

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 Jenkins, General Albert Gallatin, House; "Green Bottom"

AND/OR COMMON Jenkins, General Albert Gallatin, House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 8814 Ohio River Road (W. Va. Route 2)

__NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN Green Bottom

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

Fourth

STATE West Virginia

CODE 54

COUNTY Cabell

CODE 011

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

STREET & NUMBER 8814 Ohio River Road (W. Va. Route 2)

CITY, TOWN Lesage

VICINITY OF

STATE West Virginia 25537

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Cabell County Court House

STREET & NUMBER 4th Avenue and 8th Street

CITY, TOWN Huntington

STATE West Virginia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

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

Attributing a style to the General Albert Gallatin Jenkins House requires some generalization and an understanding that its builder, Captain William Jenkins, had lived along the James River of Virginia for several decades and moved to the interior Ohio country in 1825 when he was nearing fifty years of age. This may help to explain why the old Green Bottom estate, Federal in lines, is very late in period. The delicacy of the entrance detail, attenuation of features, narrowness of the reeded attached colonnettes surrounding doors, slender glazing bars in windows, and use of patera corner blocks at the parlor door all point to this style; the semielliptical fanlight with sidelights flanking the main entrance is characteristic.

This rectangular, 2½ story, five-bay structure has always been a farmhouse. It sits atop a high foundation of cut sandstone blocks and is constructed of brick laid in Flemish bond on the main entrance facade and a variation of common bond elsewhere (every sixth course is laid in Flemish bond). The gable roof is broken at the north (front) elevation by three dormers with peculiarly glazed pediments (tradition holds that these are original, but if so, they must have been highly innovative).

Both front and rear entrances are approached by a series of steps. At one time these were stone and the landing at the front included benches, but they have been replaced in the twentieth century by wooden materials. Symmetry is evident in fenestration with the center entrance flanked by two windows, and the five-bay configuration is repeated on the second floor. Casement windows are used in the basement and dormers; there are 9/9 light sashes on the main levels. The only openings on the gable ends are quarter-circle attic windows flanking the chimneys; the east end also has a door in the southeast corner. Exterior end chimneys serve six fireplaces--one in each room. There is little decorative detailing on the outside, but the fanlighted main entrance and brick mousetooth cornice on front and rear elevations are complemented by the pleasing window proportions.

The interior center-hall, single-pile plan is easily reflected on the exterior. The open-string, two-run stairway with simple brackets appears to have its original handrail and slender balusters. Separate enclosed, single-flight stairs serve basement and attic. There is a simplicity in woodwork and trim, but the west parlor on the first floor shows more refinement than any other room. The mantel has fluted pilasters supporting a deep shelf, paneled splayed window reveals, a paneled under-window and fluted door trim with patera motif in the corner blocks. Elsewhere, the splayed window reveals are not paneled, door trim is unfluted and corner blocks are plain; however, rooms on the second floor have mantels similar to that in the parlor (probably original). Doors are all six-panel and most date from the time of construction. Hardware and lighting are more recent, while the wide, worn floor boards throughout attest to untold years of use.

None of the original outbuildings and dependencies remain, the old detached kitchen and office structures having been destroyed by past floods. The block and frame addition at the northeast corner dates to the present century and houses garage space and a kitchen; it was in the 1930s and 1940s that electric and plumbing were upgraded, a bathroom placed at the top of the stairs on the second level,

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the shutters removed and the brick painted white. Otherwise, the building has had few alterations, and despite some apparent naivete in building construction and style, the General Albert Gallatin Jenkins House remains a sound structure appropriately used as the center of an operating farm.

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 checked="" 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1835

BUILDER/ARCHITECT William Jenkins

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The General Albert Gallatin Jenkins House, located along the Ohio River north-east of the small community of Lesage, Cabell County, West Virginia, stands today as an example of a building of quality constructed by a prosperous businessman who was part of a general westward movement in the early nineteenth century. His son, with whom the house is most prominently associated, became a distinguished lawyer and politician in the 1850s, having served two terms in the United States Congress by his thirtieth year and being elected to the Confederate Congress after siding with the South on the questions of states rights and separation. Albert Gallatin Jenkins fought and died for these beliefs. In war as in peace he proved himself a leader of men, having attained the rank of brigadier general in 1862.

