

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Texas
COUNTY: Kleberg
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE OCT 1 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:

AND/OR HISTORIC:

Dunn Ranch, Novillo Line Camp

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

(See continuation sheet

CITY OR TOWN:

Corpus Christi vicinity
Padre Island National Seashore

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

15th District - Texas

STATE:

Texas

CODE

48

COUNTY:

Kleberg

CODE

273

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:

NM, 87501

CODE

35

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:

Kleberg County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

Kingsville

CITY OR TOWN:

Kingsville

STATE:

Texas

CODE

48

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

None

DATE OF SURVEY:

☐ Federal

☐ State

☐ County

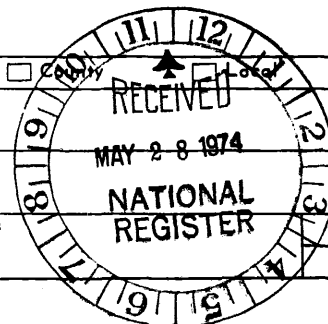
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE



STATE:
Texas

COUNTY:
Kleberg

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

OCT 1 1974

415 E 669260 E 669480 E 669190 E 669380
Zn 14 N 3038690 N 3038310 N 3038460 N 3038800

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

☐ Excellent ☐ Good ☒ Fair ☐ Deteriorated ☐ Ruins ☐ Unexposed

(Check One)

☐ Altered ☒ Unaltered

(Check One)

☐ Moved ☒ Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Novillo Line Camp underwent some changes during the long period of its use. These changes were occasioned mostly by changing techniques, such as the introduction of trucks for the transporting of cattle. Thus, one may see truck loading chutes, a windmill, etc., which were not part of the line camp at its beginning, but which were added through the years as techniques changed. Novillo remained a viable part of the Padre Island cattle industry from the time Pat Dunn first established his ranch in 1879 until the cattle raising industry was phased out in 1971, and remains in appearance just as it was left at that time.

With the exception of the windmill, which Pat Dunn did not use, but which was introduced by his son Burton Dunn after his father's death, and the loading chutes, which were introduced along with trucks after WW II, the basic elements of the line camp have remained the same. They consist of the traps, holding pens, corrals, two bunkhouses, a kitchen, and a windmill and tank.

The two bunkhouses are the only completely enclosed structures. These are of board and batten construction, with pitched roofs covered with corrugated metal roofing. They are constructed on piers, with the floors being about two feet above grade, presumably to keep the floors dry and sound due to the extremely high water table, and also to provide some protection against snakes. The kitchen is an open structure, consisting of a pitched roof of wood planks supported by posts. It served primarily as shelter from sun and rain. The pens were generally fenced wood plank rails on posts, while the traps were fenced with barbed or woven wire. The conditions of these structures vary from good to deteriorating.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| ☐ Pre-Columbian | ☐ 16th Century | ☐ 18th Century | ☒ 20th Century |
| ☐ 15th Century | ☐ 17th Century | ☒ 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1879

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| ☐ Aboriginal | ☐ Education | ☐ Political | ☐ Urban Planning |
| ☐ Prehistoric | ☐ Engineering | ☐ Religion/Philosophy | ☐ Other (Specify) |
| ☐ Historic | ☐ Industry | ☐ Science | |
| ☒ Agriculture | ☐ Invention | ☐ Sculpture | |
| ☐ Architecture | ☐ Landscape | ☐ Social/Humanitarian | |
| ☐ Art | ☐ Architecture | ☐ Theater | |
| ☐ Commerce | ☐ Literature | ☐ Transportation | |
| ☐ Communications | ☐ Military | | |
| ☒ Conservation | ☐ Music | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

"Novillo is the best single remaining artifact of the primary historical land utilization activity on Padre [Island], namely, cattle raising from 1805 to 1971. ... Novillo documents and graphically illustrates a level of man's historical interaction with the island's environment. Novillo is a symbol of man's adaption of an agricultural economic form to Padre Island."¹

Ranching on Padre Island began with the Spanish, was continued during the period of Mexican ownership, and came into the hands of Anglo-Americans after the establishment of the Republic of Texas. In 1879, Patrick Dunn moved from the Texas mainland and began his ranching operations. He eventually acquired almost all of Padre Island.

