

PH0692247

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED JUL 8 1976  
DATE ENTERED MAR 25 1977

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

\*\*

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC San Francisco Ranch  
AND/OR COMMON  
41 ZP 76

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER <sup>us 83</sup> <sup>1 mi</sup> West of State Highway, 1.6 kilometers north of the town of San Ygnacio  
CITY, TOWN San Ygnacio  
STATE Texas  
VICINITY OF CODE 048  
COUNTY CODE Zapata 505

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Dr. Rodolfo G. Sanchez  
STREET & NUMBER 6915 Inverness Lane  
CITY, TOWN Dallas STATE Texas 75214  
VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Zapata County Courthouse, County Clerk's Office  
STREET & NUMBER  
CITY, TOWN Zapata STATE Texas 78076

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE National Register Files  
DATE 1973  
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Texas Historical Commission  
CITY, TOWN Austin STATE Texas 78711  
FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL



# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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

The San Francisco Ranch houses (41 ZP 76) are located about 75 meters east of the Rio Grande River and 100 meters west of State Highway 83 in rural Zapata County approximately 1.6 kilometers north of the town of San Ygnacio. The site consists of two Mexican colonial style houses built about 1874 as living quarters for a ranching homestead.

The single story buildings, both rectangular in plan, are situated approximately 11 meters apart on the same north-south axis (see attached sketch map). The larger building is the northern most of the two, measuring 13.9 meters long and 5.2 meters wide and includes two rooms. The smaller room is 4.27 X 3.65 meters and the larger is 7.62 X 3.65 meters with a 48 cm. thick wall and door between. The smaller one-room building measure 8.9 X 5.59 meters. The walls are made of a friable sandstone which occurs locally. Carefully dressed and scored for plastering, the walls are 46 cm. thick and held in place by lime mortar.

Both buildings still retain quite a bit of the white-washed, plastered surface on the interior as well as on exterior walls. The larger building also includes a water table around the exterior wall 30 cm. high and a flagged area 1.78 meters wide along the length of the front, serving as a kind of "porch"

The two-roomed building has a tall hipped roof of standing-seam tin while the other building has a wood shingle roof of the same configurations. Inside, however, vigas are evident indicating that the structures were originally "casas de terrado" and have been structurally changed as is common in Hispano-Mexican structures of this age. Two "canales" of carved sandstone are located approximately one meter below the top of the west wall on the smaller building, showing the original roof level.

Other carved sandstone details are found on the east wall of the larger house. Two circular medallions with a star-shaped pattern inside the circle are located above the door level, and a carved date scribed "JAFO en 1874" is located just above the water table.

Both buildings incorporate three exterior doors, all having wood frames which are flush with the exterior wall. A typical doorway located on the west wall of the larger house is spanned by a hewn wood lintel of mesquite carefully made from two pieces which together measure 1.98 m. in length and 46 in. in width. The interior of the splayed door is 1.4 meters across, decreasing to one meter at the exterior where the door is framed. Double wooden doors of tongue-in-groove pegged construction swinging on hinges close to the opening.



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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

Other than doors, the only openings in the stone walls <sup>are</sup> and the ten troneras of loopholes which are spaced around the perimeter of the larger building, four on each of the long sides and one on each of the short sides. No troneras were built into the smaller building. Ten centimeter square mesquite lintels span the openings which are 50 centimeters from the floor and 38 cm tall by 80 cm. wide on the exterior. A hewn mesquite board with a 7.5 cm. hole the size of a rifle barrel encloses the opening of the tronera. No windows were built in either structure.



# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1874-1900

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The two "Casas de terrado" (flat roofed rectangular houses) have been modified by the addition of hipped roofs. They are, nevertheless, similar in style to structures inundated by Falcon Reservoir, several of the structures at the National Register Site of Roma, the proposed National Register Site of Corralitos Ranch and the town of Vallecillo Viejo, Nuevo Leon, Mexico. The site represents late 19th century Hispano-Mexican construction and architectural styles, once common on the Texas side of the border but rare now.

The site is an example of a late 19th century Mexican-American ranch in an area economically and politically dominated by Anglo-Texans. The contribution of the Hispano-Mexicans to the cattle industry in Texas is pervasive and inestimable.

