

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Texas
COUNTY: Presidio
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE JUN 18 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:
Fort Leaton (41 PS 18)

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
4 miles east of Presidio on FM 170

CITY OR TOWN:
Presidio

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
16 -- Richard C. White

STATE: **Texas** CODE: **048** COUNTY: **Presidio** CODE: **377**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
State of Texas, Parks and Wildlife

STREET AND NUMBER:
John H. Reagan Building

CITY OR TOWN:
Austin

STATE: **Texas** CODE: **048**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Presidio County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Presidio

STATE: **Texas** CODE: **048**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
HABS

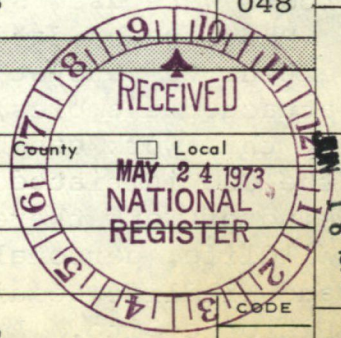
DATE OF SURVEY: **1936** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

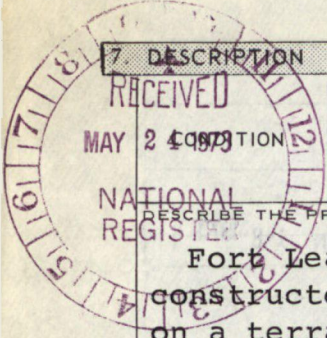
CITY OR TOWN:
Washington, D. C.

STATE: **D. C.**



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: COUNTY: ENTRY NUMBER: DATE: FOR NPS USE ONLY



7. DESCRIPTION

<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
(Check One)			(Check One)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Fort Leaton, a large private fort in Presidio County, was constructed in the middle of the 19th century. It is located on a terrace overlooking the broad floodplain of the Rio Grande. The multi-roomed (25+) adobe compound is arranged around an interior courtyard. Recent excavations (Ing and Kegly, 1971) revealed an area at the northwest corner which virtually doubles the size of the fort (see attached map). This additional area appears to be concentrated around another courtyard enclosed by walls--this area had formerly been referred to as the "corral" area. Wall heights at Leaton averaged about 15 feet; the mud roofs were supported by beams (vigas) which were covered by either cedar savinos or sapling rajas. The flat roofs were drained to the outside of the compound by mesquite gargolas. Originally clay tiles covered most of the floors. Over the years these have been removed or replaced. However, in most rooms the lime grout which once held the tiles in place is still visible. Interior walls were plastered and whitewashed. Although most of the rooms had fireplaces, most have been destroyed through both vandalism and misuse. Many of the corners of the rooms and spaces above doors have been dug into by treasure hunters which has, over the years, contributed to the collapse or instability of many of the walls. In 1936 HABS did measured drawings and photographed the site (see Graham, n.d.). At that time most of the original door and window framings were in place. Now the bulk of these original pieces have been removed. Only one or two wooden transom grates remain in place.

A small chapel mausoleum was located c. 50 feet to the north of the site and outside the perimeter walls. It was recorded photographically by HABS; however, no above ground structural remains of it are left.

Occupation at the site has spanned many years. From its construction in the 1850's until its abandonment in 1927, the site was continuously occupied. From 1927 through 1956, various rooms were used sporadically as living quarters or for storage.

Photographs dating from approximately the 1930's show extensive renovation of the buildings taking place (see attached examples). Unfortunately, no written documentation on this work can be found. Local informants indicate that the CCC initiated work there in the 30's but the extent and kind of work there was not known (Barry Hutchinson, Parks and Wildlife, personal communication). In 1967 the Texas Parks and Wildlife acquired the site for development as a State Historic Site. Archeological investigations were carried out

(see continuation sheet #1)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) #1

STATE	
Texas	
COUNTY	
Presidio	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 18 1973

(Number all entries)

at this time to determine the antiquity of the site and to gain some additional architectural information for restoration (Jelks, 1969). Following this work modifications of the building were undertaken. Some walls had large portions of deteriorated adobe removed, other walls were added and ceilings were lowered (Room 7) on the east end to accomodate the air conditioning units and electrical workings. Offices and toilets were put in Rooms 16 and 17. Walls on the west were reduced to several feet high and reconstruction of them begun. All of this work occurred prior to the time that Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission adopted a Preservation Program (January 1973). These ill advised restoration practices which were employed between 1969-1971 damaged much of the original fabric of the building. It is felt at this point that complete reconstruction is indicated as opposed to stabilization. Tentative plans for the development of the site now include the following (M. Wayne Bell, Head, Historic Sites Branch, Parks and Wildlife, personal communication):

1. Reconstruction of the fort to a finished-as-built condition and partial furnishing of the interior space.
2. Removal of everything from the fort (i.e. offices, existing toilet facilities within the structure-- Rooms 16 and 17--and supply rooms) except interpretive information.
3. Reconstruction as a stabilized ruin of the perimeter adobe walls, definition of corrals, animal yards, and support structures. This will be done in an attempt to give an antique patina to the overall site.
4. Acquisition of 7.7 acres on the south of the site for a visitors center and offices.
5. Reconstruction of the chapel mausoleum following archeological investigation for exhibit purposes only.



