

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM  
FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:

TEXAS

COUNTY:

BREWSTER

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY DATE

SEP 6 1974

## 1. NAME

COMMON:

Castolon (~~Castolon Army Compound~~ and ~~Old Castolon~~) District # see Item

AND/OR HISTORIC:

La Harmonia Ranch, Camp Santa Helena

## 2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

(see continuation sheet)

along Rio Grande at jct of Park Route  
5, 9, & 35.

CITY OR TOWN:

Big Bend National Park

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

16th District - Texas

STATE:

Texas

CODE

48

COUNTY:

Brewster

CODE

043

## 3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY  
(Check One)

- ☒ District ☐ Building  
☐ Site ☐ Structure  
☐ Object

OWNERSHIP

- ☒ Public  
☐ Private  
☐ Both

Public Acquisition:

- ☐ In Process  
☐ Being Considered

STATUS

- ☒ Occupied  
☐ Unoccupied  
☒ Preservation work  
in progress

ACCESSIBLE  
TO THE PUBLIC

- Yes:  
☐ Restricted  
☒ Unrestricted  
☐ No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Agricultural ☒ Government ☒ Park ☐ Transportation ☐ Comments  
☒ Commercial ☐ Industrial ☒ Private Residence ☐ Other (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Educational ☐ Military ☐ Religious \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Entertainment ☐ Museum ☐ Scientific \_\_\_\_\_

## 4. AGENCY

U. S. Government, National Park Service, Department of Interior

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

Southwest Regional Office

STREET AND NUMBER:

P. O. Box 728

CITY OR TOWN:

Santa Fe,

STATE:

New Mexico, 87501

CODE

35

## 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☐ County☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

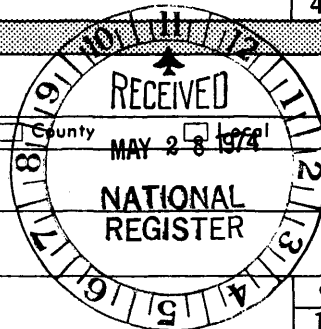
Washington

STATE:

DC

CODE

11

STATE:  
TexasCOUNTY:  
Brewster

ENTRY NUMBER

SEP 6 1974

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

473 no 174

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

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 Residence  
                          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.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## 8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |                                       |  |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |  |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1903-1961

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |   |  |  |   |
|---|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal             | <input type="checkbox"/> Education           | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric            | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering         | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic               | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry            | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | <u>International</u>                                |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention           | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | <u>relations</u>                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture           | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape           | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture        | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             |   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce    | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature          | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military |  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation           | <input type="checkbox"/> Music               |  |   |

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

# 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Casey, Clifford B. Soldiers, Ranchers, and Miners in the Big Bend.  
National Park Service, U. S. Department of the Interior, 1969.

Brown, William E. and Wauer, Roland H. Historic Resources Management Plan,  
Big Bend National Park. National Park Service, U. S. Department of the Interior, 1968.

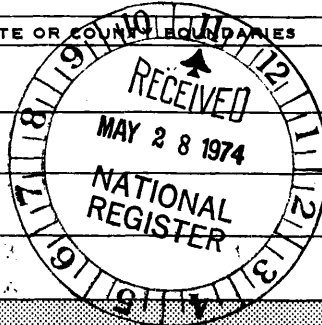
# 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
NW	Degrees Minutes Seconds 29 ° 08 ' 30 "	Degrees Minutes Seconds 103 ° 31' 35"		Degrees Minutes Seconds ° ' "	Degrees Minutes Seconds ° ' "	
NE	29 ° 08 ' 30 "	103 ° 30' 05"				
SE	29 ° 07 ' 05 "	103 ° 30' 05"				
SW	29 ° 07 ' 05 "	103 ° 31' 35"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 800

