

PH 0686875

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED OCT 23 1978

DATE ENTERED DEC 22 1978

**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

Cave Spring

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

5180 Athens-Walnut Hill Pike

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Lexington *me*

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6

STATE

Kentucky 40511

CODE

021

COUNTY

Fayette

CODE

067

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

**PRESENT USE**

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Samuel Cassidy

STREET & NUMBER

5180 Athens-Walnut Hill Pike

CITY, TOWN

Lexington

VICINITY OF

STATE

Kentucky 40511

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Fayette County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

West Main St. at Cheapside

CITY, TOWN

Lexington,

STATE

Kentucky

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Historical Survey and Plan for Lexington and Fayette Co., Kentucky

DATE

1970

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Lexington Fayette Urban County Planning Commission

CITY, TOWN

227 N. Upper St., Lexington

STATE

Kentucky 40507

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	DATE 1872;1974
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MOVED (log house)

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located approximately eight miles southeast of Lexington in Fayette County, Kentucky, the Cave Spring Farm complex encompasses six structures situated on the gently rolling terrain south of the Athens-Walnut Hill Road. The complex consists of a two-and-one-half-story stone residence, a one-and-one-half-story brick smokehouse, a one-and-one-half-story brick granary/hemp house, a stone icehouse, a one-and-one-half-story brick servant's quarters, and a one-and-one-half-story log house. In addition, the family graveyard is located on a hill east of the main house (see site location map).

The following are descriptions of the structures that make up the complex:

### Main House

Constructed in 1792, this two-and-one-half-story, three-bay stone house (see photo 1) originally faced eastward. The structure was reorientated to face westward ca. 1845 thereby accomodating a new public road. Evidence of this change is visible in the absence of a central bay on the second level of the western facade and the existence of a somewhat more elaborate cornice with a deep fascia on the eastern facade.

Windows are nine-over-six on the first floor and six-over-six on the second level. The first floor windows are surmounted by well-executed jack arches. Both the front and rear porches have chamfered posts with slender, square banisters. The gable-roofed front porch shelters the central bay, while the shed-roofed rear porch extends across the entire east facade.

Square gable windows flank the chimneys of the main block. The south chimney is set flush with the exterior wall, whereas the north chimney is set outside the end wall.

The one-and-one-half-story stone kitchen to the south of the main block was initially connected to the house by a dogtrot which was enclosed ca. 1800 to create a dining room. The wing on the north end of the house is a 1968 addition consisting of a bedroom and bath.

On the interior, the house originally consisted of a hall and parlor plan. Corner stairs with winders were located in the northwest and southwest corners of each room. The southwest stairs are somewhat wider and continue past the second floor to the attic. The partition dividing the first floor rooms was situated so as to make the north room the larger of the two. The original ash floors and walnut trim remain; however, the original mantles had been removed and Federal mantles from a house in Garrard County, Kentucky, now replace them. In the kitchen, the stone cooking fireplace with splayed jack arch remains in good condition. Enclosed corner stairs with winders in the northeast corner of the kitchen give access to the attic level.

(continued)

# 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 type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Cave Spring attains significance not only as an outstanding example of the stone building tradition in Kentucky, but also because of its retention of the several outbuildings which, together with the house, represent the sequence of log, stone, and brick construction in Kentucky. The log house was constructed ca. 1784, shortly after Captain Robert Boggs (1746-1827), one of the founders of Boonesborough, settled in the area. The log structure was followed by the two-and-one-half-story, stone house completed in 1792, and the various brick outbuildings were erected in due course as the farm developed.

Robert Boggs first came to Kentucky in 1774 as a chain bearer for John Floyd, deputy surveyor of Virginia (Cassidy). Boggs returned in 1775 and helped to erect the fort at Boonesborough, the second settlement to be established in Kentucky. Using the fort as a base for selecting lands on which to make claims, he soon discovered a large spring issuing from a cave in what is now Fayette County and decided on this location for his future home (Ibid.).

