

# Meyer Family



The Meyer family is able to trace its ancestry to 1798 with the birth of Johann Andreas Meyer (1798-1889), in Auhausen Oedigen in the kingdom of Bavaria, Germany.

Johann Andreas and his wife Anna Margaretha nee Spatz (1800-1877) had four sons and one daughter: Johann Friedrich (1822-1894); Johan Michael (b. 1837); Johan Andreas (b. 1837); Paul (no record of birth date); and Maria Margaretha Roth (1824).

Johann Friederich came to America alone and settled in Monroe. He was a wagon maker and a miller by trade, having learned the milling trade in his family's mill in Auhausen, Germany (which is still in operation as of 2005).

In 1855, when a salesman returned with the news that a miller was needed in Frankenmuth, Friedrich and his wife, Maria Barbara nee Schneider (1830-1916), who had come to Monroe after Friederich's arrival, packed up their belongings and took the boat from Monroe to Saginaw. There he contacted a teamster who hauled freight to Frankenmuth and inquired about transportation for himself and his goods to the Hubinger Mill.

When he introduced himself to Mr. Hubinger, he was informed that there was no job opening, but since Friederich and his wife were already in Frankenmuth, Mr. Hubinger took them in. Eventually Friederich got the job of miller, receiving wages of a dollar a day, while his wife worked for her room and board at the boarding house where Hubinger's Mill workers lived.

After working for some time as a miller, Friedrich purchased 40 acres for \$10 an acre. He and his wife erected a log cabin.

A five acre clearing on their land was fenced for pasture for their few cattle. Rather than give up his job to clear the land, he hired men from Tuscola to help him pull the stumps and make rail fences so he could put the whole farm under cultivation.

In 1855, Friedrich's three brothers, his sister, and his mother immigrated to America and arrived in Adrian, Michigan, where Friederich had first settled.

In the spring of 1856, Friederich visited them and persuaded them to follow him to Frankenmuth so that the family could remain together.

Friedrich's family consisted of two boys and three girls: Fred (b. 1856); Mary Margaret (b. 1858); Anna Mary (b. 1860); Elizabeth (b. 1864); John Jacob (b. 1866); and Johann Paulus (1861-1863).

John (1866-1939), the youngest living son, remained on the homestead and continued farming. He married Margretta Barbara nee Deuer, who had come from Germany and settled with close friends in Ohio. She met John while visiting friends in Frankenmuth.

John and Barbara's son Norman continued to farm until 1947 when he started his automobile sales and service. Norm and his wife Charlotte nee List continued ownership of the farm as of 2005.

Norman and Charlotte had four children: Tom, a pharmacist; Fred, a teacher; Barbara Krogsrud, a teacher; and David, an attorney.



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