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

# 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		
STREET AND NUMBER: P. O. Box 728		PHONE: (505) 988-6501
CITY OR TOWN: Santa Fe, New Mexico	STATE: New Mexico	CODE: 35

# 12. CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

State Liaison Officer recommendation:

- ☒ Yes  
☐ No  
☐ None

State Liaison Officer 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 ☒ State ☐ Local

Federal Representative Signature

REGIONAL DIRECTOR

Title

Date

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

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE <b>TEXAS</b>	
COUNTY <b>BREWSTER</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
<b>SEP 6</b>	<b>1974</b>

(Number all entries)

**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.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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RECEIVED *March 29, 1991*

DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 1

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  
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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
TEXAS	
COUNTY	
BREWSTER	
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	SEP 6 1974

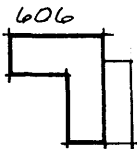
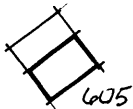
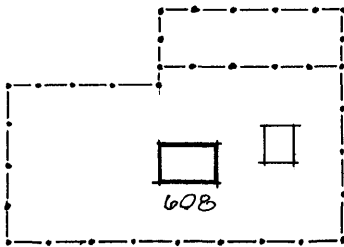
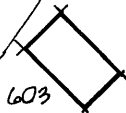
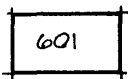
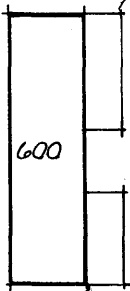
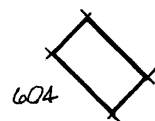
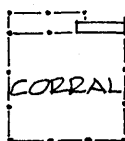
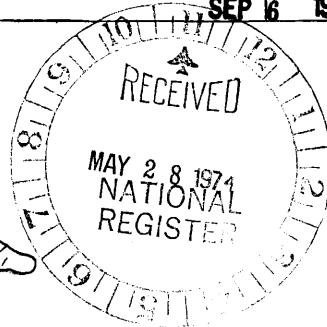
(Number all entries)



NORTH

CASTOLON  
ARMY COMPOUND

SCALE: 1" = 100'



TO SANTA ELENA CANYON





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

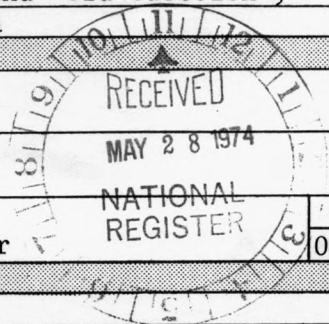
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Texas	48	Brewster	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: Granary and Tack Room BBH-608			



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

#10410



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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

STATE TEXAS	
COUNTY Brewster	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
SEP 6	1974

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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
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: Derrick Residence, BBH-111			

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

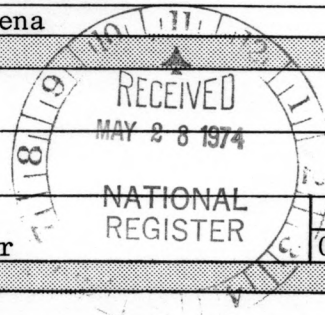
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AND/OR HISTORIC: La Harmonia Ranch, Camp Santa Helena			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: See continuation sheet			
CITY OR TOWN: Big Bend National Park			
STATE: Texas	CODE 48	COUNTY: Brewster	CODE 043
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: David G. 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. Castolon: Cotton Gin BBH-609			



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#3 of 10



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

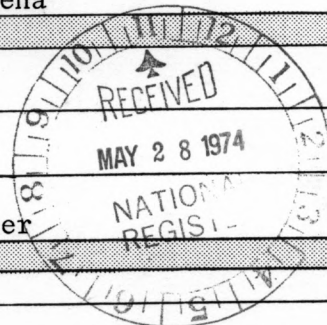
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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

