

From what I could dig up, Francis Gerig, a native of Prussia, died in 1899 and is buried in the Presbyterian cemetery lot. He apparently was in active Confederate service most of the war years as a mature man, leaving his wife and large family of children (12 at one count) to mind the store and keep the chickens, I presume. He is listed as a member of Lyles Rifles (sponsored, I think, by my elderly 3rd great grandfather). The 1860 census shows his eldest son managing a store—most likely his father's. The accompanying newspaper article says the old Gerig store building predates the Civil War. In 1906, Postmaster Preston Rion reminisced about the Winnsboro of his remembrances. He describes the Gerig and Chandler harness shop as being in the middle of town and that Francis Gerig lived in the "Cathcart House (Cathcarts owned a lot of downtown real estate.)".

There was an influx of German townsmen in the mid 1800s and many of them were early store merchants, some Jewish Germans. Although Gerig must have frequented the Presbyterian church, he was likely a Prussian Jew, as there was no synagogue for 30 miles (Columbia was the closest) and many of the Jewish families married into our local Christian families. As close as anyone can tell, the holster must have been made in his harness shop.

I hope this gives you enough information for what you need. —Pelham Lyles

From: cartrdgbox@aol.com [<mailto:cartrdgbox@aol.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, April 27, 2011 6:09 PM

To: fairfieldmus@truvista.net

Subject: Fwd: walter budd-sc holster

Ms. Lyles,

Thank you for speaking to me yesterday about Francis Gerig. Please see the attached photos of the holster I was referring to. Any info that you can give me as to Mr. Gerig's career in Winnsboro would be appreciated, most importantly when he was in business, what business, and time of death. Anything that would establish that he was in business during the Civil War period in Winnsboro SC would be most appreciated. Thank you again for your courtesy, and my best regards, Michael D Kramer

HISTORY OF FAIRFIELD COUNTY

tenant; J. C. Bell, First Sergeant; H. McCormick, Second Sergeant; D. R. Elkins, Third Sergeant; J. B. Martin, Fourth Sergeant; J. W. Gladney, Fifth Sergeant; J. B. Hay, First Corporal; W. Pettigrew, Second Corporal; David Martin, Third Corporal; J. P. Gladney, Fourth Corporal; James Murphy, Fifth Corporal;

Privates

D. Aiken, W. Blair, W. Mc. Blair, C. Blair, J. W. Bush, J. Butler, W. T. Clarke, W. C. Crumpton, J. A. Counts, Josh Chappell, Henry H. Chappell, N. M. Clark, Z. B. Day, H. Dawkins, D. S. Douglas, G. Free, J. Free, H. Y. Gladney, J. B. Gladney, F. Griffin, J. Gelston, D. Glenn, W. Holley, J. B. many, A. F. Hodge, C. D. Hodge, C. Hunt, W. Kirkland, W. F. Hinnant, L. T. James, W. Long, H. C. Long, J. R. R. Murphy, Kirkland, W. W. Lyles, W. Long, H. C. Long, J. D. Moor, W. W. S. A. Murphy, J. Martin, H. Mulvanar, J. D. Moor, G. B. Mundle, T. Melts, W. Morgan, T. McGill, A. McConnell, J. W. McConnell, J. McMeekin, T. McMeekin, J. E. McMilling, J. P. Pearson, R. Parrott, J. H. Peticrew, R. F. Peake, T. M. Robin-son, D. B. Smith, P. H. Smith, J. A. Smith, J. Smith, J. P. Shedd, W. H. Shedd, J. H. Stanton, T. H. Smart, T. R. Wheat, J. Willingham, W. E. Willingham, A. Walker, T. I. Yarrow.

Buck Head Guards

Officers

E. J. Meuns, Captain; W. B. Lyles, First Lieutenant; R. S. Means, Second Lieutenant; J. F. V. Legg, Third Lieutenant; S. B. Clowney, First Sergeant; H. H. Berley, Second Lieutenant; A. J. McConnell, Third Sergeant; J. A. F. Coleman, Fourth Sergeant; R. H. Morris, Fifth Sergeant.