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)#2

STATE	Texas	
COUNTY	Presidio	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
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	JUN	18 1973

(Number all entries)

The establishment of Fort Leaton by Ben Leaton in 1848 as a fortress-home and trading post undoubtedly was the result of the numerous Apache and Comanche raids which were so frequent in the area. Soon after its establishment, the fort became known as a place of refuge and protection for both area residents and travellers. Leaton however is an enigma. The stories of his origin are many--none proved. Many have presumed that he was a freighter on the Chihuahua-Santa Fe Trail before settling in the Presidio area. Others regard him as a desperado, and still others say that he was a member of Colonel A. W. Doniphans expedition from El Paso to Chihuahua in 1847 (Lowry, 1969: 24-25).

Leaton and three other men, John Burgess, Larkin Landrum and John W. Spencer, went into business sometime 1847. From this point Fort Leaton was a flourishing trading post. After Ben Leaton's death in 1851 his widow and her new husband (John Hall) lived in the post. In 1861 the fort was acquired by John D. Burgess. Descendents of the Burgesses occupied the house from then until 1926 when the fort was abandoned. Sporadic occupation of various rooms at the fort went on through 1956. Interestingly enough, Leaton's personality was strong enough to attach itself to the fort throughout the years. It has always been called Fort Leaton. During the middle 19th century the fort served as a post along the border--although it was never an official military installation. Troops were garrisoned there, and detachments of U. S. soldiers and Texas Rangers used it as headquarters.

Explorers and surveyors who came to Fort Leaton include Captain Jack Hays of the Texas Rangers, Samuel Maverick of San Antonio, who accompanied Hays on his mapping expedition, Lt. William Echols, commanding the camel troops and Major William H. Emory, in charge of the survey party for the United States and Mexican Boundary Commission.

Leaton--refuge, supply center and outpost--stands as a symbol of the push westward during the initial settlement of the Big Bend area and the exploration and development of the southwest.



8. SIGNIFICANCE

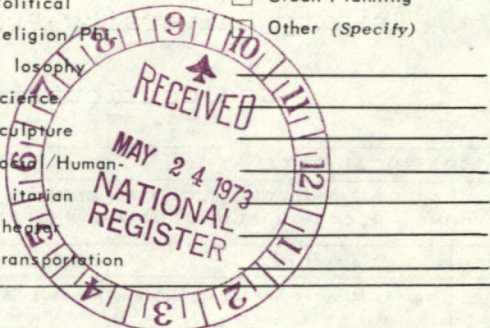
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1830's on

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Until a few years ago the history of Fort Leaton was thought to have begun as early as 1683 with the establishment of the Mission del Apostol Santiago at the site by the Spanish. Tradition also maintained that Fort Leaton was on the site of the 18th century Spanish presidio known as El Fortin. Because the State of Texas had acquired the site in 1967 and wanted to restore the building, archeological investigations were begun in 1969. The purpose of the investigation was to secure architectural data that would ensure accurate restoration, to acquire artifacts and other cultural data for use as guides to furnish restored rooms and to recover exhibit specimens to help interpret the site to visitors.

Additionally, certain historical questions remained to be answered: Was this the site of the 1683 mission? And the 1755 presidio? Also, could one determine when the various parts of the surviving walls were built?

From these investigations it was ascertained that the Mission Apostol Santiago (1683) was almost certainly not located at the site of Fort Leaton, nor was El Fortin (1773) here. But this in no way demeans its prominence in the settlement and development of the Big Bend area of Texas. What was found was that the construction of the fort probably began in the late 1830's; there is evidence of three major stages of construction and possibly more.

Fort Leaton is one of four private forts established along the western frontier on the Chihuahua Trail (The other three were Cibolo, Cienega, and Las Moritas). The fort was strategically located along this major trail which was established in 1839-40 and eventually became a part of the wagon road from Indianola on the east through San Antonio and the Davis Mountains to Chihuahua, Mexico.

(see continuation sheet #2)

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bender, A. P. 1933. Opening Routes Across West Texas, 1848-1850. Southwestern Historical Quarterly, XXXVII (Oct. 1933), pp. 116-135.

Corning, Leavitt, Jr. 1969. Baronial Forts of the Big Bend. Trinity University Press. San Antonio.

(see continuation sheet # 9)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 ' "	0 ' "		29 ° 32 ' 30 "	104 ° 19 ' 36 "	
NE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SW	0 ' "	0 ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 5.58

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



NO UTM
HL

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Gary L. Hume, Project Director
Marsha F. Jackson, Research Associate

ORGANIZATION: Texas State Historical Survey Committee DATE: 5-18-73

STREET AND NUMBER: P. O. Box 12276, Capitol Station

CITY OR TOWN: Austin STATE: Texas CODE: 048

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Truett Latimer
Title: State Liaison Officer

Date: 5-18-73

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert M. Gately
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 6/18/73

ATTEST:
W. Bradford
Keeper of The National Register

Date: June 5, 1973

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) #9

STATE	Texas	
COUNTY	Presidio	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER		DATE
		JUN 18 1973

(Number all entries)

Graham, Roy. 1969. Texas Historic Forts, Part 1, Leaton. A report submitted to the Parks and Wildlife Department. of the State of Texas by the School of Architecture, The University of Texas at Austin.

Ing, J. David and George Kegley. 1971. Archeological Investigations at Fort Leaton Historic Site Presidio County, Texas, Spring, 1971. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Austin.

Jelks, Edward B. 1969. Archeological Excavations at Fort Leaton State Park. Manuscript on file, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Austin.

Lowry, Mabel. 1969. Fort Leaton State Historic Park Presidio County, Texas, MS. on file. Texas Parks and Wildlife. Austin.



NAME OF PROPERTY

Fort Leaton

2/1/5

The attached National Register Inventory-Nomination form is being returned to your office for clarification of the information indicated below.

