

SC-2267

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



1. Name of Property

Historic Name: Honey Creek Historic District
Other name/site number: NA
Name of related multiple property listing: NA

2. Location

Street & number: Rural property along State Park Road 31 and Bell Ranch Road: Parcels 77128, 82609, 73632, 77109, 77257, 80627, 82607, 81637, 149474
City or town: Spring Branch State: Texas County: Comal
Not for publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following levels of significance:
 national statewide local

Applicable National Register Criteria: A B C D

Mark Wolfe State Historic Preservation Officer 2/12/18
Signature of certifying official / Title Date
Texas Historical Commission
State or Federal agency / bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency / bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:
 entered in the National Register
 determined eligible for the National Register
 determined not eligible for the National Register.
 removed from the National Register
 other, explain: _____

[Signature] 3-26-18
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Honey Creek Historic District, Spring Branch, Comal County, Texas

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Private
<input type="checkbox"/>	Public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	Public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	Public - Federal

Category of Property

<input type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
18	7	buildings
1	0	sites
7	0	structures
4	0	objects
30	7	total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions: Domestic – single dwelling, secondary structure
 Agriculture/Subsistence – agricultural building, animal facility, agricultural field
 Religion – religious facility
 Funerary - cemetery
 Landscape – fence

Current Functions: Domestic – single dwelling, secondary structure
 Agriculture/Subsistence – agricultural building, animal facility, agricultural field
 Religion – religious facility
 Funerary - cemetery
 Landscape – fence

7. Description

Architectural Classification: Other; Late 19th and Early 20th Century American Movements:
 Bungalow/Craftsman

Principal Exterior Materials: Wood, Stone, Metal, Tin, Concrete

Narrative Description (see continuation sheets 7-1 through 9)

Honey Creek Historic District, Spring Branch, Comal County, Texas

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A	Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
<input type="checkbox"/>	B	Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
<input type="checkbox"/>	C	Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
<input type="checkbox"/>	D	Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations: NA

Areas of Significance: Exploration/Settlement, Agriculture

Period of Significance: 1867 – 1968

Significant Dates: 1867

Significant Person (only if criterion B is marked): NA

Cultural Affiliation (only if criterion D is marked): NA

Architect/Builder: NA

Narrative Statement of Significance (see continuation sheets 8-1 through 8)

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography (see continuation sheets 9-1 through 2)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office (*Texas Historical Commission, Austin*)
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository:

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): NA

Honey Creek Historic District, Spring Branch, Comal County, Texas

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property: 638.5079 acres

Coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: NA

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 29.844469° | Longitude: -98.522075° |
| 2. Latitude: 29.844406° | Longitude: -98.514577° |
| 3. Latitude: 29.852108° | Longitude: -98.514566° |
| 4. Latitude: 29.853940° | Longitude: -98.509981° |
| 5. Latitude: 29.847163° | Longitude: -98.506334° |
| 6. Latitude: 29.847010° | Longitude: -98.506732° |
| 7. Latitude: 29.844116° | Longitude: -98.505198° |
| 8. Latitude: 29.846417° | Longitude: -98.499942° |
| 9. Latitude: 29.846723° | Longitude: -98.496766° |
| 10. Latitude: 29.848725° | Longitude: -98.496729° |
| 11. Latitude: 29.848740° | Longitude: -98.490856° |
| 12. Latitude: 29.847726° | Longitude: -98.491726° |
| 13. Latitude: 29.848020° | Longitude: -98.491842° |
| 14. Latitude: 29.847627° | Longitude: -98.491943° |
| 15. Latitude: 29.846291° | Longitude: -98.491800° |
| 16. Latitude: 29.846195° | Longitude: -98.491998° |
| 17. Latitude: 29.846196° | Longitude: -98.492292° |
| 18. Latitude: 29.846932° | Longitude: -98.494644° |
| 19. Latitude: 29.846933° | Longitude: -98.495037° |
| 20. Latitude: 29.846426° | Longitude: -98.496474° |
| 21. Latitude: 29.846010° | Longitude: -98.496979° |
| 22. Latitude: 29.845338° | Longitude: -98.497351° |
| 23. Latitude: 29.839499° | Longitude: -98.502750° |
| 24. Latitude: 29.837693° | Longitude: -98.507354° |
| 25. Latitude: 29.836303° | Longitude: -98.506703° |
| 26. Latitude: 29.836172° | Longitude: -98.507024° |
| 27. Latitude: 29.836195° | Longitude: -98.506898° |
| 28. Latitude: 29.835984° | Longitude: -98.506839° |
| 29. Latitude: 29.835929° | Longitude: -98.507136° |
| 30. Latitude: 29.836053° | Longitude: -98.507169° |
| 31. Latitude: 29.835174° | Longitude: -98.508226° |
| 32. Latitude: 29.836239° | Longitude: -98.508219° |
| 33. Latitude: 29.836240° | Longitude: -98.511059° |
| 34. Latitude: 29.836341° | Longitude: -98.510800° |
| 35. Latitude: 29.836428° | Longitude: -98.522181° |

Verbal Boundary Description: Honey Creek Historic District's boundaries are created by current parcel boundaries. Parcel boundaries for 77128 (which follow Bell Ranch Road), 82609, and 73632 create the southern boundary for the historic district. From the southern border, the boundary follows parcels 77109, 77257, 82607, and 80627 northeast to its eastern border with Honey Creek

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State Natural Area. The boundary then wraps around to the northern edges of parcels 82607 and 77257 and the eastern edges of parcels 77109 and 81637 to its northern boundary with Guadalupe River State Park. The eastern edges of parcels 81637, 149474, and 77128 create the historic district's eastern boundary.

Boundary Justification: Boundaries for Honey Creek Historic District follow current property boundaries and were created to encompass land historically owned by founders of Honey Creek (Johann Kneupper and Georg Kunz), and now owned by descendants of Kunz. The district encompasses the original 160 acres received by both men in 1867, as well as additional land that Kunz acquired during the period of significance. The boundaries also include Honey Creek Cemetery, as it is a significant feature in the history of Honey Creek. The Honey Creek Historic District boundaries encompass the built resources associated with the history of Honey Creek, as well as historically important agricultural land that contributes to the significance, feeling, and setting of the district.

11. Form Prepared By

Name/title: Kristina Kupferschmid/Architectural Historian, Erin Tyson/GIS Technician
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Date:

Additional Documentation

Maps (see continuation sheets 1 through 6)

Figures (see continuation sheets 7 through 18)

Photographs (see continuation sheets 19 through 53)

This project was funded in part through a Certified Local Government Grant from the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, as administered by the Texas Historical Commission.

The contents and opinions, however, do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the Department of the Interior, nor does the mention of trade names or commercial products constitute endorsement or recommendation by the Department of the Interior.

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Honey Creek Historic District, Spring Branch, Comal County, Texas

Photograph Log

Name of Property: Honey Creek Historic District
City or Vicinity: Spring Branch, Comal County
State: Texas
Number of Photographs: 35
Photographer: Kristina Kupferschmid
Date photographed: January 28, 2017 and February 28, 2017

Photo No. 1 (TX_ComalCounty_HoneyCreekHistoricDistrict_0001.tif)
View of entrance gate (RID p), view facing east.

Photo No. 2 (TX_ComalCounty_HoneyCreekHistoricDistrict_0002.tif)
View of internal road leading to Kunz Homestead, view facing west.

Photo No. 3 (TX_ComalCounty_HoneyCreekHistoricDistrict_0003.tif)
View of natural landscape near the Kneupper Chapel (RID ff), view facing southeast.

Photo No. 4 (TX_ComalCounty_HoneyCreekHistoricDistrict_0004.tif)
View of non-historic fencing on Kunz Homestead, view facing west.

Photo No. 5 (TX_ComalCounty_HoneyCreekHistoricDistrict_0005.tif)
View of historic fencing on Kneupper Homestead, view facing west.

Photo No. 6 (TX_ComalCounty_HoneyCreekHistoricDistrict_0006.tif)
View of Kneupper Homestead, view facing northeast.

Photo No. 7 (TX_ComalCounty_HoneyCreekHistoricDistrict_0007.tif)
Oblique view of ca. 1867 Kneupper house (RID y), view facing northeast.

Photo No. 8 (TX_ComalCounty_HoneyCreekHistoricDistrict_0008.tif)
Oblique view of rear of ca. 1867 Kneupper house (RID y), view facing southeast.

Photo No. 9 (TX_ComalCounty_HoneyCreekHistoricDistrict_0009.tif)
View of well house (RID z) and windmill (RID cc) on Kneupper Homestead, view facing southwest.

Photo No. 10 (TX_ComalCounty_HoneyCreekHistoricDistrict_0010.tif)
Oblique view of 1920s house (RID dd) on Kneupper Homestead, view facing northwest.

Photo No. 11 (TX_ComalCounty_HoneyCreekHistoricDistrict_0011.tif)
Oblique view of 1930s barn (RID v) on Kneupper Homestead, view facing north.

Photo No. 12 (TX_ComalCounty_HoneyCreekHistoricDistrict_0012.tif)
View of loading chute and corral (RID gg) on Kneupper Homestead, view facing northeast.

Photo No. 13 (TX_ComalCounty_HoneyCreekHistoricDistrict_0013.tif)
View of corn crib (RID hh) on Kneupper Homestead, view facing north.

Photo No. 14 (TX_ComalCounty_HoneyCreekHistoricDistrict_0014.tif)
View of goat barn (RID u) on Kneupper Homestead, view facing northeast.

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Photo No. 15 (TX_ComalCounty_HoneyCreekHistoricDistrict_0015.tif)
View of smokehouse (RID w) on Kneupper Homestead, view facing east.

Photo No. 16 (TX_ComalCounty_HoneyCreekHistoricDistrict_0016.tif)
View of shed (RID ee) on Kneupper Homestead, view facing east.

Photo No. 17 (TX_ComalCounty_HoneyCreekHistoricDistrict_0017.tif)
View of stone dipping vat (RID aa) on Kneupper Homestead, view facing southwest.

Photo No. 18 (TX_ComalCounty_HoneyCreekHistoricDistrict_0018.tif)
View of trough (RID bb) on Kneupper Homestead, view facing southwest.

Photo No. 19 (TX_ComalCounty_HoneyCreekHistoricDistrict_0019.tif)
Oblique view of house (RID a) and fencing (RID r) on Kunz Homestead, view facing east.

Photo No. 20 (TX_ComalCounty_HoneyCreekHistoricDistrict_0020.tif)
Façade view of wash house (RID b) on Kunz Homestead, view facing east.

Photo No. 21 (TX_ComalCounty_HoneyCreekHistoricDistrict_0021.tif)
View of rocky outcrop separating domestic area from agricultural resources on Kunz Homestead, view facing east.

Photo No. 22 (TX_ComalCounty_HoneyCreekHistoricDistrict_0022.tif)
View of roadway separating domestic area from agricultural resources on Kunz Homestead, view facing southwest.

Photo No. 23 (TX_ComalCounty_HoneyCreekHistoricDistrict_0023.tif)
View of barn (RID j) on Kunz Homestead, view facing east.

Photo No. 24 (TX_ComalCounty_HoneyCreekHistoricDistrict_0024.tif)
View of dipping vat (RID f) on Kunz Homestead, view facing east.

Photo No. 25 (TX_ComalCounty_HoneyCreekHistoricDistrict_0025.tif)
View of pig pen (RID h) on Kunz Homestead, view facing north.

Photo No. 26 (TX_ComalCounty_HoneyCreekHistoricDistrict_0026.tif)
View of barn (RID i) on Kunz Homestead, view facing north.

Photo No. 27 (TX_ComalCounty_HoneyCreekHistoricDistrict_0027.tif)
Oblique view of chicken house/brooder house (RID l) on Kunz Homestead, view facing northwest.

Photo No. 28 (TX_ComalCounty_HoneyCreekHistoricDistrict_0028.tif)
Oblique view of chicken house (RID n) on Kunz Homestead, view facing northwest.

Photo No. 29 (TX_ComalCounty_HoneyCreekHistoricDistrict_0029.tif)
Contextual view of Kneupper Chapel (RID ff), view facing southeast.

Photo No. 30 (TX_ComalCounty_HoneyCreekHistoricDistrict_0030.tif)
View of Kneupper Chapel (RID ff) and stone fencing (RID ii), view facing southeast.

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Photo No. 31 (TX_ComalCounty_HoneyCreekHistoricDistrict_0031.tif)
View of interior of Kneupper Chapel (RID ff), view facing east.

Photo No. 32 (TX_ComalCounty_HoneyCreekHistoricDistrict_0032.tif)
View of Honey Creek Cemetery (RID kk) entrance, view facing southeast.

Photo No. 33 (TX_ComalCounty_HoneyCreekHistoricDistrict_0033.tif)
View of fenced in graves at Honey Creek Cemetery (RID kk), view facing east.