Captain William Jenkins was a businessman of note along the James River of Virginia during the early years of United States nationhood. His several boats plied the waters carrying goods between Richmond and the interior, and after service in the War of 1812, he expanded his commercial ventures into the Caribbean and eventually to South America. Captain Jenkins, aged 47, married in 1824 and soon moved his wife and newborn daughter to a 4,441 acre tract along the Ohio River. He had purchased the land for \$15,000, land that had previously been owned by two governors of Virginia--Wilson C. Nicholas and William H. Cabell. A temporary house was constructed after arrival, and it was here that the Jenkins family lived until the big house was completed about 1835.

What is now called the General Albert Gallatin Jenkins House was constructed from brick fired on the site and timber taken from the lands. It is well built and, while being a late application of the Federal style, exhibits a sophistication for the area and time far beyond nearby structures, thus attesting to the status of the builder. Outlines are clean and simple; the rectangular shell houses two rooms in the basement and on each floor, and every room is served by a fireplace opening into the exterior end chimneys. Aside from the decorative main entrance with its semielliptical fan-light and the sawtooth cornice in brick, there is little adorning the exterior. The inside is singularly uncluttered and displays restraint, being distinguished by panels beneath the parlor windows and splayed window reveals in each room. Nonetheless, the size of the rooms and apparent quality of materials clearly show how fine a house it was for its age.

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Albert Gallatin Jenkins was born at his father's Green Bottom estate on November 10, 1830. Around 1835 the family moved from the temporary home constructed when William Jenkins arrived in 1825 into the grand building today referred to as the General Jenkins House. William was prosperous enough to see to a quality formal education for his four children (three sons and a daughter) even at a time and place when most families applied all efforts simply to subsist or build the foundation for future successes. Albert followed his older brothers to Marshall Academy (the antecedent of Marshall University in Huntington, West Virginia) in 1845, and from there they went to Jefferson College, perhaps the preeminent higher institution of learning west of the Alleghenies at the time, from which young Jenkins graduated in 1848.

Albert was well trained intellectually, but he was still uncertain as to a profession toward which he might aspire. Should he continue the agricultural pursuits begun by his father upon moving to the Ohio country, should he enter such a profession as medicine (taken up by his brother William Alexander), or might he enter upon a different course and combine several fields of endeavor? He probably did not have any preformed plans when he finally decided to attend a law school, but because it was a formal approach rather than the more common reading and studying with an established lawyer, it appears that Albert's decision was to pursue the law not as a mere occupation but in combination with a variety of interests, including farming. He matriculated at Harvard and was graduated in 1850.

The young lawyer established a practice in Charleston, Virginia, after a trip to South America, but he continued to pass much time at Green Bottom, involving himself in the law, agriculture and the social and political activity of the surrounding area. It is questionable whether Jenkins actively sought a public life, yet his background and personality made him visible to the political hierarchy of the local Democratic organization at an early period, and in 1856 he was selected as a delegate to the party's national convention to be held at Cincinnati. This may have piqued his interest in politics, for thereafter he regularly attended meetings and frequently participated in discussions. In April 1855, at a meeting in Ritchie County, he seconded the nomination of the candidate from the Eleventh Congressional District of Virginia and helped carry Cabell County for the Democratic nominee despite his loss to the American Party (Know-Nothing) candidate, John S. Carlile. During the campaigning, Jenkins debated Carlile at Hurricane Bridge in Putnam County for about 4 1/2 hours and came away with the accolades of his fellow Democrats and praise from the Kanawha Valley Star. His entry into the political ferment of the 1850s was auspicious.