1. Name. _____
2. Location. _____
3. Classification. _____
4. Owner of Property. _____
5. Location of Legal Description. _____
- ✓ 6. Representation in Existing Surveys. *List HABS and other appropriate, such as Tex. Centennial.*
- ✓ 7. Description. *How much of the present fort dates from the WPA restoration? How much from the recent State Parks restoration? Would like details on the State Parks work.*
- ✓ 8. Statement of Significance. *Who was Leaton? How late was the bldg. occupied? More history would be useful.*
9. Bibliography. _____
10. Geographical Data.
 - a. Longitude and Latitude Coordinates. _____
 - b. Acreage. _____
11. Form Prepared By. _____
12. Certification. _____
- Photographic Coverage. _____
- Map Coverage. _____
- Other. _____

Clarification or correction of the above items must be made prior to the initiation of our professional review. Correction of these technical errors does not necessarily insure that the nomination will then satisfy National Register criteria in full.

Thank you for your attention to the above items checked.

SIGNED:

PROPERTY

Fort heater

STATE

Tex.

WORKING NUMBER

6. 4. 70. 21

TECH REVIEW

Photos 5

Maps 1

CONTROL REVIEW

CR
1-24-73

HISTORIAN

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

OK means
2/8/73

ARCHEOLOGIST

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Although there appears here to be considerable reconstruction, O.K. call

2-8-73

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register write-up _____

Send-back

8/13/70; 3-7-73

Federal Register entry _____

Re-submit

9/13/72; 5.24.73

Entered

JUN 18 1973

PROPERTY Fort heater

STATE Tex

Presidio

WORKING NUMBER 6.4.70.21

TECH REVIEW

Photos 17

Maps 3

9/8/73

CONTROL REVIEW

CM
5-28-
73

HISTORIAN

no acreage (carefully define what nom.) - nice
site being ruined by reconstruction
visitors center, etc.
5/31/73
Conference

OK

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

Except for missing acreage
we can't quarrel with
integrity of site now; there seems
to be no valid excuse for rejection.
5-31-73
(Shull)

ARCHEOLOGIST

I called
on acreage
Accept
KH
6/5/73

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

BRANCH CHIEF

The "restoration" here was a tragedy,
but the people who did it are now out of the
picture and the property still qualifies

OK KH
6/5/73

KEEPER

OK KH
6/5/73

National Register write-up _____

Send-back _____

Federal Register entry 8-7-73

Re-submit _____

Entered JUN 18 1973



NPS Number 6.18.73

Title: Fort Leaton

Loc. Presidio Co., Texas ①
Interior courtyard

6

CODE: PR E3 (FT. LEATON)
RUR 1

VIEW: Interior ctyd, nw corner

NEG. BY: D. ING, PARKS + WILDLIFE

DATE: 1971

NOT TO BE USED WITHOUT PERMISSION
 TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE
 P.O. BOX 12276
 CAPITOL STATION
 AUSTIN, TX 78711

PROPERTY

Jacket 533-189 Illus No. A269

Width 41 Depth 25 Focus 74 %

Sq. Ft. Line Comp. Site Broad

16
6



NPS Number 6.18.73

Title: Fort Leaton

Loc. Presidio Co., Texas (2)

Oblique view of
northeast corner

CODE: PR E3
RVR 1 (FT. LEATON)

VIEW: _____

NEG. BY: TSHSC
~~D. W. G. PARKS + WILDLIFE~~

DATE: _____

NOT TO BE USED WITHOUT PERMISSION
TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE
P.O. BOX 12276
CAPITOL STATION
AUSTIN, TX 78711

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



FD/B
FT LEATON

CHAPEL

NPS Number 6.18.73

Title: Fort Leaton

Loc.

Presidio Co, Texas (3)
Chapel / mausoleum

CODE: _____

VIEW: _____

NEG. BY: _____

DATE: _____

NOT TO BE USED WITHOUT PERMISSION
TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE
P.O. BOX 12276
CAPITOL STATION
AUSTIN, TX 78711

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



FT. LEATON

NPS Number 6.18.73

Title: Fert Leaton

Loc. Presidio Co, Tex.

Northeast corner

4

CODE: _____
VIEW: _____
NEG. BY: _____
DATE: _____
NOT TO BE USED WITHOUT PERMISSION
TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE
P.O. BOX 12276
CAPITOL STATION
AUSTIN, TX 78711

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

71



Ft. LEATON 1972 D16

NPS Number 6.18.73

Title: Ft. Leaton

Loc. Presidio Co., Tex. (5)

"Corral" area after
excavation

CODE: _____

VIEW: _____

NEG. BY: _____

DATE: _____

NOT TO BE USED WITHOUT PERMISSION
TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE
P.O. BOX 12276
CAPITOL STATION
AUSTIN, TX 78711

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



NPS Number 6.18.73

Title: Fort Lester

Loc. Presidio Co, Tex
"Corral" area, prior
to excavation

(6)

CODE: _____
VIEW: _____
NEG. BY: _____
DATE: _____

NOT TO BE USED WITHOUT PERMISSION
TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE
P.O. BOX 12276
CAPITOL STATION
AUSTIN, TX 78711

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



NPS Number 6.18.73

Title: Fort Lester

Loc. Presidio Co., Texas

Roof and wall detail

(7)

CODE: _____
VIEW: _____
NEG. BY: _____
DATE: _____

NOT TO BE USED WITHOUT PERMISSION
TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE
P.O. BOX 12276
CAPITOL STATION
AUSTIN, TX 78711

