

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

**National Register of Historic Places
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SITE NO. 11

NAME

Christen and Johanne Knudson farm

LOCATION

FM 219, 4¼ miles southwest of Clifton, Bosque
County, Texas, on C. Knutzen survey

OWNER

Emma Byford
Route 2
Clifton, Texas 76634

PRESENT USE

Private residence

CATEGORY

Building

STATUS

Occupied

QUADRANGLE NAME

Sugarloaf Mountain, Texas

QUADRANGLE SCALE

1:24000

UTM REFERENCE

14/628950/3514090

ACREAGE

less than 1 acre

PHOTO REFERENCE NO.

20

DESCRIPTION

The Christen and Johanne Knudson house faces southeast from its prominent position atop a gently rolling hill north of FM 219 and west of Turkey Creek. This structure is in good condition and is still in active use as a residence. Despite several additions and alterations, the house retains its basic integrity. The original structure was a small, one-and-a-half-story residence with a two-room, asymmetrical plan on the ground floor and a sleeping loft above. Built of limestone, it originally had a three-bay facade with a centrally located, single-door entrance. At some later date a frame extension was made to the northeast end of the house, creating a five-bay front with two single, front doors that flank a center window, with two additional windows toward each end. Recently, this frame addition has been covered with aluminum siding. A large gabled porch has been constructed in the center of this extended facade. In spite of

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these additions the original stone portion of the house remains intact. With its gable-end chimney and two-part plan, it represents a good example of the asymmetrical type of stone house. Because of alterations to the corn crib and wellhouse, the residence is the only building of this complex that is to be nominated.

SIGNIFICANCE

Christen and Johanne Knudson arrived in Bosque County in 1868, and were well established by the time of the 1870 U.S. Census and Special Farm Schedule, where they appear as Cris and Johhanna Cannudeson. Presumably, the asymmetrical, two-room stone section of the house was constructed at about that time. Despite the extensive alterations, this early stone house is significant because of its association with the Norwegian settlers of Bosque County.

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AREA TO BE NOMINATED