The Democratic Congressional Convention meeting in Parkersburg in December 1856 did not open with Jenkins as a candidate, but after a score of ballots and intricate maneuverings he was nominated by acclamation. Facing incumbent Carlile in the election of 1857 proved quite a challenge; the candidates scheduled speaking and

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debating meetings for the courthouse in each of the district's nineteen counties. When ballots were tallied, it was Jenkins who had won by nearly 1,000 votes out of more than 14,500 cast, and though the Democratic Party was still suffering, especially in the North, because of disillusionment over such national issues as the Kansas-Nebraska settlement, Albert Gallatin Jenkins would take a seat in the United States House of Representatives as the youngest member of the session.

While quite attached to the family's agricultural business along the Ohio River and his home at Green Bottom, Albert's interests were certainly not narrow in any realm. He had traveled widely, was a member of the national Congress, and appeared comfortable in social and political circles from Guyandotte to Clarksburg to Washington, D.C.--and St. Louis. It was at the latter city in July 1858 that he married Virginia Southard Bowlin, daughter of James Butler Bowlin, a former judge, member of Congress, and ambassador to Colombia and Paraguay.

Jenkins won a second contest for Congress in 1859 by an increased margin, but by this time national problems were such that sides had to be chosen on nearly every issue of any import. Albert was a states-rights Democrat who, though he did not want to see the Union dissolved, would abide his principles and fight to uphold his beliefs. This Southern gentleman refused the Democratic nomination of 1861 to a third term in the United States Congress and was soon organizing a militia group known as "The Border Rangers".

This militia company joined the Eighth Virginia Cavalry in May and operated in western Virginia, especially in the Kanawha Valley region, during 1861. Jenkins soon attained the rank of colonel and was elected to the Confederate Congress from his district. He was pleased to leave the Congress after his promotion to brigadier general in August 1862, however, for, as a military officer, he was anxious for the South in this period of warfare and felt he would help its interests more on the field of battle. He led two incursions to the Ohio River area in 1862 and 1863, actually crossing into Ohio during the first foray. Prior to the battle at Gettysburg, Gen. Jenkins led advance parties into Pennsylvania and assisted in the capture of Chambersburg. Although wounded on the field at Gettysburg, he was back leading his troops in the fall of 1863, but while covering a retreat in May 1864, the young officer was shot from his horse at Cloyd's Mountain near Dublin, Virginia, and died on May 21.

Albert Gallatin Jenkins, a lawyer by training, politician by calling and soldier by chance, had been a representative to both the United States and Confederate Congresses and a brigadier general in the Confederate forces by the time of his death at age thirty-three. Life might have been short in years, but it was full in terms of

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accomplishments. Like his father before him he had done well; he now passed this legacy to his children, one of whom (Alberta Gallatin) became an actress of some renown, and another of whom (Margaret Virginia), after a career in education, settled at the Green Bottom homestead and set a task of preserving the old house. Today, the home remains as the center of a farm, retains its original lines for the most part, and is appreciated in its use and historic tradition.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 4 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME Glenwood, W. Va.-Ohio

QUADRANGLE SCALE 7.5'

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,7 39,11,3,0 4,2,7,1,4,4,0

B

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at a point where the entrance road from West Virginia Route 2 crosses the B & O Railroad tracks, thence northward approximately 400 feet to the drive at

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

James E. Harding, Historian

ORGANIZATION Historic Preservation Unit

DATE

West Virginia Department of Culture and History

October 27, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

Science and Culture Center, Capitol Complex

(304) 348-0244

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Charleston

West Virginia

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

Charles Morrow

TITLE West Virginia State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE February 23, 1978

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

ATTEST: KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

the front of the house. Along this drive westward approximately 400 feet to the tree line at the west side of the property, southward along this tree line to the B & O Railroad tracks, thence eastward along the tracks to the crossing of the entrance road.