Ranching on the island had features unusual to the Texas cattle-raising industry. Because of the environment ~~no heavy brush grew on the island~~, thus this major obstacle and hazard did not have to be contended with by the cowboys. Perhaps more significant, no fencing was required as the entire range was surrounded by water which provided a natural barrier for the cattle. This removed considerable expense which almost all cattlemen faced with the end of the open range system in the late nineteenth century.

The unusual length of the island meant that cattle could wander south more than a hundred miles from the ranch headquarters near the island's north end. To operate in these particular circumstances Dunn built his line camps at fifteen-mile intervals along the upper (north) portions of the island. Novillo was his northernmost line camp and it is the only one which remains generally intact.

As a part of the plains cattle industry, the ranching activities on Padre Island and other nearby islands involved environmental features unique to the industry. The Novillo line camp, as the chief remnant of this activity within the park area, has considerable interpretive potential and represents a ranching effort which because of its uniqueness, has local and regional significance.

¹ James W. Shiere, "Padre Island National Seashore, Historic Resource Study," p.73.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Shiere, James W., Padre Island National Seashore, Historic Resource Study, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1971

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			
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	27°	27'	51"	97°	17'	09"				
NE	27°	27'	46"	97°	16'	58"				
SE	27°	27'	33"	97°	17'	05"				
SW	27°	27'	38"	97°	17'	16"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 22

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: David G. Battle, Historian		DATE: Feb. 1974
BUSINESS ADDRESS: National Park Service, Southwest Region		
STREET AND NUMBER: P. O. Box 728		PHONE: (505) 988-6501
CITY OR TOWN: Santa Fe,	STATE: New Mexico	CODE: 35

12. CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

State Liaison Officer recommendation: ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ None <i>Paul O. Shack</i> 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 <i>Paul O. Shack</i> Federal Representative Signature Acting REGIONAL DIRECTOR <i>5/8/74</i> Date _____ Title	NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register. <i>Al R. Neustetter</i> Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation Date <i>10/1/74</i> ATTEST: <i>Wm. H. Rauter</i> Keeper of The National Register Date <i>9.25.74</i>
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

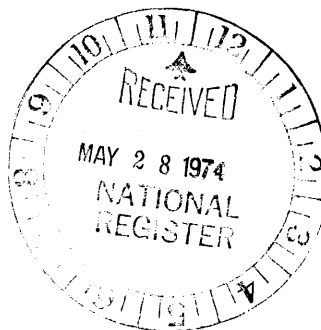
(Continuation Sheet)

STATE TEXAS	
COUNTY KLEBERG	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
OCT 1	1974

(Number all entries)

2. LOCATION

The Novillo Line Camp is located near the east shore of Padre Island N. S. approximately 2.2 miles south of the north boundary along the access road and approximately 0.2 mile east along a Shell Oil Co. service road.



