are "gold dust" circular designs appearing on all four walls of the room. In addition, the parlor ceiling boasts an unusually large medallion, probably done during the same period as the art work. The parlor chandelier also is quite unusual being originally kerosene fueled but converted to electric power at the turn of the century. However, the original kerosene bowl remains part of the piece.

An additional unusual feature of the main dwelling is that there are no interior connecting passageways between the front and rear sections of the house. Prior to 1930, entry from one section to the other was only by the outside back porches. These outside porches were enclosed during the 1930's, becoming sunrooms with connecting passages. This unusual feature of the house buttresses the contention that each section of the house was built at seperate intervals.

At the connecting open breezway at the rear of the house is the summer kitchen/servant quarters. This room was built at the same time period as the "L" rear section (1863). This room served a dual function. The main function was as the living quarters for the house servant. The room size of 14 feet by 10 feet was finished off with wood floors and mouldings, antique glass/ window lights and a large cooking fireplace. The wall boards are wide plank secured with original cut nails.

The secondary function of this room was as a summer kitchen for the farm. This large fireplace became the primary cooking place during the summer months. This room, which is seperate from the main house, prevented any fires from reaching the main dwelling as well as uncomfortable room temperatures. This servant living quarters remained reasonably warm in the winter months with the use of the large fireplace. However, crude attempts to insulate the interior walls with newspapers is still evident today. These strips of very old newspaper remain legible, but very brittle and yellowed over time.

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SCHOOLHOUSE/BUNKHOUSE (Contributing Building)

In the backyard, about 50 feet south of the main house, is the schoolhouse and later known as the worker bunkhouse. This building built during the civil war, is of frame construction. The roof is metal and foundation rock limestone. It has always remained on this site. The interior of the building has front and rear center doors. There are also large parallel windows, wood floors and beadboard walls and ceiling.

The building had several functions over the years. During the civil war years it was used as a makeshift school for children of local farm families. During the period between 1887-1940 the building was used as a bunkhouse for hired hands that helped in crop production and the raising of mules for commercial sale.

CRUMPS CAVE (Contributing Site)

Crumps cave is a multicomponent cave site located in a karstic section of extreme northeastern Warren County. The cave is located at the northeast section of Cave Spring Farm at the bottom of a large sink basin.

Paleoindian artifacts have been observed within the sink basin of the rim as well as within the cave. The cave entrance contains midden deposits dating to the Woodland period. Inside the cave, which measures 2053 m, cultural deposits are also present. The remains of an early 20th century water plant and historic graffiti from the 19th century occur near the entrance. A series of prehistoric mud glyphs of anthropomorphic and geometric design, which probably date to the Mississippian period, occur near the end of the cave.

The large cave opening was covered in 1994 with a substantial but batfriendly iron gate. The gate construction consists of four to six inch angle iron wieghing several tons. The gate has been determined to be the second longest in any cave in the world.

The cave has been used for thousands of years by Native Americans for shelter, water and ceremonial rituals, including burial practices. The cave is also home to many living species such as bats, cave crickets and blind crayfish. Some of the bats as well as crayfish are on the endangered list.

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CRUMPS CAVE (Contributing Site)

There is a well preserved waterworks plant at the entrance of the cave, well over a century old. The records indicate that early settlers used this water collection system from about 1890-1945. Inside the cave entrance are two very large cedar water tanks used for main storage of cave water. Intricate water pipes networks were placed at different collection points, and by the use of gravity, water was stored in these tanks.

