

THE TACQUARD'S

The Tacquard family history is long and complex, starting in France and Switzerland, thence Texas and now in several States of the U.S.. This very brief account only introduces the subject. The historical information was supplied by members of the family and their source was old church records in the U.S. and France, old Bibles, diaries, legal records and from conversations with members and old friends of the family.

Some of the contributors were Mrs. Clemence Nave, daughter of Jacques, she is the only living child of the original Texas settlers, W.T. & Florence Reitmeyer, Austin & Bertha Tacquard, their daughter Anna Jean Heidorn, Raymond & Lydia Tacquard and Adelle Litolff. Also many thanks to all those who supplied current information on their families for the family "trees".

An attempt at accuracy was made but some of the information had to be interpreted from conflicting data. If you have more accurate information lets have it for next time, and we are sorry about any mistakes.

In 1965 Jean, Will and Janice Heidorn visited Vauthiermont, France and found it had apparently not changed much during the years. It was a farming community of a dozen or so homes. Farmers were using horse drawn wagons and pitching hay with pitch forks. The small church had beautiful stained glass windows and works of art such as sculptures and paintings. In the church yard were stones marking the graves of several members of the Tacquard family.

THE TACQUARD FAMILY

Jean Jacques Tacquard and Marie Anne Badaire were the parents of Jacques.

Nicholas Clauderz and Anne Eve Meuret were the parents of Catherine.

Jacques and Catherine were married and had three sons George, Henry and Jacques.

They were the only children of Jacques and Catherine Tacquard.

Extracts of the Baptismal records of the Parochial Church of Vauthiermont under the patronage of St. Anthony, Diocese of Argental France are as follows,

On the 29th day of October 1826, I the undersigned Pastor of the Parish of Vauthiermont have baptized George son of Jacques Tacquard and Catherine Clauderez, spouses living in this parish.

Signatures: George Carve
Marie Tacquard
Rev. Schirlin, Pastor

On this 19th day of December 1834, the undersigned Pastor of the Parish of Vauthiermont have baptized, Henri the son of Jacques Tacquard and Catherine Clauderez, spouses living in this parish.

Signatures: Henri Denier
Anna-Eve Prime
Rev. Jean Pierre, Pastor

On this 29th day of December 1836, I the undersigned Pastor of the Parish of Vauthiermont have baptised, Jacques George Hippolyte son of Jacques Tacquard and Catherine Clauderez, spouses living in this parish.

Signatures George Fetier
Francoise Prime
Rev. Vertz, Pastor

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In 1844 Henry Castro a Frenchman made the necessary arrangements with the President of the Republic of Texas to establish a colony on the banks of the Medina river about 25 miles West of San Antonio and named it Castroville.

Jacques, Catherine and their three sons were among the French families that joined Castro in his venture and they left France by sail boat and after a rough ~~two~~^{NINE} weeks voyage they arrived in Indianola then a very prominent sea port on the Gulf, but all of this port that remains today is a state marker on a small park on Highway 316 a few miles South East of Port Lavaca.

In due time the Tacquard's arrived in Castroville via wagon train, where they stayed for a while but combined with frontier hardships, Indian troubles and several drouths they decided to move to Galveston where a number of French families had settled, some settling on Highland Bayou, but the Tacquard's chose Galveston.

City life did not appeal to the three boys and they began looking over the coast country and decided on some land on Halls and Cloud Bayou known as the Cloud and Estes surveys which they purchased in 1862. George and Henry married soon after and built their homes on this land, but Jacques looked further and liked the Highland Bayou area, married and started his ranch.

From this point-as the saying goeth-the three acorns grew into very large trees as the following pages will demonstrate.