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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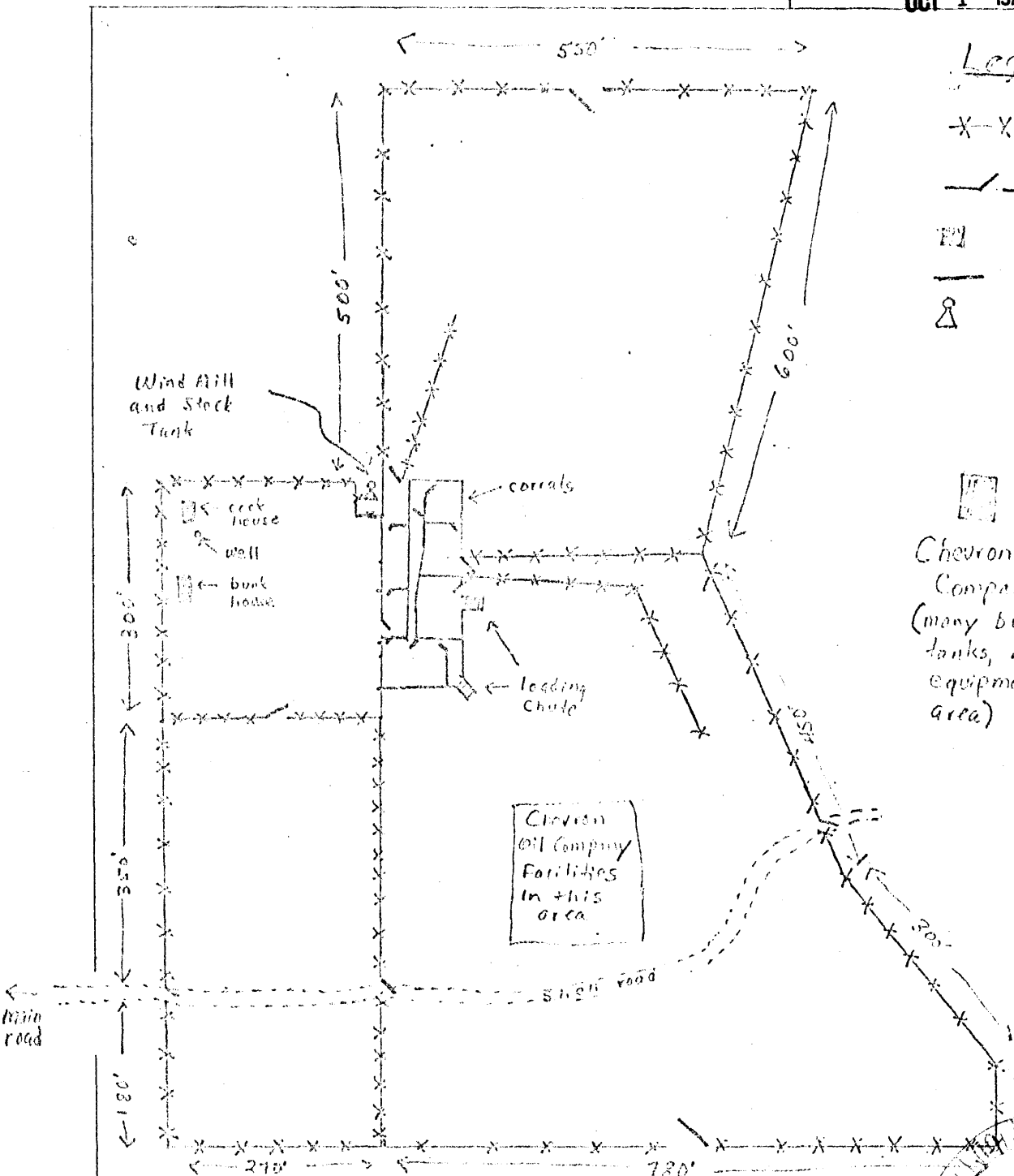
(Continuation Sheet)

STATE TEXAS	
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Legend

- X-X- barbed wire fence
- gate
- building
- wooden fence
- ⚙ wind mill
water pump

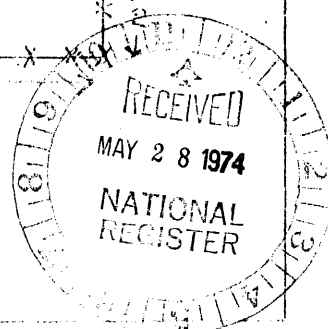
Chevron Oil Company
(many buildings, tanks, and other equipment in this area)

