

German
Pioneer
Homes
In
Texas
SlideShow
by

Helga von Schweinitz

Compendium Introduction

In 1999, Helga became interested in the history of German pioneers in central Texas. Helga researched and developed a slideshow presentation based on the homes of these German pioneers. Then Helga gave this presentation first at the German Free School in Austin to the German-Texan Heritage Society (GTHS). In 2000, Helga also gave this presentation several times in Germany, but some of when and where has been lost.

In early March 2000, she submitted the slideshow titled “German-Texan House in Central Texas” to the Restoration & Renovation Conference to be held 7-9 September in San Antonio Texas. The submission information has been included with this document. The Conference was cancelled, but the submission provides some interesting insight into how Helga would promote this slideshow.

From 11 - 17 June 2000, Helga and Hans went to Bremerhaven Germany to attend a Society of German American Studies (SGAS) convention in Bremerhaven about emigrating to USA. On 15 June 2000, Helga gave a presentation with a slide show.

From 5-21 May 2001, Helga and a Friend traveled to Europe. On 17 May 2001, Helga presented her “German Pioneer Houses in Texas” slideshow in Bremen at the Hotel Post to the German-American Club. Her diary entries and newspaper articles are included in this document.

In January 2002, Helga translated the newspaper article about her 17 May 2001 slideshow, and submitted this information as an article for the spring edition of the GTHS Journal.

From 18-29 March 2002, Helga traveled alone to Germany. She traveled to Cuxhaven to attend the dedication and Celebration of the opening of the Historic European Passenger Terminal exhibit in Cuxhaven Germany. As part of this Celebration, Helga gave a presentation on “German Pioneer Homes in Texas”.

In Helga’s research material about German Pioneer Houses there was a draft of an article about “German Immigrants to Texas”. A transcript of this draft is included. There does not seem any record of this article being submitted or published. When this draft was written is also unknown, but must have been after 2000.

In the final section of this document is an attempt to recreate her slideshow along with her notes. There never was just one version of this slideshow. Helga would adjust the slides and information based on her research and on the audience.



Helga in her Dirndl Dress

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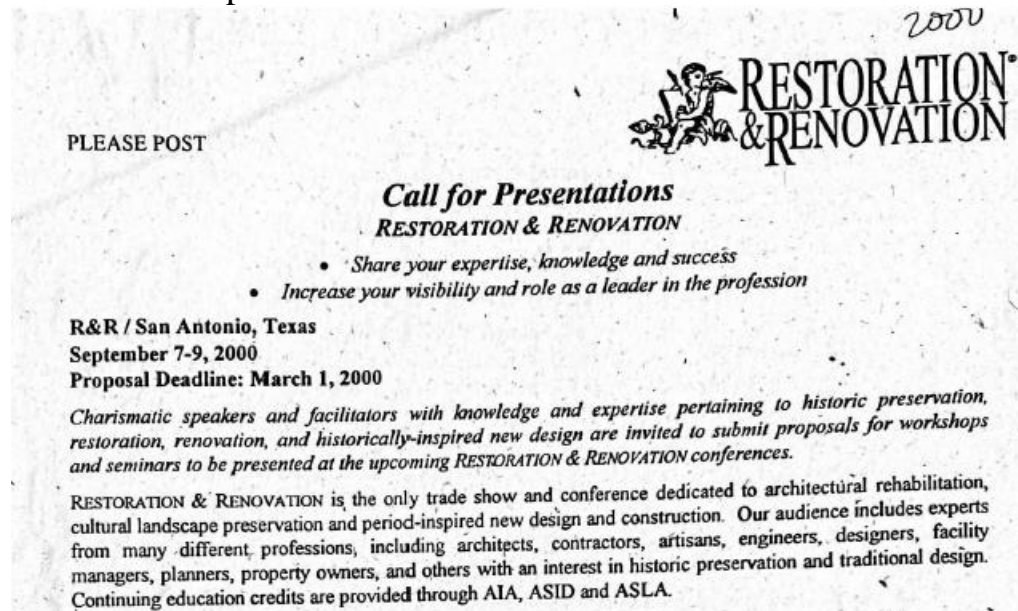
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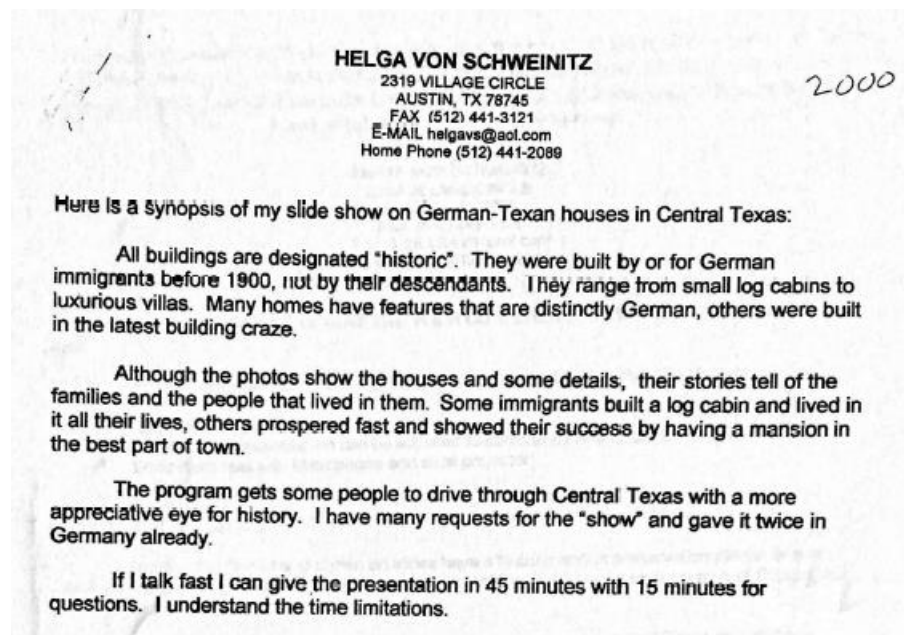
Presentations

2000 September 7-9 Presentation San Antonio

Early before March 2000 submission to Restoration & Renovation Convention to be held 7-9 September 2000.



And the outline or synopsis:



Helga's submission letter:

The following presentation can be made by me, the speaker, as an individual or in the name of the German-Texan Heritage Society. I learned about the conference from Sherryl Brown, GTHS Executive Director, Austin, TX , 512-482-0927. Please let me know what other information you need. zu

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PROPOSAL FOR A PRESENTATION AT THE R & R CONFERENCE IN SAN ANTONIO, SEP. 7-9, 2000

TITLE: Homes Built by German Speaking Immigrants in Central Texas in the 19th Century.

FORMAT: Slide presentation/Lecture
Length of the presentation can be adjusted to conference needs, but at least 20 min..
Equipment needed: Microphone and slide projector

PRESENTATION OUTLINE:

All homes mentioned and shown on slides have a historic and/or preservation plaque or are within a historic setting. The first owner was an immigrant from a German speaking area of Europe, not a descendent.

Range of homes from log cabins to mansions, both types found in rural Texas and in towns. Owners varied greatly in initial and later financial circumstances.

All homes have a history based on the people who lived in them., from the lonesome wife to the bachelor brothers to eight children in a one room cabin.

Homes built from the start to serve as stores, saloons, churches, craftshop etc.

Why did individual home builders choose that location? Sense of community, language, land grants, market for their skills, availability of water and education etc.

Are there elements in a "German" -Texan home that distinguishes it from others? Construction details in some homes reflect the background of the builder, some developed here in Texas. Special attention given to Fachwerk, variations in cinching, fear of "cold weather and snow" and special designs to accomodate the German-Texan lifestyle.

Concentrated areas of German-Texan homes and their particular characteristics. (incl. Comfort, San Antonio, Fredericksburg, Castroville, New Braunfels, Round Top, La Grange)

Homes in outlying areas. (incl. "Das Haus" near Shelby, Sauer-Beckmann Farm)

Present use of the homes (from the elegant home featured in magazines to b. & b. to museum and ruin).

Why are some homes well preserved and others are not? Should public funds be used to do something about it or should the "market" take care of it? What is worth preserving? (incl. slides of restoration work in process).

Helga also provided some Biographical Data

2000

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Biographical Data

Helga von Schweinitz grew up in Herford, Germany. After passing the "Abitur" in 1957 to enter college, she immigrated to the U S A . She graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of South Carolina and taught German and French in Grades K through Junior College.

Her special interests^{vs} has always been history and writing. She published in German and in English. Historical topics include *Hermann Ehrenberg - Fighting for Texas* (in True West Magazine), *Bettina - Communism's Failed Experiment on the Llano* (in Old West Magazine) and *Hermann Ehrenberg and Other Germans in Texas' War for Independence* (in Family Footsteps Magazine). She recently published a translation of a book by Lisa Kahn, *The Calf Who Fell in Love with a Wolf*.

Helga is on the board of directors of the German-Texan Heritage Society and has served many volunteer hours in the Society's Headquarters, the historic *German Free School* in Austin. Her work there includes helping researchers with documents and letters in old German script and establishing a German-Texana library.

Helga is married to Hans. They raised two children. Hans and

Helga lived in many countries and love to travel and to host foreign visitors

Learning about the lives of German immigrants to Texas lead to her photo collection of homes they built for their families.

2000 June 15 Presentation Bremerhaven

From 11-17 June 2000, Helga and Hans went to Bremerhaven Germany to attend a Society of German American Studies (SGAS) convention. On 15 June 2000, Helga gave a presentation about "Historic Houses in Texas Built by German Immigrants" with a slide show

Before attending the SGAS convention, Helga sent the following proposal for her presentation.

Low
Part
by
Curt

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Proposal for a paper to be presented at the SGAS convention 2000 in Bremerhaven/Bremen.

This presentation will be illustrated with slides. I can do the talking in English and/or German and don't mind doing it once in each language.

My topic will be: **Historic Houses in Texas Built by German Immigrants.**

All of the buildings I have in mind are now designated "historic", either by the State of Texas or by the National Registry. Many of them were originally built as homes, but there are also schools, a church or two, a dance hall e. a.. They reflect a mixture of needs that had to be filled and a wide variety of solutions to the many problems the immigrants had to deal with. The *German Free School* in Austin, for example, has mighty "rammed earth" walls, a precaution against Indian attacks. The *Sunday Houses* in Fredericksburg had an outside staircase to accommodate Papa and the courting sons when they came home late at night. There are some very "German" looking Fachwerkhäuser, there are the luxurious villas in San Antonio of well-to-do German merchants, there is Lindeheimer's little cottage and there are many others.

I plan to show two or three slides of each selected building pointing out the significance of the structure. I'll also give a short history of whom this building served. For some houses that would be the family that lived in it first, for others it is the community that erected it. All of the houses present something that is particular to the German immigrant.

Since there is so much material that can be included, I need to know the suggested length of the presentation.

Respectfully submitted by

Helga von Schweinitz

June 23, 1999

And Helga gave her presentation on 15 June 2000

The Society for German-American Studies
Twenty-Fourth Annual Symposium
Bremerhaven, Germany
11-17 June 2000



SGAS 24th ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM
June 11-17, 2000 in Bremerhaven, Germany

Meeting Co-Sponsors:
Carl Duisberg Gesellschaft
Deutsch-Amerikanischer Club Bremen
EXPO 2000 Programm Bremen und Bremerhaven
Deutsches Schiffahrtsmuseum, Bremerhaven
Förderverein Deutsches Auswanderermuseum, Bremerhaven
Goethe Institut
Germans from Russia Heritage Collection
North Dakota State University
Universitaet Bremen
Forschungsstelle Niedersaechsische Auswanderer in den USA
Universitaet Oldenburg
Institut fuer Migrationsforschung und Interkulturelle Studien
Universitaet Osnabrueck

Program Schedule:
Monday Morning Sessions:
German Immigration:
1. a. The German Language Diaspora, 1700-1933, *Dirk Hoerder*
b. Those Who Didn't Make It: German Immigrants in Britain During the 18th and 19th Centuries, *Panikos Panayi*
c. Advice to Prospective Immigrants: Two Communications to Germany from Pennsylvania, *Donald Durnbaugh*
d. Aus Hannover und Oldenburg (19. Jhd.) abgeschoben in die USA, *Antonius Holmann*
2. Bremerhaven and the German Immigration:
a. Bremen - Bremerhaven als Wanderungsraum, *Horst Rossler*
b. Auswanderungspunkt: Bremen 1834 - Immigrant Letters and Chain Migration, *David Prickett-Barnes*
c. From Bremen to America: Johann Georg Kohl, Chronicler of the American Contingent, *Margrit B. Krewson*
3. German-American Literature:
a. German-American Poetry, from 1848 to the Present, *Jacob E. Harth*
b. "... liess sich in den Buergerverein dieser Republik aufnehmen." - Der Emigrant Charles Sealsfield und sein suedstaetlicher Amerikanismus, *Alexander Ritter*
c. Wendepunkte im Leben und Werk von Alfred Gong: Perspektiven der Forschung, *Joachim Herrmann*

Monday Afternoon Sessions:
Schleswig-Holstein:
1. a. Andreas F. Hansen, New Holstein, Wisconsin - A Schleswig-Holsteinian Cosmopolitan in the Bush, *Joachim Rappmann*
b. Find Your Ancestors in Schleswig-Holstein: Sources and Resources, *Dieterich Eicke*
c. Die Messersfamilie in Schleswig-Holstein, *Jochen Meggers*
2. The German Language in America:
a. Plattdeutsch und Plautditsch in Kansas and Missouri in the Year 2000: A Last Hurrah, or a New Beginning, *William Keel*
b. German as Spoken in America: East Franconian in Haysville, Indiana, *Daniel Nuetzel*
c. From the Civil War to the 21st Century:
a. Der amerikanische Buergerkrieg in Deutschland, *Martin Kuehn*
b. German Immigrant Influences on American Anarchism: The Case of Johann Most, *Charles Johnson*
c. Deutsch-Amerikanische Beziehungen im Rahmen der 800-Jahrfeier von Dresden, *Gert Buerge*

Tuesday: Lectures by Staff at Cloppenburg
Wednesday Morning Sessions:
Pennsylvania:
1. a. The Pennsylvania German Farm: Photography of H. Winslo Fegley Reconsidered, *Susan Schuerer*
b. Pennsylvaniadeutsch: Ein Ueberblick, *Michael Werner*
c. Besuch und beduerftig gefunden: Auswandererarmut und karitative Taetigkeit, *Manfred Zimmermann*

The Ohio Valley:
2. a. German and/or American: The Question of the Hyphen in Indiana, *Giles Hoyt*
b. Mit Lessing in die USA und zueck: Anmerkungen zur Entstehung und Wirkung einer Ausstellung ueber deutsch-amerikanische Aufklaerungskultur, *Dieter Fritzsche*
c. Dem wo deutsche Herzen schlugen, ist das deutsche Vaterland: eine Spurensuche an des Ohios Strand, *Birka Swetz*

The Forty-Eighters:
3. a. Baron Ludwig von Reitzenstein, the Gay Forty-Eighter? Emigration and Deviance in German New Orleans in the Mid-19th Century, *Steven Rowan*
b. August Willich: Lincoln's International Brigadier, and the German Tradition, *Wolfgang Hochbruck*
c. Die Turnfahrt uebera Meer: Die Rezeption der amerikanischen Turner des deutschen Turnfestes in Frankfurt 1880, *Annette Hoffmann*

Wednesday Afternoon Sessions:
1. Sources:
a. A Strong Mind in a Strong Body: Libraries in the German-American Turner Movement, *Dolores Hoyt*
b. The Historie Emigration Office in Hamburg, *Elizabeth Stroka*
c. Luxemburger in der Neuen Welt, *Jean Claude Muller*
d. Passagierlisten und Oldenburgs NAUSA: Ueber unzuellaengliche Editionen und hilfreiche Dienstleistungen und Ansprache an Datenbanken, *Antonius Holmann*

Thursday Morning Sessions:
1. Cincinnati:
a. Sklaverei und Afroamerikaner im Spiegel der deutschen Presse von Cincinnati, *Alexander Richter*
b. Cincinnati's Consults to Germany and German-American Realities, *Richard Schade*
c. PowerPoint Pedagogy: German-American Projects in High School in Cincinnati, *Heike Schade*
2. Plattdeutsch - Geschichte und Verbreitung im Ueberblick (mit Dias und Tonbeispielen), *Frank Moeller*
a. Platt zwischen gestern und morgen. Zu Stand und Entwicklungsmoeglichkeiten einer Sprache, *Ulf-Thomas Laster*
b. Weggelien oder bleiben? Die Auswanderung nach Amerika im Spiegel niederdeutscher Literatur, *Claus Schuppenhauer*
3. The Immigration Process:
a. The Norddeutsche Lloyd and the Company's Image as Presented in its Films, *Diethelm Kranf*
b. Auswanderungsvereine, Auswanderungsverkehr und Auswandererfuehrung, *Harmut Bickelmann*
c. Amerika und die Amerikauswanderung in der Oldenburger Presse des 19. Jahrhunderts, *Bernad Jergens*
4. Texas:
a. Commercial Relationships Between Galveston and Bremen/Bremerhaven in the 19th Century, *Von-Mazewski*
b. Historic Houses in Texas Built by German Immigrants, *Helga von Schweinitz*

Friday Morning Sessions:
1. North German Studies Task Force - Moderator: *William Henry Roka*
2. German-American Exchange Programs - Moderator: *Volker Schweitzer*
3. Texas and the Southwest:
a. Joseph Ochs - ein Jesuit im Sudwesten der heutigen USA: anthropologische und literarhistorische Studien, *Albrecht Claasen*
b. Menel to Round Top in Five Months, *Dale von Raxenberg*
c. German-American Identity and the 21st Century: The Example of New Braunfels, Texas, *Timothy Hollan*

Friday Afternoon Sessions:
1. German-American Poetry Reading - Moderator: *Volker Schweitzer*
a. The Germans Came Flying Like Snowflakes, *Norbert Kranf*
b. Poems on the Immigrant Experience by: *Ingeborg Carsten Miller, Christiane Seiler, Edith Borchardt, Lisa Kahn, Dolores Whelan, and Horst Ludwig*
2. Bremerhaven and Immigration - Personal Accounts:
a. Von Bremerhaven nach Amerika, 1948-1999, *Ernestine Dillon*
b. Von Bremerhaven nach Bremerhaven: 45 Jahre in der Neuen Welt, *Ernst Schuerer*
c. Emigration via Bremerhaven: A Personal Account, *Dieter Sevin*
d. Junge Vertriebene Familie wandert aus, *Edgar Grunwald*
3. Concluding Session - Moderator: *Don Heinrich Tolmann*

2001 May 17 Presentation Bremen

From 5-21 May 2001, Helga and a Friend traveled to Europe. On 17 May 2001, Helga presented her "German Pioneer Houses in Texas" slideshow in Bremen at the Hotel Post to the German-American Club.

