

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form

Heidemann Ranch, San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

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5. CLASSIFICATION**OWNERSHIP OF PROPERTY:** Private**CATEGORY OF PROPERTY:** District**NUMBER OF RESOURCES WITHIN PROPERTY:**

CONTRIBUTING	NONCONTRIBUTING	
9	1	BUILDINGS
1	0	SITES
2	0	STRUCTURES
0	0	OBJECTS
12	1	TOTAL

NUMBER OF CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES PREVIOUSLY LISTED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER: 0**NAME OF RELATED MULTIPLE PROPERTY LISTING:** *Historic Farms and Ranches of Bexar County, Texas***6. FUNCTION OR USE****HISTORIC FUNCTIONS:**

DOMESTIC: single dwelling, secondary structure

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: animal facility, processing, storage, agricultural outbuilding

FUNERARY: cemetery

CURRENT FUNCTIONS:

DOMESTIC: single dwelling, secondary structure

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: processing, storage

FUNERARY: cemetery

7. DESCRIPTION**ARCHITECTURAL CLASSIFICATION:** OTHER: Dogtrot Log House, NO STYLE

MATERIALS: **FOUNDATION:** Stone, Wood, Concrete
 WALLS Stone, Wood, Metal, Asbestos
 ROOF Metal, Wood, Asphalt
 OTHER

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (see continuation sheets 7-5 through 7-10).

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The Heidemann Ranch, at 26090 Toutant Beauregard Road in northwest San Antonio, Texas, is one of several properties in the vicinity representing 19th century settlement by German immigrants, and features contributing properties dating from the 1860s through the 1950s. The most prominent 19th century historic resources include a dogtrot plan log house with an infilled stone central bay, a stone barn with frame additions, a stone smokehouse, a capped well, and the Heidemann family cemetery. Twentieth century resources include the 1937 stone ranch house and a postwar asbestos-shingle-sided workshop built entirely of salvaged ammunition crates. At the southern portion of the property is Pecan Creek. The property overall has a high degree of integrity, and retains an important collection of rural vernacular from the mid-19th through mid-20th centuries.

The Heidemann Ranch is approximately four miles northwest of IH-10, off the Boerne Stage Road. It is comprised of approximately nine acres of the original 320 acres purchased in 1856 by William Heidemann and William Hausmann from Benjamin Sappington, patentee for Matio Casillos.¹ The property was divided in 1873 between Heidemann and Hausmann, with Heidemann receiving approximately 171 acres on the east, and Hausmann receiving the balance on the west.² Boundaries were further clarified in 1896 in a dispute over the permanent water hole.³ The land remained in the Heidemann family for 137 years until 1993, when Mrs. Jewell Heidemann sold the property to the current owners, Roy and Carmen Barrera.⁴ At the time of this sale, Mrs. Heidemann was granted a life estate to continue living on the property until her death in 1999.

The property entrance is on the east side of Toutant Beauregard Road, accessed through a metal gate and a cattle guard. The property is enclosed with barbed wire fencing on cedar posts. The private asphalt road on the property leads past the Heidemann cemetery and oldest historic structures on the southeast, ending at the 1937 residence occupied by the Barrera family. The 1860s historic structure complex is partially enclosed with a low rock wall. The landscape is cleared and filled with live oak trees punctuated with pecan and fruit trees. Sections of the property are enclosed with fencing to protect the historic buildings. The Heidemann Cemetery is also enclosed with a chain-link fence. The oldest historic properties, including the log house, barn, smokehouse, are the dominant features. A short distance to the east of these buildings is a workshop constructed of ammunition crates. To the east of these buildings is additional fencing and a metal cattle chute. On north side of the asphalt road is the 1937 residence, a garage, and a storage house. Behind the residence toward the north are an outhouse and well house. Meandering along the southern portion of the property in a south-easterly direction is Pecan Creek, a tributary of Leon Springs Creek which is fed by the Medina River.

This Heidemann complex is one of several in the vicinity representing early settlement by German immigrants. To the east is the 1829-1899 Maverick-Altgelt Ranch and Fenstermaker-Fromme Farm (NRHP 1979).⁵ Approximately three miles to the south at 24141 Boerne Stage Road is the 1855 George and Sophie Von Plehwe complex, owned by country music performer George Strait.⁶ One mile further east is the 1850-1880s Max Aue Stagecoach Inn, now occupied by Rudy's

1 Bexar County Deed Records, Vol. N2, p.130, Sale price \$350.00; Texas General Land Office, Vol., 6, Patent 918, Certificate 1558, Abst. 165, File #1132, Nov. 24, 1854.

2 Bexar County Deed Records, Vol. XI, p.271+, 1873, *Augusta Hausmann and Husband vs. William Heidemann, Cause #3559*.

3 Bexar County Deed Records, Vol. 138, p.793+1896, *Augusta Hausmann vs. William Heidemann, Decree of Partition, Cause # 5050*.

4 Bexar County Deed Records, Vol. 5792, p.1579, *Warranty Deed*.

5 Maverick-Altgelt Ranch and Fenstermaker-Fromme Farm, National Register of Historic Places, Reference #79002915, Certification Date, 1979. *Atlas*, Texas Historical Commission. <http://atlas.thc.state.tx.us/>

6 Von Plehwe Complex, National Register of Historic Places, Reference #79602912, Certification Date, 1985. *Atlas*, Texas Historical Commission. <http://atlas.thc.state.tx.us/>

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Barbeque administrative offices.⁷

The property inventory provides more detail. There are no surviving Heidemann family members who have been able to provide specific dates of the properties, alterations and additions. The dates that are provided are estimated and, in part of based on increase in tax rates, where an assumption has been made that in increase in property valuation may signify the construction of a building. The two exceptions are the 1896 storage building for which the date is over the doorway, and the 1937 house.

INVENTORY OF PROPERTIES

1. Heidemann Log House (Contributing, 1861/1862)

Photos 1, 2, 3, 4, 13, 14, 15

Description: 1-story modified Texas vernacular dog-trot log house. The plan is triple-penned with the middle room being formed by the enclosure of the dog-trot with native limestone rubble on the north side. On the south side under the porch logs were laid in a vertical fashion and filled with mortar and covered with plaster. The house is roofed by a side-gable of corrugated metal over wood shingles, which extends to create a full length shed roof porch on the south elevation. The porch roof is supported by stripped cedar columns. The logs have been chinked-in with plaster, and the wood windows, centered on the end rooms, are six light double hung sash windows. There are three, four-panel wood doors on the south side of the house under the porch. Each provides an entry way to each of the pens. A limestone external chimney is located on the east gable end. An early limestone rubble addition has been added to the southeast corner and was probably used as storage for equipment or woodworking tools. There is a cistern located on the east end of the south porch used for the collecting of water. There are no windows on the north side of the house.

Significance: Built by William Heidemann and expanded through the years as the family increased, this is an excellent example of log house construction in northern Bexar County. It was the heart of the Heidemann ranching operations. During the construction of the Heidemann-Barrera 1950/1960 house, Emil and Jewel Heidemann lived in this log house. During one period of time, it was also occupied by Mexican laborers who worked on the ranch.⁸

2. Heidemann Barn (Contributing, 1860s)

Photos: 7, 8, 9, 14, 15

Description: 1½-story limestone rubble barn, flanked by a wood frame addition to both the east and west elevations. The walls of the upper portion of the barn, which may have been a loft, have been plastered on all four sides. There is a ledge around the inside perimeter of the room that could have supported a floor. There is an upper level door opening on the south elevation as well as a small window on the north gable of the barn. The main entry to the barn is on the north side. An open shed roof addition is located on the south elevation, supported by stripped cedar columns. The roofing is corrugated metal.

