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Holtey

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[54] SECURE MEMORY CARD WITH PROGRAMMED CONTROLLED SECURITY ACCESS CONTROL

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[51] Int. Cl.⁶ H04L 9/32; G07F 7/08

[52] U.S. Cl. 380/23; 235/380

[58] Field of Search 380/23, 24, 25; 235/380, 382

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single semiconductor chip which interconnects through an internal bus to a number of non-volatile addressable memory chips. The microprocessor includes an addressable non-volatile memory for storing information including a number of key values and program instruction information. Each chip's memory is organized into a number of blocks, each block including a number of rows of byte locations. Each row of each block further includes a lock bit location, the total number of which provide storage for a lock value uniquely coded to utilize a predetermined characteristic of the memory to ensure data protection. Each memory chip is constructed to include security control logic circuits which include a security access control unit and a volatile access control memory containing a plurality of access control storage elements. Under the control of a predetermined set of instructions, the security access control unit performs a predetermined key validation operation by comparing key values against the bit contents of lock bit locations read out a bit at a time during an authentication procedure with a host computer. After the successful performance of the key validation procedure, the microprocessor sets one of the storage elements of the volatile access control memory for enabling user access to block data.

[57] ABSTRACT

A secure memory card includes a microprocessor on a

20 Claims, 8 Drawing Sheets

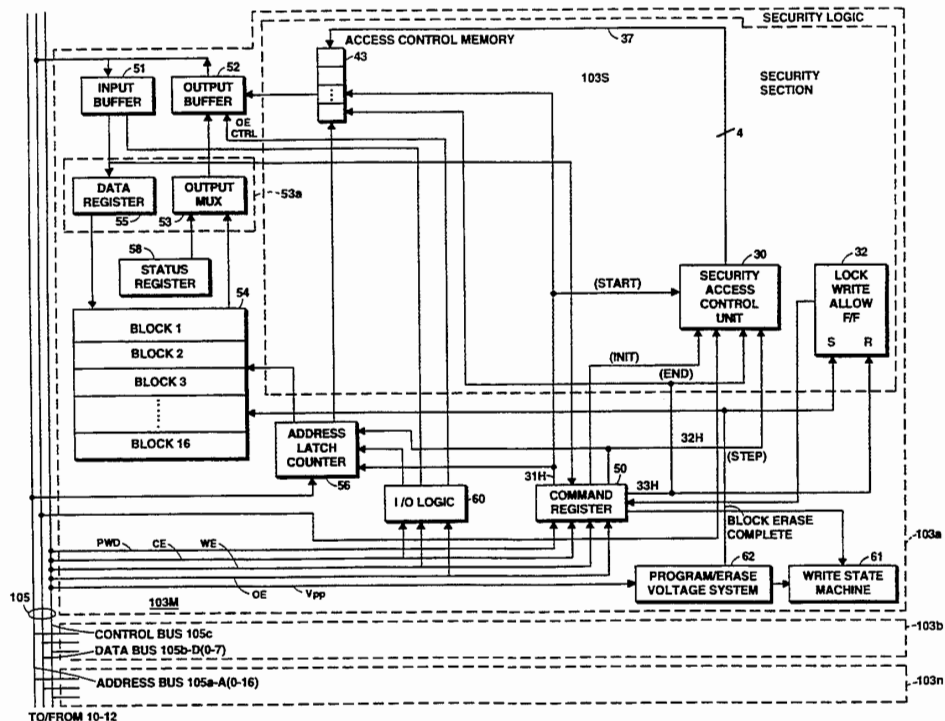
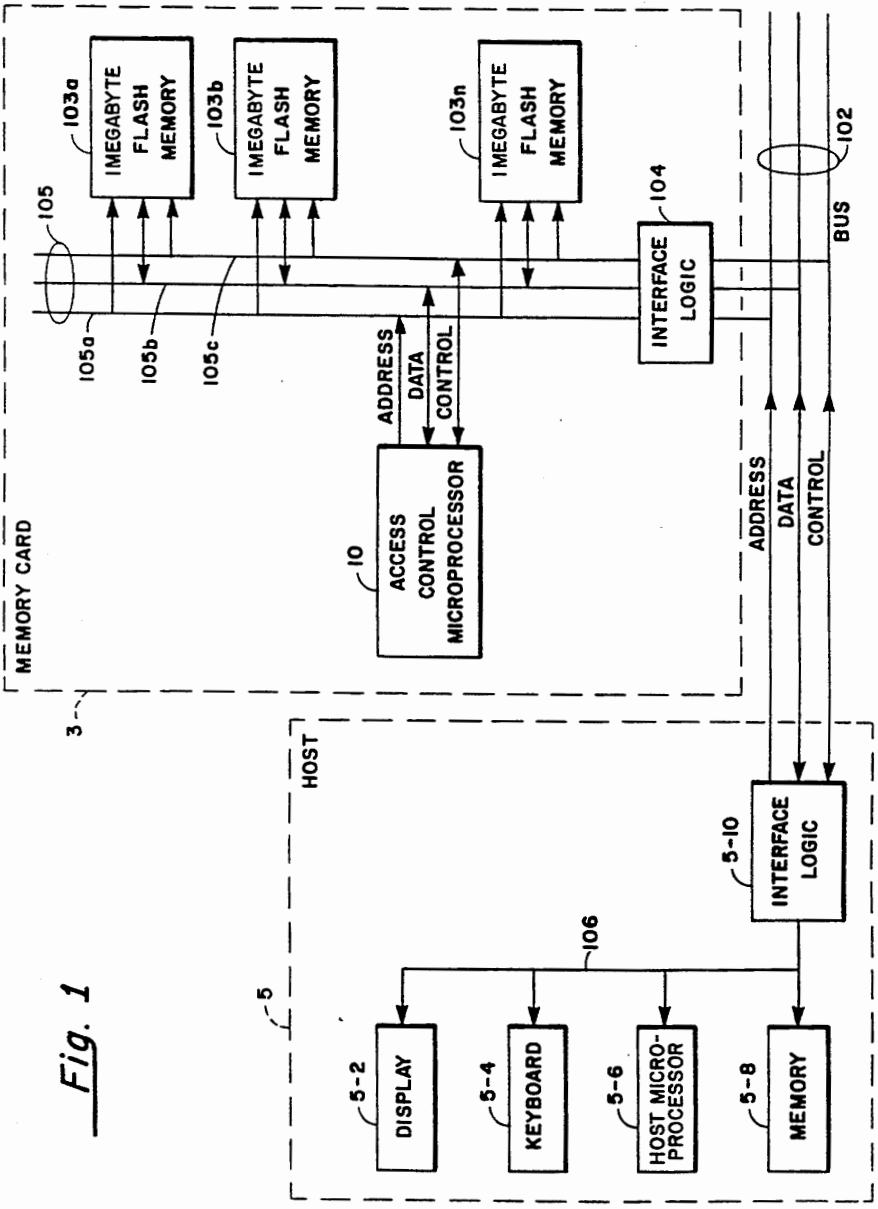