The troneras present in the larger structure one of the best preserved example of a technique dating to the Colonial period. The tronera construction is identical to the well preserved stone troneras at Mission San Francisco de la Espada at San Antonio, Tx. Interestingly, the site of Vallecillo Viejo does not retain troneras in its structures.

Little is known of the material culture of the Mexican Americans of the late 19th century in Texas. Questions of degrees of acculturation, trade networks between border Mexican-Americans and Mexico and other similar aspects of culture process might be illuminated through archeological investigations at this site.

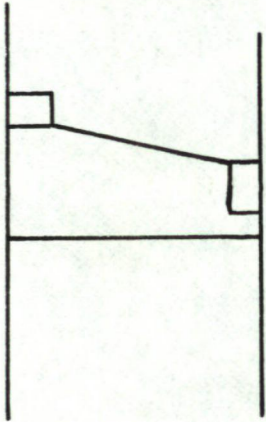




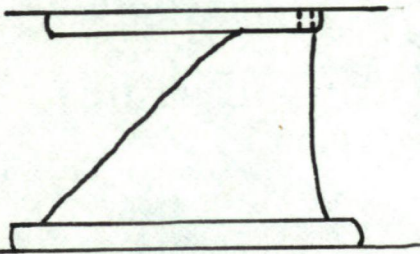
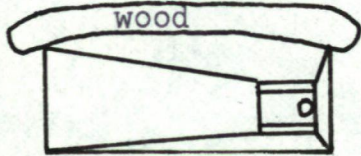


SAN FRANCISCO RANCH  
Sketch Map

Crossection of tronera



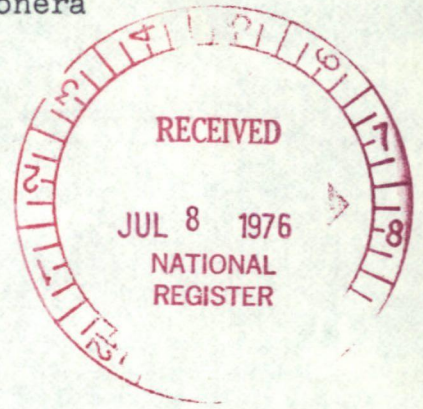
interior elevation of tronera  
wood



plan of tronera



tronera

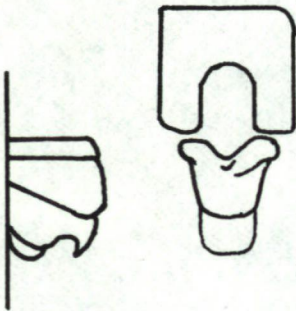
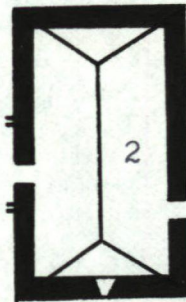


North



Rio Grande Ca. 60 m.

Canale/  
tronera



Sandstone canale, Str. 2

March 1976

MAR 25 1977



Property

San Francisco Ranch

Zapata

State

Texas

Working Number

7.8.76.3715

77001484

**TECHNICAL**

Photos

4

Maps

1, sketch

*need UTM ref., more recent map*

**CONTROL**

*pl*

7.13.76

Archaeology + architecture

**HISTORIAN**

ACCEPT  
*Livengood*  
22 Oct 76

**ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN**

Accept  
*Mphur*  
11.5.76

**ARCHEOLOGIST**

*They should have addressed the archaeological potential of the surrounding nominated land.*

*if I don't know if I should call + ask that they send a supplemental sheet for this. Please advise. JELmending 12/14/76*

**OTHER**

**HAER**

Inventory \_\_\_\_\_

Review \_\_\_\_\_

**REVIEW UNIT CHIEF**

**BRANCH CHIEF**

*Accept*  
*Cole*  
3.21.77  
11-10-76

**KEEPER**

*Wm*  
3/22/77

National Register Write-up \_\_\_\_\_

Send-back \_\_\_\_\_

Entered **MAR 25 1977**

Federal Register Entry

5-3-77

Re-submit \_\_\_\_\_

INT:2106-74







PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

San Francisco Ranch 41 ZP 76

Near San Ygnacio, Zapata County, Texas

Photo by: Texas Historical Commission  
1973

Filed at: Texas Historical Commission  
PO. Box 12276  
Austin, Texas

Southeast oblique of the ranch structures

Photo No. 1 14

JUL 8 1976

00E MAR 25 1977







PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

San Francisco Ranch 41 ZP 76

Near San Ygnacio, Zapata County, Texas  
Photo by: Texas Historical Commission  
1973