Privates

Allen, E. P.; Arnett, B. A.; Beam, A. T.; Burns, T. D.; Chapman, B. M.; Clarke, T. W.; Clarke, R. M.; Cockrel, J. H.; Coleman, H. J.; Coleman, H. A.; Coleman, F. D.; Coleman, G. W.; Counts, W. R.; Crow, W. M.; Dye, J. L. C.;

FAIRFIELD IN THE WARS

Grubbs, J.; Grubbs, A.; Halsell, P.; Hill, S. A.; Holby, Hooppaugh, W. A.; Hooppaugh, J. L.; Hunt, W. W.; Hutchinson, R. O.; Hutchinson, T. C.; Hutchinson, W. B.; Hutchins, J. S.; Jones, S. A.; Jones, W. S.; James, D. T.; Jennings, J. C. B.; Lemmon, J. M.; Levister, W. D.; Lyles, N. P.; Lyles, A. P.; Macon, W. H.; Mabry, W. R.; Mobley, C.; McLane, H. J.; Nevitt, J. R.; Norris, W. B.; Norris, N.; Osborne, J. R.; Owens, W. W.; Pearson, G. B.; Quinn, R. E.; Rochester, J.; Seymour, J.; Stanton, R. E.; Stevenson, J. Y.; Stevenson, S. W.; Stewart, W.; Stokes, W.; Street, W. A.; Shetland, F.; Traylor, T. W.; Varnadore, T.; Wright, J. D.; Yongue, C. B.

Roll of Co. B, (Lyles' Rifles)

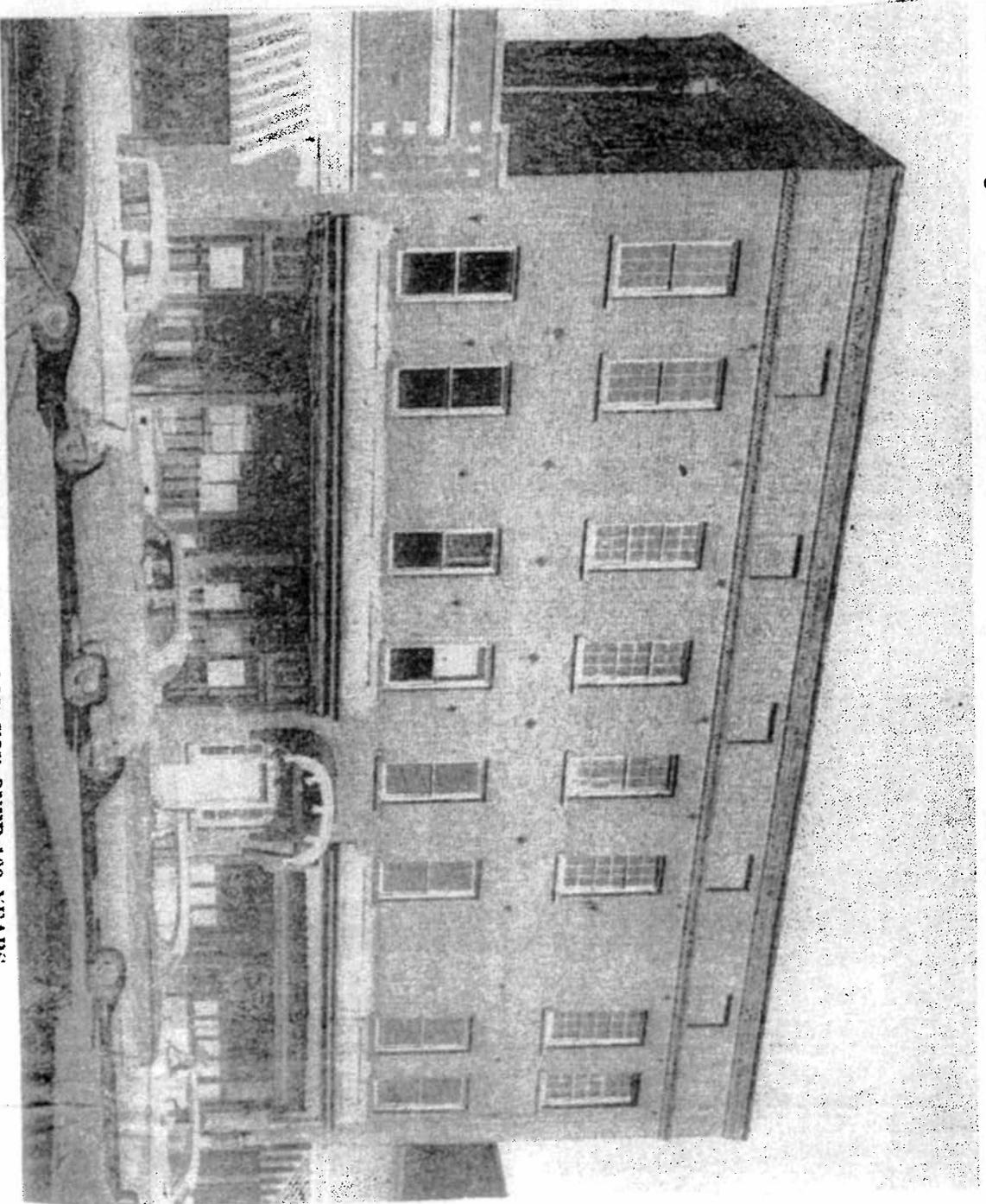
7th S. C. Battalion, as organized November, 1861, with recruits added:

James H. Rion, Captain; John R. Harrison, First Lieutenant; John L. Kennedy, Second Lieutenant; H. L. Isbell, Third Lieutenant; R. W. Kennedy, First Sergeant; S. H. Duke, Second Sergeant; Francis Gerig, Third Sergeant; Joel A. Smith, Fourth Sergeant; C. E. Gadsden; Jas. P. Cason, First Corporal; James Rabb, Second Corporal; H. O. Duke, Third Corporal; J. S. Tidwell, Fourth Corporal.

Privates

Abbott, Dan, 1; Abbott, John, 1; Abbott, Jesse, 1; Aiken, J. W.; Allen, James, 1; Bagley, W. A.; Broom, C. P. A., 1; Bookhart, A. G., 1; Boyd, John, 1; Bailey, J. A.; Barber, George; Barber, N. C.; Barber, Thos., 1; Blizzard, J.; Blizzard, J. A.; Blizzard, D. A.; Boney, Jno. T.; Black, L. D., 1; Brown, E. T.; Brown, Jno. S.; Brown, Jas. W., 1; Christinas, T. H.; Cloud, D. G.; Cloud, T. E.; Cook, Samuel H.; Cooper, W. J.; Cork, John; Crawford, S. L.; Crumpton, L. A.; Cohen, Morris; Cotton, Jos., 1; Crawford, Thos.; Crawford, D.; Crosby, Rufus; Crosby, Nevitt; Dawkins, Henry; Dickey, C. A., 1; Dunbar, Sam'l.; Dunbar, Henry; Dunlap, Peter; Dye, John; Douglas, S. W.; Eastler, Jas., 1; Eastler, John; Eastler, Alger; Estes, Wylie; Evins, William; Frasier, Dan; Faust, Jasper J.; Fields, Robt.; Glad-dan, Silas; Gladden, Jas.; Gladney, T. J., 1; Gibson, Harrison; Gunnell, J. S., 1; Hammon, H.; Hagood, Jos., 1; Hagood, G. W.; Hagood, Jeff., 1; Harrison, Eli; Harrison, J. E.; Harrison,

**Brick by Brick, the Century Old Gerig Building Winsboro's Main Street
Make Way for New Modern Stores on Winsboro's Main Street**



HISTORIC STRUCTURE AS IT HAS STOOD FOR OVER 100 YEARS

For several weeks now workmen have been carefully tearing down brick by brick, the ancient Gerig building that has graced Wins-



HISTORIC STRUCTURE AS IT HAS STOOD FOR OVER 100 YEARS

For several weeks now workmen have been carefully tearing down, brick by brick, the ancient Gerig building that has graced Winnsboro's Congress St. for more than a century. Within the next fortnight, perhaps, the structure will have been completely razed to make way for a modern one-story building which is to house a Ben Franklin variety store, a branch of a large and nationally-known chain. More details of the business, its operation and personnel will be carried in later issues of The News and Herald.