Photo No. 34 (TX_ComalCounty_HoneyCreekHistoricDistrict_0034.tif)
View of non-contributing garage (RID d) on Kunz Homestead, view facing northeast.

Photo No. 35 (TX_ComalCounty_HoneyCreekHistoricDistrict_0035.tif)
View of non-contributing warehouse (RID m) on Kunz Homestead, view facing southwest.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

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Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Honey Creek Historic District ----- Name of Property
Comal County, Texas ----- County and State
N/A ----- Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

SECTION 7: Narrative Description

Honey Creek Historic District lies in rural western Comal County in the Texas Hill Country. Comprised of two large historic agricultural homesteads—the Kneupper Homestead and the Kunz Homestead—the district contains resources—buildings, structures, objects, and cultural landscapes—dating from the time of settlement in the late-nineteenth century through to the mid-twentieth century. Bounded by present-day parcel boundaries (map 4), Honey Creek Historic District encompasses approximately 640 acres. The district borders Guadalupe River State Park at its northern boundary and Honey Creek State Natural Area at its eastern boundary. The historic district lies approximately one-and-a-half miles north of State Highway (SH) 46, and mere feet from the Kendall County line at its northern corner. The historic district is defined by two historic homesteads; one typical of late nineteenth century and one typical of early-to-mid twentieth century rural Comal County. Each homestead has a cluster of resources that consists of a main house and agricultural buildings and structures surrounded by historic fields and pastures. The historic district also contains a small rock chapel and a historic cemetery. There are 30 contributing resources and 7 non-contributing resources—all built after the period of significance—within the Honey Creek Historic District. The cultural landscape and built resources create a cohesive district that represent the area’s 151-year history of occupation and reflects an important pattern of rural settlement and development in Comal County. Honey Creek Historic District retains integrity, with much of its historic character intact. Most buildings have few alterations, the fields and pastures convey historic land-use activities, and there is very little modern development within or surrounding the historic district.

General Overview of Historic District

Spread over approximately 640 acres, the historic district is comprised of two historic homesteads, the Kneupper and Kunz Homesteads.¹ The district also contains a historic stone chapel and the historic Honey Creek Cemetery, located south of the two homesteads (map 4). State Park Road 31 bisects the historic district. The homesteads, chapel, and cemetery are all located east of the road, and the area west of the road primarily consists of historic fields. The cluster of resources comprising the Kneupper Homestead is approximately one half mile southwest of the Kunz Homestead cluster of resources. Access to both homesteads is by a gated (RID p, photo nos. 1-2) dirt drive off the east side of State Park Road 31. The Kunz Homestead is approximately a quarter mile northeast of the gate, and the Kneupper Homestead is approximately a third of a mile south of the gate. Located on Bell Ranch Road, Honey Creek Cemetery is approximately one half mile southeast of the Kneupper Homestead cluster. A more detailed discussion of the district, each homestead, chapel, and cemetery follows.

Landscape and Setting

Honey Creek Historic District falls within Honey Creek, a loosely-defined geographic area of approximately 10,000 acres within rural western Comal and eastern Kendall counties.² The geographic area is loosely bound by: the Guadalupe River to the north, and the historic communities of Spring Branch to the east, Anhalt to the southeast, Bulverde to the south, and Bergheim in Kendall County to the west. The area’s namesake, Honey

¹ The Kunz family purchased the Kneupper Homestead in the early twentieth century. Since this time the two properties have remained in the Kunz family. This is discussed in more detail Section 8.

² Bryden Moon. “The History of St. Joseph Catholic Church Honey Creek.” *St. Joseph Catholic Church Honey Creek 2010 Parish Directory*. p. 8.

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Creek—a tributary of the Guadalupe River—runs approximately five miles northeast from its headwaters—located within the historic district—to the Guadalupe River through the geographic area at the very eastern edge of the historic district. Approximately 30 miles northwest of New Braunfels and 15 miles east-northeast of Boerne in Kendall County, Honey Creek falls west of the Balcones Escarpment on the Edwards Plateau in the Texas Hill Country. Honey Creek Historic District’s geography is characterized by gently sloping hills, occasional faces of steep exposed limestone, and shallow rocky soil. Native grasslands are interspersed with wooded areas of oak, cedar, cypress, and elm trees (photo no. 3).

Land-Use Activities

Within the historic district, land-use activities from the late-nineteenth century to the present have changed very little. Based on population census and agricultural census data from 1870 to 1900, tax record rolls from the 1870s through the 1940s, and family histories, the occupants of Honey Creek used the land they owned for agricultural production, for subsisting and earning money throughout the period of significance. The rocky soil characteristic of Honey Creek—not as conducive to large-scale crop cultivations as compared to the soil in eastern Comal County in the Blackland Prairie—was favorable for raising livestock and growing grains and fodder crops. Dictated largely by the land and soil, crops were grown in the more fertile areas, closer to water, and the sloping, rocky areas and cleared fields were left for roaming animals. Despite agricultural activities diminishing and changing with time, the land within the district still conveys its agricultural past. Outside the cluster of built resources, historically undeveloped land remains undeveloped, characterized by cleared open fields and hillier areas covered with native brush and trees. Cattle still graze in large fenced-in areas, but crops are no longer under cultivation within the district. Historically, Kneupper also wrote of planting orchards, though no evidence of these trees remain. A comparison of a 1919 county survey map, aerial photographs from the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s, and a current aerial reveal that historic patterns of land-use activities—location of fields, cedar trees, fences, and buildings—remain visible today (figs. 1-4, map 3). These images reveal that cleared lands, used for both crops and grazing, represent the majority of the western portion of the historic district, closer to the built resources, while the eastern half of the historic district was and continues to remain more vegetated.

More recently, the land within the historic district has been used recreationally by both deer hunters and cavers. The district is home to what is believed to be the longest known cave in Texas, Honey Creek Cave. Stretching more than 20 miles, cavers have been exploring the underground formation for over 30 years.³ These recreational activities do not impact the identifiability and remains of the district’s historic land-use patterns.

Circulation Networks

Honey Creek Historic District is located several miles north of the nearest major roadway—SH 46. At the time of settlement in the 1870s, the homesteads would also have been several miles from the nearest road; which at the time would have been the primitive Boerne – to – New Braunfels Road (present-day SH 46). Other primitive trails, created by early settlers and their oxen and horses, linking early communities such as New Braunfels and Fredericksburg were also nearby. These trails typically followed waterways, such as Honey Creek and the Guadalupe River. The historic district is located on and bisected by present-day State Park Road 31—which connects SH 46 to Guadalupe River State Park to the north. The exact date of construction of this road is

³ Kolten Parker. “Go inside Honey Creek Cave, the longest known cave in Texas.” *My San Antonio*. September 10, 2014, <http://www.mysanantonio.com/news/local/article/Honey-Creek-Cave-5744500.php>

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N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

unknown, but a 1919 survey map shows what is presumed to be the road hand drawn on by an unknown person in the proximity of the current road (fig. 1). Aerial photographs from 1953 and 1973 show that the historic alignment of the road has moved slightly west over the years (figs. 3-4). Historically, the road ran closer to both homesteads. In fact, the 1953 aerial shows that the road's original construction ran immediately adjacent to both the Kneupper and Kunz homesteads. By 1973, the road alignment had shifted approximately 650 feet west at the northern end of the district, further away from the Kunz Homestead to the other side of a cultivated field. The shift to the road's current alignment likely occurred sometime around 1980 when it was designated State Park Road 31 and TxDOT assumed ownership and maintenance of the roadway.⁴ At present, the oldest road alignment is still in use in some parts of the district and is used to connect the Kunz and Kneupper homesteads. The post-1953 to ca. 1980 alignment is still in use as a dirt roadway within the district, and evidence of this historic alignment is visible on current aerials as a road next to the field northwest of the Kunz Homestead (map 3). Within the district, several internal primitive dirt roads that have evolved over time provide access to vehicles throughout the district.

Patterns of Spatial Organization

Honey Creek Historic District is comprised of two historic homesteads, a historic chapel, a historic cemetery, and over 600 acres of rural undeveloped agrarian land. The layouts of the Kneupper and Kunz Homestead follow the same general pattern, with each having a cluster of built resources—both agricultural and domestic buildings, structures, and objects—in proximity to former cultivated and grazing fields, with larger areas of more-vegetated land set further away from the cluster of buildings in the eastern portion of the historic district. Both the Kneupper and Kunz clusters of resources were historically near the roadway and situated at a slight elevation. The clusters are still close to the roadway, just slightly further away since the roadway alignment change. Within the clusters, domestic resources, which include the main house, windmills, cisterns, and milk houses, are situated together, while the agricultural resources, such as barns and dipping vats, are set away from the domestic resources. Fencing, both historic stone, and wood and wire, and non-historic, provide separation between domestic and agricultural areas. Fencing also outlines fields and some property lines (photo nos. 4-5).

Kneupper Homestead Cluster (map 5)

The resources on the historic Kneupper Homestead represent the oldest resources in the historic district and include the ca. 1867 house and a variety of ca. 1880 to mid-twentieth century domestic and agricultural resources, including a ca. 1920 house and a ca. 1930 barn (map 5, photo no. 6). Located in the southern portion of Honey Creek Historic District, the cluster is less than 300 feet east of State Park Road 31, but is only accessed via an internal road whose entrance from the main road is directly north of the cluster. Both wood and wire, and stone fencing, and the remains of some historic fencing (posts and stones), separate the large barn (RID v) from most of the other resources, and also encloses the cluster to the west. A trough and dipping vat (RIDs aa and bb, photo no. 5) are located along this fence. Fencing that once enclosed the 1920s house was removed (fig. 5). Internal dirt roads provide access to and within the area, as well as to fields and a non-historic barn (RID t) beyond the cluster.

The crux of the cluster is the ca. 1867 house (RID y), the 1920s house (RID dd), and 1930s barn (RID v). Johann Kneupper built the house (RID y) around 1867 when he first settled the land. The house is a one-and-a-half story limestone and log cabin (photo no. 7). Originally built as a dogtrot, the house was enclosed in the 1950s during

⁴ TxDOT Texas Highway Designation Files Search, Texas Department of Transportation.
<http://www.dot.state.tx.us/tpp/search/query.htm>.

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the period of significance. Constructed using cedar logs from the land and a limestone mortar, these original materials and the building technique used in the house’s construction remain partially visible on the main southeast façade and rear northwest façade. Historic-age plaster partially covers the rear and front façades. At the northwest and southwest corners of the house, the diamond-cut mortising of the logs is visible. Board-and-batten, added sometime during the period of significance, covers the original materials on the side west façade. A historic-age limestone side addition with chimney, that served as the kitchen, was built onto the side east façade. The addition is one-story in height and has a corrugated metal-clad hipped roof. The front façade has three single-wood doors and four windows. The doors are not original and are non-historic. All windows on all façades are aluminum and non-historic. The side west façade has a window and a boarded attic window. The rear façade has two historic single-wood doors at its corners. A lean-to rear addition was constructed during the period of significance (photo no. 8). The house has a side-gable roof clad in corrugated metal. The roof extends past the front façade, creating a front porch. The porch is supported by eight cedar posts. Despite the non-historic windows and some non-historic doors, as well as some deterioration, the house retains sufficient integrity and conveys its history and significance. The side kitchen addition dates to the period of significance and helps show how early houses grew and evolved over the years. The rear lean-to addition, also historic, does not cover the original rear façade and has little impact to the overall integrity of the house. The house contributes to the historic district.

South of the ca. 1867 house are the 1920s house (RID dd), well house (RID z), and 1930s windmill (RID cc) (photo no. 9). The well house is a square limestone building. The main south façade has a single door, and the side and rear façades have small wood-frame windows. Built around 1920, the well house originally also had a milk separator inside. The building has a concrete historic-age flat roof that holds water. Until around 2015, the well house was connected to a raised, round, wood and concrete cistern that sat to the west and connected to the windmill (RID cc) to its west. Due to deterioration, the cistern fell over, but its concrete base remains. The owner was able to save the materials and is hoping to rebuild the cistern. Despite the loss of the cistern, both the well house and windmill contribute to the historic district.

Directly south of the well house is the 1920s bungalow with Craftsman stylistic influences (RID dd, photo no. 10). The house is clad in its original pressed metal sheets that mimic bricks. The main façade faces southwest and has an inset porch at its southern corner supported by a square wood column. At the top of the column are decorative wood darts. Located within the porch are the house’s two main entrances: original single wood doors with wood screen doors. Secondary doors are also located on the side northwest and side southeast façades. The door on the southeast façade is non-historic. The house has its original wood-frame double-hung windows, as well as their wood-frame screens. A carport addition was built onto the side southeast façade after 1975. The house has a hipped roof with exposed rafter tails and is clad in corrugated metal. The house has an interior brick chimney. The house retains excellent integrity and contributes to the historic district.