Filed at. Texas Historical Commission  
P.O. Box 12276  
Austin, Texas 78711

Detail of date or dedicatory stone

Photo No. 2 of 4

JUL 8 1976

DOE MAR 25 1977







PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

San Francisco Ranch 41 ZP 76

Near San Ygnacio, Zapata County, Texas  
Photo by: Texas Historical Commission  
P. O. Box 12276  
Austin, Texas 78711

1973

Interior detail of a tronera

Photo No. 3 of 4

JUL 8 1976

00F MAR 25 1977







PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

San Francisco Ranch 41 ZP 76

Near San Ygnacio, Zapata County, Texas  
Photo By: Texas Historical Commission  
P.O. Box 12276  
Austin, Texas 78711

1973

Exterior detail of canale.

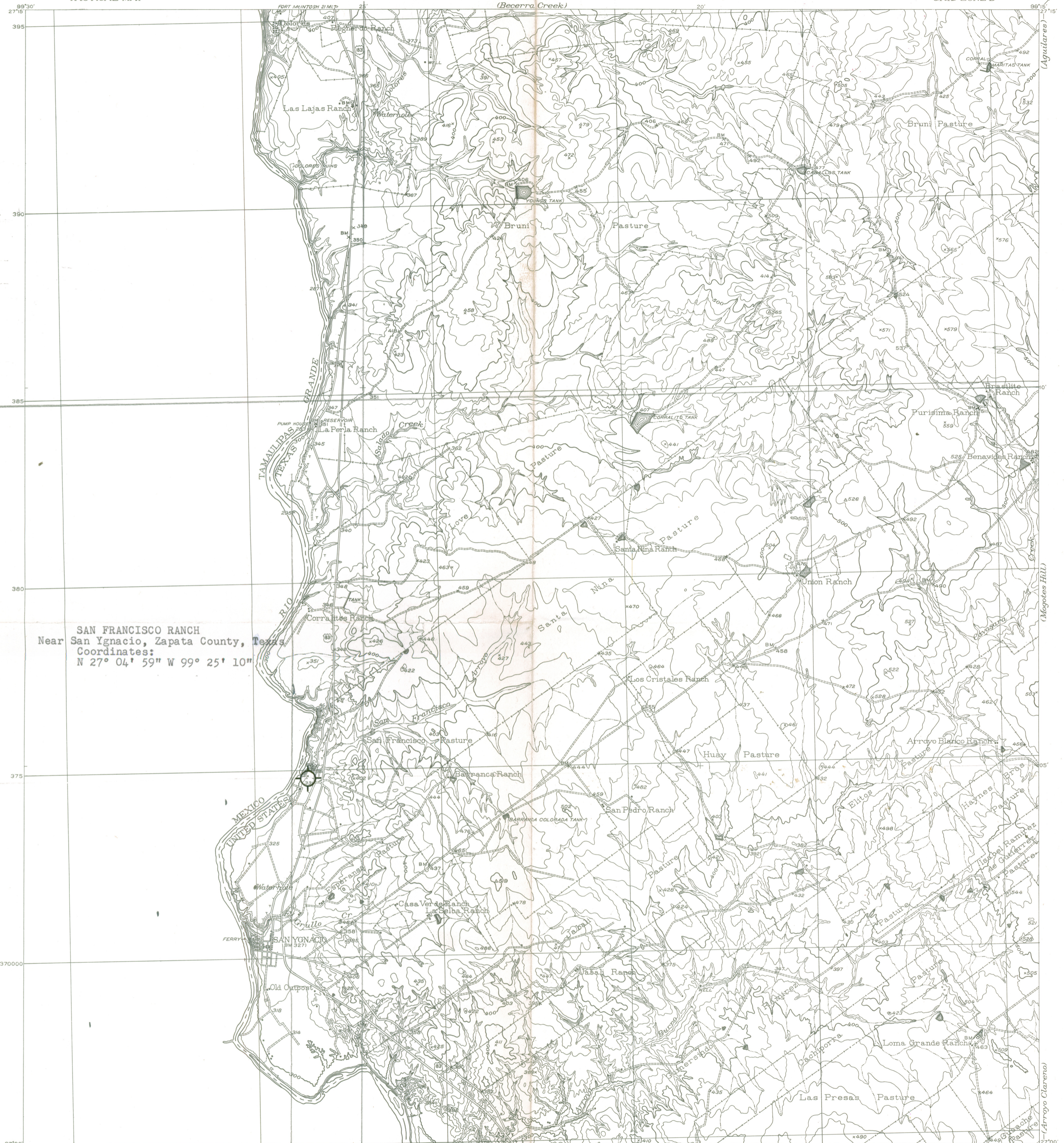
Photo No. 4 of 4

JUL 8 1976

DOE MAR 25 1977

SC

