

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For HCRS use only

received OCT 10 1979

date entered DEC 6 1979

**1. Name**

historic      Fort Clark Historic District

and/or common      Fort Clark Springs

**2. Location**

street & number      U. S. Highway 90      *Off U.S. 90*       not for publication

city, town      Brackettville       vicinity of      congressional district      23

state      Texas      code      048      county      Kinney      code      271

**3. Classification**

| Category                                     | Ownership                                   | Status  | Present Use                            |   |
|--|---|---|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district | <input type="checkbox"/> public             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied          | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture   | <input type="checkbox"/> museum                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> building(s)         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied        | <input type="checkbox"/> commercial    | <input type="checkbox"/> park                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> structure           | <input type="checkbox"/> both               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress  | <input type="checkbox"/> educational   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site                |   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> religious                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object              | <input type="checkbox"/> in process         | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted              | <input type="checkbox"/> government    | <input type="checkbox"/> scientific                   |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> being considered   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted | <input type="checkbox"/> industrial    | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation               |
|  |   | <input type="checkbox"/> no                           | <input type="checkbox"/> military      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: Recreation |

**4. Owner of Property**

name      Multiple Ownership (See Continuation Sheet)

street & number

city, town       vicinity of      state

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.      Kinney County Courthouse

street & number

city, town      Brackettville      state      Texas

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title      Historic Sites Inventory      has this property been determined eligible?       yes       no

date      6/28/76       federal       state       county       local

depository for survey records      Texas Historical Commission

city, town      Austin      state      Texas

## 7. Description

|                  |   |  |                  |   |                  |   |
|------------------|---|--|------------------|---|------------------|---|
| <b>Condition</b> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated | <b>Check one</b> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered | <b>Check one</b> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site |
|                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ruins        |                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered   |                  | <input type="checkbox"/> moved      date _____    |
|                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair      | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed               |                  |   |                  |   |

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Prominently sited on a plateau overlooking the plains of southwest Texas, the structures comprising the Fort Clark Historic District reflect ninety-four years of continuous use as a military outpost. Primarily built by enlisted men using locally available materials, the buildings, constructed over a broad spectrum of time, reflect not only the changing needs of the military, but also the changing construction materials and techniques employed by the builders. Simple stone and wood structures arranged in a typical military complex layout were designed in relation to functional requirements. The existing compatibility is a result of the buildings' unified scale, materials, and massing and creates a rough, yet pleasing, landscape.

The fort began as a cantonment of tents and temporary shelters arranged in close proximity to one another. In 1857 orders were issued to erect permanent structures and work began immediately. For the next twenty years enlisted men, supervised by skilled craftsmen from the San Antonio area, were engaged in the construction of the fort. During this period the majority of extant structures were built. Quarters were constructed for officers and enlisted men and administrative and storage buildings were erected to facilitate military operations. Few buildings were constructed during the turn of the century although existing ones were well maintained with repairs made as necessary. Roads of crushed stone were defined with cut stone curbs around the parade ground and fort property and extensive landscaping was undertaken. Numerous live oak trees planted in the late 1800's survive today around the perimeter of the parade ground and the buildings surrounding it. In 1917 new construction efforts were increased and several buildings were added to the fort complex. Few major alterations have occurred since deactivation in 1946 and the fort exists today as an excellent example of an extensive military establishment.

Designed as a typical military complex, structures were arranged around a parade ground used for maneuvers measuring approximately 1680' x 700' with the long axis oriented NE/SW. (Refer to site map.) The parade ground was bisected with a road into two fields, one for foot maneuvers and a larger one for mounted maneuvers. Commissioned and noncommissioned officers' quarters were located along the west side of the parade ground while commanding officers' quarters were located on the south side. Barracks for enlisted men were constructed along the east and north sides and administrative structures were placed in the area east of the parade grounds. The original fort headquarters building (structure # 23, ca. 1857) was erected facing north on the dividing road of the parade ground. Later an officers' quarters building (structure # 24, ca. 1870) and a fort movie theater (structure # 25, ca. 1918) were added. Medical facilities were constructed in the south corner facing the parade ground. (structure # 14, ca. 1880, [redacted]) Although construction of the fort spanned a period of approximately sixty years, the structures comprising the main body of the complex are integrally related to one another and the parade ground, and appear as components of a whole rather than individuals. While designs vary, characteristics common to all contribute significantly to the cohesion of the group. Solidly massed in simple geometric configurations the one and two story buildings are constructed of native limestone obtained from fort property. They are sturdily built for function and endurance with a minimum of applied decoration.

The earliest structures were built using a palisade type of construction in which cedar picket posts set in double rows and infilled with rock and plaster form walls. The Lee Building (map # 10, photo # 1, ca. 1855) is the only remaining example of this method and is believed to be the oldest existing structure at the fort. The two room, hipped roof building

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR HCRRS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED OCT 10 1979  
DATE ENTERED

DEC 6 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

1

ITEM NUMBER

4

PAGE 1

Fort Clark Historic District Property Owners

1. George Harrison  
110 Rockhill  
San Antonio, Texas, 78209
2. Jack Huey  
444 Elmhurst  
San Antonio, Texas, 78209
3. Tully Pratt  
P.O. Box 8  
Brackettville, Texas, 78832
4. Southwestern Analytical Chemicals  
C. H. Hale  
P.O. Box 485  
Austin, Texas, 78767
5. B.E. Sweet  
P.O. Box 98  
Brackettville, Texas, 78832
6. Donald Swanson  
341 Doddridge  
Corpus Christi, Texas, 78411
7. George Wilkerson  
P.O. Box 489  
Devine, Texas, 78016
8. Cmdr. Hobart Key, Jr.  
510 N. Bolivar  
Marshall, Texas, 75670
9. Lewis Purvis  
P.O. Box 914  
Brackettville, Texas, 78832
10. Mrs. J.D. Cole  
P.O. Box 345  
Brackettville, Texas, 78832
11. J.R. Schroeder Co.  
P.O. Box 406  
Brackettville, Texas, 78832
12. David Sharp  
P.O. Box 345  
Brackettville, Texas, 78832
13. James S. Moore, D.D.S.  
1209 Decker Drive  
Baytown, Texas, 77520
14. Tom Gray  
10763 Katy Freeway  
Houston, Texas, 77079
15. Glen M. Tolar  
P.O. Box 428  
Deerpark, Texas, 77536
16. Theodore M. Hoeller  
139 East Avenue  
Park Ridge, Illinois, 60068
17. Brown and Root  
P.O. Box 3  
Houston, Texas, 77001
18. Gulf Energy and Development Corp.  
P.O. Box 17349  
San Antonio, Texas, 78217
19. R.M. Tobin  
P.O. Box 458  
Irving, Texas, 75060
20. Don Hood  
P.O. Box 956  
Brackettville, Texas, 78832

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR HCRS USE ONLY

RECEIVED OCT 10 1979

DATE ENTERED

DEC 5 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET 2

ITEM NUMBER 4 PAGE 2

Fort Clark Historic District Property Owners, continued

21. Adele Aulgur  
P.O. Box 281  
Brackettville, Texas, 78832
22. Robert E. Baker  
P.O. Box 758  
Brackettville, Texas, 78832
23. Gulf Printing  
Bill Dudley  
P.O. Box 1784  
Houston, Texas, 77001
24. Henry Yeackle  
P.O. Box 345  
Brackettville, Texas, 78832
25. William H. Smith  
P.O. Box 345  
Brackettville, Texas, 78832
26. Mrs. Pauline Stanley  
1700 Santa Monica  
Odessa, Texas, 79763
27. Carl W. Battle  
1706 Buchanan  
Pasadena, Texas, 77502
28. Murff Bledsoe, III  
8989 Westheimer # 307  
Houston, Texas, 77063
29. Herbert J. Frensley  
2 Houston Center # 2910  
Houston, Texas, 77002
30. Dr. L.C. DeHoyes  
694 Monroe  
Eagle Pass, Texas, 78852
31. Dr. Jose Santos  
Hidalgo, Nte 304  
Piedras Negras, Coah, Mexico
32. Howard Davis  
Rt. 1, P.O. Box 66  
Belleville, Illinois, 62221
33. Walter Moore  
P.O. Box 952  
Brackettville, Texas, 78832
34. Norman Butler  
P.O. Box 1065  
Brackettville, Texas, 78832
35. John C. Myers  
P. O. Box 1095  
Brackettville, Texas, 78832
36. Cecil Neil  
1824 S. IH 35, # 206  
Austin, Texas, 78704
37. D.L. Handlin  
112 N. Avenue H  
Kermit, Texas, 79745
38. Dr. Robert Dixon  
1401 Rio Grande  
Austin, Texas, 78701
39. Ronald G. Henry  
General Sekiyukk  
9-13 Ginza 4 Chome  
Chuo-Ku, Tokyo 104, Japan
40. Donald Campbell  
140 Linabary Ave.  
Westerville, Ohio, 43081

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR HCRRS USE ONLY

RECEIVED OCT 10 1979

DATE ENTERED

DEC 5 1979

**CONTINUATION SHEET 3**

**ITEM NUMBER 4**

**PAGE 3**

Fort Clark Historic District Property Owners, continued

41. Raul A. DeMint  
4934 Charles Street  
Racine, Wisconsin, 53402
42. Jack Edwards  
P.O. Box 1048  
Brackettville, Texas, 78832
43. Martin Hanner  
P.O. Box 815  
Wink, Texas, 79789
44. Lewis Curcio  
P.O. Box 992  
Brackettville, Texas, 78832
45. Francis Moritz  
2104 Paradise  
Vernon, Texas, 76384
46. Ralph Beard  
P.O. Box 345  
Brackettville, Texas, 78832
47. Al Pagel  
856 Bibb Street  
Eagle Pass, Texas, 78852
48. Bill Bizzell  
P. O. Box 345  
Brackettville, Texas, 78832
49. Fort Clark Springs Municipal Utility District  
P. O. Box 345  
Brackettville, Texas, 78832
50. Fort Clark Springs Association  
P. O. Box 345  
Brackettville, Texas, 78832

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR HCRS USE ONLY

RECEIVED OCT 10 1979

DATE ENTERED

DEC 6 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET 4

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

is diagonally braced at the corners and features a stone fireplace at one end. By the late 1850's buildings were constructed primarily of load bearing masonry. Variations in the cut of stone and construction methods are evident in buildings whose dates span from approximately 1857-1940.