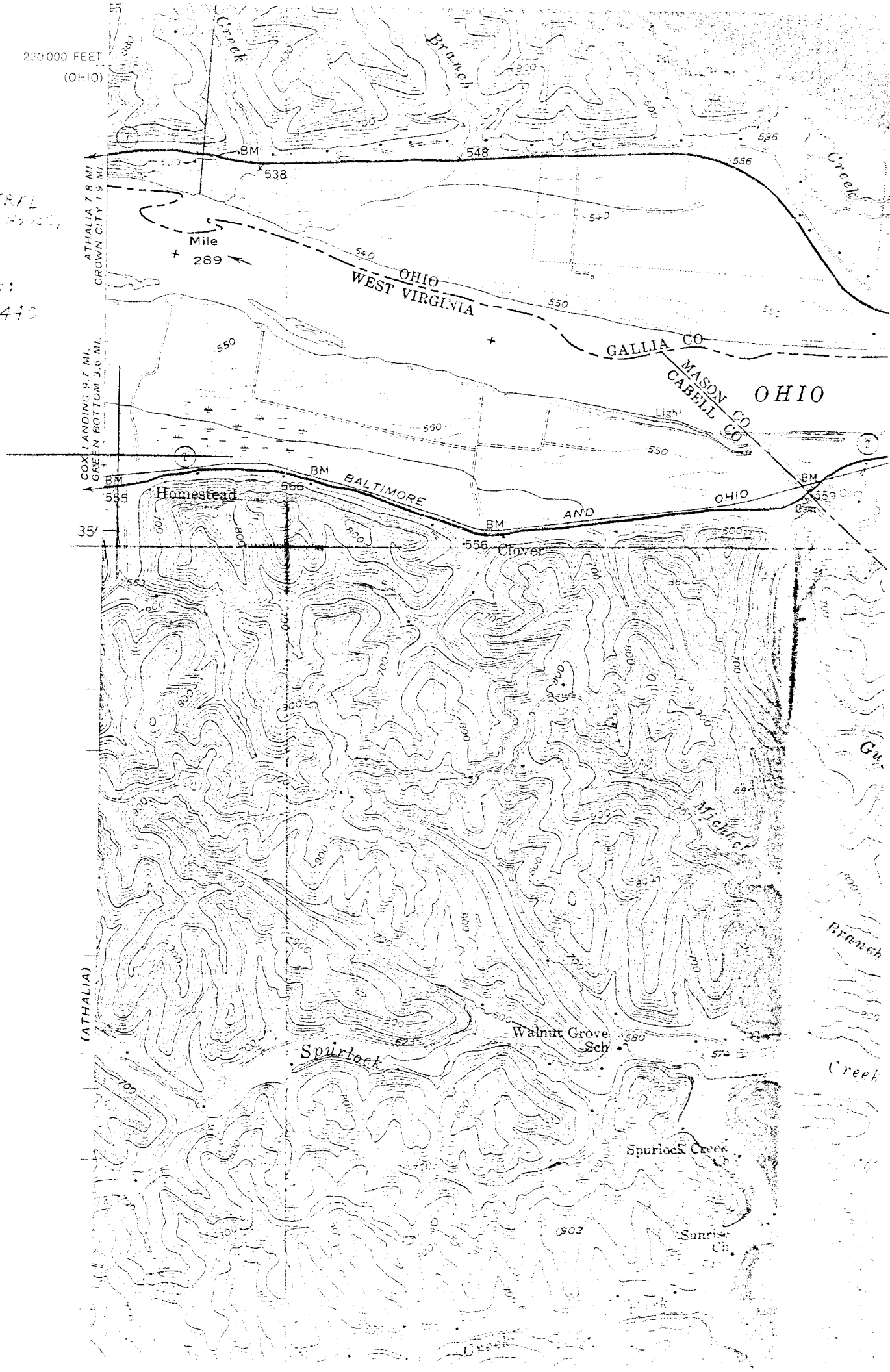
230 000 FEET
(OHIO)

JAMES G. GENERAL
MASON CO. OHIO
WEST VIRGINIA
UTM COORDINATES:
17/8117014211410

ATHALIA 7.9 MI.
CROWN CITY 1.9 MI.

COX LANDING 9.7 MI.
GREEN BOTTOM 3.6 MI.

(ATHALIA)



Mile
+ 289

OHIO
WEST VIRGINIA

GALLIA CO
MASON CO
CABELL CO

OHIO

BALTIMORE
AND

Clayton

Homestead

Spurlack

Walnut Grove Sch.

Spurlack Creek

Sunrise

Creek

Branch

Creek

Creek

Creek

Creek

Creek

Creek