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



NPS Number 6.18.73

Title: Fert heater

Loc. Presidio Co, Texas

View into Room 18 at north
end of complex

8

CODE: _____

VIEW: _____

NEG. BY: _____

DATE: _____

NOT TO BE USED WITHOUT PERMISSION
TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE
P.O. BOX 12276
CAPITOL STATION
AUSTIN, TX 78711

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



NPS Number 6.18.73

Title: Fort Lester

Loc. Presidio Co., Texas (9)

Door into Room 6
at south end of complex

CODE: _____

VIEW: _____

NEG. BY: _____

DATE: _____

NOT TO BE USED WITHOUT PERMISSION
TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE
P.O. BOX 12276
CAPITOL STATION
AUSTIN, TX 78711

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



NPS Number 6.18.73

Title: Fert heater

Loc. Presidio Co. Texas (10)
View into Room 7

CODE: _____
VIEW: _____
NEG. BY: _____
DATE: _____

NOT TO BE USED WITHOUT PERMISSION
TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE
P.O. BOX 12276
CAPITOL STATION
AUSTIN, TX 78711

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



NPS Number 6.18.73

Title: Fort Heaton

Loc. Presidio Co., Texas (11)
East face of wall on
west end of building

CODE: _____

VIEW: _____

NEE. BY: _____

DATE: _____

NOT TO BE USED WITHOUT PERMISSION
TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE
P.O. BOX 12276
CAPITOL STATION
AUSTIN, TX 78711

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



NPS Number 6.18.73

Title: Fart heater

Loc. Presidio Co, Texas

North side, new into

Room 22

(12)

CODE: _____

VIEW: _____

NEG. BY: _____

DATE: _____

NOT TO BE USED WITHOUT PERMISSION
TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE
P. O. BOX 12275
CAL. STATION
AUSTIN, TX 78711

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



NPS Number 6.18.73

Title: Fort Koster

Loc. Presidio Co., Texas

Section off Room 10

and facing patio

(13)

CODE: _____
VIEW: _____
NEG. BY: _____
DATE: _____
NOT TO BE USED WITHOUT PERMISSION
TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE
P.O. BOX 12276
COMMUNICATIONS STATION
AUSTIN, TX 78711

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



NPS Number 6.18.73

Title: Fort Hester

Loc. Presidio Co., Texas

Room 7, east wall

14

CODE: _____

VIEW: _____

NEG. BY: _____

DATE: _____

NOT TO BE USED WITHOUT PERMISSION
TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE
P.O. BOX 12276
CAPITOL STATION
AUSTIN, TX 78711

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



NPS Number 6.18.73

Title: Fort Peaton

Loc. Presidio Co, Texas

Reconstruction along
north wall

(15)

NOT TO BE USED WITHOUT PERMISSION
F.O. BOX 12276
TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE
CAPITOL STATION
AUSTIN, TX 78711

DATE: _____
NEG. BY: _____
VIEW: _____
CODE: _____

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



NPS Number 6.18.73

Title: Fort Leaton

Loc. Presidio Co, Texas

Oblique view of
northwest corner

16

NOT TO BE USED WITHOUT PERMISSION
TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE
P.O. BOX 12276
CAPITOL STATION
AUSTIN, TX 78711

DATE: _____
NEG. BY: _____
VIEW: _____
CODE: _____

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



NPS Number 6.18.73

Title: Fort Hester

Loc. Presidio Co, Texas (17)

South facade

NOT TO BE USED WITHOUT PERMISSION
TEXAS STATE HISTORICAL SURVEY COMMITTEE
P.O. BOX 12276
CAPITOL STATION
AUSTIN, TX 78711

DATE: _____
NEG. BY: _____
VIEW: _____
CODE: _____

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE TEXAS	
COUNTY Presidio	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER JUN 18 1973	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Fort Leaton (41 PS 18)

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 4 miles east of Presidio on FM 170

CITY OR TOWN: Presidio

STATE: TEXAS	CODE: 048	COUNTY: Presidio	CODE: 377
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3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE: USGS Shafter, 2904 400

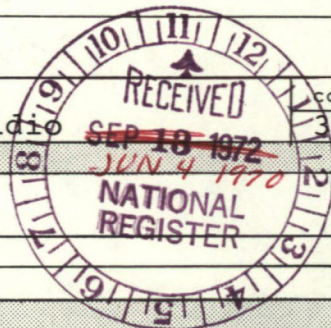
SCALE: 1:125000

DATE: 1895

4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. Property boundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.



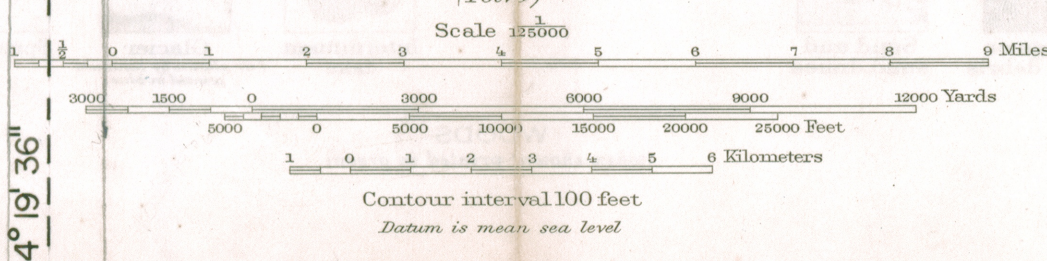
Fort Leaton
4 miles east of Presidio on FM 170
Presidio County, Texas 048-377

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

TEXAS
(PRESIDIO CO.)
SHAFTER SHEET



Henry Gannett, Chief Topographer.
E.M. Douglas, Topographer in charge.
Triangulation by C.F. Urquhart.
Topography by C.C. Bassett, and C.B. Green.
Surveyed in 1895.