Fig. 1



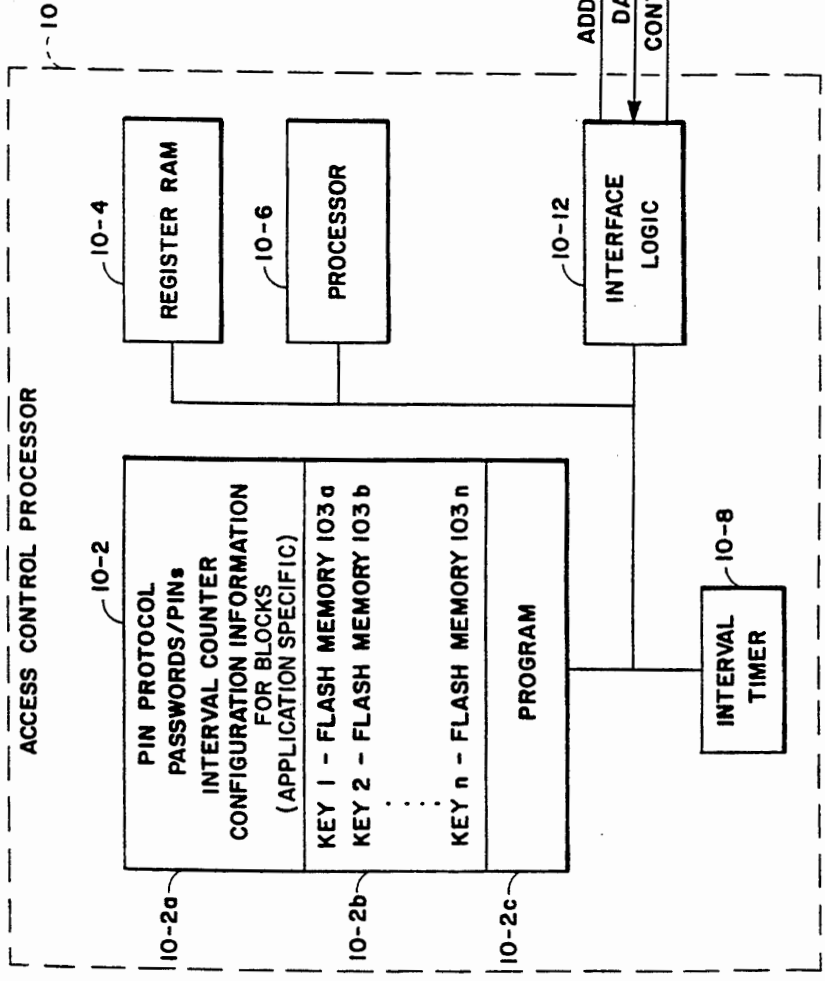
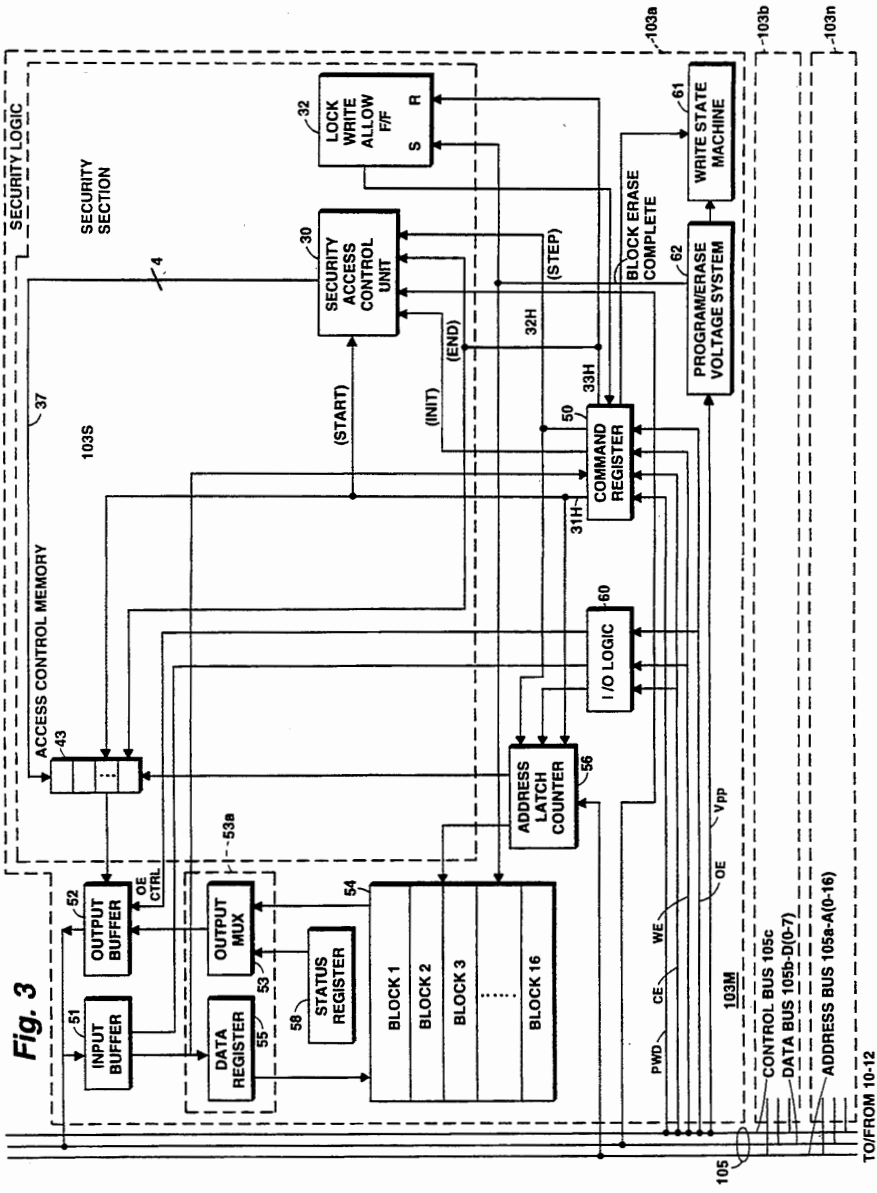


