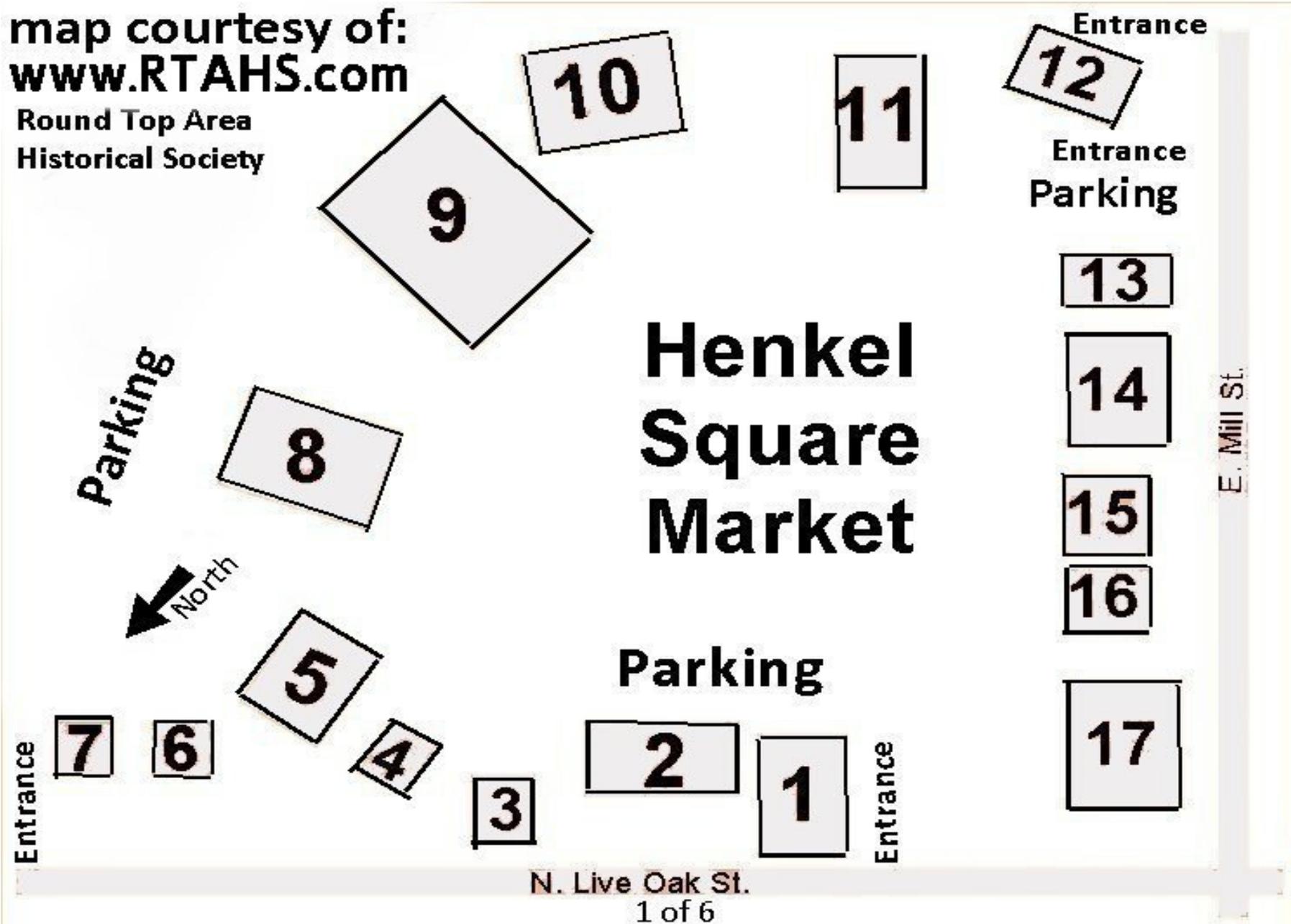


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Round Top Area
Historical Society



N. Live Oak St.

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Henkel Square Buildings “History”

The site that is today Henkel Square Market, has been known as "Henkel Square" since Charles L. And Faith P. Bybee, Houston philanthropists and collectors of American and Texas Pioneer antiques, purchased the 6-acre parcel in the late 1960's. Since the 1800's, it was both a residential and commercial area. Numerous pictures exist that show the Square as the commercial/residential center in Round Top life.

The Bybee's saved German immigrant structures from Round Top and the surrounding areas, establishing a Museum Village under the stewardship of their Texas Pioneer Arts Foundation.

In 2010, MLD Holdings, LLC of Houston acquired the property and its historic structures. Today, Henkel Square has been revived by its new owners; its buildings saved once again. The entrepreneurial spirit of Texas' earliest German pioneers seems to have revived as well, with a host of retail and commercial enterprises calling this beautiful part of Round Top home.

We invite you to take a walk through this historic village to enjoy the history.

1. Apothecary Shop

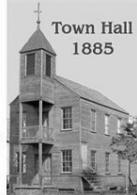
The Apothecary was originally used as a drugstore by Mr. Recknagel. The building was built in 1875 for Mr. Recknagel by his friend Mr. Henkel. Mr. Recknagel ran the drugstore while his wife ran a photography studio in the corner of the store.

2. Schuhmann Two House

The Schumann House was built in 1855 in the Walhalla area by Fredrich Schuhmann Sr., approximately 7 miles west of Round Top. This was Mr. Schuhmann's second house with his second wife.