The old Headquarters Building (map # 23, photo # 2, ca. 1857, currently in a state of ruin) displays walls of dressed limestone blocks, finely chiseled with sharply defined edges. Textured with subtle tool marks, the blocks are bonded with thin, regular mortar joints. Exaggerated sills define the door and window openings and a large rectangular block with simple bolection bracket and construction date carved in relief accentuates the entrance.

Solid stone construction with less refinement was employed in many of the buildings erected during the 1860's and 1870's including the enlisted men and officers' quarters. The blocks have a more irregular shape, rougher surface, and less clearly defined edge than those used on the old Headquarters Building. In addition, the doors and windows feature wooden rather than stone lintels. Constructed along the west and south sides of the parade ground, the officers' quarters (map # 17A-H, photo # 3, ca. 1870) consist of two story structures made to accomodate two families each with identical floorplans on either side of a dividing wall. Large porches with diagonal bracing (most of which are now enclosed with wire mesh screens) enhance the front facades and dormer windows pierce the steep pitch gable roofs. The interiors were finished with milled lumber brought in from San Antonio and Bastrop. Located across the parade ground, the enlisted mens' barracks (map # 9A-E, photo # 4, ca. 1870) consist of single story rectangular structures with low-pitched gable roofs extended to form a porch across the front facade. A single story, rectangular detached kitchen and mess hall with the long axis perpendicular to the barracks was constructed behind each barrack although only four remain today. (map # 11A-D, photo # 5, ca. 1870)

A third type of masonry construction is exhibited in the Commissary Building. (map # 4, photo # 6,7, ca. 1880) The two-and-one-half story rectangular structure is fabricated in rusticated ashlar offset with a string course of pitch faced ashlar between the first and second floors. The doors are defined by segmental keystone arches and the windows feature exaggerated sills and lintels, all of smooth cut, tooled limestone. Located northeast of the parade ground, the Commissary is the most visually arresting of the fort structures. The main (south) facade features a central bay which rises above the hipped roof to form a third floor. Intersecting the roof on all sides are dormer windows topped with pitched roofs and enclosed with fishscale shingling. A two-and-one-half story projecting portico composed of unadorned vertical posts with diagonal bracing and criss-crossed balustrade spans the full width of the south facade. Simple wooden stairways incorporated into the portico provide access between floors

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR HCRS USE ONLY

RECEIVED OCT 10 1979

DATE ENTERED

DEC 6 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

5

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 2

Twentieth century construction on the fort continued to acknowledge the abundance of locally available stone although the method of construction varied from that of the earlier buildings. Erected in 1915 in the northwest corner of the parade configuration, the Noncommissioned Officers' Club (map # 29, photo # 8) is built with a frame structure veneered with an irregular cut field stone and a tooled mortar joint. The U-shaped barracks along the north end of the parade ground (map # 30A,B,&C, photo # 9, 10, ca. 1930) are also of frame construction with field stone veneer.

Northwest of the parade area the lush bottomland where Las Moras Springs emerges from below ground has been developed for recreational purposes. The springs collect in a large, shallow pond bordered with concrete. Water flows through a large, natural bottom swimming pool surrounded with foliage and also through a concrete channel beside the pool into Las Moras Creek. (map # 35, photo # 11, ca. 1940) Retaining walls and flower boxes were built of fieldstone and the area around the pool was landscaped and equipped for picnic and play. In the area are three single story structures; rest-rooms, a bath house, and storage facilities. Though modern in design and materials, the small units are inconspicuously sited beneath the large trees of the creek area and are far enough removed from the main body of the fort that they do not jeopardize its architectural integrity. A pump house constructed beside the spring pond is today enclosed by a cyclone fence. The two story white stucco building with contrasting posts and lintels bears little resemblance to the structures surrounding the parade ground; (map # 36, photo # 12, ca. 1919) however, substantially removed from the concentration of stone structures, the stuccoed building does not intrude on the architectural continuity.

Following deactivation of the fort, the property was purchased by a major corporation for use as a hunting resort. Few changes were made to the buildings under this ownership. However, in 1971 the property was sold to North American Towns, Inc., a developing company which began converting the old fort into a resort/retirement community. The structures were sold individually and land surrounding the parade complex was surveyed and sold to accomodate new construction. The district boundary was established to include the major concentration of structures reflecting the evolution of the fort and excludes most of the new construction. Recent buildings within the district have been constructed at a scale compatible with existing structures in simple expressions of local stone and wood. (map # 12, photo # 13, ca. 1970; map # 15-B, photo # 14, ca. 1970) Several structures have been altered with a misinterpretation of preservation philosophy and technology. The inappropriate use of portland cement, asphalt shingles, spindles, and aluminum windows on the old Supply Building (map # 32, photo # 15, ca. 1870) is the most unfortunate example of misguided preservation. Other examples such as the repair of stonework and roofing is less intrusive, readily reversible, and characterizes the majority of alterations to the site. (map # 8, photo # 16, ca. 1870; map # 7, photo # 17, ca. 1870) These alterations are considered reversible and it is the intention of the property owners to correct the inappropriate applications and develop and implement a preservation plan for the fort that will allow its continued use as a residential resort and preserve its architectural and historical significance.

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

|                      |
|----------------------|
| FOR HCRS USE ONLY    |
| RECEIVED OCT 10 1979 |
| DATE ENTERED         |
| DEC 6 1979           |

CONTINUATION SHEET

6

ITEM NUMBER

7

PAGE 3

Structure Inventory, See Accompanying Site Plan

1. Old Corral Area  
ca. 1876  
Ruin/Vacant  
Contributing
2. Motor Pool  
ca. 1939  
Unaltered/Storage  
Compatible
3. Blacksmith Shop  
ca. 1870  
Altered/Residence  
Compatible
4. Commissary  
ca. 1880  
Unaltered/Vacant  
Contributing
5. Corral/Stables  
ca. 1915  
Altered/ Corral/Stables  
Compatible
6. Guard House  
ca. 1868  
Altered/Museum  
Contributing
7. Kitchen/Mess Hall  
ca. 1870  
Altered/Residence  
Compatible
8. Barracks  
ca. 1870  
Altered/Residence  
Compatible
- 9A-E. Barracks  
ca. 1870  
Altered/Residence  
Contributing
10. Lee Building  
ca. 1855  
Unaltered/Vacant  
Contributing
- 11A-D. Kitchen/Mess Hall  
ca. 1870  
Unaltered/Vacant/Contributing  
Altered/Residence/Compatible
12. Residence  
ca. 1977  
New Construction  
Compatible
13. Fire Station  
ca. 1918  
Unaltered/Fire Station  
Compatible
14. Hospital  
ca. 1880  
Altered/Recreational Center  
Contributing
- 15A-B. Officers' Quarters  
ca. 1918,1977  
Altered/Residence  
Compatible
- 15C. Garage  
ca. 1977  
New Construction  
Intrusion
16. Officers' Quarters  
ca. 1870  
Altered/Residence  
Contributing
- 17A-H. Officers' Quarters  
ca. 1870  
Altered/Residence  
Contributing

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR HCRRS USE ONLY

RECEIVED OCT 10 1979

DATE ENTERED

DEC 6 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

7

ITEM NUMBER

7

PAGE

4

Structure Inventory, continued

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 18. Officers' Quarters<br>ca. 1870<br>Altered/Residence<br>Contributing  | 27. Officers' Quarters<br>ca. 1885<br>Altered/Residence<br>Contributing                     |
| 19. Telephone/Telegraph<br>ca. 1880<br>Altered/Residence<br>Contributing | 28. Officers' Quarters<br>ca. 1876<br>Altered/Residence<br>Contributing                     |
| 20. Officers' Quarters<br>ca. 1890<br>Altered/Residence<br>Compatible    | 29. Noncommissioned Officers Club<br>ca. 1915<br>Altered/Ranch Headquarters<br>Contributing |
| 21. Water Tower<br>ca. 1918<br>Unaltered/Water Tower<br>Compatible       | 30A-C. Barracks<br>ca. 1890, 1930<br>Altered/Hotel<br>Contributing                          |
| 22. Officers' Quarters<br>ca. 1870<br>Altered/Residence<br>Contributing  | 31. Barracks<br>ca. 1870<br>Altered/Residence<br>Compatible                                 |
| 23. Old Headquarters Building<br>ca. 1857<br>Ruin/Vacant<br>Contributing | 32. Supply<br>ca. 1870<br>Altered/Residence<br>Compatible                                   |
| 24. Officers' Quarters<br>ca. 1870<br>Altered/Residence<br>Contributing  | 33. Bakery<br>ca. 1885<br>Altered/Woodshop<br>Compatible                                    |
| 25. Movie Theater<br>ca. 1918<br>Unaltered/Theater<br>Compatible         | 34. Tailor Shop<br>ca. 1885<br>Unaltered/Vacant<br>Contributing                             |
| 26. Officers' Quarters<br>ca. 1876<br>Altered/Residence<br>Contributing  | 35. Pool Area<br>ca. 1940<br>Unaltered/Park<br>Compatible                                   |

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR HCRS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED OCT 10 1979

DATE ENTERED.

