

Mary King

To: prismon@aol.com
Subject: Burger House

This is what we have:

The house was said to have originally been built by workers who first came to Castroville and lived in it while other houses were being built. We have nothing to substantiate this and some would dispute it.

Jean (John) Burger born in 1810 in Wittelsheim, Haut Rhin, Alsace came to America in 1851 on the Zanon. It landed in New Orleans

They are on the 1860 census in Medina County and is classified as a farmer.

He arrived with his wife Anne Marie Schittle (born 1815) of Haut Rhin, Alsace and five of their six children.

*John Burger
sold
\$650*

Had to have arrived in Castroville by 1853 because their sixth child (Philomine) was born in Castroville in that year.

The oldest son, Michel (born 1834) did not come to Castroville (possibly stayed in New Orleans)

Their other children were Louis (1840), Hubert (1842), Joseph (1845), and Angeline (1851).

All are buried in St. Louis Catholic Cemetery except Michel and Philomine (who is buried in Our Lady of Grace Catholic Cemetery in LaCoste).

Although we are not certain of the date but records seem to show that the property was bought for \$650.00 and stayed in the Burger family until 1925.

After that the house went through many different owners – William Collins, Ruth Lawler, Raymond Gerhardt, Dr. Howland USAF Lt. who sold the property to Gillettes for \$3600.

1945 = cheese cloth ceiling

Gillettes built the additional buildings on the back were put in and made improvements to the historic house including reinforcing with the turnbuckles and ceiling.

When Peggy Gillette passed away (1969) it was willed to sister Ann Brister ~~who willed it to her daughter Betty~~. The records shows it was bought by a Melanie Mazur in 1998, then to a Dean Williams in 2007.

Mazur

As far as we have heard the last two never lived on the property. We bought it in 2008 and built the back house in 2011.

Fencing - window bars from Dullin's Building

Burger House History

John Burger – (bought house for \$650.00) ✱

William Collins

Ruth Lawler

Raymond Gerhardt

DR Howland USAF LT. (sold house to Gillette for \$3600)

~ 1956 – ceiling was put in and turnbuckles put in place ✱

Fencing is the window bars from the Dullnig Building in SA ✱

Bed bought in Gruene for 1136.63- 1900s

Four chairs – Eastlake style – 1870-1880 – bought in Comfort for 422.73

Washstand w/mirror – bought in Comfort for 301.59

Table is cypress from Louisiana – ~1200.00

Kitchen Hutch – Texas ~ 1000.00

Small desk – 150.00 Schulenberg area

Wardrobe – bought before we were married for ~ 100.00 in Schulenberg (Grandpa Koch put the cedar lining in for me)

Antique ice box – bought before we were married for ~ 300.00 in New Braunfels (Dad likes to tell the story how we almost did not get married over this. I asked him to help me put the mirrors in and I guess I was very picky and did not want any niches in the glass.)

Folding table - \$180.00 from Craftiques on Military in SA. Said it was bought in Scotland.

Wall tree – bought for \$300.00 at Ace hardware on Military in SA

1838-1842 -Castro was made the Council General for France

1842 – land grant for 1 million from Houston

1843 first ship landed in Galveston

1844 (Sept. 3rd) they arrived in Castroville with 27 men and set up camp right across the Medina river.

Wooden
~~A~~ A communal shelter was built in a clearing to hold supplies and people until housing could be built. It is reported by some that this front room was that building.

1st - rock house

John Burger was married to Anna Marie Schittle in Wittelsheim, Alsace France (outside of Mulhouse)

Joseph Burger Jr. and John Burger were cousins

Joseph Burger the III born in 1847 in France

1851 –John and Anne Marie and four sons Michel, Louis (d. 1923 Married Badar), Hubert (d. 1908), and Joseph and two young daughters Angeline and Philomine immigrated and arrived in New Orleans

Hubert married Mary Elizabeth Louisa Merian 1872

Seven kids – Mary, Elizabeth, John, Teresa, Philamina, August, Adolph (1955)

May 1925 – document that transferred property from Adolph to a Louisa Burger (wife of a Hubert)