The other main building on the Kneupper Homestead is the ca. 1930 barn (RID v, photo no. 11). Located north of the dirt drive, the barn is a large rectangular, corrugated metal building with a side-gable roof. A mix of historic-age wood and non-historic metal fencing encloses the area in front of barn’s south main façade. A stone and metal loading chute (RID gg, photo no. 12) is located at the southwest corner of this enclosed pen area. The barn has a center opening with two side cribs. The opening is raised and has a front-gable roof. Originally wood frame, the barn now has a concrete block foundation that was added around 1950. Located within the barn is a corn crib built from the cedar posts from Honey Creek’s second cedar church that was on Michael Bechtold’s adjacent property (RID hh, photo no. 13). The cedar posts are carved with Roman numerals that allowed the crib to be rebuilt

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nearly identical to the original cedar church. The barn, its coral and loading chute, and the corn crib located within the barn all contribute to the historic district.

The remaining resources in the cluster of buildings and structures on the Kneupper Homestead include a ca. 1890 goat barn and pen (RID u, photo no. 14) and ca. 1890 smokehouse (RID w, photo no. 15) located east of the barn. The smokehouse is a small one-room wood-clad building with a corrugated metal side gable roof. The goat barn has a wood frame and is clad in corrugated metal and is open on its main south façade. South of the smokehouse and closer to the two houses is a small shed with an outhouse (RID ee, photo no. 16). Built around 1910, the shed has a wood frame and a front-gabled corrugated metal roof. The remaining two resources in the cluster include a ca. 1900 stone dipping vat (RID aa, photo no. 17) and a ca. 1900 concrete trough (RID bb, photo no. 18). The two are located near each other west of the houses on the other side of historic fencing. All five of these resources retain integrity and contribute to the historic district.

Kunz Homestead Cluster (map 6)

The Kunz Homestead contains a collection of early-to-mid twentieth century resources associated with the history of Honey Creek. Accessed via the dirt drive off State Park Road 31, the cluster of both domestic and agricultural buildings, structures, and objects sits among trees in the northern portion of Honey Creek Historic District (map 6). The drive leads to the main house (RID a) which is enclosed with historic stone fencing (RID r). The house and domestic resources, including a wash house/cistern, and windmill, as well as a non-historic garage are grouped together at the western edge of the cluster of resources. Barns, as well as other agricultural features occupy the areas to the northeast, east, and south of the domestic cluster.

The main house (RID a, photo no. 19) was built around 1942 according to family history and the Comal County Appraisal District and is said to have replaced an older 1910s or 1920s wood-frame and wood-siding building. A limestone and wire fence (RID r, photo no. 19) encloses the house and its yard. The house has one story and is clad in limestone flagstone. The main west façade has an inset porch along its southern half. The porch has three arched openings on its west façade, and one arched opening on the side south façade. The house's main entrance—an original single-wood door—is set within the porch. The house has its original wood, double-hung windows with limestone sills. Windows appear on all façades and come in pairs and sets of three. A secondary entrance is located on the rear east façade. A canopy, constructed onto the rear façade, was added outside the period of significance. The house has a hipped roof clad in non-historic standing seam metal. The house originally had an interior stone chimney, but it was replaced with a metal pipe vent around the time the standing seam metal was added to the roof. Other than the roof replacement and the rear canopy addition, the house retains excellent integrity and appears much the same as it did in the late-1940s (figs. 6-7). The house contributes to the Honey Creek Historic District.

Directly east of the house, partially within the fencing are RIDs b and c—the 1920s wash house/cistern and windmill (photo no. 20). The limestone wash house/cistern is in line with the fencing and its entrances face the rear of the main house. The building originally served as both a wash house and cistern, as well as a milk house. The limestone building's southern half has a concrete cistern on its roof, and the northern part of the building has a side-gable standing seam roof. The cistern is connected to the windmill via a metal pipe. The two halves of the building are not internally connected and each has its own separate entrance on the main west facade. The side north and south façades, as well as the rear east façade, have original windows. Both the wash house and windmill contribute to the historic district.

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The agricultural resources are located to the northeast, east, and south of the domestic resources. Separation between the resources is provided by the dirt drive, a rocky outcropping, and fencing in some areas (photo nos. 21-22). The resources located northeast and east of the domestic resources include three ca. 1910 barns (RIDs e, i, j and photo nos. 21, 23, 26), ca. 1910 concrete dipping vat (RID f, photo no. 24), ca. 1910 wood outhouse (RID g), ca. 1910 pig pen (RID h, photo no. 25), and ca. 1910 concrete trough (RID k). The barns are all wood-frame and clad in corrugated metal. Both barns RIDs e and i (photo no. 26) are linear with open front façades that face south. The largest barn, RID i, was used for feeding and storage and contains a corn crib at its western end. The two-story barn has a side gable clad in corrugated metal. RID e was a goat barn, only one story, and has a corrugated metal-clad shed roof. RID j, a storage barn, is enclosed and all window and door openings are enclosed with corrugated metal. All the barns, and the pig pen, have a mix of historic wood post and wire and metal fencing enclosing areas to the front and sides of the barns. All resources in this agricultural cluster retain integrity and contribute to the historic district.

The cluster of agricultural resources south of the house and the dirt drive is comprised of a variety of chicken houses and a non-historic warehouse. Two of the chicken houses date to around 1920 (RIDs l and n, photo nos. 27-28) and one dates to around 1940 (RID o). The 1920s houses are built of limestone and have corrugated metal side-gable roofs. RID l is considered a brooder house, a heated building for young chicks. The building is smaller than the chicken house and is enclosed on all four sides, while the chicken house (RID n) has a screened in open front. Both buildings are oriented to the south. The 1940s chicken house, also oriented to the south, is wood frame, clad in metal, and has a shed roof. Its front façade is also screened in. All three chicken houses retain integrity and contribute to the historic district.

Kneupper Chapel (RID ff)

Located approximately 290 feet southeast of the cluster of buildings on the Kneupper Homestead, the Kneupper Chapel sits atop a hill on tree and brush-covered land (photo no. 29). A primitive internal path, made over the years by foot and truck use, provides access from the Kneupper Homestead buildings to the chapel. A historic stone fence (RID ii), with a non-historic metal gate marking the entrance, encloses the chapel (photo no. 30). A flagstone walkway leads to the chapel's front door from the fence. Facing west, the small-one room chapel was built around 1878 by Honey Creek residents, including Johann Kneupper and Georg Kunz. The chapel was constructed with load-bearing limestone from the land and nearby hills, and mortar made from the caliche soil. Walls are approximately 15 inches thick. The chapel's one door, on the main west façade, is wooden with a wood frame. Just to the right of the door are the chapel's Recorded Texas Historic Landmark plaque and a smaller metal plaque with the inscription "*In Memory of Rev. John Kospiel Builder of this Chapel About the Year of 1878.*"⁵ It is not known when this plaque was erected. Single windows are located on both the north and south side façades. Wood four-pane glass casement windows sit within deep—approximately 16 inches—wood frames. The chapel's front-gabled roof has cedar rafters and is covered in corrugated metal. Within the chapel sits the original hand-painted wood altar (photo no. 31). Interior walls are plastered and whitewashed with a mixture of limestone and water.

⁵ The Kneupper Chapel became a Texas Historical Commission Recorded Texas Historic Landmark in 1983.

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The chapel retains excellent integrity of design, materials, workmanship, setting, feeling, association, and location. The only work performed on the chapel has been for maintenance, such as recovering the roof with new metal and repainting the altar.

Honey Creek Cemetery

The old Honey Creek Cemetery (RID kk) is located on Bell Ranch Road, approximately 0.7 miles east of State Park Road 31 in a wooded area at the southern boundary of the historic district (photo nos. 32-33). The cemetery, established in 1876 on land owned by one of the early Honey Creek settlers, is enclosed by chain-link fencing. A metal gate marks the entrance into the cemetery. A metal cross stands in the center of the cemetery among the graves. The graves for Michael and Josephine Bechtold, whose land the cemetery was established, are enclosed by a historic-age metal fence within the cemetery. There are approximately 35 gravestones in the cemetery—the oldest from 1876, though most date to the 1880s and 1890s.⁶

Non-Contributing Resources

Of the 37 resources in the Honey Creek Historic District, only 7 are classified as non-contributing. All 7 resources were built outside the period of significance. The non-contributing resources include a ca. 1990 garage (RID d, photo no. 34) and a ca. 1990 warehouse (RID m, photo no. 35), both located on the Kunz Homestead within the cluster of resources. The garage, tucked away under a tree, has less of an impact than the larger warehouse, which is south of the main house. Both are metal-clad rectangular buildings. The other non-contributing resource located within a cluster of contributing resources is RID x, a ca. 1980 small metal bunkhouse. This resource is located on the Kneupper Homestead next to the 1867 main house. The other four non-contributing resources are located away from both clusters of resources, in fields set quite a bit away from the contributing resources, and have very little impact to the overall historic district's integrity.

Overall Integrity of Historic District

Overall, both the land and buildings within the Honey Creek Historic District retain integrity. Undeveloped agricultural land conveys its past by continuing to be used for agrarian purposes, visibly retaining historic agricultural land-use patterns. The land within the district retains its agrarian character and its setting and feeling remain largely unchanged from the period of significance. Additionally, the presence of historic landscape features—stone fencing and internal roads and paths—all contribute to the district's sense of the past. Though there are a few larger non-contributing buildings within the district, their impact on the whole of the district is not enough to prevent it from conveying its past. Most of the buildings within the district retain their integrity, having very few alterations that date to outside the period of significance. The Honey Creek Historic District as a whole—the land and resources—retains integrity and easily conveys its history and significance as a late-nineteenth through mid-twentieth century western Comal County agricultural settlement.

⁶ Old Honey Creek Cemetery drawing from April 1949. Courtesy of Bryden Moon.

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INVENTORY TABLE

The Honey Creek Historic District has 37 resources: 30 contributing and seven non-contributing. The table below presents an inventory of resources within the boundaries of the historic district, based on field survey conducted January 2017. Dates of construction are based on research and information provided by the current owner.

RID	Historic Homestead/Historic Name	Property Type	Year Built	Contributing Status	Photo No(s).
a	Kunz Homestead	Building – Single-family dwelling	ca. 1942	Contributing	19
b	Kunz Homestead	Building – Wash House	ca. 1920	Contributing	20
c	Kunz Homestead	Structure – Windmill	1923	Contributing	20
d	Kunz Homestead	Building - Garage	ca. 1990	Non-contributing	34
e	Kunz Homestead	Building – Barn	ca. 1910	Contributing	n/a
f	Kunz Homestead	Object – Dipping vat	ca. 1910	Contributing	24
g	Kunz Homestead	Building - Outhouse	ca. 1910	Contributing	n/a
h	Kunz Homestead	Building – Pig pen	ca. 1910	Contributing	25
i	Kunz Homestead	Building - Barn	ca. 1910	Contributing	26
j	Kunz Homestead	Building - Barn	ca. 1910	Contributing	23
k	Kunz Homestead	Object - Trough	ca. 1910	Contributing	23
l	Kunz Homestead	Building – Chicken house	ca. 1920	Contributing	27
m	Kunz Homestead	Building - Warehouse	ca. 1990	Non-contributing	35
n	Kunz Homestead	Building – Chicken house	ca. 1920	Contributing	28
o	Kunz Homestead	Building – Chicken house	ca. 1940	Contributing	n/a
p	Kunz Homestead	Structure - Gate	ca. 1960	Contributing	1
q	Kunz Homestead	Building - Barn	ca. 2000	Non-contributing	n/a
r	Kunz Homestead	Structure - Fencing	ca. 1942	Contributing	19
s	Kunz Homestead	Building - Shed	ca. 1990	Non-contributing	n/a
t	Kneupper Homestead	Building - Barn	ca. 1990	Non-contributing	n/a
u	Kneupper Homestead	Building – Goat barn	ca. 1880	Contributing	14
v	Kneupper Homestead	Building - Barn	ca. 1930	Contributing	11
w	Kneupper Homestead	Building - Smokehouse	ca. 1880	Contributing	15
x	Kneupper Homestead	Building - Bunkhouse	ca. 1980	Non-contributing	n/a
y	Kneupper Homestead	Building – Single-family dwelling	ca. 1867	Contributing	7-8
z	Kneupper Homestead	Building – Well house	ca. 1920	Contributing	9
aa	Kneupper Homestead	Object – Dipping vat	ca. 1900	Contributing	17
bb	Kneupper Homestead	Object - Trough	ca. 1900	Contributing	18
cc	Kneupper Homestead	Structure - Windmill	ca. 1930	Contributing	9
dd	Kneupper Homestead	Building – Single-family dwelling	ca. 1920	Contributing	10

