

HISTORIC TEXAS CEMETERY REQUEST FOR DESIGNATION

RECEIVED

JUL 16 2008

History Programs Division

List additional descriptions or information on separate pages, if necessary.

IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

Primary name Fischer Cemetery Also known as Fischer Stone Cemetery
County Comal Fischer Community Cem.
Fischer School Graveyard

Type Single grave Cemetery

Person completing this form Terry G. Fischer

Address 1521 Daisy Lane

City, state, zip New Braunfels TX 78130

Phone 830-608-9659 Fax Email t.fischer@sbcglobal.net

Affiliation with cemetery President

LOCATION

Cemetery address, if known 12300 RR 32 City Fischer

Distance and direction to nearest road

Directions to cemetery from nearest town 1/2 mi east of Fischer

Optional: UTM Zone 14 Latitude 29°58'30"N Longitude 98°15'38"W
29.97491 -98.26107

TRUSTEESHIP OR CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

Public Private

Name of individual, political entity, organization, or religious institution associated with cemetery, or whose land surrounds cemetery

Address, city, zip

Phone Fax Email

Association meeting dates, if applicable 4th Saturday of April

Contact person, sexton or caretaker Charlene Fischer

Address, city, zip P.O. Box 55, Fischer TX 78623

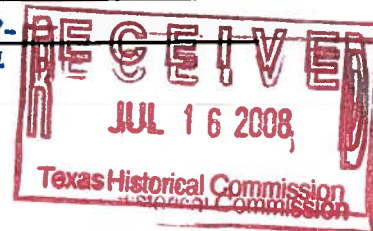
Phone 830-935-4702 Fax Email

DEED REFERENCE

If known, provide deed information (volume, page, signing date) as to the ownership of the land from which the cemetery was set aside Comal Co. Land Records, Vol 232 p 211

OFFICE USE: Cemetery Number CM-C021 USGS map 2998-434
Feature: Yes No Endangerment: L M H

CHK# 2398 \$25.00 ea



Ownership of land adjacent to cemetery (Indicate on the cemetery map the location of each owner's property. If there are more than four owners, please continue list on a separate sheet of paper.)

Owner No. 1: Camel Ind. School Dist.
Address, city, state, zip 1421 N Business 35, New Brownfels Tx 78130
Phone 830-221-2000 Fax _____ Email _____

Owner No. 2: Richard & Judy Schell
Address, city, state, zip 16707 Nina Dr., Friendswood Tx 77546
Phone 830-935-4015 Fax _____ Email _____

Owner No. 3: TX DOT
Address, city, state, zip 2940 IH 35 South, New Brownfels, Tx 78130
Phone 830-625-6278 Fax _____ Email _____

Owner No. 4: _____
Address, city, state, zip _____
Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

EXISTING HISTORICAL MARKERS

Provide title and date of each THC historical marker within cemetery N.A.

Provide title and date of nearby THC historical markers, if any NA

SURROUNDING LAND USE (check all that apply)

- Urban setting Suburban setting Rural setting Transitional
- Level Sloped Encroachment

CEMETERY ACCESS (check all that apply)

- Direct access to public road Public access Private property

Limitations to access None

Cemetery sign On Hwy 32

Gate Not Locked

Primary access: Walk Drive Distance from nearest road off RR 32 ROW

IDENTIFIABLE CULTURAL HERITAGE (check all that apply)

- African American Asian European Hispanic Jewish Middle Eastern Native American Other

Language on stones English, German

Other cultural information Some remains moved here from Canyon Lake

IDENTIFIABLE RELIGIOUS HERITAGE (check all that apply)

- Catholic Islamic Jewish Protestant Other _____

Source _____

LANDSCAPING

Terracing/Retaining walls

Identify the following and note whether the plants are cultural or natural growth, if known.