After a lapse as captain under Major Evan Shelby in General Christain's army in the Cherokee Expedition of 1776 and a period in the Revolutionary Army in the east, he married and moved to Fort Harrod to await adjudication of his claims before the Virginia Land Commission. On February 18, 1784, he settled on Cave Spring Farm with his wife, child and others. From then until 1792 he and his growing family lived in the log house until the main stone residence was completed (Ibid.).

During the period of 1784-1800, ancillary buildings were also constructed, enough for a large family of around 25 people, including slaves. In charge of quarrying, brick-making and erection, was an Irish stonemason by the name of Devore (probably Dennis Dever, according to Wooley, p. 600). None of the frame buildings which were once part of the farm complex survive. However, the main house of stone, the original log house, and many of the brick outbuildings still stand and are in excellent condition.<sup>1</sup> The unspoiled, beautifully landscaped farm is presently owned by a descendent of Robert Boggs and has been in the family continuously except for one period.

<sup>1</sup>About 1810-1815, Boggs had the log house dismantled and moved to higher ground. In 1974, the present owner moved the structure (without disassembly) back to the farm and near its original location (Mastin, p. D-3).

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Lancaster, Clay. Ante Bellum Houses of the Bluegrass. Lexington: University of Kentucky Press, 1961, pp. 16-17.
- Mastin, Bettye Lee. "Log House Is Home Again." (Lexington) Herald-Leader, December 18, 1976, p. D-3.
- "Cave Spring." Kentucky Historic Society Highway Marker No. 1404. Additional information on file at Kentucky Historical Society, Frankfort, Kentucky. (continued)

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 47 acres (approximately)  
 UTM REFERENCES

A	1,6	7,2,8	9,2,0	4,2,0	3,2,8,0	B	1,6	7,2,8	9,3,0	4,2,0	2,7,6,0
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING			ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING	
C	1,6	7,2,8	6,7,0	4,2,0	2,7,2,0	D	1,6	7,2,8	4,9,0	4,2,0	3,4,4,0
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING			ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING	

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundaries of Cave Spring begin at point A (see U. S. G. S. map) on the south side of the Athens-Walnut Hill Road approximately 2400 feet west of the interchange of I-75 and Athens-Walnut Hill Road. The line proceeds south for approximately 2000 feet to point B on the north bank of the creek for approximately 1000 feet and then continues in a westerly direction for approximately another 900 feet to point C. The boundary then turns in a northwesterly direction for approximately 2400 feet to point D on the south side (cont.)

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

Samuel M. Cassidy, Owner; Charlotte Schneider, Architectural Historian; Gloria Mills, Historian

ORGANIZATION

/Kentucky Heritage Commission

DATE

June 1978

STREET & NUMBER

5180 Athens-Walnut Hill Pike/104 Bridge St.

TELEPHONE

(606)266-0394 / (502) 564-3741

CITY OR TOWN

Lexington/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

*Eldred H. Melton*

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

10-18-78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
 ATTEST *Jann H. Gilmore*  
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 12-22-78  
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER  
 DATE 12/22/18

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Cave Spring

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

Smokehouse

Southeast of the house is the one-and-one-half-story, brick smokehouse and adjoining office (see photo 2). Laid in common bond, the west wall is pierced by a double-sash window and a door, both of which are surmounted by jack arches. A second door is located in the north gable end and above it are two windows. In 1965, a wing was added to the rear, and the structure was converted to a ~~guesthouse~~ . The exterior retains its original architectural integrity and the interior has been tastefully adapted for modern usage.

Hemp House/ Granary

Located southwest of the main house is the one-and-one-half-story, brick hemp house and granary (see photo 3). A gable-roofed building similar in proportion and scale to the smokehouse, this structure is laid in common bond and rests on a low, stone foundation. The door is located in the south gable end with single window centered in the gable peak above. A second, larger window pierces the west side wall. All openings have jack arches. The structure functioned as a hemp house and granary until 1900. Currently, the building is used as a stable for pleasure horses, and it remains virtually unaltered on the exterior.