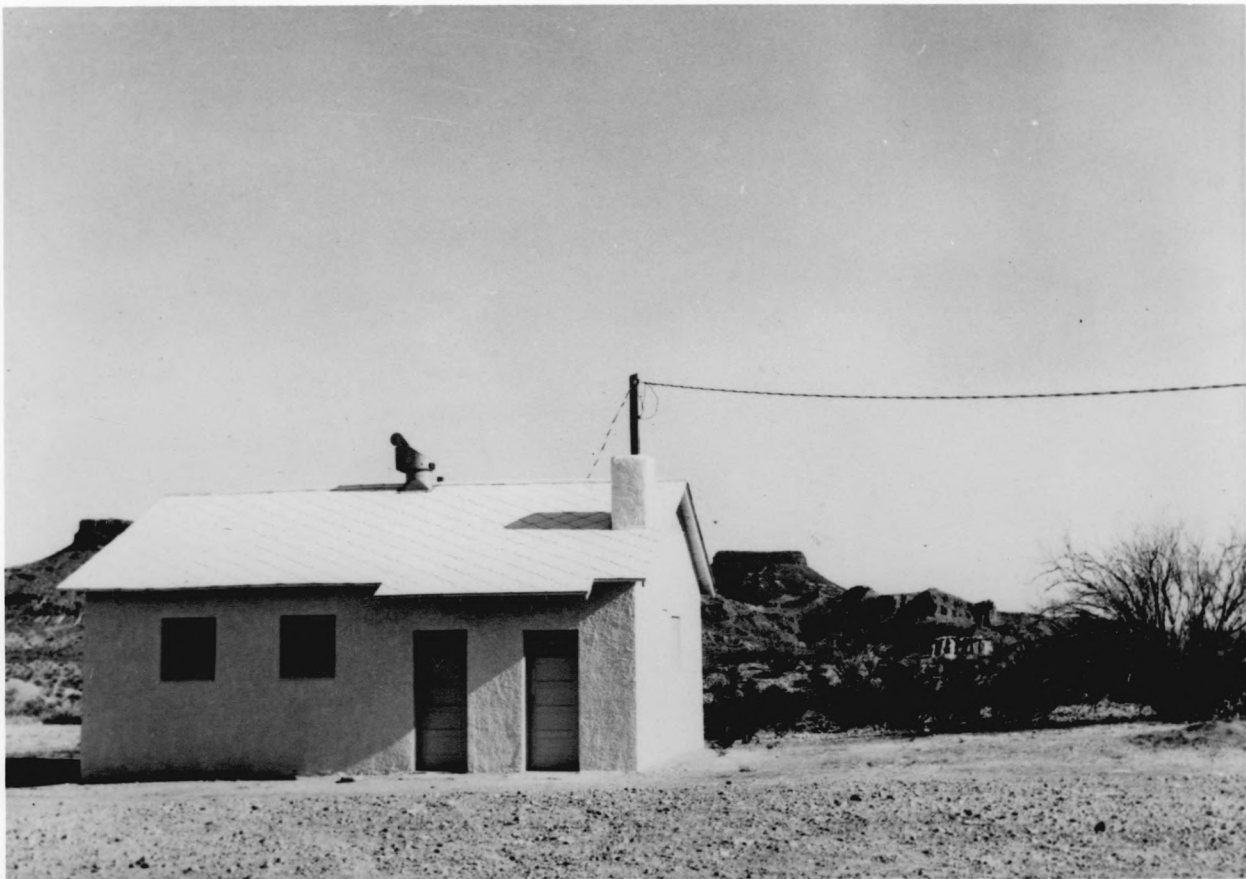
SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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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			
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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			



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

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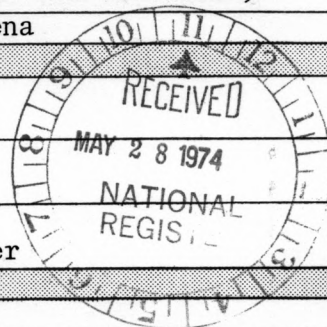
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<b>3. PHOTO REFERENCE</b>			
PHOTO CREDIT: Historic American Buildings Survey			
DATE OF PHOTO: October 1964			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: National Park Service, Southwest Regional Office, Santa Fe, NM			
<b>4. IDENTIFICATION</b>			