DEC 6 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET 8

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 5

Structure Inventory, continued

36. Power Plant/Pump House  
ca. 1919  
Altered/Power Plant  
Intrusion

37. Service Club  
ca. 1890  
Altered/Residence  
Compatible

38. Foundation  
Ruin  
Compatible

39. Bath House  
ca. 1885  
Altered/Residence  
Compatible

40. Garage  
ca. 1915  
Unaltered/Garage  
Compatible

41. Flag  
ca. 1870  
Altered/Flag  
Contributing

42. Tennis Court  
ca. 1915  
Altered/Tennis Court  
Intrusion

43. Storage  
ca. 1870  
Altered/Office  
Compatible

## 8. Significance

| Period  | Areas of Significance—Check and justify below    |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric          | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric  | <input type="checkbox"/> community planning                | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> religion        |  |  |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499            | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic     | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation                      | <input type="checkbox"/> law                    | <input type="checkbox"/> science         |  |  |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599            | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> economics                         | <input type="checkbox"/> literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> sculpture       |  |  |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> education                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> military    | <input type="checkbox"/> social/         |  |  |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799            | <input type="checkbox"/> art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering                       | <input type="checkbox"/> music                  | <input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian    |  |  |  |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy             | <input type="checkbox"/> theater         |  |  |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900-                | <input type="checkbox"/> communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> industry                          | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government    | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation  |  |  |  |  |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> invention                         |   | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) |  |  |  |  |

Specific dates ca. 1855-1930 Builder/Architect

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Established in June, 1852 as one of a series of protective military posts along the old El Paso Road, Fort Clark in Kinney County stands today representative of the frontier forts established regularly with westward expansion during the last half of the 19th century. Through ninety-four years of use as a military post the fort was continually enlarged and improved to meet the changing needs of the Army. This evolution of the fort is reflected in the structures remaining today which date from approximately 1857 to the 1930's and embody a wide variety of structural techniques and materials. Despite the change in ownership and ultimately usage, the fort still presents the character of a 19th century cavalry station.

Texas experienced a period of rapid growth and settlement following its Revolution, which in the previously unsettled western and northern lands brought about conflicts between the white settlers and the native Indians, who were reluctant to relinquish their hunting grounds. Following two years of significant prosperity and consequent increased settlement, the latter part of 1838 and 1839 were marked by Indian hostilities which continued as the settlements expanded. By 1850 west Texas was being opened up for the transport of commercial goods as well as immigration with several well-marked trails. A trail which hindered rather than enhanced the civilization of the vast western prairies was the Comanche Trail, used by the aggressive Comanches during their raids into Mexico. The location of trade and immigration routes was dictated by access to water and topographical features, the knowledge of which aided the Indians in planning their attacks. The demands of frightened settlers plus the necessity of guarding stage passengers, freight drivers and the United States Mail compelled the Federal Government to initiate defense measures in the form of manned forts along the travel routes of Anglos and Indians alike.

Fort Clark, located at Brackettville, occupies a strategic mesa elevated sixty feet above Las Moras Creek, twenty miles north of the Rio Grande, north of the old El Paso Road. From this prominent position, the Federal troops held a commanding view of the surrounding mesquite prairie. The site was chosen early in 1852 and established as a fort in June of that same year, manned by two companies of the First Infantry, accompanied by an advance and rear guard of the U.S. Mounted Rifles under the command of Major Joseph H. LaMotte. The site was originally named Fort Riley in honor of the commanding officer of the First Infantry, but was changed to Fort Clark at the time it was manned, in honor of Major John B. Clark who died in the Mexican war. For four years the fort was maintained as a cantonment but in 1857, at the request of Lieutenant Sells of California who ordered the men to "Build a fort; build it to last," permanent construction was begun which lasted until the 1880's. Buildings were constructed of local materials utilizing the labor of enlisted men under the supervision of skilled craftsmen. The headquarters building is known to have been constructed in 1857, but it is believed that the original post hospital, bakery, and guard house, no longer standing, antedated this by at least one year.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

## 10. Geographical Data

**UTM NOT VERIFIED**

Acreage of nominated property approximately 88

Quadrangle name Brackettville, Texas

UMT References

|      |         |         |           |             |           |
|------|---------|---------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| A    | 1 1 4   | 3 6 1 2 | 7 1 2 1 5 | 3 1 2 4 1 2 | 4 1 8 1 3 |
| Zone | Easting |         |           | Northing    |           |
| C    | 1 1 4   | 3 6 1 1 | 5 1 8 1 1 | 3 1 2 4 1 2 | 4 1 2 1 3 |
| E    |         |         |           |             |           |
| G    |         |         |           |             |           |

|      |         |         |           |             |           |
|------|---------|---------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| B    | 1 1 4   | 3 6 1 1 | 2 1 5 1 3 | 3 1 2 4 1 2 | 1 1 0 1 0 |
| Zone | Easting |         |           | Northing    |           |
| D    | 1 1 4   | 3 6 1 1 | 9 1 4 1 0 | 3 1 2 4 1 3 | 0 1 1 8   |
| F    |         |         |           |             |           |
| H    |         |         |           |             |           |

Verbal boundary description and justification

See continuation sheet.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state code county code

state code county code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Linda C. Flory, Historian

organization Texas Historical Commission date September 28, 1979

street & number P. O. Box 12276 telephone 512-475-3095

city or town Austin state Texas

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title Texas State Historic Preservation Officer

date September 28, 1979

For HCRS use only

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

*Sally G. Alldredge*  
date 12/6/79

*Sally G. Alldredge*  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: *Beth Groves*

Chief of Registration

date 11/30/79

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR HCRS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED OCT 10 1979

DATE ENTERED

DEC 6 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET 9

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 1

From the start Fort Clark was a bulwark in the Texas defense line, establishing a reputation of strength and endurance against marauding Indians and bandits. At one time, a soldier's merely having served at Fort Clark was an achievement of merit in military circles. The First and Second Dragoons and the Mounted Rifles became the First, Second, and Third Regiments of Cavalry, all of which were involved in border conflicts with Mexico as well as conflicts with the Lipan, Kickapoo, Mescalero, and Comanche Indians. Many famous military figures served at Fort Clark including Robert E. Lee, U.S. Grant, J.B. Magruder, W.T. Sherman, and Phil H. Sheridan. Much to the dismay of General Sam Houston, a secession opponent, the fort was one of the eighteen Federal posts surrendered by General David E. Twiggs to the state authorities in February, 1861, following the ordinance of secession. Upon evacuation of the fort, a group of Texas volunteers, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel John R. Baylor, took control in March. With this occupation, the post surgeon and the hospital steward were immediately converted to the Confederate cause and later treated the Confederate wounded from the "Dutch Battle Ground" near the upper Nueces. During this occupation, the post records of 1852-1866 disappeared. The fort was regarrisoned by Federal troops in December, 1866. Company C, Fourth Cavalry under the command of John E. Willcox, was committed to the two-fold task of restoring the fort and fighting the hostile Indians. In March, 1868, the troops were reinforced by the Forty-First Infantry under the command of Brevet Brigadier General R. S. Mackenzie.

Under Mackenzie the fort was reported to have entered its most progressive period from 1868-1882. On his inspection tour of 1882, General W. T. Sherman noted that "Fort Clark is the largest and most costly military post in Texas, if not the United States." During Mackenzie's command, Lieutenant General John Bullis organized a troop of Negro-Seminole Scouts who assisted Mackenzie on his raids into Mexico and his efforts to rid the plains of hostile Indians. These scouts, who had migrated to Mexico primarily from Florida, were expert marksmen and plainsmen and accompanied Mackenzie on at least twelve raids south of the border and twenty-five engagements with the plains Indians. They succeeded in driving the Indians away from that part of the country. In the time that they headquartered at Fort Clark, from March 1873-June 1881, three individual scouts were awarded Congressional Medals of Honor for their courageous service. In 1898, during the war with Spain, the fort was garrisoned by the Third Regiment of Texas Infantry under the command of General W. R. Shafter, who led the siege of San Juan Hill. From 1920-1941 the Fifth Cavalry served the fort, and a troop of soldiers led by General C. W. Edwards served the front line in World War I. During the Second World War, the First and Second Cavalry trained at Fort Clark which was served by Generals George S. Patton and Jonathan Wainwright.

