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Stork Grave

11260 Mayer Cemetery Rd., Burton
30° 04' 27.83" N – 96° 37' 46.27" W

Map # 196

Located on private property NW of the Burkhardt Cemetery

Stork, Phillip Peter, b. November 18, 1798, d. September 29, 1849, husband of:

1st Henriette Justine (Reck) Stork, 9/27/1803-12/17/1828, buried in Nassau, Germany,

2nd Maria Elizabeth (Paul) Stork, 10/14/1807-5/6/1837, buried in Nassau, Germany,

3rd Marie Karoline (Goeth) Stork, 10/23/1811-2/21/1896, buried LaBahia Cemetery,

Philipp Peter Stork and wife Marie Karoline, were German immigrants, that purchased land near Winedale, Texas in 1846. Philipp Peter, Karoline and their 6 children probably lived a happy but difficult life of a typical pioneer family in Texas. One of the greatest joys in their new homeland must have been the birth of their first "Texan," Adolph, born on February 9, 1849.

He was the only child born to Philipp Peter Stork in Texas. But their happiness was short lived, for just two years and nine months after the initial purchase of their land at Winedale, and just seven months after the birth of baby Adolph, the father and head of the family, Philipp Peter Stork, died on September 29, 1849, at the early age of 51. It was related by William Stork, eldest grandson of Philipp Peter, that Philipp Peter had died of "high fever." It most likely was yellow fever or "black water fever" an obsolete name for malaria. There was an epidemic of black water fever in the area in 1849.

As it was the law of the day that no person who had died of a contagious disease could be conveyed over a public road or be buried in a public cemetery, Philipp Peter was buried on his land about one-fourth mile from the location of his home. The victim also had to be buried within a few hours after death with only two relatives and the undertaker present. Philipp Peter was buried under a beautiful grove of cedar, black jack, and oak trees. He is the only person buried on this site. A tombstone was placed on his grave, and a fence built around the gravesite.

The gravesite has been maintained throughout the years.

(information is excerpted from "The Stork Family History"