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RID	Historic Homestead/Historic Name	Property Type	Year Built	Contributing Status	Photo No(s).
ee	Kneupper Homestead	Building - Shed	ca. 1910	Contributing	16
ff	Kneupper Homestead	Building – Chapel	ca. 1878	Contributing	29-31
gg	Kneupper Homestead	Structure – Load chute	ca. 1920	Contributing	12
hh	Kneupper Homestead	Structure – Corn crib	ca. 1880	Contributing	13
ii	Kneupper Homestead	Structure - Fencing	ca. 1878	Contributing	29-30
jj	Kneupper Homestead	Building – Single-family dwelling	ca. 1970	Non-contributing	n/a
kk	Honey Creek Cemetery	Site - Cemetery	ca. 1876	Contributing	32-33

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SECTION 8: Statement of Significance

The Honey Creek Historic District represents a rural agricultural area in western Comal County comprised of both land and built resources that reflect the settlement of those who lived in the area from the late-nineteenth century until the mid-to-late twentieth century. The area is significant in that it reflects the county’s early settlement patterns, as well as the importance of agriculture in the development and sustainability of the Honey Creek community. Approximately 20 years after the founding of New Braunfels in 1845, settlement spread outward across the county, yet much of western Comal County remained uninhabited. Shortly after the Civil War, German immigrants, including Johann Adam Kneupper and Georg Friedrich Kunz, ventured westward and settled in what became known as Honey Creek in western Comal County and successfully farmed and ranched. The historic district—which includes their homesteads, a cemetery, and a chapel—reflects both an important settlement trend and also provides a tangible link to the significant role agriculture played in defining Honey Creek and western Comal County. Unlike most other agricultural properties in Honey Creek, much of the land within the historic district has remained in the ownership of descendants of settlers—the Kunz family—and has been used continuously for agricultural purposes which has helped preserve its historic fabric and character-defining features. The area within and surrounding Honey Creek Historic District also has very little modern infill, which helps maintain the district’s rural agrarian setting and feeling. Honey Creek Historic District is nominated under Criterion A in the areas of Exploration/Settlement and Agriculture at the local level of significance. The period of significance for the district begins in 1867, when Kunz and Kneupper first settled on the land, and extends to 1968. The fifty year mark is used as the closing date because the significant activities associated with the historic district—full-time, income-producing agricultural endeavors, as well as full-time residency—continued to have importance to this point in time. The historic district contains 37 resources on approximately 640 acres of land; 30 resources contribute and 7 resources are classified as non-contributing.

Criterion A

Exploration/Settlement

Declaring independence from Mexico and becoming its own nation in 1836, the Republic of Texas encouraged settlement by offering land grants to incoming immigrants. From 1836 to 1842, the Republic of Texas offered a series of headright grants— legal grants of land to settlers—to those willing to meet certain requirements. Through these headright grants, over 36 million acres of land was given to new settlers in Texas. The Republic also made contracts with individuals promising to establish colonies in Texas. The individual would receive a large land grant and settlers, whose travel was paid for by the colony, would each receive 640 or 320 acres, depending on their marital status. Colony land grants in Texas totaled nearly 4.5 million acres.⁷ In Comal County, German immigrants arrived as part of Prince Carl of Solms-Braunfels’ Adelsverein, a German society that had purchased an interest in one of the colony land grants. The Adelsverein purchased the Fisher-Miller Land Grant near present-day Fredericksburg on the Llano River in 1844. The first German colonists associated with the Adelsverein arrived in Texas in December 1844 and on their travels inward from the coast, made camp on the waters of Comal Creek. In March 1845 Solms-Braunfels purchased 1,265 acres along the Comal and Guadalupe Rivers from Juan Martin Veramendi, who had received a Mexican land grant in 1825, and began a permanent settlement: New Braunfels. By the end of 1845, nearly 500 settlers, predominantly German immigrants, were living in the newly established community.

⁷ Aldon S. Lang and Christopher Long, *Handbook of Texas Online*, “Land Grants,” accessed March 14, 2017, <https://tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/mp101>.

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The initial wave of German settlement associated with the Adelsverein was soon followed by subsequent influxes of new settlers to Texas. This new group overwhelmingly consisted of German immigrants—who were not associated with the Adelsverein—as well as other European immigrants and men and women migrating from the southern United States. After arriving in Texas at Galveston or Houston, many Germans settled in enclaves with other Germans, predominantly in south-central Texas, including Comal County. The continued influx of Germans to Texas was due in part to the already established German population in the Republic; the continued social, political, and economic instability in Germany; and Texas’s continued push to encourage settlement. In 1845, the Republic of Texas passed the first Preemption Act, allowing settlers who previously settled upon, or who promised to settle upon and improve vacant public land, the right to purchase up to 320 acres. In 1854, the Homestead Act reduced the amount of land granted to settlers from 320 acres to 160 acres and required residence of three years before land could be purchased.⁸ It was through these efforts taken by Texas to grow its population that Germans Georg Friedrich Kunz, Johann Adam Kneupper, and Christine Bechtold arrived in Texas and eventually settled and formed the Honey Creek community in western Comal County.

On September 16, 1845 Georg Friedrich Kunz, from the Rhineland in the state of Nassau, Germany, signed a contract with the *Verein zum Schutz deutscher Einwanderer in Texas* (the Adelsverein) in the port city of Antwerp agreeing to the terms of the Miller-Fischer Colony in preparation for departure.⁹ Shortly after, Kunz departed from Antwerp for Texas on the *Washington* and arrived in Galveston in November 1845. Kunz, listed as a single, 27 year old farmer and shoemaker in the immigration records, traveled to New Braunfels upon arriving in Texas. Christine Bechtold, 33, her husband Conrad, mother-in-law, and five children also departed from Antwerp as members of the Adelsverein. Also from Nassau, the Bechtolds departed in October 1845 on the *Sarah Ann* and arrived in Galveston two months later. Sometime during their travels, Conrad, Conrad’s mother, and four of the five children became ill with cholera and died in a four month period between July and October 1846, leaving behind Christine and her 5 year old son Michael. The dead were buried in unmarked graves in New Braunfels. Kunz and Bechtold, both living in New Braunfels and from the same part of Germany, met and married in January 1847. As a married man, Kunz was now entitled to 640 acres. Bechtold, who was also entitled to 640 acres as a widow with a child, sold 320 acres to the German Emigration and Railroad Company in June 1847 and the remaining tracts of land entitled to her in the colony in June 1848.¹⁰ Kunz released half of his share of acreage back to the Adelsverein in 1847 and presumably never claimed the remaining 320 acres due to him in the colony.¹¹ Kunz did take advantage of the Homestead Act of 1854 when he had surveyed and settled on 160 acres, Survey 503, approximately six miles northwest of New Braunfels in 1855. Bearing witness that Kunz was a “bona fide settler on vacant land” for three years in front of the Chief Justice of Comal County in 1858 was “J. Kneupper.”¹²

Johann Adam Kneupper, from Holler (in the Rhineland region of what is now Germany), left Bremen on the *St. Peter* and arrived in Galveston in June 1852. Kneupper, 25 years old, married Margaretha Jaeger shortly before he traveled with her to Texas. Kneupper’s brother, uncle, and a number of other relatives also traveled on the *St. Peter* to Galveston. Kneupper emigrated to Texas with no known affiliation to the Adelsverein and traveled to Comal County upon arriving in Texas. After the passage of the Homestead Act in 1854, Kneupper, whose first of five children was born in 1853, had a tract surveyed for him: Survey 587. Totaling 160 acres, the property was

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Texas General Land Office, Land Grant Search, File Number 000504.

¹⁰ Texas General Land Office, Land Grant Search, File Number 000048.

¹¹ No GLO records indicating the selling or settling on this land were found during research.

¹² Texas General Land Office, Land Grant Search, File Number 006133.

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approximately six miles northwest of New Braunfels and adjacent to Kunz's property (fig. 8). The two are shown as neighbors and both listed as farmers in the 1860 census.

During this period, between 1845 and 1865, western Comal County remained relatively unsettled, with plenty of state land yet to be surveyed and claimed (fig. 9). Eastern Comal County, closer to New Braunfels, remained more attractive for expansion, as its topography and soil were more favorable for farming than the rocky hills of the western part of the county. The western area gained attention though after an 1840s campaign to remove Apache, Comanche, and Lipan tribes.¹³ With the Native American threat lessened, the area became attractive to both German and Anglo settlers looking for unclaimed land. This part of the county had abundant water from the Guadalupe River and its many tributaries, and was in between two commercial centers; New Braunfels and the German-enclave of Fredericksburg. Speculators and investors were the first to survey tracts in Honey Creek and along the Guadalupe River in western Comal County. In 1846, four men had six tracts of land surveyed—the first surveys in the area.¹⁴ Five of the six fronted the Guadalupe River, and one, Survey 97 for J. T. Threadgill contained the headwaters of Honey Creek and falls within the historic district. There is no indication that any of these men improved these lands; no buildings or above-ground evidence remains from this time period and most of the land passed from one investor to another over a short period of time. While the land south of the Guadalupe River remained unsettled, the area north of the river saw permanent settlement in the late 1840s and early 1850s near Curry Creek, a tributary of the Guadalupe River. Phillipp Bauer, a German immigrant, claimed 160 acres in 1856 near Curry Creek and raised cattle and horses and built a house.¹⁵ He was joined shortly thereafter by more Germans. South of the river, in Honey Creek, settlement was slower to take root. In 1862, German immigrant Heinrich Schmidt claimed to be a “bona fide settler” on a 160-acre tract of land a bit east of the historic district.¹⁶ Ruins of a stone structure may or may not be from Schmidt. It was not until 1867 though that permanent settlement and a community began to take root south of the river.

After the Civil War, western Comal County and deeper into the heart of the Hill Country, saw an increase in settlement and community development. People followed historic trails that linked communities, as well as waterways, and the expanding network of roads westward. Settlers purchased land from the vacant land owners and investors, and also acquired unclaimed land from the state through preemption land grants. Within months of one another in early 1867, neighbors Kneupper, Kunz, and Michael Bechtold—Christine Kunz's son—along with brothers H. R. and Casper Moos, and Franz Joseph Beck, all German immigrants, each had 160 acres surveyed in western Comal County for the purpose of settling in Honey Creek. They all, upon fulfilling the requirements to improve the surveys, received titles to their land in 1871. Within the next four years, Jacob Doeppenschmidt, who owned land north of the river, purchased three tracts of land in Honey Creek from vacant landowners and began ranching. The Kneupper, Kunz, and Bechtold surveys fell the furthest west, away from the other surveys, but lay next to one another in an area surrounded by unclaimed land (fig. 10). All three presumably built houses on their pieces of land, but only the Kneupper house remains. Stone ruins, in the southern portion of the historic district near the cemetery, might be remains from Bechtold's house. The next decade saw more, mostly German, settlers moving to Honey Creek, including the Ackers, Luxs, and Scheels. In 1871, Georg and Christine Kunz's son, Valentin, had 80 acres surveyed directly east of his father's property in Honey Creek.

¹³ Martha Doty Freeman. “A History of Guadalupe River State Park and Honey Creek State Natural Area, Comal and Kendall Counties, Texas.” For Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Austin, TX. October 1997, p.16.

¹⁴ Freeman, 16.

¹⁵The Bauer House remains and is located within Guadalupe River State Park.

¹⁶ Freeman, 19.

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N/A

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By the end of the nineteenth century, Honey Creek, which for a short period of time was known as Kunz's Settlement, had become a largely homogenous "community" made up of first and second generation German immigrant farmers and ranchers.¹⁷ Most of the land had been surveyed and claimed, and was owner-occupied. Many of the families living in Honey Creek were also practicing Catholics. As early as 1871, circuit priests from New Braunfels and Boerne, including Reverend John Kospiel from New Braunfels, would stop in Honey Creek and perform mass, baptisms, and marriages, or tend to families in need. Kunz, who was considered an "elder statesman," opened up his house for these services and neighbors would take turns housing the traveling priests.¹⁸ Kneupper, in a letter to family in Germany and dated 1877, wrote of opening his home to one of the priests and the two discussing religion and their homeland, with the priest once saying "We are lucky people here, we can practice our religion in a free manner and do what we want but the poor Catholics in Germany are suppressed and can't even get the last Sacraments."¹⁹ He also wrote that their parish was getting too large "to have Divine Services in one house so we will now have to build a Church and rectory." Without funds for a new building or a permanent priest, it was up to parish members to pay for a building out of their own pockets. In 1877, some of Honey Creek's citizens, including Kunz and Kneupper, constructed a small wooden church on Bechtold's property. Within a year, it had burned and another wood building was constructed.²⁰ This likely was just been a temporary building, because in 1878 Kunz, Kneupper, along with neighbors Acker, Lux, Moos, Scheel, and Kaiser built the stone chapel that remains today on the Kneupper Homestead.²¹ Known then as Maria Hilf-Kapelle, or Our Lady of Perpetual Help Chapel, the chapel served as a small gathering place for marriages and prayer sessions, but because it was so small, it likely never served as a full-time church for large mass services.²² The chapel also may have been used as a rectory—a place to stay for the traveling priests.²³ The parish again moved in the early 1890s. In need of a larger building, and someplace closer to the main road, the Catholic parish moved to the Boerne-to-New Braunfels Road (present-day SH 46) on a one-acre parcel sold by the Scheel family. The parish was assigned their first resident priest, Father Draessel, in 1898, and built a new stone chapel in 1904. The chapel remains today on the St. Joseph's Catholic Church campus, along with a 1912 stone church, a 2006 church building, and the second and third St. Joseph's Honey Creek Cemeteries.