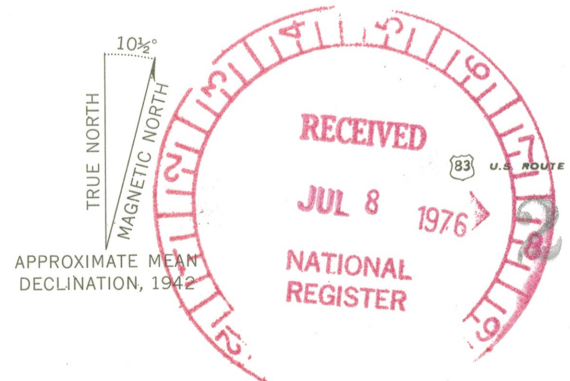
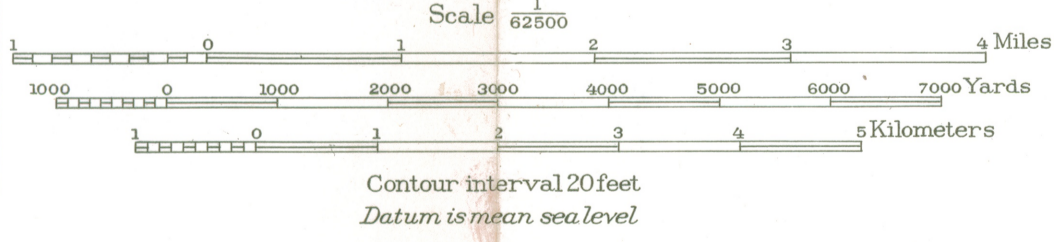




**SAN FRANCISCO RANCH**  
Near San Ygnacio, Zapata County, Texas  
Coordinates:  
N 27° 04' 59" W 99° 25' 10"

Earl I. Brown, Col., C.E., W.B. Ladue, Col., C.E., Engineer, Eighth Corps Area.  
R.U. Nicholas, Major, C.E., Chief of Map Section.  
W.H. Minter, 2nd Lt., C.E., Officer in charge of field work.  
Topography by R.C. Temple, S. Sgt., J.C. Gilvin, J. Robertson, Sgts.,  
T.R. Cheesman, Corp., Co. B., 29th Engineers.  
Control by U.S. Coast & Geodetic Survey and Corps of Engineers.  
Surveyed 1929-30.

Office drafting by A. Rehberg, Jr., Senior Draftsman, under  
supervision of A. Drouet, Chief Draftsman.  
Drawn 1931, Revised Feb 1934, 1942  
Polyconic Projection, North American Datum.



