1. NAME
COMMON:
Fort Lancaster
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION
STREET AND NUMBER:
10 miles east of Sheffield on Highway 290
CITY OR TOWN:
Sheffield
STATE:
Texas
COUNTY:
Crockett

3. CLASSIFICATION
CATEGORY (Check One)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Building</th>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Structure</th>
<th>Object</th>
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OWNERSHIP

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Public</th>
<th>Private</th>
<th>Both</th>
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</thead>
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STATUS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Occupied</th>
<th>Unoccupied</th>
<th>Being Considered</th>
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</table>

ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Yes:</th>
<th>Restricted</th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>No</th>
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PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agricultural</th>
<th>Government</th>
<th>Park</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>Industrial</td>
<td>Private Residence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational</td>
<td>Military</td>
<td>Religious</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entertainment</td>
<td>Museum</td>
<td>Scientific</td>
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</table>

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY
OWNER'S NAME:
State of Texas: Parks and Wildlife Department

STREET AND NUMBER:
John H. Reagan State Office Building
CITY OR TOWN:
Austin

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COUNTY, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Crockett County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Ozona

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
TITLE OF SURVEY:
Texas Historic Forts Architectural Research,
Part III: Fort Lancaster
DATE OF SURVEY:
1968

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Texas State Historical Survey Committee
STREET AND NUMBER:
108 W. 15th Street
CITY OR TOWN:
Austin

(See continuation sheet #1)
Fort Lancaster is located in the Pecos River Valley in Crockett County. It stands in ruins on the east side of Live Oak Creek approximately one-half mile north of the junction of Live Oak Creek with the Pecos River -- the country is predominated by hills, cliffs and ravines.

Physical remains of the fort today consist of the ruins of 29 buildings, a lime kiln, a cemetery and several trash dumps. Of these standing remains all are stone and/or adobe. In many cases only the foundations show, although a chimney and several walls (as high as six to ten feet) still remain.

Vegetation at the fort site is made up of creosote, mesquite, yucca and cactus; live oak, hackberry and cottonwood trees grow along the stream banks.

The site, now state property, is currently being developed; a museum has recently been built and will open soon.
6. (cont d)

Texas State Historical Survey
1966 State
Texas State Historical Survey Committee
108 W. 15th Street
Austin, Texas 048
6. SIGNIFICANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PERIOD</th>
<th>□ Pre-Columbian</th>
<th>□ 16th Century</th>
<th>□ 18th Century</th>
<th>□ 20th Century</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15th Century</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</table>

| SPECIFIC DATE(s) (If Applicable and Known) | 1855-1860 |

<table>
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<th>AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Aborigina</td>
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<tr>
<td>Architecture</td>
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<tr>
<td>Art</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commerce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE |

Fort Lancaster, one in a series of forts erected along the western Texas frontier as the settlement line expanded, had as its primary function the protection of settlers and travelers going between Texas and California. Its location in the Pecos River Valley was strategically placed at the Pecos crossing on the old military road between San Antonio and El Paso — the Lower Road used by the stage.

When it was initially constructed and occupied in August, 1855, the first buildings were crude, makeshift portable shelters. These less substantial buildings were soon to give way to more substantial ones though, so that by 1860, the peak of the fort's existence, most of the buildings were made of stone and/or adobe. Ruins of 29 buildings can be identified at the fort today; the most prominent being a chimney of a soldier's barrack.

Until 1861 Lancaster was a Federal post, then it was abandoned with the secession of Texas from the Union at the onset of the Civil War. For a brief time (December, 1861 through April, 1862) it served as a Confederate garrison, but was soon abandoned for the duration of the war.

In 1871, during the Kiowa-Comanche uprising, the fort was reactivated as a sub-post by the federal government; shortly thereafter, in 1873 or 1874 after the Indian trouble had subsided, the fort was completely abandoned.

Recorded Texas Historic Landmark - 1966.


(See continuation sheet #2)

### 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CORNER</th>
<th>LATITUDE</th>
<th>LONGITUDE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NW</td>
<td>30° 40’ 08”</td>
<td>101° 41’ 56”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE</td>
<td>30° 40’ 08”</td>
<td>101° 41’ 36”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SE</td>
<td>30° 39’ 52”</td>
<td>101° 41’ 36”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW</td>
<td>30° 39’ 52”</td>
<td>101° 41’ 56”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Approximate acreage of nominated property: 39 acres

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>CODE</th>
<th>COUNTY CODE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 11. FORM PREPARED BY

Wayne Bell, Project Director
Marsha Jackson, Research Associate

Texas State Historical Survey Committee 2-1-71

108 W. 15th Street

Austin Texas 048

### 12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

- National [ ]
- State [ ]
- Local [ ]

Name: Truett Latimer
Title: State Liaison Officer
Date: February 9, 1971

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: MAR 1 1 1971

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date: FEB 2 2 1971
9. Cont'd


Texas State Historical Survey Committee. marker files.
Grant Request:

I am personally familiar with Fort Lancaster. It certainly qualifies, but I would be cautious about the manner in which it is developed. It should be retained as a ruin and not reconstructed. 2/17/71

Ok

Marvace
2/16/71

Larry
2/17/71

Ok

Chambers
2/17/71

Ok

Sue
3/11/71

Ok

3/11/72

2/12/71

3/11/71

2/12/71
NPS Number 71-3-48-0010

Title: Fort Lancaster

Loc. Crocket Co., Tex.