Around the same time as the construction of the first chapel, the citizens of Honey Creek established a cemetery when Johan Adam Moos, who was less than a year old, died. Bechtold offered a piece of his land for the cemetery. Many members of the founding families of Honey Creek, and their descendants, are buried at this cemetery including Michael Bechtold; Georg and Christine Kunz, and their sons Hubert and Valentin; Scheel family members; Moos family members; Acker family members; and Doeppenschmidt family members. Noticeably missing from this list is Johann Kneupper, who is buried at the second St. Joseph's Honey Creek Cemetery on SH 46, along with his wife, Margarethe.

The growing community of Honey Creek also led to the creation of the Honey Creek School. The school opened in 1883 to serve the community and operated until 1943 when it was consolidated with the Bulverde school district.²⁴ A photo from 1898 shows 21 students, and an account from a former teacher reveals 15 students

¹⁷ Moon, 9.

¹⁸ Ibid, 10.

¹⁹ Johann Kneupper letter to family. May 5, 1877. Letter provided by Bryden Moon.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ It is the wood from this chapel that was used for the corn crib (RID hh) that is located with the barn (RID v).

²² Moon, 14.

²³ Ibid.

²⁴ Charlie Buchner. "Honey Creek School." *Buchner's Texas German Genealogy*.

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attended Honey Creek School in 1930.²⁵ What remains of a stone building, what some believe to be the school or the teacherage can be seen from State Park Road 31 south of the historic district. Some accounts state that wood from the school building was removed in the late 1940s to help build the Bulverde School.²⁶ Children in Honey Creek also could attend school at St. Anthony's on the church property on SH 46. An 1892 frame building on the church campus that originally served as a church was converted into a school building in 1912 when the stone chapel was created. The Sisters of Divine Providence and the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament taught classes until the school closed in 1949.²⁷

Throughout the end of the nineteenth century and into the 1920s, much of the land in Honey Creek remained in the hands of the same founding families who continued agricultural pursuits. Periods of drought, the Depression, changing agricultural trends, and death and inheritance taxes began taking their toll on Honey Creek, forcing some families to sell their land beginning in the 1930s. Oftentimes, people from outside the county, purchased these lands with no intention of living there or relying on the property to earn a living farming or ranching. Instead, many of the newcomers ranched as a hobby on a much smaller scale and used the property recreationally on weekends.²⁸ By 1948, one-third of the land in Comal and Kendall counties was owned by non-residents, a trend that also characterized Honey Creek.²⁹ For many who weathered these storms, deaths in families and other difficulties grew to be too much and by the 1970s, most of the families had sold their lands to trusts and outsiders. An exception to this trend is the Kunz family and their descendants. The family, who had grown their landholdings early on; acquiring Kneupper's property in the early twentieth century and claiming other adjacent lands during the period of significance, retain over 600 acres of land. Today, their landholdings are nearly surrounded by the former homesteads and agricultural lands of the early settlers that were sold off throughout the twentieth century. To the north and east of their landholdings and the Honey Creek Historic District lie the Guadalupe River State Park and the Honey Creek State Natural Area. In the early 1970s, Texas Parks and Wildlife determined that the area of Honey Creek and along the Guadalupe River provided a good location for the creation of a state park. Acquiring land throughout the 1970s that once belonged to the first settlers of Honey Creek, the state opened Guadalupe River State Park in 1983. The park includes three historic homestead complexes; the Bauer Homestead north of the Guadalupe River, and the Richter and Rust homesteads south of the river. The house on the Richter Homestead was removed, leaving only outbuildings and fences. The Rust Homestead retains its 1910s house, but outbuildings were removed. Neither is as intact as the homesteads in the historic district. In 1985, the state created the Honey Creek State Natural Area south of the state park from land acquired from The Nature Conservancy and a private individual. This area contains the log building from the Doepenschmidt Ranch, as well as 1910s and pre-World War II buildings from the Scheel-Klevenhagen Farmstead.³⁰

The Honey Creek Historic District is surrounded by the former homesteads—some partially intact, though most are not—and former agricultural lands of the early settlers that were sold off throughout the twentieth century.

²⁵ Ibid.

²⁶ Robert Johnson. "Price Not Right For School Sale." *New Braunfels Herald Zeitung*. March 10, 1977, p. 15.
<https://newspaperarchive.com/new-braunfels-herald-zeitung-mar-10-1977-p-15/?tag=honey+creek+school&rtserp=tags/?psi=94&pci=7&pep=honey-creek-school/>

²⁷ Joyce M. Gass. "Honey Creek, TX." *Handbook of Texas Online*.
<https://tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/hth14>.

²⁸ Freeman, 36.

²⁹ Ibid.

³⁰ Ibid, 63.

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The Kunz family and their descendants, over the years, have maintained the buildings and the land, keeping family traditions and history alive. Together, their landholdings—which include two historic homesteads and the earliest surviving chapel in Honey Creek—and the Honey Creek Cemetery represent the settlement patterns of Comal County and the lives of the founders of the Honey Creek Community in the late-nineteenth century. Cohesively, these properties create the Honey Creek Historic District, one of the few remaining intact examples representative of this trend. The historic district is significant under Criterion A in the area of Exploration/Settlement at the local level.

Agriculture

The Honey Creek Historic District contains built resources and land that reflect the significant role agriculture played in the lives of the community's early settlers and how agricultural ventures remained important to the livelihood and identity of Honey Creek families into the twentieth century. Kneupper and Kunz were both farmers when they lived outside of New Braunfels in the 1850s and early 1860s according to census records. The men practiced subsistence farming, raising cattle and growing crops largely for themselves and less for income. Upon moving to the western part of the county in the late 1860s, Kneupper wrote in a letter that he had to begin anew, making new fields and building fences, barns, and outbuildings, and that "many a night I walked back and forth in the room and had cramps in my hands from felling trees and quarrying rocks."³¹ That first year was devoted to building the homestead and fields, which left him unable to produce enough to survive, forcing him to purchase nearly everything that year. To build the homestead and fields, families worked with animals, such as oxen, mules, and horses to help clear fields and move rocks and felled trees. In 1870, according to the agricultural census, Kunz had two horses and eight oxen, and Kneupper had three horses and 12 oxen. By 1870, both men had established their homesteads and were able to sustain themselves; each having milk cows, cattle, and pigs, as well as crops of rye and corn on their land. Kunz's property was valued at \$800 and Kneupper's at \$700; both on the higher end of average compared to neighbors listed in the census, but both still largely subsistence-based. By 1877, according to a letter written by Kneupper, he was also growing: wheat and oats; had planted a vegetable garden; was growing potatoes and sweet potatoes, turnips, and fodder; and had planted apple, pear, and peach trees. He says they also raised geese for their feathers, gathered wild fruit in the woods, raised chickens, ducks, turkeys, guinea hens, and peacocks, and shot rabbits and deer to supplement their other sources of food. Most all food needed for the families to survive was grown or shot on their land, with very few items purchased. Kneupper's family even made their own mattresses with the geese feather, according to his letter.

Threats to the livelihood of farmers in Honey Creek included draught, thieves, wild animals, and even grasshoppers, of which Kneupper wrote were "so numerous that the earth is black in many places." To learn how to best protect their crops and livestock, Kunz and other Honey Creek citizens, including Bechtold and Moos, joined the Germania Farmer Verein in nearby Anhalt.³² The group, which discussed agricultural endeavors, had organized in 1875 and sometimes met at Michael Bechtold's place prior to the construction of Anhalt Halle in 1879.³³ The Germania Farmer Verein in Anhalt was the nearest agricultural society, but was one of several in Comal County during this period. Agricultural societies were created across the county in the nineteenth century as new communities formed. The societies served as a way for many farmers and ranchers, many of whom had little experience, to share agricultural information and advice.

³¹ Kneupper letter.

³² Germania Farmer Verein records do not show Kneupper as ever being a member.

³³ Moon, 14.

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The trend of substance farming, as practiced by Kunz and Kneupper, continued throughout the nineteenth century. According to census and tax records, both men maintained average size properties worth median property values for the area, but were considerably much smaller and worth less than the larger agricultural properties in eastern Comal County. As part of a countywide trend, Kunz expanded his landholdings in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. In 1872, Survey 691, which included 160 acres and was located directly north of his property, was surveyed for him. It was also during this period when his son, Valentin Kunz, acquired 80 acres, of Survey 717, directly east of his father's property. Into the early twentieth century, Honey Creek—its inhabitants and their land-use—remained largely homogenous, with German families raising the same types of livestock and growing the same crops. Trends, including the introduction of sheep in the late-nineteenth century, emerged, but did not indicate a significant change in the way Honey Creek citizens lived and survived. Though no resources from this time period remain from the Kunz Homestead, the resources on the Kneupper Homestead, which date to the nineteenth century, reflect this era of agriculture in western Comal County.

Beginning in the early twentieth century, prior to his death in 1903, Kneupper sold his property. The homestead passed through several different property owners, but by 1914 Kneupper's property had been acquired by Valentin Kunz, Georg's son. Georg Kunz's property, which included Surveys 607 and 691, by this time belonged to Valentin's brother, Hubert. According to a 1919 resurvey map, Hubert had also extended the Kunz's landholdings eastward, acquiring his brother's 80 acres (Survey 717), as well as an additional 41 acres from the Threadgill survey which included the Honey Creek headwaters (fig. 1). Ownership of other Honey Creek properties followed similar patterns; with land being passed down to children, as was the case with the Scheel and Moos properties. Both Kunz brothers continued farming and ranching on their properties, growing a diversified variety of cash crops and raising sheep, goats, chickens, hogs, and cattle for subsistence, as well as for a small amount of income. It was during this period that most of the resources on the Kunz Homestead were constructed. The barns, chicken houses, pig pen, and dipping vat, as well as the domestic resources provide insight into how the family lived and how their ranch operated. The outside influences, an outcome of better transportation networks and communication, were also apparent in the resources built, like the 1920s house on the Kneupper Homestead (RID dd), which was built in the popular bungalow plan with materials bought from a company or store, rather than harvested from the land.

By the 1930s, after several droughts in the previous decades, the effects of the Depression, and a general shift from diversified farming to ranching, some families in Honey Creek could no longer maintain ownership of their properties and were forced to sell. Often, the land was subdivided and sold to individuals from outside the county and who ranched as a hobby and not to make a living. Both the Scheel ranch and old Doeppenschmidt ranch, which had amassed over 2,100 acres, were sold in the late 1920s and late 1930s.³⁴ Those families less effected by the changing times, including the Kunz family, continued farming and raising a diversified mix of feed grains and livestock. By the 1930 census, Valentin and Hubert's sons, Theodor and Willie, had taken over the land from their fathers and are listed as "general farmers" in both the 1930 and 1940 census. It was during this time, in the early 1940s, that Willie Kunz built the house (RID a) on the Kunz property to replace either a 1910s or 1920s house (figs. 6-7).³⁵ During this period, the agricultural focus was more on livestock. Though crops were still grown, the families were less inclined to grow the variety of crops that Kneupper and Kunz grew in the nineteenth century, simply because there was little profit to be gained and many of these products could be easily purchased. In the 1950s, both the Kunz and Kneupper homesteads came under the ownership of Johnny and Anita Gass—the daughter of Willie Kunz. The Gass family continued the agricultural pursuits of their ancestors. Johnny, a farmer,

³⁴ Freeman, 29.

³⁵ Joyce Moore, personal conversation, January 2017.

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rancher, and water well driller, was also a member of the Germania Farmer Verein in Anhalt and a former director of the Kendall County Farm Bureau.³⁶ Anita's 2008 obituary states that she "worked the same land that she cherished and nurtured throughout her life...Like her parents, Anita was a hardworking farmer and rancher, always immersed in tending to her livelihood...she sold home-grown, farm-raised eggs, stripped sugar cane, fed livestock, built fences, and worked the land (figs.11-12)." ³⁷ Today, this land remains owned by descendants of the Kunz family and continues to support cattle.