Icehouse

South of the main residence is the stone icehouse set in the hillside above the cave spring for which the farm is named (see photo 4). The three foot thick stone walls are lined with brick on the interior. The icehouse was used as such until 1915, but recently the structure has been enlarged by adding a floor at the ground level which affords space for yard tools and machinery. The subterranean level is now used for potato storage. The rectangular building has a gabled roof of wooden shingles.

Servant's Quarters

Situated southwest of the main house is the one-and-one-half-story, brick servant's quarters (see photo 5). Facing northward, the main block is three bays wide with a central door and jack arches over all the openings. The east end window was originally a door. A brick chimney rises from the ridgeline of the gable roof. Gable end windows light the upper story. The interior consists of two rooms each with a fireplace in the center wall. In 1965, a rear and side wing were added on the south and west sides, respectively. These additions were designed to blend with the original section.

(continued)

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Cave Spring  
CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 3

Log House

Located on the hilltop south of the main house and above the cave spring is the log house constructed ca. 1784 (see photo 6). The one-and-one-half-story structure initially consisted of two pens connected by a dogtrot. Large, stone chimneys are located on the gable end walls. Ladders in each pen gave access to the upper level. Later, the dogtrot was enclosed and a stairway was added in the northeast corner of the passage.

Originally the structure was built nearer the creek, in close proximity to the cave. In 1872, a division of property between heirs caused the house to be moved. It continued in use as a residence until 1955 when it was relegated to hay storage and finally abandoned. In 1974, the log structure was acquired by the present owner and moved to the site it now occupies. The following year, it was remodeled and new windows were cut and a new porch added to the facade. Facing northward overlooking the farm, the log house currently serves as a guesthouse.

Graveyard

The Boggs family graveyard is located on a hillside 700 feet east of the main house (see photo 7). The burying ground is enclosed by a well-maintained, octagonal stone wall. A tall, central monument bearing the inscription "Settled on This Place, Feb. 18, 1784" also contains the names of Robert and Sarah Huston Boggs and those of their children. Individual markers indicate the actual burying places of the family, and in the rear of the graveyard are rough, vertical, unmarked stones denoting where house slaves were buried. Other slaves were buried outside the fence, and thus no trace of their graves remains.

The house and farm complex have undergone a careful restoration and are maintained in excellent condition. The nominated acreage includes the main house, all outbuildings, and surrounding land that could be considered frontage property important visually to the setting of the complex. The Athens-Walnut Hill Road in front of the main house is used as the northern boundary, the access road as the western boundary, a line running along a ridge to the rear of the log house as the southern boundary, and a line of convenience to the east of the cemetery through open fields as the eastern boundary.

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Cave Spring

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

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Jillson, Willard Rouse. Early Clark County Kentucky. Frankfort: Roberts Printing Co., 1966, pp. 54-55, 59-61.  
Wooley, Carolyn Murray. "Kentucky's Early Stone Houses." The Magazine Antiques, April, 1974, p. 600-601.

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Cave Spring  
CONTINUATION SHEET