Significance: The barn was possibly used to house hay and/or the smaller farm animals. The side additions were probably used for livestock. The upper level, possibly a loft, may have also served as living accommodations for Heidemann family

⁷ Max Aue Stagecoach Inn, National Register of Historic Places, Reference # 79002912, Certification Date, 1979. *Atlas*, Texas Historical Commission. <http://atlas.thc.state.tx.us/>

⁸ Phone interview with Phyllis McCarley (relative of Jewell Heidemann) and Pat Ezell, May 2007.

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members, as it was not uncommon for family members to live for periods of time in barns. The stone was widely available locally.

3. Heidemann Smokehouse (Contributing, 1860s)

Photos: 9, 10, 14

Description: A small single-pen structure constructed of native limestone rubble with an off-center door on the front north gable. The roof is corrugated metal and has a small rectangular gable vent on the front gable. There is a small opening in the west wall, possibly for ventilation. The interior has blackened walls and the racks where the meats were hung are intact. The aromatic smell of the smoked meats is still present.

Significance: A smoke house was critical for the curing of meats and was a priority with early settlers for their food supply.

4. Water Well (Contributing, 1860s)

Photo: 12

Description: Located just west of the log house is a small well with a limestone base. It has a protective covering and hinge with a handle to use in lifting it up. It is covered with a concrete slab. The well is in use. The limestone was likely quarried from the property.

Significance: Possibly the first water well dug on the property based on its proximity to the house and the barn. Wells were necessary to successful ranching operations in addition to providing basic domestic needs for the family.

5. Heidemann Workshop (Contributing, 1950s)

Photos: 15, 16

Description: One room frame structure with walls constructed of stacked salvaged wood ammunition crates. The foundation is concrete slab and the exterior siding is asbestos shingle. The roof is a single gable of corrugated metal over composition shingles. Deer antlers are displayed along the interior walls. Woodworking tools and tables are also present in the interior.

Significance: This workshop was used by Emil Heidemann who engaged in woodworking and carpentry as a hobby. It is likely these ammunition crates came from the nearby Camp Stanley supply depot where Emil Heidemann operated a store.

6. Heidemann-Barrera House (1937; remodeled 1950s-1960s, Contributing)

Photos: 21, 22, 23

Description: 1-story limestone façade veneer residence built in 1937⁹ and remodeled during the 1950s and 1960s by Emil Heidemann.¹⁰ The interior was remodeled in 2003 by Roy Barrera III.¹¹ The foundation on the original house is concrete pier and beam and the north addition is concrete slab construction. The roof is a low pitched single hip composition shingle with a hipped addition which runs perpendicular to the original roof northward. The roof decking material on the

9 Verbal information from Jewell Heidemann to Roy Barrera, Sr. (between 1993-1999), who then provided it to Pat Ezell and Joanna Parrish, 2007.

10 Phone interview with Phyllis McCarley (relative of Jewell Heidemann) conducted by Pat Ezell, May 2007.

11 Verbal information provided by Mrs. Roy Barrera III to Pat Ezell and Ron Bauml, August 2007.

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north slope, as viewed from the limited attic access, is three-inch tongue and groove wood, indicating construction in the 1930's. The decking on the south slope of the house is comprised of newer 1x8 boards.

There are two brick chimney flues which extend through the roof, although there are no visible fireplaces in the house. The chimney flue on the west side appears to be made of brick that is older than the chimney flue to the east side. The windows are single hung mill finish aluminum. The covered front porch on the south elevation extends across the entire length of the house. It has a bead-board ceiling. The front porch columns are stone veneer likely placed over wooden columns in the original constructions. A four-foot-tall decorative wrought iron fence with a stone base surrounds the house.

The interior of the house is comprised of three bedrooms, two bathrooms, a kitchen, a dining room, and a laundry room. A built-in gun closet, which was original to the house, is across from the hall bathroom. The kitchen has built in cabinetry indicative of the 1930's-1940's period. The laundry room, located just south of the kitchen, has beaded board walls. During the 2003 remodeling, the Barrera's carried this beaded board concept into the kitchen. The hall bathroom has a built-in gas wall heater and air vent. On the east wall of the living room is a built in bookshelf that at one time was a window. The interior flooring is wood.

Significance: One of the current residences of Barrera family members, it was occupied by Emil and Jewell Heidemann until Mr. Heidemann's death in 1966 and by his wife, Jewell Anderson Heidemann until her death in 1999.

7. Heidemann Storage House/Outbuilding (Noncontributing, 1896; moved at an unknown date)

Photo: 17

Description: 1-story quarried limestone single pen side-gabled building. The building dates to 1896 and was moved to its current location from the historic building compound to the south. After being relocated to its present position to the back of the Barrera-Heidemann house, it was outfitted with a shower for family use. The date of 1896 is over the doorway. Efforts to learn the original location of this building and the date it was moved have been unsuccessful. If the relocation of the building confirmed to the period of significance, the building should be characterized as a contributing resource.

Significance: Used as a cool place to store vegetables and for showers for individual family members.

8. Garage (Contributing, date unknown)

Description: Wood frame two bay garage with a front-gabled roof of corrugated metal and siding of vertical corrugated metal.

Significance: Mrs. Jewell Heidemann located barrels by the garage to correct run-off rain water in lieu of having the pump repaired. The garage is currently used by Barrera family members.

9. Outhouse (Contributing, date unknown)

Photo: 18

Description: Small wood frame front-gabled metal roof with vertical and horizontal wood plank siding. This is painted green.

Significance: Used by Heidemann family members until indoor plumbing was available.

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10. Well House (Contributing, date unknown)

Photo: 19, 20

Description: Small wood frame front-gabled metal roof and vertical wood plank siding, encloses a pump. For a period of time, a windmill was associated with this structure. The windmill was removed in 1993 and has been relocated to stock tank on another piece of Barrera property.

Significance: Provided a source of water for domestic purposes.

11. Heidemann Cemetery (Contributing, 1893-1999)

Photos: 25, 26

Description: Heidemann Cemetery encompasses .0197 acres and is located to the south of the driveway. It is completely enclosed by a chain link fence with a gate. The cemetery contains seven graves of Heidemann family members, including the original settlers, William Heidemann who died c.1893, and his wife, Elsa, who died in 1880. There is a tombstone marker for Frederick Emilienburg (1840- 1894), the father of two of daughters who married into the Heidemann family. The cemetery was dedicated as a family cemetery on March 8, 1974 by Mrs. Jewell Anderson Heidemann.¹²

Significance: This historic cemetery is the final resting place of early German settlers and descendants.

12. Rock Walls (Contributing)

Photo: 27, 28

Description: Low dry-stack rock walls are present along the south side of the private asphalt road. Some of these walls were reconstructed to match the original walls.

Significance: Historic ranches in northern Bexar County typically contained walls made of stone cleared from the grazing pastures and crop fields. The dry stack walls often defined boundaries between ranches and enclosed areas within them. Surviving walls are visible along country roads.

13. Metal Outbuilding (Contributing; date unknown, more than 50 years old)

Description: 1 story metal building southeast of the barn, located along the fenceline of the historic structures.

Significance: Used in current ranching operations.

12. Bexar County Deed Records Vol. 7301, p.448+, *Dedication of a Family Cemetery*.

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INVENTORY OF PROPERTIES (ALL CONTRIBUTING, EXCEPT FOR #7, WHICH WAS RELOCATED)

Map ID	Property	Classification	Date/Alterations
1	Log House	Building	c.1861
2	Barn	Building	c.1861
3	Smokehouse	Building	1860s
4	Water Well	Structure	1860s
5	Workshop	Building	1950s
6	Heidemann-Barrera House	Building	1937
7	Storage House	Building	1896
8	Garage	Building	> 50 years
9	Outhouse	Building	> 50 years
10	Well House	Building	> 50 years
11	Cemetery	Site	Est. 1893
12	Rock Walls	Structure	> 50 years
13	Metal Building	Building	> 50 years

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8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**APPLICABLE NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA**

- ☒ **A** PROPERTY IS ASSOCIATED WITH EVENTS THAT HAVE MADE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE BROAD PATTERNS OF OUR HISTORY.
- 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 VALUE, OR REPRESENTS A SIGNIFICANT AND DISTINGUISHABLE ENTITY WHOSE COMPONENTS LACK INDIVIDUAL DISTINCTION.
- D** PROPERTY HAS YIELDED, OR IS LIKELY TO YIELD, INFORMATION IMPORTANT IN PREHISTORY OR HISTORY.

CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS: N/A**AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE:** Architecture, Agriculture, Settlement**PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE:** 1861-1961**SIGNIFICANT DATES:** 1861, c.1867, 1937**SIGNIFICANT PERSON:** NA**CULTURAL AFFILIATION:** NA**ARCHITECT/BUILDER:** Heidemann, William; Heidemann, Emil**NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE** (see continuation sheets 8-11 through 8-15).**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES****BIBLIOGRAPHY** (see continuation sheet 9-16).**PREVIOUS DOCUMENTATION ON FILE (NPS):** N/A

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

PRIMARY LOCATION OF ADDITIONAL DATA:

- ☒ State historic preservation office (*Texas Historical Commission*)
- Other state agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

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Statement of Significance

The Heidemann Ranch is an intact mid-19th century homestead complex, with buildings and structures reflecting the simple character of central Texas Germanic vernacular architecture. Agricultural resources on the ranch include typical examples of utilitarian ranch architecture dating from the mid-19th century to the mid-20th century that reflect the evolution and changing fortunes associated with livestock breeding, dairying, and ranching in the Texas Hill Country. At the heart of the ranch stands a mid-19th century log house, log barn, and smokehouse, all indicative of early German immigrant construction in the region. It is evident that as the family grew and prospered, structures were added and/or enlarged. The ranch is directly associated with the influx of German immigrants who settled in the Texas Hill Country and who changed the fabric of the community with their cultural practices and influenced future immigrants to settle in the area, and is thus nominated under Criterion A in the areas of Settlement and Agriculture, as the ranch of immigrant William Heidemann, whose descendants continuously occupied and ranched the complex into the late 20th Century. The ranch embodies the distinctive and significant characteristics of a Texas Hill Country ranch, and is also nominated under Criterion C in the area of architecture as a remarkably intact ranch complex including a 1860s house, barn, smokehouse, as well as later contributing buildings and a family cemetery.

The Heidemann Ranch is in the southern portion of the Texas Hill Country, a region spanning approximately 25 counties in central Texas that includes a mix of plains, hills, and high plateaus. The bedrock is primarily limestone with area deposits of pink granite and sandstone. It is frequently referred to as the German Hill Country in recognition of the immigrants who settled in the area. During the 1850s, the number of German-born persons in Texas more than doubled, surpassing 20,000.¹³ In general, Germans migrated to Bexar County to improve their economic conditions and lifestyles, and many became landholders for the first time. Their buildings were often ingeniously designed and constructed of log, rubble stone, and/or cut sandstone and limestone. Germans, as well as other immigrant groups, followed the Anglo-American settlers who introduced horizontal log construction to Texas, bringing elements of their traditional log building practices from their homelands.¹⁴ By the 1890s, one third of San Antonio's population was German.¹⁵

The Heidemann Family

William Heidemann (b. 1825 in Hanover, Prussia), was one of the new wave of immigrants. He arrived at Galveston, Texas, in July 1852. In October 1859, he filed a Declaration of Intention in Bexar County to become a citizen of the United States and renounced his allegiance to the King of Prussia.¹⁶ He was granted U.S. citizenship in August 1867, and at the same time registered to vote.¹⁷

13 Jordan, Terry G., *Germans, Handbook of Texas Online*, s.v. "," <http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/GG/png2.html>

14 Jordan, Terry G., *Texas Log Buildings, A Folk Architecture*. University of Texas Press, Austin, & London, 1978.

15 Kownslar, Alan O. *The European Texans*. Texas A & M. University Press, College Station, 2001.

16 *Declaration of Intention, William Heidemann*, Bexar County District Clerk's Office, San Antonio, Texas. Metal file box accessed by Pat Ezell, May 2007.

17 *Index to Naturalization Records of Bexar County, Texas Through 1906*. San Antonio Genealogical & Historical Society, January 1998.; Alley, Jacobina and Janey E. Joyce, Abstractors, *Bexar County Texas Voter Registration, 1865 & 1867-1869*. San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society, 2006.

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Shortly after his arrival in Bexar County, Heidemann entered into a business partnership with William Hausmann. In January 1856, they purchased 320 acres of land on Leon Springs Creek in northwest Bexar County from Benjamin R. Sappington for \$350.¹⁸ Sappington had patented the land on behalf of Mateo Casillas in November 1854, only fourteen months prior to the sale to Heidemann and Hausmann.¹⁹ Heidemann and Hausmann apparently entered into a ranching and farming partnership in which they shared land, farm implements, livestock and crop production. The 1858 Bexar County Tax record reflects joint ownership of 320 acres, valued at \$500, ownership of two horses valued at \$40, ownership of four cows valued at \$60 and ownership of one wagon valued at \$40 for a total value of \$650. In the following years, the records were individualized. In the 1860 Bexar County census, William Heidemann, age 35, is listed as living in the household headed by William Hausmann, also age 35, with his wife Augusta and their two children, William (age six) and Earnest (age two).²⁰ Heidemann grew corn and sweet potatoes, yielding 150 bushels of Indian corn in 1860, 100 bushels in 1870, and 26 bushes of sweet potatoes in 1860.²¹

In March 1862, William Heidemann married Lizy Obert in Bexar County.²² Lizy appears in the 1860 Bexar County census as "Eliza" Obert, age 17, living in the Menger Hotel in central San Antonio, and working as servant.²³ It is likely that William Heidemann began building on his property at the time of his marriage. The Bexar County tax rolls indicate a significant increase in property valuation and state tax from 1861 to 1862, with the property valued at \$319 in 1861, and in 1862 a valuation increase to \$400. This may have the period of time when the first pen of the log house was constructed. During the Civil War period, property values decreased to less than \$300.

In September 1863, Hausmann prepared to sell his 50% undivided interest in the 320 acres along with some other land to George W. Clark. In this transaction, reference is made to the ranching operations and livestock held in common with William Heidemann, including 82 stock cattle, a crop of corn, twelve hogs, one horse and one wagon.²⁴ In 1867, the property was valued at \$344 and in 1868, the property was valued at \$372.00, increases that may indicate another period of construction. William Heidemann and William Hausmann continued to jointly own the 320 acres until 1873 when a lawsuit was filed by Augusta Hausmann and her husband, William against William Heidemann. The property was divided, with the Hausmann's receiving the western portion of the property (approximately 145 acres) and Heidemann receiving the eastern portion (approximately 171 acres).

William and Eliza added to their family with the birth of five children: William, Jr. (1863); Frederick/Ferdinand (1866); August (1868); Ernest (1872); and George (1874). Tax records indicate a steady growth of ranching operations as cattle increased from 4 in 1861 to 22 by 1874, to 25 by 1883, and continuing on until 1888 at which time there were 30 cattle. At

18 Bexar County Deed Records, Vol. N2 p 130-131.

19 Texas General Land Office, Abstract #165, File #001132, Patent #916, Vol. 6, Certificate #1558.

20 U.S. Census Reports, Population Schedules, Bexar County, Texas, 1860. It is not been determined if Heidemann and Hausmann were related.

21 Bexar County Agricultural Census, 1860 and 1870.

22 Bexar County Marriage Book, D2, p.324, License #2143.

23 U.S. Census Reports, Population Schedules, Bexar County, Texas, 1870, p.397.

24 Bexar County Deed Records, Vol. T1, p.53. Clark subsequently defaulted on the terms of the sale and it was declared void.