Summary

The Honey Creek Historic District reflects the significant westward expansion of settlement in Comal County in the late-nineteenth century and the important role Germans played in the development of the county. German immigrants Kneupper and Kunz represent the influence that both the Adelsverein and the generous land grants had on bringing settlers to Comal County, and the significant role they had on the establishment of communities throughout the county. What began as a small number of German families dispersed in western Comal County grew to a homogenous community held together by a common culture and religion, as well as shared agricultural pursuits. The land and resources in the historic district reflect this significant part of the county's history. The Honey Creek Historic District meets Criterion A in the areas of Exploration/Settlement and Agriculture at the local level of significance.

Period of Significance

The Honey Creek Historic District has a period of significance that begins in 1867 and ends in 1968. The year 1867 represents when both Johann Kneupper and Georg Kunz first occupied the land on which they built their homesteads. The period of significance extends to 1968, fifty years ago. The fifty year mark is used as the closing date for the period of significance because the significant activities associated with the historic district—full-time, income-producing agricultural endeavors, as well as full-time residency—continued to have importance to this point in time.

³⁶ Legacy.com. "Deacon Johnny J. Gass."

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/sanantonio/obituary.aspx?page=lifestory&pid=96857933>

³⁷ Legacy.com. "Anita Gass."

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/sanantonio/obituary.aspx?page=lifestory&pid=120372391>

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Maps



Map 1. Comal County, Texas – highlighted in red.

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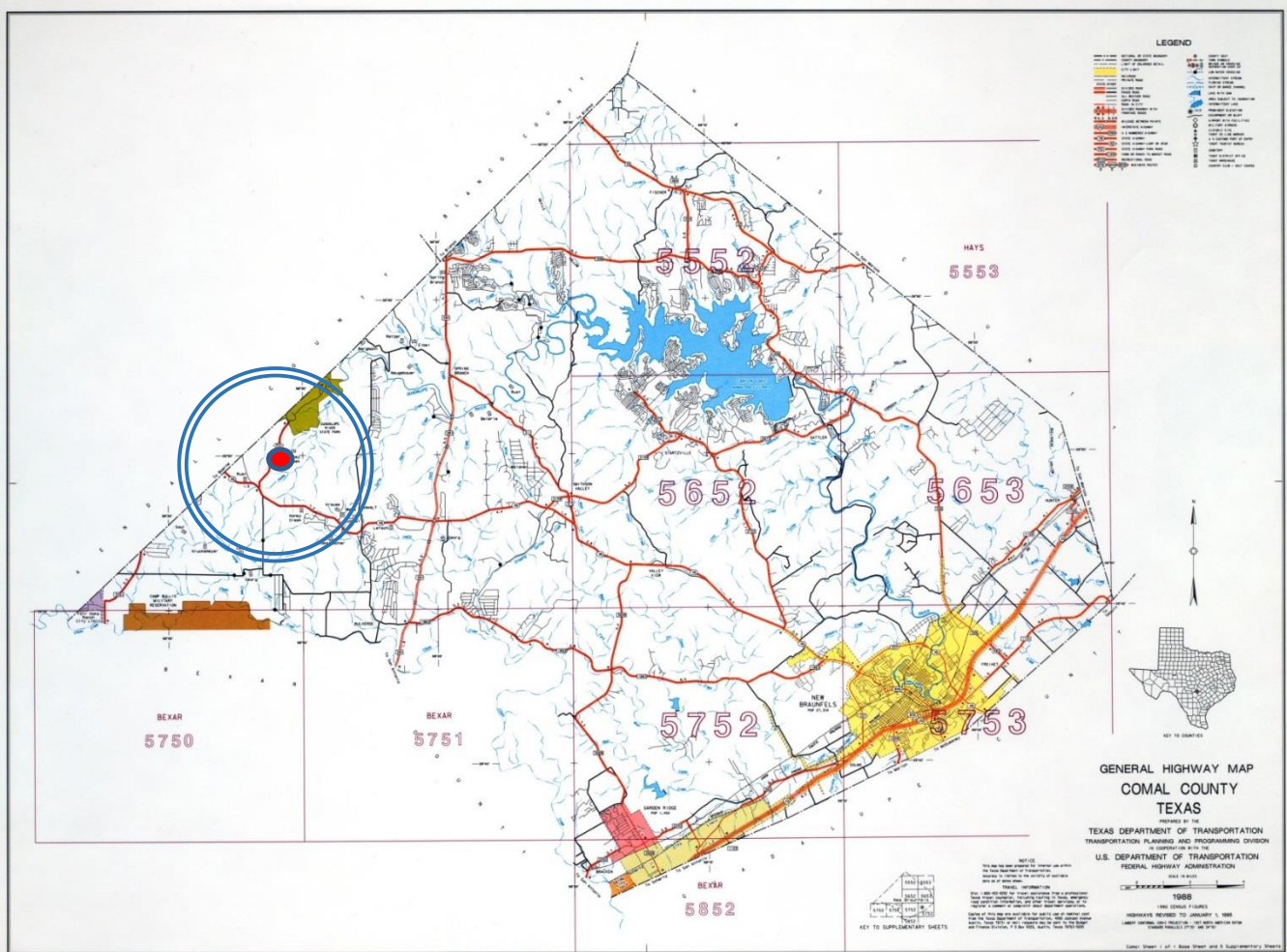
Name of Property

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Map 2. Comal County Highway Map (Source: <http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/txdot/tccoma01.jpg>). The red dot represents the approximate location of Honey Creek Historic District.

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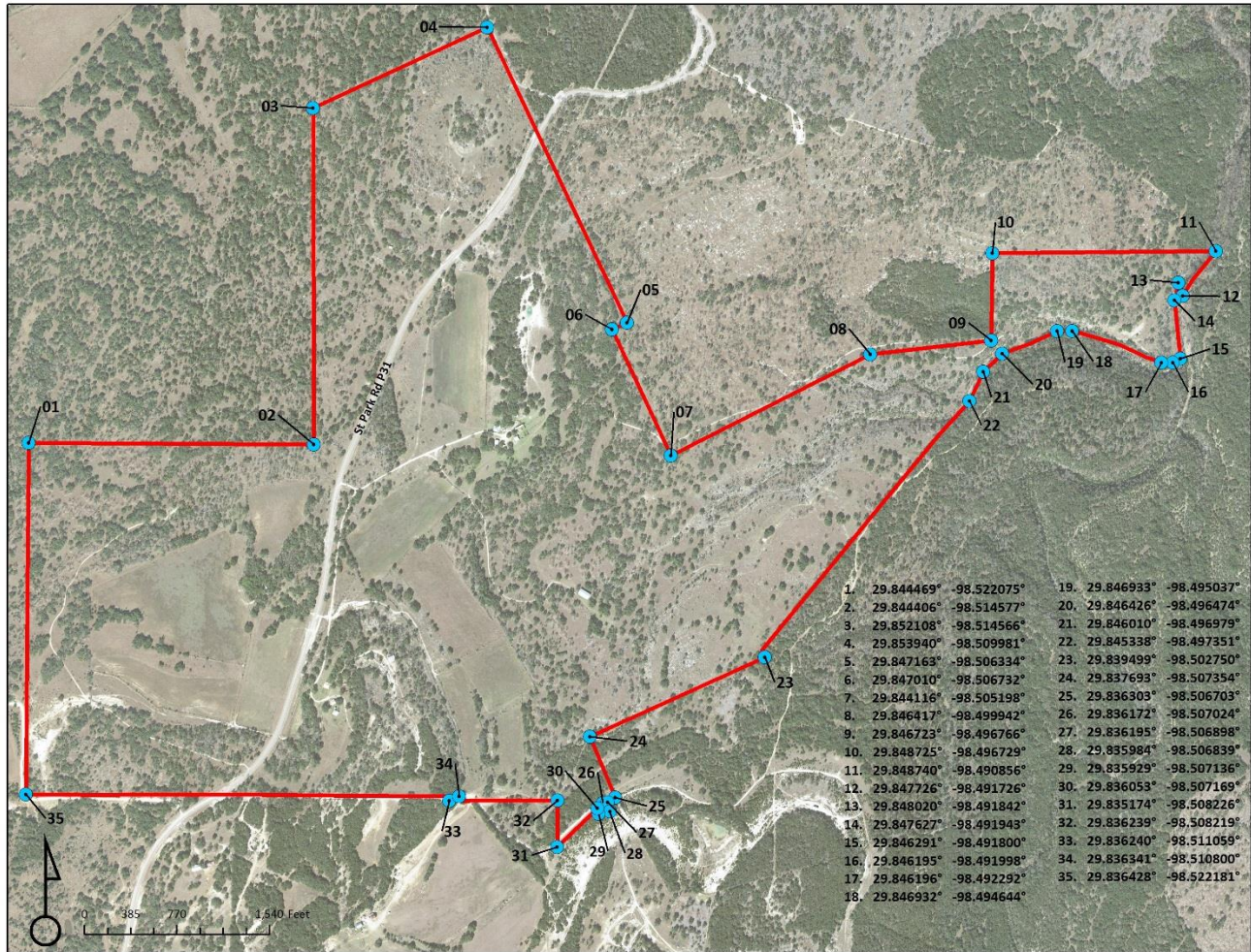
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Map 3. Honey Creek Historic District with boundaries in red and latitude and longitude coordinates in blue and black.

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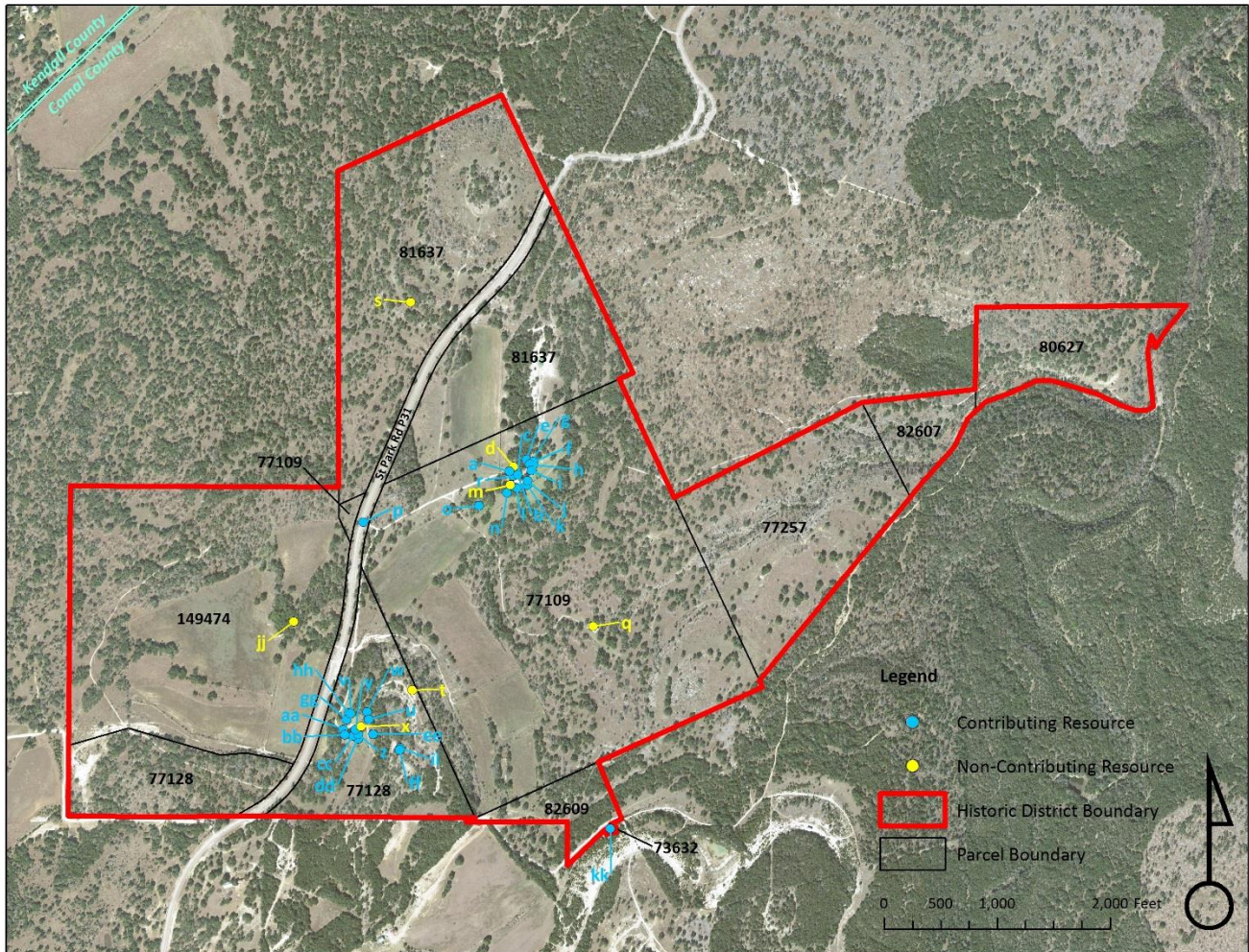
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Map 4. Honey Creek Historic District with boundaries in red, parcel boundaries in black, contributing resources in blue, and non-contributing resources in yellow.

