

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

MAY 24 1979

DATE ENTERED

JUL 27 1979

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Scholz Garten

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

1607 San Jacinto

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Austin

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

10th

STATE

Texas

VICINITY OF
CODE

048

COUNTY

Travis

CODE

453

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Austin Saengerrunde Society

STREET & NUMBER

1607 San Jacinto

CITY, TOWN

Austin, Texas

VICINITY OF

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

County Clerk Deed Records

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Austin, Texas

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

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 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

August Scholz' first business enterprise, a boarding house, was begun in a log structure during 1860. The character of this original structure was altered six years later, when he chose to operate a tavern. This was accomplished by erecting a west facing brick facade, characteristic of postbellum frontier commercial buildings, springing up all over Texas. The false gable front provided identity and a suitable location for signage.

Although the original Scholz Garden was torn down in 1909, the Austin Saengerrunde rebuilt a clubhouse which was practically identical, retaining the exaggerated, geometric, front facade with a centered, masonry pediment. A corbeled brickwork cornice lends visual strength to the pediment. The five bay front of the original structure was overhung by a tin awning. Later, when the porch roof was removed, with renovation of the facade, connective archivolt served to outline and provide continuity to these bays. The original four front bay windows which allowed light to enter are presently closed up. When Scholz was granted historic zoning by the city of Austin in 1967, the facade was extended on both sides of the original structure. The brickwork follows the original design but was done in different colors; the older being composed of beige and red brick, the newer done in brown and orange, somewhat subtler shades. One of the outbuildings' rooflines rises above the facade breaking continuity with the pediment. Scholz Garten is now surrounded by parking lots as the state buildings of the capital complex are only a few blocks away.

Scholz Garten is laid out in a U, with the "garden" of oak trees situated in the center. Two outbuildings function as the Saengerrunde's social center; the one to the south of the original structure being the meeting hall, the long building in back of the garden set up as a bowling alley. The larger hall to the south also served for sometime as the home of Austin theater.

In 1962, when the Saengerrunde leased the dining room and kitchen to Robert Bales, cries arose over his plans for expansion and air conditioning. He created a lunch room extending to the north of the original structure, and enclosed what looks to be a rear porch, as another dining area.

The main entrance to Scholz Garten is through the centered doorway of the original structure. Upon entering, one's eye is immediately drawn to the dark oak bar spanning the width of the front dining room. This is the bar which was installed by August Scholz. Fashioned after the Greek revival in design, it features Ionic columns framing two segmentally arched mirrors and one large plate mirror. The bar is decorated with beer steins--one antique standing almost six feet tall, capable of holding 2,172 ounces of brew. Other decor consists of photographs of the University of Texas football teams from the turn of the century to the present. A portrait of August Scholz hangs prominently near the bar. The resolution by the House of Representatives, commemorating Scholz' centennial, is neatly framed.

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 type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Opening its doors in 1866 as a saloon, Scholz Garten has continuously served five generations of Texas legislators, writers, students, businessmen and dignitaries. People from all walks of life have relaxed and contributed to its atmosphere creating an Austin institution. Texas' oldest saloon was presented with a plaque by the State Historical Survey Committee in 1967, reading in part:

"...Meeting site of pioneers interested in song and social activities. Home since 1908 of Austin Saengerrunde, formed 1879.

Recognized in resolution of Texas House of Representatives, 59th Legislature, adopted February 22, 1966, as a gathering place for Texans of discernment, taste, culture and erudition, epitomizing the finest traditions of magnificent German heritage in our state."

August Scholz, a German immigrant and Confederate veteran, hosted a thirsty clientele until his death in 1891, when his stepson, Theodor Reisner took over the business. Prior to his death, Scholz had sold part of his property to Edwin Lemp, who operated Lemp Brewers (today Falstaff Brewing Company) on the property. In 1909, the Austin Saengerrunde, a German singing group which had been meeting at Scholz, bought the property from Lemp. The Saengerrunde, after tearing down the old Scholz structure, proceeded to rebuild the clubhouse which differed little from the present-day Scholz Garten. The Saengerrunde has maintained ownership of the property to this day. In 1962, they leased the dining rooms and kitchen to Robert Bales, retaining exclusive control over the social hall, club rooms and bowling alley.

The Saengerrunde, which will celebrate its centennial during 1979, is Austin's oldest, registered, ethnic organization. It was founded by German and Swiss immigrants to promote cultural entertainment, especially music and singing. In 1903, some members started the Austin Symphony Orchestra and later Saengerrunde Hall was the site of Austin Symphony's first practices. The present roster of the club includes 28 "active" members who sing regularly, and 400 "passive" members who participate in bowling and other special activities.

