

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

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Continuation sheet

Item number all

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SITE NO. 7

NAME

Gunarus and Ingerborg Shefstad house

LOCATION

~~S.H. 6, just north of city limits of Clifton,~~  
Bosque County, Texas, on L. Armstrong survey

OWNER

John L. Jenson  
Route 1  
Clifton, Texas 76634

PRESENT USE

Storage, vacant

CATEGORY

Building

STATUS

Unoccupied

QUADRANGLE NAME

Clifton, Texas

QUADRANGLE SCALE

1:24000

UTM REFERENCE

14/633780/3518460

ACREAGE

less than 1 acre

PHOTO REFERENCE NO. 16

DESCRIPTION

Located just north of the present city limits of Clifton, the Gunarus and Ingerborg Shefstad house is a one-and-a-half-story stone residence unoccupied since the 1950s. It remains in delapidated, but relatively stable, condition, and few alterations affect its integrity. In plan it is of the symmetrical type and very similar to the Arneson (no. 39) or the Keddel Grimland (no. 10) houses. Unlike them, however, the front, or south, facade is composed of three bays with only one window on either side of the central doorway. A flat arch bridges this center opening, while segmental arches span the outer bays. The main entrance has been extensively altered, but it probably first contained a double doorway. Two square holes in the walls above this doorway indicate the possible location of a porch. The rear wall also exhibits a three-bay composition, and has a flat archway over the broad, central opening. The outer bays, however, have stone lintels. An exterior stone chimney rises from the east gable end, while the gable roof is covered with sheets of corrugated metal. The interior is in poor condition and is used for storage. No buildings associated with the house remain standing, and a search of the immediate area revealed no foundations.



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**SIGNIFICANCE**

Gunarus Shefstad apparently arrived in Bosque County sometime in the 1860s, and purchased the land upon which the Shefstad house now stands in 1868. This home presumably was erected shortly after that date. It is the only structure in this nomination that lies outside of the main Norwegian settlement area and is a good example of the symmetrical type of stone house. In addition to his occupation as a farmer, Shefstad was also a carpenter and cabinet-maker, and in 1876, he was hired to help build Our Savior's Lutheran Church.

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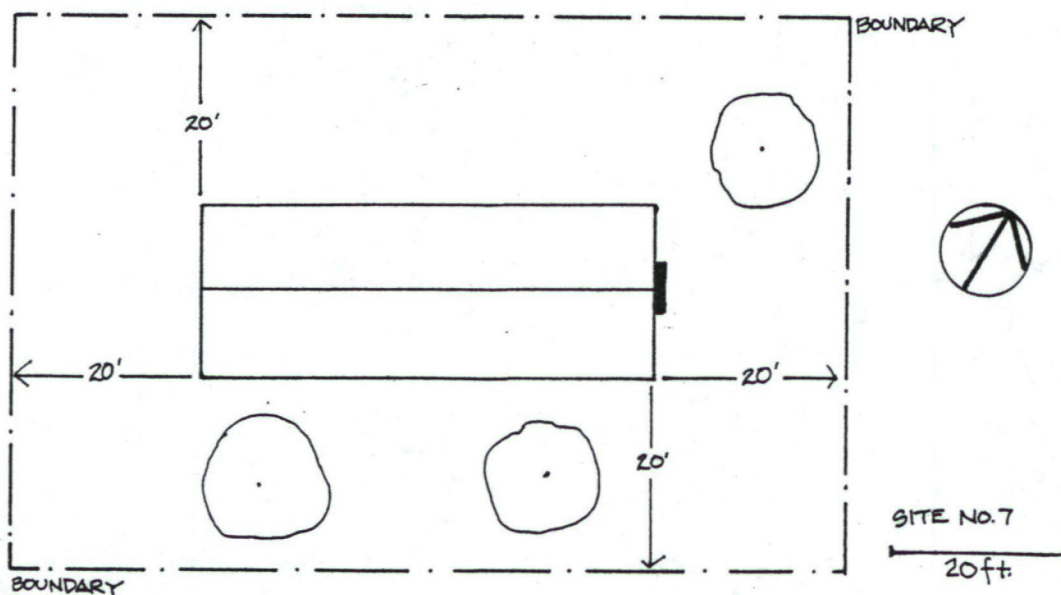
date entered