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Map 5. Inset of Kneupper Homestead in the southern part of the Honey Creek Historic District.



RID	Property Type	Year Built	Contributing Status
t	Building - Barn	ca. 1990	Non-contributing
u	Building - Goat barn	ca. 1880	Contributing
v	Building - Barn	ca. 1930	Contributing
w	Building - Smokehouse	ca. 1880	Contributing
x	Building - Bunkhouse	ca. 1990	Non-contributing
y	Building - Single-family dwelling	ca. 1867	Contributing
z	Building - Well house	ca. 1920	Contributing
aa	Object - Dipping vat	ca. 1900	Contributing
bb	Object - Trough	ca. 1900	Contributing
cc	Structure - Windmill	ca. 1930	Contributing
dd	Building - Single-family dwelling	ca. 1920	Contributing
ee	Building - Shed	ca. 1910	Contributing
ff	Building - Chapel	ca. 1878	Contributing
gg	Structure - Load chute	ca. 1920	Contributing
hh	Structure - Corn crib	ca. 1880	Contributing
ii	Structure - Fencing	ca. 1878	Contributing

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Map 6. Inset of Kunz Homestead in north central part of the Honey Creek Historic District.



RID	Property Type	Year Built	Contributing Status
a	Building – Single-family dwelling	ca. 1942	Contributing
b	Building – Wash House	ca. 1920	Contributing
c	Structure – Windmill	1923	Contributing
d	Building - Garage	ca. 1990	Non-contributing
e	Building – Barn	ca. 1910	Contributing
f	Object – Dipping vat	ca. 1910	Contributing
g	Building - Outhouse	ca. 1910	Contributing
h	Building – Pig pen	ca. 1910	Contributing
i	Building - Barn	ca. 1910	Contributing
j	Building - Barn	ca. 1910	Contributing
k	Object - Trough	ca. 1910	Contributing
l	Building – Chicken house	ca. 1920	Contributing
m	Building - Warehouse	ca. 1990	Non-contributing
n	Building – Chicken house	ca. 1920	Contributing
r	Structure - Fencing	ca. 1942	Contributing

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Figures

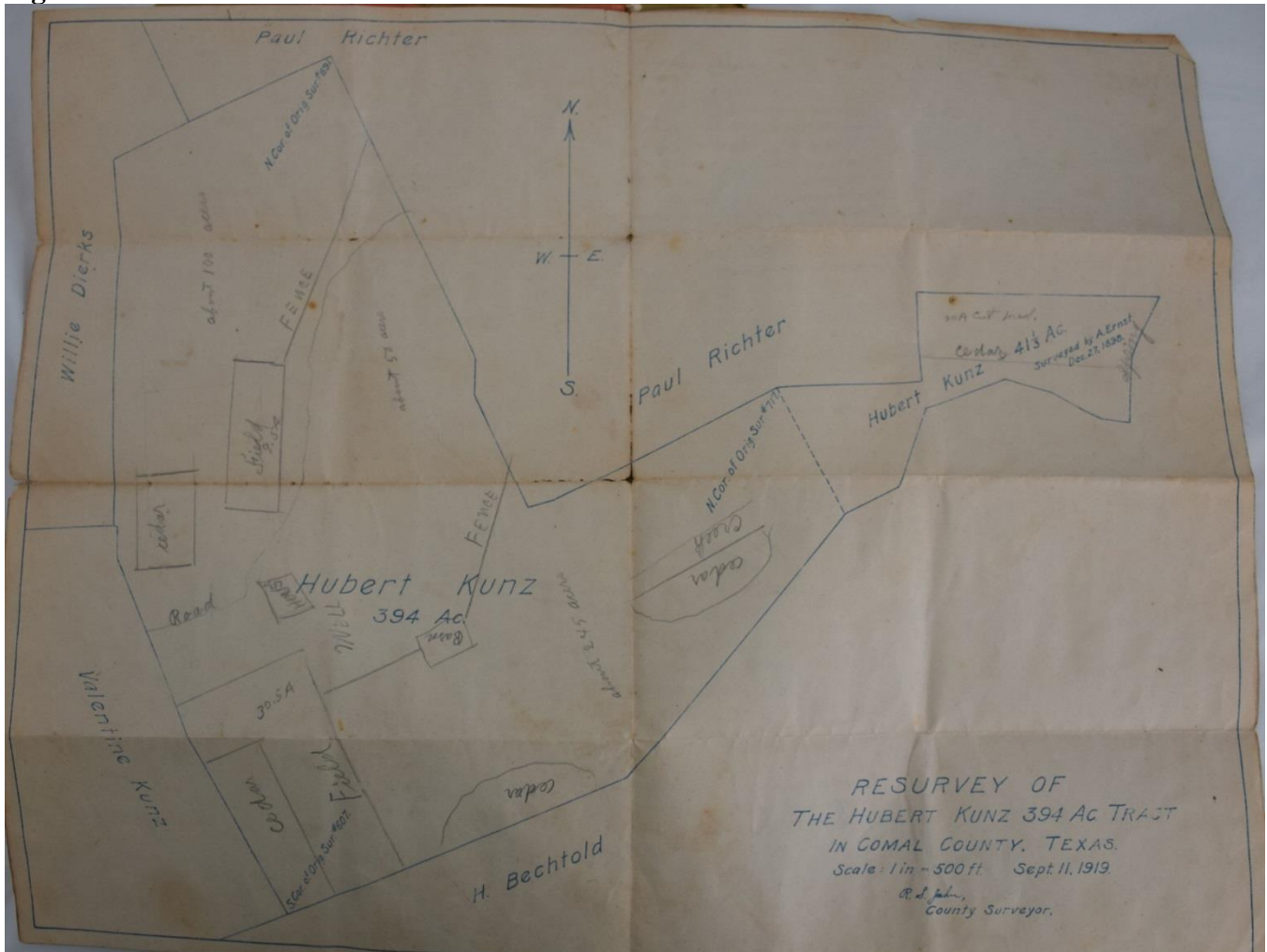


Figure 1. 1919 resurvey map of the Hubert Kunz tract showing land owned by Hubert Kunz and his brother Valentin Kunz, as well as location of the road, house, barn, fields, and cedar trees. Source: Joyce Moore.

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Figure 2. 1963 aerial photograph showing inset of Honey Creek Historic District and the location of fields and clusters. Historic district boundary in red. Source: USGS EarthExplorer.

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Figure 3. 1953 aerial photograph showing inset of Honey Creek Historic District and the alignment of the roadway through the district. Historic district boundary in red. Source: USGS EarthExplorer.

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Figure 4. 1973 aerial showing inset of Honey Creek Historic District and the alignment of the roadway through the district. Historic district boundary in red. Source: USGS EarthExplorer.

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Figure 5. 1975 photograph of 1920s house (RID dd) on Kneupper Homestead. Source: Texas Historical Commission via the Portal to Texas History.

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Figure 6. Photograph showing house (RID a) on Kunz Homestead from 1948. Source: Joyce Moore.

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Figure 7. Photograph showing house (RID a) on Kunz Homestead in 1947. Source: Joyce Moore.

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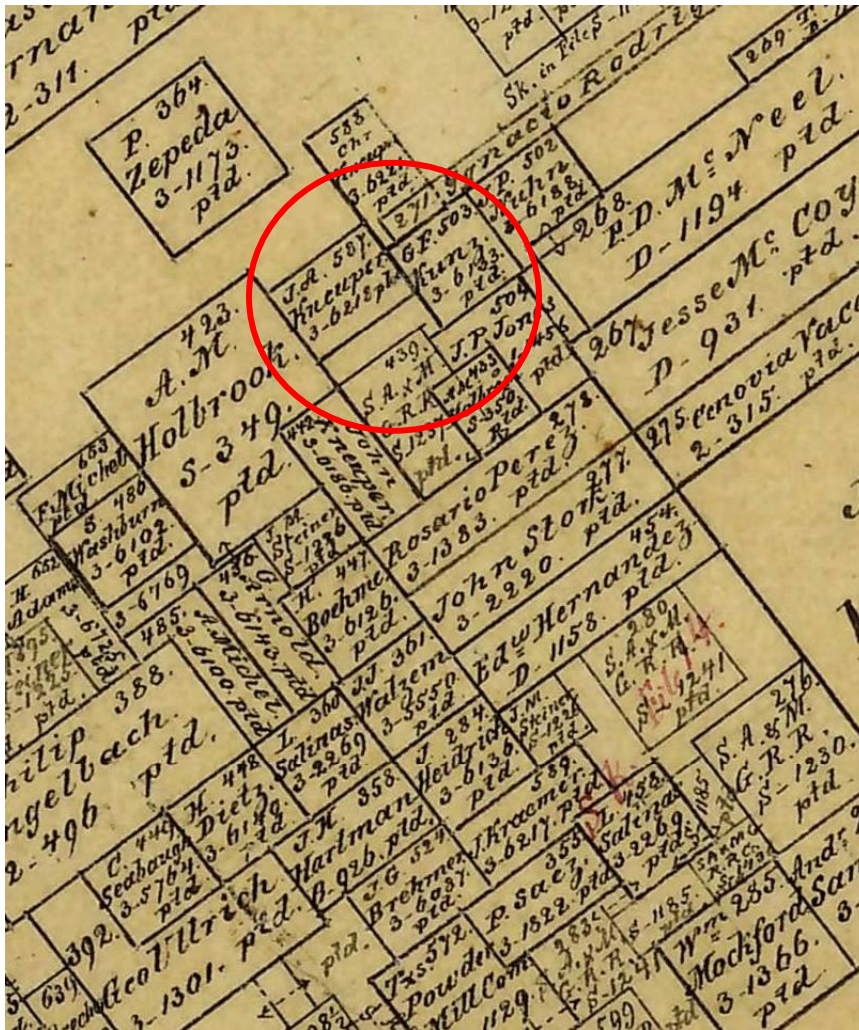


Figure 8. Comal County map showing land grants. Red circle highlights location of Kneupper and Kunz’s land grants outside of New Braunfels. Source: Texas General Land Office.

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Honey Creek Historic District

Name of Property

Comal County, Texas

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

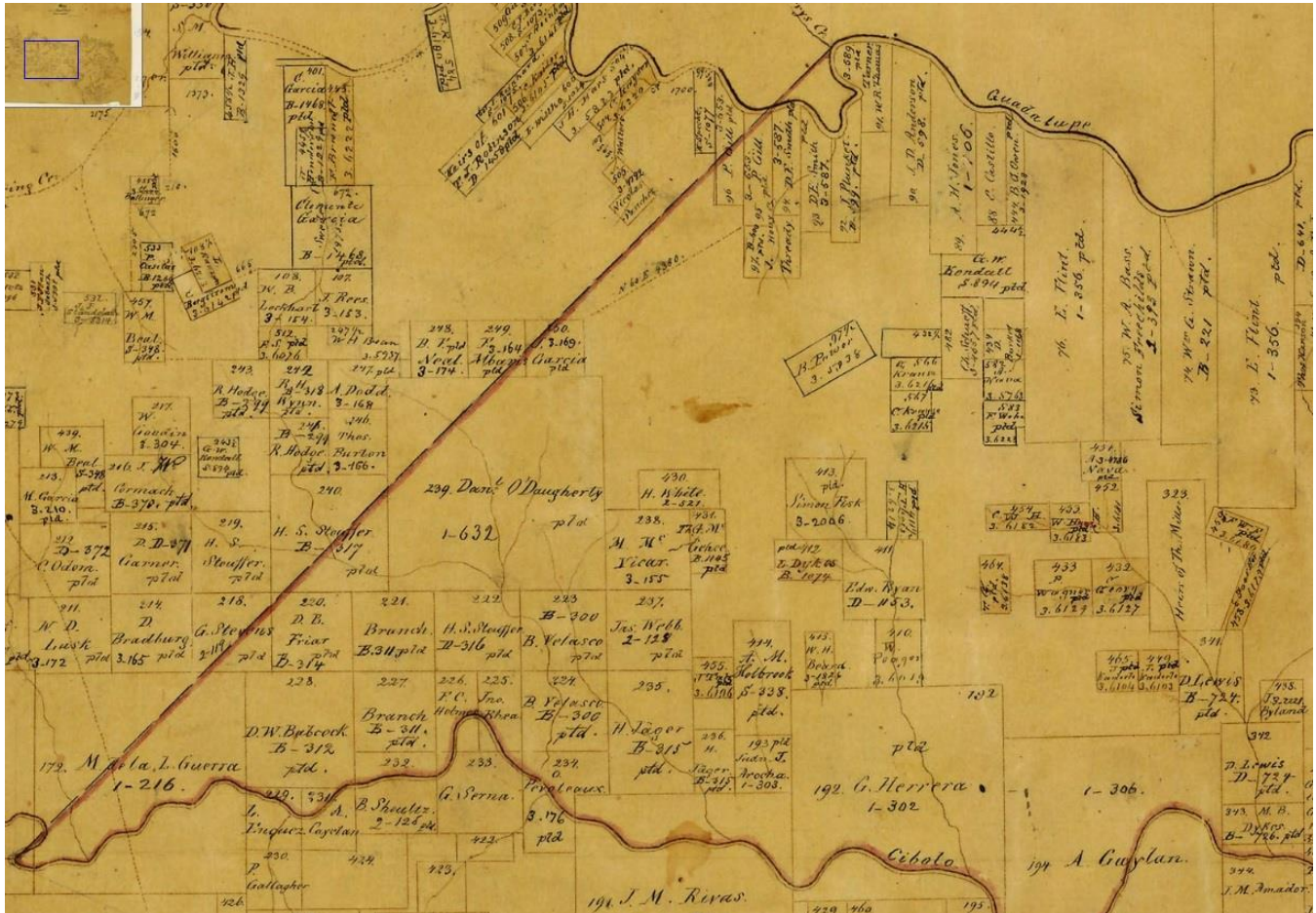


Figure 9. Undated Comal County map showing land grants, highlighting the western part of the county. Source: Texas General Land Office.