Trees: Cedar Cultural Natural Oak Cultural Natural Spanish Oak Cultural Natural
Shrubs: Vitex Cultural Natural Red holly Cultural Natural Evergreen Juniper Cultural Natural
Groundcover: Gnoss Cultural Natural _____ Cultural Natural _____ Cultural Natural

PERIMETER

Partially fenced Fully fenced Cultivated fields Trimmed grass Roads

Vacant land Buildings Body of water Other _____

Rough dimensions: 430 x 530 feet. Estimated acreage: 3.8. Irregular shape

PERIMETER FENCE

Barbed/Woven wire Brick Cast/Wrought iron Chain link Resin/Synthetic Stone

Trees Hedgerow Wood Other _____

AGE AND CONTEXT

Approximate number of graves 420 Dates of burials: Oldest 1890 Most recent 2007

Is the cemetery still active? Yes No

Unmarked graves Marked graves, no dates Dated graves Associated cultural context existing (neighborhood, community, church, etc.) Name _____

Original geographic context removed (small cemetery now in road right-of-way, parking lot, etc.)

Subsequent community established around cemetery site Relocated from original site

Source _____

Burial records exist Gravestones have been inventoried

Printed inventory available/location in mailbox of cemetery of from president

CEMETERY CONDITION

Maintained No obvious evidence of maintenance Select sections maintained

Evidence of gravestone repairs Overgrown Missing features Trash/Dumping ground

Graves not readily visible Grave depressions Fallen stones Vandalized Tilted/Leaning stones

Evidence of cemetery above ground

GRAVESTONE MATERIALS

Cast iron Ceramic photographs Concrete Fieldstone Funeral company marker Granite

Limestone Marble Resin/Plastic Sandstone Steel Structural glass Tile Wood Zinc Other

CEMETERY FEATURE OVERVIEW

Entry: Entry gate/Arch Manufacturer _____

Fenced plots: Family; Number _____ Individual graves; Number 1

Interior fence materials: Barbed wire Brick Cast/Wrought iron Chain link Combination

Woven wire Stone Wood Other _____

Curbing: Cut stone Concrete Brick Other _____

Grave decoration: Shells Gravel Scraped earth Floral Other _____

Interior roads: Dirt Brick Gravel Paved Cobblestone Grass Other _____

Walkways and paths: Dirt Brick Gravel Paved Stone Grass Other _____

Segregated burials: Family Race Religion Fraternal order Nationality Pauper

Babies Institutional

Cemetery features: Benches Flagpole Folk decorations Fountains Grave houses

Grave shrines Grave slabs Homemade/Local castings Cairns Mausoleums/Vaults Obelisks

Original statuary Outhouse Tabernacle Structures Unique stone carving Urns Well

Other _____

Signed statuary _____ Signed gravestones _____

FISCHER CEMETERY HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The land where the Fischer Cemetery is located was originally a part of 30 acres that Otto Fischer gave to the Fischer Store School Community in 1886.¹ The cemetery apparently was started informally² on the easterly side of the 30 acres on top of the hill on Highway 32 about one-fourth mile east of FM 484. The original title was Fischers School Graveyard at Fischers Store.³ Later the cemetery became known as the Fischer Cemetery. It was not until March of 1976 that the Comal Independent School District officially sold 3.851 acres of the original 30 acres to the Fischer Cemetery Association.⁴ The Comal County Rural High School District was formed in 1956 when many of the county schools were consolidated and converted to Comal Independent School District in 1968.

The Fischer School Graveyard records show that Monroe Smith's (the first caretaker of the cemetery) infant son was the first person buried in the cemetery in 1890.⁵ Persons by the name Ulbricht and Trener were buried in 1891 and 1892, respectively. The community founding fathers, Herman Fischer Sr. and Otto Fischer were buried here in 1893 and 1904, respectively. Herman was 67 years old and Otto was 73 when they died.

It appears that Otto was fully aware of the fact that part of the land he gave to the school was being used as a cemetery. It was only that the usage of the land was not officially recorded.

In the mid sixties a number of people were relocated from other cemeteries inundated by the new Canyon Lake on the Guadalupe river south of Fischer.

At the present time there are over 400 bodies buried at this cemetery. Burials still take place at the present time and the Association is also active.

¹ Comal County Clerk Office, New Braunfels, Texas, Volume S, pp 611-612

² *Register for the Fischers School Graveyard at Fischers Store, Comal County Texas 1889.* Copy found at the Sophienburg Archives in New Braunfels, Texas..

³ Ibid

⁴ *Comal County Clerk Office, New Braunfels, Texas, Volume 237, p211.*

⁵ *Register for the Fischers School Graveyard at Fischers Store, Comal County Texas 1889.* Copy found at the Sophienburg Archives in New Braunfels, Texas.