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Castolon Army Compound: Latrine BBH-602

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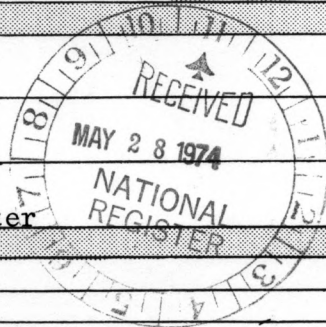
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DATE OF PHOTO: October 1964			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: National Park Service, Southwest Regional Office, Santa Fe, NM			
<b>4. IDENTIFICATION</b>			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.  Castolon Army Compound: Officers Quarters, BBH-603			



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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

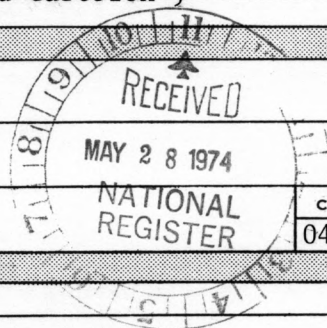
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PHOTO CREDIT: Historic American Buildings Survey			
DATE OF PHOTO: October 1964			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: National Park Service, Southwest Regional Office, Santa Fe, NM			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. Castolon Historic Compound: Recreation Hall (Utility Building) BBH-601			



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2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

See continuation sheet

CITY OR TOWN:

Big Bend National Park

STATE:

Texas

CODE

48

COUNTY:

Brewster

RECEIVED  
MAY 28 1974

NATIONAL  
REGIS.

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: Officers Quarters, BBH-604

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER







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DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Castolon Army Compound: Magdalena House, BBH-605

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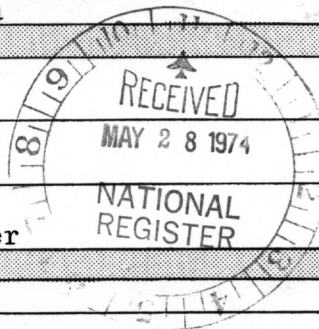
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COMMON: Castolon ("Castolon Army Compound" and "Old Castolon")			
AND/OR HISTORIC: La Harmonia Ranch, Camp Santa Helena			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: See Continuation sheet			
CITY OR TOWN: Big Bend National Park			
STATE: Texas	CODE 48	COUNTY: Brewster	CODE 043
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.

Castolon Army Compound: Garlick House BBH-606

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



# 10 of 10



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

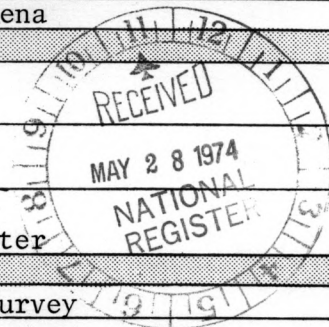
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