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the same time, the presence of horses remained steady at one or two from 1858 until 1882, at which time there was an increase to seven horses, followed by twelve horses in 1883. In 1880 Heidemann also reported ownership of sixteen goats and ten hogs. 1882 was an exceedingly good year as Heidemann reported cash holdings of \$2500.²⁵

In 1893, William Heidemann died and was buried in the cemetery on the property. His sons William, Frederick and Ernest relinquished their rights to the property to their brothers, August and George Heidemann. Apparently, William, Jr. was not interested in ranching and had chosen his occupation as an engineer at a flour mill. Frederick and Ernest both married and established their homes in Uvalde. George and August continued the ranching operations together for a period of time and appeared jointly on the tax records for 1896 and 1897 as owning cows, horses and jennets.

In December 1899, George Heidemann sold his undivided interest in the original acreage, along with other land, to his brother August for \$770, and moved to Uvalde County. August scaled back his ranching operations considerably. From 1900 through 1911 he reported owning three or four horses and averaged owning six to eight cattle, decreasing to five cows by 1911. The total value of the property in 1911 was \$1,980.²⁶ August and Sophia Heidemann began their family in 1902 with the birth of Helena Sophia, followed by the birth of Emil August in 1905, Minnie Elsie in 1909 and Ella Bertha in 1915. In 1916, August Heidemann deeded a 40-foot strip of land encompassing just over one acre to Bexar County for the extension of Toutant Beauregard Road through his property.²⁷

August Heidemann died in January 1919 at the age of 51, and was buried in the family cemetery. The land passed to his wife, Sophia who continued the farming and ranching operations with the help of her son, Emil August. From 1926 through 1930, Sophie Heidemann had an oil and gas lease with the Bexar Petroleum Company.²⁸ Sophie died in January 1938 and was buried in the Heidemann Cemetery. The following month, Emil Heidemann was deeded the ranch, and he continued to live on the land and participate in ranching operations on a small scale. Emil and his wife Jewell married in 1942, and they continued to live on the land until their deaths.²⁹ They had no children. Although they had livestock on the property, they had limited ranching operations. Emil served in World War II and then later operated a store as a civil service employee at nearby Camp Stanley on the Leon Springs Military Reservation. Camp Stanley, a subpost of the San Antonio arsenal, operated as an ammunition supply depot.³⁰ Emil Heidemann engaged in the hobby of woodworking and carpentry, and his woodworking shop is constructed of stacked ammunition crates, most likely obtained from his store at Camp Stanley. Emil died in August 1966 at age 60, and was buried in the family cemetery.³¹ Jewel Heidemann held onto the property with the historic structures until her death in 1993.

25 Bexar County Tax Assessment Rolls, 1837-1910. Austin, Texas, Texas State Library Records Division for Texas State Library Archives, 1986.

26 Bexar County Tax Assessment Rolls, 1837-1910. Austin, Texas, Texas State Library Records Division for Texas State Library Archives, 1986.

27 Bexar County Deed Records, Vol. 478, p.566.

28 Bexar County Deed Records, Vol. 959, p.247+.

29 Bexar County Marriage Certificate #137261.

30 Texas Online Handbook, *Camp Stanley. Handbook of Texas Online*, s.v. ","
<http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/CC/qbc26.html>

31 Texas Certificate of Death, Registrar's File #3632, H.C. Day, M.D., Boerne, Texas.

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Jewell Heidemann taught Spanish in the Boerne Independent School District for many years until her retirement, and took an active role in the running of the ranch, operating the tractor in the fields as much as her husband. She was also actively involved in growing vegetables and in canning vegetables and fruits grown on their land.³² Mrs. Heidemann was reluctant to spend money on things she deemed to be unnecessary. In the 1990s, she contacted the neighboring Barrera family and stated she had run out of water. At this time, it was learned that her water pump had been inoperable for many years and she had chosen not to spend the money to get it repaired, instead collecting rain water in barrels from the runoff from the garage roof. Due to the severe drought in Bexar County, there had been insufficient rain for her water needs, so the Barrera family provided water, although the pump did not get repaired until later. Mrs. Heidemann was a very private person and in her later years had very little contact with any family members. She established a strong friendship with members of the Barrera family and agreed to sell the land to them with the understanding that it would be maintained in its present condition and not sold to land developers. Mrs. Heidemann died in May 1999 at age 94, and was buried in the Heidemann Cemetery. The Barrera family has continued the long-standing ranching traditions of the Heidemann family, have improved the infrastructure to the property, and are good stewards of the land.

Architecture and Landscape

Worked by three generations of the Heidemann family since 1856, the Heidemann Ranch contains excellent examples of log and stone buildings, structures and sites typically associated with traditional Texas Hill Country ranches of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The earliest documented log buildings in Texas date from the 1812-1825 period and were erected by Anglo-Americans. Many European immigrants who came to the Texas Hill Country in the 1840s and 1850s brought with them an understanding of log construction from their homelands. German immigrants utilized construction techniques and finishes that distinguish their log buildings from those of the Anglo settlers. Saddle notching and "V" notching (both evident on the Heidemann house) are common on German immigrant log buildings in the Hill Country, while dovetailing is rare, a marked contrast to the log notching techniques in the areas of Texas settled largely by immigrants from the southern U.S. Chinks in German log buildings are usually wide and filled with hewn, mortared stone, a characteristic found in the Heidemann home. Common additions to log structures include shed rooms, and are typically of stone or half-timbered construction, and often indicate changing needs of growing families.³³ The Heidemann log house, barn, well and smokehouse lie on the original tract sold to William Heidemann and William Hausmann in 1856. As one would expect, in an active agricultural family, many of the individual buildings have been altered to accommodate growth and new agricultural techniques. However, the resources retain their integrity to an extent to clearly portray ranch life of an early immigrant family in the historic period.

The buildings and associated landscape reflect the historic tradition of ranching in Bexar County to an high degree. This tradition is fast being diminished from the rural landscape as developers are buying up rural ranches and putting in large scale housing and commercial developments. Indeed one of the nearby properties already listed on the National Register of Historic Places (Von Plehwe) has been surrounded by commercial development and is considered to be highly endangered. In the face of this encroaching development, the Heidemann Ranch stands as one of the county's oldest

32 Conversation between Phyllis McCarley (relative of Jewell Anderson Heidemann) and Pat Ezell, May, 2007.

33 Jordan, Terry G. *Texas Log Buildings, A Folk Architecture*. University of Texas Press, Austin & London, 1978, p183.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 8 Page 15

Heidemann Ranch
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

surviving ranch tracts. The Barrera family is committed to protecting their historic ranch property and to establishing a family settlement for subsequent generations.

The period of significance of the Heidemann Ranch spans a century from the construction of the oldest extant building in c.1861 through the 1950s when the last buildings were added to the historic ranch complex by the last Heidemann descendant to occupy the property. Ranching operations began in 1856 with William Heidemann and William Hausmann engaging in a joint partnership. The first building phase began approximately in 1861-62 and continued until at least 1896. Ranching and agricultural production was active through the 1960s, although it slowed after the death of Sophie Heidemann in 1938.

Appendix 1

Monument Captions in the Heidemann Cemetery

- Heidemann, Elsa – Geb. Juli 22, 1840 – Gest. Dez. 24, 1880 Hier ruht in gott; Ehefrau von Wilhelm Heidemann; Sanft ruhe ihre asch
- Heidemann, Wm. – Age 68 years; Rest in peace
- Heidemann, Minnie Elsie – born Sept. 28, 1909-died April 27, 1912
- Heidemann (Double)
 - August – born May 19, 1868 – died Jan. 17, 1919
 - Sophie - born Feb. 11, 1879 – died Jan. 25, 1938
- Heidemann (Double) In loving memory
 - Emil August – Dec. 7, 1905 – Aug. 8, 1966
 - Jewell Anderson – August 7, 1906 – May 15, 1999.

