Cadena French House

Some of the earliest settlers in the Helotes area have records dating back to the conquistadores, and among these are the descendants of the Cadena family. Maximo Cadena’s brand (below) was registered in 1852 in Bexar County. It shows the hat of the conquistadores and a sword as part of the motif. Both sides of the Cadena family obtained original land grants.



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The tiny house pictured below is currently owned by Ida Cadena, Betty Muyre’s aunt, and is located on Scenic Loop Road at the Northern edge of Grey Forest. It was built in the mid-19th century and was owned by a French family during the Civil War who called the pecan grove they lived in “La Plataforma” because it was shady and level, a rarity in the Texas hill country. It is believed that this house was owned by Teodora Lazarin of Natchitoches, Louisiana who lived for a time in Nacodoches, Texas with her Parents Juan Lazarin and Maria Josefa de la Bega before moving to this area and marrying into the Martinez family. Several French families also made their homes on nearby Boerne Stage Road. The small community included several artists. During the Great Depression of the 1930’s, artists again moved to the Grey Forest area which continues to have a large community of artists showing their work each October in their Open Studio Art Walk.



B. Colangelo