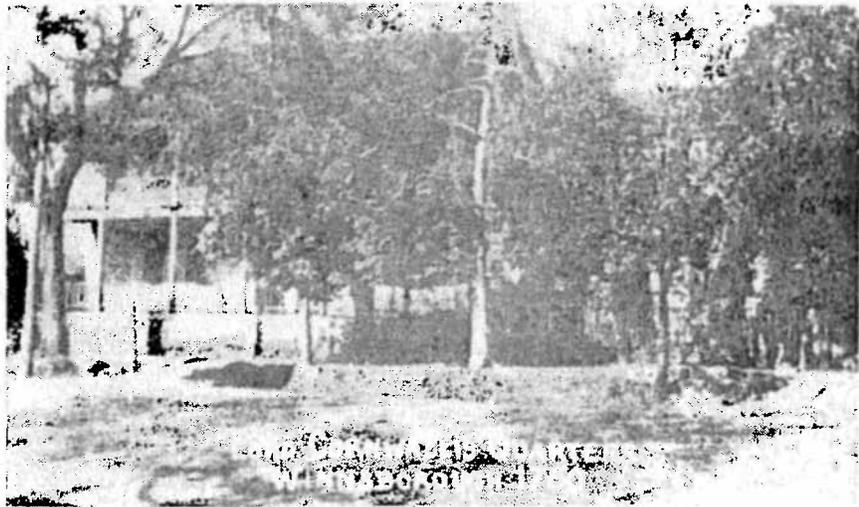
The building, which is now owned by the sons and daughters of the late John H. and Marian M. McMaster, is one of considerable interest to residents of Fairfield. The records do not show precisely when it was erected but it antedates the Confederate War and is probably approximately 110 years old.

Documents in the Fairfield county courthouse, meticulously kept by Clerk of Court W. W. Lewis, indicate that on Jan. 22, 1834, Robert Cathcart conveyed to David McDowell six lots in the heart of Winnsboro for a consideration of \$3,050, on and adjacent to the spot where the Gerig building now stands. But the building was almost certainly not thereon at that time. The records show, too, that Sailing Wolfe, in 1851, owned a lot or lots adjacent to the building.

On Dec. 5, 1865, one George M. Leventritt of New York City deeded to Francis Gerig both lot and building on this site, for a consideration of "\$3,000 in lawful money of the United States of America." (The war had ended hardly seven months earlier and the canny Yankee was taking no chances on discredited Confederate currency).

On May 15, 1924, the lot and building was conveyed from the estate of J. L. Kirkpatrick to Mar-

The Robinson Residence Where Cornwallis Stayed



Here you see a very early picture of the J. Roy Robinson residence on N. Zion Street, where, it is said, the British General, Lord Cornwallis, lived for a short time, when the Red Coats were in Winnsborough in 1780, encamped on the old Mount Zion campus.

Indications are the house was built about 1771 by Captain John Buchanan of Revolutionary War fame. In the intervening years, it has been remodeled a number of times. According to Julian S. Bolick's "A Fairfield Sketchbook," Captain Buchanan, who died in 1823, willed the property to his nephew, Gen. John Buchanan. Other owners included A. D. Hilliard, James E. Aiken, James B.

McCants, the Levi Bolick family; Elizabeth (Lizzie) Bolick Steven; latter sold it to J. Leonard Robinson.

J. Roy Robinson inherited the house from his father and he and Mrs. Robinson (former Lucy Atkinson) now live there. Mr. Bolick's "Sketchbook" in 1900 described "The historic and beautiful old house, a well-kept landmark, furnished with fine heirlooms, some perhaps as old as the ancient building that houses them."

The picture above is another in a series loaned by Mrs. H. B. McMaster (formerly Miss Bessie Moore).

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