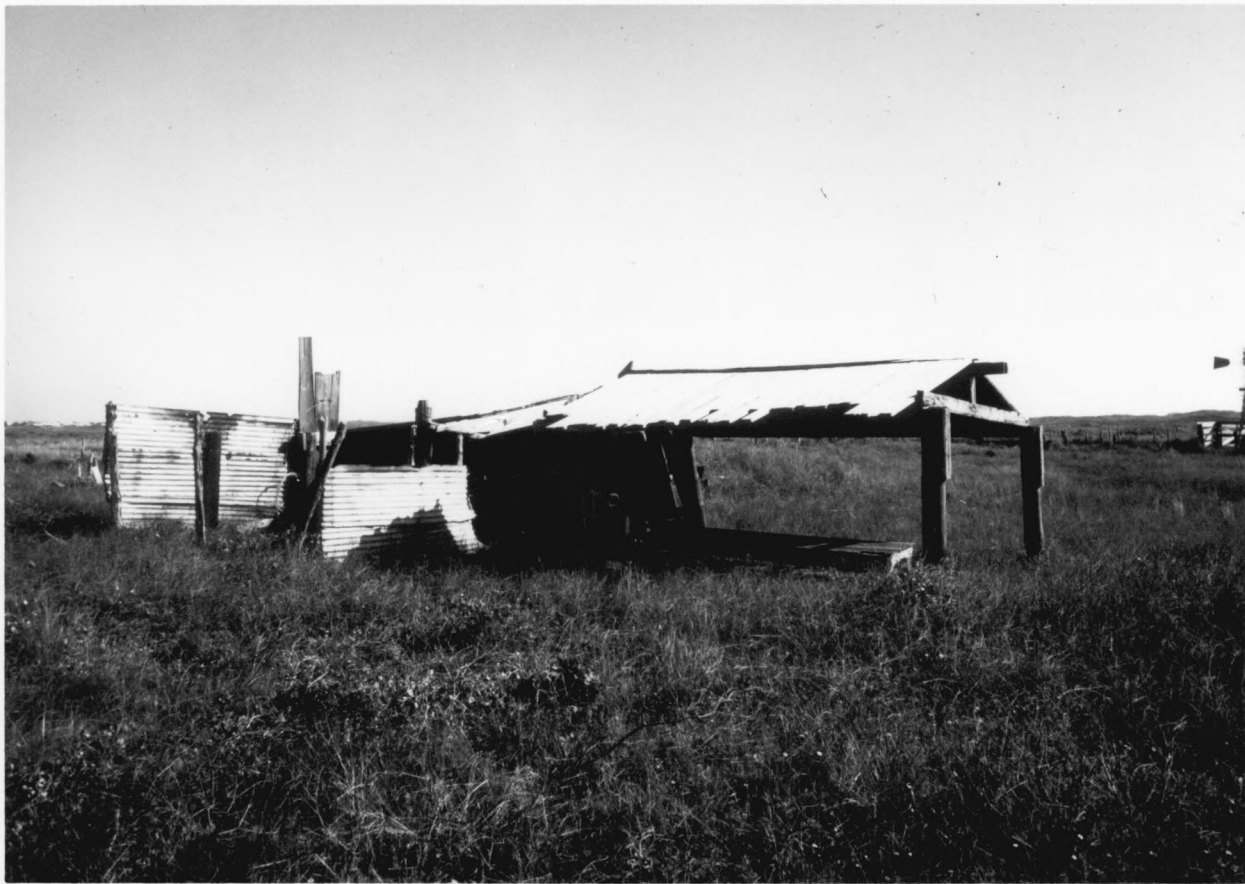


NOVILLO LINE CAMP
Padre Island National Seashore
1" = 200 ft.

(distances are approximate)

sketch by James Arnott





NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

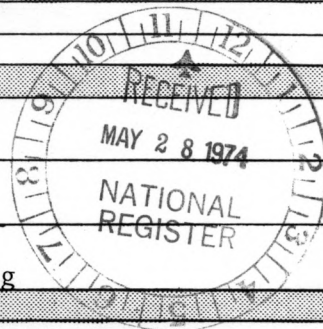
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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

STATE TEXAS	
COUNTY BREWSTER	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER OCT 1 1974	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON:			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Dunn Ranch, Novillo Line Camp			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: See continuation sheet			
CITY OR TOWN: Padre Island National Seashore			
STATE: Texas	CODE 48	COUNTY: Kleberg	CODE 273
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: David G. Battle			
DATE OF PHOTO: February 17, 1972			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: National Park Service, Southwest Regional Office, Santa Fe, NM			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. Kitchen, from south			



#1 of 4
PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



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)

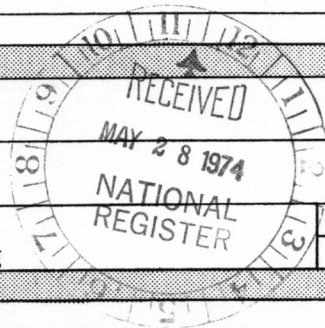
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COUNTY BREWSTER	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER OCT 1 1974	DATE

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COMMON:			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Dunn Ranch, NOvillo Line Camp			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
Se e continuation sheet			
CITY OR TOWN:			
Padre Island National Seashore			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Texas	48	Kleberg	273
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: David G. Battle			
DATE OF PHOTO: February 17, 1972			
NEGATIVE FILED AT:			
National Park Service, Southwest Regional Office, Santa Fe, NM			
4. IDENTIFICATION			

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

#2 of 4 Bunkhouse A, from south

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

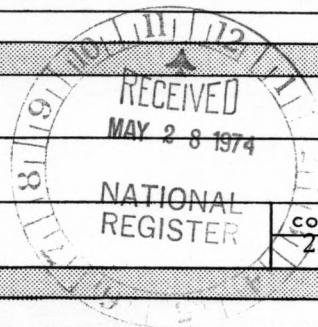
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PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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

