UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM
FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES
(Type all entries • complete applicable sections)

STATE: TEXAS
COUNTY: BREWSTER
ENTRY DATE SEP 6 1974

1. NAME
COMMON:
Castolon (Castolon Army Compound and Old Castolon) District # see Item 7)
AND/OR HISTORIC:
La Harmonia Ranch, Camp Santa Helena

2. LOCATION
STREET AND NUMBER:
Big Bend National Park
CITY OR TOWN: Big Bend National Park
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 16th District - Texas
STATE: Texas
COUNTY: Brewster

3. CLASSIFICATION
CATEGORY
(Check One)
[ ] District [ ] Building [ ] Object
[ ] Site [ ] Structure [ ] Public
[ ] Site [ ] Object [ ] Both
[ ] Public
OWNERSHIP
[ ] Private
[ ] Both
[ ] Public Acquisition:
[ ] In Process
[ ] Being Considered
STATUS
[ ] Occupied
[ ] Unoccupied
[ ] Preservation work in progress
ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
[ ] Yes:
[ ] Restricted
[ ] Unrestricted

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)
[ ] Agricultural
[ ] Commercial
[ ] Educational
[ ] Entertainment
[ ] Government
[ ] Industrial
[ ] Military
[ ] Religious
[ ] Museum
[ ] Scientific
[ ] Other (Specify)
[ ] Transportation
[ ] Comments

4. AGENCY
U. S. Government, National Park Service, Department of Interior
REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)
Southwest Regional Office
P. O. Box 728
CITY OR TOWN: Santa Fe,
STATE: New Mexico, 87501
CODE 35

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Brewster County Courthouse
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN: Alpine
STATE: Texas
CODE 48

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Brewster County Courthouse
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN: Alpine
STATE: Texas
CODE 48

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory
DATE OF SURVEY: 1964
[ ] Federal [ ] State
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN: Washington
STATE: DC
CODE 11

RECEIVED
MAY 2, 1974
NATIONAL
REGISTER
The Castolon Historic District contains 2 major groups of structures, distinguished by their origin. The first is commonly called "Old Castolon" and the second the "Castolon Army Compound." All were part of what came to be known as the La Harmonia Ranch. Within the Historic District are the following historic structures:

**Old Castolon**

- BBH-618 Old Castolon Store
- 617 Cafe and Residence
- 616 Shed

**Army Compound**

- BBH-600 Barracks (Castolon Store)
- 601 Recreation Hall (Utility Building)
- 602 Latrine
- 603 Officers Quarters
- 604 Officers Quarters
- 605 Magdalena House
- 606 Garlick House
- 607 Alvino Residence
- 608 Granary and Tack Room

(The Magdalena and Garlick Houses were not part of the Army Compound; they were added later as part of the La Harmonia Ranch. The Alvino Residence is probably one of the oldest structures in the park, dating to ca. 1903. It is located at the base of the bluff on which the other structures are situated, and is not part of the general scene of the army compound.)

**Miscellaneous**

- BBH-111 "Derrick House"
- 609 Cotton Gin

Almost all of the structures are constructed of adobe block. The majority have pitched roofs with corrugated metal roofing, although several follow the more indigenous viga, latia, and soil roof system. The buildings vary from good to ruins condition. Buildings 616, 617 and 618 have been restored by the National Park Service. The Army buildings are, for the most part, still in use, being used variously for store, residential, administrative, and storage purposes. Buildings 606, 607, and 609 are in various states of deterioration and 609 is threatened with destruction due to erosion of the river bank. The overall historic appearance of the area has lost much to NPS operation.
The primary significance of the Castolon Historic District lies in the border relations between the United States and Mexico. The general border unrest of the first part of the 20th century, occasioned by the Mexican Revolution and World War I, resulted in U.S. Cavalry patrols to protect lives and property along the Mexican border. The Castolon Army Compound (known as Camp Santa Helena) was constructed to garrison such troops. Although it was constructed just as these border tensions eased and consequently saw little use by the Army, it is nevertheless a tangible remnant of this facet of our relations with Mexico.

The first store in the Castolon area was begun about 1903 by Cipriano Hernandez in the east end of the so-called Alvino Residence (BBH-607). Acquired by Clyde Buttrill and James Sublett in 1914, the enterprise was moved to the "Old Castolon Store" (BBH-618). Under the partnership of Howard Perry and Wayne Cartledge (acquired in 1919) the Castolon Store continued to serve residents on both sides of the border, first at Old Castolon and later in the barracks building (BBH-600) at the Army Compound. It is still operated by a concessioner under NPS jurisdiction. As manager of "La Harmonia Enterprises," (a name selected "in an effort to restore and maintain peace and order in the area, ... and to promote the idea of harmony between Anglo-Americans and Mexican-Americans in the area") Mr. Cartledge was a storekeeper, rancher, farmer, and trader. To the residents of the area, both Mexican and American, he was also friend, employer, banker, broker, postmaster, lawman, and counselor; and above all, he was honest and fair. That the United States and Mexico have enjoyed good border relations since the end of World War I has been in large part due to men like Wayne Cartledge.

The site and structures at Castolon are significant in that they embrace all of these activities and their consequences, and are tangible evidences of this interesting and important part of our national history.