Kerosene water pumps were used to force the cave water to an above-ground water tower. In addition, extensive underground water pipes were channeled to various locations throughout the farm. This was a reliable water system which insured a constant water supply. This network of tanks, pumps and pipes has been preserved by the cave's constant climate. NPS Form 10-900-a (8-80)

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COMPOUND ABSTRACT

- 1. MAIN HOUSE-CONTRIBUTING BUILDING: Antebellum Two-story frame single pile central passage structure used as main residence since 1863. Water tower close proximity to house with hot and cold water supplied to house by water plant in cave during 1890-1945 period.
- WORKER BUNKHOUSE-CONTRIBUTING BUILDING: Antebellum frame one-story building used as early schoolhouse and later worker bunkhouse. Close proximity to main house and summer kitchen as well as outbuildings and barns.
- 3. EAST OUT-BUILDING-NON-CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURE : Tool and Harness shed and later smokehouse.
- 4. CRUMPS CAVE SINK BASIN-CONTRIBUTING SITE: A five acre heavily forested area with evidence of Native American domicile. An archaeological resource area with physical evidence of Paleoindian artifacts. Functions today as a nature preserve and bird sanctuary.
- 4B. CRUMPS CAVE-CONTRIBUTING SITE: A major archaeological site with evidence of Paleoindian artifacts and midden deposits dating to the Woodland period. Also a series of prehistoric mud glyphs of anthropomorphic
 and geometric design. An historic water plant can also be found at the entrance of the cave.
- 5. SMALL MULE BARN FOUNDATION-NON-CONTRIBUTING SITE: A small livestock barn built in 1918 used for housing mules. A 40X40 structure surrounded by grazing pasture used for breeding of mules and housing of young mules. The barn burned down in 1990.
- 6. NEW BARN-NON-CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURE : Combination barn used today for general farm operations.
- 7. OUTBUILDING-NON-CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURE : Tool shed and Chicken coops during 1890-1945 era.
- 8. LARGE MULE BARN SITE-NON-CONTRIBUTING SITE: A very large 60X100' mule barn and hay storage barn. This building was used for housing both the working mules and show mules. It was called a monitor barn because of the large number of windows running across the roof ridge line. This allowed for showing of the mules in inclement weather. The barn had water piped in from the cave and housed large numbers of hay bales required to feed the many mules and horses. The barn was located about 100 yards from the main house.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

<u>Cave Spring Farm</u> Warren County, KY

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Cave Spring Farm (15WA6) meets National Register Criteria A and D. It is significant within the area of Agriculture for its role as an important livestock operation in Warren County, Kentucky. The farm has been evaluated within the historic context "Agriculture in Warren County, Kentucky from 1860-1940," a context developed for this nomination. Within the area proposed for listing is the opening for Crumps Cave, which has been the focus of archaeological investigation. It contains visible historic farm artifacts which support the site's evaluation as containing significant information concerning historic period agriculture.

The cave basin, cave opening, and interior cave walls also have been investigated for their prehistoric archaeological content. Test units in the cave opening were excavated in the 1970s but have been thoroughly disturbed by looters. Archaeologists have explored the interior cave walls and have discovered significant prehistoric mud glyphs, though those lie directly below property which is adjacent to, and outside of, the area proposed for listing. Archaeological excavation and testing of the prehistoric dimension of Crumps Cave *within* the area proposed for listing by this nomination will be undertaken in the near future. Once that is completed this nomination can be amended to include justification for an additional Area of Significance (Archaeology: Prehistoric) and to propose an expansion of the listed boundary to include the property above the cave's interior where the mud glyphs are found.

WARREN COUNTY AGRICULTURE FROM 1860-1940

In the mid to late 19th century farms in Warren County shared some key features. They were most often family-owned and-operated. The farmsteads usually included a main residence, several outbuildings and surrounding fields for livestock grazing and crop production.

"In 1860 the average size farm of Warren County was 116 acres and were worth about \$1,712.00" (A Survey of Agriculture in Warren County,1955). Cave Spring Farm was about 216 acres and sold for almost \$14,000.00 in 1887 (Warren County Deed Book 398,pp.142). It would appear that the farm was above average in size and value.

In the 1890's Warren County was a leader within the region in the growing of crops. During this period, Warren County was the leader in the production of corn, hay and wheat and the third largest producer of tobacco. The county had the largest number of horses, cattle, swine and mules. The county was also a major shipping point for mules with the largest mule dealers in the state. (Courier Journal, "County Farm Income", 1951).

