



SAN ANTONIO  
PARANORMAL INVESTIGATIONS

## Building's History:

Joseph Burger erected the first Medina County courthouse, a stone building, in 1854 along an old road to San Antonio on land Henry and Amelia (Mathias) Castro deeded to the county on September 26, 1853. The first courthouse was removed and the current building was erected in 1879 as the second courthouse built for Medina County. This building took place of temporary office space which County Court had used 6 years. This second building was the first permanent courthouse of Medina County when Castroville was the county seat from 1848-1892. Architected by Rudolph Hollub, the original two-story structure had 18-inch-thick walls of native limestone with a stucco finish. The building had four office on the ground floor and the second floor was the courthouse. The stairs were on the inside parallel to the east wall.

In August 1892 the county seat moved to Hondo, TX. In February 1907 the county sold the property and courthouse to Joseph Huesser (1837-1924), Joe Ney (1854-unk. Sheriff) and Charles Manty and then a month later, they sold it to Jacob (1859-1910) and Theresa (Zuercher) (1858-1932) Mangold. For several years, the building was rented as a private residence and, at one time, the upper floor was home to the Phil Jagge furniture store. The County Board of Education bought the vacant courthouse in 1915.

A 1939 Work Projects Administration (WPA) project greatly altered the structure. The WPA work included the removal of the stucco and the inside stairs, the addition of a stone double staircase to the front of the building to provide additional access to the second floor, and the addition of two one-story stone rooms on each of the building's shorter sides.

The building was a school until 1961 when the new high school was completed and the elementary school moved to the former high school. The City Council bought the building and completed repairs and remodeling. In July 1962, city offices transferred to the building and it is now the Castroville City Hall.