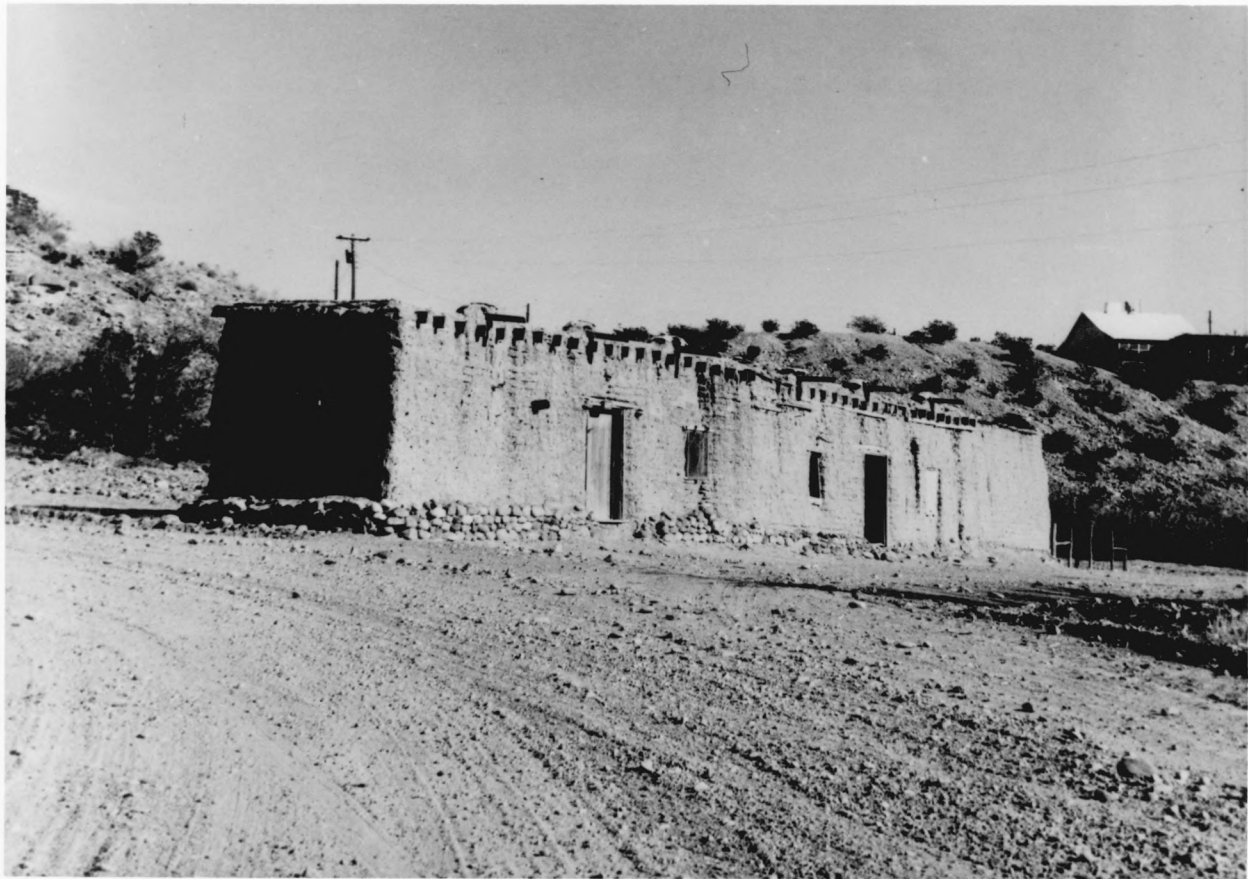
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Texas	48	Brewster	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: Castolon Store (Barracks) BBH-600			





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

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

STATE <b>TEXAS</b>	
COUNTY <b>BREWSTER</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER <b>SEP 6 1974</b>	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>			
COMMON: <b>Castolon ("Castolon Army Compound" and "Old Castolon")</b>			
AND/OR HISTORIC: <b>La Harmonia Ranch, Camp Santa Helena</b>			
<b>2. LOCATION</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER: <b>See continuation sheet</b>			
CITY OR TOWN: <b>Big Bend National Park</b>			
STATE: <b>Texas</b>	CODE <b>48</b>	COUNTY: <b>Brewster</b>	CODE <b>043</b>
<b>3. PHOTO REFERENCE</b>			
PHOTO CREDIT: <b>Historic American Buildings Survey</b>			
DATE OF PHOTO: <b>October 1964</b>			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: <b>National Park Service, Southwest Regional Office, Santa Fe, NM</b>			
<b>4. IDENTIFICATION</b>			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.  <b>Castolon Army Compound: Alvino Residence BBH-607</b>			