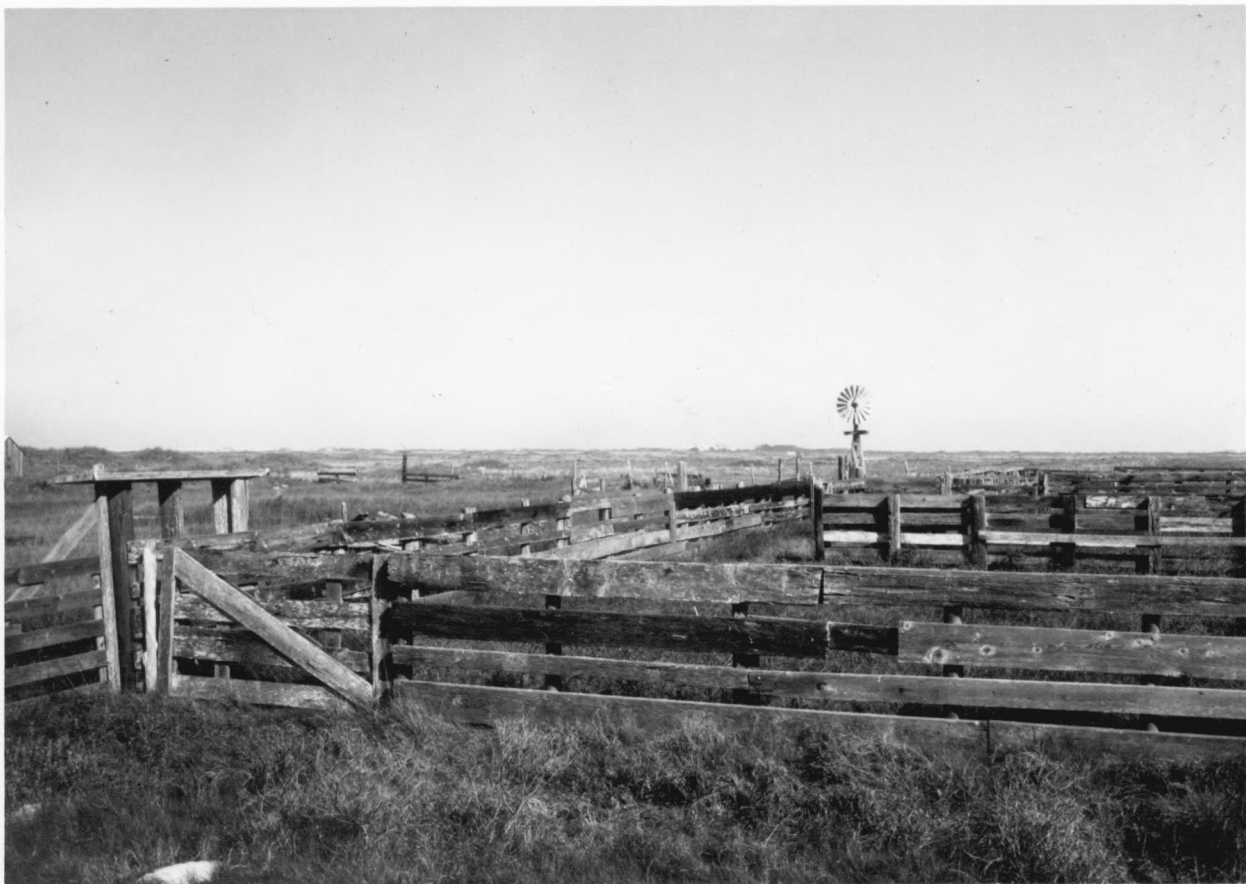
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COUNTY KLEBERG	
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PHOTO CREDIT: David G. Battle		
DATE OF PHOTO: February 17, 1972		
NEGATIVE FILED AT: National Park Service, Southwest Regional Office, Santa Fe, NM		
4. IDENTIFICATION		
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. Bunkhouse B, from south #3 & 4		



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



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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	
KLEBERG	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
OCT 1 1974	

1. NAME			
COMMON:			
AND/OR HISTORIC: DUNN RANCH, NOVILLO LINE CAMP			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
(See continuation sheet)			
CITY OR TOWN:			
Padre Island National Seashore			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Texas	48	Kleberg	273
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: David G. Battle			
DATE OF PHOTO: February 17, 1972			
NEGATIVE FILED AT:			
National Park Service, Southwest Regional Office, Santa Fe, New Mexico			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			
Corrals, holding pens, from south			
#4 of 4			
PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER			