Placed between the double markers on the gravestone of Emil August and Jewel Anderson Heidemann:

- Emilienburg, Frederick – born May 8, 1840 – died Sept 29, 1894; In my father's house are many mansions, Farewell

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 9 Page 16

Heidemann Ranch
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

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Heidemann Ranch, San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Page 4

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**ACREAGE OF PROPERTY:** Less than 10 acres

UTM REFERENCES	Zone 14	<u>Easting</u>	<u>Northing</u>
		528811	3284359

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION (see continuation sheets 10-17 and 10-18)**BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION** (see continuation sheets 10-17 and 10-18)**11. FORM PREPARED BY** (with assistance from Gregory Smith, National Register Coordinator)**NAME/TITLE:** Patricia Ezell, Ron Bauml, Joanna Parrish**ORGANIZATION:** San Antonio Conservation Society**DATE:** 1/3/2011**STREET & NUMBER:** 107 King William Street**TELEPHONE:** 210-224-6163**CITY OR TOWN:** San Antonio**STATE:** TX**ZIP CODE:** 78204**ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION****CONTINUATION SHEETS****MAPS** (see continuation sheets Map-19 through Map-21)**PHOTOGRAPHS** (see continuation sheets Photo-22 and Photo-23)**ADDITIONAL ITEMS****PROPERTY OWNER****NAME:** Roy R. Barrera, Sr. and Carmen Z. Barrera**STREET & NUMBER:** 424 Nueva East**TELEPHONE:** 210-224-5811**CITY OR TOWN:** San Antonio**STATE:** TX**ZIP CODE:** 78205-3422

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 10 Page 17

Heidemann Ranch
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property is an irregular parcel of approximately nine acres, located entirely on the east side Toutant Beauregard Road, approximately four miles west IH 10 West, Boerne Stage Road exit in San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas. The property includes approximately 7.4 acres identified as Tract III of the M. Casillas Survey No. 288, Abstract No. 165, County Block 4676. The remainder of the nominated property is an irregular parcel immediately to the east of Tract III, consisting of approximately 1.65 acres, and drawn to include the original Heidemann buildings, structures, and cemetery. It is defined by a fence surrounding the buildings and also includes an area immediately to the southwest, defined by a line drawn 400 feet as a continuation of the southeast fence line, then turning 90 degrees to the northwest and continuing approximately 125 feet to the intersection with the Tract III boundary. The boundary is shown on a map on the following page of this nomination.

Boundary Justification

The nine acre parcel includes all of the buildings, structures, and the family cemetery historically associated with the ranch complex.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 10 Page 18

Heidemann Ranch
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Nominated property boundary



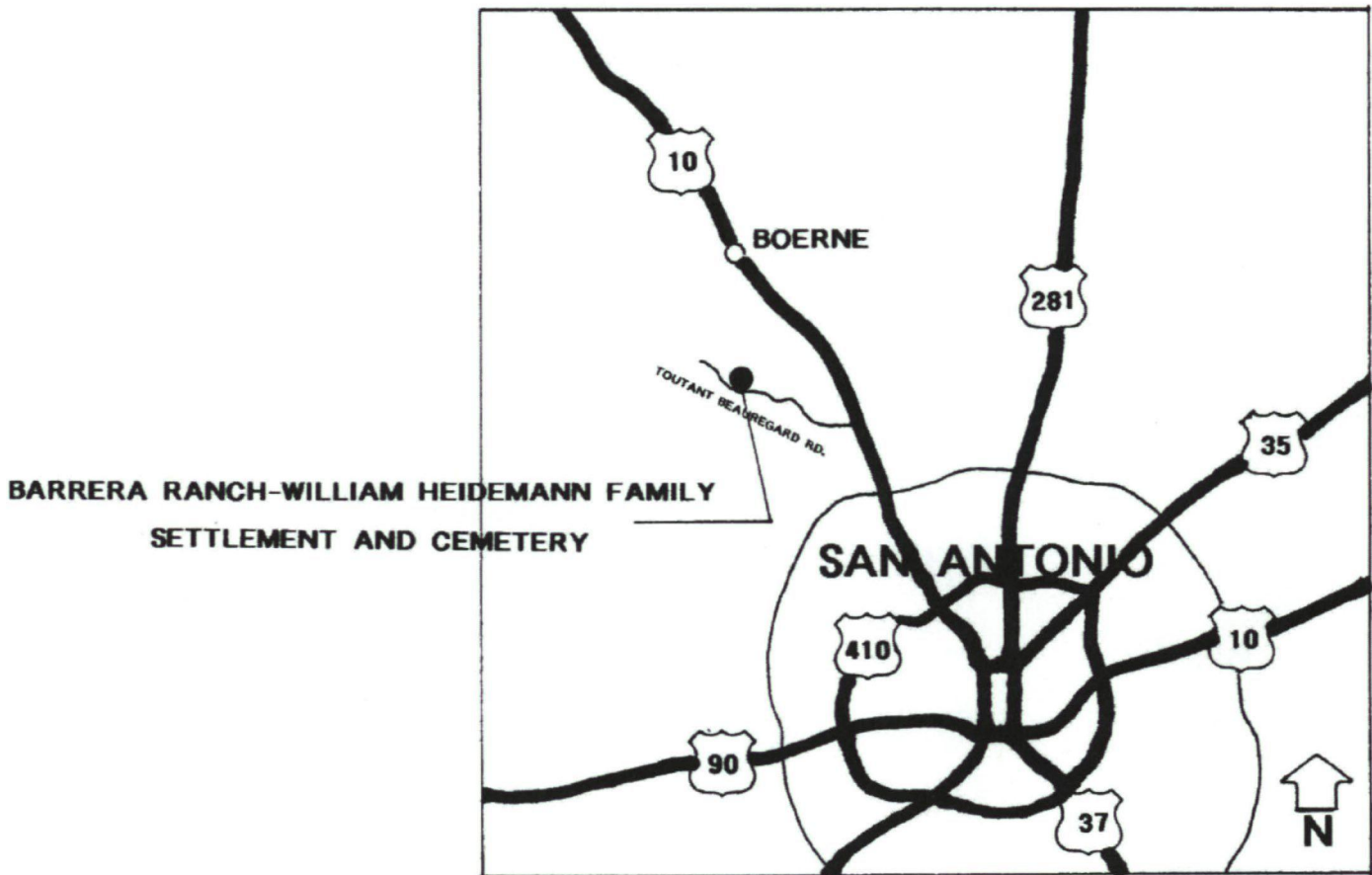
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Section MAP Page 19

Heidemann Ranch
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

MAP 1: Heidemann Family Settlement and Cemetery,
Location Map Relative to San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas
Drawn by Ron Bauml, May 2007