The ownership of the land on which the fort stands is in itself interesting and shall be described briefly. Originally the land, owned by Sam Maverick of San Antonio, was leased to the government for twenty years on July 30, 1852. The U. S. Army was granted sole use of the tract which extended eight miles down Las Moras Creek varying one-and-one half miles to two miles in breadth for a sum of \$50.00 per month, payable quarterly. In addition, the Army was granted the privilege of taking as much hay, fuel, stone, and

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR HC RS USE ONLY

RECEIVED OCT 10 1979

DATE ENTERED

DEC 6 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET 10

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 2

timber from the tract as was necessary for the use of the post. After Mr. Maverick's death, Mrs. Maverick conducted a series of transactions with the government every time the lease came up for renewal in which she would increase the rent based on the value of additional structures and property improvements. Finally, in 1885, the government purchased 3693.2 acres of land for \$80,000.00. The fort remained in use as a military establishment until deactivation on February 9, 1946. In October of that same year the fort was sold to a major corporation for use as a hunting and recreational resort. North American Towns, Inc. purchased the property in 1971 for development as a resort/retirement community with respect for the historical and architectural heritage of the fort, which has been in continuous use since its establishment in 1852. Currently the Fort Clark Historical Society is working with the property owners to develop a preservation plan for the fort to prevent developments from destroying its unique historic and architectural integrity.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR HCRRS USE ONLY

RECEIVED OCT 10 1979

DATE ENTERED

DEC 6 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

11

ITEM NUMBER

9

PAGE 1

Author unknown, "A Report on the Hygiene of the U. S. Army, with Descriptions of Military Posts;" Circular No. 8, War Department, U. S. Surgeon General's Office, Washington, Government Printing Office, 1875, pp. 192-195.

Bateman, Cephus C., "Fort Clark Texas;" Reprinted from The Recruiting News, U. S. Army Recruiting Publicity Bureau, p. 8.

Billings, John Shaw, "A Report on Barracks and Hospitals with Descriptions of Military Posts;" Circular No. 8, War Department, U. S. Surgeon General's Office, Washington, Government Printing Office, 1875, pp. 192-195.

Brown, William A., Attorney, Brown and Root, Correspondence, May, 1979.

"History of the Seminole Scouts;" Unpublished monograph obtained from State Marker files at Texas Historical Commission.

Key, Hobart, Jr. Property owner at Fort Clark, Oral Interview, April 30, 1979.

Tumlinson, Sam, Historian, Fort Clark Historical Society, Unpublished monograph, "Description and History of Fort Clark."

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

|                    |             |
|--------------------|-------------|
| FOR HCRRS USE ONLY |             |
| RECEIVED           | OCT 10 1979 |
| DATE ENTERED       | DEC 6, 1979 |

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 1

Verbal boundary description:

Starting at the springs headwater of Las Moras Creek, proceed east along the north shore about 1/2 mile. Turn southwest at a 90° angle, cross the creek, and proceed 800'. Then make a 10° turn to the west and proceed 760'. Make a 100° turn to the west and proceed approximately 580' to the street behind the houses facing the parade ground. Proceed 1320', to an imaginary line extending from the street behind the commanding officers' quarters, southwest of the parade ground. Proceed northwest along that line 1320', turn a 90° angle to the northeast, and proceed 300'. Make another right angle turn to the southeast and proceed another 225'. Turn at a right angle to the northeast and proceed approximately 400'. Make another extension around the water tower, creating a figure 225' on the southwest and northeast sides and 150' long on the northwest side. Continue along the northwest edge of the street 810', then turn at a 100° angle to the northwest. Continue 900'; make a 135° turn to the north and proceed 350'. At that point, make a 151° turn to the east and proceed 300'. Make a 110° turn to the east and proceed 300', which will return to the point of beginning. The boundary line is also drawn on the enclosed site map.

As described above, the boundary line includes all significant features of the Fort Clark Historic District, and excludes modern construction on the outskirts of the fort area.

Property Fort Clark Historic District

79062990

State TX (Kinney) Working Number 10-10-79 2435

**TECHNICAL**

Photos 18

Maps 41

**CONTROL**

One of a series of protective frontier forts built at a time of increased immigration settlement. Displays are an impressive visual cohesion despite the range of construction dates; illustrates various stone building techniques & styles which are nonetheless compatible and complementary.

**HISTORIAN**

*accept*  
B. Groover  
11/30/79

**ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN**

**ARCHEOLOGIST**

**OTHER**

**HAER**

Inventory \_\_\_\_\_

Review \_\_\_\_\_

**REVIEW UNIT CHIEF**

*accept*  
B. Groover  
11/30/79

**BRANCH CHIEF**

**KEEPER**

National Register Write-up

2-5-80

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

Entered DEC 6 1979

Federal Register Entry

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



TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Fort Clark Historic District  
Brackettville, Kinney County, Texas  
Lee Building (map reference # 10)  
Photo: Texas Historical Commission, 6/28/76  
(photo still accurate)  
Northwest Oblique  
Photo # 1

OCT 10 1979

DEC 6 1979



1857

Fort Clark Historic District  
Brackettville, Kinney County, Texas  
Old Headquarters Building (# 23)  
Photo: Texas Historical Commission, 6/28/76  
(photo still accurate)

North Elevation  
Photo # 2

OCT 10 1979

DEC 6 1979



Fort Clark Historic District  
Brackettville, Kinney County, Texas  
Commissioned Officers' Quarters (# 17A-H)  
Photo: Fort Clark Historical Society  
9/20/79  
Southeast Oblique  
Photo # 3

OCT 10 1979

DEC 6 1979



TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Fort Clark Historic District  
Brackettville, Kinney County, Texas  
Enlisted Mens' Barracks (# 9A-E)  
Photo: Texas Historical Commission, 6/28/76  
(roofs reshingled with asphalt)  
View East, Southwest Oblique  
Photo # 4

OCT 10 1979

DEC 6 1979



TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Fort Clark Historic District  
Brackettville, Kinney County, Texas  
Kitchen/Mess Hall (11A-D)  
Photo: Texas Historical Commission, 6/28/76  
(photo still accurate)  
Southeast Oblique  
Photo # 5

OCT 10 1979

DEC 6 1979



TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Fort Clark Historic District  
Brackettville, Kinney County, Texas  
Commissary Building (# 4)

Photo: Texas Historical Commission, 6/28/76  
(photo still accurate)

Southwest Oblique  
Photo # 6

OCT 10 1979

DEC 6 1979



TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Fort Clark Historic District  
Brackettville, Kinney County, Texas  
Commissary Building (# 4)  
Photo: Texas Historical Commission, 6/28/76  
(photo still accurate)  
Detail, West Entrance  
Photo # 7

OCT 10 1979

DEC 6 1979



Fort Clark Historic District  
Brackettville, Kinney County, Texas  
Noncommissioned Officers' Club (# 29)  
Photo: Texas Historical Commission, 6/28/76  
(photo still accurate)  
Southwest Oblique  
Photo # 8

OCT 10 1979

DEC 6 1979



Fort Clark Historic District  
Brackettville, Kinney County, Texas  
Enlisted Mens' Barracks (# 30A-C)  
Photo: Texas Historical Commission,  
5/10/79  
View North, Southeast Oblique  
Photo # 9

OCT 10 1979

DEC 6 1979



TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Fort Clark Historic District  
Brackettville, Kinney County, Texas  
Enlisted Mens' Barracks, (# 30A-C)  
Photo: Texas Historical Commission, 6/28/76  
(photo still accurate)  
South Elevation  
Photo # 10

OCT 10 1979

DEC 6 1979



Fort Clark Historic District  
Brackettville, Kinney County, Texas  
Pool Area, (# 35)  
Photo: Texas Historical Commission  
5/10/79

View East  
Photo # 11

OCT 10 1979

DEC 6 1979



Fort Clark Historic District  
Brackettville, Kinney County, Texas  
Pump House, (# 36)  
Photo: Texas Historical Commission, 5/10/79  
Northwest Oblique  
Photo # 12

OCT 10 1979

DEC 6 1979



Fort Clark Historic District  
Brackettville, Kinney County, Texas  
Private Residence, (# 12)  
Photo: Fort Clark Historical Society  
4/25/79  
Southwest Oblique  
Photo # 13

OCT 10 1979

DEC 6 1979



Fort Clark Historic District  
Brackettville, Kinney County, Texas  
Private Residence, (# 15-B)  
Photo: Fort Clark Historical Society, 4/25/79  
View West, North Facade  
Photo # 14

OCT 10 1979

DEC 6 1979



Fort Clark Historic District  
Brackettville, Kinney County, Texas  
Supply Building, (# 32)  
Photo: Texas Historical Commission, 5/10/79  
South Elevation  
Photo # 15

OCT 10 1979

DEC 6 1979



Fort Clark Historic District  
Brackettville, Kinney County, Texas  
Enlisted Mens' Barracks, (# 8)  
Photo: Fort Clark Historical Society, 4/25/79  
View South, West Facade  
Photo # 16

OCT 10 1979

DEC 6 1979



Fort Clark Historic District  
Brackettville, Kinney County, Texas  
Kitchen/Mess Hall, (# 7)  
Photo: Fort Clark Historical Society  
4/25/79  
View North, East Facade  
Photo # 17