Fig. 2



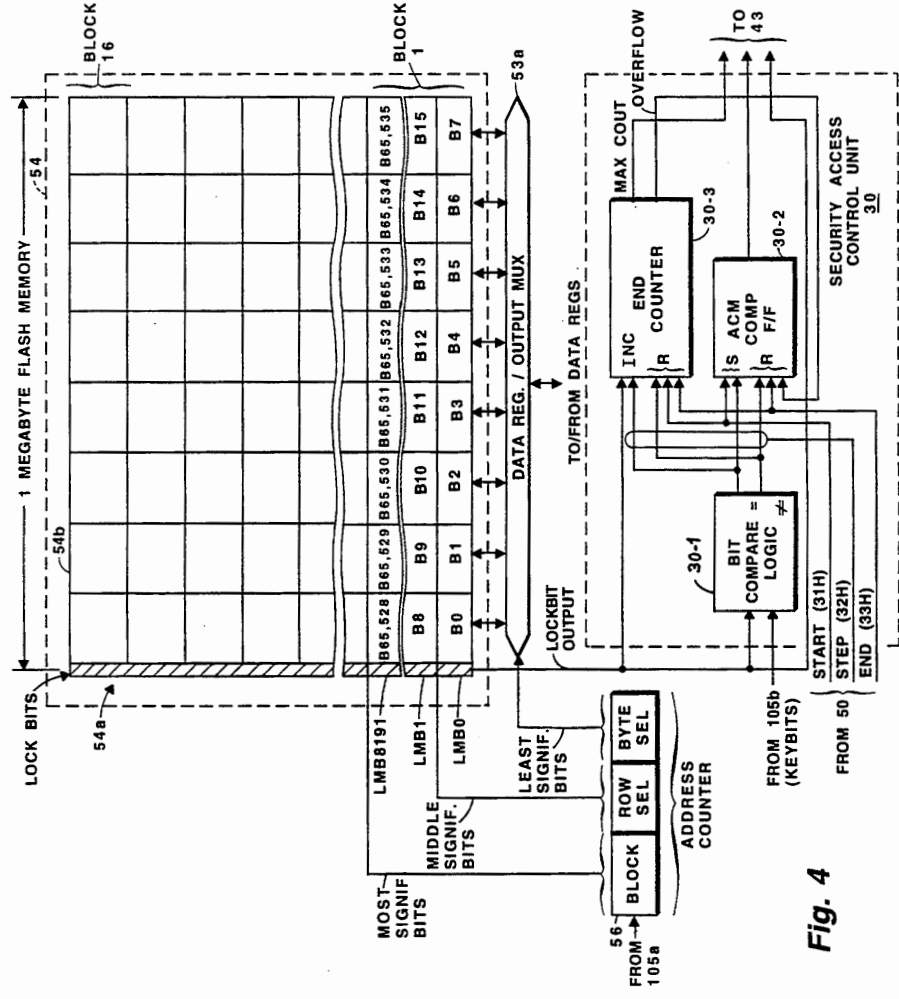


Fig. 4

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