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SITE NO. 19

NAME Adolf and Christine Godager homesite

LOCATION S.H. 22, 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ miles northwest of Clifton, Bosque
County, Texas, on J.L. Wilson survey

OWNER Tom G. Parks
Route 2
Clifton, Texas 76634

PRESENT USE Ruins

CATEGORY Building, site

STATUS Unoccupied

QUADRANGLE NAME Cranfills Gap, Texas

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCE 14/616930/3521200

ACREAGE less than 1 acre

PHOTO REFERENCE NO. 29, 30

DESCRIPTION

The Adolf and Christine Godager homesite stands abandoned on a gently rolling prairie approximately six miles northeast of Cranfills Gap. Located about a half mile southeast of State Highway 22, it is in ruins and has been unoccupied, according to local historian Rebecca Radde, since the late 19th century. With its front facing south, this residence is a one-room log structure with a stone lean-to that extends from the rear. Although the roof is no longer in place, the walls remain relatively intact, and are constructed of irregular logs hewn on their inner and outer faces. The large gaps between these members are filled with stone chinking once covered with plaster, as at the Erickson cabin (no. 20). The corners of the cabin are V-notched. The cantilevered eaves on both ends of the house, made possible by the projecting plate logs, are its most distinctive feature. When the stone lean-to was added to the rear, the cantilevered eaves were incorporated into it. This lean-to, which represents a typical Norwegian way of expanding the one-room log cabins, still retains the plaster covering over its stone walls. A stone-lined, underground cistern is located a few feet north of the house.

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SIGNIFICANCE

The Godager Cabin, which is said to have been constructed in 1872, is architecturally significant because of its resemblance to the Norwegian Laftehus. This site was supposedly abandoned in the 19th century, and has remained moderately undisturbed ever since. Thus archeological investigation could likely contribute to an understanding of the earliest phase of Norwegian settlement.

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AREA TO BE NOMINATED