Throughout this period of significance, Cave Spring Farm far exceeded the averages for crop production as well as livestock production. In the 1890's as many as 4,000 head of livestock could be found on the farm. It was also during this same time period that Cave Spring Farm was cited as one of the top mule breeding farms in the entire nation. (The Times Journal and Warren County Courier, Silver Edition, "William Crump"April 14, 1907). NPS Form 10-900-a (8-95)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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Cave Spring Farm Warren County, KY

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MULE RAISING ON CAVE SPRING FARM (1887-1940)

In 1887 the Crump family purchased Cave Spring Farm from the previous owner, David Kirby. During this time period, the farm produced beef cattle, horses and mules. They also produced chickens, hogs, tobacco and wheat. However, the most significant production feature of this farm was the raising, breeding and sale of championship show mules.

During the 19th century and through the 20th century until the second World War, mules were a critical part of the typical Warren County farm operation. In this pre-tractor era, mules were heavily relied upon to perform the many functions relating to plowing and planting of farm crops. In essence, the day-to-day farm operations needed most often a stout pair of mules to carry out just about every key function on the farm. In fact, mules were often more popular than horses due to their superior endurance. They also did not eat as much as horses. Also mules could outwork horses and brought top dollar as well.

It was during this era that the Crump farm became reknown for producing championship show mules. Many of Crump's mules received state and national awards as well as first place showings. In 1937, at the Kentucky and Tennessee State Fairs, the Crump mules received first place showings for best mules in age and sex. In 1938, the ultimate award for first place best mule in age and sex at the National Horse and Mule Show in Kansas City, went to American Ace of the Crump farm. (Park City Daily News, "Crump Mules Takes Prizes", feb 20, 1940).

Also as cited in the (Times Journal and Warren County Courier, Silver Edition. 1907).

"Mr. Crump has been a large dealer in horses and mules for the past thirty years, and his fine farm of 265 acres is cultivated almost entirely in crops that will furnish feed for the large number of horses and mules that he always has on hand. He probably feeds and ships more stock of this character than any other individual in this County. He buys the horses and mules in this and adjoining counties and supplies them to the trade in all sections of the country, shipping from New York to New Orleans. He handles only the highest grade of stock and caters only to the demand for this class. He has four large barns, it requiring this amount of room to take care of the three to four thousand head of stock he handles every year."

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MULE RAISING ON CAVE SPRING FARM (Continued)

In addition, the buildings on the site contribute to the farm's sense of place and time. The close proximity of the outbuildings and barns to the main house reflects the practical utility regarding day-to-day farm operations. The two-story main dwelling residence is the most prominent building on site. The worker bunkhouse and summer kitchen are of central location to the main house and the barns. Together these buildings form a cohesive unit expressing historic integrity in terms of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship and feeling as well as association.

CRUMPS CAVE--ARCHAEOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE TO HISTORIC AGRICULTURE

The Crumps Cave opening contains a number of historic period features which are important in addressing questions concerning large scale farming operations in Warren County. These questions could also be posed to shed light on large-scale farming throughout Kentucky.

The cave contains an impressive above-ground resource, a wooden stave water holding barrel, which appears able to contain 500-700 gallons. It was employed to catch the ever present stream of water draining into the cave at its opening. It was connected by a series of pipes to farm buildings, i.e., to the house for use by the owners, and to barns to be used by animals. Such a water collection system would be unique to farms which had such a geological feature, though certainly many farms exploited above ground springs by erecting a spring house for catching the water, or by damming water into shallow ponds for collection.

This water-collection system at the property is both highly unusual and ingenious. The same could be said of its means of water distribution, as well. Farms which used the spring house or pond approach to water collection still would need to devise a way to move the water from the collection point to important points, such as the house and barns. The methods of transporting water from water sources is a subject which has been given little attention by recorders of Kentucky's historic farms. The evidence of such activities at the opening of Crumps Cave suggests a more sophisticated and labor-saving approach than is believed to have been found on most farms.