1 Casey, Clifford B. Soldiers, Ranchers, and Miners in the Big Bend National Park Service, 1969, p. 77
9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES


10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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<th>DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY</th>
<th>OR</th>
<th>LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES</th>
<th>DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES</th>
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APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 800

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY

STATE: CODE COUNTY: CODE

STATE: CODE COUNTY: CODE

STATE: CODE COUNTY: CODE

STATE: CODE COUNTY: CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: David G. Battle, Historical Architect

DATE: Feb. 1974

BUSINESS ADDRESS:

National Park Service, Dept. of Interior, Southwest Regional Office

P. O. Box 728

CITY OR TOWN: Santa Fe

STATE: New Mexico

CODE 35

PHI1E: (505) 988-6501

12. CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

State Liaison Officer recommendation:

[ ] Yes
[ ] No
[ ] None

State Liaison Officer Signature: [Signature]

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Liaison Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The recommended level of significance is [ ] National [X] State

[Signature] Title

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

[Signature] Director, Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation

DATE: 9/26/74

ATTEST:

[Signature] Keeper of The National Register

DATE: 4/30/74
2. Location

The Castolon Historic District is located along the Rio Grande River at the junction of Park Routes 5, 9, and 35. It extends northwest from this junction approximately 0.9 mile along Route 9, southeast approximately 1.0 mile from the junction along Route 35, approximately 1/4 mile to the northeast of Routes 9 and 35 sufficient to encompass the post cemetery and the old Castolon structures, and includes all of the floodplain between the Rio Grande and Routes 9 and 35 for the distances mentioned above.
Castalon ("Castalon Army Compound" and "Old Castalon") 41 BS 442  
(Brewster County, Texas) (On Register 9/6/74)

Longitude Coordinates for the NW and SW points were typed incorrectly 
and should read:

NW  103 31 35  
SW  103 31 35

All other references are current.
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Number all entries)

NORTH

CASTOLON ARMY COMPOUND

SCALE: 1" = 100'

CORRAL

602

600

601

608

605

606

607

TO SANTA ELENA CANYON

MAY 28, 1974

NATIONAL REGISTER

RECEIVED

SEP 6, 1974

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

TEXAS

BREWSTER

FOR NPS USE ONLY

STATE

COUNTY

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
**1. NAME**

**COMMON:** Castolon ("Castolon Army Compound" and "Old Castolon")

**AND/OR HISTORIC:** La Harmonia Ranch, Camp Santa Helena

---

**2. LOCATION**

**STREET AND NUMBER:** See Continuation Sheet

**CITY OR TOWN:** Big Bend National Park

**STATE:** Texas

**CODE:** 48

**COUNTY:** Brewster

**CODE:** 043

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**3. PHOTO REFERENCE**

**PHOTO CREDIT:** Historic American Buildings Survey

**DATE OF PHOTO:** October 1964

**NEGATIVE FILED AT:**
National Park Service, Southwest Regional Office, Santa Fe, NM

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**4. IDENTIFICATION**

**DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.**

Castolon Army Compound: Granary and Tack Room BBH-608

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

**PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

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

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<th>1. NAME</th>
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<td><strong>DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.:</strong> Castolon: Derrick Residence, BBH-111</td>
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**PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER**
**Castolon ("Castolon Army Compound" and "Old Castolon")**

**La Harmonia Ranch, Camp Santa Helena**

**Big Bend National Park**

**Texas**

**48**

**Brewster**

**February 14, 1972**

**National Park Service, Southwest Regional Office, Santa Fe, NM**

**Castolon: Cotton Gin BBH-609**
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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AND/OR HISTORIC: La Harmonia Ranch, Camp Santa Helena

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STREET AND NUMBER: See continuation sheet
CITY OR TOWN: Big Bend National Park
STATE: Texas

3. PHOTO REFERENCE
PHOTO CREDIT: David G. Battle
DATE OF PHOTO: February 14, 1972
NEGATIVE FILED AT:
National Park Service, Southwest Regional Office, Santa Fe, NM

4. IDENTIFICATION
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.
Old Castolon: L to R - Cafe and Residence, BBH 617; Shed BBH-616;
Old Castolon Store, BBH-618

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1973-729-152/1446 III-1
1. NAME

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STREET AND NUMBER: See continuation sheet

CITY OR TOWN: Big Bend National Park

STATE: Texas CODE: 48 COUNTY: Brewster CODE: 043

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF PHOTO: October 1964

NEGATIVE FILED AT:
National Park Service, Southwest Regional Office, Santa Fe, NM

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Castolon Army Compound: Latrine BBH-602

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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4. IDENTIFICATION
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.
Castolon Army Compound: Officers Quarters, 1941-603

TEXAS
BREWSTER
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER
SEP 6 1974
DATE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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   DATE OF PHOTO: October 1964
   NEGATIVE FILED AT: National Park Service, Southwest Regional Office, Santa Fe, NM

4. IDENTIFICATION
   DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.
   Castolon Historic Compound: Recreation Hall (Utility Building) BBH-601

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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 CITY OR TOWN: Big Bend National Park
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3. PHOTO REFERENCE
 PHOTO CREDIT: Historic American Buildings Survey
 DATE OF PHOTO: October 1964
 NEGATIVE FILED AT: National Park Service, Southwest Regional Office, Santa Fe, NM

4. IDENTIFICATION
 DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.
 Castolon Army Compound: Officers Quarters, BBH-604

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE
TEXAS

COUNTY
BREWSTER

FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER

DATE
SEP 6 83
Form No. 10-301a

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Castolon Army Compound: Magdalena House, BBH-605

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Castolon Army Compound: Garlick House BBH-606

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**Form No. 10-301a UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR\nNATIONAL PARK SERVICE**

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Castolon Army Compound: Alvino Residence BBH-607