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

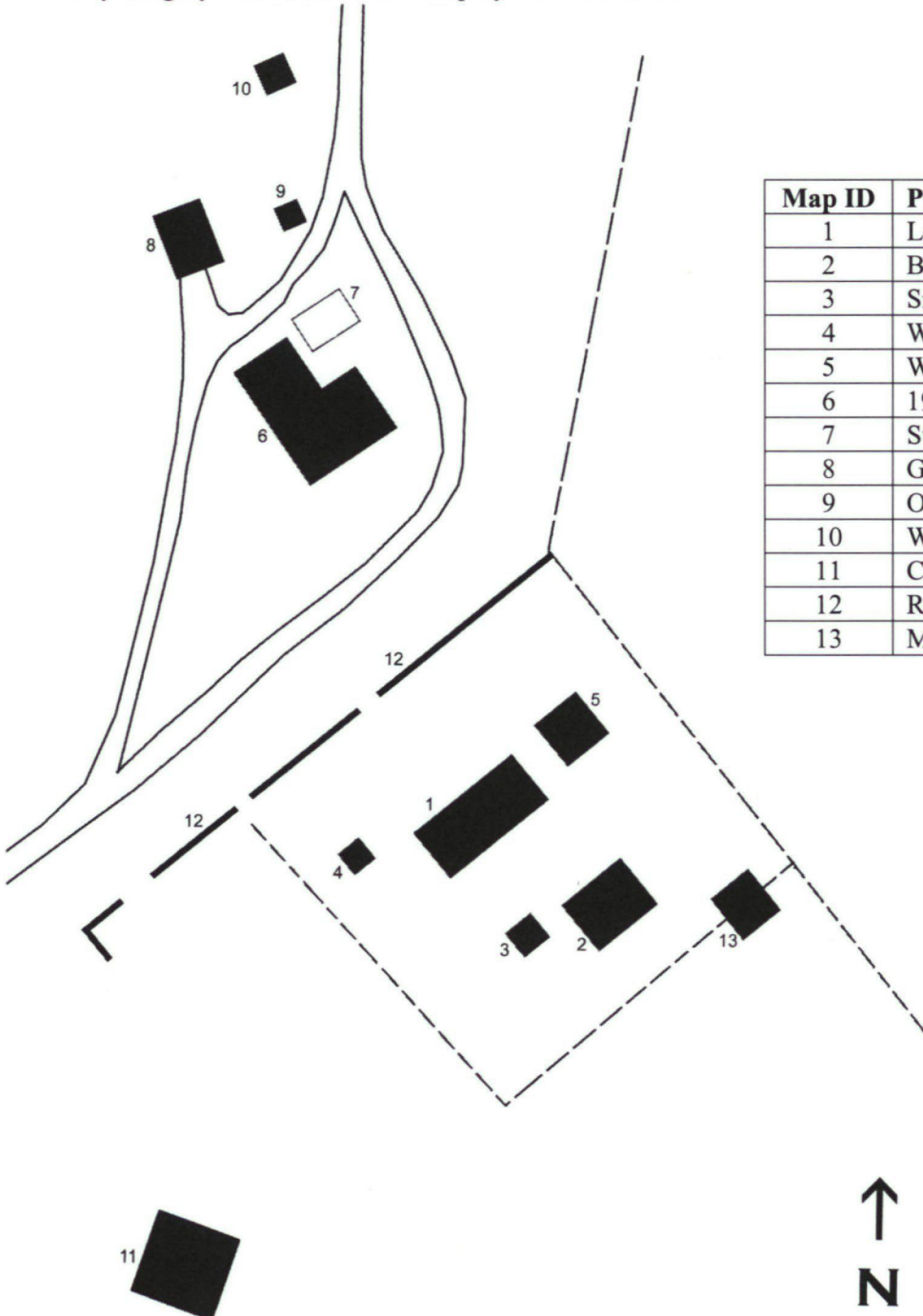
National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section MAP Page 20

Heidemann Ranch
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

MAP 2: Resource Identification Map.

Drawn by Gregory Smith, based on a map by Ron Bauml. No Scale



Map ID	Property
1	Log House
2	Barn
3	Smokehouse
4	Water Well
5	Workshop
6	1937 House
7	Storage House
8	Garage
9	Outhouse
10	Well House
11	Cemetery
12	Rock Walls
13	Metal Building

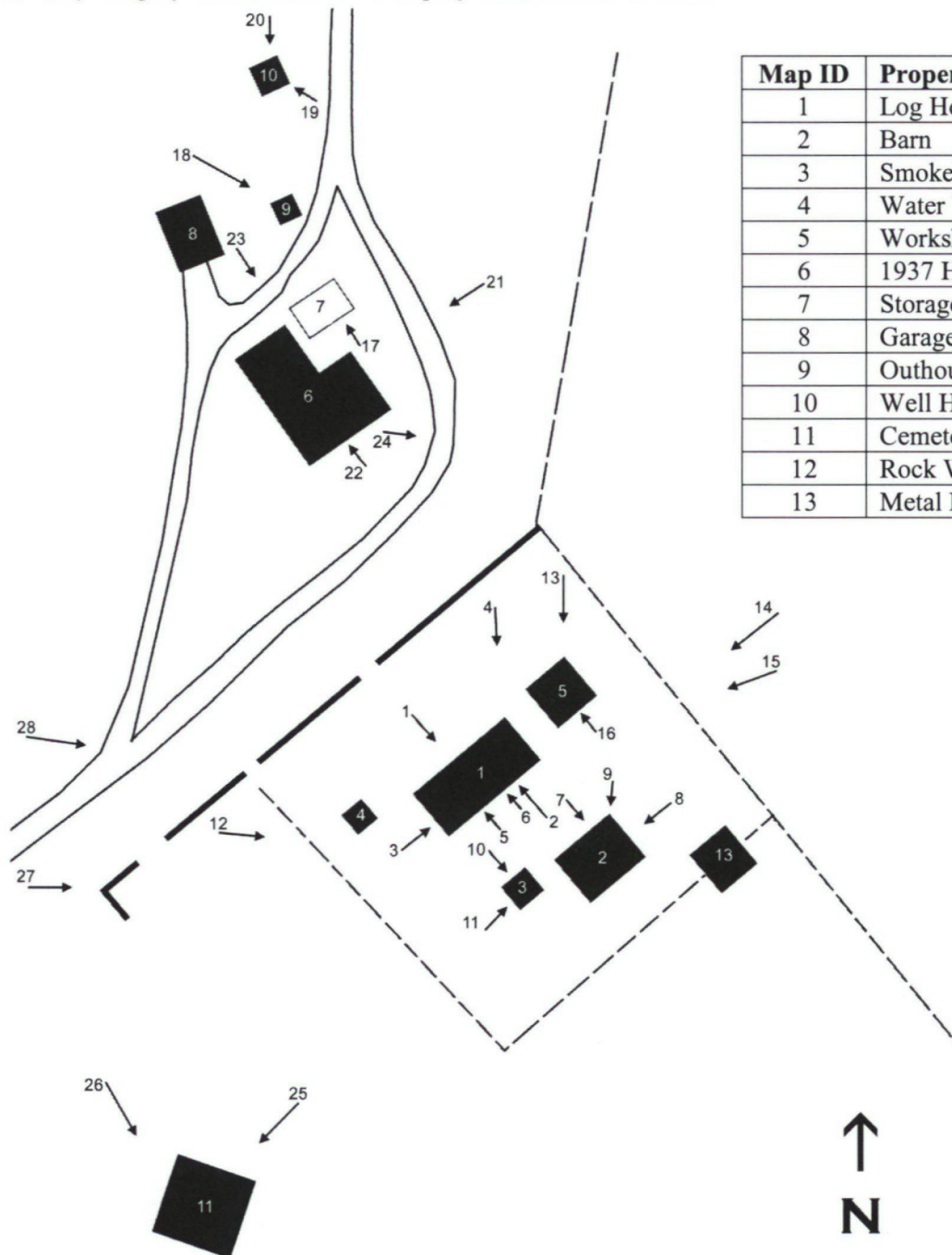
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section MAP Page 21

Heidemann Ranch
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

MAP 3: Photo Identification; Contributing and Non-Contributing Resources
Drawn by Gregory Smith, based on a map by Ron Bauml. No Scale



Map ID	Property
1	Log House
2	Barn
3	Smokehouse
4	Water Well
5	Workshop
6	1937 House
7	Storage House
8	Garage
9	Outhouse
10	Well House
11	Cemetery
12	Rock Walls
13	Metal Building

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section PHOTO Page 22

Heidemann Ranch
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Photo Log:

William Heidemann Family Settlement and Cemetery
26090 Toutant Beauregard Road, San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas
Photographers: Joanna Parrish and Ron Bauml
March 27, 2008