Edition of Dec. 1896, reprinted 1949
Polyconic projection.

TEX.
SHAFTER
2904-400
N2930-W10400/30

THE TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS OF THE UNITED STATES

The United States Geological Survey is making a series of standard topographic maps to cover the United States. This work has been in progress since 1882, and the published maps cover more than 47 percent of the country, exclusive of outlying possessions.

The maps are published on sheets that measure about 16½ by 20 inches. Under the general plan adopted the country is divided into quadrangles bounded by parallels of latitude and meridians of longitude. These quadrangles are mapped on different scales, the scale selected for each map being that which is best adapted to general use in the development of the country, and consequently, though the standard maps are of nearly uniform size, the areas that they represent are of different sizes. On the lower margin of each map are printed graphic scales showing distances in feet, meters, miles, and kilometers. In addition, the scale of the map is shown by a fraction expressing a fixed ratio between linear measurements on the map and corresponding distances on the ground. For example, the scale $\frac{1}{62,500}$ means that 1 unit on the map (such as 1 inch, 1 foot, or 1 meter) represents 62,500 of the same units on the earth's surface.

Although some areas are surveyed and some maps are compiled and published on special scales for special purposes, the standard topographic surveys and the resulting maps have for many years been of three types, differentiated as follows:

1. Surveys of areas in which there are problems of great public importance—relating, for example, to mineral development, irrigation, or reclamation of swamp areas—are made with sufficient detail to be used in the publication of maps on a scale of $\frac{1}{62,500}$ (1 inch = one-half mile) or $\frac{1}{31,250}$ (1 inch = 2,000 feet), with a contour interval of 1 to 100 feet, according to the relief of the particular area mapped.

2. Surveys of areas in which there are problems of average public importance, such as most of the basin of the Mississippi and its tributaries, are made with sufficient detail to be used in the publication of maps on a scale of $\frac{1}{62,500}$ (1 inch = nearly 1 mile), with a contour interval of 10 to 100 feet.

3. Surveys of areas in which the problems are of minor public importance, such as much of the mountain or desert region of Arizona or New Mexico, and the high mountain area of the northwest, are made with sufficient detail to be used in the publication of maps on a scale of $\frac{1}{125,000}$ (1 inch = nearly 2 miles) or $\frac{1}{250,000}$ (1 inch = nearly 4 miles), with a contour interval of 20 to 250 feet.

The aerial camera is now being used in mapping. From the information recorded on the photographs, planimetric maps, which show only drainage and culture, have been made for some areas in the United States. By the use of stereoscopic plotting apparatus, aerial photographs are utilized also in the making of the regular topographic maps, which show relief as well as drainage and culture.

A topographic survey of Alaska has been in progress since 1898, and nearly 44 percent of its area has now been mapped. About 15 percent of the Territory has been covered by maps on a scale of $\frac{1}{62,500}$ (1 inch = nearly 8 miles). For most of the remainder of the area surveyed the maps published are on a scale of $\frac{1}{250,000}$ (1 inch = nearly 4 miles). For some areas of particular economic importance, covering about 4,300 square miles, the maps published are on a scale of $\frac{1}{62,500}$ (1 inch = nearly 1 mile) or larger. In addition to the area covered by topographic maps, about 11,300 square miles of southeastern Alaska has been covered by planimetric maps on scales of $\frac{1}{125,000}$ and $\frac{1}{250,000}$.

The Hawaiian Islands have been surveyed, and the resulting maps are published on a scale of $\frac{1}{62,500}$.

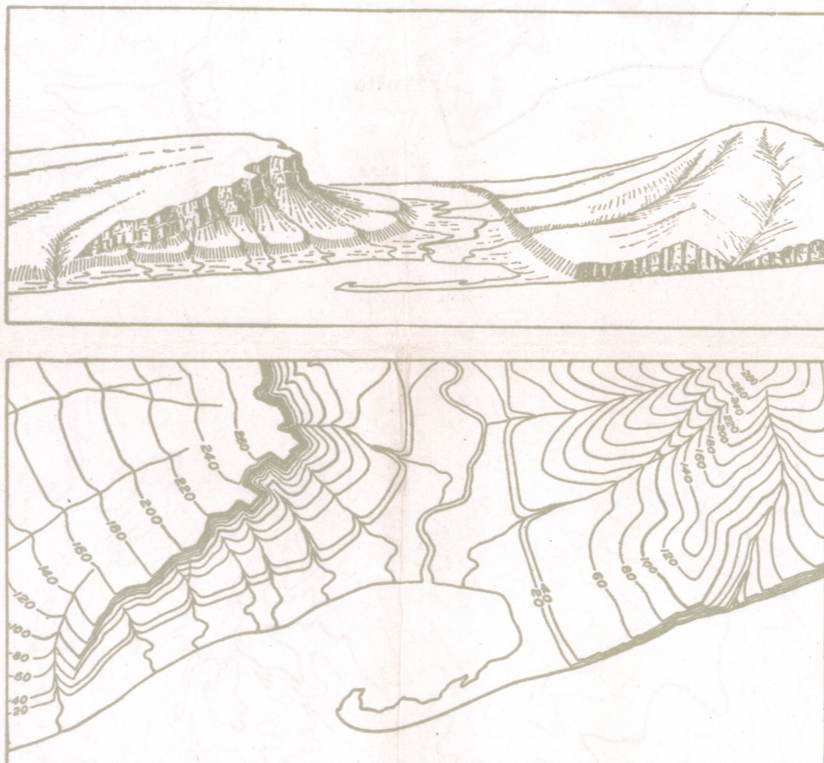
A survey of Puerto Rico is now in progress. The scale of the published maps is $\frac{1}{62,500}$.