OCT 10 1979

DEC 6 1979

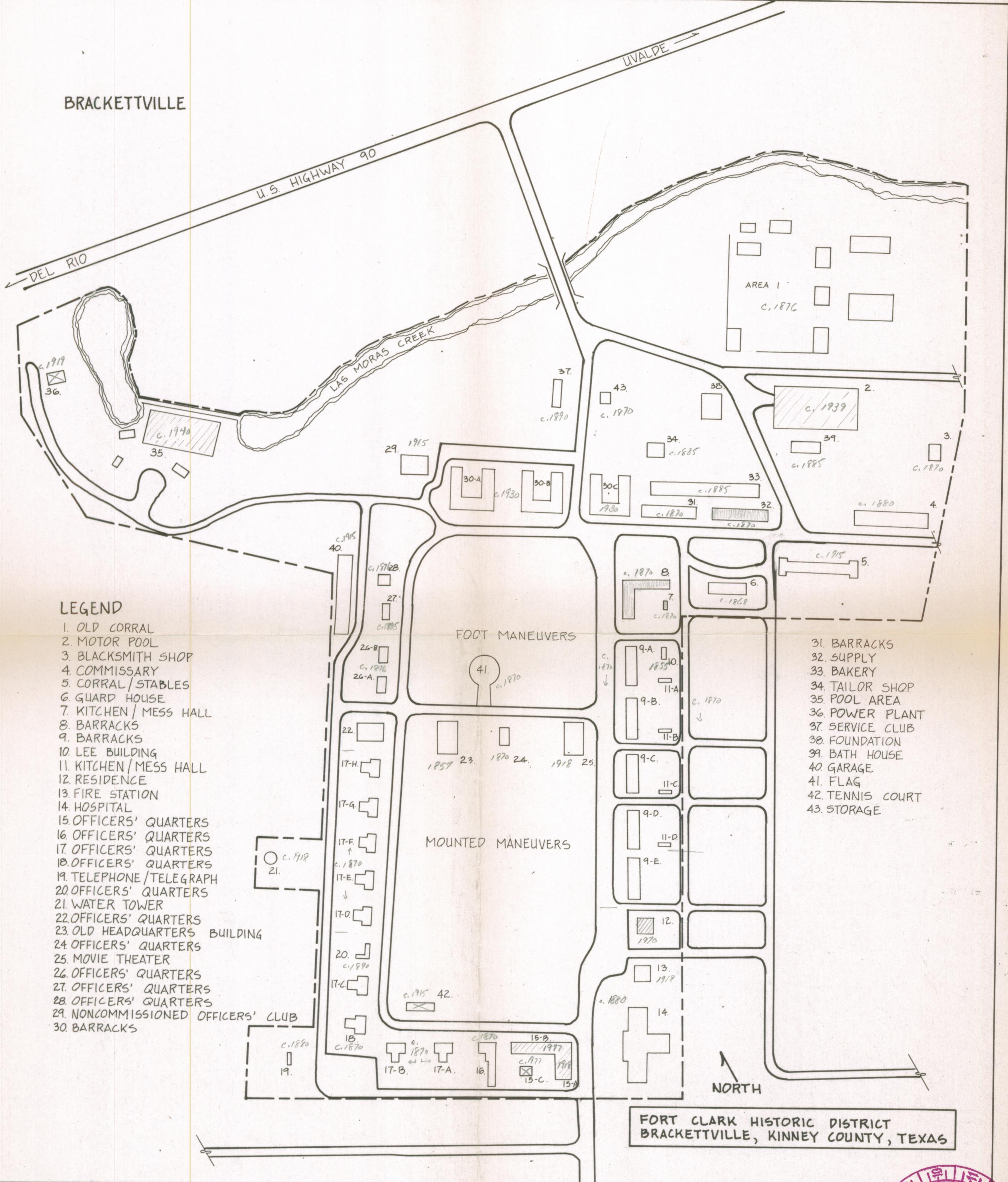


Fort Clark Historic District  
Brackettville, Kinney County, Texas  
Guard House, (# 6)  
Photo: Texas Historical Commission, 6/28/76  
(photo still accurate)  
Northwest Oblique  
Photo # 18

OCT 10 1979

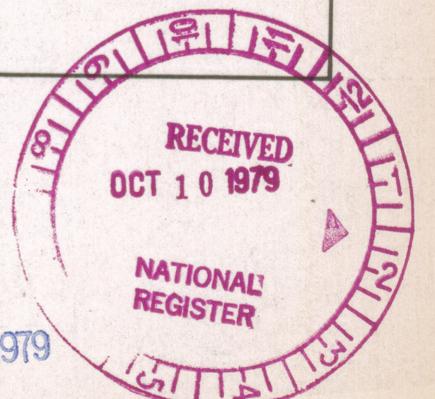
DEC 6 1979

BRACKETTVILLE



 post-1930  
 poor preservation techniques  
 intrusion

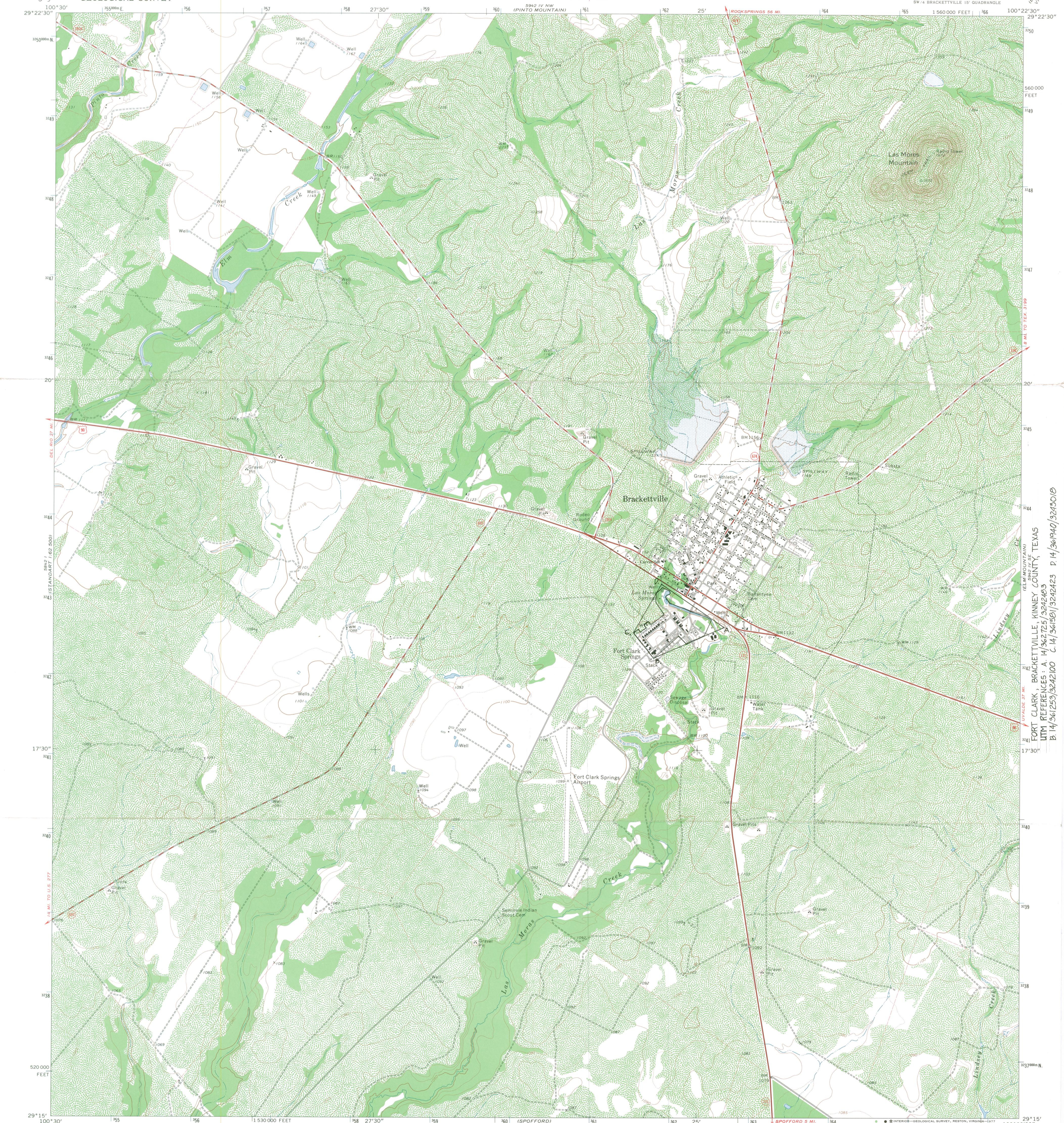
DEC 6 1979



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

STATE OF TEXAS  
TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD

BRACKETTVILLE QUADRANGLE  
TEXAS—KINNEY CO.  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)  
SHEET 11, BRACKETTVILLE, TEXAS QUADRANGLE



2 Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1973. Field checked 1974

Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Texas coordinate system, south central zone (Lambert conformal conic) 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 14, shown in blue. 1927 North American datum

zone 14, shown in blue. 1927 North American  
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence lines  
Areas covered by dashed light-blue pattern  
are subject to controlled immigration

are subject to controlled inundation

The diagram illustrates the conversion between UTM grid coordinates and magnetic coordinates. A vertical line represents the UTM grid, with the origin labeled 'GN'. A horizontal line represents the magnetic field, with the origin labeled 'MN'. The angle between the grid line and the magnetic line is labeled '9°'. A vertical line segment connects the two origins. The distance from the grid origin to the magnetic origin is labeled '160 MILS'. A horizontal line segment from the grid origin to the magnetic line is labeled '12 MILS'. The text '0° 42'' is also present near the grid origin.

5942 III NW

SCALE 1:24 000

1000 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 F

1 .5 0 1 KILOMETER

CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET  
DOTTED LINES REPRESENT 5-FOOT CONTOURS  
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

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

1974

100



Fort Clark Historic District  
10-23-79



FORT  
CLARK  
SPRINGS  
ASSOCIATION

TX

October 24, 1979

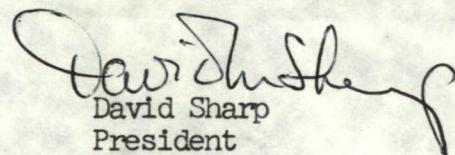
Charles A. Herrington  
Acting Keeper of the National Register  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service  
Department of the Interior, Pensum Building  
440 G Street, N. W.  
Washington, D.C. 20243

Dear Mr. Herrington:

This will acknowledge your letter dated October 18, 1979, file 663, relating to the proposed listing, in the National Register of Historic Places, of property owned by Fort Clark Springs Association. This Association is the owner of a substantial part of the property within the boundaries of the proposed Historic District. This Association has encouraged and assisted in all steps taken to date to recognize and preserve this historic site and we do endorse the action now being considered to list the district in the National Register.