The archaeological evidence which is apparent in the cave opening, and which lies underground and attached to the standing historic buildings, offers researchers an opportunity to investigate what might be considered the most equipment-intensive (as contrasted to laborintensive) means of moving water from its collection point on farms to work and living spaces. The archaeological evidence still preserved, coupled with the significant associations discussed to support eligibility under Criterion A, make the archaeological record a highly important tool in understanding the work on a significant farm and the historic owners' efforts to devise laborsaving systems to facilitate that work. This water collection and distribution system will add greatly to our understanding of how people historically procured water, a precious resource for both farming operations and household life.

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Cave Spring Farm

CMB Approval No. 1024-0016

Warren County, KY

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Cave Spring Farm (15WA6) is delineated in the Warren County Deed Book, book number 594, page 509.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries for this property were chosen to designate a cohesive group of buildings representing a historic farm with a period of significance from 1860-1940.

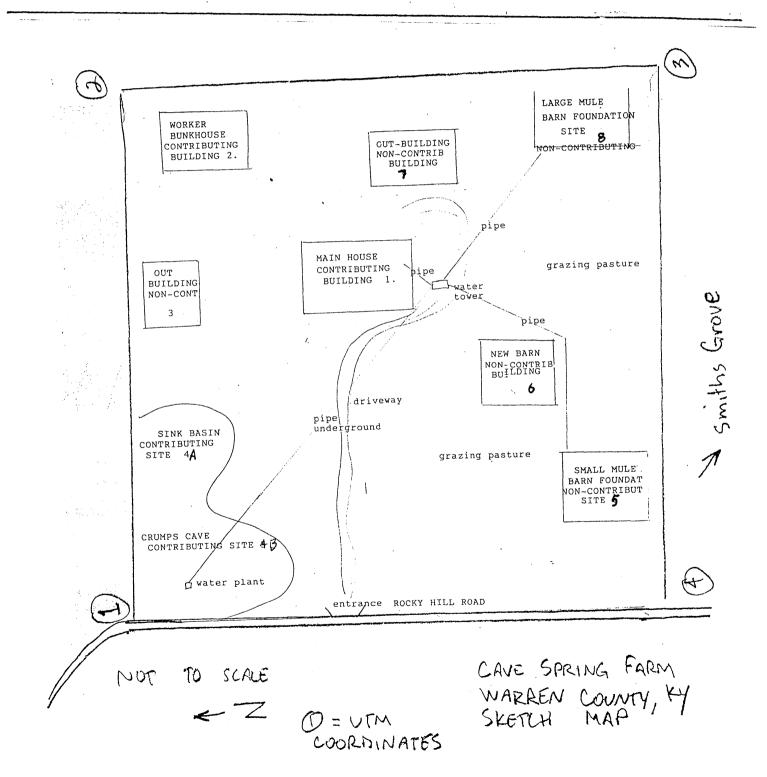
Crumps Cave is within the boundary under consideration for the Registery. This component consists of the cave, cave vestible and the cave sink basin. The area of significance falls under the pre-historic realm.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Cave Spring Farm