The features shown on topographic maps may be arranged in three groups—(1) water, including seas, lakes, rivers, canals, swamps, and other bodies of water; (2) relief, including mountains, hills, valleys, and other features of the land surface; (3) culture (works of man), such as towns, cities, roads, railroads, and boundaries. The symbols used to represent these features are shown and explained below. Variations appear on some earlier maps, and additional features are represented on some special maps.

All the water features are represented in blue, the smaller streams and canals by single blue lines and the larger streams by double lines. The larger streams, lakes, and the sea are accentuated by blue water lining or blue tint. Intermittent streams—those whose beds are dry for a large part of the year—are shown by lines of blue dots and dashes.

Relief is shown by contour lines in brown, which on a few maps are supplemented by shading showing the effect of light thrown from the northwest across the area represented, for the purpose of giving the appearance of relief and thus aiding in the interpretation of the contour lines. A contour line represents an imaginary line on the ground (a contour) every part of which is at the same altitude above sea level. Such a line could be drawn at any altitude, but in practice only the contours at certain regular intervals of altitude are shown. The datum or zero of altitude of the Geological Survey maps is mean sea level. The 20-foot contour would be the shore line if the sea should rise 20 feet above mean sea level. Contour lines show the shape of the hills, mountains, and valleys, as well as their altitude. Successive contour lines that are far apart on the map indicate a gentle slope, lines that are close together indicate a steep slope, and lines that run together indicate a cliff.

The manner in which contour lines express altitude, form, and grade is shown in the figure below.



The sketch represents a river valley that lies between two hills. In the foreground is the sea, with a bay that is partly enclosed by a hooked sand bar. On each side of the valley is a terrace into which small streams have cut narrow gullies. The hill on the right has a rounded summit and gently sloping spurs separated by ravines. The spurs are truncated at their lower ends by a sea cliff. The hill at the left terminates abruptly at the valley in a steep scarp, from which it slopes gradually away and forms an inclined tableland that is traversed by a few shallow gullies. On the map each of these features is represented, directly beneath its position in the sketch, by contour lines.

The contour interval, or the vertical distance in feet between one contour and the next, is stated at the bottom of each map. This interval differs according to the topography of the area mapped: in a flat country it may be as small as 1 foot; in a mountainous region it may be as great as 250 feet. In order that the contours may be read more easily certain contour lines, every fourth or fifth, are made heavier than the others and are accompanied by figures showing altitude. The heights of many points—such as road intersections, summits, surfaces of lakes, and benchmarks—are also given on the map in figures, which show altitudes to the nearest foot only. More precise figures for the altitudes of benchmarks are given in the Geological Survey's bulletins on spirit leveling. The geodetic coordinates of triangulation and transit-traverse stations are also published in bulletins.

Lettering and the works of man are shown in black. Boundaries, such as those of a State, county, city, land grant, township, or reservation, are shown by continuous or broken lines of different kinds and weights. Public roads suitable for motor travel the greater part of the year are shown by solid double lines; poor public roads and private roads by dashed double lines; trails by dashed single lines. Additional public road classification if available is shown by red overprint.

Each quadrangle is designated by the name of a city, town, or prominent natural feature within it, and on the margins of the map are printed the names of adjoining quadrangles of which maps have been published. More than 4,100 quadrangles in the United States have been surveyed, and maps of them similar to the one on the other side of this sheet have been published.

Geologic maps of some of the areas shown on the topographic maps have been published in the form of folios. Each folio includes maps showing the topography, geology, underground structure, and mineral deposits of the area mapped, and several pages of descriptive text. The text explains the maps and describes the topographic and geologic features of the country and its mineral products. Two hundred twenty-five folios have been published.

Index maps of each State and of Alaska and Hawaii showing the areas covered by topographic maps and geologic folios published by the United States Geological Survey may be obtained free. Copies of the standard topographic maps may be obtained for 10 cents each; some special maps are sold at different prices. A discount of 40 percent is allowed on an order amounting to \$5 or more at the retail price. The discount is allowed on an order for maps alone, either of one kind or in any assortment, or for maps together with geologic folios. The geologic folios are sold for 25 cents or more each, the price depending on the size of the folio. A circular describing the folios will be sent on request.

Applications for maps or folios should be accompanied by cash, draft, or money order (not postage stamps) and should be addressed to

THE DIRECTOR,
United States Geological Survey,
Washington, D. C.

November 1937.

STANDARD SYMBOLS

NOTE:—Effective on and after October 1, 1946, the price of standard topographic quadrangle maps will be 20 cents each, with a discount of 20 percent on orders amounting to \$10 or more at the retail rate.

