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Giesecke Cemetery

Latitude 30°04'17", longitude 96°33'30". North of FM 389, less than ½ mile NE of Latium.
Winfield Book: Greenvine Quadrangle, p.

Located on private property about 0.4 mile NE of Latium, Tx., North of FM 389 --- Map # 153

Bartels, W. F., b. Au 29, 1815, d. May 7, 1880

Ernst, Gust., (no dates), [died circa 1884], Infant son of Charles & Sophie (Giesecke) Ernst.

Ernst, Sophia (Giesecke), (no dates) [died circa 1884], 1st wife of Charles Ernst.

Giesecke, Christian, b. Feb 2, 1795, d. Jul 27 1871, husband of Ernestine Giesecke

Giesecke, Ernestine, b. Nov 30, 1796, d. Feb 10, 1882, wife of Christian Giesecke

Weimann, Friederich, b. Sept 29, 1849, d. Jul 20.

Christian & Ernestine Giesecke, with their seven-year son Julius, emigrated from Hanover, Germany in 1846, and settled in Washington County, Texas. They came to seek a new home and escape the growing turbulence in Europe. Little did they know that by the time their son Julius reached his early twenties, they would be caught up in the upheavals brought on by a civil war in their new homeland.

Like many Germans living in Texas at the beginning of the 1860's, the Giesecke's found that their views about slavery and secession were at odds with the majority of their Anglo neighbors. Nevertheless, many German Texans decided to serve in the Confederate Army when Texas seceded from the Union. Soon after the outbreak of war, Julius Giesecke joined a company of young Texas German volunteers, entered the Confederate service with the Fourth Texas Cavalry under the command of Captain Marinus Van der Heuvel. Upon the death of Capt. Van der Heuvel during the New Mexico campaign, Julius was promoted to Captain and continued to serve with distinction elsewhere during the war. He and some of his men even endured capture and imprisonment at the hands of the Union Army, escaping into the swamps of Virginia after a revolt on board a ship. He later returned to Louisiana and Texas to fight in the war west of the Mississippi until Robert E. Lee's surrender in 1865. After the war Julius married Wilhelmina Groos in 1868. Their marriage was blessed with two sons and a daughter. Julius later moved to New Braunfels, Texas where he managed a wool factory and then became one of the publishers of the local German-language newspaper. Julius Giesecke died January 16, 1928, in San Antonio, Texas.