For your information, Fort Clark Springs Association is a non-profit organization. We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the proposed action.

Very truly yours,

  
David Sharp  
President

DS/mm



YF  
Fort Clark Historic District  
10-23-79



BOX 12243 CAPITOL STATION  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711  
512/475-2406

Directors:

Mrs. Reuben Adams  
Dallas

Mrs. John Barnhill  
Brenham

Mrs. Paul Belding  
Longview

Thomas E. Bentley  
Richardson

Hugh Boren, Jr.  
Snyder

Jean P. Bouliane  
Navasota

Cecil E. Burney  
Corpus Christi

Clifton Caldwell  
Albany

Mrs. J. N. Castleberry, Jr.  
San Antonio

George E. Christian  
Austin

Roger Conger  
Waco

Everett Fulgham  
Marble Falls

Richard Hart  
El Paso

Hobart Key, Jr.  
Marshall

Mrs. John Luton  
Granbury

Mrs. J. B. McEntire, Jr.  
Dallas

Mrs. Menton Murray, Sr.  
Harlingen

Mrs. Mary Moody Northern  
Galveston

Laura Ann Rau  
Columbus

Mrs. Hughes Seewald  
Amarillo

John Ben Shepperd  
Odessa

Mrs. R. P. Smith, Jr.  
Fredericksburg

Mrs. Ross N. Sterling  
Houston

Dr. Idris Traylor, Jr.  
Lubbock

Frank Triticò  
Houston

Mrs. Will E. Wilson  
Beaumont

William P. Wright, Jr.  
Abilene

Mrs. Frank Yturria  
Brownsville

Mrs. Charles L. Bybee  
President  
Houston

Richard H. Collins  
First Vice President  
Dallas

Officers:

J. J. Ballard, Jr.  
Vice President  
Fort Worth

Pierre M. Schlumberger  
Vice President  
Houston

William H. Crook  
Secretary  
San Marcos

Chris Harte  
Treasurer  
Austin

TX

510 North Bolivar Street  
Marshall, Texas 75670  
24 October 1979

Mr. Charles A. Herrington  
Acting Keeper of the National Register  
United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service  
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Mr. Herrington:

I am in receipt of your notice that Fort Clark Historic District is now under review by your office for listing on the National Register. All of us at Fort Clark are most pleased that our work has achieved consideration. It should be pointed out that Fort Clark should qualify under all four (4) of the criteria listed on your enclosure.

A. The fort played a large part in the opening of the West and early trans-continental travel, mail service and military. Protection on the frontier and the Mexican border.

b. The fort was associated with most of the notable army officers serving both cavalry and infantry in six (6) wars for the past 130 years.

C. The fort displays today a typical army cavalry fort 1860-1945 with all types of frontier military architecture from the post and stave construction of the "Lee Courthouse" to the more recent officers club.

D. The story of Fort Clark is part of the history of the old West, in Texas, the army of the Civil War, the Mexican War, the Indian Wars, the Spanish-American war and both world wars. The names of Lee, Patton, Sherman, Sheridan, Wainwright, Pershing and others of the armys great are intimately associated with Fort Clark.

If there is additional information that you require concerning Fort Clark, I would be pleased to try to be of service.

Sincerely,

Hobart Key, Jr.

Texas Historical Foundation

Quarters 14

Fort Clark, Texas

HK:mc

STER OF HISTORIC PLACES

OCT 29 1979

USE (ATTACH TO)

DATE ACTION TAKEN

INITIALS S 111

4f  
Fort Clark Historic District

10-23-79

341 Doddridge St.  
Corpus Christi, Tex.  
78411

(TX)

October 25, 1979

Mr. Charles A. Herrington  
Acting Keeper of National Register  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service  
Department of Interior, Pension Bldg.,  
440 G Street N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20243

RE: Fort Clark Historic District  
Colony Row #12 (Lt.3, Blk.9, Unit 21)  
Fort Clark Springs  
Brackettville, Tx. 78832

Dear Sir:

I feel that not only should Fort Clark be listed in the National Register of Historic Places but it should have there for a long time. My reference to Fort Clark means all the existing structures and those foundations which can be restored as it was previously during the fort's active service.

Fort Clark was established as a frontier fort June 15, 1852 for the protection against the Indians and remained a military establishment until it was inactivated on February 9, 1946. It remained active and preserved long after most of the Army forts of the Indian Wars had decayed and collapsed. Although it has contributed significantly to history, its full history has yet to be told due to records being destroyed during the Civil War and some later records being withheld.

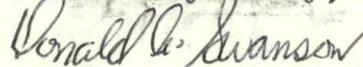
It certainly has structures that are associated with the lives of persons significant of our past because a good many of the outstanding military men in our history have served on Fort Clark. A partial list includes; Gen. John Bullis, Gen. Wesley Merritt, Gen. Ronald Mackenzie, Gen. Robert E. Lee, Gen. Ulysses Grant, Gen. Jonathan Wainwright, Gen. George S. Patton, Gen. Douglas MacArthur and a host of others because Fort Clark was considered to be the station for those climbing the promotion ladder.

I have owned one of the officers quarters since March 1975, and I believe this structure to have been built from a standard U.S. Army plan of the 1860's. Due to the lack of complete records at this time I am unable to determine the individual houses history or who might of occupied it during the Army's long occupancy of Fort Clark. It is a limestone structure and I have tried to repair and maintain it without significantly changing it. By todays building standards it is unique and old, (I find most of the nails are the old square type), and it must of been built by soldiers because it is not squared, every piece individually fitted, and the huge limestone blocks roughly hewn.

I am greatly concerned with the way many of the buildings have been restored because many have lost a good portion of their military and historical significance. I can not understand why people will buy an old structure and not try to preserve it for what it represents. I have hopes that Fort Clark being recognized as a Historic District and on being listed in the National Register will get the private owners and the Fort Clark Springs Association to adhere to some standards for rehabilitating these old military buildings.

I do feel strongly that all original fort building on Fort Clark Springs property should be listed in the National Register of Historic Places in the hopes they might be preserved for the future generations to enjoy.

Yours very truly,



Donald A. Swanson  
Lcdr., USN(ret.)

C.C. Executive Director  
Texas Historical Commission

OCT 29 1979

YF. TX  
Fort Clark Historic District  
10-23-79

Box 345  
Brackettville, Texas 78832  
October 29, 1979

Mr. Charles A. Herrington  
Acting Keeper of the National Register  
Heritage Conservation & Recreation Service  
Department of the Interior  
Pension Building  
440 G Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20243

ATTENTION: NOM  
RE: Fort Clark Springs, Fort Clark Historic District

Dear Mr. Herrington:

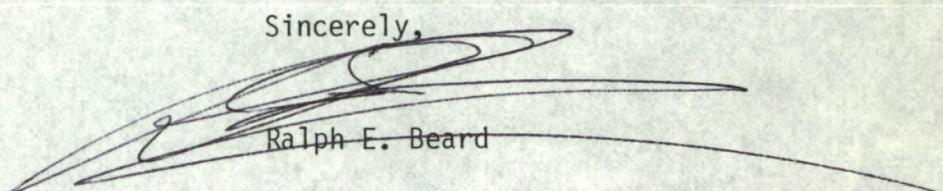
I am a property owner directly involved in the Fort Clark Historic District. I sincerely believe we deserve to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

My home is the original blacksmith shop built in the late 1890's. It is still in excellent condition, and the rock is truly beautiful and well preserved.

This Fort is certainly of local, state and national interest, since it was a United States outpost, protecting the frontier from Indians and Mexicans since 1852. McKenzie's raids were headquartered in Fort Clark, and we continued as a cavalry installation until the end of World War II.

We who live here are truly excited about the historic value of our Fort.

Sincerely,

  
Ralph E. Beard

THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

DATE RECEIVED NOV 7 1979

ADDITIONAL RESPONSE (ATTACHED)

INFORMATIVE MATERIAL SENT

TELEPHONE CALL (ATTACHED)

ACTION TAKEN

INITIALS ac/l/cr

WATERLOO COTTON MILL  
32 AMES ST  
WATERLOO, IOWA

Fort Clark Historic District  
10-23-79

The Fort Clark Historical Society

BOX 345

BRACKETTVILLE, TEXAS

78832



Kinney Co.

October 29, 1979

In Re: Ft. Clark Historical District

(Tx)

Mr. Charles A. Herrington  
Acting Keeper of the National Register  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service  
Department of the Interior  
Pension Building; 440 G St. N.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20243

Attn: NOM

I would like very much to see the Fort Clark Historical District included in the National Register of Historic Places. It is well over a century old, having been established in 1852. It had an important role during the Frontier Days of Texas and its historical function has been well established. It should be maintained, preserved and recognized.

I own a masonry building that is a part of the present proposed Historic District. It was formerly a Mess Hall and Kitchen for one of the Cavalry troops. It was in ruins before rehabilitation started.

For instance the entire front end had fallen including the gable and luevere and front porch. Where usable, the original limestone building stones were used. Additional stones were necessary to complete the front end for repair of walls, and similar materials were salvaged from the area and used. New windows of the same confirmation and dimension were reinstalled using the old window weights. New screens were made of the same conformation of the original screens.