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Honey Creek Historic District

Name of Property

Comal County, Texas

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

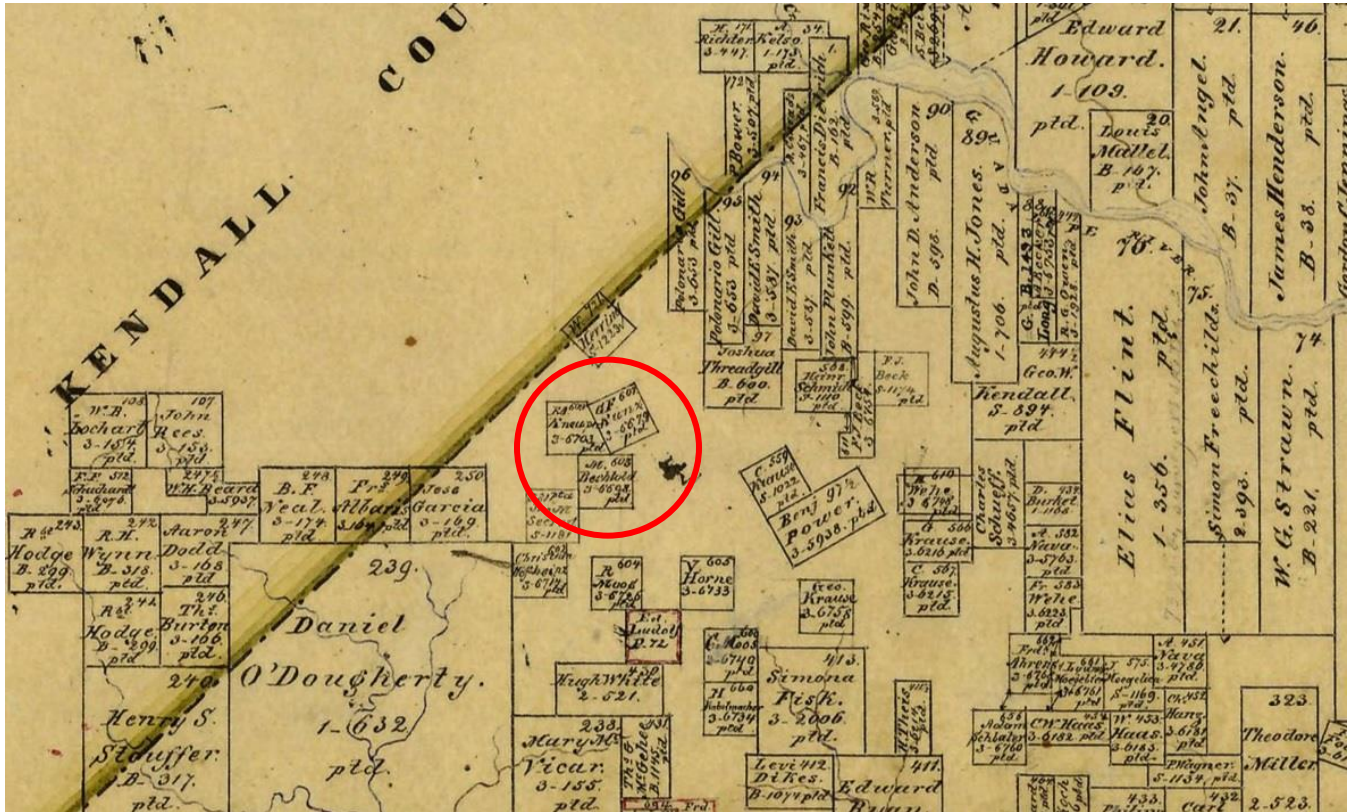


Figure 10. Comal County map with the Kneupper, Kunz, and Bechtold surveys in Honey Creek circled in red. Source: Texas General Land Office.

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Honey Creek Historic District

Name of Property

Comal County, Texas

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Figure 11. Photograph showing Anita Gass on Kunz Homestead in 1952. Source: Joyce Moore.

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Honey Creek Historic District

Name of Property

Comal County, Texas

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Figure 12. Photograph showing Anita Gass on Kunz Homestead in 1947. Source: Joyce Moore.

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Honey Creek Historic District

Name of Property

Comal County, Texas

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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Photographs



Photo no. 1. View of entrance gate (RID p) from Park Road 31. View facing east

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Honey Creek Historic District
Name of Property
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County and State
N/A
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Photo no. 2. View of internal road leading to Kunz Homestead. View facing west.

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Honey Creek Historic District
Name of Property
Comal County, Texas
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Photo no. 3. View of natural landscape near the Kneupper Chapel (RID ff). View facing southeast.

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Honey Creek Historic District
Name of Property
Comal County, Texas
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Photo no. 4. View on non-historic fencing on Kunz Homestead. View facing west.

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Honey Creek Historic District
Name of Property
Comal County, Texas
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Photo no. 5. View of historic fencing on Kneupper Homestead. View facing west.

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Honey Creek Historic District

Name of Property

Comal County, Texas

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Photo no. 6. View of Kneupper Homestead. View facing northeast.

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Honey Creek Historic District

Name of Property

Comal County, Texas

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Photo no. 7. Oblique view of ca. 1867 Kneupper house (RID y). View facing northeast.

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Honey Creek Historic District
Name of Property
Comal County, Texas
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Photo no. 8. Oblique view of rear of ca. 1867 Kneupper house (RID y). View facing southeast.

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Honey Creek Historic District
Name of Property
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County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Photo no. 9. View of well house (RID z) and windmill (RID cc) on Kneupper Homestead. View facing southwest.

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Honey Creek Historic District
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N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Photo no. 10. Oblique view of 1920s house (RID dd) on Knuepper Homestead. View facing northwest.

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Honey Creek Historic District

Name of Property

Comal County, Texas

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Photo no. 11. Oblique view of 1930s barn (RID v) on Kneupper Homestead. View facing north.

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Honey Creek Historic District
Name of Property
Comal County, Texas
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Photo no. 12. View of loading chute and corral (RID gg) on Kneupper Homestead. View facing northeast.

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Honey Creek Historic District
Name of Property
Comal County, Texas
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N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Photo no. 13. View of corn crib (RID hh) on Kneupper Homestead. Resource located in barn (RID v). View facing north.

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Honey Creek Historic District

Name of Property

Comal County, Texas

County and State

N/A

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Photo no. 14. View of goat barn (RID u) on Kneupper Homestead. View facing northeast.

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Honey Creek Historic District
Name of Property
Comal County, Texas
County and State
N/A
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Photo no. 15. View of smokehouse (RID w) on Kneupper Homestead. View facing east.

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Honey Creek Historic District

Name of Property

Comal County, Texas

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Photo no. 16. View of shed (RID ee) on Kneupper Homestead. View facing east.

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Honey Creek Historic District
Name of Property
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County and State
N/A
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Photo no. 17. View of stone dipping vat (RID aa) on Kneupper Homestead. View facing southwest.

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Honey Creek Historic District
Name of Property
Comal County, Texas
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Photo no. 18. View of trough (RID bb) on Kneupper Homestead. View facing southwest.

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Honey Creek Historic District

Name of Property

Comal County, Texas

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Photo no. 19. Oblique view of house (RID a) and fencing (RID r) on Kunz Homestead. View facing east.

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Honey Creek Historic District
Name of Property
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County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Photo no. 20. Façade view of wash house (RID b) windmill (RID c) on Kunz Homestead. View facing east.

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Honey Creek Historic District

Name of Property

Comal County, Texas

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Photo no. 21. View of rocky outcrop separating domestic area from agricultural resources on Kunz Homestead. View facing east.

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Honey Creek Historic District
Name of Property
Comal County, Texas
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Photo no. 22. View of roadway separating domestic area from agricultural resources on Kunz Homestead. View facing southwest.

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Honey Creek Historic District
Name of Property
Comal County, Texas
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Photo no. 23. View of barn (RID j) and trough (RID k) on Kunz Homestead. View facing east.

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Honey Creek Historic District
Name of Property
Comal County, Texas
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Photo no. 24. View of dipping vat (RID f) on Kunz Homestead. View facing east.

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Honey Creek Historic District

Name of Property

Comal County, Texas

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N/A

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Photo no. 25. View of pig pen (RID h) on Kunz Homestead. View facing north.

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Honey Creek Historic District

Name of Property

Comal County, Texas

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Photo no. 26. View of barn (RID i) on Kunz Homestead. View facing north.

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Honey Creek Historic District
Name of Property
Comal County, Texas
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Photo no. 27. Oblique view of chicken house/brooder house (RID 1) on Kunz Homestead. View facing northwest.

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Honey Creek Historic District
Name of Property
Comal County, Texas
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Photo no. 28. Oblique view of chicken house (RID n) on Kunz Homestead. View facing northwest.

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Honey Creek Historic District
Name of Property
Comal County, Texas
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Photo no. 29. Contextual view of Kneupper Chapel (RID ff) and stone fencing (RID ii). View facing southeast.

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Honey Creek Historic District
Name of Property
Comal County, Texas
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N/A
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Photo no. 30. Oblique view of Kneupper Chapel (RID ff) and stone fencing (RID ii). View facing southeast.

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Honey Creek Historic District

Name of Property

Comal County, Texas

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N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Photo no. 31. View of interior of Kneupper Chapel (RID ff). View facing east.

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Honey Creek Historic District

Name of Property

Comal County, Texas

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N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Photo no. 32. View of Honey Creek Cemetery (RID kk) entrance. View facing southeast.

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Honey Creek Historic District

Name of Property

Comal County, Texas

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Photo no. 33. View of fenced in graves of Bechtolds at Honey Creek Cemetery (RID kk). View facing east.

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Honey Creek Historic District
Name of Property
Comal County, Texas
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Photo no. 34. View of non-contributing garage (RID d) on Kunz Homestead. View facing northeast.

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Honey Creek Historic District
Name of Property
Comal County, Texas
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)



Photo no. 35. View of non-contributing warehouse (RID m) on Kunz Homestead. View facing southwest.



J & A GASS































































ST JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH
HONEY CREEK CEMETERY #1
ESTABLISHED 1877







UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 2/14/2018 Date of Pending List: 3/9/2018 Date of 16th Day: 3/26/2018 Date of 45th Day: 4/2/2018 Date of Weekly List: 3/30/2018

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

Accept Return Reject 3/26/2018 Date

Abstract/Summary
Comments:

Recommendation/
Criteria

Reviewer Paul Lusignan Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2229 Date _____

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

real places telling real stories



TO: Edson Beall
National Register of Historic Places
Mail Stop 7228
1849 C St, NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

From: Mark Wolfe, SHPO
Texas Historical Commission

RE: Honey Creek Historic District, Spring Branch, Comal County, Texas

DATE: February 12, 2018

The following materials are submitted:

X	Original National Register of Historic Places form on disk. The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the National Register of Historic Places nomination of the Honey Creek Historic District, Spring Branch, Comal County, Texas
	Resubmitted nomination.
X	Original NRHP signature page signed by the Texas SHPO.
	Multiple Property Documentation form on disk.
	Resubmitted form.
	Original MPDF signature page signed by the Texas SHPO.
X	CD with TIFF photograph files, KMZ files, and nomination PDF
	Correspondence.

COMMENTS:

- SHPO requests substantive review (cover letter from SHPO attached)
- The enclosed owner objections (do) (do not) constitute a majority of property owners
- Other:

