

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

1. Name of Property

Historic Name: Dan's Meat Market and Saloon
Other name/site number: NA
Name of related multiple property listing: NA

2. Location

Street & number: 1303 Lorenzo Street
City or town: Castroville State: Texas County: Medina
Not for publication: [ ] Vicinity: [ ]

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this
[ ] nomination [ ] request for determination of eligibility) meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the
National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my
opinion, the property [ ] meets [ ] does not meet) the National Register criteria.

I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following levels of significance:
[ ] national [ ] statewide [x] local

Applicable National Register Criteria: [x] A [ ] B [x] C [ ] D

[Signature] Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Signature of certifying official / Title Date 2/29/24
Texas Historical Commission
State or Federal agency / bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property [ ] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria.
Signature of commenting or other official Date
State or Federal agency / bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:
[ ] entered in the National Register
[ ] determined eligible for the National Register
[ ] determined not eligible for the National Register.
[ ] removed from the National Register
[ ] other, explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, Castroville, Medina County, Texas

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Private
<input type="checkbox"/>	Public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	Public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	Public - Federal

**Category of Property**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

**Number of Resources within Property**

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: Located within the Castroville Historic District (NRHP 1970) but non-contributing because it was outside the period of significance, 1844-c. 1880.

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions:** COMMERCE/TRADE: Specialty Store, Restaurant

**Current Functions:** COMMERCE/Restaurant

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification:** OTHER: Vernacular, Two-Part Commercial Block

**Principal Exterior Materials:** STONE, WOOD, STUCCO

**Narrative Description** (see continuation sheets 7-10)

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## 8. Statement of Significance

**Applicable National Register Criteria:** A, C

**Criteria Considerations:** NA

**Areas of Significance:** COMMERCE, ARCHITECTURE (*local*)

**Period of Significance:** 1925-1974

**Significant Dates:** 1925, 1933, c. 1970

**Significant Person** (only if criterion b is marked): NA

**Cultural Affiliation** (only if criterion d is marked): NA

**Architect/Builder:** Unknown

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (see continuation sheets 11-20)

## 9. Major Bibliographic References

**Bibliography** (see continuation sheets 21-24)

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State historic preservation office (*Texas Historical Commission, Austin*)
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository:

**Historic Resources Survey Number** (if assigned): Historic Resources Survey Report for the City of Castroville, Texas, 2002

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## 10. Geographical Data

**Acreage of Property:** Approximately 0.148 acre

### Coordinates

#### Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: NA

1. Latitude: 29.356634°N Longitude: -98.878127°W

**Verbal Boundary Description:** The nominated boundary includes less than one acre, specifically the southern and eastern portions of the legal parcel identified as CASTROVILLE RANGE 7 BLOCK 4 LOT 10 (Property ID: 13625) Castroville, Medina County, Texas, as recorded in the Medina County Appraisal District. Data accessed April 18, 2023 (Map 2).

**Boundary Justification:** The nominated boundary includes approximately 0.148 acre of the larger 0.33 acre legal parcel identified as CASTROVILLE RANGE 7 BLOCK LOT 10 (Property ID: 13625). Non-historic buildings were recently added to the northwest and northeast and are excluded.

## 11. Form Prepared By

Name/title: Rebecca Wallisch, MS (Architectural Historian) and Genie Cooper (Architectural Historian)  
Organization: Post Oak Preservation Solutions  
Street & number: 2506 Little John Lane  
City or Town: Austin State: Texas Zip Code: 78704  
Email: [Rebecca@postoakpreservation.com](mailto:Rebecca@postoakpreservation.com)  
Telephone: 512-766-7042  
Date: March 24, 2023

## Additional Documentation

**Maps** (see continuation sheets 25-33)

**Additional items** (see continuation sheets 34-44)

**Photographs** (see continuation sheets 5-6, 45-58)

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

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**Photograph Log**

Name of Property: Dan's Meat Market and Saloon  
City or Vicinity: Castroville  
County: Medina  
State: Texas  
Photographer: Ann McGlone  
Date: November 26, 2023

*All photographs accurately depict property conditions. No changes nor significant deterioration has occurred since the photos were taken in November 2023.*

Photo 1

Dan's Meat Market and Saloon primary (southwest) elevation fronting Lorenzo Street. View northeast.

Photo 2

Dan's Meat Market and Saloon southeast and southwest elevation, oblique. View north.

Photo 3

Dan's Meat Market and Saloon southeast elevation showing 1933 saloon addition. View northwest.

Photo 4

Dan's Meat Market and Saloon showing 1933 saloon addition and c. 1970 meat processing addition after 2023 rehabilitation. View west.

Photo 5

C. 1970 meat processing addition southeast and northeast elevations. View west.

Photo 6

Rear (northeast) and northwest elevations of c. 1970 meat processing addition. View south.

Photo 7

Oblique showing primary (southwest) and northwest elevations and 2023 additions. View east.

Photo 8

Detail view of 2023 entrance addition on northwest elevation, view east.

Photo 9

View of 2023 pit building located northwest of the subject building, view northeast.

Photo 10

Interior of 1925 Meat Market ground floor with restored refrigerator door and tin ceilings. View east.

Photo 11

Interior of 1925 Meat Market ground floor with restored entrance doors and tin ceilings. View west.

Photo 12

Interior of 1933 Saloon addition ground floor with restored entrance doors and beadboard ceilings. View east.

Photo 13

Interior view of c. 1970 meat processing addition showing retained overhead meat processing equipment. View west.

Photo 14

Interior view of c. 1970 meat processing addition showing retained refrigerator doors and overhead meat processing equipment. View west.

Photo 15

Interior view of c. 1970 meat processing addition showing retained refrigerator doors and overhead meat processing equipment. View northeast.

Photo 16

Detail of restored refrigerated door in 1925 Meat Market ground floor, view northwest.

Photo 17

Staircase to second story, view southeast.

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Photo 18

Second story landing at top of staircase, view northwest.

Photo 19

Second story interior, view north.

Photo 20

Second story interior, view west.

Photo 21

Second story interior, view south.

Photo 22

Second story interior, view west.

Photo 23

Second story interior kitchen, view northwest.

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NOTE: The purpose of this nomination is to highlight the individual significance of a building that is within the boundary of the Castroville Historic District, listed in the NRHP in 1970.

### **Narrative Description**

Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, located at 1303 Lorenzo Street in Castroville, Texas, historically functioned as a meat market and saloon with offices and living quarters on the upper floors. The property lies within the Castroville Historic District (NRHP 1970), but was constructed outside the period of significance, 1844-1880. The property is composed of a 1925 meat market and a 1933 saloon. It serves as a good example of an early twentieth century vernacular two-part commercial block displaying a blend of Alsatian and Anglo-Texan influences and is the only such example remaining in the community. Originally the meat market was constructed with exposed structural clay brick and now has a stucco exterior, and the saloon was built with a native limestone exterior and a wraparound porch at the second story. The Lorenzo Street facade has two double-door entrances, one for each distinct space. A c. 1970 addition was added at the rear—historically used for meat storage and processing. Walls of the addition are smooth structural clay tile units. In 2023 the property was rehabilitated for used as barbeque restaurant in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. The rehabilitation work was approved by the Texas Historical Commission.<sup>1</sup> At that time, an addition was added to the northwest elevation of the meat market and c. 1970 addition. The new addition is set back from the street facing elevations and does not overwhelm the original building. Despite additions and modifications over the years, the vernacular building largely retains its original dimensions, plans, and openings. Overall, the property retains a good degree of historic integrity.

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### **Setting and Site**

Castroville, Texas is located in eastern Medina County, within the bend of the Medina River, roughly 20 miles from San Antonio. Dan's Meat Market and Saloon is located at 1303 Lorenzo Street, prominently placed at the intersection of Paris and Lorenzo Streets in the historic commercial center of Castroville (Castroville Historic District, NRHP 1970, Maps 1-10). The surrounding area is comprised of square blocks with one and two-story residences, churches, and commercial buildings. The property faces the Stadtplatz (German for 'town square') across Lorenzo Street, which currently consists of a large open block with central fountain surrounded by grass lawns, sidewalks, and surface parking. Many of the buildings located around the Stadtplatz are historic dating from the town's period of early development in the mid-to-late nineteenth century, although some modern infill is present. St. Louis Catholic Church is directly opposite of the subject property across the Stadtplatz. The southeast entrance of Dan's Meat Market and Saloon faces Paris Street. Lined with commercial resources and former dwellings converted for commercial use, Paris Street is one of the busiest streets in Castroville.

The subject property is positioned at the south and east end of the L-shaped legal parcel at the corner of Lorenzo and Paris Streets (historic alignment of U.S. Highway 90) (Map 2). Concrete sidewalks are located along Lorenzo and Paris Streets, and the lot includes a grassy area. Originally the property just included the meat market and saloon. In the 1960s and 1970s, small auxiliary buildings were constructed at the northwest and northeast elevations. These were removed in 2022. A c. 1970 meat processing addition with walls of structural clay tile units was also added at the rear (northeast) elevation (extant). Additionally, a historic cattle chute was located at the rear (northwest) end of the c. 1970 addition but was removed in 2023 (Map 4). New construction added in 2023 will be discussed later in this section.

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<sup>1</sup> Part A of state tax credit application approved on February 15, 2023.

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## Exterior

*Dan's Meat Market and Saloon was rehabilitated in 2023 in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. The rehabilitation work was approved by the Texas Historical Commission.*

Dan's Meat Market and Saloon includes the 1925 meat market and 1933 saloon with offices and living quarters on the second floor.<sup>2</sup> It serves as a good example of early twentieth century vernacular architecture and it is the only extant example of a two-part commercial block in Castroville. The square roof of the meat market and saloon features standing seam metal panels and a Dutch gable with a central ridge running parallel to the length of the building. The one-story meat processing addition was built with structural clay tile units with horizontal ribbing, added at the rear around 1970. The addition has a flat roof, which rises to become nearly double height at the back 1/3 of the building (Maps 2-4).

On the primary (southwest) elevation, the 1925 meat market and 1933 saloon have different facade treatments. Along the northern portion of the building, the 1925 meat market has a symmetrical façade with paired, partially glazed wooden doors, flanked on either side by two-over-two, double hung, wood frame windows. On the second floor, two fixed rectangular windows are located above the lower-level windows (Photo 1, Figures 5-8, 10-12). The meat market is clad in stucco over D'Hanis structural clay bricks and features an overhanging roof with exposed rafter tails.<sup>3</sup> The 1933 saloon to the south has native rusticated limestone cladding, and two paired, partially glazed wooden doors. The second floor of the saloon features a single wooden door that accesses a reconstructed (in-kind) wraparound porch at the southeast corner, and a single one-over-one window. The porch shed roof extends beyond the roofline of the meat market and is boxed with wood. Support for the roof is provided by 4 x 4 posts set into the decking of the porch. The meat market and saloon retain many original wooden doors, windows, and trim, many of which were repaired and reinstalled during the 2023 rehabilitation.

On the southeast elevation fronting Paris Street, the first floor of the 1933 saloon features another set of partially glazed wooden doors that serve as the primary entrance, oriented slightly off center (Photos 2 and 3, Figures 7, 9). Another single, partially glazed entrance door is slightly off center to the northeast. Flanking the doors on either end are paired, double hung, one-over-one wood frame windows. The wraparound porch spans the entire second floor of this elevation. The second floor has (L to R) a single double hung window, a single wooden door, a single double hung window, a single wooden door, and another double hung window. All windows and doors on the upper level are wood frame and original. Further northeast, the c. 1970 addition is visible. Historically, the southeast elevation of the addition consisted of a one-story shed roof section at the south end of the building, structural clay brick walls, and a single one-over-one window at the north end. During the 2023 rehabilitation, the shed roof section was removed and a pair of two partially glazed, compatible non-historic doors were installed at the south end. An additional four windows were punched into the clay tile façade to accommodate the building's new use as a restaurant. The addition now has a large double door and five window openings along this elevation (Photos 4 and 5).

The first floor of the rear (northeast) elevation of the 1933 saloon has a single door at the east end. On the second floor, there are two single, wood frame, double hung windows original to the building. The c. 1970 addition is attached to the 1925 meat market on the ground floor (Photo 4). The second floor of the meat market features a pair of one-over-one replacement windows. A 2023 addition was constructed on the northwest side of the building, partially visible along the rear elevation (Map 3, Photo 7). On the northeast elevation of the 1970s addition is a pair of non-historic, partially glazed,

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<sup>2</sup> It appears the second floor was added to the meat market in the 1930s. The meat market and saloon are internally connected. The saloon opened after the end of prohibition.

<sup>3</sup> The D'Hanis Brick and Tile Company was founded in 1883, located in D'Hanis, Texas just 25 miles west of Castroville. Mark Odintz, "D'Hanis, Texas," *Handbook of Texas Online*, accessed June 20, 2023, <https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/dhanis-tx>



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double doors that are compatible with original doors. There are no other openings on this elevation of the c. 1970 addition (Photo 6).

The northwest elevation was rehabilitated in 2023 for use as a barbeque restaurant (Blue Lacy Smokehouse) and an addition was added along that elevation. The 2023 addition replaced some recently demolished shed roof additions on the south end (Maps 3-4, Photos 7, 8). A majority of the historic 1925 meat market exterior wall is intact. At the first floor there is an original window and door opening. On the second floor, the south end features a single one-over-one window. Moving north, there is a set of three, grouped, one-over-one windows in wood frames. The overhanging roof with exposed rafter tails is visible. At the rear of the northwest elevation is the double-height 2023 addition, which features a flat roof and stuccoed exterior.

### **Interior**

The general layout of the interior reflects the historic use and function. The first floor opening to Lorenzo Street served as the business and public areas of Dan's Meat Market and Saloon. The front room of the meat market was used for the sale of meat products, with cold storage and processing space at the rear, only accessible to employees (Figure 1, Photos 10 and 11). Although reconfigured as a restaurant seating area during the 2023 rehabilitation, the 1925 meat market retains its original refrigerated doors, plaster walls, and pressed tin ceilings, all of which have been repaired or replaced in-kind. The front room of the 1933 saloon historically included a bar and serving area, although the non-original bar was removed during the 2023 rehabilitation. While it was reconfigured for additional restaurant seating, the interior of the 1933 saloon retains plaster walls, original doors, and beadboard ceilings. Door and window trim is simple and utilitarian wood and has been repaired or replaced in-kind. Electrical connections are usually provided through surface mounted conduit and connection boxes. The floors are currently concrete. Non-historic wired lighting is suspended across the historic ceilings and anchored to the walls.

Within the c. 1970 meat processing addition, the wall finishes are generally smooth plaster in the lower areas and structural clay tile in the upper areas, and floors are concrete (Photos 13 and 14). Floors historically had drains built in most rooms although these have now been sealed. Numerous plumbing connections run along the walls and ceilings. Ceilings are generally open with roof trusses visible and include tracks for movement of meat products. These features were retained during the 2023 rehabilitation and are still visible (Photo 14). During the rehabilitation, an addition was constructed on northwest end of the c. 1970 addition to accommodate the restaurant kitchen and service station. This portion of the building is delineated via a half-height wall clad in subway tile (Photo 13). Non-original pendant lighting is suspended from wood beams throughout the 1970 rear addition.

An enclosed wooden staircase, historically oriented north-south, led from the rear parking area to a landing that had a restroom with shower. During the 2023 rehabilitation, the lower portion of the staircase was shifted to orient east-west, adjacent to the northeast elevation of the building. The new entrance faces west. The lower stairs have wood risers, treads, and handrails to match existing. A landing connects the new lower stair with the existing upper stair at the second floor. This section of stairs was retained and repaired (Photo 17). The second floor consists of six rooms with historic finishes typical of 1920s and 1930s living quarters and office space (Figure 2, Photos 18-23). Single, wood, five-paneled doors separate the rooms. A small kitchen with original wood cupboards is in the northwest corner. Walls are painted plaster and ceilings are wooden beadboard. Surface-mounted conduit provides electricity along walls. Lighting fixtures are attached to the ceiling and floors are stained wood. Minimal alterations were made to the second level during the 2023 rehabilitation.

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### **Alterations**

On the exterior, the original 1925 meat market and 1933 saloon have had minimal alterations (Figure 17, Photo 1). An early historic slaughterhouse and other small historic structures were removed from the property at an unknown date. At some point during the period of significance, the exposed structural clay brick exterior of the 1925 meat market was stuccoed, some exterior doors and windows were replaced, and some were removed during the recent rehabilitation. The extant large meat processing addition was added at the rear c. 1970 (Maps 3-4). Historic signage was removed and the roof was replaced. During the 2023 rehabilitation, a small one-story wood addition constructed behind the saloon between 1965 and 1970, as well as c. 1960s unenclosed shed roof additions along the northwest elevation, a small smoke house, and cattle chute were demolished (Map 4). The stairway to the second floor was reoriented and second floor porch was recently reconstructed in kind due to deterioration (Figures 1-2). A new addition was added along the northwest elevation which includes an ADA-compliant ramp. Two new free-standing buildings (Figure 18, Photo 9) were also constructed on the property but are excluded from the nominated boundary because they are non-historic.

### **Integrity**

Dan's Meat Market and Saloon retains sufficient integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, and feeling to convey its significance as a long-running commercial meat market and saloon. The building remains at its original location within the historic commercial core of Castroville facing the Stadtplatz. The historic setting comprised of many 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century buildings is mostly intact except for some modern and recent infill, including the non-historic buildings added for the new barbeque restaurant. Integrity of design, materials, and workmanship are evident through the retention of the character-defining two-part commercial block form, Dutch gable roof with projecting eaves forming porches and exposed rafter tails. Historic exterior materials remain, including local rusticated limestone, stucco, D'Hanis structural clay bricks, and old growth lumber. Many of the original windows and doors remain and were repaired and reinstalled during the rehabilitation. On the interior, intact character-defining features including most of the floor plan, plaster walls, pressed tin and beadboard ceilings, refrigerator doors, some remaining meat processing and sales equipment, and largely unchanged second floor living and office spaces. Together, these aspects create the feeling of an early 20<sup>th</sup> century meat market and saloon. It is no longer associated with Dan's Meat Market and Saloon or the Burell family.

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## Statement of Significance

Dan's Meat Market and Saloon is located at 1303 Lorenzo Street in the historic core of Castroville, Texas. The property lies within the Castroville Historic District (NRHP 1970), but was constructed outside the period of significance, 1844-1880, and is being nominated individually. Comprised of a 1925 meat market and a 1933 saloon, the property was owned and operated by three generations of the Burell family over a 70 year period. The Burells were descendants of original Castroville settlers. The property was constructed by Frank and Regina Burell in 1925. Between 1937 and 1995 the business was run by their son Dan and daughter-in-law Mary, and later by grandson Melvin "Jimmy" and his wife Mary Louise. The property is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places at the local level of significance under Criterion A in the area of Commerce as an example of a family-owned and operated full-service meat market and saloon offering distinct Alsatian delicacies, including traditional Alsatian sausage, *parisa*, and head cheese, and a wide array of other high-quality products.<sup>4</sup> It is also nominated under Criterion C in the area of Architecture at the local level of significance as a good example of an early twentieth century vernacular two-part commercial block displaying a blend of Alsatian and Anglo-Texan influences, and is the only such example remaining in the community. The period of significance spans from 1925, the year the meat market opened, until 1974 which adheres to the NPS 50 year cutoff.

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## Brief Overview of 1970 Castroville Historic District Nomination

The Castroville Historic District was one of the first three National Register-listed districts in Texas. The 1970 nomination focused on the original settlement west of the Medina River, briefly describing the high concentration of significant Alsatian vernacular properties built between 1844 and 1880. The nomination was brief in describing this vernacular building style and did not consider other architectural styles. A full inventory of properties within the district was not submitted, nor was a map prepared, but Dan's Meat Market and Saloon is clearly within the boundary. Numerous stylistically diverse properties are in the original district, and density is low, with primary buildings and structures sitting close to the street with minimal front setbacks. Most properties are 1-story single-family dwellings (along with numerous barns, sheds, wells, and other outbuildings), but significant properties also reflect the industrial, commercial, and religious history of the community, including two 19th century hotels, several churches, a convent, a grist mill, and a cotton gin.

Dan's Meat Market and Saloon was built in three phases—1925 meat market, 1933 saloon, c. 1970 meat processing addition—outside the period of significance of the original historic district and will be nominated individually. Its style, scale, and materials are compatible with other historic-age buildings within the district. The building is of historic age, dating to a period of modernization as Castroville transitioned from a rural community to an important Medina County town providing goods, services, and tourist destinations along U.S. Highway 90 (Old Spanish Trail).<sup>5</sup>

## Brief History of Castroville, Texas

Castroville, Texas, was founded in 1844 by French-born Henri Castro in a bend of the Medina River southwest of San Antonio.<sup>6</sup> Castro secured an empresario grant from the Republic of Texas in 1842 to establish a colony.<sup>7</sup> He then

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<sup>4</sup> *Parisa* (or *pasrisa*) is a raw meat mixture of American cheese, ground beef, onions, lime juice and jalapeno peppers. It is served cold with saltine crackers and beer. It was a product unique to Dan's Meat Market for nearly sixty years. "Castroville Pasrisa," *Saveur Food Magazine* website, January 11, 2006, accessed October 31, 2022, <https://www.saveur.com/article/Recipes/Castroville-Pasrisa/>. Head cheese is a form of cold cut or meat jelly made from the head of a calf or pig, typically set in aspic or gelatin, and eaten cold or at room temperature.

<sup>5</sup> Taken from Greg Smith, Part 1 Federal Tax Credit Application.

<sup>6</sup> Ruben Ochoa, Castroville, Texas," *Handbook of Texas Online*, accessed June 21, 2023, <https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/castroville-tx>.

<sup>7</sup> The colony, also known as "Little Alsace" was named after Castro. Eugene Barker, "Empresario," *Handbook of Texas Online*, accessed June 21, 2023, <https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/empresario>; Castro's colony was one of four empresario colonies established in the Republic of Texas. The others were Peter's Colony (1841), Fisher and Miller's Colony (1842), and Mercer's Colony (1844). "Land Grants for Immigration to Texas," *Texas General Land Office*, accessed June 21, 2023, <https://www.glo.texas.gov/history/archives/forms/files/glo->

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chartered 27 ships carrying 485 families and 457 single men from France and Germany to ports in Texas. Castro's settlers came from the Alsace region of France, which borders Germany and Switzerland, along the upper and lower Rhine River. Due to its location, Alsatians developed a distinct blend of cultural and linguistic traditions, speaking regional German that incorporated some French-derived words referred to as an "Alsatian dialect."<sup>8</sup> The first settlers landed in 1844 and traveled from San Antonio to the flat, tree-filled site that would become Castroville.<sup>9</sup> The town was surveyed by John C. Hays and John James and it was platted like a European village with a centrally located town square, small town lots, and larger agricultural land at the outskirts. Streets were named after Castro's friends, family, and European cities. Shortly after settling, the predominantly Catholic community erected the St. Louis Catholic Church. A post office opened in 1847, and the following year, Medina County was founded with Castroville designated as the county seat. Two lots were donated by Castro to the county for the new courthouse, which was also later used as a school.

Alsatian settlers traveled to Texas for the promise of free land and a better life. Castro promoted the area as a "fertile paradise," but the climate and environment were harsh, making early settlement difficult. Settlers employed their own agricultural practices, and Castro provided them with seed, livestock, and farming implements to improve their chances of success.<sup>10</sup> Out of necessity, they had to adapt and diversify, planting a variety of crops including corn, wheat, cotton, and vegetables.<sup>11</sup> Although cattle raising was not a traditional practice of Alsatians, settlers to southwest Texas quickly adopted the existing ranching traditions used in the German communities in and around San Antonio, particularly in D'Hanis (24 miles west of Castroville) and Quihi (10 miles northwest of Castroville).<sup>12</sup> By 1856, Castroville had three stores, a brewery, a gristmill, and a farming economy that produced corn, cattle, horses, hogs, and poultry.<sup>13</sup> The growth of ranching, particularly hogs and cattle, in German communities of Medina County in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries provided an abundant local meat supply which contributed to the survival of Alsatian culinary traditions such as sausage-making in Castroville.<sup>14</sup>

The town prospered through the Civil War as a stop on the route to Mexico, and by the mid-1860s, Castroville was the twelfth largest town in the state.<sup>15</sup> In 1868, the Sisters of the Divine Providence founded the first U.S. motherhouse for their order in Castroville (now the Moye Center), which also served as a boarding school for young girls. The motherhouse was relocated to San Antonio in 1896.<sup>16</sup> In 1876 the town reportedly had a population of 827.<sup>17</sup> In 1880 the Southern Pacific Railway was extending their line west, and after surveying Castroville, the company offered to bring the line through the town if the residents paid \$100,000. Castroville refused to provide the railroad a financial incentive

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headright-military-land-grants.pdf.

<sup>8</sup> Yvonne Chandler Ludwig, *Castroville, Texas 1844-1899* (San Antonio: LICK Enterprises, 2003), 62; In the 1930s, one observer wrote "Castroville is a French town with a German flavor growing out of Texas soil," Wayne M. Ahr, "Henri Castro and Castroville: Alsatian History and Heritage," in Francois Lagarde, Ed., *The French in Texas: History, Migration, Culture* (Austin: University of Texas Press, 2003) 138.

<sup>9</sup> Amelia W. Williams, "Castro, Henri," *Handbook of Texas Online*, accessed February 7, 2022, <https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/castro-henri>.

<sup>10</sup> Wayne M. Ahr, "Henri Castro and Castroville: Alsatian History and Heritage," in Francois Lagarde, Ed., *The French in Texas*, 132, 136. According to Ahr, "Religion, language, some schooling, some farming customs, and some traditions represent the main cultural imports from Alsace to Castroville." Page 136; Texas Historical Commission, "The Founding of Castroville," accessed May 2, 2023, <https://www.thc.texas.gov/historic-sites/landmark-inn/history/founding-castroville>.

<sup>11</sup> Terry G. Jordan, *German Seed in Texas Soil, Immigrant Farmers in Nineteenth-Century Texas* (Austin: University of Texas Press, 1966), 123-136.

<sup>12</sup> Jordan, *German Seed in Texas Soil*, 144-145.

<sup>13</sup> Ruben E. Ochoa, "Castroville, TX," *Handbook of Texas Online*, accessed February 7, 2022, <https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/castroville-tx>.

<sup>14</sup> Jordan, *German Seed in Texas Soil*, 153.

<sup>15</sup> Ruben Ochoa, Castroville, Texas," *Handbook of Texas Online*; "Between 1842 and 1869, according to the number of passports issued, 1,800 Alsatians emigrated to Texas. Sixty percent of them left as part of Castro's colonization project between 1843 and 1846." Janine Erny, "Grounds for Emigration: Alsace at the Time of Henry Castro," in Francois Lagarde, Ed., *The French in Texas: History, Migration, Culture* (Austin: University of Texas Press, 2003) 127.

<sup>16</sup> Sister M. Claude Lane, O.P., *Handbook of Texas Online*, accessed June 21, 2023, <https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/sisters-of-divine-providence>.

<sup>17</sup> Ruth Curry Lawler, *The Story of Castroville, its People, Founder, and Traditions* (LaCoste Ledger, 1974), 40.

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and was subsequently bypassed. For many towns, being bypassed by the railroad would have been detrimental, but Castroville residents were relieved that the town would retain its small-town atmosphere and wouldn't be bombarded with an influx of "outsiders."<sup>18</sup> The county seat was relocated to Hondo in 1892. In 1884, Castroville had a population of 1,000, as well as a newspaper, a steam gristmill and cotton gin, several churches, a brewery, a convent, and a school. The population declined to 750 by 1900, but nonetheless had grown to include a bank, second newspaper, and a telephone system.<sup>19</sup>

Due to its rural location and limited transportation connectivity, Castroville's growth was minimal in the early twentieth century. "Castroville became a sleepy village not unlike some of those the colonists had left in Alsace, but this was a situation that probably helped conserve its heritage. Some settlers' descendants continued to farm as before, and the town remained a small, peaceful but stagnant venue until major highway development (U.S. Highway 90) connected it with the world in 1938."<sup>20</sup>

Important advancements in the 1920s offered some hope for change. In 1927 newcomer Jordan T. Lawler purchased Joseph Courand's property in Castroville, and established the town's first hydro-electric plant at Courand's former mill site, and later its first Public Water Works.<sup>21</sup> That same year, SH 3 (U.S. Highway 90) connected Louisiana and Van Horn, Texas, providing easier access to San Antonio and Uvalde from Castroville.<sup>22</sup> At that time, the highway entered at the northeast edge of town, followed Main Street, then traveled down along Paris Street, headed north again along Angelo Street, before exiting town along Houston Street to what is now Old Highway 90.<sup>23</sup> This brought the road through the town's primary commercial core (past the subject property).

The impacts of the Great Depression hit the rural community hard and the population declined to only 325 citizens and 19 businesses recorded in 1931.<sup>24</sup> A local newspaper article from the late 1930s even described a deserted town plaza, once the center of activities in the 1880s, and some abandoned buildings.<sup>25</sup> Fortunately, by 1938, a bond issue was passed to complete a bridge over the Medina River and the stretch of roadway between Castroville and San Antonio was paved, opening the town up to the broader area, initiating a much needed commercial renaissance and increase in tourism.

The transportation improvements through Castroville in the 1920s and 1930s also coincided with a period of nationwide interest in heritage tourism, historic preservation, and architectural regionalism. Texas architect David R. Williams, a strong proponent of regional architecture, and his protégé draftsman O'Neil Ford, visited Castroville and were taken by the simplicity of the Alsatian vernacular design and use of local materials, inspiring their later work. In a 1928 *Southwestern Review* article, they wrote "In the many beautiful little houses left scattered over Texas by early settlers, there is a full proof that some of our great-grandfathers possessed the refined taste and culture for which we have been searching abroad."<sup>26</sup> They also remarked that early Texas settlers "left for them an architectural art as beautiful in its purpose as anything that has yet been built..."<sup>27</sup> They went on to say:

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<sup>18</sup> Lawler, *The Story of Castroville*, 16.

<sup>19</sup> Ochoa, "Castroville, TX."

<sup>20</sup> Wayne M. Ahr, "Henri Castro and Castroville: Alsatian History and Heritage," in Francois Lagarde, Ed., *The French in Texas*, 137.

<sup>21</sup> Lawler, *The Story of Castroville*, 17.

<sup>22</sup> Texas Department of Transportation, "Highway Designation File U.S. Highway No. 90," accessed December 9, 2022, <http://www.dot.state.tx.us/tpp/hwy/us/us0090.htm>.

<sup>23</sup> U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, "Tactical Map Castroville Quadrangle, Texas 1927," accessed December 9, 2022, <https://maps.lib.utexas.edu/maps/topo/texas/txu-pclmaps-topo-tx-castroville-1927.jpg>; Texas Highway Department, "General Highway Map Medina County, Texas - 1936, revised to 1940," accessed December 9, 2022. <https://www.tsl.texas.gov/apps/arc/maps/maplookup/04949>.

<sup>24</sup> Ochoa, "Castroville, TX."

<sup>25</sup> "Castroville and the Sunset Road," *Hondo Anvil Herald*, March 10, 1939, 1.

<sup>26</sup> "Interview: O'Neil Ford," *Texas Architect May/June 1978*, 14. David R. Williams and O'Neil Ford, "An Indigenous Architecture: Some Texas Colonial Houses," *Southwest Review* 14, no. 1 (1928): 62.

<sup>27</sup> *Ibid.*

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It is better to throw away our habit of supposing everything beautiful in Texas had a foreign origin, and to admit that these little houses are not French or Spanish or English at all, but are natural, native Texas art, suited to our climate and indigenous to our soil. We should be very proud of them. We should use them as sources from which to draw a beautiful architecture which we could call our own and then invite the world to come and see.<sup>28</sup>

A few years later, Williams designed the 1933 Elbert R. Williams House in Dallas inspired by the 1850 Joseph Carle House in Castroville.<sup>29</sup> Also recognizing its unique architecture, employees of the Works Progress Administration's (WPA) photographed and documented early Castroville buildings through an Historic American Building Survey inviting broader interest in the town's cultural heritage.<sup>30</sup>

The WPA employed many Castroville residents, putting them to work on improving roadways and constructing the bridge over the Medina River. In the early 1940s, U.S. Highway 90 was straightened through town, cutting a diagonal swath through the gridiron orientation of the town. The commercial center of town, which had historically been located on several blocks near the Stadtplatz, along Main Street (present-day Fiorella), Paris Street, Lorenzo Street, and Madrid Street, was bypassed to the south.<sup>31</sup> When the new highway alignment was constructed, businesses quickly popped up along the road to cater to the traveling public passing through Castroville.

As with many communities across Texas, Castroville experienced a fundamental shift during and after World War II. In 1944 the U.S. Air Force opened a navigation school in Hondo (roughly 15 miles west), and many of the personnel in need of housing wanted to live in the quaint community of Castroville nearby. Military personnel rented or purchased homes in town, and numerous buildings were renovated during that time, including the addition of modern plumbing.<sup>32</sup> In 1948 Castroville officially incorporated.<sup>33</sup> The expansion of transportation networks, influx of new residents, and nation-wide trend of auto tourism, changed the demographic make-up of Castroville in the post-war era. By the early 1950s, the population reached nearly 1,000 again with 30 businesses.<sup>34</sup>

In the 1960s and 1970s Castroville achieved more notoriety for its unique architectural heritage, and in 1970, Castroville became the third historic district listed in the National Register of Historic Places in Texas. By 1980, the community had more than doubled, supported 35 businesses, and opened a county public library. At that time, a nation-wide economic recession saw many city-dwellers looking for more affordable places to live, and for those in nearby San Antonio, Castroville was an ideal location. Outsiders began purchasing property in Castroville and renovating many of the town's residences, which was met with mixed feelings from the long-time residents of the tight-knit community.<sup>35</sup> By 1990, the population reached 2,159, although at that time only retained 33 businesses.<sup>36</sup> In the latter part of the twentieth century, Castroville established an art scene, and began to fully rely on heritage tourism to showcase its distinct architecture, regional cuisine, and unique cultural traditions.<sup>37</sup> In 2000, the population was 2,664 and by 2020 had reached 2,925. Castroville is recognized nationally and throughout Texas for its intact historic fabric. Much of the original settlement, including the city layout, historic buildings, and community businesses, continue to retain a high degree of integrity.<sup>38</sup>

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<sup>28</sup> Ibid, 67.

<sup>29</sup> Stephen Fox, "Regionalism and Texas Architecture," in Vincent B. Canizaro, ed., *Architectural Regionalism: Collected Writings on Place, Identity, Modernity, and Tradition*, 209-210.

<sup>30</sup> Castroville Historic Landmark Commission, "Castroville Design Guidelines," December 10, 2014.

<sup>31</sup> U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, "Tactical Map Castroville Quadrangle, Texas 1942," accessed December 9, 2022, <https://maps.lib.utexas.edu/maps/topo/texas/txu-pclmaps-topo-tx-castroville-1942.jpg>.

<sup>32</sup> Lawler, *The Story of Castroville*, 19.

<sup>33</sup> "Castroville has interesting history, served as first Medina County Seat," *Hondo Anvil Herald*, March 1, 1973, 39.

<sup>34</sup> Ochoa, "Castroville, TX.

<sup>35</sup> Derro Evans, "Texas with a Twist," *Historic Preservation*, January/February 1989, 48

<sup>36</sup> Ochoa, "Castroville, TX.

<sup>37</sup> Sherley, "Castroville, the Little Alsace of Texas," 4.

<sup>38</sup> Ochoa, "Castroville, TX;" Ochoa, "Medina County, TX."

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### **Brief History of Meat Processing in Texas and Castroville<sup>39</sup>**

The onset of World War I created increased demand for meat products, and in 1919 the meat packing and slaughtering industry in Texas was second only to petroleum in the manufacturing sector.<sup>40</sup> However, like the rest of the agricultural industry, the consolidation of small operations by large conglomerates occurred in the meat processing and slaughtering industry, and corporations increasingly dominated the largest share of meat production in the U.S. and Texas.<sup>41</sup>

However, in Castroville, lack of rail access and modest transportation networks, combined with a local tendency towards isolationism, meant local meat processing continued to be the norm. When Dan's Meat Market first opened in the mid-1920s, slaughter was conducted in a wooden slaughterhouse at the rear of the property (no longer extant), the meat was butchered while hanging from trees on the property, then delivered throughout the surrounding region via horse and wagon, although this was eventually replaced by trucks (Figures 3-4). In 1933, Medina County reportedly had nine meat markets.<sup>42</sup>

After World War II, refrigeration in the home became widely available and affordable, allowing families to keep perishable items long-term in their own homes, and subsequently Dan's discontinued meat delivery in the 1940s. Furthermore, the development and expansion of supermarkets meant that families could purchase all their perishable and non-perishable items in one place, and small mom and pop specialty stores struggled to compete. Dining outside the home increased as well, and meat markets struggled to stay competitive.<sup>43</sup> In response, Dan's Meat Market and Saloon became a local gathering place offering both food and drink, and the diversification kept the business afloat in a rapidly changing landscape of meat processing and production establishments.

In 1968, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed into law the USDA Wholesome Meat and Wholesome Poultry Acts, establishing nation-wide standards and regulations for meat processing. Once in effect, these laws required better refrigeration and storage of meat as well as the sanitary slaughter of animals and disposal of refuse. Beef packaging for retail sale also changed by 1981, with the "boxed beef" movement superseding the individual wrapping of beef products by the store's butcher.<sup>44</sup> No other meat market in the Castroville area had such a long and successful history as Dan's Meat Market, and their butchering and selling of meat kept pace with changes in meat processing and marketing.

Over the course of its history, Castroville had a few other meat markets. In addition to Hans Meat Market built in 1910, The Smoke House and Bob's Meat Market were operating as meat markets in Castroville by 1957. Bob's was still operating in the 1960s but appears to be closed. It also appears that The Smoke House is no longer extant. In 1975 the Dzuik brothers, Joe Edwin and Clarence, opened Dzuik's Meat Market.<sup>45</sup> The pair had previously operated a meat market in Poth since 1968. The company was still in business as of 2023 and is located at 608 U.S. Highway 90.

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<sup>39</sup> Limited information specific to meat markets in Medina County or Castroville was available. This section provides a broad overview of the industry in Texas and how it relates to Dan's Meat Market beginning in the 1920s.

<sup>40</sup> "The Encyclopedia Americana: A Library of Universal Knowledge," United States: Encyclopedia Americana Corporation, 1924, 462, accessed May 5, 2023, [https://www.google.com/books/edition/The\\_Encyclopedia\\_Americana/9rYa7ZFDefcC?hl=en&gbpv=0](https://www.google.com/books/edition/The_Encyclopedia_Americana/9rYa7ZFDefcC?hl=en&gbpv=0).

<sup>41</sup> Joshua Specht, *Red Meat Republic: A hoof-to-table history of how beef changed America* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2019), 56 (Ebook).

<sup>42</sup> U.S. Department of Commerce, "Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930, Distribution, Volume I, Retail Distribution, Part I, Summary for the United States, and Statistics for Counties and Incorporated Places of 1,000 Population and Over." United States: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1933.

<sup>43</sup> Covey, "Keep your Eye on the Boll," 85.

<sup>44</sup> "History of the Meat Industry," Texas Tech University ANSC 3404, accessed November 2, 2022, <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/meatscience>.

<sup>45</sup> "Dzuik Brothers open market in Castroville," *Hondo Anvil Herald*, June 12, 1975, 9.

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While various meat markets existed in Castroville, Dan's Meat Market, established by one of the pioneering families of Castroville, appears to have been the longest-running meat market in town. The multi-generational business also appears to be the only historic-age former meat market that retains some of its meat processing and sales equipment, including refrigerated doors, meat hanging racks, and overhead tracks, providing insight into the evolution of meat processing from the early through mid-twentieth century. It was also the last commercial business in Castroville to house a saloon, once commonplace among Castroville businesses.<sup>46</sup>

**CRITERION A: Commerce**

**Dan's Meat Market and Saloon**

According to Medina County deed records, the property was first purchased by early Castroville settlers in 1852, and it changed hands several times during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The property was acquired by Frank and Regina Marie Kuntz Burell in 1925.<sup>47</sup> Frank Burell was a descendant of one of Castroville's founding settlers, Joseph Burrell. Joseph Burrell (later Burell) was born in Altorf Elsass, France in 1801, and he and his family, including his son Jean Baptiste "JB," came to Texas with Henri Castro in 1844. The family settled in Castroville, and JB Burell later married Theresa Fuehring. In 1869 the couple had a son, Frank Alexander Burell. Frank's first wife Maria died in 1899, and he then married Regina Marie Kuentz. In addition to his three children with Maria, Frank and Regina had seven children. In 1904 Frank and Regina's second child Daniel was born. He would later take over the meat market business and become its namesake.<sup>48</sup>

In 1908 Frank Burell opened the Jockey Club Saloon in Rio Medina just north of Castroville, and in 1910 constructed a circular dance hall called the Mayflower Dance Hall. Several years later, the Frank Burell family moved to the Hoffmann Ranch roughly three miles north of Castroville, where they helped farm. In 1917, they again relocated, this time to Culebra to run the Tutsin Saloon. Over the next several years, the family lived a nomadic life, traveling via their Model T to Arizona, and later San Diego, California, working as itinerant farmers. Eventually, the family returned to their native Castroville, and as the town needed a meat market, local residents contributed funds for the Burells to establish one.<sup>49</sup>

In 1925, Frank Burell opened Burell's Meat Market in the subject building. His business partner, John Sittre, a butcher, sold out to Frank several months after. It appears that Frank Burell may have previously operated a meat market on Main Street (now Fiorella Street), as it was noted in the newspaper in 1922.<sup>50</sup> At first, butchering was done under nearby trees and sold the same day (Figure 4). Frank purchased the cattle, and Regina butchered, cut, and sold the meat. The meat was then iced down by the children, placed in containers, loaded into wagons, and later pick-up trucks, for delivery to customers at various locations. Each day the Burells would reverse their delivery route from the day before so that their customers could get their fair share of the good cuts of beef.<sup>51</sup>

In the early 1930s, Frank and Regina built a living area above the business for their growing family of seven children. After Prohibition ended in 1933, they also opened a saloon next door to the meat market which is internally connected.<sup>52</sup> Frank and Regina's son, Dan Burell (1904-1999) worked in the meat market while attending night school. Dan married Mary A. Tschirhart in 1927 and continued working at the meat market until 1930 when he took a job delivering mail. In 1930, after Dan left, Frank's other son Edwin took over for his father at the meat market and lived with his parents in

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<sup>46</sup> "Castroville: Heritage with Progress," *The Tyler Courier Times*, June 9, 1985, 21.

<sup>47</sup> Texas State Comptroller, Sales Tax Permit records, accessed January 31, 2022.

<sup>48</sup> Mary Louise Burell, Dorothy Burell Boehme, Paulette Burell Martin, et al., "The Story of Dan's Meat Market and the Immigration of the Burell Family to Texas," Family history provided by the Burell Family to Post Oak Preservation, 2022.

<sup>49</sup> Burell, et al., "The Story of Dan's Meat Market and the Immigration of the Burell Family to Texas."

<sup>50</sup> "Our Castroville Page," *Hondo Anvil Herald*, January 28, 1922, 4.

<sup>51</sup> *History of Medina County*, p. 76.

<sup>52</sup> *History of Medina County*, p. 76.



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the subject building, along with his younger brother Hilary who did odd jobs for the business.<sup>53</sup> Perhaps due to the economic crisis of the Great Depression, in 1935 Frank Burell advertised his “two story building, meat market, saloon and residence, a number of good outhouses, and fixtures in the meat market” for sale in the local newspaper.<sup>54</sup> Around that time, Dan Burell moved his family to New Braunfels where he worked as a mechanic. It appears that Frank maintained ownership of the property until 1937, when Dan and Mary Burell bought it (Figures 5-6). Dan reportedly borrowed \$6,000 dollars from Herbert Tondre to purchase the business from his father, eventually paying off the loan within three years.<sup>55</sup> Dan's family lived above the meat market with his parents for several years until Frank and Regina moved to a house on London Street.<sup>56</sup> Frank Burell died in 1942.

During the 1940s, Dan experimented with and perfected his recipes for sausage, jerky, and headcheese. One 1985 article noted “the most difficult task was seasoning his specialty, the homemade country sausage, to suit the many tastes of his customers. Some liked just a pinch of salt, while others preferred more, the same for black pepper and various other spices. After a few trial batches, the new proprietor finally worked out the winning combination, which is still used today.”<sup>57</sup>

With the coming of electric power to Castroville and better refrigeration methods, including specialty coolers and expensive Jamison doors which sealed in the cold air, the Burells discontinued meat deliveries to outlying areas. Customers would wait in line for their meat to be packaged and enjoy a cold beer in the saloon (Figure 14).<sup>58</sup> Sometimes, the Burells would process up to four hundred deer during the hunting season.<sup>59</sup> Known for its quality meats and specialty sausages especially during deer hunting season, it was not long before the meat market acquired the name of its owner, “Dan's Meat Market” around 1940 (Figure 5). Dan and Mary used the upstairs residence with their six children until 1951, when they moved to a home on San Jacinto Street, and subsequently rented out the second floor living quarters.

In 1969, Dan and Mary's son, Melvin “Jimmy” Burell and his wife Mary Louise, bought the meat market and saloon but retained its name of “Dan's Meat Market” (Figure 15). In 1970, stricter state and federal laws for meat processing prompted the Burells to construct improved facilities. The c. 1970 meat processing addition with interior slaughtering capabilities and waste disposal systems and facilities, was added at the rear. Larger and more modern coolers and freezers were also added to assist in the processing of cattle, hogs, sheep, goats, and deer. Custom processing of meat became a specialty of Dan's Meat Market as well as making the popular Alsatian sausage, head cheese, beef jerky, and *parisa*, a traditional Alsatian recipe of raw, ground beef with jalapeño peppers, cheese, onions, and lime juice (Figure 13).

The saloon, housed next door, functioned as a successful bar and community gathering place, and was the last remaining saloon within a business establishment in Castroville.<sup>60</sup> The saloon offered alcohol and entertainment to Castroville residents and tourists alike. “The Quarterback Club,” for instance, became a popular social gathering to discuss game plans before the Friday night football game (Figures 7-10).

Jimmy and Mary Louise continued to operate Dan's into the 1990s, and an article boasted that except for modern refrigeration and sanitation, the meat market had changed very little since the 1930s (Figure 16). As local tourism picked up, they expanded their offering, supplying sausages to many of the area's restaurants, including Britsch's Restaurant

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<sup>53</sup> U.S. Department of Commerce, “Fifteenth Census of the United States – Justice Precinct 3, Castroville, Texas – 1930,” available on Ancestry.com.

<sup>54</sup> “Castroville Cullings,” The Hondo Anvil Herald, October 25, 1935, 3.

<sup>55</sup> Burell, et al., “The Story of Dan's Meat Market and the Immigration of the Burell Family to Texas.”

<sup>56</sup> Burell, et al., “The Story of Dan's Meat Market and the Immigration of the Burell Family to Texas.”

<sup>57</sup> Keller, Dorris, “Senior Citizen Spotlight,” *News Bulletin*, January 31, 1985 in Burell, et al., “The Story of Dan's Meat Market and the Immigration of the Burell Family to Texas.”

<sup>58</sup> In addition to his work at the meat market, Dan Burrell dabbled in real estate development, and constructed a building that served as Castroville's post office at one point. Burell, et al., “The Story of Dan's Meat Market and the Immigration of the Burell Family to Texas.”

<sup>59</sup> *History of Medina County*, p. 76.

<sup>60</sup> *Fort Worth Star Telegram*, July 30, 1989, 103.

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which served the traditional *choucroute garni* – a dish of sauerkraut and sausage.<sup>61</sup> One resident at the time described Dan's as "the most Alsatian business in town."<sup>62</sup> Dan's provided custom slaughtering and processing, party trays, market specialties, liver sausage, dry sausage, salami, Alsatian sausage, and head cheese (a gelatin or aspic-based cold cut made with the head of a calf or pig).<sup>63</sup>

In 1995, the Burell family sold Dan's Meat Market and Saloon. Dan Burell died in 2004, just after a New York City gourmet magazine, *Saveur*, interviewed him about his recipe for *parisa*, the Alsatian-style, raw meat mixture (an hors d'oeuvre) eaten with chips and beer. Changing hands several times, the meat market and saloon was open intermittently until it closed in 2016 (Figure 11). In 2021 it was purchased by the Oldtown Castroville Revitalization Initiative.<sup>64</sup> The building was rehabilitated in 2023 in accordance with the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and opened in October 2023 as barbecue restaurant Blue Lacy Smokehouse, continuing its long legacy of serving meat products to the surrounding community.<sup>65</sup>

### **CRITERION C: Architecture**

#### **Historic Architecture of Castroville**

Castroville is noted for its intact historic Alsatian vernacular architecture. Castroville's Alsatian architecture, much like its cultural and linguistic traditions, represented a hybrid of French and German influences, blended with Anglo-Texan influences.<sup>66</sup> Designs were derived from the building traditions of the original Alsatian settlers and included specific adaptations for the Texas climate and the availability of local building materials. Building techniques evolved over the years, and by the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, new modern forms began to appear, but some Alsatian traditions were selectively retained.

Early buildings in Castroville were quickly constructed of logs and clay, which were later upgraded or replaced after initial settlement was firmly established.<sup>67</sup> The permanent historic buildings in Castroville, often built by local masons, were characterized by rectangular plans, sloping gable roofs, battered exterior chimneys, and casement windows. A single building commonly housed both a residence and business. This was apparent in the design of the Joseph Carle House and Store (c. 1865). Other common architectural features included multi-functional rooms, lean-to rear additions, and double doors on the ground level, particularly on commercial buildings. Exterior materials were usually limestone, logs, or other wood siding. Exterior walls were also commonly covered in a lime plaster or stucco and completed with a limewash in white, beige, or cream.<sup>68</sup> Front porches were typically absent in snowy Alsace, but in adapting to the local climate, early Castroville settlers added porches as a shield from the sun. By the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, roofs were flattened, and galvanized tin replaced earlier thatch or cypress shingle roofs.<sup>69</sup>

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<sup>61</sup> Sherley, "Castroville, the Little Alsace of Texas," 10

<sup>62</sup> Sherley, "Castroville, the Little Alsace of Texas," 10.

<sup>63</sup> Castroville Area Chamber of Commerce, *Castroville Visitor's Guide 1997*, 12

<sup>64</sup> Medina County Appraisal District, "Property ID: 13625," accessed November 15, 2022, <https://esearch.medinacad.org/Property/View/13625>.

<sup>65</sup> Paul Stephen, "First look: Blue Lacy Smokehouse now open in Castroville," *San Antonio Express News*, November 9, 2023, accessed December 5, 2023, <https://www.expressnews.com/food/restaurants/article/blu-lacy-smokehouse-open-18480379.php>.

<sup>66</sup> "...many of the colonists of Henri Castro's colony in Medina County were citizens of France, but their cultural identity, reinforced by language, was more property Alsatian, and they shared much in common with fellow colonists from neighboring Rhineland German states and Switzerland." Richard Cleary, "Is There French Architecture in Texas," in Francois Lagarde, Ed., *The French in Texas: History, Migration, Culture* (Austin: University of Texas Press, 2003) 227.

<sup>67</sup> Terri Ross, "Alsatian Architecture in Texas," in Francis Edward Abernathy (ed), *Built in Texas* (Denton: University of North Texas Press, 1979 (Second Edition 2000), 121; Richard Cleary, "Is There French Architecture in Texas," in Francois Lagarde, Ed., *The French in Texas*, 229.

<sup>68</sup> "Castroville Design Guidelines," 21.

<sup>69</sup> "Historic Resources Survey Report for the City of Castroville, Texas," City of Castroville, Texas, 2002, 16.

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By the turn of the century, buildings constructed by second and third generation residents had evolved, combining elements of the Alsatian traditions with more Anglo-Texan modern building techniques and forms that responded to the local environment and available materials. Although early Castroville architecture typically featured casement windows, in the decades following initial settlement residents began to utilize double hung windows on their buildings, due to the wider availability of manufactured materials.<sup>70</sup> Originally, door and window placement was often asymmetrical and irregular, but early twentieth century buildings began to take on a more symmetrical and modern appearance.

While Castroville's historic commercial buildings were often vernacular one-part commercial blocks, Dan's Meat Market and Saloon was a rare example of a two-part commercial block form. A 2002 historic resources survey of pre-1955 historic resources within the Castroville city limits only identified between 29 and 33 pre-1955 commercial buildings within the survey boundaries. Dan's Meat Market and Saloon was identified as the only extant historic two-part commercial block building.<sup>71</sup>

Dan's Meat Market and Saloon is architecturally significant as a good example of an early twentieth century two-part commercial block displaying vernacular architectural traditions derived from a blend of Alsatian and Anglo-Texan influences and is the only such example remaining in the community. It is characterized by a two-part form dividing the façade into distinct sections, symmetrical fenestration patterns, and modern building materials like double hung windows and metal hipped roof. The original footprint is rectangular in plan, and the floor plan housed the business on the first floor with living quarters on the second. The stucco and native rusticated limestone exterior reflect the somewhat selective retention of the earlier building methods in Castroville. The second story porch represents a necessary adaptation to the Texas climate.

### **Comparable Commercial Properties in Castroville**

Diagonal across the Stadtplatz from Dan's Meat Market at the corner of Madrid and Angelo is the Joseph Carle House and store which serves as an excellent example of early Alsatian vernacular architecture. The Joseph Carle store and residence was first constructed by Joseph Krust in 1865, and likely only consisted of one room with a cellar. In 1873 Joseph Carle purchased the property and added a one room house with porch and kitchen. Carle opened a mercantile store, which operated for many years in the building. It was later sold in the 1970s and has since functioned as an antique shop, restaurant, and residence on the second floor.<sup>72</sup>

Historically, the Kilhorn-Huesser, Zum Teutoburger Walde Saloon, later the Farmer's Saloon, was located across Paris Street at the present-day location of Castroville State Bank, but it was torn down in 1907. Historic photographs indicate that the saloon was a one-story, wood frame building with clapboard siding, false front parapet, and shed roof awning over the main entrance. Around that time, Bill Rihn's Up-to-Date Saloon was constructed on Paris Street next to the Rainbow Theater, although it closed due to prohibition. Following prohibition, Arthur Holzhaus re-opened the saloon in a stone building and named it Hagan Saloon (unknown if extant).<sup>73</sup>

In 1907 Thomas Edmund Hans and wife Amelia Tschirhart Hans purchased the former Dolch homestead, and in 1910 they constructed the Hans Meat Market building at the eastern corner of the Paris and Fiorella Streets.<sup>74</sup> The small, one-story, rectangular building is extant and features brick siding, stepped parapet, partially-glazed double entrance doors, dentils along the cornice, and arched window openings. The meat market also historically included a board and batten

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<sup>70</sup> Terri Ross, "Alsatian Architecture in Texas," 122.