CULTURE (printed in black)																
RELIEF (printed in brown)																
WOODS (when shown, printed in green)																

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE	
TEXAS	
COUNTY	
Presidio	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 18 1970

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Fort Leaton (41 PS 18)
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
4 miles east of Presidio on FM 170

CITY OR TOWN:
Presidio

STATE:	TEXAS	CODE	COUNTY:	Presidio	CODE
		048			377

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE: Roy Graham, 1968
Texas Historic Forts, Part 1

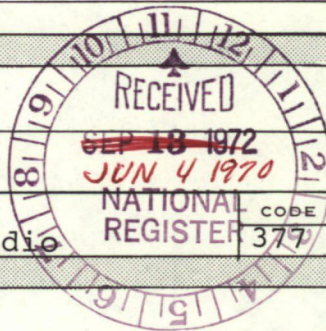
SCALE: 3/32

DATE: 1968

4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. Property boundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.



to Presidio

to Big Bend National Park

F-M Road 170

GRAVES

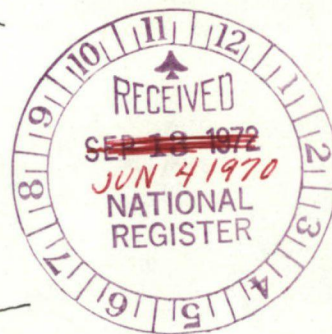
CHAPEL

Power Lines

CORRAL

PATIO

South to Rio Grande River



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE TEXAS	
COUNTY Presidio	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 18 1973

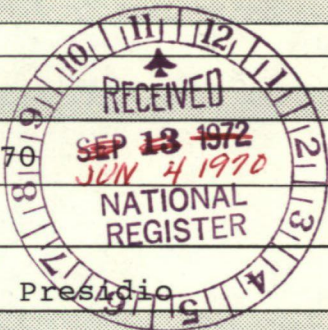
SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON:	Fort Leaton	(41 PS 18)
AND/OR HISTORIC:		

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:			
4 miles east of Presidio on FM 170			
CITY OR TOWN:			
Presidio			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
TEXAS	048	Presidio	377



3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:	Roy Graham Texas Historic Forts, Part 1
SCALE:	Sketch Map
DATE:	1968

4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS
1. Property boundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.

DOTTED LINES INDICATE FOUNDATION WHICH EXTENDS 5'-0" TO NORTH, TURNS WEST FOR APPROX. 75'-0" THEN SOUTH TO NW CORNER OF EXISTING BUILDING.

SCHEDULE OF CEILING HEIGHTS

ROOM No. 1-18-0	ROOM No. 11-13-9
2-15-7 1/2	15-12-4
3-15-3	16-13-1
4-16-2	17-13-2
5-15-8 1/2	18-13-7
6-15-9 1/2	19-CEILING FALLEN IN
7-CEILING FALLEN IN	20
8-13-5	21-13-7 1/2
9-12-8 1/2	22-13-9
10-13-0	23-15-0
11-13-10	24-12-7
12-15-3	25-13-3 1/2
13-CEILING FALLEN IN	