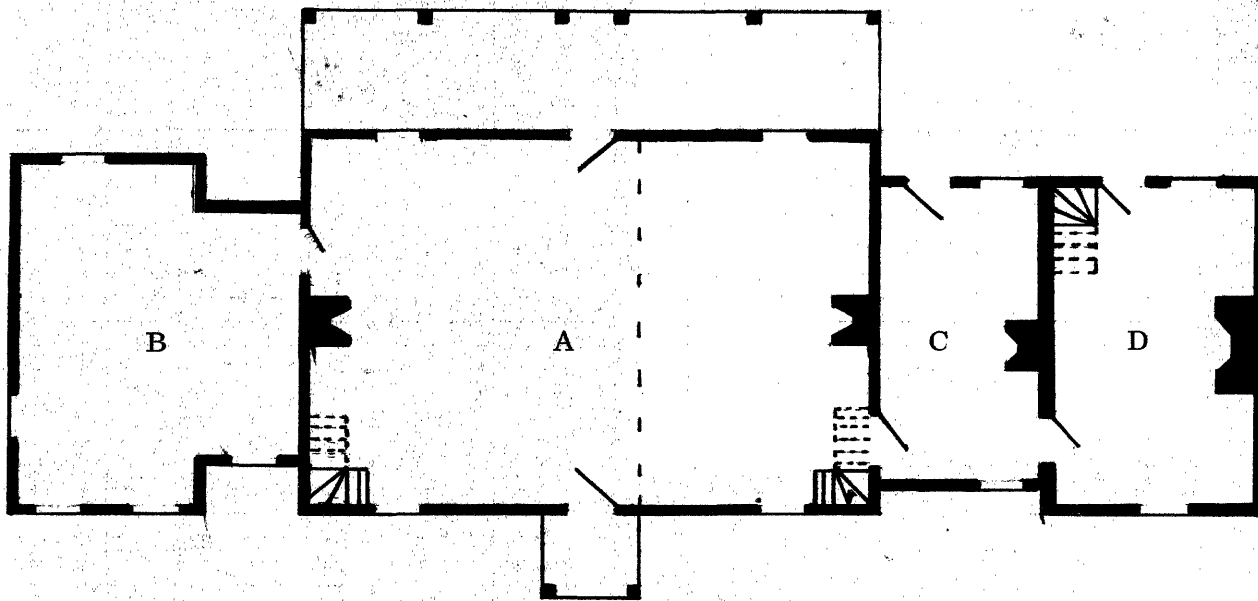
ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 2

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of the Athens-Walnut Hill Road. The line follows the south side of the Athens-Walnut Hill Road for approximately 1000 feet returning to point A.