The day of her presentation there was a small notification in the local newspaper stating that the event was being held in the Best Western Hotel at 7pm (19 Uhr).

Verbände und Vereine

Deutsch-Amerikanischer Club Bremen: „Deutsche Pionier-Häuser in Texas“, Vortrag in Deutsch und Englisch und „Forward to the Past“, Buchvorstellung Pearl Bethune, ab 19 Uhr, Best Western Hotel zur Post, Bahnhofsplatz 11.

Pro Familia Bremen: „Sterilisation – Du oder ich?“, Informationsabend, 20 Uhr, Hollerallee 24.

*Weser-Kurier
17. Mai 2001
Seite 12*

During the day of 17th, Helga was interviewed over the phone by Frau Erika Thies from the Weser-Kurier Bremen.

Despite the short notice, Helga noted in her travel diary that there was a good turnout.

Thursday, 17 May 01

Late breakfast, then Pearl went back to bed while Hella and I walked through the most beautiful Rhododendron and Azalea park in full bloom.

Late lunch at home (Schweinefilet in sauce of cream cheese and wine). Then ~~to~~ I and Pearl rested and prepared for our evening "performance".

A Fran Thieß of the Bremer or Weser Kurier interviewed me by phone for half an hour.

At 6 p.m. to Hotel Post to meet the German-American Club, first for a drink in the bar (blanc Stenole). During that time a reporter + photographer of die Welt newspaper interviewed and shot me. Then the slide presentation in the "Bremerhaven" room, while the members ate supper. Gerd Labrenz took care of the slides. No mishaps. Seems like my talk went over very well!!! Very friendly comments afterwards. As usual, Germans were surprised that Texas had so many German settlers. Just over 1 hour talk. Good feeling. Pearl introduced her books Hella Pearl and I then went into a bar for a glass of champagne, then somewhere else (Liftfaß) for Camembert, then to Engel Café for coffee. To bed at midnight. I am very worried about Horns.

The next day, 18th, a reporter for the Die Welt - Bremen and Weser-Kurier interviewed Helga and photographer took her photo.

At 3 p.m. Helga went with Pearl through the Schnoor while I met with Dr. Wolfgang Gromms in the Ratskeller. A photographer from the Weser Kurier also came by and shot me a few times. Dr Gromms is as cheerful and competent as I remember him from last year in Bremerhaven. We talked about possible heritage tours by GTHS members to Bremen etc. He has developed a array of different tours. Very flexible, great possibilities.

2001 May 21 Article Bremen

Die Welt – Bremen Montag, 21 Mai 2001 pg 56

Pioniere der USA

Vom Golf von Mexiko nach Bremen: Zum jüngsten Treffen des Deutsch-Amerikanischen Clubs kam **Helga von Schweinitz** (1957 via Cuxhaven ausgewandert) mit ihrer Freundin **Pearl Bethune** angefliegen. Auf Einladung von **Heidi Podlasli-Labrenz** erzählte sie von der Liebe der Nachfahren zu den Häusern der Vorfahren. Unterschiedlichste Pionierhäuser – die



FOTO: BECKEFELDT

Lebt in den USA und interessiert sich für deutsche Schicksale: Helga von Schweinitz

älteste Bäckerei Texas' oder die „erste Brause westlich des Mississippi“ – begeisterten auch **Uwe Siefert** (AfB) und **Frank Bauchwitz** (Hotel zur Post).

2001 May 27 Article Bremen

Article in Weser-Kurier Sonntagsausgabe, Bremen, Sonntag 27 May 2001

This article was later translated and submitted to the GTHS Journal

SONNTAGSAUSGABE VON WESER-KURIER

Bremen, Sonntag, 27. Mai 2001

Sie liebt die deutschen Pionier-Häuser von Texas

Helga von Schweinitz aus Austin sprach in Bremen über eines ihrer historischen Spezialgebiete

von unserer Redakteurin
Ulrike Thies

Einen Grund, möglichst einmal im Jahr ins USA nach Deutschland zu reisen, findet Helga von Schweinitz immer. Dieser sei es der Vortrag, den sie in Bremen hält. Der Deutsch-Amerikanische Club Bremen lud sie dazu ein, nachdem ihr Referat zu diesem Thema bei einem Symposium an der Hochschule Bremen einen so großen Anklang gefunden hatte. Sie wohnt hier wie bei Hella Grashoff, der Freundin schon seit der gemeinsamen Schulzeit an der Köhl-Mahlde-Schule in Herford.

Ihr Deutsch klingt auch ein klein bisschen amerikanisch. Schon seit 1957 lebt sie in Deutschland. Dabel war ursprünglich nur ein kurzer Aufenthalt geplant. „Mehr aus Abenteuerlust“, reiste die junge Pädagogikstudentin Helga Pöyner während der Semesterferien in die USA. Fast gleichzeitig mit ihr kreuzte ein junger Mann den Atlantik. Seine Familie stammte aus Schlesien, er selbst hatte sich als Pflichtkind im Westen nie so recht zu Hause gefühlt. In Milwaukee lernten sich die beiden kennen, und noch lange nach ihrer Heirat planten Hans und Helga von Schweinitz eigentlich eine Rückkehr nach Deutschland, die dann aber doch unterblieb. Inzwischen haben sie außer Sohn und Tochter längst auch Schwiegerkinder und drei Enkel: Mathew, Elena und Michael.

Begegnung in der Hansestadt

Ihr Wohnort ist Austin, die Hauptstadt von Texas, und Helga von Schweinitz erzählt: „Nicht nur im einstigen „King-William-District“ und jetzigen „King-William-District“ von Austin gibt es noch ziemlich viele deutsche Pionier-Häuser aus dem 19. Jahrhundert. Auch in New-Brandenburg oder Fredericks (früher Friedrichsburg) sind welche erhalten geblieben. Eine Plakette weist sie alle als denkmalgeschützt aus. Manchmal sind es nur schlichte Blockbauten, oft aber auch prächtige Villen, je nachdem, wie weit sich die Erbauer hocharbeiteten konnten.“

Diese Erbauer waren zumeist deutsche Migranten mit häufig eher untypischen Einwanderer-Berufen wie Bankier, Pfarrer, Arzt. Noch vor der großen Emigrationswelle nach der bürgerlichen Revolution von 1848 hatten sie ihr Heimatland verlassen, weil dort aus Armut auf viel mehr wegen der geistigen Enge oder auf Grund von politischer Verfolgung.

Fortschrittlich gesinnte junge Adlige des 19. Jahrhunderts, die in die USA emigrierten, um sich in die dortige deutsche Einwanderer in Texas zu integrieren, ab 1844 Tausenden die Überfahrt. Fast alle diese Auswanderer nahmen damals den Weg über Bremen und Bremerhaven. Texas hatte sich 1836 nach einem Freiheitskampf von Mexiko gelöst, war aber zu arm, um als unabhängige Republik existieren zu können und schloss sich 1845 den USA an.

In einem relativ kleinen Gebiet von Texas stehen noch mindestens 200 solcher deutschen Pionierhäuser, berichtet Helga von Schweinitz, und man sei in der Gegend auf deutsche Vorfahren ziemlich stolz. Im Gegensatz zu den meist puritanisch eng geprägten angelsächsischen Einwanderern hätten die Deutschen als „freethinkers“ nämlich kulturell sehr anregend gewirkt, allein schon dadurch, dass sie am Sonntag, statt ihn streng zu heiligen, lieber musizierten. Sinfonieorchester und Oper in San Antonio haben deutsche Mitbegründer. Die alte deutsche Schrift lernte Helga von Schweinitz nicht etwa schon in Herford, sondern erst als Lehrerin in Austin – von ihren eigenen Schülern. Die hatten sich diese deutsche Schrift aus reinem Interesse selbst beigebracht.

Sie war nicht nur Lehrerin, sondern arbeitete auch im Kindergarten und an der Universität, und mehrfach publizierte sie Beiträge über historische Themen, denn: „Schon als Kind hatte ich großes Interesse an Geschichte.“ Längst ist sie deshalb auch im Vorstand der „German-Texan Heritage Society“ mit Hauptsitz in Austin. Da gilt sie als Spezialistin für alte Dokumente in deutscher Sprache. Leute mit Vorfahren, die manchmal schon vor sechs, sieben Generationen emigrierten, legen vertrauensvoll deren für sie verständliche Briefe, Tagebücher, Kochrezepte in ihre Hände – und jeder denkt, ich weiß alles.



Kommt möglichst jedes Jahr mal nach Deutschland: Helga von Schweinitz. Foto: Jochen Stoss



Helga in pink dress, and Dr Wolfgang Grams

January 2002: Bremen article translated

On 19 January 2002, Helga translated the 27 May 2001 article and submitted it to the GTHS Journal for publication. The original article and the translation was in the Journal Vol XXIV #1 Spring 2002.

Dear Terry,

Here is my translation of a newspaper article which is one of five that appeared about me during the last two years in different German papers. Several of our members and the GTHS office were sent copies of this article from friends, relatives, a local hairdresser and others. I am sending you the original article as well.

If you don't think the translation (with or without the German text) should be published in the Journal, I won't hold that against you. I am submitting it only because several GTHS members asked me to. If nothing else, it shows that there exists an active, ongoing interaction between Germany and Texas.

I am sorry about the journalist placing the King William District in Austin and other mis-quotes. It could have been worse, she could have moved it to Crawford or Shelby.

Helga

Jan. 19, 2002

Translation of an article published in the “Weser-Kurier” in Bremen, Germany, on 5-27-01

(There are some historic inaccuracies in the article for which Helga v S is not to blame)

She Loves the German Pioneer Houses of Texas

Helga von Schweinitz from Austin spoke in Bremen about one of her special interests in history

By our editor Erika Thies

Helga von Schweinitz will always find a reason to travel from the USA to Germany once a year if at all possible. This time it was the slide presentation she gave in Bremen about “German Pioneer Houses in Texas”. The German-American Club in Bremen had invited her after her paper on that subject given at the University of Bremerhaven had been so well received. She is staying here again with Hella Grashoff, a friend from their school years at the Konigin Mathilde Schule in Herford.

Her German sounds just a little American. She has lived in the US since 1957. Originally a shorter stay was planned. The young student in a college of education, Helga Pörtner, traveled to the United States between semesters “more in search of adventure”. At the same time a young man crossed the Atlantic. His family came from Silesia. As a refugee child he had never really felt quite at home in West Germany. They met in Milwaukee. Long after they got married, Hans and Helga von Schweinitz considered a return to Germany, but it never came to that. Now they have not only a son and a daughter, but also a daughter-in-law and three grandchildren: Matthew, Elena and Michael.

They live in Austin, the capital of Texas. Helga von Schweinitz reports: Not only in Austin (sic), in the former “Kaiser Wilhelm Bezirk” and now the “King William District” does one find rather a lot of German pioneer houses of the 19th century. There are also some in New Braunfels and Fredericksburg (the former Friedrichsburg). A plaque indicates that they are under historic preservation. Some of them are only simple log cabins, but many are magnificent mansions, depending on how high the owners managed to thrive. Many of these home builders were Germans with professions not typical for immigrants: bankers, pastors, physicians. They had left their homeland even before the big wave of emigration after the citizens’ revolution of 1848, not so much due to poverty but due to the restrictions on intellectual freedom, and to avoid political persecution.

Beginning in 1844, progressive young noblemen of the “Society of Noblemen for the Protection of German Immigrants in Texas” headquartered in Biebrich, made the trip possible for thousands. Almost all of these emigrants then took the route through Bremen and Bremerhaven. In 1836 Texas had separated from Mexico after a war of independence, but it was too poor to remain an independent republic, and it joined the USA in 1845. There are at least 200 of such German pioneer houses in a relatively small area of Texas, reports Helga von Schweinitz, and people are rather proud of their German ancestry. In contrast to the mostly puritanic' Anglo-Saxon immigrants, the Germans, as “free thinkers”, had a great influence on cultural life, and not only because they preferred to make music on Sundays instead of celebrating it strictly as a holy day. The Symphony Orchestra and Opera in San Antonio have German co-founders.

Helga von Schweinitz learned the old German script not in Herford, but as a teacher in Austin - from her own students. They had taught themselves that script out of pure interest. She is not only a teacher, but she also worked in kindergartens and at the university, and she published several articles on historic subjects, because: “Even as a child I was very interested in history.” Therefore, she has been a long-standing board member of the German-Texan Heritage Society, headquartered in Austin. She is known there as a specialist for old documents in German. People with ancestors who immigrated six or seven generations ago, trustingly put letters, diaries and recipes that they don't understand into her hands - “and they all think I know everything”.

(Helga von Schweinitz is offering to give the above-mentioned slide presentation and talk on pioneer homes in Central Texas to any group free of charge, however, if an overnight stay is involved, she would like a free bed and breakfast). On March 21, 2002, she'll give the presentation in Cuxhaven, Germany, as part of a celebration of emigration to North America through the port of Cuxhaven.



2002 March 18-29 Trip to Cuxhaven

From 18-29 March 2002, Helga traveled alone to Germany. She traveled to Cuxhaven to attend the dedication and Celebration of the opening of the Historic European Passenger Terminal exhibit in Cuxhaven Germany. As part of this Celebration, Helga gave a presentation on “German Pioneer Homes in Texas”. In the Hagan Halle [Emigration Hall] she had a booth which described her experience as an emigrant leaving from that Hall. She also received a recognition award (scarf) from the Mayor of Cuxhaven.

As was her normal habit, Helga kept a travel diary. These are excerpts from that diary that concern her presentation in Cuxhaven.

20 March 2002, Wednesday

Train from Neustadt am Rübenberge to Cuxhaven. Bought a Bahn Card €70 for seniors. Beamte said I was giving him a photo from my Confirmation [Helga had her Confirmation as a teenager], but he took it anyhow. Transfer in Bremen and then Bremerhaven-Lehe station. Got off the train by mistake one stop before Cuxhaven. Waited for an hour for the next train.

Taxi from Cuxhaven station to Hotel Seepavillon Donner €5,50. Fine place. Room 113, nice view on the sea especially arranged by Horst Koperschmid, who came around 5pm so I could put my slides in trays. Then he picked me up at 7:30pm for my slide show on German Pioneer Houses in Texas, in the Stadtbibliothek [City Library]. About 20 very attentive people came. The newspaper had only mentioned it within another article. But it was nice for me anyhow.

Afterwards Horst Koperschmid, Torsten Haas and Walter with wife, and I went into the “Kleine Kneipe” for a beer and lots of regulars: gemütlich.

Article Draft "German Immigrants to Texas"

Written after 2000. Remember this is a draft, and has been entered here as written by Helga.

*There is nothing more suitable to represent
the contributions made by German settlers to what
Texas is now: This old Free School
You'll see why*

*German immigrants to Texas, then Mexico,
in the 1820s and 1830s. Kleberg (King Ranch)
Germantown in Houston's Buffalo Bayou,
Cat Spring, Industry.*

*Some fought in 1835 and 1836 for Texas'
independence. They were joined by
volunteers from New Orleans including Germans.*

There is nothing more suitable to represent the contributions made by the German settlers to what Texas is now: This old Free School [German Free School in Austin Texas]. You'll see why.

German immigrants to Texas, then Mexico in the 1820s and 1830s. Kleberg (King Ranch), Germantown in Houston's Buffalo Bayou, Cat Springs, Industry. Some fought in 1835 and 1836 for Texas' independence. They were joined by volunteers from New Orleans including Germans.

I call them Germans based on language: Nassau, Hessians, Oldenburgers, Prussians until 1871.

Central Europe was troubled by revolutions, worsening living conditions in urban areas, overpopulations, political oppression and over regulation on everyday life.

Travelling agents, letters and travel literature described Texas as the paradise of North America, where land was cheap, everybody would hunt, your religion was your own affair, at least after 1836 (before then they had to become Catholic). You had to work only three months a year to be a successful farmer.

In 1847, 20 noblemen met in Beirich near Mainz and founded the Society for the Protection of German Immigrants to Texas and promoted settling in Texas in a big style. They promised thousands of families transport, land, homes, farming provisions, mills and schools.

Applicants had to have an education, many of them skilled craftsmen, or university graduates of many faculties.

A harbor was built in 1844 on Matagorda Bay to relieve [relieve] Galveston. It was named Carlshafen – later destroyed by hurricane, now Indianola. [Karlshafen - later called Indianol – it destroyed by hurricane in 1875.]

Landed by the thousands (7400), mostly families, - no transportation, no place to go until land was bought, which is now New Braunfels.

This paradise called Texas offered hunger, cholera, malaria, dysentery, drought, floods, hostile Indians, poisonous snakes and intolerable heat.

German immigrating to other parts of the US settled in already [in] settled areas, but in Texas they were real pioneers, because they had to go to uncharted land, founding their own communities. New Braunfels was followed by Fredericksburg, then Comfort, Boerne, Sisterdale. Forty well educated men found a communist settlement on the Llano River. They called it Bettina and they wanted to show the world how to live in harmony without having a person in charge, everybody was equal, so everybody avoided doing more than anybody else.

After one year their provisions were used up, their whiskey barrel was empty, they dissolved Bettina, and the men became very useful members of other German settlements or moved to Austin and especially San Antonio, which quickly became heavily influenced by the German to the degree that for years street signs were in English and German.