Warren County, KY

Section number _____ Page ____ CAVE SPRING FARM COMPOUND MAP

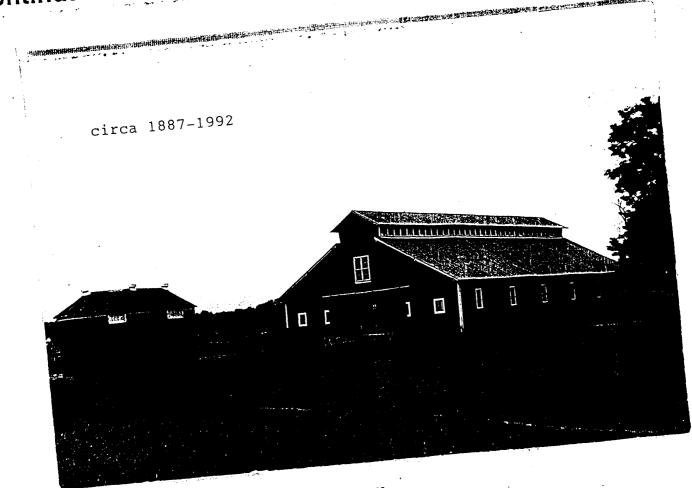


d States Department of the Interior

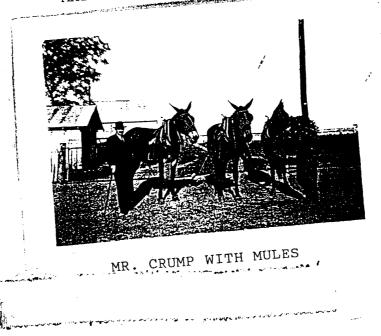
National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Cave Spring Farm

Warren County, KY



MAIN MULE BARN

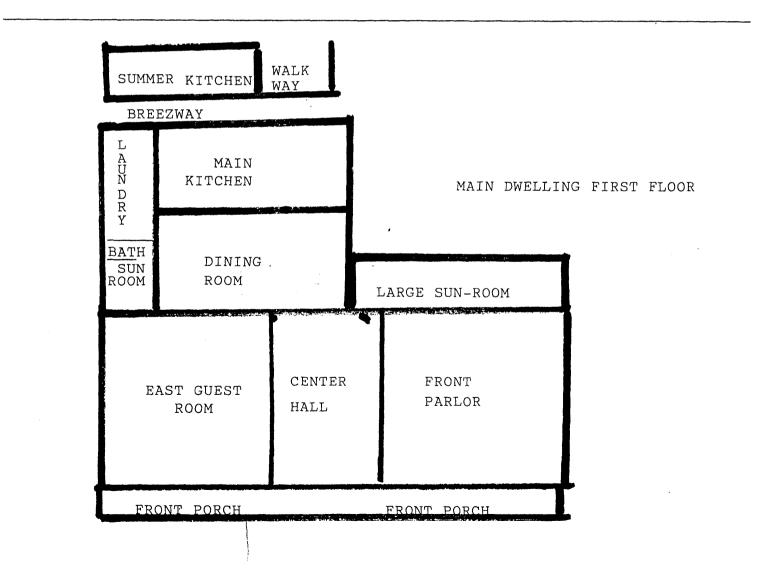


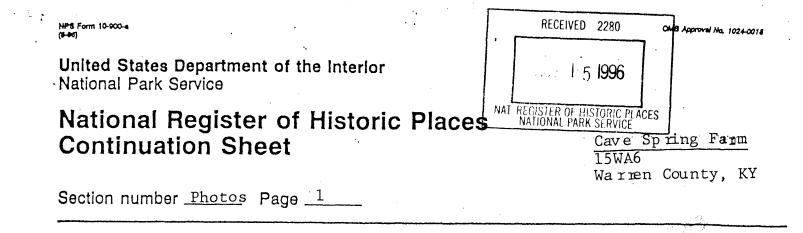
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SOUTHWEST BEDROOM						
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PHOTOGRAPHIC IDENTIFICATION SHEET

SAME INFORMATION FOR ALL PHOTOGRAPHS:

NAME: Cave Spring Farm LOCATION: Warren County, Kentucky PHOTOGRAPHER: Joseph E. Brent DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: October 1996 LOCATION OF NEGATIVES: Kentucky Heritage Council (SHPO), Frankfort, KY

SPECIFIC INFORMATION:

Photo 1: Main House, feature 1, camera facing southwest.

Photo 2: Cave opening, feature 4A and 4B, camera facing northeast

Photo 3: Storage shed, feature 3, camera facing east.

Photo 4: Schoolhouse-bunkhouse, feature 2, camera facing southeast.

Photo 5: Stockbarn, feature 7, camera facing south

Photo 6: Stockbarn, feature 6, camera facing east-southeast