**Boggs House  
Cave Spring Farm  
Fayette County  
Kentucky  
Floor plan  
Not to scale.**

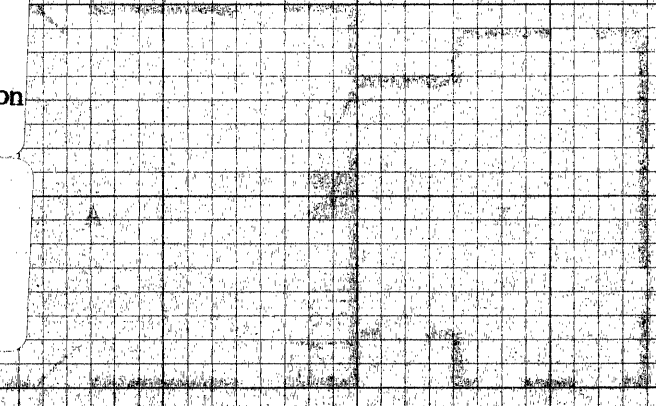


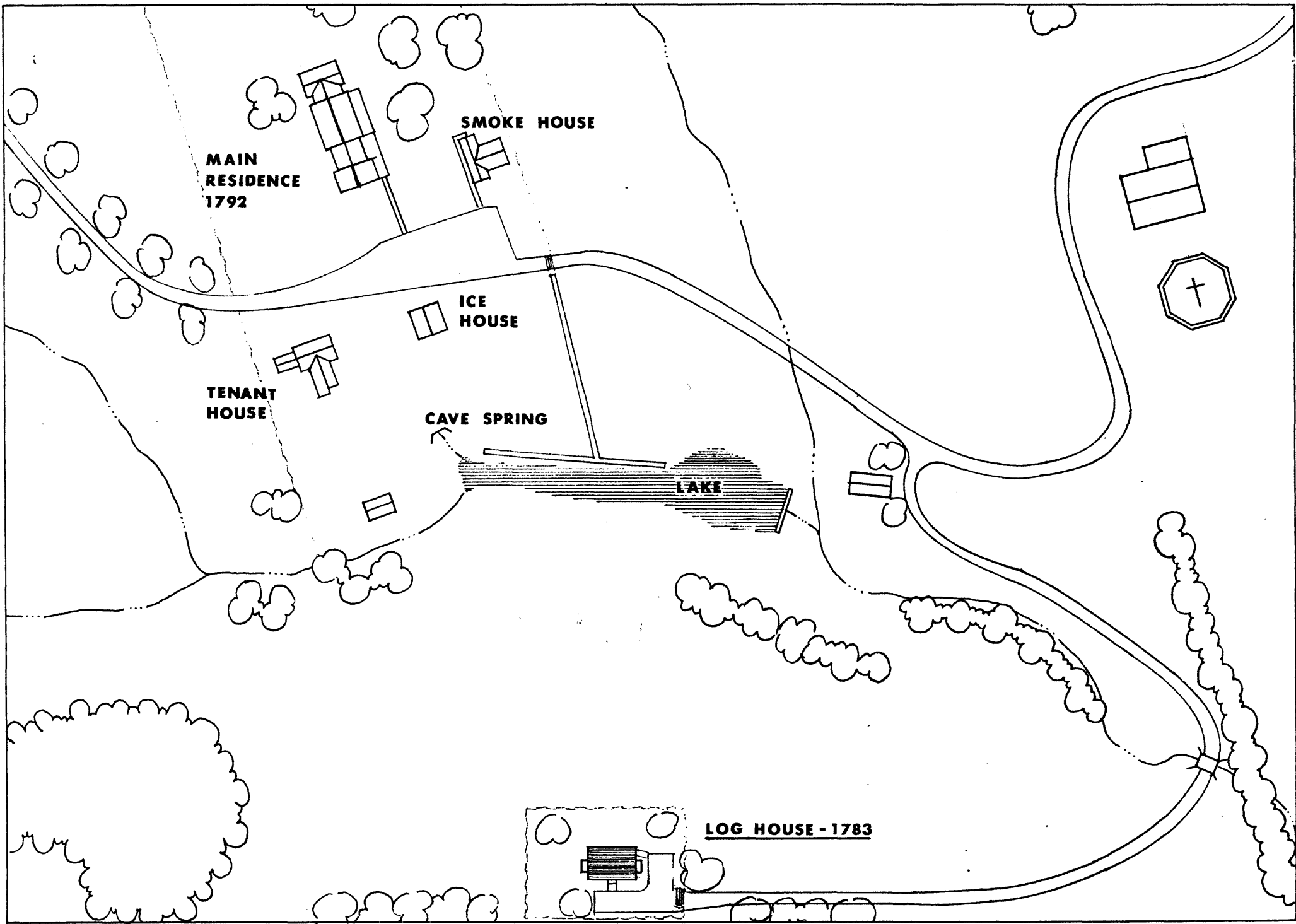
**A - Parlor  
B - Added Wing  
C - Original Dogtrot (Later Dining Room)  
D - Kitchen  
- - - - Indicates location of original partition**

Cave Spring  
Lexington  
Fayette County, Kentucky  
Map 2

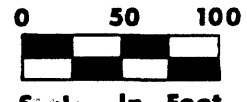
Floor plan  
Not to scale.  
Charlotte Schneider  
Kentucky Heritage Commission  
Frankfort, Kentucky

September 1978  
DEC 22 1978  
OCT 23 1978





**SITE PLAN**



Cave Spring  
Lexington  
Fayette County, Kentucky

Map 3

Drawn from 1973 farm map  
base by Lynn Cravens, archi-  
tect, to show Log House site.  
Granary/Hemp House (not  
shown) is located approx-

imately 125' due north of the  
smoke house.