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AREA TO BE NOMINATED





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Page 4 of 4

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name Norwegian Settlement of Bosque County Thematic Resources  
State Texas

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- |   |                                     |            |                              |
|---|-------------------------------------|------------|------------------------------|
| 191 31. Ringness, Jens and Kari,<br>Farm            | Entered in the<br>National Register | for Keeper | 7/22/83 <u>Delores Byers</u> |
|   |                                     | Attest     | _____                        |
| 32. Rogstad, Tom and Martha,<br>Farm                | Entered in the<br>National Register | for Keeper | 7/22/83 <u>Delores Byers</u> |
|   |                                     | Attest     | _____                        |
| 33. Schultz, Tobias and<br>Wilhelmine, Farm         | Entered in the<br>National Register | for Keeper | 7/22/83 <u>Delores Byers</u> |
|   |                                     | Attest     | _____                        |
| 34. Shefstad, Gunarus and<br>Ingerborg, House       | Entered in the<br>National Register | for Keeper | 7/22/83 <u>Delores Byers</u> |
|   |                                     | Attest     | _____                        |
| 201 35. Upper Settlement Rural<br>Historic District | Substantive Review                  | Keeper     | <u>Bob Groves</u> 7/22/83    |
|   |                                     | Attest     | _____                        |
| 202 36. Wilson Homesite                             | Entered in the<br>National Register | for Keeper | 7/22/83 <u>Delores Byers</u> |
|   |                                     | Attest     | _____                        |
| 37.   |                                     | Keeper     | _____                        |
|   |                                     | Attest     | _____                        |
| 38.   |                                     | Keeper     | _____                        |
|   |                                     | Attest     | _____                        |
| 39.   |                                     | Keeper     | _____                        |
|   |                                     | Attest     | _____                        |
| 40.   |                                     | Keeper     | _____                        |
|   |                                     | Attest     | _____                        |



## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

EVALUATION / RETURN SHE

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceShelfstad, Gunarus and Ingerborg, House  
(Norwegian Settlement of Bosque County TR)  
Bosque County  
TEXASWorking No. JUN 9 1983Fed. Reg. Date: 2.7.84Date Due: 7/7/83 - 7/24/83Action: ☒ ACCEPT 7/22/83Entered in the ☐ RETURNNational Register ☐ REJECT

Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ resubmission  
☐ nomination by person or local government  
☐ owner objection  
☐ appeal

Substantive Review: ☐ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☐ NR decision

Reviewer's comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Recom./Criteria \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_

Discipline \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

☐ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: ☐ technical corrections cited below  
☐ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name2. Location3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property5. Location of Legal Description6. Representation in Existing SurveysHas this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no7. Description

Condition	Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- ☐ summary paragraph  
☐ completeness  
☐ clarity  
☐ alterations/integrity  
☐ dates  
☐ boundary selection



## **8. Significance**

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates \_\_\_\_\_

Builder/Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- \_\_\_\_\_ summary paragraph
- \_\_\_\_\_ completeness
- \_\_\_\_\_ clarity
- \_\_\_\_\_ applicable criteria
- \_\_\_\_\_ justification of areas checked
- \_\_\_\_\_ relating significance to the resource
- \_\_\_\_\_ context
- \_\_\_\_\_ relationship of integrity to significance
- \_\_\_\_\_ justification of exception
- \_\_\_\_\_ other

## **9. Major Bibliographical References**

## **10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

USGS References \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

## **11. Form Prepared By**

## **12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification**

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

\_\_\_\_\_ national \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature \_\_\_\_\_

title \_\_\_\_\_

date \_\_\_\_\_

## **13. Other**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Maps
- \_\_\_\_\_ Photographs
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: 202 272-3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet





The Norwegian Settlement of Bosque County

Site No. 7, Gunarus and Ingerborg Shefstad House,  
S.H. 6, just north of city limits of Clifton,  
Bosque County, Texas

Photograph: January 1983, by Ken Breisch

On file, Texas Historical Commission

View of front facade, looking north

Photo 16 of 72



Please refer to the map in the  
Multiple Property Cover Sheet  
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000849