The old screen doors were unusable, and new ones were installed with as close resemblance as possible to the old ones. Scrapings indicated that at least three

colors of paint had been used on the wooden trim. One was selected that closely resembles the general color used in area buildings (rust).

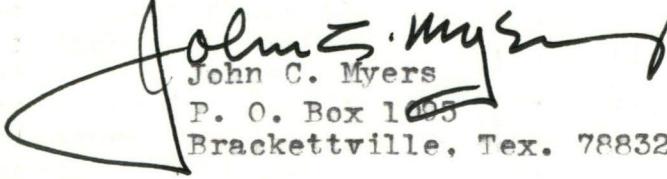
We had a great deal of joy in rehabilitating this old structure and converting it into living quarters. We tried to maintain the original lines on outside appearance for I realized the importance of that.

I had formerly served on a neighboring County Historical Committee and during the time similar old Fort Duncan was restored and rehabilitated.

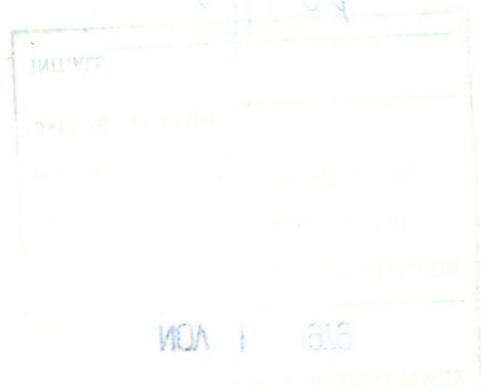
Again, let me express my desire to see Fort Clark Historic District included in the National Register. I believe it belongs there, that it satisfies the established set of criteria and that, if so placed, it will contribute to our rich historical heritage.

If I can be of assistance in furthering this project do not hesitate to call on me.

Very sincerely yours,

  
John C. Myers  
P. O. Box 1495  
Brackettville, Tex. 78832

Property:  
Parcel C; Blk. 12; Unit 21.



SEARCHED  SERIALIZED  INDEXED  FILED  ATTACHED

NOV 1 1979

SEARCHED  SERIALIZED  INDEXED  FILED  ATTACHED

SEARCHED  SERIALIZED  INDEXED  FILED  ATTACHED

DATE ACTUALLY INDEXED

INITIALS

(2/11/79)

SEARCHED  INDEXED  SERIALIZED  ATTACHED

SEARCHED  INDEXED  SERIALIZED  ATTACHED   
 11/11/79  
 SEARCHED  INDEXED  SERIALIZED  ATTACHED   
 11/11/79  
 SEARCHED  INDEXED  SERIALIZED  ATTACHED   
 11/11/79

SEARCHED  INDEXED  SERIALIZED  ATTACHED   
 11/11/79

SEARCHED  INDEXED  SERIALIZED  ATTACHED   
 11/11/79

SEARCHED  INDEXED  SERIALIZED  ATTACHED   
 11/11/79

SEARCHED  INDEXED  SERIALIZED  ATTACHED   
 11/11/79

SEARCHED  INDEXED  SERIALIZED  ATTACHED   
 11/11/79

MP  
Fort Clark Historic District  
10-23-79



TX

MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT

Post Office Box 345

Brackettville, Texas 78832

ac 512/563-2828

October 31, 1979

Mr. Charles A. Herrington  
Acting Keeper of the National Register  
440 G Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20243

ATTENTION: NOM  
RE: Fort Clark Historic District

Dear Mr. Herrington:

The Board of Directors of the Municipal Utility District have requested I write you concerning listing the above District in the National Register of Historic Places.

The Municipal Utility District is located in the original Water Power Plant built in 1919. The original building houses the utility pump house, and a lean-to has been added for offices. Since this is a stucco building, it has been repaired and painted to keep it in good condition, but the original structure has not been changed. To us we are indeed proud to have our district housed in the original building, which was constructed for this purpose. This water system has been used consistently since its conception. We are located in the immediate vicinity of Las Moras Springs on the Fort.

I am sure you have all of the historic information in your files concerning Fort Clark. We feel it is one of the oldest, best preserved and visited Forts in the United States.

Yours truly,

*Trudy Harber*  
Trudy Harber  
Office Manager

THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

DATE REC'D NOV 7 1979

INDIVIDUAL RESPONSE (ATTACHED)

INFO. FROM LOCAL SOURCES

TELEPHONE CALL (ATTACHED)

DATE ACTION TAKEN

INITIALS

or/11/79

Re: Ft. Clark Historic District.

Ft. Clark Historic  
District  
10-23-79 Brackettville, Tex.  
P.O. Box 281 - 78832

(TX)

4P

Oct. 31, 1979

Ft. Clark-House #28 - Colony Row-

Dear Mr. Herrington,

It and so many of the residents of Ft. Clark Springs are hoping our community will be designated for the National Register of Historic Places. As one of the oldest Forts in the country with quite well preserved buildings and surroundings of unusual beauty and distinction, having the area preserved before it loses its distinctive features would be a great addition to the National Register of Historic Places. In its key-day of time it was a beautiful Cavalry Post, and many of us have happy memories of its horses, parades, bands of beautiful music, swimming in its Olympic size pool, and lovely homes.

I have acquired one of its stately rock buildings, bordering the Wainwright quarters and would like to preserve it for future generations. Sincerely yours, wishing you good luck in procuring the acceptance in

the National Register -

(Mrs.) Adele Bauer Augur

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES |          |
| 5 1979                                   |          |
| MAIL OR TELETYPE ATTACHED                |          |
| TELEPHONE CALL ATTACHED                  |          |
| DATE ACTION TAKEN                        |          |
| INITIALS                                 | 21/11/81 |

MP  
Fort Clark Historic District  
10-23-79

FT CLARK HISTORIC DISTRICT

REFERENCE: 663

444 Elmhurst

(JX)

San Antonio, Texas 78209

12 November 1979

MR CHARLES A. HERRINGTON  
ACTING KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Dear Mr. Herrington,

Thank you so much for your letter and the information pertinent to the National Register of Historic Places as related to the Ft Clark Historic District. Yes, Mrs Isley and I are property owners in this historically rich and colorful old frontier fort and we are just filled with pride and humility at being privileged to have a part and be a part of such a living monument that had its beginning in 1852.

Hawkins and Jack Isley take fierce pride in these United States of America. Our Fort is a part of that unyielding foundation upon which our Nation has stood firm over the years. We feel the pioneering spirit woven by our people moving and settling a Westward Country as Migration became the order of the day years in the past. All along the route results of work, sweat, love and tears can be traced. These tracings must be preserved for us and posterity.

Our heritage is surely one of the most valuable of possessions to be held, enjoyed, protected and preserved. The Isley's roots are enmeshed in this Great Land and more especially at old Ft Clark.

We believe that Ft Clark meets all the criteria for the National Register and can withstand the test. Our people are very enthusiastic about the project. We are grateful and thankful for all who have devoted themselves to the cause. We salute you and thank you for work

HOA 11/12  
Sincerely yours,  
Hawkins and Jack Isley

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES |             |
| DATE REC'D                               | NOV 21 1979 |
| INDIVIDUAL RESPONSE (ATTACHED)           |             |
| INFORMATIVE MATERIAL SENT                |             |
| TELEPHONE CALL (ATTACHED)                |             |
| DATE ACTION TAKEN                        |             |
| INITIALS                                 |             |

62/11 er

PROCEEDS FROM SALE OF THIS CARD GO TO DEPOT RESTORATION FUND

BUILT IN 1881

HILLSBORO, TEXAS

KATY DEPOT

12/11/80

THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

DATE REC'D. NOV 27 1979

DUAL RESPONSE (ATTACHED)

FIVE MATERIAL SENT

PHONE CALL (ATTACHED)

DATE ACTION TAKEN \_\_\_\_\_

INITIALS \_\_\_\_\_



Nov. 13, 1979

Fort Clark  
Historic District  
10-23-79

TX

4 Dear Mr. Herrington,

We are delighted to learn that our home in one of the old stone buildings at Ft. Clark, Texas, is included in the proposed historic district which has been nominated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

We will certainly make every effort to preserve our building and assist with restoration in the area.

Sincerely,

Mary and Louis Curcio

*Louis*  
Lewis Curcio  
P.O. Box 992  
Brackettville, Texas 78832

RE: Fort Clark Historic District

*Enclosures*

4P  
Fort Clark Historic District  
10-23-79  
(TX)

November 15, 1979

Charles A. Herrington:

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter (663) of Oct. 18, 1979 we feel that Fort Clark Historic District deserves to be listed in the National Register for several reasons. It's history goes back to 1852 when it was first established as a military base. It continued to serve as a vitally important training ground for military operations through World War II. Many famous personalities served or commanded at the Fort. Robert E. Lee, Ulysses S. Grant, George S. Patton, Douglas Mac Arthur and Jonathan Wainwright are but a few.

We feel that our building on the Fort is worthy of consideration. It is the old Cavalry building which was constructed of native limestone in 1853. The building has curved hand-cut stone over the doors and windows, making it a very distinctive building. During its long history, it has been used for various purposes- for the cavalry, as a warehouse for the commissary and as a blacksmith shop. The building is now being used as apartments, but care has been taken to retain the original look of the outside of the building as much as possible. The building is located on McClearnand St. directly across from the Museum.