<sup>71</sup> "Historic Resources Survey Report for the City of Castroville, Texas," City of Castroville, Texas, 2002, 20-21.

<sup>72</sup> Castroville Area Chamber of Commerce, *Castroville Visitor's Guide 1997*, 26.

<sup>73</sup> Castroville Area Chamber of Commerce, *Castroville Visitor's Guide 1997*, 47.

<sup>74</sup> Texas Historical Commission, *Historic Sites Atlas*, "Details for Dolch-Hans Compound (Atlas Number 5325013252) Historical Marker — Atlas Number 5325013252."

Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, Castroville, Medina County, Texas

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smokehouse (not extant) and well house with cistern (extant). The family maintained ownership of the property until 1969, and the former meat market building now houses a pottery studio.

The Old Standby is one of the few other two-story commercial buildings in Castroville. The stucco-covered stone building was constructed in 1857 as a saloon by Fredrick Huechling, and it featured a bar on the first floor and residence on the second level. In 1880 the building was sold and became the Greenfront Saloon, and in 1907 the rear of the building was expanded. During prohibition, new owners converted the building to a drug store and soda fountain, and it was again sold in the late 1950s and subsequently housed a number of businesses over the years. In 1976 it became the Old Standby Saloon, although was later converted to a residence after a fire required remodeling.<sup>75</sup>

In 1925 the *Hondo Anvil Herald* announced the opening of four new businesses in Castroville, including Dan's Meat Market. In addition, it announced the drive-in station built by George Etter, the Castroville Mercantile Company operated by Louis Scherrer and Mr. I. E. Isom, and Strowman Bros. and Lee Mangold's purchase of the Emil Groff restaurant and soft drink stand, which they planned to continue operating. The Old Highway Filling Station at Fiorella and Lafayette was another comparable commercial property near Dan's Meat Market and Saloon. Constructed in 1926, the filling station at one point housed a meat market and saloon, although the dates of that are unknown.<sup>76</sup>

While one of a few meat markets in Castroville during the period of significance, Dan's appears to be the largest extant meat market, and the only extant two-part commercial block building that has not been converted to non-commercial use. Other commercial enterprises were constructed during the 1920s through 1940s, but it appears that many were auto-oriented, including filling stations and soft drink stands. Thus, Dan's remains a unique and seminal property within Castroville's historic fabric dating to a time when commercial activity was still centered near the Stadtplatz.

## Conclusion

Dan's Meat Market and Saloon is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A in the area of Commerce and Criterion C in the area of Architecture at the local level of significance. The period of significance is 1925-1974.

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<sup>75</sup> Castroville Area Chamber of Commerce, *Castroville Visitor's Guide 1997*, 24.

<sup>76</sup> "Four New Business Places at Castroville," *Hondo Anvil Herald*, February 14, 1925, 2.

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**Maps**

Map 1: Medina County, Texas



Map 2: Google Map. The nominated boundary shown in red includes less than one acre, specifically the southern and eastern portions of the legal parcel identified as CASTROVILLE RANGE 7 BLOCK 4 LOT 10 (Property ID: 13625) Castroville, Medina County, Texas, as recorded in the Medina County Appraisal District. Data accessed April 18, 2023. The nominated boundary includes approximately 0.148 acre of the larger 0.33 acre legal parcel. Non-historic buildings were recently added to the northwest and northeast and are excluded. Note Google aerial available dates to January 2023 prior to construction of new addition. White rectangle at rear of saloon is a construction vehicle.



Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, Castroville, Medina County, Texas

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Map 3: Aerial map showing property changes over time and approximate location of new construction on the property. Aerial image from January 2023 with shapes added by applicant, courtesy of Google Earth. Accessed December 2023.



Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, Castroville, Medina County, Texas

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Map 4: Aerial map showing property changes over time, prior to completion of rehabilitation courtesy of Google Earth. Aerial imagery from March 2022, accessed March 2023.



Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, Castroville, Medina County, Texas

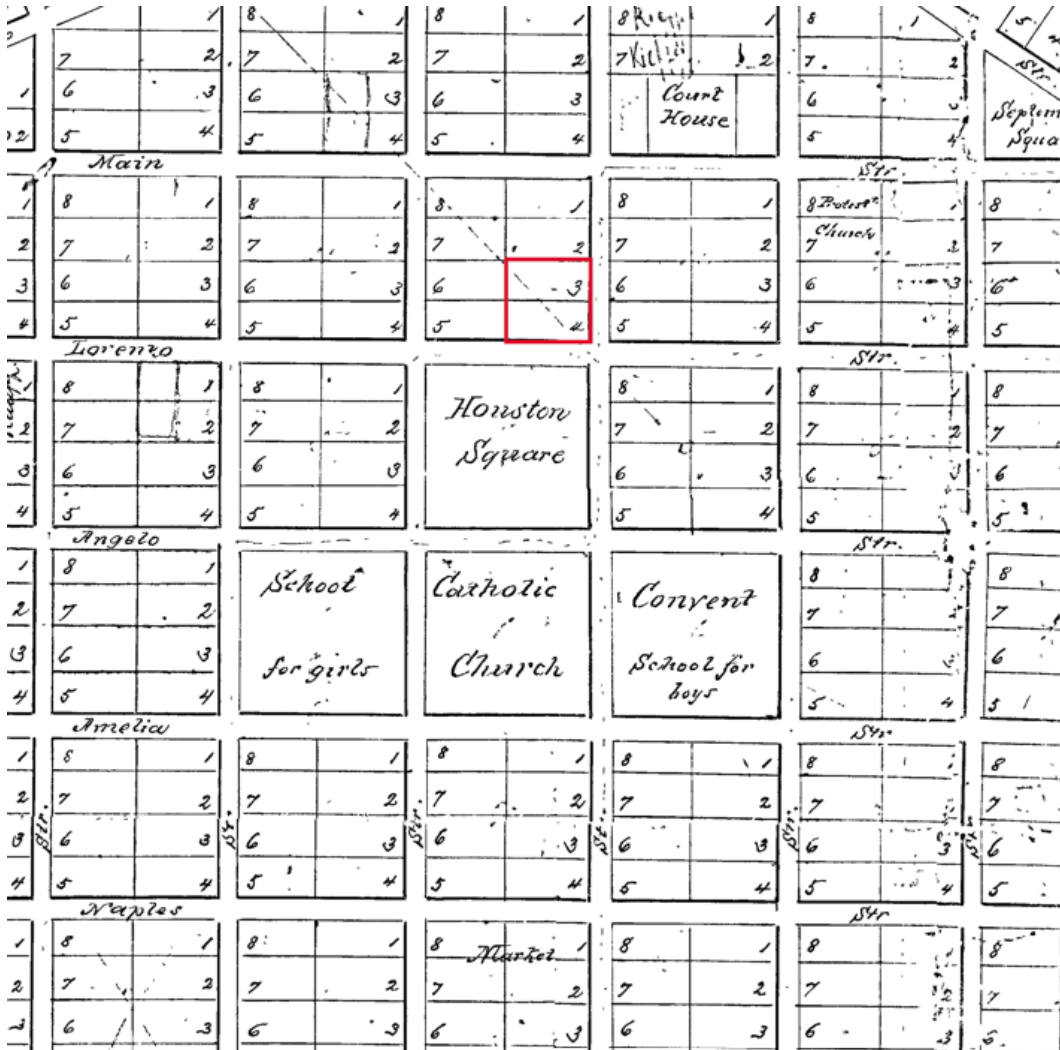
Map 5: Google Earth Map accessed April 18, 2023.





Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, Castroville, Medina County, Texas

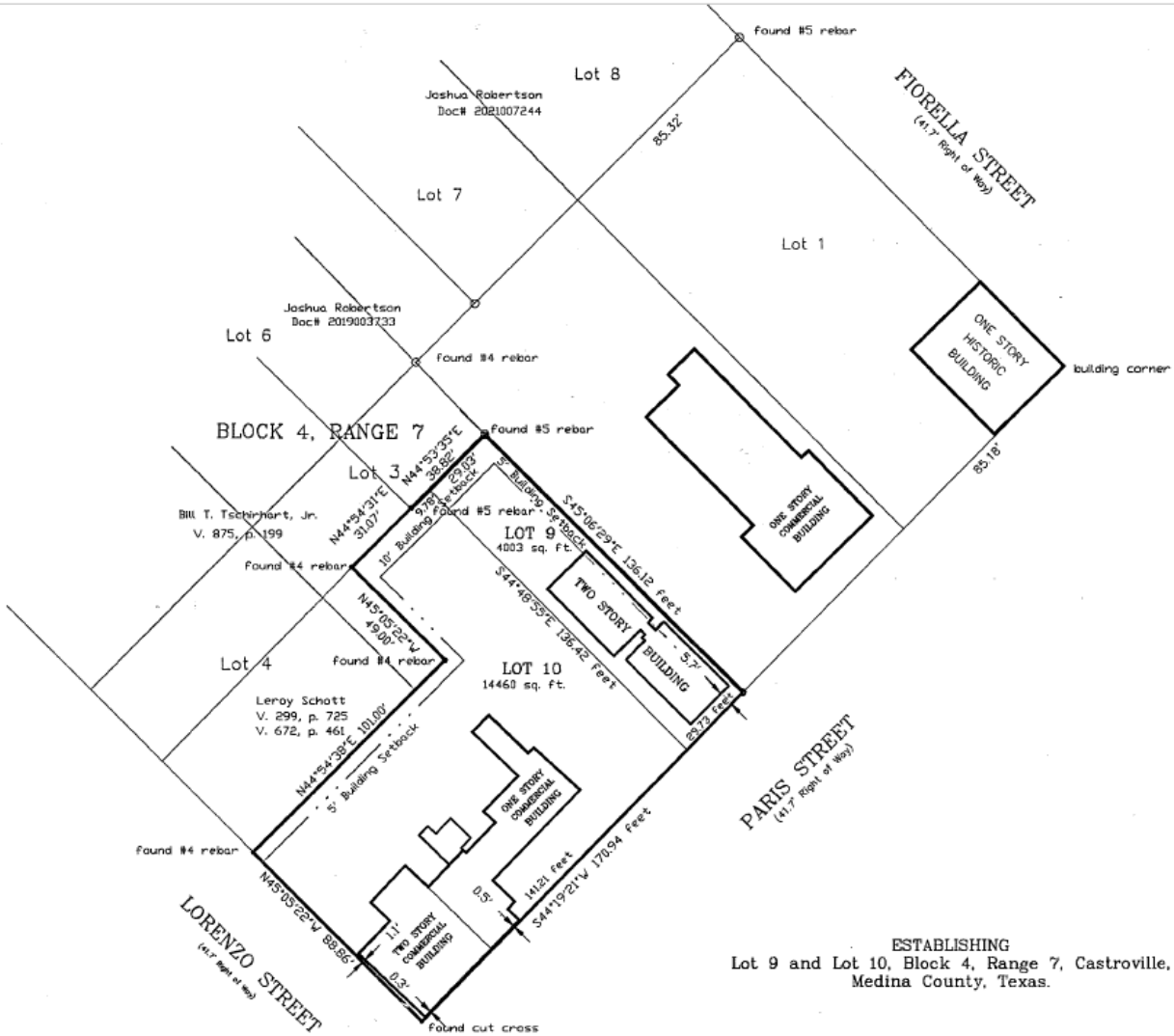
Map 7: 1880s Plat Map of Castroville, Texas (Source: Medina County Clerk). Historic boundary of subject parcels in red (Blocks 3 and 4, Lot 4, Range 7).





Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, Castroville, Medina County, Texas

Map 9: 2022 Plat Map of Castroville, Texas (Source: Medina County Clerk) showing that Lots 9 and 10 were subdivided out of the original Lots 3 and 4, Block 4, Range 7. Lot 9 is on a separate legal parcel.



ESTABLISHING  
Lot 9 and Lot 10, Block 4, Range 7, Castroville,  
Medina County, Texas.



Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, Castroville, Medina County, Texas

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Map 10: 1963 aerial photograph of Dan's Meat Market courtesy of USGS Earth Explorer. Note that at that time there was only one rear (east) addition on the building, other than the 1933 saloon.

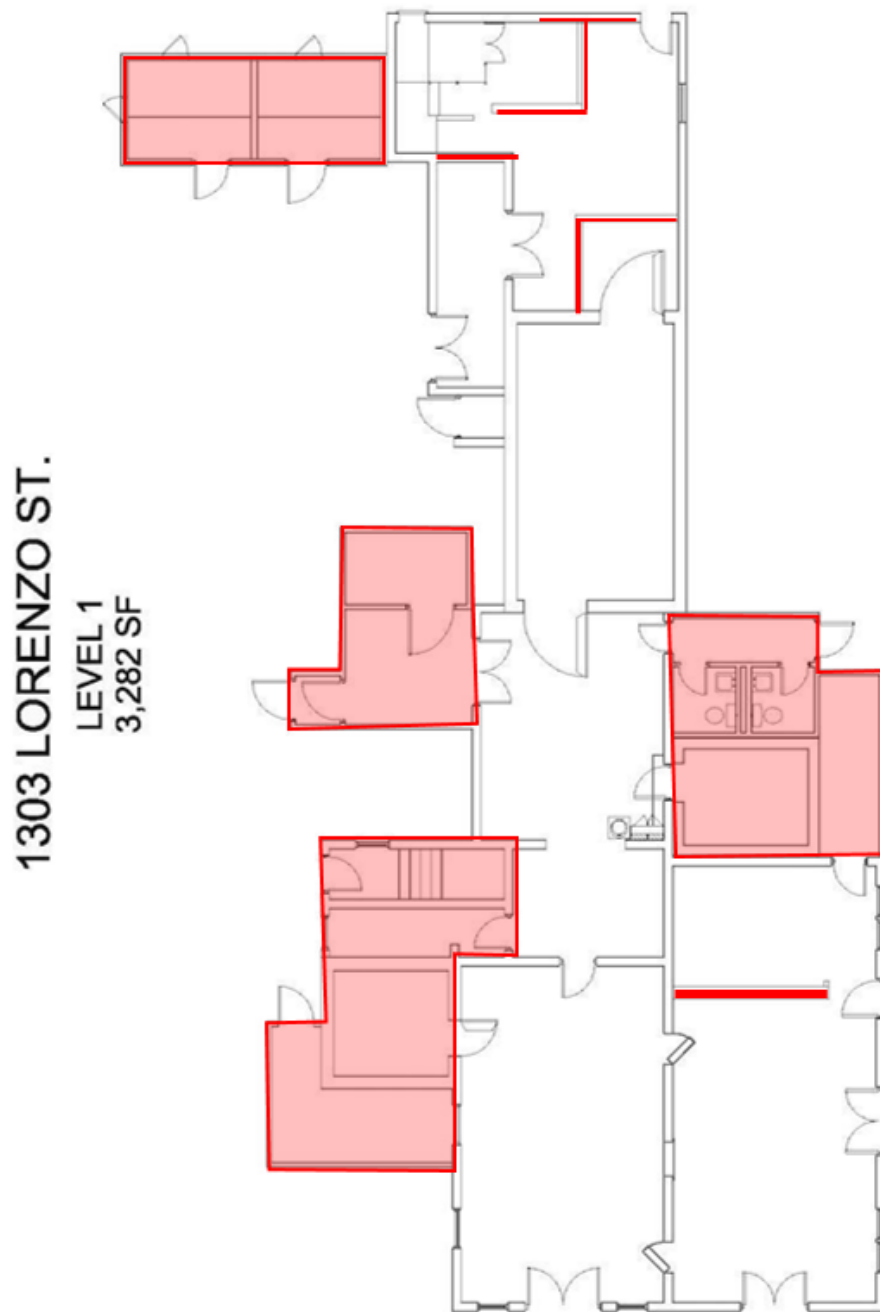


Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, Castroville, Medina County, Texas

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**Figures**

Figure 1: As-built footprint of Dan's Meat Market and Saloon first floor. Areas outlined in red have been demolished (2022-2023).



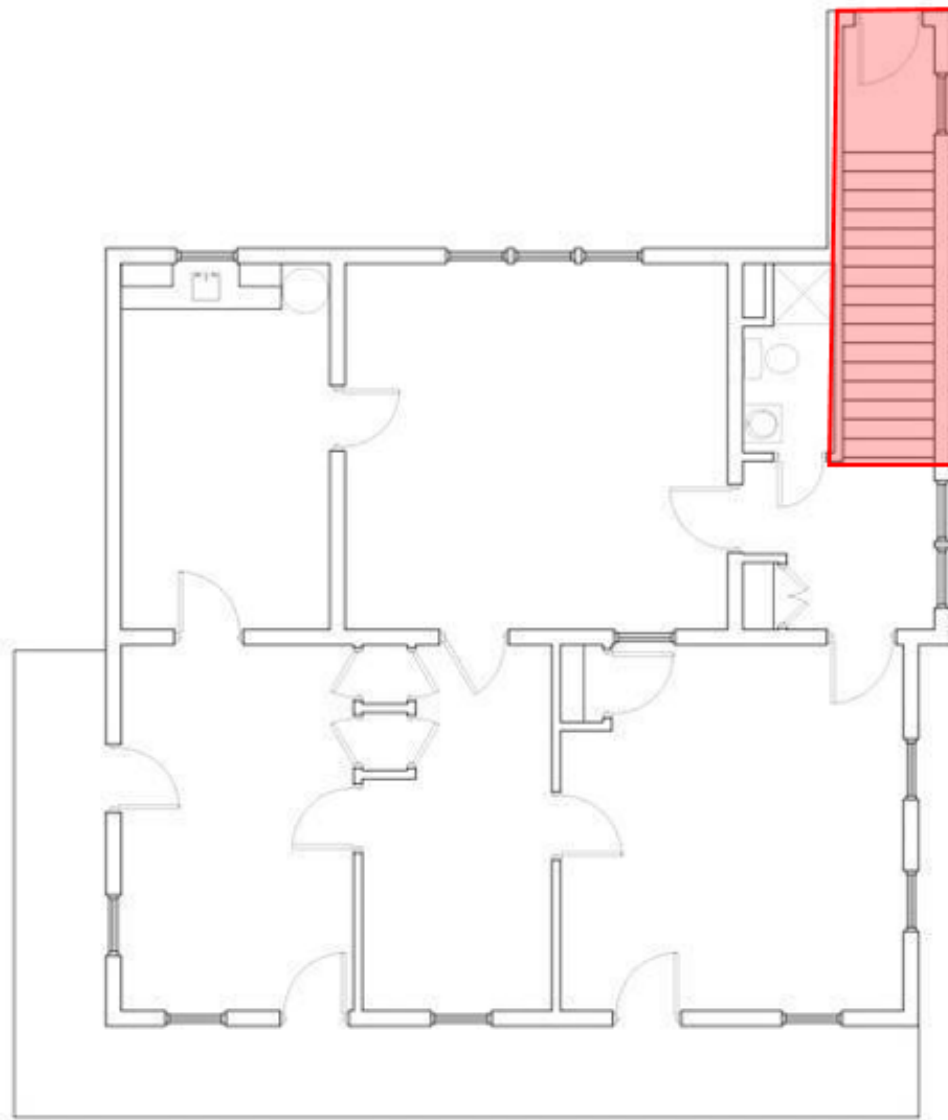
Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, Castroville, Medina County, Texas

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Figure 2: As-built footprint of Dan's Meat Market and Saloon second floor. Areas outlined in red have been demolished (2022-2023).

# 1303 LORENZO ST.

LEVEL 2  
1,287 SF



Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, Castroville, Medina County, Texas

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Figure 3: Undated photograph of the early slaughterhouse on the subject property (no longer extant), courtesy of the Burell family.



Figure 4: Undated photograph of early morning butchering showing meat hanging from trees on the subject property, courtesy of the Burell family.



Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, Castroville, Medina County, Texas

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Figure 5: View of Dan's from Lorenzo Street ca. 1940. Meat market on left, saloon on the right (Source: Castroville Chamber of Commerce).



Figure 6: From left, Regina Burell, Theresa Burell Renken, Frank Burell, Henry Renken, Pauline Haby Burell, and Louis Burell in front of Dan's Meat Market. Photo courtesy of the Burell family, taken some time prior to Frank's death in 1942.



Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, Castroville, Medina County, Texas

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Figure 7: 1975 view of Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, Texas Historical Commission. [Historic Property, Photograph 4577-08], photograph, April 1, 1975; (<https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph936807/m1/1/?q=castroville>; accessed April 19, 2023), University of North Texas Libraries, *The Portal to Texas History*, <https://texashistory.unt.edu>; crediting Texas Historical Commission.



Figure 8: 1975 photo of Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, Texas Historical Commission. [Historic Property, Photograph 4577-06], photograph, April 1, 1975; (<https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph936037/m1/1/?q=castroville>; accessed April 19, 2023), University of North Texas Libraries, *The Portal to Texas History*, <https://texashistory.unt.edu>; crediting Texas Historical Commission.



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Figure 9: 1975 photo of Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, Texas Historical Commission. [Historic Property, Photograph 4577-13], photograph, April 1, 1975; (<https://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph936560/m1/1/?q=castroville>; accessed April 19, 2023), University of North Texas Libraries, *The Portal to Texas History*, <https://texashistory.unt.edu>; crediting Texas Historical Commission.



Figure 10: Southwest view from Paris Street across from Houston Square after roof was reconstructed with Dutch gable and central ridge, 1977 (Source: Castroville Chamber of Commerce).



Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, Castroville, Medina County, Texas

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Figure 11: Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, ca. 2012 (source: TripAdvisor.com).





Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, Castroville, Medina County, Texas

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Figure 12: Listing from Castroville Area Chamber of Commerce Visitors' Guide. (Source: Castroville Area Chamber of Commerce Visitors Guide, 2017).



**11. Dan's Meat Market - 1925      1303 Lorenzo Street**  
**Owners: Tim and Gloria Kelley**

This was the original site of the Ferdinand C. Kilhorn homestead and Tin Shop built in 1882. Ferdinand C. Kilhorn settled in Castroville after serving at Fort Clark, an army camp near Castroville. He was a true entrepreneur starting the first Castroville newspaper, Castroville Anvil, and then owning a Tin Shop from 1896 to 1917. (See additional story page 58). The original meat market was built in 1925 by Frank and Regina Burell. Their son Dan added the saloon and continued the meat market business, followed by his son Jimmy, and his wife Mary Louis Burell, until they sold it in 1995.

Figure 13: March 1, 1973 advertisement Dan's Meat Market (Source: *Hondo Anvil*).

**Dan's  
Meat Market**

**FRESH MEATS and SAUSAGE**  
**DRY SAUSAGE and BEEF**

*Processing for home freezers  
and Deer Processing*

MR. and MRS. JIMMY BURELL  
OWNERS

WE ARE THE 3rd GENERATION

Located at Corner of Paris & Lorenzo  
538-2131  
Castroville, Texas

Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, Castroville, Medina County, Texas

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Figure 14: Undated photo of Dan Burell in Dan's Meat Market. Photo courtesy of the Burell family.



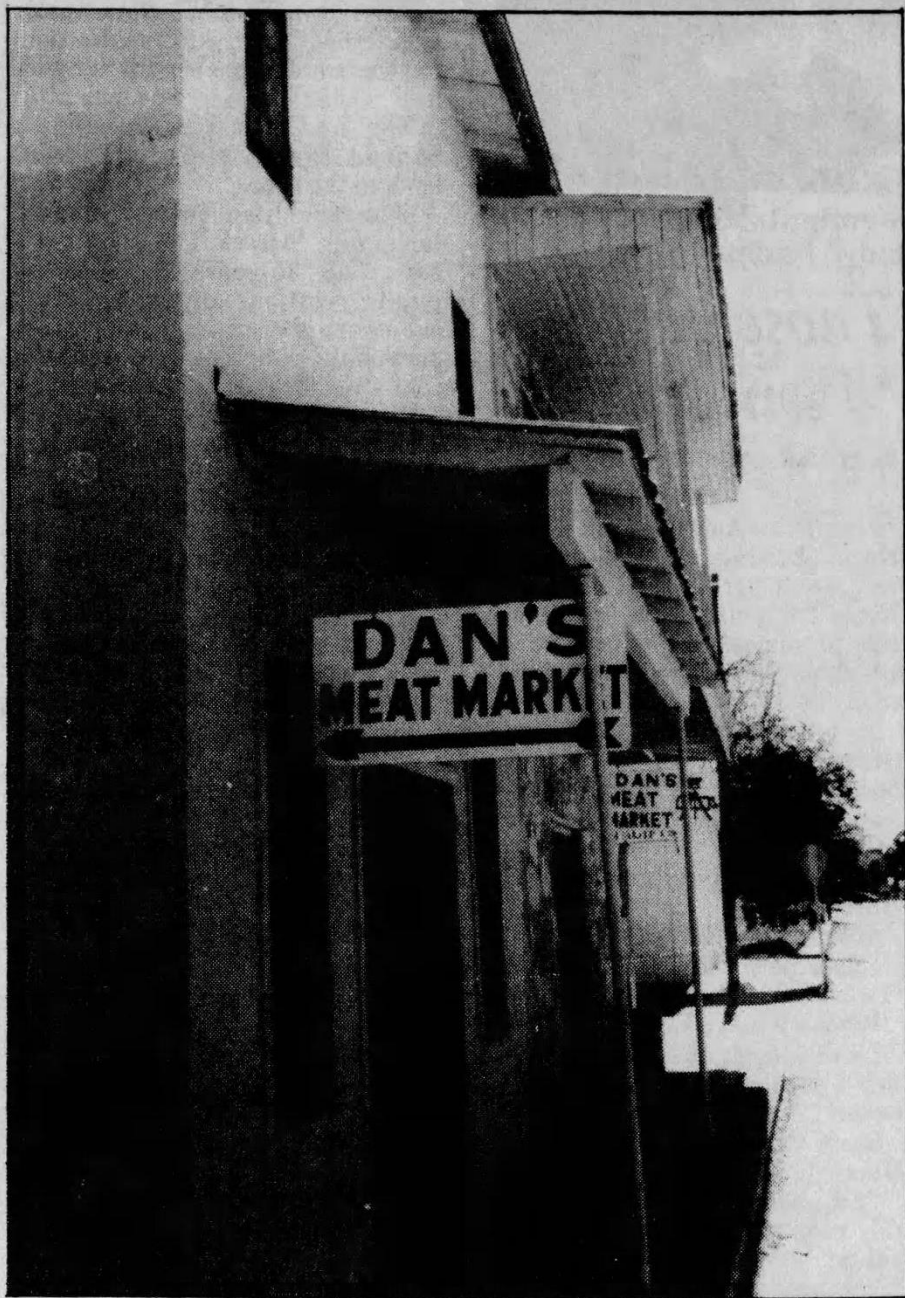
Figure 15: Ca. 1969 photo of Jimmy and Mary Louise Burell in Dan's Meat Market. Photo courtesy of the Burell family.



Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, Castroville, Medina County, Texas

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Figure 16: 1990 photo of Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, *Abilene Reporter-News*, May 6, 1990, page 56.



Bob Bruce/Reporter-News

**Dan's Meat Market, longtime Castroville business**

Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, Castroville, Medina County, Texas

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Figure 17: Photograph of Dan's Meat Market prior to 2023 rehabilitation, view northeast. Courtesy of Post Oak Preservation.



Figure 18: 2022 bakery located northeast of subject building (outside the nominated boundary), view north.



Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, Castroville, Medina County, Texas

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**Photographs**

Photo 1: Dan's Meat Market and Saloon primary (southwest) elevation fronting Lorenzo Street. View northeast.



Photo 2: Dan's Meat Market and Saloon southeast and southwest elevation, oblique. View north.



Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, Castroville, Medina County, Texas

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Photo 3: Dan's Meat Market and Saloon southeast elevation showing 1933 saloon addition. View northwest.



Photo 4: Dan's Meat Market and Saloon showing 1933 saloon addition and c. 1970 meat processing addition after 2023 rehabilitation. View west.



Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, Castroville, Medina County, Texas

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Photo 5: C. 1970 meat processing addition southeast and northeast elevations. View west.



Photo 6: Rear (northeast) and northwest elevations of c. 1970 meat processing addition. View south.



Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, Castroville, Medina County, Texas

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Photo 7: Oblique showing primary (southwest) and northwest elevations and 2023 additions. View east.



Photo 8: Detail view of 2023 entrance addition on northwest elevation, view east.





Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, Castroville, Medina County, Texas

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Photo 9: View of 2023 pit building located northwest of the subject building (outside the nominated boundary), view northeast.



Photo 10: Interior of 1925 Meat Market ground floor with restored refrigerator door and tin ceilings. View east.



Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, Castroville, Medina County, Texas

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Photo 11: Interior of 1925 Meat Market ground floor with restored entrance doors and tin ceilings. View west.



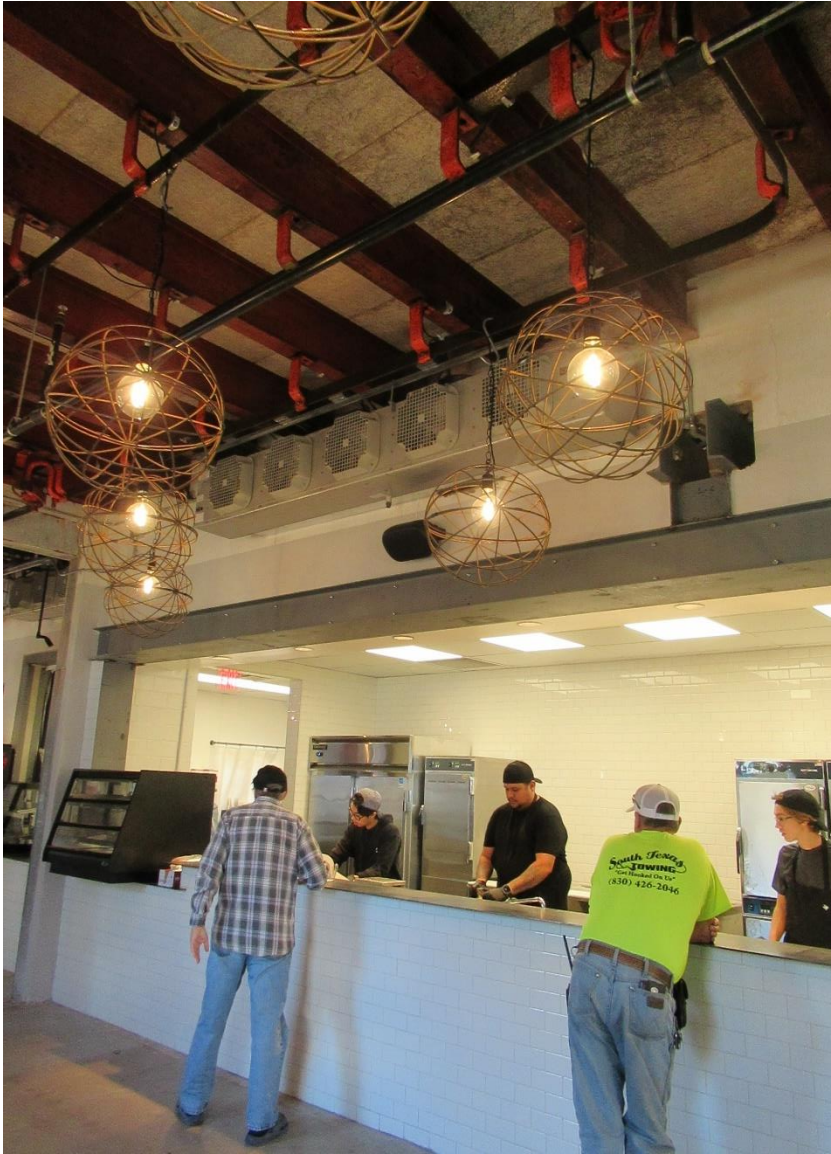
Photo 12: Interior of 1933 Saloon addition ground floor with restored entrance doors and beadboard ceilings. View east.



Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, Castroville, Medina County, Texas

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Photo 13: Interior view of c. 1970 meat processing addition showing retained overhead meat processing equipment. View west.



Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, Castroville, Medina County, Texas

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Photo 14: Interior view of c. 1970 meat processing addition showing retained refrigerator doors and overhead meat processing equipment. View west.



Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, Castroville, Medina County, Texas

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Photo 15: Interior view of c. 1970 meat processing addition showing retained refrigerator doors and overhead meat processing equipment. View northeast.



Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, Castroville, Medina County, Texas

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Photo 16: Detail of restored refrigerated door in 1925 Meat Market ground floor, view northwest.



Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, Castroville, Medina County, Texas

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Photo 17: Staircase to second story, view southeast.



Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, Castroville, Medina County, Texas

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Photo 18: Second story landing at top of staircase, view northwest.



Photo 19: Second story interior, view north.





Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, Castroville, Medina County, Texas

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Photo 20: Second story interior, view west.



Photo 21: Second story interior, view south.



Dan's Meat Market and Saloon, Castroville, Medina County, Texas

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Photo 22: Second story interior, view west.



Photo 23: Second story interior kitchen, view northwest.