In 1871, a newspaper advertised Scholz' as "a rallying point for light-hearted youth and a place of recreation for weary business people." The tradition continues, having been patronized by the following:

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

- Walter Tips, 1841-1911, conductor of Austin Saengerrunde and active financial supporter.
- Dr. Eugene Paul Schoch, 1872-1961, a prominent University of Texas professor, active in the singing group and founder of the University of Texas Longhorn Band.
- More than a few governors have frequented this tavern. James Stephen Hogg, 1851-1906, Oscar Branch Colquitt, 1861-1940, Price Daniel, Preston Smith and John Connally. Gubernatorial candidate, John Hill, celebrated his success after the May, 1978 primaries with his campaigners at Scholz.

Upon his acquittal for murder charges in San Antonio, Ben Thompson, city marshal and legendary gunslinger, was met at the Austin train station by friends and officials. The horses leading his carriage were unhitched and he was hand-pulled to Scholz Garten for a celebration.

In 1894, a party was held honoring Father P.J. Hurth, president of St. Edwards College (later University) for being named Bishop of India by the Pope. He requested Scholz' as a gathering place and hundreds attended.

Students have always congregated at Scholz because of its proximity to the University of Texas. Until 1975, the sale of alcoholic beverages was prohibited on campus. Thus, Scholz served as a "student union." Class lectures are known to have taken place beneath the live oaks. The Bored Martyrs, a select U.T. sorority, of which Lynda Bird Johnson Robb was a member, continues to meet weekly in the garden. U.T.'s football team has celebrated an undefeated season here more than once.

Authors have not neglected to record the ambience of this well-known tavern. William Sidney Porter, as editor of his weekly, the Rolling Stone, advertised Scholz Garten. William Brammer in The Gay Place, disguises it as "the dearly beloved beer and garden party" treating it as setting for the making of Texas political history. Willie Morris deals with it in North Toward Home. Several authors have selected Scholz for their autograph parties.

Scholz Garten, being located in the capital, owes its success to its proximity to the state buildings and the University of Texas. For this reason it has become a natural gathering place

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PAGE

3

occasioning the meeting of great minds.

In the resolution congratulating Scholz on its centennial in 1966, Speaker to the House, Hon. Ben Barnes, expressed the "hope that this rare institution and its storied traditions will endure for another hundred years."

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Austin-American Statesman, Sept. 1, 1975
 Daily Texan, May 5th, 1977
 Houston Chronicle, Texas Sunday Magazine, Sept. 11, 1966
 "A Century of Suds," by Richard Stanley
 Texas Parade, Sept., 1969, "Ancient Host to the Young at Heart"

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approx. 1

QUADRANGLE NAME Austin East, Texas

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,4 6,2,25,7,0 3,3,5,0,0,3,0

B

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C 6,2,1

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

North 171' of the west 171' of outlot 56, division E.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Alison Beck, Library Assistant

10/12/78

ORGANIZATION

Barker Texas History Center, University of Texas

STREET & NUMBER

2509 San Antonio

Austin, TX 78705

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

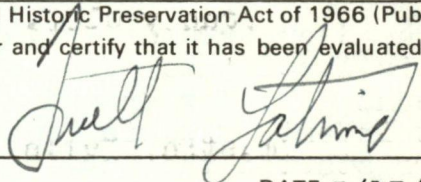
NATIONAL

STATE X

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE



TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 5/17/79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 7.27.79

ATTEST: Charles Johnson
 CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE 7/27/79

Property Schalz Garten

State Ill. (Jravis) Working Number 5.24.79.1237

Ref. # 7700 5015

TECHNICAL

Photos 4
Maps 1

CONTROL

pl
OK 5.24.79

Significant for its associations with a German singing group which is Austin's oldest ethnic organization. Also significant as a meeting place for Texas for politicians & students.

HISTORIAN

Accept
Lighten
7-26-79

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____
Review _____

Present building was built ca. 1909 on the site of the original buildings. Continuity was provided by the architectural character of the "new" building, the design of which was inspired by the original false gable brick facade built in the 1860's. Over a century of political and cultural association establish major significance.

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept
Cal Brooks
7/27/79

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up _____

Send-back _____

Entered JUL 27 1979

Federal Register Entry _____

9-4-79

Re-submit _____



SCHOLZ GARDEN

Scholz Garten
1607 San Jacinto
Austin, Travis County, Texas

DOE
JUL 27 1979

Photo courtesy of Austin-Travis County
Collection, Austin Public Library.
Source and date unknown.