Sincerely,

*Martin E. Hammer*

Martin E. Hammer  
Box 815  
Wink, Texas 79789

|  |                                |
|--|--------------------------------|
| THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES |                                |
| RE-SEND                                  | NOV 19 1979                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/>                 | INDIVIDUAL RESPONSE (ATTACHED) |
| <input type="checkbox"/>                 | INFORMATIVE MATERIAL SENT      |
| <input type="checkbox"/>                 | TELEPHONE CALL (ATTACHED)      |
| DATE ACTION TAKEN                        |                                |
| INITIALS                                 |                                |

4P  
Fort Clark Historic District  
10-23-79

November 16, 1979  
Box 914  
Brackettville, Tx. 78832

(Tx)

Mr. Charles A. Herrington  
440 G. St. N.W.  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Our home is located in the midst of the historic district that has been nominated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places - namely Fort Clark Springs Historic District. We feel that it should be included in the National Register. There is so much history in this place it would be a shame for it to be so changed that much of its original value is lost. There are many very good buildings here; of course they need repairs but there is a lot to build on and restore.

We would appreciate your giving this due consideration.

Sincerely

*Louis Purvis*

Mr. & Mrs. Louis Purvis

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| THE NATIONAL REGISTER     |  |
| NOV 23 1968               |  |
| DATE REC'D                |  |
| MAIL SENT                 |  |
| TELEPHONE CALL (ATTACHED) |  |
| DATE ACTION TAKEN         |  |
| INITIALS                  |  |

6c/11 ex

*4/10 NR*  
Pt. Clark Historic District  
10/23/79

(TX)

Ronald G. Henry  
GENERAL SEKIYU K.K.  
9-13 GINZA 4-CHOME  
CHUO-KU, TOKYO 104  
JAPAN

December 5, 1979

Mr. Charles A. Herrington  
Acting Keeper of the National Register  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service  
Department of the Interior  
Pension Building  
440 G. Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20243  
U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Herrington,

Thank you for your letter of Oct. 18, 1979 (Number 663). I am pleased to hear that the Fort Clark Historic District Texas U.S.A. has been nominated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. As the owner of one of the original stone structures on the Fort Quadrangle I am wholeheartedly in favor of registration.

You are of course familiar with the history of Fort Clark, so let me only mention a few names of important men in history who have a historical connection with Fort Clark - Robert E. Lee, George S. Patton, and Jonathan Wainwright. I believe the love for Fort Clark is best illustrated by the fact that Gen. Wainwright upon retirement from the US Military returned to Fort Clark to stay in the same house where he lived when he was Commander at Fort Clark. Surely this meant a lot to him, and it continues to provide historical significance to adults and children who visit or live at Fort Clark today.

Not only is the white man history important, but the Indian & Negro history of Fort Clark is important and worthy of preservation. One needs to remember the important contributions of the Seminole Indian Scouts and the Negro Troopers. Truly Fort Clark's contribution to the settlement of the West was a unique multi-racial endeavor.

Much has been done to date to preserve the architectural beauty of the original structures of old Fort Clark. Fortunately the original basic building unit was large rocks which were obtained locally. Over the years little deterioration of the original structure of the buildings has occurred and when it has occurred repairs have been made with local rock maintaining the authentic nature of the structures.

I believe the majority of property owners at Fort Clark feel as I do, and are owners because they want to take an active part in the

Ronald G. Henry  
GENERAL SEKIYU K.K.  
9-13 GINZA 4-CHOME  
CHUO-KU, TOKYO 104  
JAPAN

preservation of American History. Fort Clark is ideally suited for this. The Fort is not a part of a metropolitan area which would mask its natural beauty, yet it is not remotely located from civilization since U.S. Highway 90 does pass the border of the Fort. Still the location & setting of the Fort is unchanged, as it was in the 1850's. Upon arrival at the Fort one can feel and relive the History of the U.S. West. I believe this History must be preserved as much as possible, and registration of Fort Clark as a Historic District together with certification of selected properties as Historic Structures will greatly help with this preservation.

Let me close with a statement made by Chaplain Cephas Bateman concerning Fort Clark. This statement illustrates the importance of Fort Clark in early U.S. Army life -- "To have 'served at Clark' was at one time nearly equivalent to honorable mention, for such an entry in one's record was a sure token that the ---- individual had been really initiated into Army life". Truly this kind of heritage must be preserved.

Please let me apologize for my late reply to your letter, but I only received it this week, due to our recent move to Tokyo, Japan.

My family and I are hopeful you will favorably review the nomination of Fort Clark Historical District. Please let me know if I can be of further assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

  
R. G. Henry

CC: Executive Director  
Texas State Historical Commission  
P.O. Box 12276  
Capitol Station  
Austin, Texas 78711

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| SEARCHED                                 | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED                               | FILED   |
| THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES |         |
| CHURCH OF THE AMERICAN HARBOR            |         |
| 4-CHOME<br>MINATO-KU, TOKYO 104          |         |
| DATE REC'D. <u>DEG 14 1979</u>           |         |
| INDIVIDUAL RESPONSE (ATTACHED)           |         |
| INFORMATION (ATTACHED)                   |         |
| TELEPHONE CALL (ATTACHED)                |         |
| DATE ACTION TAKEN                        |         |
| INITIALS                                 |         |

R. G. Hennig  
Sincerey

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE TEXAS

Date Entered DEC 6 1979

| <u>Name</u>                                    | <u>Location</u>                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Fort Clark Historic District                   | Brackettville<br>Kinney County  |
| University Avenue-Elm Street Historic District | Georgetown<br>Williamson County |
| Sacred Heart Catholic Church and School        | Palestine<br>Anderson County    |
| Bayou Bend                                     | Houston<br>Harris County        |

Also Notified

Honorable Lloyd Bentsen

Honorable John G. Tower  
Honorable Abraham Kazen, Jr.  
Honorable J. J. (Jake) Pickle  
Honorable Charles Wilson  
Honorable George (Mickey) Leland

State Historic Preservation Officer  
Mr. Truett Latimer  
Executive Director  
Texas State Historical Commission  
P.O. Box 12276, Capitol Station  
Austin, Texas 78711

NR

Byers/bjr 12/12/79

For further information, please call the National Register at (202) 343-6401.

710

318 Cape May

Corpus Christi, Texas  
June 26, 1982 78412

Department of Interior

C Street Between 18 and 19 Streets Northwest

Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Sir:

When purchasing an historical house are there any lending incentives? I can get a loan through the Federal Land Bank at 12% fluctuating. I'd rather not have a fluctuating loan (I am a widow) and it seems to me I read somewhere that a Federally funded or sponsored loan company will grant loans at 11 1/2% (straight loan) as an incentive for purchasing historical houses.

I was told that Fort Clark, Brackettville, Texas is on the National Register, and I am referring to the old original rock buildings. Could you please verify this for me.

I have been given the month of July in which to secure a loan and I look forward to hearing from you.

Very truly yours,  
Elaine Conole

Vosburgh  
7/29/82  
MAC Route  
7/29/82

TX

710

Mrs. Elaine Conoley  
318 Cape May  
Corpus Christi, Texas 78412

AUG 2 1982

Dear Mrs. Conoley:

Thank you for your inquiry of June 26 to the Department of the Interior concerning possible Federal or federally-sponsored loans available for the purchase of historical houses.

The program closest to the one you describe appears to be the Historic Preservation Loan Program summarized on page 8 of the enclosed "Sources of Preservation Funding." However, there is no mention of an 11-1/2 percent interest rate--only that the interest shall not exceed 14 percent. This program is under the Department of Housing and Urban Development, but the property must be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

The National Park Service administers a variety of programs which recognize the Nation's historic resources. The National Register of Historic Places is the Nation's official list of districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering and culture. Nominations to the National Register from Texas are made by the State Historic Preservation Officer, Mr. Curtis Tunnell, Executive Director, Texas State Historical Commission, P.O. Box 12276, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711. If you acquire historical property not on the National Register, you may wish to discuss its possible nomination to the Register with him.

Fort Clark, Kinney County, Texas, was placed on the National Register December 6, 1979, as Fort Clark Historic District, which includes the original old rock buildings to which you refer.

If we can be of further assistance, please let us know. We appreciate your interest in the historic preservation programs of the National Park Service.

Sincerely,

/s/ Lawrence E. Aten

Lawrence E. Aten  
Chief, Interagency Resource  
Management Division

Enclosure

bcc: Mr. Curtis Tunnell, SHPO, Austin, Texas 78711 w/c of inc.

cc: 190 700  
710, 710-Vosburgh

FNP:NR:J Vosburgh:mc:7/29/82:272-3504

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN NR

To: **FNP- 710**

*Pension Bldg.*

The attached White House/Secretarial mail is forwarded to your office for review and appropriate action. The time limit for White House referrals is 9 days, for Secretarial mail, 2 weeks.

Your office is responsible for the final typing and signature of letters in reply.

Please provide a copy for WASO-190 of each reply with incoming after it has been signed. (Only one copy for standard replies with a list of those receiving an identical letter.)

If rerouting is required, please return to 190 for forwarding.

Ira Whitlock, 190

7/12/82.

Margaret Pearson, 343-4332  
Room 3216

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES |             |
| DATE REC'D                               | Jul 13 1982 |
| INDIVIDUAL RESPONSE (ATTACHED)           |             |
| INFORMATIVE MATERIAL (ATTACHED)          |             |
| TELEPHONE CALL (ATTACHED)                |             |
| DATE ACTION TAKEN                        |             |
| INITIALS                                 |             |