

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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

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SITE NO. 20

NAME Even and Petrine Erickson farm

LOCATION 9 miles northwest of Clifton, Bosque County, Texas, on E. Erickson survey

OWNER Selma Paulson
P.O. Box 364
Meridian, Texas 76665

PRESENT USE Storage, agriculture

CATEGORY Buildings/site

STATUS Unoccupied

QUADRANGLE NAME Sugarloaf Mountain, Texas

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCE 14/623920/3526700

ACREAGE less than 1 acre

PHOTO REFERENCE NO. 31, 32

DESCRIPTION

The Even and Petrine Erickson farm is the northernmost property included in the nomination. It is located near Bee Creek, about a half mile south of State Highway 22. Of log and stone construction, the house remains virtually unaltered and is in fair, but stable, condition. The one-room log cabin is the oldest part of the structure. Its irregular logs were hewn flat on their inside and outside faces, and the irregular spaces between them were filled with stone chinking that was plastered over. A variety of notching techniques was used at the corners, including saddle-notching, V-notching, and half-dovetail notching. A slightly offset doorway pierces the front, or south, facade. The west wall has a centrally located door, but the east facade, which is covered with board-and-batten wood siding, has two window openings on the ground level. The gable roof has a corrugated metal covering. A small stone lean-to is attached to the rear elevation of the cabin, and its walls have been plastered over.

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A tall stone chimney rises from this addition. Other structures on the old farm include a log barn, a log corn crib, a stone-lined cistern, hand-dug well, and sections of a stone fence, all of which stand within the nominated property and contribute to the historic character of the farm. Somewhat overgrown with vegetation, the grounds of the complex contain a large number of old agricultural implements. To the east side of the stone fence, an early 20th century frame house and an old mobile home serve as the present residences, but neither is included within the property to be nominated.

SIGNIFICANCE

According to the Paulson family, who presently occupy this farm, the Erickson Cabin was erected in 1874. This is corroborated, approximately, by the 1876 date assigned to the Erickson patent for this land, for to acquire a patent a person must have occupied a piece of land at least three years previous to the grant. The cabin, which is the only completely intact structure of its kind in this nomination, is accompanied on its site by a log corncrib and barn. Both these structures also appear to date to the 1870s. In addition, there is also a hand-dug well, cistern, and frame outbuilding on the property, which make it one of the most complete pioneer farmsteads in the settlement, and one worthy of archeological investigation.

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AREA TO BE NOMINATED