After the first year of hunger and diseases and many deaths Baron von Meusebach took charge of the Society and tried to eliminate one of the constant threats and dangers: hostile Indians. Around Fredericksburg was Comanches – treat – kept.

Bldg [Building] their house, they quickly adjusted to environment, but Fachw [Fachwerk]. After the influx of these thousands of immigrants under the Society of Noblemen, a steady trickle of more and more people came into Texas, buying

land moving away from the coast in a few decades. Many farmed – cotton, tobacco. Others moved into towns and became just as successful. King Wm [William] Street in San Antonio features beautiful villas built by first generation immigrants like Joschke, Stevens, Kalteyer, Günther's flower [flour] mill.

Of course, there were people who started with a log cabin, and 8 childre later, they still lived in that log cabin.

Besides the material world, other factors played a big roll in the pioneers and settlers life: the education of their children and the cultural life of the community.

Favored compulsory free education for boys and girls and started school in all areas. The German Free Schools in San Antonio were very popular with non-German families as well. Cultural society called casino clubs were founded to promote theater and literature, orchestras were founded and above all: Singing Societies (Saengerrunde, Liederkranz).

These get togethers kept the G [German] language alive and fostered marriages among [among] German young people. German newspapers, German insurance companies, Biergartens did not mean that people resented living in Amerika.

Letters sent home to family and newspapers testify that while the German cultural heritage was appreciated and fused to enrich the cultural life in their new country, most lost touch with political events in Germany, although some expressed a puzzling loyalty to the Kaiser in WWI.

Studying Texas history and the carpet woven of threads from so many ethnic groups one come across some important name:

Dr Ferdinand Roemer, Father of Texas Geology
Dr Lindheimer, Father of Texas Botany
Dr Herff, Founder of Santa Rosa Hospital
Painters Richard Petri and Hermann Lungkwitz.

Slide Show: Introduction

This is an attempt to recreate Helga's presentation and slide show about "German Pioneer Homes in Texas". Helga would give the slide show in English and German. Slide captions are provided in both languages if they could be found in her notes. Over the years, Helga re-identified some slides and used some slides in other presentations. Some slides might be missing, or mis-identified. So, no effort has been made to make the information in this document be perfect. The information is just a collection of Helga's notes and slides with a good faith effort to match them.

Helga's presentations and slide show would have various titles, such as:

German-Texan House in Central Texas"

Homes Built by German Speaking Immigrants in Central Texas in the 19th Century.

Historic Houses in Texas Built by German Immigrants

German Pioneer Houses in Texas

German Immigrants to Texas

Historische Wohnhäuser in Zentral Texas, die von deutschen Einwanderern gebaut worden.

Introduction written in 2000 for the Society of German American Studies (SGAS) symposium in Bremerhaven from 11-17 June 2000. Helga and Hans went to Bremerhaven Germany and Helga gave her presentation on 14 June. This Symposium was in German and American, and this is Helga's draft version of her introduction:

Historic Houses in Central Texas Built by German Immigrants

When I submitted this topic for a paper at this Symposium, I had no idea of what I was getting into, just like the immigrants who felt drawn to Texas. I did not know that there are so many houses with historic markers built by German immigrants; and so many of their owners contacted me to make sure I did not ignore their house. I had to zero in on homes, not just any building, and I restricted my radius for photographing to day trip distance from Austin. The time frame is from the 1840s to 1900. Even then I had to reduce two hours worth of material to 20 minutes.

While some Germans came to Texas when it was still part of Mexico, their number increased after Texas had become a Republic in 1836. A virtual invasion occurred when more than so-called Germans from different principalities, kingdoms and dukedoms etc. landed in Galveston or Indianola under the sponsorship of the "Society for the Protection of German Immigrants in Texas" (aka "Adelsverein") between 1844 and 1847. Thousands came on their own volition in the following decades. Texas joined the United States in 1845, so from then on immigrants came "to America" and most of them considered themselves "Amerikaner" right away.

Yet, Texas was Texas, so different from Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Missouri. The flat land within a certain distance from the Gulf Coast was explored and settled with centuries old Mexican trade routes and a mix of Anglo-American and Mexican settlements. Many German immigrants, settled in this region and assimilated very quickly. But when the Adelsverein planned to settle thousands of hopefuls, the Fisher and Miller land grant was purchased, an area that was located far from the coast smack in the middle of Indian territory in the Texas Hill Country. That dilemma led to the founding of New Braunfels (1845) and Fredericksburg (1846) as way stations, and later to several settlements in which Germans clustered together along the western frontier, very exposed to Indian attacks in spite of a peace treaty.

Another introduction from Helga's notes: Most photos taken in Winter of 2000 when most trees do not have leaves and the buildings stand out better. All buildings are designated "historic". They were built by or for German immigrants before 1900, not by their descendants. They range from small log cabins to luxurious villas. Many homes have features that are distinctly German, other are built in the latest building craze.

Although the photos show the houses and some details, their stories tell of the families and the people that lived in them. Some immigrants built a log cabin and lived in it all their lives, others prospered fast and showed their success by having a mansion in the best part of town.

I have given this presentation multiple times to various audiences. This article contains mostly just the pictures related to the pioneer homes. In the various presentation I also provided pictures appropriate to the audience. For the presentations in Germany, I included pictures depicting the Texas countryside and maps so that the audience could understand the environment that these pioneers had to deal with. For presentations with a local audience, I included pictures with more details inside the homes. Many of these extra pictures are not present in this article. My collections contain over 300 slides to choose from. Too many for this article.

My hope is that the reader will be motivated to drive through Central Texas with a more appreciative eye for history, whether it is the countryside or the details.

And in German:

Leitfaden meines Vortrages sind die Wohnhäuser, die sich Einwanderer auf deutschsprachigen Gebieten in Texas ... Alle vor 1900 gebaut, erste Generation. Manche Siedler bauten Haus, bestellten Land, dann kam trockenes Jahr, oder Indianer. Einmal von 5 Familien wurden umgebracht.



34N Texas flag and topography maps. Flachland (Erschlossen) und Hügelland (Indianerland Comancheria)

Notes about introducing the Slide show.

Area involved: Central and South Texas

Houses mentioned (shown) – historic and built by immigrants from German speaking Europeans, not their descendants.

Range from one room cottage (Kahn) to mansion (Steves)

Most built in “new” territory (example: San Antonio: a new suburb) where “creeks” etc, could be named after settlers. Sometimes Indian names were taken over.

Since many “German” settled in groups, I’ll present their homes going from one settlement to another, pointing out and mentioning particulars of architecture and something about their first owners.

And reminders of where they came from and to accommodate “German” lifestyle. “Germans” settled in Texas while it was still Mexico.

Terms used in presentations

Dog Trot = Durchgang, especially in 1880's.

Fachwerk in Texas: cedar beams, the cedar shingles on top and outside, the adobe brick (unfired and must not get wet) put inside on wall, then plastered over.

Handwerker (craftsman or tradesman) were allowed to bring an extra trunk with tools. Others were only allowed one trunk per family.

Native limestone = stein

Pressed Tin = Blech = nailed on, could be ordered from Sears or from Stein

Lumber Company in Fredericksburg. Tin roofs in 1880+, Tin walls came later.

Rammed Earth: French engineer in San Antonio used that technique there. Also in Sequin a concrete company was founded, used similar technique. Outer back wall on German Free School is made using this Rammed Earth technique.

Elsässern, Elsaß: German and/or French speaking people from the

Elsas/Lorraine/Alsatian/Alsace region between Germany and France, near Switzerland.

CASTROVILLE

Castroville: Note: Castroville was founded by Henry Castro west of San Antonio in 1844 by German and/or French speaking people for the Elsas/Lorrain/Alsatian region. Everybody got a town lot and 40 acres. Henry Castro was Consul General of Republic of Texas to France.

Castroville is another little town settled in 1844 by German and/or French speaking people from the Elsass/Lorrain under Henry Castro.

Castroville, 1844, Gruppe aus dem Elsaß, "French settlement". 40 acres und Stadtgrundstück.

Castroville – Tondre Haus – Sears Catalog. 1844 also noc Rep von Henry Castro, Elsaß, damals Frankreich. Jeder Siedler – grundstück in Stadt plus 40 acres ~ 18 Hektar.

Bippert-Kueck House and Complex



03L Castroville Bippert-Kueck House, Oldenburg Langes (long) House.

03L Castroville Bippert-Kueck House, Oldenburg Langes (long) House.

Langhaus Bippert 1847 – gleich aus Stein. Buch geschriben übers Haus mit Spekulation: Bauweise beeinflusst von Herkunft.



02L Castroville Bippert-Kueck House, Oldenburg Langes (long) House.



18M Castroville Bippert-Kueck House Example of Oldenburg Langes (long) House. Bippert built a picket structure in 1847 with one room 7 1/2 ft wide and 21 ft long home with a dirt floor. Roof was first thatched and later shingles. Heinrich Kueck from Aurich,

bought the original home built by Jacob Bippert. Kueck added 2 rooms with fireplaces, using limestone and plaster, to create this "long house". An entire book length manuscript was written on this little house by James Stanley Walker. Walker sees in the shape of the house and in an arch doorway it once had, a resemblance to a fortress built in Aurich in 1448 which Kueck must have been familiar with. This shows, according to Walker, that not only construction methods like Fachwerk were brought along from the home towns but also certain shapes and vision of what a house should look like.

18M Castroville Bippert-Kueck House. Heinrich Kück aus Aurich war einer der

soganament Franzosen. Baute "long house". Hatte einst Bogen – Eingang. Prof Stanley Walker Schrieb ein ganzes Buch: Kück hatte Bogen – Iche von Burg in Aurich 1448. Nicht nur Technik des Bauens, sonder auch Vorstellungen.



19m Castroville Bippert-Kueck House, Oldenburg Langes (long) House.



19M or 37G or 38G Castroville Bippert-Kueck House Over time other homes were attached creating a complex. With the additions in

appropriate style these old houses are now quite large and livable and lovely.
19m Castroville Bippert-Kueck House.
Mehrere Hauser aus mehreren Fruhen Perioden bilden reizende modern Wohnhauser.

Pingenot Cabin



02k: Castroville Pingenot cabin.



03k Castroville Pingenot cabin back view with cabin and house



04k Castroville Peter Pingenot House. Cabin interior wall



04L Castroville Peter Pingenot House. Cabin front view

04L Castroville Peter Pingenot House
Pingenot Cabin – 20m langer Balken.
Erster Bankerr war aus den Alpen –
steiles Dach für Schneefälle. Auch
Fachwerk, Blockhütte, Keller.



05k Castroville Peter Pingenot House . Cabin inside fire place for cooking.



05L Castroville Peter Pingenot House. Log cabin added to house for more space. Cabin over cellar.

05L Castroville Peter Pingenot House.
Viele erlagen den Gefahren oder gingen zurück.



06k Castroville Peter Pingenot House.
Cabin detail with unique joint. Details of beams.



06L Castroville Peter Pingenot House.
Built in 1845. Now with other houses attached. Pingenot combined the old cabin, with a cellar underneath, and an old Fachwerk section and the long house to create an entire complex. The long house has one single 60 foot oak beam from fireplace to fireplace and the steepest roof in town because the first owner from Southern Germany wanted to make sure the snow would slide off.



07k Castroville Peter Pingenot House.
Cabin inside with Great example of combining the old house with modern comfort and creating beauty. Stone floor against termites. Eight children lived here.

07k Castroville Peter Pingenot House
The inside shows off all the old features, even the stone floor is authentic since former owners avoided wood floors in fear of termites. The first floor had been just dirt. If you want to start restoring your ancestor's home, go to Castroville for good advice and ideas. Another great example of combining the old house with modern comfort and creating beauty.

07k Castroville Peter Pingenot House.
Steinboden ... in Zeitschriften (Modernes Wohnen).



07L Castroville Peter Pingenot House.
front view



09L Castroville Pingenot cabin inside with timbers "Fachwerk"



20m Castroville Peter Pingenot House. Cabin and house back view, with other house attached. A different kind of reputation is being enjoyed by the owners of the Pingenot cabin and house. Their home is features in many magazines for being restored in such a great way. They combined the old cabin with a cellar underneath and an old Fachwerk section and the house to an entire complex. The long house has one single 60 foot oak beam from fireplace to fireplace and the steepest roof in town because the first owner from Southern Germany wanted to make sure the snow would slide off.



21m Castroville Peter Pingenot House Cabin and house connected with Fachwerk hall



22m Castroville Peter Pingenot House Front door and roof

The Old Standby-Frederick Huechling



08k Castroville "The Old Standby", London/Fiorella, 1857, Frederick Huechling "Green Front Saloon" across the street from the courthouse. Built with stucco on stone by Frederick

Huechling with his family's living quarters upstairs and saloon downstairs. The "GreenFront Saloon" gained a notorious reputation and hosted at least two shoot outs. Prohibition closed the saloon.

08k Castroville "The Old Standby. Every respectable town has to have a saloon. In Castroville is the saloon, the "Old Standby", was across the street from the courthouse. Built in stone and stucco by Friedrich Huechling with his family's living quarters upstairs, the house gained a notorious reputation and hosted at least two shoot-outs.

08k Castroville "The Old Standby. Anständige Stadt – Anst. Saloon (Kneipe) Oben Familie, unten was los. "Standby" gegenüber gericht Schießereien.

08k Castroville "The Old Standby. 1857, von Friedr. Huechling, oben Wohnung, unten Kneipe/Saloon, gegenüber vom Gericht. Zeit des alk.-verbots/Ende der Kneipe. 2 Schießereien, weit und Breit bekannt "Green Front Saloon".



17m Castroville "The Old Standby" front view

Zimmermann House



10k Castroville Zimmermann House and well



11L Castroville Zimmermann house. House and well



15L Castroville Zimmermann house Castro Homestead



09k Castroville A Castro Homestead



10L Castroville house



11L and 23m Castroville Castro homestead

Naegelin House



33g Castroville Naeglin house front view



34g Castroville Joseph Naegelin House. Complex



35f Castroville Joseph Naegelin House, Vienna/Angelo. Built in 1848 but replaced in 1877 by present structure. Originally two rooms with a fireplace and one long room with a fireplace. Now 3 bedrooms, two baths. Restored with old techniques and local material, mainly stone.



35g Castroville Joseph Naegelin House, Back additions.

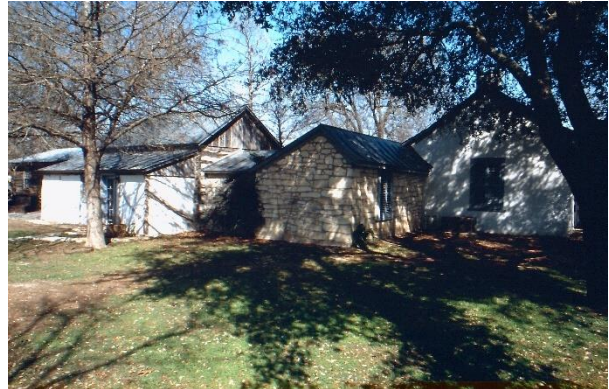


36f Castroville Joseph Naeglin complex. Tiny Log cabin as part of complex

36f Castroville Joseph Naeglin complex. Tiny Log cabin as part of complex. Alte Hüttchen gut, liebevoll erhalten.



36g Castroville Joseph Naegelin House, Back additions.



37f Castroville Joseph Naeglin. Additions to Naegelin house in back.

New Fountain Methodist Church Yard



04m Castroville. grave marker from Ostfriesland found in New Fountain Methodist church yard.



05m and 09m Castroville. Harm Bohmfal grave marker from

Ostfriesland found in New Fountain Methodist church yard.



06m Castroville. grave marker for Annie M Ney from Ostfriesland found in New Fountain Methodist church yard.



07m Castroville. grave marker from Ostfriesland found in New Fountain Methodist church yard.



13k Castroville. Harm Bohmfal grave marker from Ostfriesland found in New Fountain Methodist church yard.

13k Castroville "Ostfriesland" on grave in New Fountain, settled by people in Castro's group that joined him in Antwerp.

13k Castroville "Ostfriesland" on grave in New Fountain, What did I find in the cemeteries around there? Graves of people from Ostfriesland. This so-called French colony had citizens from Ostfriesland who had joined Castro in Antwerp; some arrived later.

13k Castroville "Ostfriesland" on grave. Elsässische sielder aus Oldenburg? Grippe hatte sich angeschlossen – aber heute alles französisch.

13k Castroville "Ostfriesland" on grave. Kamen mit Elsässern über Holland.



14k Castroville New Fountain "Ostfriesland" grave stone Old Quihi



11m Castroville Old Quihi near Castroville. Oldest house CR4520 and CR4517



13L Castroville near San Antonio. Louis Hath House with Stork

Rothe Rowe Ranch



10m Castroville Rothe-Rowe ranch near Fort Linedin 1882

Louis Hath house



12L Castroville near San Antonio. Louis Hath House with Stork

LandMark Inn



14m Castroville Landmark Inn



15m Castroville in Landmark Inn quilt

Castroville MISC



01m Castroville Ruins on Hwy 4516 between Castroville and San Antonio. Built of stones because not many trees available. Far view



02m Castroville Ruins on Hwy 4516 between Castroville and San Antonio. Built of stones because not many trees available. Close up of wall

02m Castroville Ruins on Hwy 4516 between Castroville and San Antonio. Häuser verfallen, Chihuaha wüste wächst nach Osten, kein Holz, deshalb Stine.



03M Castroville log cabin near Castroville.



08L Castroville interior fachwerk walls



08m Castroville. St Dominic's church ruins west of Castroville



09L Castroville. Photo of Mr and Mrs Beckmann. Beckmann's had cotton and cattle on their farmstead and became wealthy.

09L Castroville. Photo of Mr and Mrs Beckmann. Ein paar Jahre später, Baumwolle hatte Reichtum gebracht – später Rinderzucht.



12k Castroville near San Antonio. Field of stones or cotton

12k Castroville near San Antonio. Was für Land? Nicht Baumwolle, Steine – noch heute. Steinfeld wird auch bepflanzt.



14L Castroville Tondre house, example of Sears catalog home



18L Castroville, Medina River near Castroville. was a "mighty" river during 1800s, now runs dry most of the year.

18L Castroville, Medina River. Flüße oft trocken.

COMFORT

Comfort: Note: Comfort, unincorporated was established in 1854 on the confluence of Cypress Creek and Guadalupe River. Founded by German intellectuals, many called 'Deutsche Freidenker'. The free thinking townspeople of Comfort are now stubbornly arguing about how free their ancestors thought. Officially founded in 1854 by Earnst Hermann Altgelt. Mainly farming and production of shingles and lumber. Major part of town is National Historic District. During the Civil War 36 Union loyalists from Comfort died in the Battle of the Nueces and were later buried in Comfort. Comfort is one of six sites in US with flag at half mast permanently.

Comfort stolz auf deutschen Ursprung, Faltin Haus noch im Familienbesitz. Kombination Bloch und Fachwerk. Strit auf staatlicher Ebenes: glaubten Freidenker an Gott oder nicht? Nach Comfort, Freidenkersiedlung, erforscht geplant, 1854, von Ernst Altgelt. Landwirtschaft und Dachpfannen, Akademiker, am Guadalupe/Cypress Creek. Innenstadt ist unter Denkmalschutz. Neuerding für Touristen.

Treue Der Union Monument



Figure 1 Treue Der Union Monument
Treue Der Union Monument



06f and 06g Treue der Union Monument. Erected in 1866 to commemorate the burial site and in memory of 36 Union loyalist from Comfort and Hill Country who died in and after Battle of Nueces.

06f and 06g Treue der Union Monument. Comfort, von deutschen Freidenkern 1854 gegsündet, Intelliktuelle – im Bürgerkrieg nicht Südstaatler, Unionists. 36 starben in

Mattle of Nueces, “Treue der Union”
Fahne – Halfmast.
Ingenhuett Saloon and Home
You can’t go to Comfort without
coming across the name of Ingenhuett.

They owned several buildings, among
them the
Ingenhuett Saloon.



04g Comfort Ingenhuett Saloon and
Home, High Street. Built 1891, was
designed by famous architect Alfred
Giles, it was a combination of residence
and saloon. Since the Freethinkers did
not want to have a church, they used
the saloon for religious services when
the need arose. It was also a dance hall,
meat market and telephone exchange.
Now used for storage. ?Peter J
Jogen?xx

04g Comfort Ingenhuett Saloon.
Ingenhuetts), auch als Kirche benutzt.
Keine Kirche im Ort. Telefonzentrale,
jetzt Logerraum. hatten den Saloon
(oben Wohnung)



05g Comfort Ingenhuett Saloon



08f Comfort Paul Ingenhuett
Residence, 417 8th Street. Built 1895.
Only pure residence designed by Alfred
Giles in Comfort. Ingenhuetts were
mainly merchants and into banking.



09f Comfort Peter Joseph Ingenhuett
Homestead, 814 High Street, built
1863. Original Fachwerk on east wall.
Residence, then was house, taxidermist,
garage, and antique shop.



10f Comfort Peter Joseph Ingenhuett Homestead, 814 High Street

Julius Holekamp Home



06g Comfort Julius Holekamp Home 801 High Street. Built 1860 (or 1876), of rough limestone, looks very small. First a residence for his bride (Susanne Fricke), it was then a blacksmith shop, a tin smithy, a doctor's office, drug store, variety store, jewelry shop, and now it is a barbershop since 1910..

06g Comfort Julius Holekamp Home. Haus, 1860, Kalkstein: Jetzt Friseur, Früher Wohnhaus, Schmiede, Arzt praxis, Apotheke, Juwelier und Kramladen.

06g Comfort Julius Holekamp Home 1876, Kalkstein. Für Brant, Susaane Fricke, dann Schmiede, Blechschmidt, Arzt Praxis, Apotheke, Kramladen, Juwelier, Seit 1910 Friseur.

Goldbeck-Faltin cabin and store



07g Comfort Goldbeck-Faltin cabin, 405 (400 block) 7th Street. The house mostly shown to tourists is the Goldbeck-Faltin Cabin. It shows the original simple log cabin in the original location. In 1856 August Faltin bought it and added the Fachwerk section. The Goldbeck-Faltin family were merchants and in the wood-shingle industry. It is still owned by the family.

07g Comfort Goldbeck-Faltin cabin, noch im Familienbesitz, zeigt verschiedene Baustile.



11f Comfort Goldbeck-Faltin cabin, 405 (400 block) 7th Street.



12f Comfort Goldbeck-Faltin cabin,
405 (400 block) 7th Street.

12f Comfort Goldbeck-Faltin cabin,
daneben großes Geschäftshaus für
Rancher.



13f Comfort Goldbeck-Faltin cabin,
405 (400 block) 7th Street. details



09g, 10g, and 14f Comfort Faltn
General Store, 7th Street and Main.
Built 1879 from design from Alfred
Giles. Basement was warehouse with
freight elevator, ground floor was store,
2nd floor was residence.

Otto Brinkmann Cottage



15f or 11g Comfort Otto Brinkmann
cottage 602 (or 701) High Street. Built
1860 for Otto and brother, "Bachelor
Bude". Timber frame (Fachwerk) filled
with native stone, a technique
introduced in Texas by German
immigrants.

Wihelm Heuermann log cabin and house



13g Comfort Wihelm Heuermann One-
room log house. The Heuermann
Cabin behind the house, built in 1854,
is one of the oldest structures in town, a
one-room log cabin or what is left of it.
13g Comfort Wihelm Heuermann.
Hütte, 1854, ein Zimmer, ältestes Haus,
noch schlimmer.



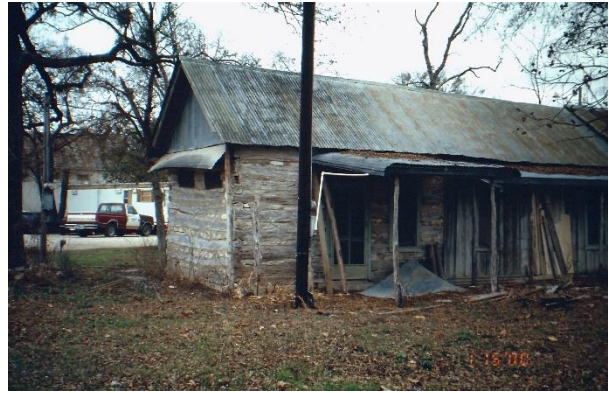
14g Comfort Wihelm Heuermann Log Cabin, 424 Main Street. Built 1854, one of the oldest structures in Comfort, a one-room log cabin, or what is left of it, is in need of love and money.

14g Comfort Wihelm Heuermann Log Cabin, Akademiker Hütte, Idealisten



16f Comfort Wihelm Heuermann House 527 Main Street, 1857, Fachwerk Cottage. The entire town center is declared historic, but some homes have a hard time to survive. The Wilhelm Heuermann House was built in 1857, a Fachwerk cottage.

16f Comfort Wihelm Heuermann House. Ganze Innenstadt – historisches Denkmal, aber Privatbesetz. Heuermann Fachwerkhaus verfällt, 1857. Keine Nachkommen im Ort.



17f Comfort Wihelm Heuermann House 527 Main Street,

Comfort - Misc



05f Comfort. Werner creek near Comfort. Quit often dry. A disappointment for the German immigrants. Among the many disappointments waiting for the pioneers was that much of the land was not as usable as back home, and many a creek, like Werner Creek near Comfort, ran dry on them. So they had to adjust, and that was true also in the ways they built their homes.

05f Comfort. Werner Bach – Enttäuschung über Wasser Situation u. schlechter Boden. [Disappointment with water situation & bad soil]

DILLENBURG
Meusebach's birthplace



07TH Dillenburg Johann Ottfried Freiherr von Meusebach's decendents in Texas. Photo courtesy of Texas Highway Magazine.

Dillenburg. Meusenbach's door. Like so many of the German settlers, he did not come from poor and humble origins, as his birthplace in Dillenburg shows. Courtesy of Texas Highway magazine.

08TH Dillenburg Johann Ottfried Freiherr von Meusebach's house. Kam aus seinem Hause (Dillenburg). Was Leute sich von Kindheit an als Lebensstil verstellten strebten sie später an. Manche bescheiden, manche "höher" hinaus.



08TH Dillenburg Johann Ottfried Freiherr von Meusebach's house in

FREDERICKSBURG

Fredericksburg: Note: Fredericksburg is the second town as way station founded in 1846 by the Adelsverein under Johann Ottfried Freiherr von Meusebach, later known as John O. Meusebach. His peace treaty with the Comanche Indian chiefs in German and English had assured relative peace for the settlement.

Fredericksburg is known for its Sunday Houses, homes that served the farmers and ranchers on their weekend trips into town. Many of them have an outside staircase

to save room inside or to let Vater and the grown sons sneak into the sleeping loft late at night without disturbing the family downstairs.

Now great for shopping tourists, and hunting for "German" restaurants.



Fredericksburg, 1846, Stadt im Vormarsch ins Land der Kommanchen. Johnn Ottfried Freiheer von Meusebach – Vertrag mit Indianeren.

Johann Ottfried von Meusebach Nach Pleife des Adelsvereins – Direktor. Fredericksburg Vertrag mit Indianern.

03e Seal of Adelsverein Siegel des Vereins from 1842.

Siegel des Vereins, große Einwanderungs welle began Siedler mußten Geld hinterlegen, überfahrt bezahlen. Viele Akademiker, politische Unruhen int sog. Deutschland.

Kammlah home and store



01a Fredericksburg Kammlah family home and store. Stitched table cloth

found in Fredericksburg Pioneer Museum.

01a Fredericksburg Kammlah family home and store. Stitched table cloth found in Fredericksburg Pioneer Museum. In quite a few German-Texan homes you find words of moral guidance that were certainly brought along from the old country like this stitched jewel: "Froh erfülle deine Pflicht", Cheerfully do your duty.



05a Fredericksburg. Kammlah family home and store. 325 W Main Street. Built 1849. On grounds of Pioneer Museum. House outer and inner wall made of Fachwerk. It is believed, that they first dug the cellar and lived in it while they built their home.

05a Fredericksburg. Kammlah family home and store. The Kammlah family started to build this home and store in 1849 with one room in Fachwerk, now the entrance to the Pioneer Museum. It is believed that they first dug the cellar and lived in it like in a dug-out while they built their home. It is much cooler under ground.

05a Fredericksburg. Kammlah family home and store. Wohnhaus und Kramladen.



06a Fredericksburg. Kammlah family home The Fachwerk section is now the entrance to the Pioneer Museum.



06a Fredericksburg. Kammlah house family store. house outer and inner wall, still Fachwerk.

06a Fredericksburg. Kammlah house family store. Fachwerkteil: Eingang zum Pioneer Museum.



08a Fredericksburg. Kammlah family home Mrs. Kammlah was big in improving her kitchen, this is one of them. restored to pioneer times.

08a Fredericksburg. Kammlah family home. Frau Kammlahs Küchen. Wurde immer größer im Haus, keine Shlaven, tüchtige, Hausfrauen.



10a Fredericksburg. Kammlah family home It is believed, that they first dug the cellar and lived in it like in a dug-out while they built their home.

10a Fredericksburg. Kammlah family home. Keller (wichtig für Kühlung). Erste Wohnung.



12a Fredericksburg. Kammlah house cellar, now thought to be a dug out where family lived while building house

Nimitz Museum and Birth Home



19b and 30hvs Fredericksburg Admiral Chester W Nimitz Museum 328 E Main Street. The most famous building in "Fritztown" is the Admiral Chester Nimitz Museum, once the only Frontier Hostel with a shower west of the Mississippi River. His grandfather, Charles Henry Nimitz Sr, built the hotel about 1855 as a steamboat shaped hotel out of an attack of nostalgia. It reminded Charles Nimitz Sr of his time in Prussian (German) Merchant Marine. Admiral Chester Nimitz was born in a little house nearby.

19b and 30hvs Fredericksburg Admiral Chester W Nimitz Museum. Fritztown Attraktion. Adm. Chester Nimitz Hotel – Museum. Erbauer: Größvater, Preußische Handels Marine. Nostalgie. Einzige Hotel dusche westlich vom Mississippi.



05th Fredericksburg Admiral Chester Nimitz Birth Place. 247 E Main Street. Photo courtesy of Texas Highway Magazine.

von Meusebach



05 Fredericksburg Portrait of Johann (John) Ottfried Freiherr von Meusebach. Built a house in Fredericksburg and also Dillenburg.



06th Fredericksburg. Johann (John) Ottfried Freiherr von Meusebach, house. John Meusebach, founder of Fredericksburg, eventually built a solid stone house with an Apple Orchard in nearby Loyal Valley. Like so many of the German settlers, he did not come from poor and humble origins, as his birthplace in Dillenburg shows. Courtesy of Texas Highway magazine

06th Fredericksburg. Johann (John) Ottfried Freiherr von Meusebach, house. Meusebach baute schöne Farm und Apfelplantage.th



07a Fredericksburg Artist rendering of Johann Ottfried Freiherr von Meusebach's Treaty negotiations with Indians, which helped settle Fredericksburg area.

Walton Smith Log cabin



09a Fredericksburg Walton-Smith Log Cabin. Part of Fredericksburg Pioneer Museum. Built 1880. Made from logs, stone, and mortar. About 300 square feet.

Jenschke House



09b Fredericksburg Robert Jenschke House, lattice work



10b Fredericksburg Robert Jenschke House, 406 W Travis Street. Built in 1871 with board and batten frame construction. Later covered with embossed tin, Gingerbread trim, and turned posts. The tin made it look like stone, but has been removed by now. Outside stairway leads to loft. This type of house is commonly called a Sunday House because of the outside stairway.

10b Fredericksburg Robert Jenschke House. Sunday houses. Treppe für Vater und Söhne spat nachts. Viele bed 'n breakfast, kleine Pensionen.

Adolph Gold House



13b Fredericksburg Adolph Gold House 212 E Travis Street. Built about 1900 is an example of Gingerbread trim that Germans liked. A fashion promoted by many carpenters of that time. Large limestone blocks, two rooms with big hall between. Adjacent kitchen, not attached to main building. All doors have a transom.

13b Fredericksburg Adolph Gold House. Gingerbread typisch Deutsch, viele Tischler Holzverzierungen.



14b Fredericksburg Adolph Gold House

Vogel House Sunday House



22b Fredericksburg. Christian Vogel Sunday House Sunday house with loft



23b Fredericksburg. Christian Vogel Sunday House. 418 W Austin Street or is it 409 W San Antonio Street. Built late 1800's. This house is an example of the popularity of covering a wooden house with embossed tin to resemble stone. This embossing was done in

1910. Christian Vogel came from "Hamburg Hessen-Nassau" as laborer to Texas in 1846. Towards the end of the century, he built this little Sunday house. I wonder if he had a big farm or ranch out in the country. One can get so interested in the people aspect. 23b Fredericksburg. Christian Vogel Sunday House. Neue Mode: Blech beschlag, um Stein, Fachwerk zu verstecken. Vogel Haus. Vogel kam aus "Hamburg in Hessen".



24b Fredericksburg. Christian Vogel Sunday House. 418 W Austin Street. Tin embossed siding to look like stonework

Log cabin for sale



15b Fredericksburg Log cabin on Travis Street. For sale. Big straight logs. Imported from Colorado where that type of lumber is available. Price

with other house on lot is almost \$500,000.



16b Fredericksburg Log cabin on Travis Street. For sale



17b Fredericksburg Log cabin on Travis Street. For sale.



18b Fredericksburg log cabin for sale

Metzger



21b Fredericksburg Metzger Sunday House 408 W San Antonio Street

Pioneer Museum



02a Fredericksburg Pioneer Museum Door way and plaster walls



03a Fredericksburg Pioneer Museum
03a Stairway



11a Fredericksburg Pioneer Museum
Baby pram



12b Fredericksburg. 302 W Travis
house



13a Fredericksburg Pioneer Museum.
Close up of fachwerk wall

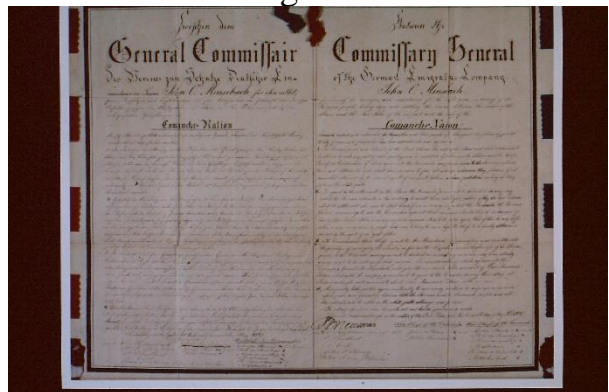


21b Fredericksburg 210 E Austin St

Fredericksburg MISC

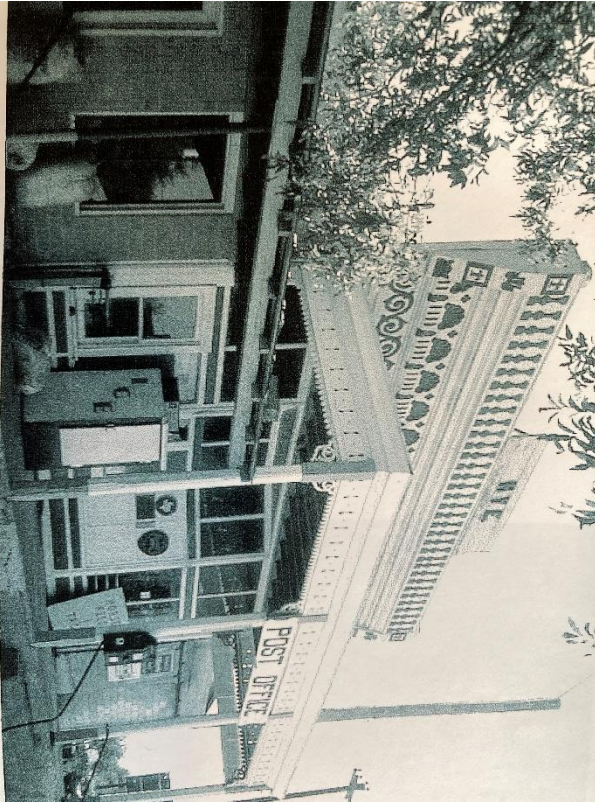


11b Fredericksburg. 302 W Travis
house



20 Treaty with Indians. At end of this
Compendium there is a large photo

HYE



04h Hye post office and seed store, on Hwy 290, Frequented by LBJ



05h Hye postmaster, just retired.

INDUSTRY

Industry, The oldest German settlement in Texas after long-gone Frostdown in what is now Houston, is Industry, founded by Ernst and Fortran. However, the only old home still standing is the Raacke House, ca. 1847. Being as thrifty as their reputation, people used the lumber and other parts from their old house to build a new one. The dormers on this renovated home are a recent addition.



31n Industry. Ernst Raecke (or Raacke) House. The oldest German settlement in Texas is Industry, founded by Ernst and Fortran. However, the only old home still standing is the Raacke House, built 1847. Being as thrifty as their reputation, people used the lumber from their old house to build their new one. The dormers on this renovated home are a recent addition. House built by postmaster J.G. Sieper when he married Frederick Ernst's daughter Caroline.

31n Industry. Ernst Raecke (or Raacke) House. Siedlung Industry bei Houston, gegründet von Friedr. Ernst, Oldenburg. Gesetzkauflikt, aber sehr fleißige Bürger.

LA GRANGE**3rd Fayette County courthouse**

01vr. Heinrich Kreische built in 1855 the third Fayette County Courthouse designed by another recent immigrant, Wilhelm von Rosenberg who was a graduate of University of Architecture in Berlin in 1848. Rosenberg came to Texas in 1849 because he was involved in the democracy movement. The courthouse building was so strong, that dynamite had to be used to tear it down a few years later, when a more fashionable fourth courthouse was desired.

01vr. Heinrich Kreische. Gericht in La Grange Fayette Kreis, Mußte gesprengt werden, da Kreische zu gut gebaut hatte.

Kreische Homestead

Heinrich Kreische (1821-1882) from Gottgetreu Saxony. Came to Texas in 1846. Was a stonemason. In 1860 he discovered a pent-up demand for a cool beer in central Texas and became a brewer. None of his 7 children married, no known descendants.



30f La Grange Kreische's homestead front view. Adjacent to the Brewery on Monument Hill. Built about 1855 and 1882. Made with fachwerk, board and batten, and calfereous course soft sandstone from near by quarry.. Left the stories sticking out. Near by is a Lime Kiln. Cisterns are built into the house. Has fachwerk room on top of cistern. Even Kreische started his own home with a Fachwerk section.



34f La Grange Kreische's homestead Back view. Extended beams in outside wall show that future add-ons were anticipated.

Kreische Brewery



30g La Grange. Kreische Brewery walls. On Monument Hill near La Grange overlooking Colorado River. House is another example of a skilled person at work. Heinrich Kreische from Gottgetreu in Saxony was a stone mason. He noticed a pent-up demand for a cool beer in the central Texas heat, bought a hill near a quarry and a spring and built in 1860's, stone by stone, a brewery into the hill with an ingenious water cooling system. Ruin now owned by TX Parks and Wildlife Department. Production ceased in 1884.



32f La Grange. Kreische Brewery. Details of brewery wall and stone door frame. The mortar between the stones has no supporting role, just to keep the draft out.

32f La Grange. Kreische Brewery. Steinmetz aus Gottgetreu, Sachsen. Marktlücke, Huhlung durch Leitung im Felsenkeller. "Frisch auf" Fahne.



33f La Grange. Kreische Brewery. Door frame in stone wall to old brewery

NEW BRAUNFELS

New Braunfels: Note: New Braunfels was founded in 1845 by the S.f.t.P.G.I.i.T under Prinz Carl von Solms-Braunfels as a way station to the Fischer-Miller Grant Land. On Comal (Springs) and Guadalupe Rivers. Several springs. Home of Wurstfest. Active New Braunfels Conservation Society.
Erste Stadt des Adelsvereins, 1845.
Wurstfest.

Conservation/Heritage Plaza



03c New Braunfels Conservation Plaza Schnitzelbank, skilled craftsmen were allowed to bring tools.

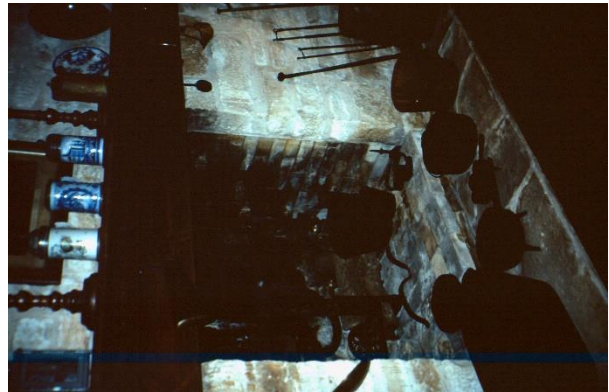
03c New Braunfels Conservation Plaza Schnitzelbank. Deutsche brachten eigenes Werkzeug mit. Handwerker – extra Truhe. Tischler sehr gefrat, Zimmerleute.



04c New Braunfels Heritage Plaze 04c. Wooden chest with work tools



06c New Braunfels Conservation Plaza. Bed with Trundle bed



08c New Braunfels Heritage Plaza. Fireplace with wooden beam mantle



10c New Braunfels Heritage Plaza beam



11c New Braunfels Heritage Plaza wall inside

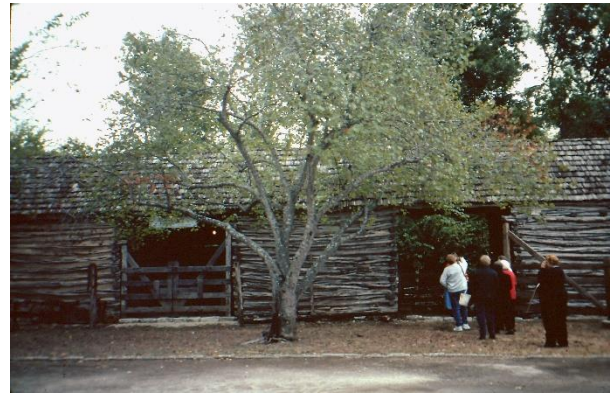


12c New Braunfels Heritage Plaza store



18c New Braunfels Heritage Plaza lot with foundation

Welsch Barn



14c New Braunfels Conservation Plaza. Welsch Barn. Straight logs were hard to come by. No cinching.



15c New Braunfels Conservation Plaza Welsch barn details. Log interlocked using V and saddle notches. Home style was Blockhütten.

15c New Braunfels Conservation Plaza Welsch barn. This barn shows how sometimes the logs were skillfully stacked up without cinching. Terry Jordan wrote an entire book on Texas log buildings and their origin in various parts of Europe. Almost every German child grows up with visions of one day living in a Blockhuette in the Wild West.

15c New Braunfels Conservation Plaza Welsch barn. Scheune – Brummes Holz, kein Sägewerk, keine Nägel, nur äxte.

Jahn home



07c New Braunfels Conservation Plaza. Jahn Home. Common pioneer home show typical details such as cedar and TX live oak wood and typical notches. Also made from logs, has the dog trot (old fashion AC) and outside stairs to loft.

07c New Braunfels Conservation Plaza. Jahn Home. New Braunfels has set up a Conservation Plaza with houses of the area. This two room log house (Jahn home) with a dog trot in the middle for the breeze and a stair case to the upstairs loft was quite common in the area, but not only among German settlers. The problem with it was to find some straight logs to build it with.

07c New Braunfels Conservation Plaza. Jahn Home. 2 zimmer mit dog trot und Außentreppe. Man schlief oft in dog trot.

07c New Braunfels Conservation Plaza. Jahn Home. Typisch Haus aus einheimischen Holz (Cedar) Juniper und Lebensseiche. Mitte: Durchgang, Windfang, dog trot. Typisch Deutsch was Kräutergarten Blumenbeete.



09c New Braunfels Heritage Plaza. Jahn furniture

Lindheimer Home



09d New Braunfels Lindheimer Home 491 Comal Street. View from Front.

Built in 1852. Fachwerk (half-timbered) filled with local natural limestone in rear. Inside walls plastered over with straw and stone. Beautifully located above river bank and now a museum. Was Ferdinand Jakob (John) Lindheimer's residence and newspaper print shop and workplace for botanical studies and collections. Lindheimer is considered "Father of TX botany". Lindheimer came from Pommern Germany.

09d New Braunfels Lindheimer Home The most visited home is that of Ferdinand Jacob Lindheimer of Frankfurt/Main, the "Father of Texas

Botany". Lindheimer had come to Texas in 1836 to participate in the revolution, but this home was built in 1852 high above the river bank. The small home also served as newspaper editor's office, printing shop, botanical lab and collection place.

09d New Braunfels Lindheimer Home. Meist besuchte Haus, Vater der T Botanik, Ffm. Kam 1836 zur Revolution, Haus 1852 Redaktron, Druckerei, Labor, Familie.



10d New Braunfels Lindheimer Home 491 Comal Street. 1845 front view



11d New Braunfels Lindheimer house front view



12d New Braunfels Lindheimer house back wall



13d New Braunfels Lindheimer Home 491 Comal Street. Back wall



14d New Braunfels F Lindheimer house. Built in 1845 back view. The rear shows a Fachwerk (half timbered) skeleton filled with local limestone. Fachwerk is considered a typically German construction technique and was not given up until the mid 1860s when the Germans in Texas had figured out

that walls made of native stones would hold up without the wood fortification
 14d New Braunfels F Lindheimer house. Fachwerk, Kalkstein (Limestone): "Typisch deutsch", bis 1860, als "nur Stein" akzeptiert wurde.



14e New Braunfels F Lindheimer house. Built in 1845 front view



15d New Braunfels Lindheimer Home 491 Comal Street. Kitchen



15e New Braunfels Lindheimer Home front view

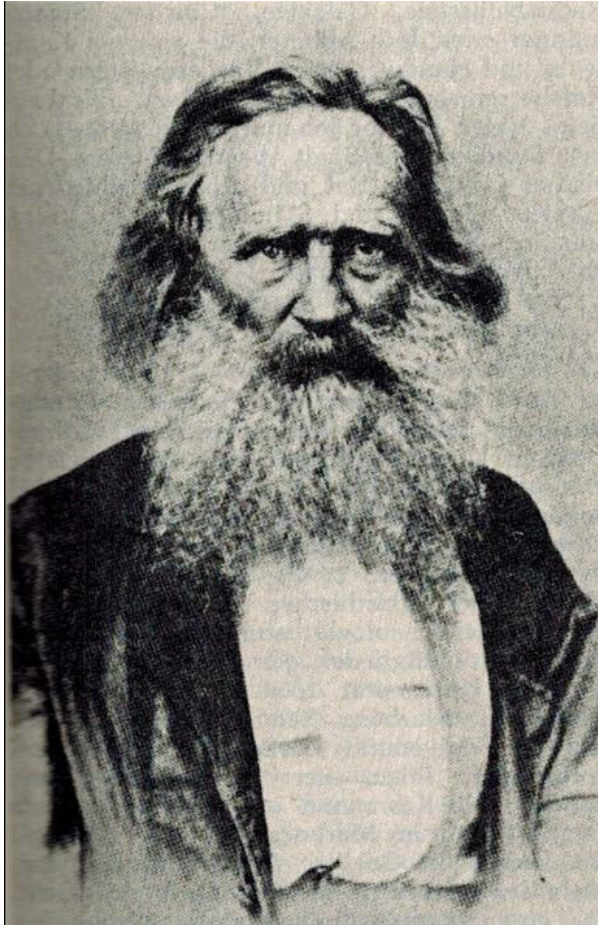


16d New Braunfels Lindheimer house stone wall with wood insert

16d New Braunfels Lindheimer house stone wall with wood insert or wall plastered over straw and stone. Inside walls have plaster over straw and stone, also popular among Germans because it looks clean



16e New Braunfels Lindheimer house front view



17d New Braunfels Lindheimer Home
491 Comal Street. Lindheimer Portrait



17e New Braunfels Lindheimer house
front view



17k New Braunfels Lindheimer Home
491 Comal Street. Austin Lindheimer
cactus at German Free School



18e New Braunfels Lindheimer back
wall



19e New Braunfels Lindheimer back
wall

Baetge (Baetke) House



16c New Braunfels Conservation Plaza. Baetge (Baetke) house Built 1852. Moved from 26 miles North West of New Braunfels. Carl Friedrich Baetge (1805-1883) was a civil engineer. He had built railroad stations in Russia before coming to Texas.

16c New Braunfels Conservation Plaza. Baetge (Baetke) house. Not far from the little cabins of New Braunfels stood the 1852 home of Carl Friedrich Baetge, a civil engineer who had built railroad stations in Russia before he came to Texas. No log cabin for him and especially not for his wife.

16c New Braunfels Conservation Plaza. Baetge (Baetke) house. Nah bei Blockhütten. K. Fr. Baetge Haus. Hatte Bahnhöfe in Rußland (St. Petersburg) gebaut. Sie wollte besseres Heim.

16c New Braunfels Conservation Plaza. Baetge (Baetke) house. 1852, Er war Baumeister – Bauhof in Sankt Petersburg. Kam mit Frau, höhere Ansprüche.

Naeglin's Bakery



18d New Braunfels Naeglins Bakery, 129 S Seguin. Stephen Klein and Naeglin

18d New Braunfels Naeglins Bakery, When you visit New Braunfels you have to stop at Naeglin's bakery. Built in 1868, mainly of native stone, it is the oldest bakery in Texas. With all its additions and alterations, the historic house is more interesting than beautiful, but it smells the way heaven should smell.

18d New Braunfels Naeglins Bakery. Naeglin's Bäckerei, 1868, Riecht einladend – große attraction.



21d New Braunfels Naeglins Bakery, 129 S Seguin. Built 1868. "Most popular place in New Braunfels" Oldest bakery in Texas. Combination of constructions, mainly stone. Smells better than it looks.

Gruene Mansion



19c New Braunfels Gruene Mansion. Built by son of immigrant, Henry Gruene. Town of Gruene founded for cotton trade, cattle drives, and mill. Town Gruene includes a store and dance hall

Klein House



19d New Braunfels Klein House historical markers



20d New Braunfels Stephen Klein House, 131 S Seguin. Built in 1848.

House is adjacent to Naeglin's Bakery. Has creative connection with Naeglin's bakery. Historical markers.



21d New Braunfels Klein House

First Protestant Church



20e New Braunfels First Protestant Church



21e New Braunfels First Protestant Church



22e New Braunfels First Protestant Church



23e New Braunfels First Protestant Church

ROUND TOP

Round Top: Note: Round Top is benefitting from a big private conservation effort, Henkel Square has several transplanted houses from the surrounding area.

Schuhmann



09n and 10n Round Top Henkel Square. Log house. It shows several of the features seen in many German-Texan houses.



11n Round Top Henkel house porch



12n Round Top Henkel Square. Fr Schuhmann Hs detail



13n Round Top Henkel Square. Fr Schuhmann Sr house



14n Round Top Henkel Square Fr Schuhmann Sr house interior view Kitchen



15n Round top Henkel Square Schuhmann Sr. Interior room

Lisa Kahn Log Cabin

Round Top Lisa Kahn Log Cabin, a.k.a Uncle Konrad's cabin. Built in early

1850's. Oak logs, no nails, cinching is straw and mud. Neighbors helped building it (House raising). Only one room. Porch added later. Originally built near creek, but moved up to the road (Galveston to Bastrop) because wife, Elisabeth nagged Konrad Joh so she could be closer to road. Shortly after having "moved up" she died. Four children were raised in this cabin. Now restored by Lisa Kahn, on her farm. Used for her son's wedding and other special occasions. Kitchen utensils were hung on trees for good luck and grew into the trees.



10h and 11h Round Top Lisa-Kahn log cabin, 2226 Hartfield Road. Built by Uncle Konrad 1848. While necessary adjustments seem obvious, I was surprised at how many different kinds of homes I found. There is the Joh-Kahn log cabin near Round top. One room, early 1850s, oak logs, no nails, cinching is straw and mud. When Konrad Joh's wife Elisabeth thought it was time to move up to something better, she nagged him until he and a team of oxen moved the cabin up the hill closer to the road. She was happy. The Johs raised four children in this one room cabin.

10h and 11h Round Top Lisa-Kahn log cabin. Alle mußten mit situation fertig werden deshalb interessant: Manche blieben in Blockhütten; andere bauten Paläste. Konrad Joh Kahn Hütte, Round Top ~1850, Eiche, kein Nagel, ein zimmer. Frau Elisabeth wollte höher hinaus, so transportierte Konrad sein Haus den Berg hinauf zur Straße. [Everyone had to cope with the situation, therefore interesting: some stayed in log cabins; others built palaces. Konrad Joh Kahn Hütte, Round Top ~1850, oak, no nail, one room. Mrs. Elisabeth wanted to go higher, so Konrad transported his house up the hill to the street.]

10h and 11h Round Top Lisa Kahn Log Cabin, a.k.a Uncle Konrad's cabin. It is much easier to love and maintain Uncle Konrad's cabin. Each Christmas, the present owner and German-Texan poet Lisa Kahn dresses it up and exercises some of the hospitality the German immigrants were known for. 10h and 11h Round Top Lisa Kahn Log Cabin. Kleine Hütte, jetzt im Besitz von Lisa Kahn. Frau wollte höher hinaus, er sog Hütte den Berg hoch.

Zapp and von Rosenberg house



17n Round Top Henkel Square. Zapp and von Rosenberg House. Built 1875. Often guest rooms on either side of the "dog trot" was available for overnight guests, "Gastfreundlichkeit". Dog trot with big room on each side. Front rooms were left open at night for travelling strangers. Germans were known for hospitality.

17n Round Top Henkel Square. Zapp and von Rosenberg House. Von Rosenberg Haus: (guestroom)
Gastzimmer waren nachts offen:
deutsche Gastfreundlichkeit.

Phelps House



16n Round Top Phelps House

SAN ANTONIO

San Antonio is so different from the small settlements. Centuries old with a Mexican past, when it gained a large and rather prosperous German population in the 1800s. Most Germans in San Antonio were educated and ambitious and did not stay long on farms with poor soil and dry creeks. Ernst Altgelt, a lawyer and surveyor who had founded Comfort in 1854, platted in the 1870s a district in San Antonio where the rich could show off their achievements. He named it after Kaiser Wilhelm I, now the King William District.

During the middle of the 19th century, there were so many immigrants from Germany living in San Antonio, that they had a great influence on the development of the town, mainly in the fields of culture, education and commerce. To this day one can visit areas of San Antonio with villas built by rich German merchants more than a hundred years ago. However, San Antonio is now a real ethnic melting pot.

San Antonio, alte Mexikane Stadt, bekam viele deutsche Zuwanderer in 19 Jahrhundert. Viele kamen zu Geld: Ernst Altgelt plante 1870 einen Bezirk wo man Reichtum und Erfolg zeigen konnte: Kaiser Wilhelm Bezirk, jetzt King William District.

San Antonio, schou Siedler von Canar. Inseln in San Antonio, wurden geädelt. Alter Handelsplatz am Camino Real nach Louisiana. Reiches Kulturleben, Casino, Gesangsvereine, Deutsch E

Schule. King William District. Kaiser Wilhelm Bezirk, bevorzugt und für deutsche, erfolgreiche Händler. 60% deutschsprachig.

Marriot Hotel: German English School



05d San Antonio German English School, Marriott hotel



06e San Antonio. German English School now on 555 South Alamo Plaza, and used as a convention center by the Marriott Hotel. Built in 1859 by "the Lateiner" German intellectuals, dedicated to F. von Schiller and Baron von Humboldt. Additions occurred in 1860, 1869 and 1873. Limestone.

Marriot Hotel: Staffel Elmendorf Tyler Homestead



04d San Antonio Staffel Elmendorf Tyler Homestead, now a banquet room in the Marriott Hotel on 555 South Alamo. Built in 1851 using plaster over stone with exterior stucco. Center chimney. Home was built by Heino Staffel and he ran a garden business around the house.. House was moved 1977 during preparation for Hemisphere Plaza. At same time a then 100 year old anacua (anacua) tree that was next to the house. Heino Staffel (1818-1904) came from Eisenach to Texas in 1851 with his wife, Adeline Wueste. Adeline ran a garden business from their house.

04d San Antonio Staffel Elmendorf Tyler Homestead jetzt im Marriott Hotel. 1850s, Stein weil in San Antonio. Gebaut von Staffel aus Eisenach in 1851. Frau hatte Gärtnerei ums Haus, Jetzt im Innenhof von Marriott.

Menger Hotel



06d San Antonio Menger Hotel



07d San Antonio Menger Hotel at 204 Alamo Plaza. With luxurious rooms and a brewery. Build in 1859 as a two story, fifty room hotel near Menger's brewery. Many additions with prominent architects like Giles. Theodor Roosevelt recruited Rough Riders in bar in 1898. William Menger (18??-1871) came from Germany to Texas in 1847. His wife had already come in 1846. Ran a boarding house first, then brewery with such success that a hotel was needed for customers. 07d San Antonio Menger Hotel. Erst Brauerei, dann Hotel (Marktlücke) feinste Hotel an Platz, 1859.



11e San Antonio Menger Hotel front view

Carl Guenther House and Flour Mill



12h San Antonio Carl Guenther house and flour Mill. Built 1859.



13h San Antonio Carl Guenther house and flour Mill. built 1859



14h San Antonio Carl Guenther house and flour Mill on 205 E Guenther The house was built in 1859 on the San Antonio River and the Mill tower was built in 1923.. Originally in Kaiser Wilhelm district, now King William District San Antonio. This is the most visited pioneer house. It is the oldest flour mill in Texas, and is now one of the finest restaurants in San Antonio. It contains a complex of four homes. Oldest is now restaurant and museum. Guenther came to Texas in 1851, and built gristmill in Fredericksburg. He came to San Antonio in 1859.

14h San Antonio Carl Guenther Mühle, Komplex, Restauérant. 1859 am San Antonio Fluß. Älteste Mühle noch in Betrieb in Texas. Kam nach Texas 1851, zuerst in Friederksburg, 1859 nach San Antonio, besserer Absatz, besserer Fluß.

King William District: Ernst Hermann Altgelt homestead



21h San Antonio. Ernst Hermann Altgelt's (18??-1878) house on 226 King William built in 1878. This home is a two story limestone with galleries and outside staircase to save inside space. Victorian was in, even in the Wild West.. Altgelt came to Texas in 1850. Established town of Comfort. He was a Lawyer and surveyor. He platted Kaiser Wilhelm neighborhood and named it "Kaiser Wilhelm" after Kaiser Wilhelm I of Prussia (Germany). Another Altgelt's house built in 1866 is at 336 King William Street.

21h San Antonio. Ernst Hermann Altgelt's (18??-1878) house. 1878, gründer der K. Wilhelm Straße, Rechtsanwalt und Landvermesser

King William District: Steves homestead



01th San Antonio Steves homestead. Ernst Hermann Altgelt created subdivision call King William district. Courtesy of Texas Highway Magazine. Attention to details makes visiting the area a pleasure.

01th San Antonio Steves homestead. Mansardenfenster. Franz. Einfluß.



15h San Antonio Eduard Steves homestead at 509 King William. This homestead is open to the public. Built in 1876, the house as a natatorium (building containing a swimming pool). It is built in the "Victorian French Second Empire" design in the smooth-dressed limestone. Also, attached kitchen, a carriage house, servants' quarters, a well, and a natatorium (1913), the city's first indoor swimming pool. The Mansard roof has a French

influence with beautiful dormers.

Eduard Steves (1829-1890) had come from Barmen Elberfeld Germany to Texas in 1849 and dealt in lumber. Steves immigrated to Texas in 1849 to Indianola, New Braunfels and acquired 160 acres near Comfort in 1857. Steves came to San Antonio in 1866 with his lumber business. Steves prospered especially after the railroad came to San Antonio in 1877. Steves was a civic leader.

15h San Antonio Eduard Steves homestead at 509 King William. Museum (von Barmen Elberfeld 1849) Erstes Natatorium, Schwimmbaden im Haus.

15h San Antonio Eduard Steves homestead. Eduard Steves von Barmen Elberfeld, kam 1849 durch Indianola, 20 Jahre alt. Fachmann in Holz, kaufte Land mit Holz, nach San Antonio in 1866, wurde sehr reich nach 1877 als die Eisenbahn zu San Antonio kam. Mansarde, extra Küche, Dienstb. Haus, eigenen Brunnen, erstes Schwimmbad im Haus.

King William District: Karl Groos homestead



17h San Antonio Karl Wilhelm August Groos house built 1880. The Carl Groos house was designed by fashionable architect Alfred Giles and features the Italian Villa style in native limestone. Note the belvedere crowning the roof. Groos had come to Texas in 1848, made money in freighting and hauling cotton. He became a banker and he was a Republican and civic leader.

17h San Antonio Karl Wilhelm August Groos house. Carl Groß baute sich ein Schloß, Bankier.

17h San Antonio Karl Wilhelm August Groos house. 1880 Hessen. Kam in 1848. Gütertransport, besonders Baumwolle, gründete Groos National Bank. Wie viele reiche Deutsche, active in Wohltätigkeits Sachen, Lokalpolitik.



19h San Antonio Karl Groos house on 335 King William. House was designed by Alfred Giles in the Italian villa style with native limestone and built in 1880s. Delicate cast iron balustrades, columns and gingerbread define the porches. Belvedere crowns roof. Karl Wilhelm August Groos (1830-1893) came from Strass-Ebersbach, Hesse-Nassau in 1848 to

Texas with his widowed father and 7 siblings. Karl spent time in Fayette county, Gillespie county, New Braunfels, Matamoros, and in 1872 was in San Antonio. Karl spent many years in freight and haul of cotton to Matamoros during the Civil War. Karl was cofounder of what later became the Groos National Bank. Karl built this house large enough to rival many a Schloss in Germany.

19h San Antonio Karl Groos house. Other immigrants moved up in a more spectacular way, at least financially and as civic leaders, like Carl Groos from Strass-Ebersbach in Nassau, who founded a bank in San Antonio and in 1880 had a house built in the prestigious Kaiser Wilhelm section of San Antonio, now known as the "King William District".

19h San Antonio Karl Groos house. Carl Gross, Nassauer, Gründete Bank in San Antonio, baute 1880 im vernahmen Kaiser Wilhelm Bezirk von San Antonio. [Carl Gross, Nassauer, founded bank in San Antonio, built 1880 in the Kaiser Wilhelm district of San Antonio.] Vom Fuhrmann zum Bankier.

King William District: Gustav Groos homestead



02th or 20th San Antonio Gustav Groos house detail on 231 Washington.

Gustav Groos (1832-1895) was Karl Groos brother. He had also gone into banking. Gustav's house was built in 1875 displays the most beautiful wood trimming. The style is Victorian stone with carpenter Gothic porch. The house remained in the family until 1979. Photo courtesy of Texas Highway Magazine. Gustav was a banker and also into freight.

02th or 20th San Antonio Gustav Groos house. Gustav Gross, Bruder, liebte Verzierungen. Stolz der Deutschen.



23h San Antonio Gustav Groos House.. Built 1875



25h San Antonio Gustav Groos homestead 1875

25h San Antonio Gustav Groos homestead 1875. Schöner Vorbau, blieb lange in Familie, nicht so hohe Steuern.

King William District: Martin Froebel House



22h San Antonio. Martin Froebel House. 228 Washington. Built 1866. Among King William District's earliest houses. "Early Texas" style. "Neoclassical" pediment with applique.

Kalteyer Homestead



16h San Antonio Kalteyer homestead 1892. druggist, chemist, cement. In 2000 house was for sale for over half a million dollars.

16h San Antonio Kalteyer homestead 1892 We saw some small and some big historic houses being neglected, others cherished. This Kalteyer House in San Antonio is well taken care of, but the expenses for maintenance and taxes are overwhelming, and the house has been on the market for a while for \$1½ million

16h San Antonio Kalteyer homestead. Großes Haus, Kalteyer, lange zum Verkauf ½ million. 1892, auf dem Markt wegen Steuer. Steingrabe, Baugeschäft, Aus dem Hessischen.

King William District: Alexander Joske



20h San Antonio Alexander Joske homestead is one of the fanciest. Built about 1900. Joske, from Berlin, was one of the prominent German Jews in Texas. After years of supplying army depots, he noticed that the women in San Antonio had become interested in the finer things in life, so he started Joske's Department Store and supplied the Ladies with fancy fans and hats and with corsettes of desirable (substantial?) quality.

20h San Antonio Alexander Joske homestead. Aus Berlin, einer der vielen erfolgreichen deutschen Juden. Belieferte Armee, dann feines Kaufhaus für bessere Damen. Fächer, Hüte und Korsetts von ausgezeichneter Qualität. Art Kaufhaus des Westens.

Mission Conception



21hvs San Antonio. Mission Conception, Germans came to TX when TX was part of Mexico in 1800s.. 11-3-1985

Alamo



22hvs San Antonio. Alamo, Germans fought for and in the Alamo during TX War of Independence. 1980

22hvs San Antonio. Alamo. Gewounene verlorene Schlacht, San Antonio 1835/36 unter Anteilnahme von Deutschen.

Hemisphere Plaza



24m San Antonio. Hemisphere plaza house



27m San Antonio German house in Hemisphere Plaza. Once a majestic villa on Hemisphere Plaze, it is now vacant except for dozens of cats calling it their home. The project of a German Heritage Plaza became the victim of non-cooperation of German groups in San Antonio and Texas and the fact that public money seems to drift towards Mexican-American projects.

27m San Antonio German house in Hemisphere Plaza. Deutscher Kulturpark. Kein Geld. Merhere Dutzand Katzen, vermehren sich wie Kaninchen.

27m San Antonio German house in Hemisphere Plaza. Sollte großes Deutsch-Tex Schaustück warden, mehrere Häuser, kein geld, keine Mäuse im Haus, nur Katzen. Verkommt. Nur Mexiko Projekte warden unterstützt.

Staacke Brothers House



28m San Antonio Staacke Brothers Carriage house on 309 E Commerce. Built between 1868 and 1894. The brothers started a Renaissance Revival in 1868. The 3-story Renaissance Revival house was designed by James Riley Gordon to house the carriage

business. The house has stamped metal facade and cornice and two-story arches with granite Corinthian columns and insert bow windows. Balcony with classical balustrade. The Pediment is Baroque. Restored by the SACS, it is now privately owned. August Staacke came to Texas in 1848.

28m San Antonio Staacke Brothers Carriage house. Viele deutsche Namen in San Antonio. Staake Haus von SACS restaurant, wieder Privatbesitz. Eindruck nach draußßen 1868 August Stakke kam in Texas im 1848, Pferdekutschen.

San Antonio MISC



29hvs San Antonio Dry field west of San Antonio

San Antonio. Ursula Convent is made with rammed earth technique, a French style. There are training centers near Paris for this technique. Many buildings in Sequin "Selastopol" building west of downtown square is rammed earth. Fowler built many. Serbin had "dug outs" in the ground first year.

SHELBY

Shelby which is 5 miles from Industry and near Round Top.

Das House

Donor and last owner (Sanford Schmid) on slide, Jan 2000. Now owned by Texas-German Society. Built in 1860's. Stucco sandstone. Interior walls Fachwerk filled in with adobe bricks, those around chimney are fired. Cellar had 20" walls and wooden ceiling laths filled with straw and plaster for insulation. Cellar used for butchering, 3 chimneys, outhouse, 60' well. Dr Witte left Hannover in 1857 with substantial means and 2 slaves he had picked up in Charleston. Bought 1400 acres of raw land. Material for adobe bricks from nearby. Schmid, Suiss, married into Witte family.



15g Shelby. Witte-Schmid House 1857 called "Das Haus", The spacious parlor has large windows to let in lots of light and sunshine, something only a man having lived in North German could want.



16g Shelby Witte-Schmid House 1857 called "Das Haus", cellar or inside of upstairs floor



17g and 18g and 24f Shelby Witte-Schmid House 1857 called "Das Haus", stairway and floor details and upstairs wall



19g Shelby Witte-Schmid House called "Das Haus", spacious hallway with Sanford Smith.



21f Shelby. Witte-Schmid House basement 1857 called "Das Haus". The cellar, with 20 ft walls of rock and wooden beams, was used for butchering. The wooden ceiling laths are filled with straw and plaster for insulation.



23f Shelby Witte-Schmid House called "Das Haus", joints of upstairs ceiling rafters



25f Shelby Witte-Schmid House 1857 called "Das Haus",. Upstairs fachwerk wall timbers filled in with adobe bricks.

The bricks around the chimney are fired. Wall detail in house. The inside walls are Fachwerk filled with adobe bricks made of material from the bottom of the hill. The Fachwerk shows that there must have been a German at work.



25g and 23g Shelby Witte-Schmid House front view called "Das Haus", near Shelby which is 5 miles from Industry in Suiss Schoenau Settlement. Built in 1857 and is an example of a German immigrating to Texas with enough money to buy 1400 acres of raw land with a hill and to build a substantial house made from stucco on sandstone. The house has been donated the Texas German Society. 25g and 23g Shelby Witte-Schmid House. Das Haus, Witte-Schmid, Dr Witte aus Hannover. 1857, mit viel Geld und 2 Sklaven. Kaufte 1400 acres Land. Viele adobe Steine, am Ort gebacken, trotzdem Fachwerk. Bei La Grange "auf der Lande"



26f Shelby Witte-Schmid House called "Das Haus", upstairs chimney adobe wall (unfired)



28f Shelby Witte-Schmid House 1857 called "Das Haus", entire front view

STONEWALL

LBJ Ranch



14a Stonewall LBJ Ranch. Crooked wood work because straight wood is hard to come by in the Texas Hill Country. What is locally called cedar logs is actually a juniper. It is quite a challenge to build with it.



15a Stonewall LBJ Ranch. Log cabin similar to Lynd's birth place. A two room log cabin with a dog trot under one roof with cedar shingles. This is a typical two room log cabin with a dog trot in the LBJ National Park. I has a dug out for cool storage and a well nearby. This type of home was built by Anglos and Germans, and others, just the basic shelter. Stonewall LBJ Ranch was not a German settlement.

15a Stonewall LBJ Ranch. Log cabin similar to Lynd's birth place. Typisches

Blockhaus auf dem Lande, auch Geburtshaus von Pres Ly Baines Johnson.



16a Stonewall LBJ Ranch Cedar logs, cedar shingles, actually juniper, dog trot very important.

16a Stonewall LBJ Ranch Cedar logs. Blockhaus = Schutz vor Indianern Büffeln, wilden Tieren, Keller und Aubau, hatte 180 acres ~70 Hekta am Pedernales.



17a Stonewall LBJ Ranch Buffalo "home on the range"

Sauer-Beckmann Farmstead

In 2000 visit the farm was being shown as it was around 1915. In 1869 Sauer bought family to one room log cabin and 188 acres on edge of wilderness. Then added lean-to and dug a cellar, then stone house. In 1900 farm was sold to Beckmann. Cotton crops

brought big profits, so they built spacious Victorian house. Now five people working the farm since 1975 as part of park service program.



01h Stonewall Sauer-Beckmann Farmstead. Water tank and new homestead. Now an outdoor museum.

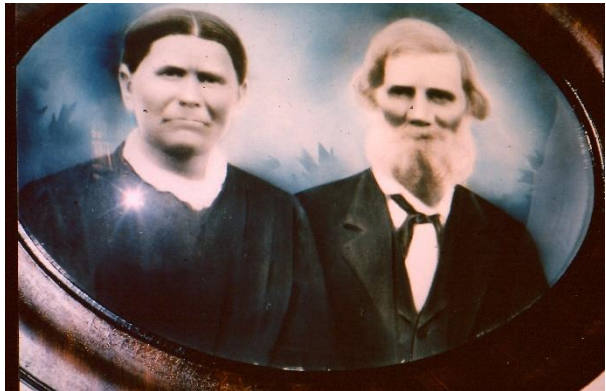


02h Stonewall Sauer-Beckmann Farmstead Water tank and new homestead. Now an outdoor museum.



03h Stonewall Sauer-Beckmann Farmstead Author [Helga] at work on front porch. No water in house.

Utensils inside this living history museum



09hvs and 21hvs Stonewall. Sauer-Beckmann Farmstead. Mr & Mrs Sauer (Becksmann) portrait, they had a 180 acre farmstead. But as we see in their faces, they did not have much time for dreaming, at least not the women. The German men were known for their wild beards and their wild dreams. Without those dreams they would never have gone to Texas.

09hvs and 21hvs Stonewall. Sauer-Beckmann Farmstead. Pionier Ehepaar Sauer, er = Träumer, sie arbeitet.



20c Stonewall. Sauer-Beckmann Farmstead . Transom window over door to dog trot was "air conditioning"



21c Stonewall. Sauer-Beckmann Farmstead. Sears Catalog with home building plans for \$725 and orders through US Postal Service. Sitting under a shade tree people began to dream of an easier life like ordering the next home from a Sears catalog for \$725 instead of sweating with ax and saw in hand.

21c Stonewall. Sauer-Beckmann Farmstead. Sears Catalog, Träume vom leichteren Leben, Möglich durch Eisenbahn.



22c Stonewall. Sauer-Beckmann Farmstead. Kitchen with cook. Kitchen was in the home, therefore no slaves. Houses with slaves had kitchen separate or had a lockable door between kitchen and rest of home.



23c Stonewall. Sauer-Beckmann Farmstead. Blue ceiling in homesteads popular among German settlers to keep mud daubers and yellow jackets away. The blue ceiling was popular among the Germans. They thought that certain insects like daubers would not nest under it.



24c Stonewall. Sauer-Beckmann Farmstead. Sauer's cabin addition made with native rocks and stones (plenty from on local fields). Cinching with native stone. Cinching was done with native stone as are the walls of the add-on. Stones were plenty full all over the fields.



25c Stonewall. Sauer-Beckmann Farmstead . Sauer's cabin details such as beams for hanging and add-ons. Beams are sticking out for hanging stuff like killed deer and for adding new sections to the house. Youngest son Emil became Consul to Germany
 25c Stonewall. Sauer-Beckmann Farmstead. Jetzt mit Bart Freilicht Museu. Holz, gefüllt mit Stein aus Umgebung, deutsche Bauweise in Texas.



26c Stonewall. Sauer-Beckmann Farmstead. Beckmann's Victorian home was added to complex around 1900 after cotton made the new owner prosperous. Kitchen window shows how thick the walls are, like old castles.
 26c Stonewall. Sauer-Beckmann Farmstead. Beckmann's Victorian home. When Beckmann bought the house around the turn of the century, he

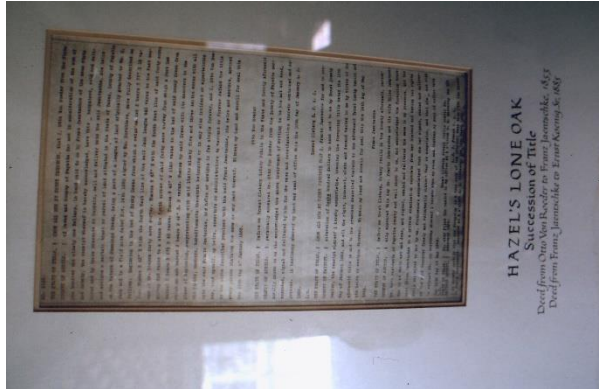
added at a Victorian house to the complex with massive stone walls, plastered and whitewashed. Cotton had made him prosperous.



27c Stonewall. Sauer-Beckmann Farmstead. Roofline details. Within the LBJ park is the German Sauer-Beckmann Farm and Homestead. Sauer built a one-room cabin around 1868. Sauer moved in around 1868, had 188 acres on edge of wilderness. Added lean-to and dug cellar.

WINEDALE

Winedale, University of Texas at Round Top, has only one house built by German,
Hazel's Lone Oak.



05n Winedale. Hazel's Lone Oak house, history of house



06n Winedale, Hazel's Lone Oak house



07n Winedale, Hazel's Lone Oak house, wide dog trot with staircase



08n Winedale, Hazel's Lone Oak house, museum inside

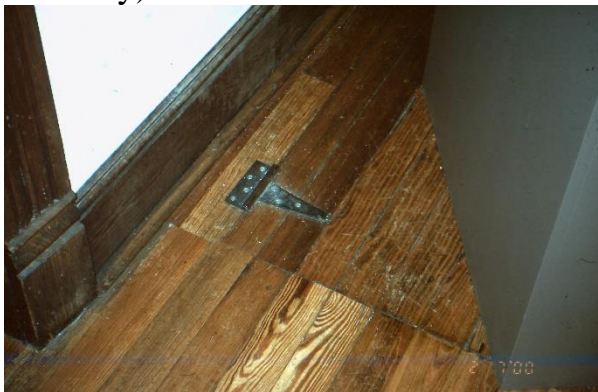
AUSTIN

Austin, the capitol of Texas, had a strong German presence. It was founded in 1839 and is the capital of the State of Texas. The Colorado River runs through Austin and later flows into the Gulf of Mexico. The river has many dams which create several lakes near Austin in the surrounding Hill Country, and also "Town Lake" and "Lake Austin" in the middle of town.

Elisabet Ney



04m Austin. Elisabet Ney, 304 E 44th Street. Loft in studio. King Ludwig II and sleeping loft. Ney slept in a hammock and ate lots of clabber (unpasteurized milk allowed to ferment naturally).



06m Austin. Elisabet Ney, 304 E 44th Street. Trap door. Elisabet Ney had a mind and lifestyle of her own. The

saying "You can always tell a German but you can't tell 'em much" describes her quite well. One of her practical ideas was to have a trap door in the floor so dirt could be swept away easily, not considered typical German. 06m Austin. Elisabet Ney. Keine deutsche Hausfrau: Falltuer fuer Dreck.



07m Austin. Elisabet Ney portrait from Münster, immigrated to United States in 1870. Famous Sculptor Elisabet Ney was born in Muenster German. Ney was well respected in Germany for her busts of famous people like Bismarck, Ludwig II, Schopenhauer, Garibaldi, Jakob Grimm, Humboldt, King George of Hannover, and others. This portrait of hers was painted by Friedrich Kaulbach in 1860 in Hannover.

07m Austin. Elisabet Ney. Hatte Bismarck, Schopenhauer Ludiwg II, zu Büsten verarbeitet. Gemälde von Fr Kaulbach hängt in Hannover.



10m Austin. Elisabeth Ney, 304 E 44th Street. Bust of Elisabeth Ney



12m Austin. Elisabeth Ney, 304 E 44th Street. Front view. Home called Formosa now E Ney museum. Owned and funded by the City of Austin is the Elisabeth Ney Museum, built in 1892 by German Sculptor Elisabeth Ney as her Austin residence and studio. The tower was built in 1902. "Formosa" is rock solid.

12m Austin. Elisabeth Ney, 304 E 44th Street. Studio "Formosa". Bildhauerin, aus Münster, solide aus Stein, auch Wohnhaus (Hangematte).



15m Austin. Elisabeth Ney, 304 E 44th Street. Back view of house, built for moving statues in and out.



25L Austin. Elisabeth Ney, 304 E 44th Street. Tower Room. Elisabeth's husband, Dr Edmund Montgomery's study and bedroom in tower. He had hammock across room, but he often slept on roof.

GFS German Free School



08h Austin German Free School 507 E 10th Street. Joining of old and new part of building.



14hvs Austin. German Free School 507 E 10th Street. Photo Aug1991. In 1857, German settlers, with their own hands, built this beautiful school, the "German Free School". With rammed earth walls, which was unusual in Austin,. They chose a location on a bluff to be in a good position should the Indians attack. In 1872, the house became the private residence of teacher and judge Julius Schuetze. The last private owner of the house, Kelly Stevens, restored the home in 1949 and donated it to the German-Texan Heritage Society in 1991. It is one of Austin's treasures.

14hvs Austin. German Free School 507 E 10th Street. Auf einem Hügel wegen Indianer Angriffe.

14hvs Austin. German Free School. 1857 Bildung sehr wichtig! Rammed Earth walls, Theater, Gesangverein, mehrere Deutsch – E. Akademien, führend in Versaltung in Kunst.

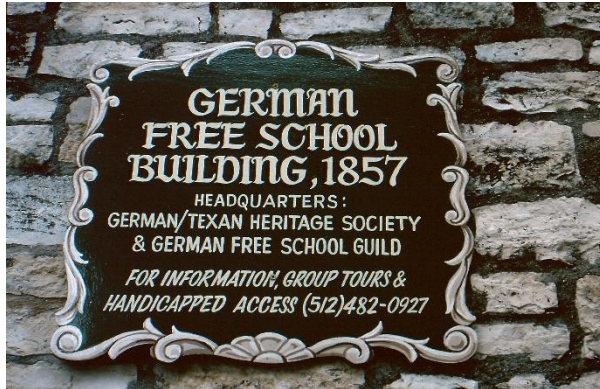


14hvs Austin. German Free School 507 E 10th Street. Photo Apr1995.



20hvs Austin German Free School historic markers, 507 E 10th St Austin (V-notching dominant, often saddle-notching)

20hvs Austin German Free School historic markers Cabin or mansion, all the homes in this presentation have one or some of the many different historical markers. I'll point out when they have something considered typical German-Texan, and I'll mention who lived in these homes, because that's what homes are all about.



20hvs Austin German Free School historic markers, Alle Häuser, die ich erwähne, haben historische Plaketten und stehen unter Denkmalsschutz, und ich erwähne typisch Deutsches und Geschichte der Besitzer.



24m Austin German Free School 507 E 10th Street. Door to basement and wall detail. Many parts of restored building are from other old structures in Austin that were torn down.

24m Austin German Free School 507 E 10th Street. In 1872 the house became the private residence of teacher and judge Julius Schuetze who added another section. During restoration the joining of the old parts and the new limestones was skillfully handled.
??hvs Austin German Free School view from South with tree

Bohls' Cabins



21L Austin Bohls cottages under the trees



22L Austin. Bohls cabins along Barton Creek on old road to Fredericksburg. Cabin, cinching disappears.



22K Austin. Bohls cabins details of logs



23k Austin. Bohls cabins along Barton Creek on old road to Fredericksburg. Cabin as shelter or as storage? Old photos show them as residences or "hotel rooms"



24k Austin. Bohls cabins along Barton Creek on old road to Fredericksburg. Log cabins under old trees, rotting away. They were built in 1850s by Dietrich Bohls. They are withering and weathering away and serve as shelters for vandals. In 1985, feuding between Austin City Council who backed the Historic Landmark Commission, and the property owners left cabins to the elements and vandalism after they were zoned "Historic" and could not be moved to a safer, more secluded part on the property.





25k and many more Austin. Bohls cabins along Barton Creek



Capitol



31hvs Austin Capitol in Austin. Mostly full of city slickers, crafts people, and land office

Barton Springs Pool



32hvs: Barton Creek Springs Pool.
Barton Springs Quelle – Indianer
Heiliger Platz.

MISC Slides

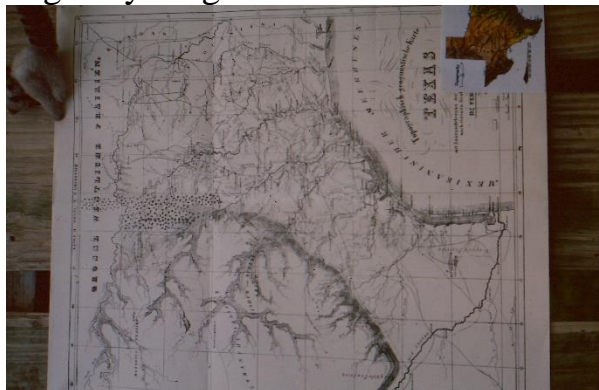


03th Map of Texas and surrounding states. Courtesy of Texas Highway magazine

03th Map of Texas Karte. Grenze mit Mexiko lange umkämpft. Heute noch unkontrollierbar.



04th Cowboys, courtesy of Texas Highway Magazine



19n Texas map from by Dr Ferd. Roemer "Grosse Westliche Prairien", The Great Western Prairie.

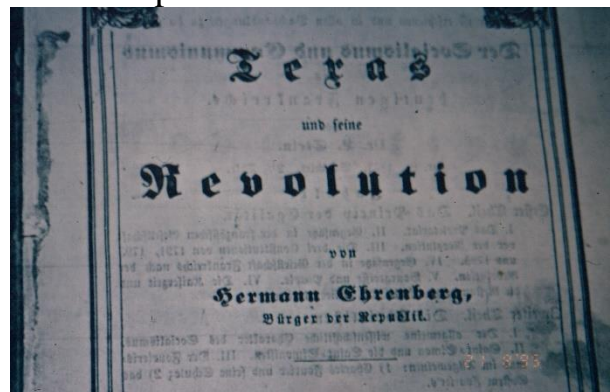


21n map of europe, atlantic, Americas



23hvs San Jacinto Monument battle 21 April 1836. Photo sept 1986

23hvs San Jacinto Monument battle 21 April 1836. Bei Houston, Unabhängigkeit gewonnen März 1836, wurde Republik.



24hvs Hermann Ehrenberg's book "Texas Revolution" and other book's were inspired by the idea of freedom. Photo 8-21-1995

24hvs Hermann Ehrenberg's book.
Buch, befhigelte Fantasie 1842/43.



25hvs Copano Bay (Karlshafen).
Germans landed in "Land" expecting
milk and honey. Photo 8-1995

25hvs Copano Bay. Hurrican destroyed
it.



25n Ferdinand Roemer from
Hildesheim Map of Texas from 1847.
Dr. Ferdinand Roemer from
Hildesheim, called the "Father of Texas
Geology", produced this map of ca
1847 showing some of the new
settlements on the border of nowhere
which we will visit.

25n Ferdinand Roemer from
Hildesheim Map of Texas from 1847,
Father of TX geology. Einwander von
Welle: Ferdinand Roemer Karte –
Adelsverin. 6000 za 1844-1847 –
große Opfe, Leiden. Fisher Miller
Schenkung Grant in Comanche Gebeit.

Grundung von mehreren sog.
Deutschen Siedlungen, u.a. Neu Br.,
Fried., u. Bettina. [Immigrants from
Welle: Ferdinand Roemer Card –
Adelsverin. 6000 za 1844-1847 – great
sacrifices, suffering. Fisher Miller
Donation Grant in Comanche area.
Foundation of several so-called German
settlements, including Neu Br., Fried.,
and Bettina.]

25n Ferdinand Roemer from
Hildesheim Map of Texas from 1847.
Aus Hildesheim. Siedler zogen an
Flüssen, hoch ins Unbekannte.



26hvs Missing Dangers included
diseases and crocodiles.



27hvs River crossing. San Antonio
River near Goliad. Photo taken
27Jul1995. German immigrants had to
navigate multiple river crossing to
reach the promise land.

27hvs River crossing. San Antonio
River. Reiseroute an Flüssen entlang.



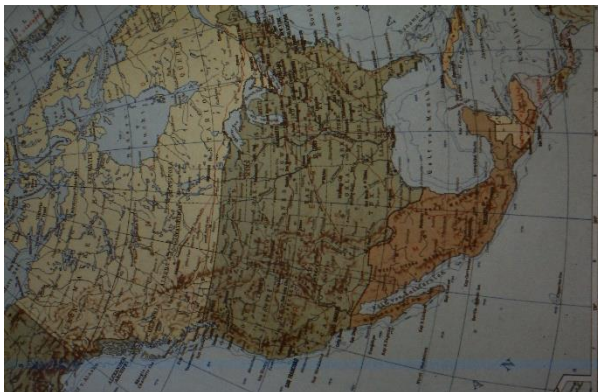
29n present day 2000 Texas road map



31hvs Cuero, cotton field

31hvs Cuero, cotton field.

Baumwollfeld mit Mühe, viele Deutsche in Baumwolle.



36n and 37n Map of North America.

Nord-Amerika. Texas – grünesland [green land], besiedelt [settled],

Rest=Indianer. Deutsche Einwanderer nach Mexiko before 1836.

36n and 37n Map of North America.

Vot 1836 TX = Mexiko, deutschen

Einwanderer nach Mexico – bekamen

Land, Heirate = mehr Land, Katholic warden.



40 McClain house



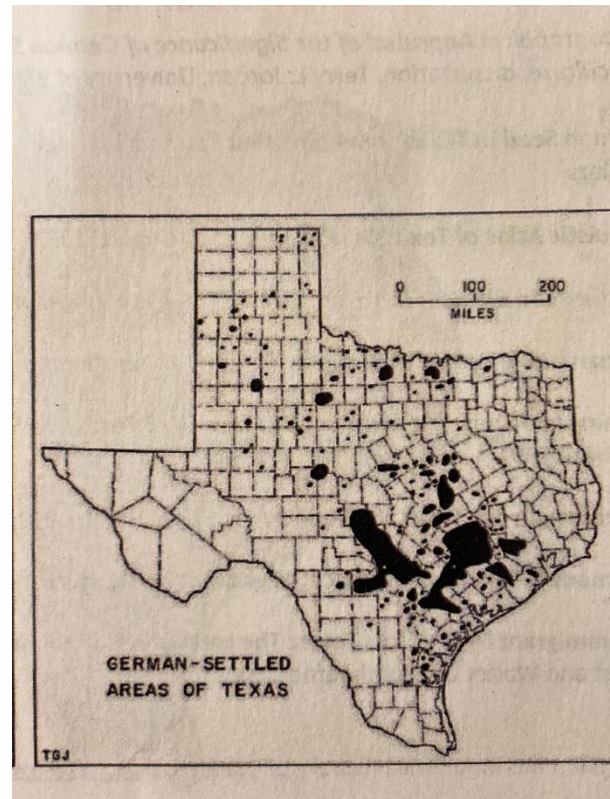
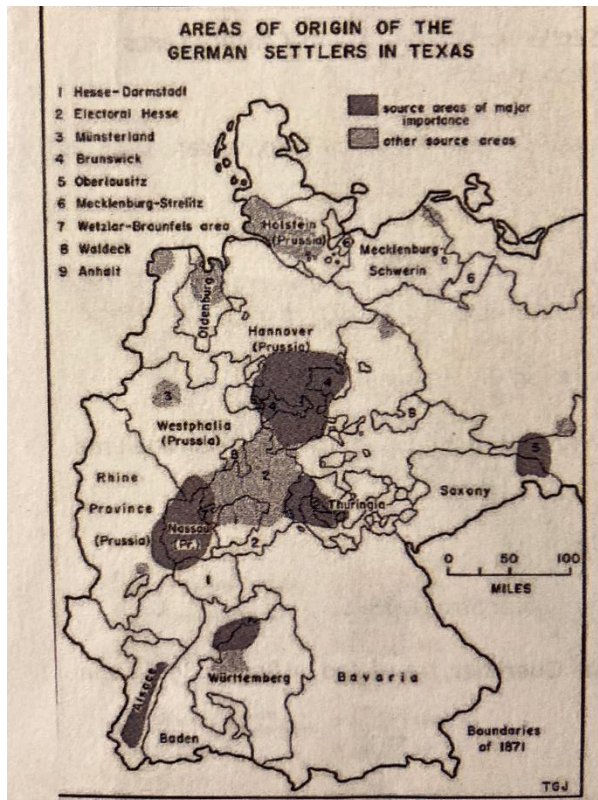
41 McClain house



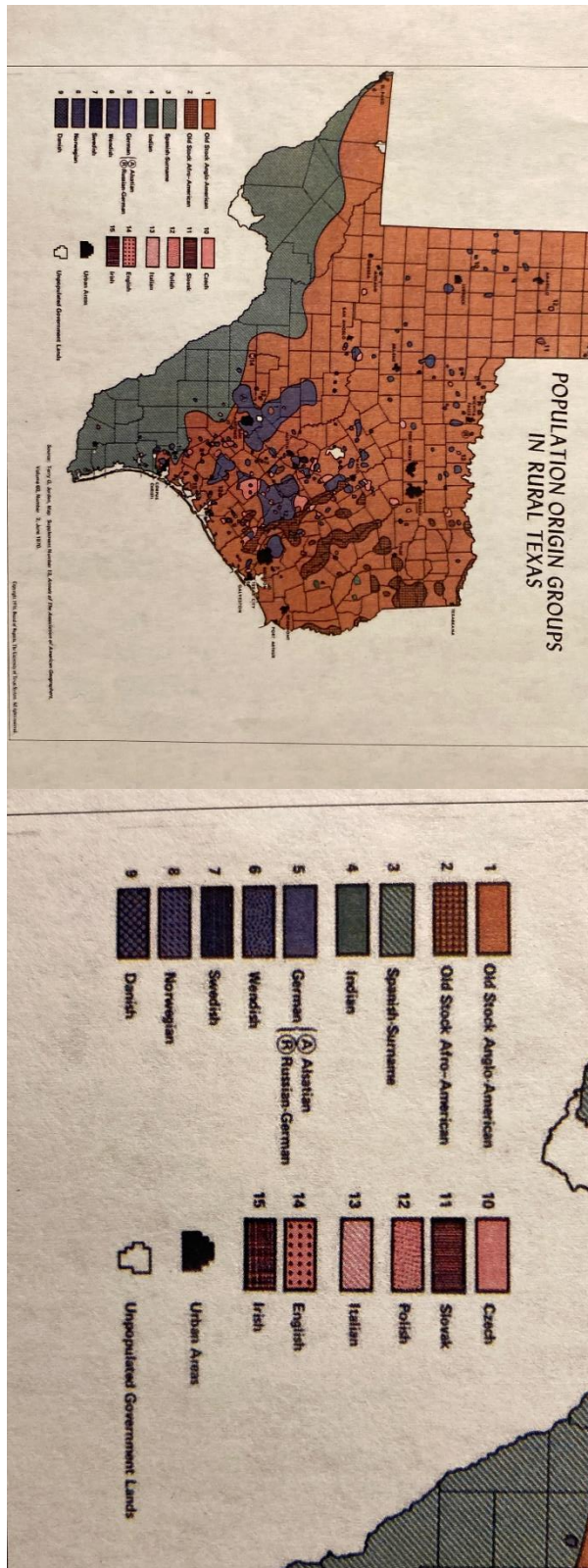
42 McClain house



43 rich house in Houston



44 Texas map of German-settled areas in 1871 by Terry Jordan "The German Element in Texas"



44 Texas population map of origin groups in Rural Texas, 2 June 1970 by Terry Jordan

MISC Notes

Fort Martin Scott: Built in 1848 (three years after Texas joined the USA). First federal fort, became center of trade, existed only until 1853.

Luckenbach: Population 25 in 2000. Located on Highway 1376. In 1850 settled by German settlers. In 1970, bought by Hondo Crouch who wanted to be a mayor. Song "Luckenbach" by Willie Nelson and Waylon Jennings.

Johnson City: Seat of Blanco County. Population 959 in 2000. Named after ancestor of Lyndon Johnson who was a cattle drover. Lyndon lived there to attend school.

New Ulm: Fink House looks like eyeglasses. On road to Cat Spring, left from Industry to New Ulm, on right side.

Boerne: Dienger Building (1884) General store with family accommodations upstairs. Victorian trim work.

Source of some slides

Helga used several sources to her information. A lot was by personally interview people. Other sources included articles and visits to museums. The following letter Helga wrote after researching "Das Haus" in Shelby.

HANS L. & HELGA H. VON SCHWEINITZ

2319 VILLAGE CIRCLE
AUSTIN, TX 78745
FAX PHONE (512)441-3121
E-MAIL hans@jumpnet.com, helgavs@aol.com
HOME PAGE <http://www.jump.net/~hans>
Home Phone (512)441-2089
MOBILE PHONE (512)415-7041



Sanford Schmid
3029 St. Hwy 159
La Grange TX 78945
(409)968-5520

27 Jan. 00

Dear Sanford.

Hans and I would like to thank you for going out to the Haus with us last Sunday and for spending so much time with us. We could not have had a better guide, since there is nobody else who knows so much about Das Haus and who cares as much as you do.

Like you said, Das Haus is a jewel in the raw. It was a jewel from the time it was built. I just hope that the German Texans - all of them - make the most of it. With so few of those who care live close by, it will be hard to find helpers, caretakers and docents on a regular volunteer basis. The old "German Free School" in Austin is in a better location for that. The German-Texan Heritage Society decided not to have the historic building designated a museum, because that would restrict its use, and one would have to be so careful with using any of the contents for practical purposes. To get all the restoration done, I guess you need to hire a restoration company to do that.

Speaking of location: One of the attractions of the Haus is its location on the hill with the tremendous view of the open country. I hope the area does not get divided up into one-acre or five-acre lots and built up like so much of the beautiful country around San Antonio and Austin. However, we all need to live somewhere.

Das Haus is a wonderful example of the fact that many Germans were not exactly like the "poor and the hungry" immigrants that came to America. It will be a substantial part in my slide presentation on "Homes built by German immigrants in Texas" which I'll give in June 2000 at a symposium of the SGAS (Society for German American Studies) in Bremerhaven, Germany.

Sincerely

Helga

Helga also order several slides from the Texas Department of Transportation.

PHOTO LIBRARY ORDER AND TRANSMITTAL FORM
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Travel Division
Audiovisual Production Section
P.O. Box 149248 Austin TX 78714-9248

Photo Librarian: Anne L. Cook
Telephone: 512-486-5838
FAX: 512-486-5835

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Name: Helga von Schweinitz Company: _____
Address: 2319 Village Circle Phone: 512-441-2089
City, State, ZIP: Austin TX 78795 Date: 2/3/2000
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① Slide show and talk at SCAS Symposium, June 6, 2000
② " " " " Historic Restoration Symposium, Sep. 9, 2000

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Signature of Photo Library user
512 441-2089
Area code, telephone number
2/3/2000
Date

Name of Company
2319 Village Circle
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City, State, Zip Code

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Travel Division
Photo Library
Texas Department of Transportation

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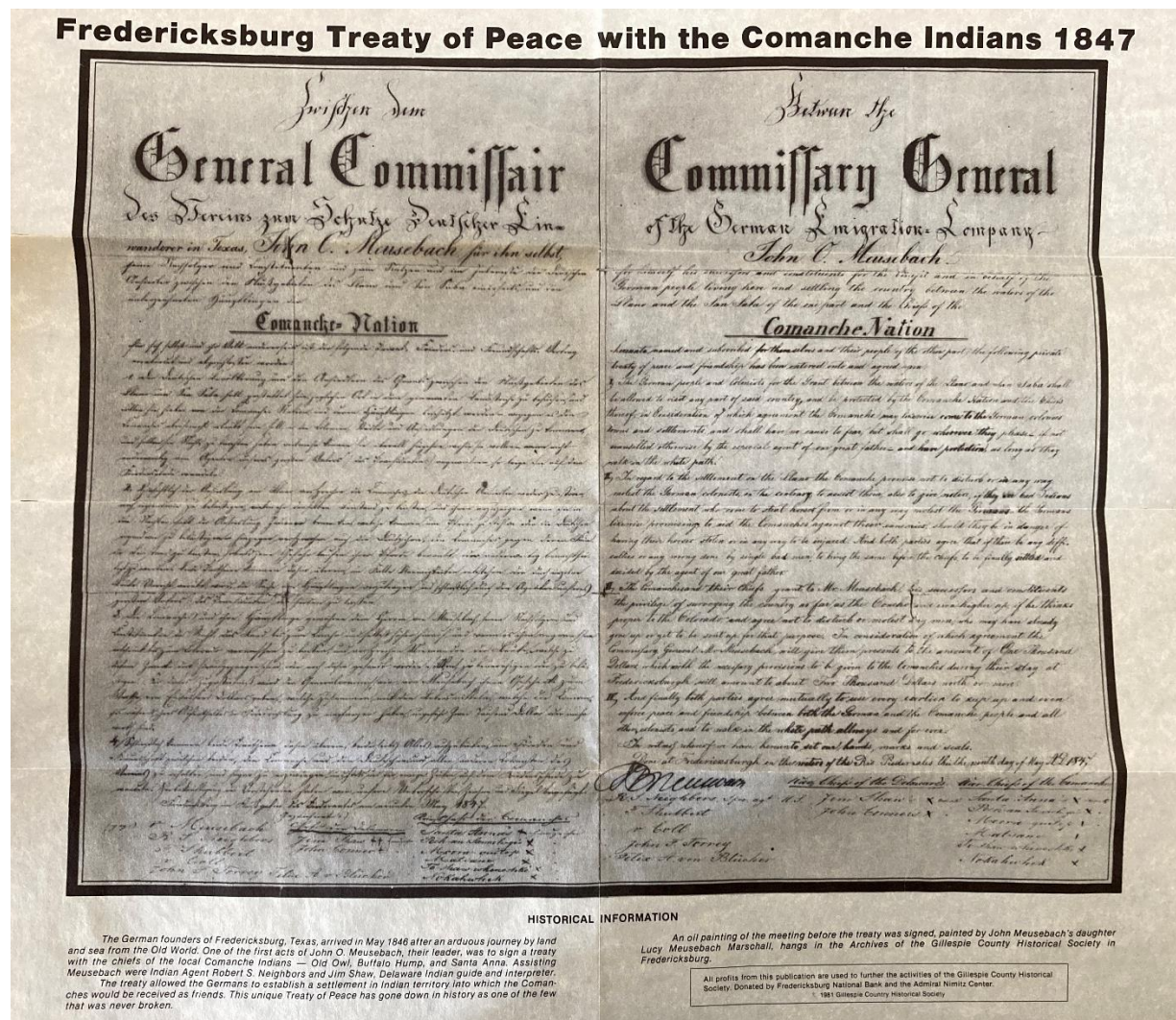
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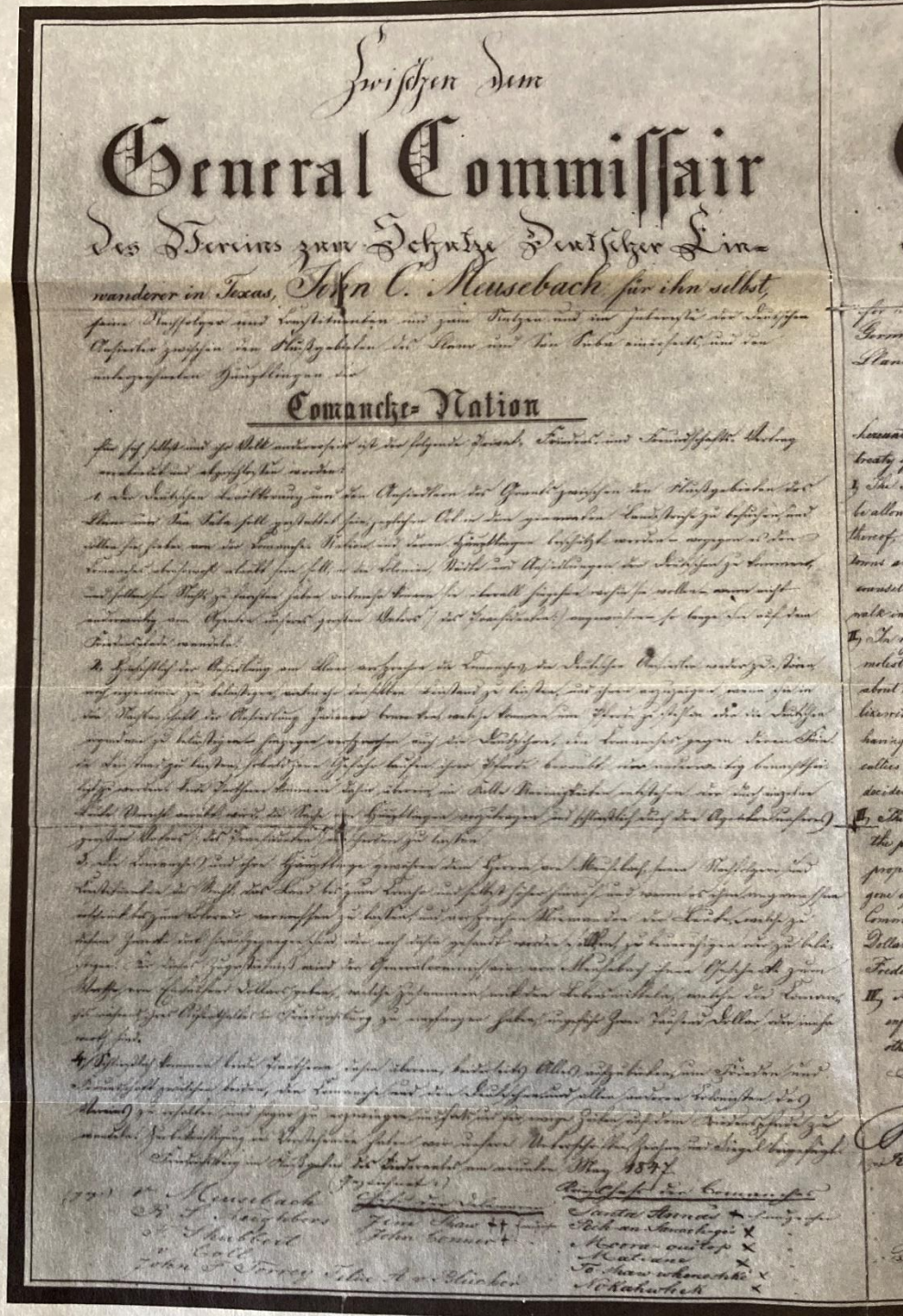
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Anne L. Cook, Photo Librarian
Audiovisual Production Section, Travel Division
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Fredericksburg Treaty of Peace with the Comanche Indians 1847

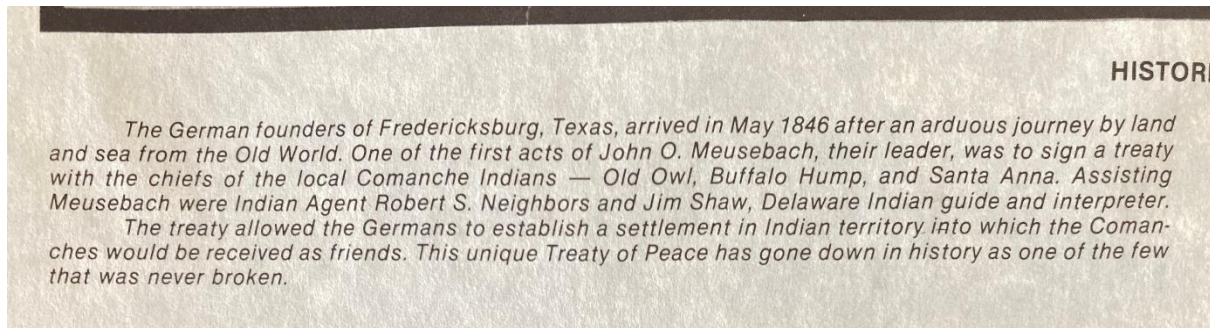


Fredericksburg Treaty of Peace with



HISTORICAL INFO

The German founders of Fredericksburg, Texas, arrived in May 1846 after an arduous journey by land and sea from the Old World. One of the first acts of John O. Meusebach, their leader, was to sign a treaty with the chiefs of the local Comanche Indians — Old Owl, Buffalo Hump, and Santa Anna. Assisting Meusebach were Indian Agent Robert S. Neighbors and Jim Shaw, Delaware Indian guide and interpreter. The treaty allowed the Germans to establish a settlement in Indian territory into which the Comanches would be received as friends. This unique Treaty of Peace has gone down in history as one of the few that was never broken.



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