West facade

Photo #1 of 4

MAY 24 1979



Scholz Garten
1607 San Jacinto
Austin, Travis County, Texas

DOE
JUL 27 1979

Photo by Texas Historical Commission, c. 1977.

West facade of original buildings and additions.

Photo #2 of 4

MAY 24 1979

16-2-11+

PARKING
9 A.M.
HOTEL
PARKING
-4-
PARKING



Scholz Garten
1607 San Jacinto
Austin, Travis County, Texas

DOE
JUL 27 1979

Photo by Texas Historical Commission, c. 1977

Northwest oblique of beer garden and bowling
alley.

Photo #3 of 4

MAY 24 1979

16-3-16-

Scholz Garten
1607 San Jacinto
Austin, Travis County, Texas

DOE
JUL 27 1979

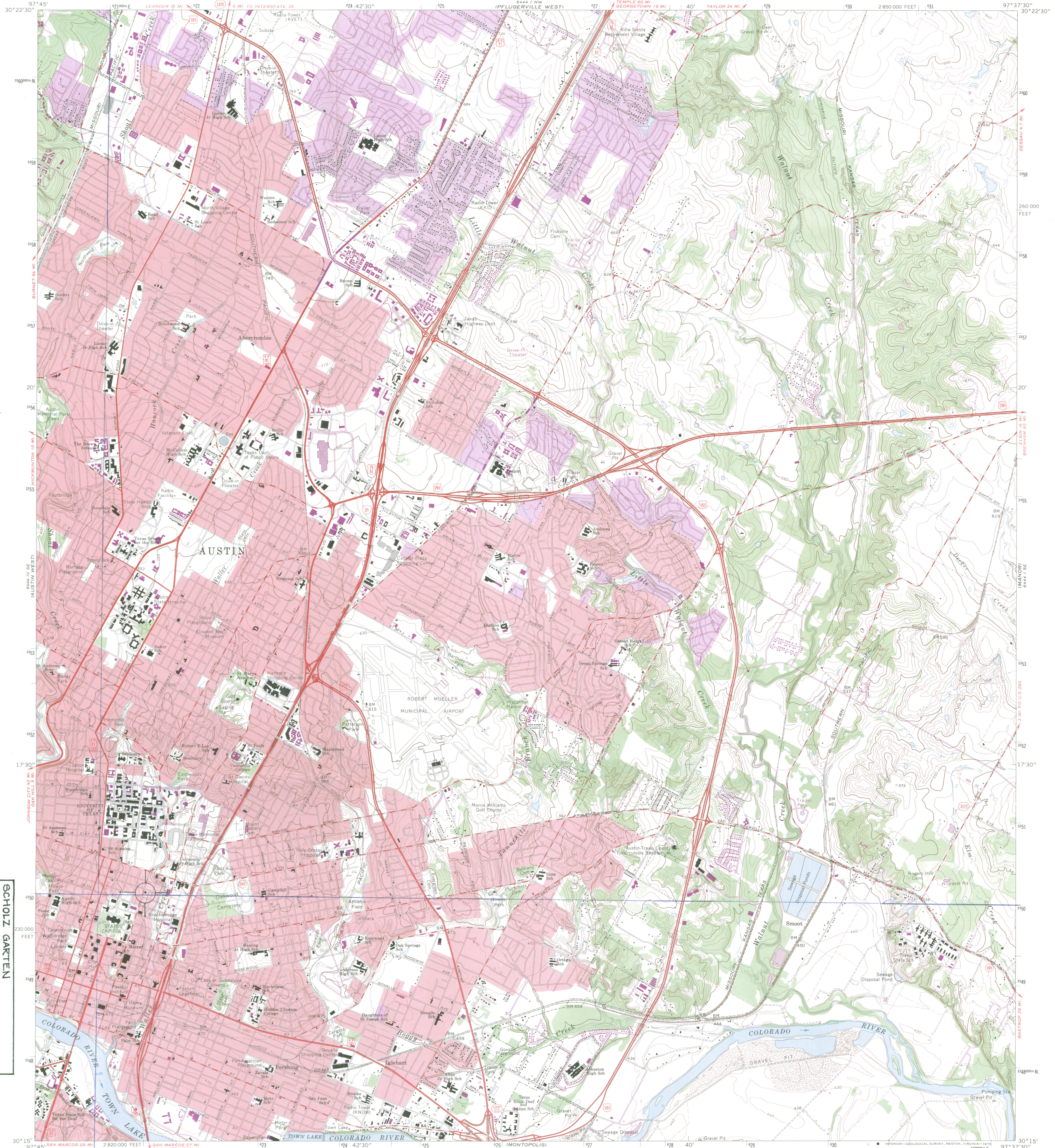
Photo by Texas Historical Commission, c. 1977

Interior, showing oak bar.