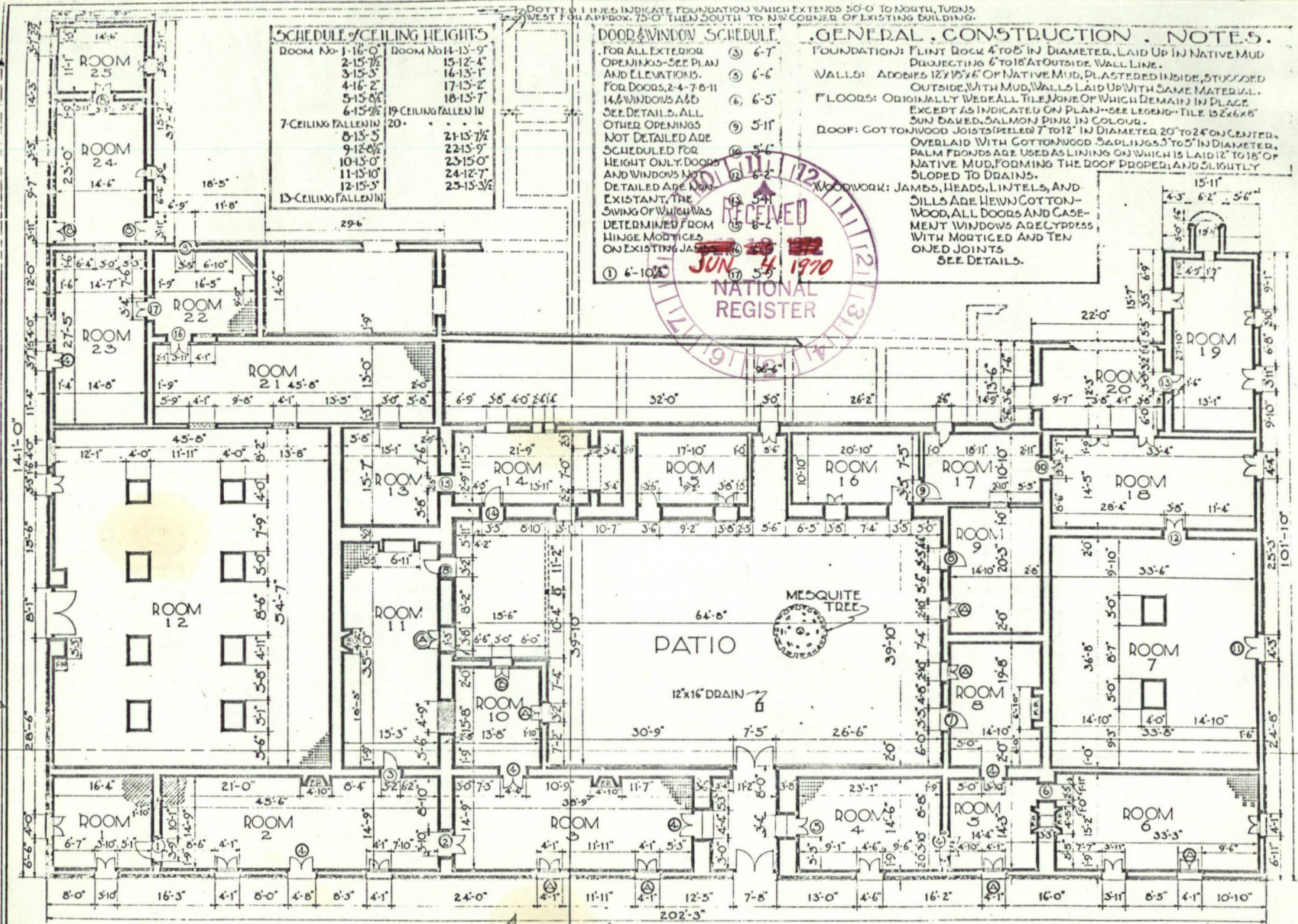
DOOR & WINDOW SCHEDULE

FOR ALL EXTERIOR OPENINGS-SEE PLAN AND ELEVATIONS.
 FOR DOORS, 2-4-7-8-11
 14-6 WINDOWS AND SEE DETAILS. ALL OTHER OPENINGS NOT DETAILED ARE SCHEDULED FOR HEIGHT ONLY. DOORS AND WINDOWS NOT DETAILED ARE NON-EXISTANT, THE SWING OF WHICH WAS DETERMINED FROM HINGE MOTICES ON EXISTING JAMBES.

① 6-10 1/2
 ② 6-7
 ③ 6-6
 ④ 6-5
 ⑤ 5-11
 ⑥ 5-6
 ⑦ 6-2
 ⑧ 5-4
 ⑨ 6-2

GENERAL CONSTRUCTION NOTES

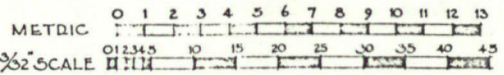
FOUNDATION: FLINT ROCK 4" TO 8" IN DIAMETER, LAID UP IN NATIVE MUD PROJECTING 6" TO 8" AT OUTSIDE WALL LINE.
 WALLS: ADOBES 12" X 15 1/2" OF NATIVE MUD, PLASTERED INSIDE, STUCCOED OUTSIDE, WITH MUD. WALLS LAID UP WITH SAME MATERIAL.
 FLOORS: ORIGINALLY WERE ALL TILE, NONE OF WHICH REMAIN IN PLACE EXCEPT AS INDICATED ON PLAN-SEE LEGEND-TILE 12 1/2" X 6 1/2" SUN DRAED, SALMONY BROWN IN COLOUR.
 ROOF: COTTONWOOD JOISTS SPACED 7" TO 12" IN DIAMETER 20" TO 24" ON CENTER, OVERLAID WITH COTTONWOOD 3" AD LINGS, 3" TO 5" IN DIAMETER, PALM FRONDS ARE USED AS LINING ON WHICH IS LAID 12" TO 18" OF NATIVE MUD, FORMING THE ROOF PROPER, AND SLIGHTLY SLOPED TO DRAINS.
 WOODWORK: JAMBS, HEADS, LINTELS, AND SILLS ARE HEWN COTTONWOOD, ALL DOORS AND CASEMENT WINDOWS ARE CASES WITH MORTISED AND TEN ONED JOINTS.
 SEE DETAILS.



LEGEND

- FLOOR TILE
- BARRED TRANSOMS
- DETAILED OPENINGS
- MUD BRICK (ADOBES)
- CLOSED OPENINGS

FLOOR PLAN
 SCALE: 3/32" = 1'-0"



Flomer H. Lansberry Del.
 WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
 OFFICIAL PROJECT NO 65-1715
 UNDER DIRECTION OF UNCL. STATE'S DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BRANCH OF PLANS AND DESIGN

PRESIDIO

NAME OF STRUCTURE
FORT LEATON
 COUNTY

TEXAS

SURVEY NO.
 TEX-3103

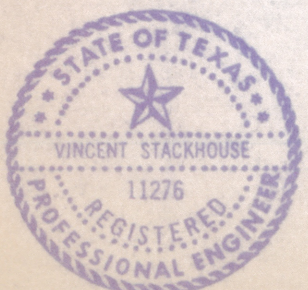
HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
 SHEET 1 OF 6 SHEETS

LEGACY OF CONCRETE
 BUILT BY MUD

Current topographic map of Fort Leaton State
Historic Site showing fort plan and additional
foundations to the north.

Parks and Wildlife





PREPARED BY
WILLIAMS-STACKHOUSE AND ASSOCIATES
2118 MARINE DRIVE, SUITE 4301
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78217

DATE: JANUARY 1972

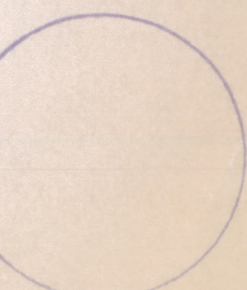
DRAWN:

CHECKED:

APPROVED:

SCALE: 1"=100'

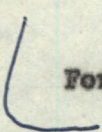
FT. LEATON HISTORIC SITE
TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT



ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE **TEXAS**

Date Entered **JUN 18 1973**



<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Fort Leaton	Presidio vicinity Presidio County
Mayfield Dugout (41 BI 52)	Bean vicinity Briscoe County
Porter, William Sidney (O. Henry) House	Austin Travis County

Also Notified

Hon. John G. Tower
 Hon. Lloyd M. Bentsen, Jr.
 Hon. Richard C. White
 Hon. Barbara Jordan
 Hon. J. J. (Jake) Pickle

State Historic Preservation Officer
 Mr. Truett Latimer, Executive Director
 Texas State Historical Survey Committee
 Post Office Box 12276
 Capitol Station
 Austin, Texas 78711

Director, Southwest Region



PHR MMOTT: pcl 6/22/73