799-120



ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE      TEXAS

Date Entered      MAR 25 1977

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Garrett, William, Plantation House	San Augustine vicinity San Augustine County
Tin Top Suspension Bridge	Tin Top vicinity Parker County
Texas & Pacific Steam Locomotive #610	Fort Worth Tarrant County
San Francisco Ranch	San Ygnacio vicinity Zapata County
Granado Cava 41 CU 8	Toyah vicinity Culberson County
Tapalcomas	Radford Presidio County

Also Notified

Hon. John G. Tower	State Historic Preservation Officer
Hon. Lloyd M. Lentzen	Mr. Truett Latimer
Hon. Sam B. Hall, Jr.	Executive Director
Hon. Olin E. Teague	Texas Historical Commission
Hon. James C. Wright, Jr.	P.O. Box 12276, Capitol Station
Hon. E. (Kika) de la Garza	Austin, Texas 78711
Hon. Richard C. White	
Regional Director, Southwestern Region	



# NR Data Sheet

DATE: 22 Oct 76  
Reviewer INITIALS: [Signature]  
NR DOE MAR 25 1977

NAME AS IT APPEARS IN FEDERAL REGISTER: San Francisco Ranch

OTHER NAMES: 41 ZP 76

## LOCATION:

STREET & NUMBER

1 mi.  
~~1.6 km.~~ N of San Ygnacio off U.S. 83

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 15th

STATE Texas

048

VICINITY OF San Ygnacio

COUNTY Zapata

code 505

OWNER OF PROPERTY: (Circle) PRIVATE STATE LOCAL GOV'T MUNICIPAL COUNTY OTHER

ADMINISTRATOR (underline)

FEDERAL (AGENCY NAME):

NPS REGION: (CIRCLE) N. ATLANTIC MID ATLANTIC SOUTHEAST MIDWEST

(CIRCLE) SOUTHWEST ROCKY MOUNTAIN WEST PACIFIC NORTHWEST

## FEATURES:

<u>INTERIOR</u>	<u>EXTERIOR</u>	<u>ENVIRONS</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Substantially intact-1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Substantially intact-2	<input type="checkbox"/> Substantially intact-3
<input type="checkbox"/> unknown - 4	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown - 5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unknown - 6
<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable - 7	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable - 8	<input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable - 9

-Interior, exterior, environs not intact-0

CONDITION -	<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
	<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED	<input type="checkbox"/> Reconstructed	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown
		<input type="checkbox"/> Unexcavated	<input type="checkbox"/> Excavated	

ACCESS - Yes-restricted Yes-unrestricted (CIRCLE) No access Unknown

historic district? YES (CIRCLE) NO

WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES (CIRCLE) NO

IF YES, NAME:

WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? YES (CIRCLE) NO

IF YES, NAME:

ADAPTIVE USE: YES (CIRCLE) NO Saved? YES (CIRCLE) NO

FUNCTION(S): (use vocabulary words)

then- HOUSES

now- UNKNOWN

## SIGNIFICANCE:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW/Gov't/politics	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	<input type="checkbox"/> health
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	<input type="checkbox"/> settlement
<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	<input type="checkbox"/> socio/cultural
<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY		<input type="checkbox"/> urban & commun
<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT		<input type="checkbox"/> planning

## Claims

"first" YES (CIRCLE) NO

"oldest" YES (CIRCLE) NO

"only" YES (CIRCLE) NO



ARCHITECTURAL STYLE: Mexican

architect/m.builder:

engineer:

landscape/garden designer:

artist/artisan:

interior decorator:

builder/contractor:

ETHNIC GROUP: Mexican

NAMES:

personal

(label role  
&  
appropriate date)

events

institutional

DATES: DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (Specific date or 1/4 of century): 1874

DATE(S) OF "MAJOR" ALTERATIONS:

HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DATE(S):

SOURCE: (OF NOMINATION)

PRIVATE

STATE

LOCAL GOV'T

MUNICIPAL

COUNTY

OTHER

FEDERAL AGENCY:

ACREAGE: (to nearest tenth of an acre) 5

COMMENTS: (include architectural information here)

2 casas de terrado, single story, rectangular. 1 of 2 rooms, the other with 1. Sandstone walls, dressed + scored for plastering. Whitewashed plaster inside + out. Flagstone porch on 2 room building. Date stone on larger house. 3 doors on ea. Both altered with hip roofs - one corrugated tin, 1 wood shingles but evidence of vigas remains, with canals on smaller house. Troneras in larger building. No windows in either.

SIGNIFICANCE: (maximum two sentences)

This site is an example of a late 19<sup>th</sup> Century Mexican-American Ranch in an area economically and politically dominated by Anglo-Texans. The contribution of the Hispano-Mexicans to the cattle industry in Texas is pervasive and inestimable.