Photo #4 064

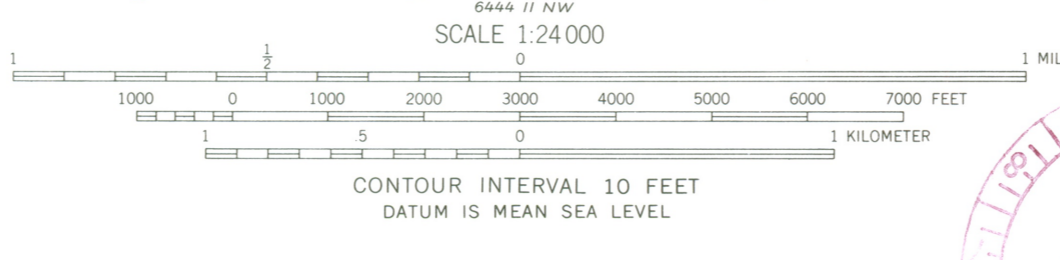
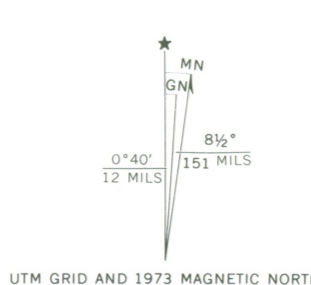
MAY 24 1979

16-22 - 2 - 11



SCHOLTZ GARTEN
1607 SAN JACINTO
AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
UTM REF: 14/622570/3350030

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1952. Field checked 1954. Revised from
aerial photographs taken 1966. Field checked 1966
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Texas coordinate system,
central zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 14, shown in blue
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence lines
Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs
taken 1973. This information not field checked
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

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

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



3097-242

AUSTIN EAST, TEX.
SW/4 AUSTIN 15' QUADRANGLE
N3015—W9737.5/7.5
1966
PHOTOREVISED 1973
AMS 6444 I SW—SERIES V882

JUL 27 1979

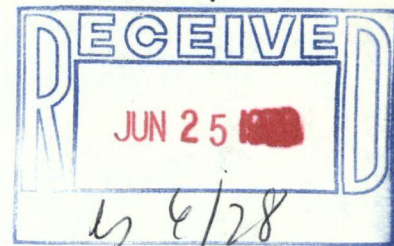
VP

SCHOLZ GARTEN
615179



Austin Saengerrunde

1607 SAN JACINTO BLVD.
AUSTIN, TEXAS



(TX)

June 21, 1979

Dr. William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register
Heritage, Conservation and Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
Pension Building
440 G Street NW
Washington, D. C. 20243

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

Thank you for your communication dated May 29, 1979, advising the Austin Saengerrunde that our property, Scholz Garten, is being considered for listing in the National Register. Please be advised the Austin Saengerrunde is very much interested in having Scholz Garten listed in the National Register.

Scholz Garten was constructed circa 1866 for August Scholz, its proprietor until 1901 when the Austin Saengerrunde acquired the property. The property has continued to be used as a beer garden and restaurant through the years and has retained its original appearance. The Austin Saengerrunde, a German singing society, also still uses the facilities for weekly rehearsals and other social activities. In 1966, the property was zoned "H" (historical rating) and awarded a State of Texas Historical Marker.

The garden facilities are well known throughout the Central Texas area and are used daily by State and National dignitaries since it lies in the shadow of the State Capitol. It is rumored that many a law has been debated and formulated in the garden as it is quite popular among Texas legislators.

Once again, the Austin Saengerrunde is quite interested in having Scholz Garten listed in the National Register. If I can supply you with any additional information, please do not hesitate to call or write me at 512/288-1994 or 7105 Scenic Brook Drive, Austin, Texas 78736.

Very cordially yours,

W. P. Mettke, Treasurer
Austin Saengerrunde

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

TEXAS

STATE

Date Entered

JUL 27 1979

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Arnot House	Marshall Harrison County
Scholz Garten	Austin Travis County
Kennedy Bakery	Houston Harris County
Barret, Tol, House	Nacogdoches vicinity Nacogdoches County

Also Notified

Honorable Lloyd M. Bentsen

Honorable John G. Tower
Honorable Sam B. Hall, Jr.
Honorable J. J. (Jake) Pickle
Honorable George Thomas
Honorable Charles Wilson

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 8/2/79

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