The dog-trot or dog run divides the house in two parts. The windows on the porch are “eyebrow windows.” The hinges allow them to be opened for ventilation. There are four rooms downstairs and two rooms upstairs. The stenciling in two of the rooms is quite extraordinary. It is not common to see an entire wall much less an entire room stenciled. The work is original and done by hand. The Schuhmann family had a separate kitchen and dining room that was also stenciled.

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3. Scherres Cabin (has historical marker)

This cabin was built in the 1820s in Biegal, Texas. This community is now under the Fayette Lake located 12 miles south of Round Top. The cabin has all hand-hewn logs, which were originally chinked with mud. Now they are part mud and part cement to last longer. Bernard Scherrer immigrated to Texas from Switzerland in 1833 at the age of 22. He lived in the cabin until 1845.

4. Schuhmann One House

Fredrich Schuhmann Sr. and his first wife and family came from Germany. Once in Texas he and two of his brothers and a friend jointly purchased 640 acres at \$ 3.00 per acre. On this land in 1838 he built his first house. Mr. Schuhmann was a cabinet-maker by trade.

This is the most primitive of all the houses in the outdoor museum. The walls are made up of hand hewn oak logs. The front door has all of the original hardware. When lived in, this house had a loft up upstairs and a separate kitchen. The ceiling in the front room is beaded. This was done with a handmade beading plane.

5. Henkel House

Edward Henkel immigrated to this area from Germany in 1846 and his first wife Louise. He originally owned 25 acres of this property where he built the Henkel House in 1852 and later built a general store not far from his house. That store burned down in 1924. Mr. Henkel was a key factor in building the town of Round Top. He established the first Lutheran Church, a private school, and Mr. Henkel was also the first Justice of the Peace in Round Top listed in the 1880 census.

The house was built with cedar and pine materials. The pine floors in the house are the originals. There are three bedrooms and a main room used as a sitting and dining room. The exterior stairs on the side lead to the two upstairs bedroom.

6. Smokehouse for Henkel House

The Henkel House also had a smoke house where they cured their meat. It was originally built behind and to the right of the main house.



7. Kitchen to Henkel House

The family had a separate kitchen behind the house. At that time the kitchens were separate from the main house for safety reasons. It was originally built behind and to the left of the main house.

8. Palmer Barn

The barn was moved from the Oldenberg area, which is about 7 miles from Round Top. The walls are held together by handmade pegs which was what they used originally. Hay was stored in the loft and the small room outside was used as a corn crib.

9. Henkel Hall Event Center

Built in 2013.

10. Muckleroy House

The Muckleroy house traveled 22 miles from Frelsberg area. Mr. Mike Muckleroy built the house in 1840 for his bride. The house has three rooms downstairs and two bedrooms upstairs.

The walls of the downstairs bedroom are painted with paris green and wash bluing, giving them a brilliant turquoise-blue shade.

The dog trot runs through the middle of the house separating the bedrooms. The kitchen was a separate building behind the house. This kitchen was well equipped with a cooking fireplace, cast iron pots, and other useful utensils.

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11. Haw Creek Church

The church was moved from the Haw Creek area, which is about 5 miles south of Round top. The little church was built in 1872. The building served many purposes: a Lutheran church, schoolhouse, and a community center.

The church bell is a large brass bell. It was made in New York sometime in the 1880s. The bell has a special German inscription engraved into it. "ich rufe die lebenden zur kirche und die toten zum grabe." In English it is read "I call the living to church and dead to the grave." The meaning behind this inscription comes from the bell being toiled using the thicker rope for church and the thinner rope being used when a person died. The bell would be clapped indicating the age of the person. So if the person was 32, the bell would be clapped 32 times.

One of the pews is original to the church. A couple of pews are from the courthouse in Fayetteville, and others are reproductions made by a local resident. Portions of the wall were painted black to use as a blackboard for school. The German stenciled boards on the walls are in the church for preservation. One of the boards reads "Heartily welcome," and the other reads, "To the feast."

12. Log Cabin with extension

No information at this time.

13. Weaver's House

The salt-box house is known as the Weaver's House. The house came from the George Ranch in Richmond, Texas. A small room in the back provides a small kitchen and dining area. The steep stairway leads to a small bedroom.



14. Mary Phelps House

This beautiful house was brought in from about 2 miles north of Henkel Square. This house does not have a recorded building date. It has all original logs beneath the siding. Initially this house had a dog trot, but it was closed in at a later date. A cedar porch has been added to both sides of the house. This particular house is called a story and a half. It has a loft up the narrow stairs and two rooms downstairs. Both the downstairs rooms have a large fireplace in them.

Mary Phelps came to Texas from Connecticut with her neighbor Moses Austin. She was 19 at the time and widowed shortly after her arrival. She was a courageous woman, petitioning the Mexican government for a land grant, which she received.

15. Polasek Cabin

This one room cabin was moved from Biegal, TX. There is not a recorded date on the construction of this building. When the cabin was at its original location the owner had built several rooms onto the original structure. Those rooms may now be found in Fayetteville, TX.

16. Kitchen for Muckleroy House

The family had a separate kitchen behind the house. At that time the kitchens were separate from the main house for safety reasons. It was originally built in 1840 behind the main house.

17. Zapp-Von Rosenberg House

This house was erected here on this site in 1875. Early Texans were noted for their hospitality, which is the reason for having the “strangers’ rooms.” These particular rooms are the front two room of the house. They were left open at night for travelers. There are two main rooms on either side of the dog trot. A fully furnished kitchen extends into the small room where the organ lessons were given. On the other side is the main bedroom joining to another small bedroom.

The cistern house next-door was where people drew their water from and did some of their washing. The water is collected from a wood gutter around the building and runs directly into the cistern.