Photo 1
Log House
Northwest elevation
Camera facing southeast

Photo 2
Log House
Southeast elevation
Camera facing northwest

Photo 3
Log House
Southwest elevation
Camera facing northeast

Photo 4
Log House
North oblique
Camera facing south

Photo 5
Log House
Southeast wall detail
Camera facing northwest

Photo 6
Log House
Southeast wall detail
Camera facing northwest

Photo 7
Barn
Northwest elevation
Camera facing southeast

Photo 8
Barn
Northeast elevation
Camera facing southwest

Photo 9
Barn
North oblique
Camera facing south

Photo 10
Smoke House
Northwest elevation
Camera facing southeast

Photo 11
Smoke House
Southwest oblique
Camera facing northeast

Photo 12
Well (foreground)
Camera facing east

Photo 13
Workshop (left), log house (right)
Camera facing south

Photo 14
Barn (left), smoke house (center), log house (right)
Camera facing southwest

Photo 15
Barn (left), log house (center), workshop (right)
Camera facing west

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section PHOTO Page 23

Heidemann Ranch
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Photo 16
Workshop
Southeast elevation
Camera facing northwest

Photo 17
Stone outbuilding
Southeast elevation
Camera facing northwest

Photo 18
Outhouse
Northwest oblique
Camera facing southeast

Photo 19
Pump house
Southeast oblique
Camera facing northwest

Photo 20
Pump house
North oblique
Camera facing south

Photo 21
1937 house
Northeast elevation (stone outbuilding at right)
Camera facing southwest

Photo 22
1937 house
Southeast oblique
Camera facing northwest

Photo 23
1937 house
Northwest elevation (stone outbuilding at left)
Camera facing southeast

Photo 24
Fountain
Camera facing east

Photo 25
Cemetery
Camera facing southwest

Photo 26
Cemetery
Camera facing southeast

Photo 27
Heidemann complex with stone wall
Camera facing east

Photo 28
Heidemann complex
Camera facing east

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Heidemann Ranch
NAME:

MULTIPLE Farms and Ranches of Bexar County, Texas
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: TEXAS, Bexar

DATE RECEIVED: 5/27/11 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 6/17/11
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 7/05/11 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/12/11
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 11000423

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: ~~NY~~ LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

___ ACCEPT ___ RETURN ___ REJECT ___ DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Period of Significance for this property
is 1861 to 1961. The property is signifi-
cant under A+C for its assoc with early
German-Am. settlement of Bexar Co.
It has an amazing complement of historic out-
buildings and residences that repre-
sent the mid-19th to mid-20th century develop-
ment of the farm. Notable
are the dogtrot-plan
log house, a
number of
limestone
building (barn,
smokehouses
and remnant
stone walls.

RECOM./CRITERIA accept A+C
REVIEWER LM Clelland DISCIPLINE _____
TELEPHONE _____ DATE 7/10/11
DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N
If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the
nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