Remaining walls of barracks at southwest end of fort

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
1. NAME

COMMON: Fort Lancaster

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 10 miles east of Sheffield on Highway 290

CITY OR TOWN: Sheffield

STATE: Texas

CODE: 048

COUNTY: Crockett

CODE: 105

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Texas State Historical Survey Committee

DATE OF PHOTO: July, 1970

NEGATIVE FILED AT: Texas State Historical Survey Committee

108 W. 15th Street, Austin, Texas 78711

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Remaining walls of barracks at southwest end of fort. The walls stand six to ten feet high at places. View looking southwest.
NPS Number: 71-3-480010
Title: Fort Lancaster
Loc: Crockett Co., Tex.

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

*(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. NAME</th>
<th>2. LOCATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMMON: Fort Lancaster</td>
<td>STREET AND NUMBER: 16 miles east of Sheffield on Highway 290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AND/OR HISTORIC:</td>
<td>CITY OR TOWN: Sheffield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>STATE: Texas</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>COUNTY: Crockett</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CODE: 105</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3. PHOTO REFERENCE</th>
<th>4. IDENTIFICATION</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHOTO CREDIT: Texas State Historical Survey Committee</td>
<td>Latrine, square, stone-lined.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DATE OF PHOTO: July, 1970</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEGATIVE FILED AT: Texas State Historical Survey Committee</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>108 W. 15th Street, Austin, Texas 78711</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NPS Number  71-3-48-0210
Title:  Fort Lancaster
Loc.  Crockett Co., Tex.
Solitary chimney, remains of soldiers quarters

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
**1. NAME**
- COMMON: Fort Lancaster

**2. LOCATION**
- STREET AND NUMBER: 10 miles east of Sheffield on Highway 290
- CITY OR TOWN: Sheffield
- STATE: Texas

**3. PHOTO REFERENCE**
- PHOTO CREDIT: Texas State Historical Survey Committee
- DATE OF PHOTO: July, 1970
- NEGATIVE FILED AT: Texas State Historical Survey Committee, 108 W. 15th Street, Austin, Texas 78711

**4. IDENTIFICATION**
- Description: Solitary chimney, remainder of soldiers quarters which faced parade ground. View looking south across Pecos River Valley.
# Property Map Form

**1. NAME**
- COMMON: Fort Lancaster
- AND/OR HISTORIC:

**2. LOCATION**
- STREET AND NUMBER: 10 miles east of Sheffield on Highway 290
- CITY OR TOWN: Sheffield
- STATE: Texas
- CODE 048
- COUNTY: Crockett
- CODE 105

**3. MAP REFERENCE**
- SCALE: 1:24000
- DATE: 1966, 1967

**4. REQUIREMENTS**
- TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS
  1. Property boundaries where required.
  2. North arrow.
  3. Latitude and longitude reference.

*Texas Map Reference* # 3001-313
Hon. Lloyd Bentsen  
United States Senate  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Bentsen:

We are pleased to inform you that the historic properties listed on the enclosure have been nominated by the State Liaison Officer appointed by the Governor for the implementation of the National Historic Preservation Program in Texas and have been entered into the National Register of Historic Places. Senator John G. Tower and the appropriate Representatives have also been provided with this information. By copy of this letter, the State Liaison Officer, Mr. Truett Latimer, Executive Director, Texas State Historical Survey Committee, Post Office Box 12276, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711, has likewise been notified. A leaflet explaining the National Register is enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed)

Director

Enclosures

Entered in the National Register

cc: Mr. Truett Latimer, Executive Director, Texas State Historical Survey Committee, Post Office Box 12276, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711

Also notified:  
United States Senate  
Hon. John G. Tower  
House of Representatives  
Hon. O. C. Fisher  
Hon. Abraham Kazen, Jr.  
Hon. W. R. Poage  
Hon. J. J. Pickle  
Hon. Graham Purcell
Properties added to the National Register of Historic Places

TEXAS

Fort Lancaster
Lavaca County Courthouse
Earle-Napier-Kinnard House
Abraham Wiley Mill House
Decatur Baptist College
Fredericksburg Memorial Library
Foy Steadman Site
Braches Home
Fort Griffin
Planters Bank Building

Crockett County, Texas
Lavaca County, Texas
McLennan County, Texas
Bastrop County, Texas
Mills County, Texas
Gillespie County, Texas
Fisher County, Texas
Gonzales County, Texas
Shackelford County, Texas
Marion County, Texas
Mr. Truett Latimer  
Executive Director  
Texas State Historical Survey Committee  
Post Office Box 12276  
Capitol Station  
Austin, Texas 78711  

Dear Mr. Latimer:

We are pleased to inform you that the historic properties listed on the enclosure have been placed on the National Register of Historic Places. Senators Lloyd Bentsen and John G. Tower and the appropriate Representatives are being informed. A leaflet explaining the National Register is enclosed for each of the property owners. Please withhold any publicity on this until you have received a carbon copy of the Congressional correspondence.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Director  

Enclosures  

Entered in the National Register MAR 1 1 1971  

CC: HR 3/4/71 SMarusin:naf BASIC FILE RETAINED IN HR
Properties added to the National Register of Historic Places

TEXAS

Fort Lancaster
Lavaca County Courthouse
Earle-Napier-Kinnard House
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Crockett County, Texas
Lavaca County, Texas
McLennan County, Texas
Bastrop County, Texas
Wise County, Texas
Gillespie County, Texas
Fisher County, Texas
Gonzales County, Texas
Shackelford County, Texas
Marion County, Texas