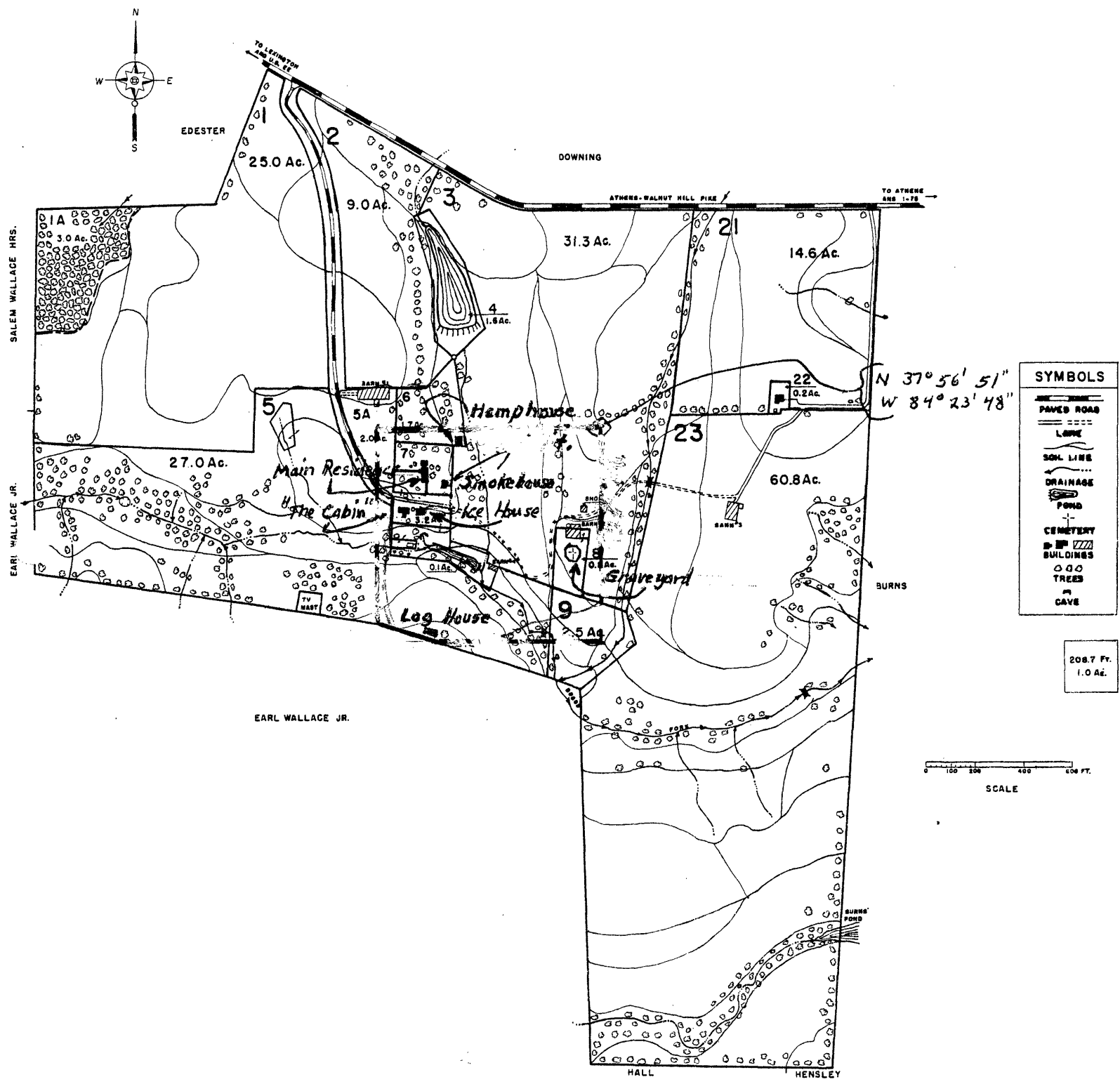
1976

1"=100' OCT 3 1976

DEC 3 2 1978

# CAVE SPRING FARM

ATHENS-WALNUT HILL PIKE



SYMBOLS	
	PAVED ROAD
	LANE
	SOIL LINE
	DRAINAGE
	POND
	CEMETERY
	BUILDINGS
	TREES
	CAVE

208.7 Ft.  
1.0 Ac.



Cave Spring  
Lexington  
Fayette Co., Kentucky

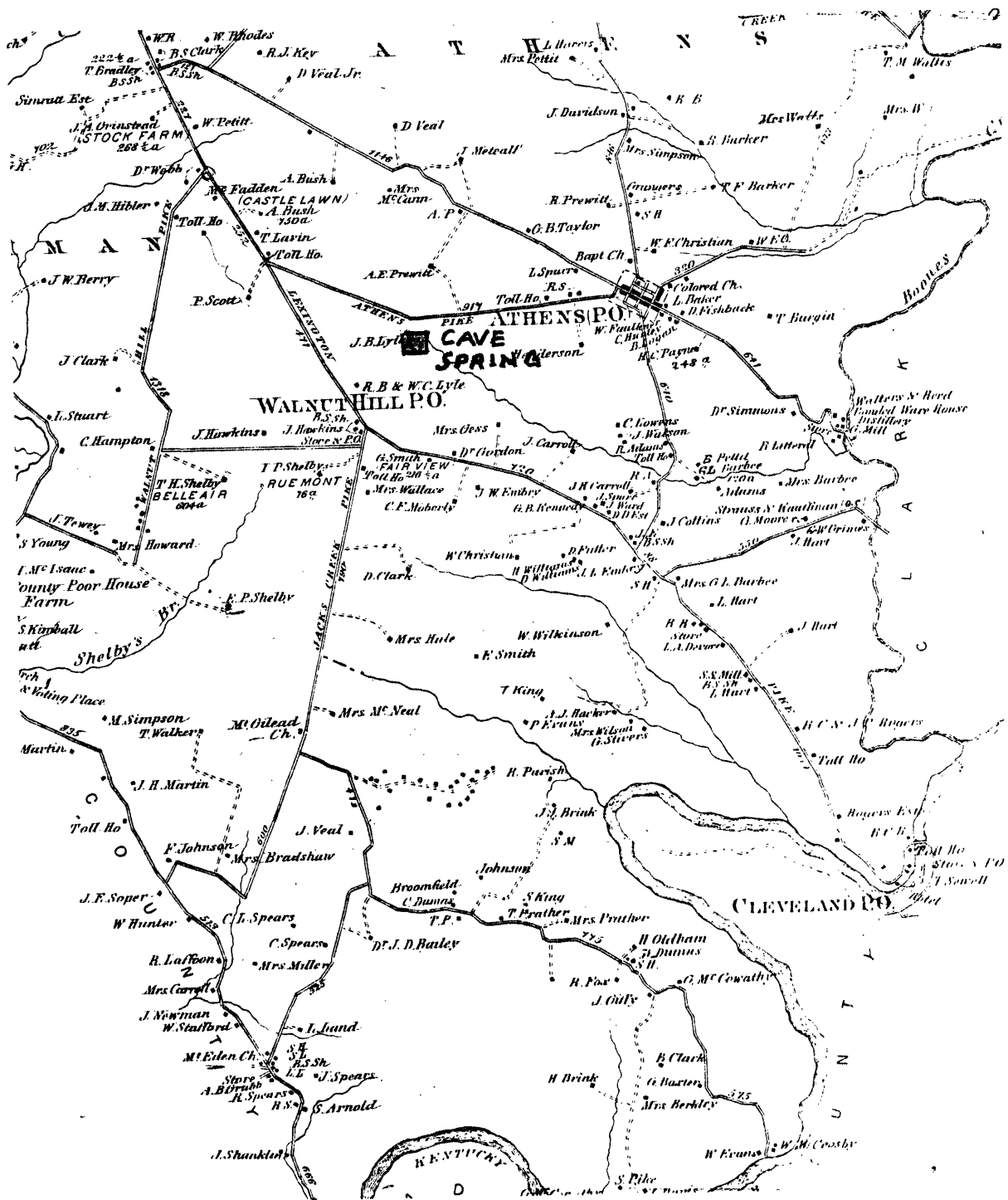
DEC 22 1978

Map 4

OCT 23 1978

Survey by C. J. Fuller & Co.,  
Lexington, Kentucky  
1973

Original 1"=100', this  
reduction approx. 1"=550'



ATLAS PUBLISHED 1877

D.G. BEERS + CO.

Cave Spring  
Lexington  
Fayette County, Kentucky  
Map 5

Atlas of Bourbon, Clark,  
Fayette, Jessamine & Wood  
ford Counties, Ky. by D. G.  
Beers & Co.  
1877

$\frac{1}{4}$  inch per mile

DEC 23 1978

OCT 23 1978





Cave Spring  
Lexington  
Fayette County, Kentucky  
Map 6

DEC 22 1978

Untitled Old Fayette County  
Map.  
Circa 1845  
1"=1,333' approx.

OCT 23 1978