Heidemann Ranch
San Antonio, Bexar Co. TX
photo 1



Heidemann Ranch
San Antonio, Bexar Co. TX
photo 2



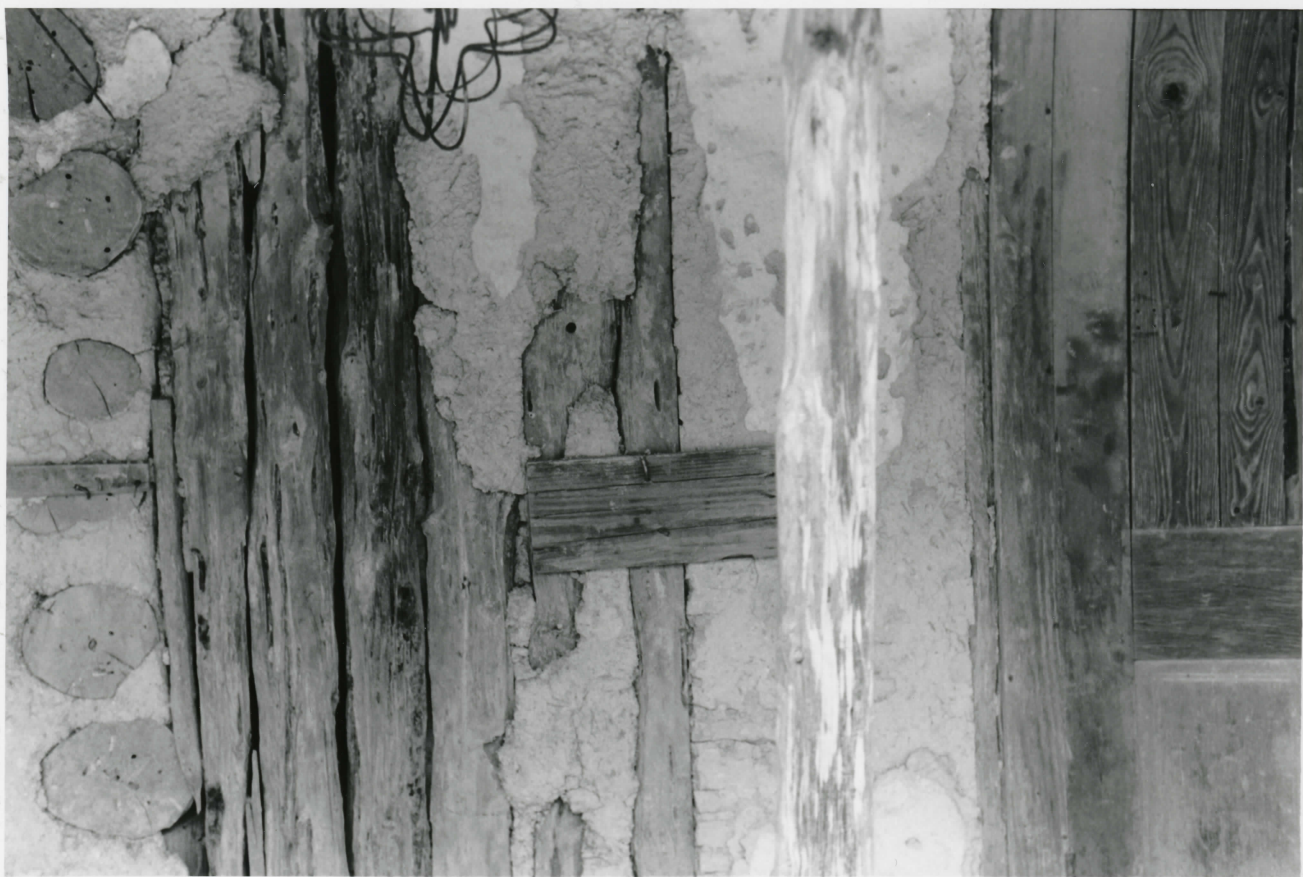
Heidemann Ranch

San Antonio, Bexar Co TX

photo 3



Heidemann Ranch
San Antonio, BEXAR Co. TX
photo 4



Heidemann Ranch
San Antonio, BEXAR Co. TX
photo 5



Heidemann Ranch
San Antonio, Bexar Co. TX
photo # 6



Heidemann Ranch
San Antonio, BEXAR Co. TX
photo 7



Heidemann Ranch
San Antonio, BexAR Co. TX
photo 8



Heidemann Ranch
San Antonio, BEXAR Co. TX
photo 9



Heidemann Ranch

San Antonio, BEXAR Co. TX

photo 10



Heidemann Ranch
San Antonio, BEXAR Co. TX
photo 11



Heidemann Ranch
San Antonio, BEXAR Co. TX
photo 12



Heidemann Ranch

San Antonio, Bexar Co TX

photo 13



Heidemann Ranch
San Antonio, BEXAR Co TX
photo 14



Heidemann Ranch

San Antonio, Bexar Co TX

photo 15



Heidemann Ranch
San Antonio, BEXAR Co
TX
photo 16



Heidemann Ranch

San Antonio, Bexar Co.
TX

photo 17



Heidemann Ranch

San Antonio, BEXAR Co TX

photo 18



Heidemann Ranch

San Antonio, BEXAR Co. TX

photo 19



Heidemann Ranch

San Antonio, BEXAR Co. TX

Photo 20



Heidemann Ranch
San Antonio, BEXAR Co. TX
photo 21



Heidemann Ranch

San Antonio, Bexar Co. TX

photo 22



Heidemann Ranch
San Antonio, BEXAR Co. TX
photo 23



Heidemann Ranch

San Antonio, BEXAR Co. TX

photo 24



Heidemann Ranch
San Antonio, BEXAR Co. TX

photo 25



Heidemann Ranch
San Antonio, BEXAR Co. TX
photo 26

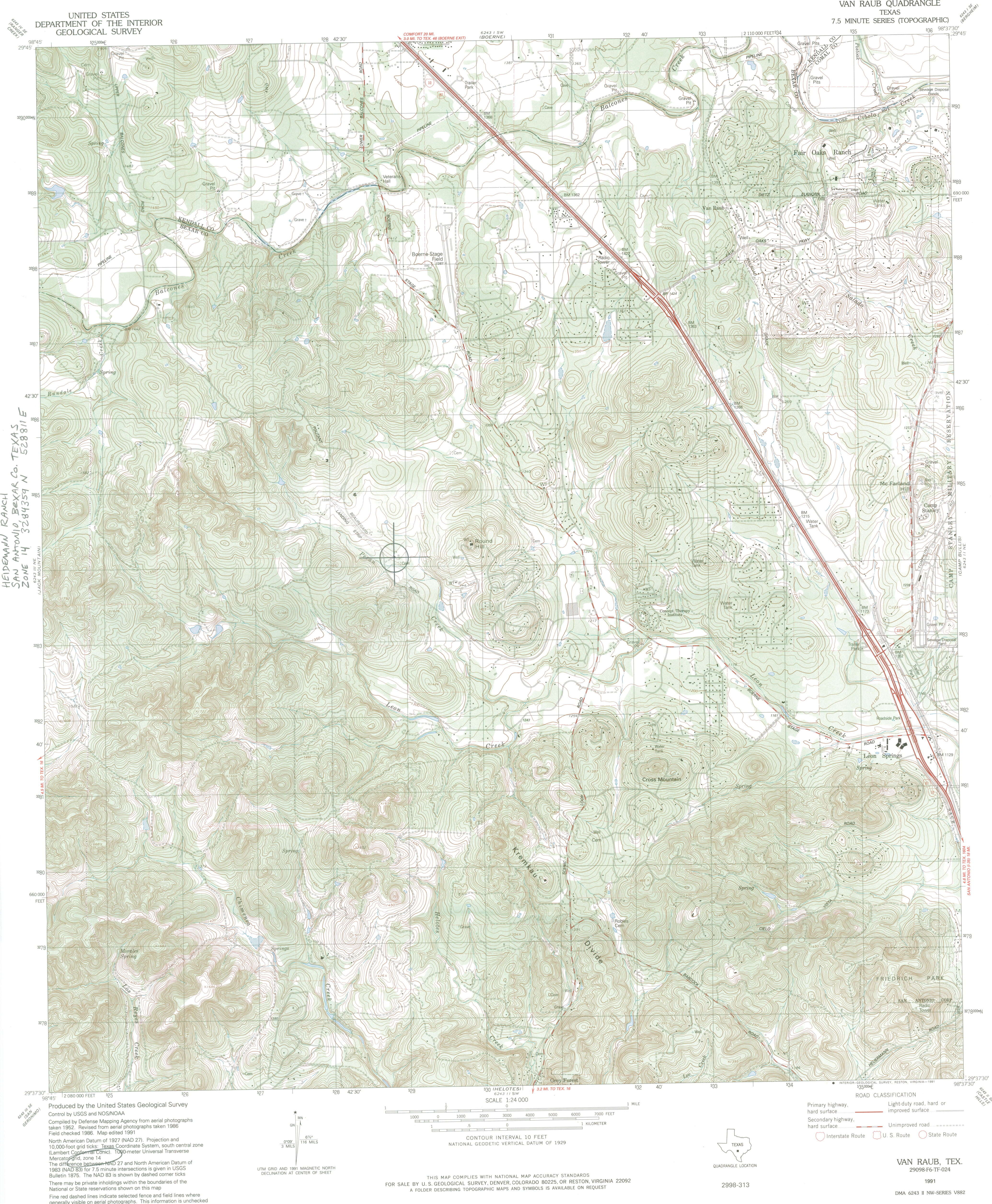


Heidemann Ranch
San Antonio, Bexar Co.

TX photo 27
28



Heidemann Ranch
San Antonio, BexAR Co. TX
photo 28

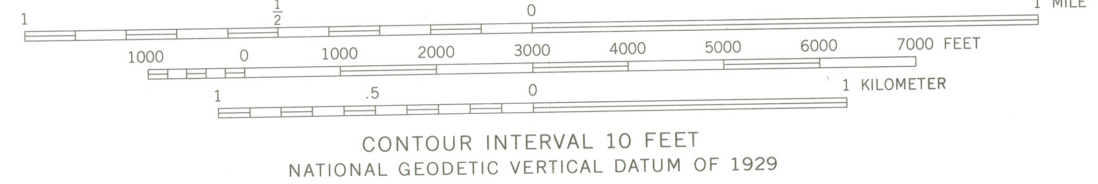
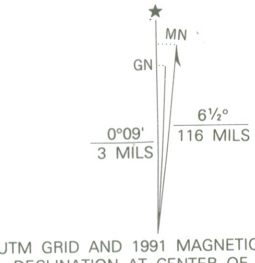


HEIDEMANN RANCH
SAN ANTONIO, BEXAR CO. TEXAS
ZONE 14 3284359 N 528811 E

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

VAN RAUB QUADRANGLE
TEXAS
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

Produced by the United States Geological Survey
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA
Compiled by Defense Mapping Agency from aerial photographs
taken 1952. Revised from aerial photographs taken 1986
Field checked 1986. Map edited 1991
North American Datum of 1927 (NAD 27). Projection and
10,000-foot grid ticks: Texas Coordinate System, south central zone
(Lambert Conformal Conic). 1000-meter Universal Transverse
Mercator grid, zone 14
The difference between NAD 27 and North American Datum of
1983 (NAD 83) for 7.5 minute intersections is given in USGS
Bulletin 1875. The NAD 83 is shown by dashed corner ticks
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the
National or State reservations shown on this map
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface	Unimproved road
Interstate Route	U. S. Route
	State Route

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

VAN RAUB, TEX.
29098-F6-TF-024
1991
DMA 6243 II NW-SERIES V882

2998-313

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
real places telling real stories



TO: Linda McClelland
National Register of Historic Places

FROM: Gregory W. Smith, National Register Coordinator
Texas Historical Commission

RE: Heidemann Ranch, San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

DATE: May 9, 2011

- The following materials regarding Heidemann Ranch are submitted:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Original National Register of Historic Places forms:
<input type="checkbox"/>	_ Resubmitted nomination
<input type="checkbox"/>	Multiple Property Documentation form
<input type="checkbox"/>	_ Resubmitted form
<input type="checkbox"/>	Photographs printed from digital files
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gold CD with TIFF photograph files
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Photographs printed from negatives
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	USGS map
<input type="checkbox"/>	Correspondence
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:

COMMENTS:

- ___ SHPO requests substantive review (cover letter from SHPO attached)
- ___ The enclosed owner objections (do___) (do not___) constitute a majority of property owners
- ___ Other:

