



Hileman children take a buggy ride to school. Gugger Homestead in background, circa 1914.

9 Gugger Homestead

1881

Recorded Texas Historic Landmark - 2008

Arnold Gugger (1855-1928), son of Swiss-born Helotes pioneers Anton (1803-1881) and Marie Gugger (1819-1911), built this house, now the [Helotes Bicycle Shop](#), circa 1881 on 110 acres on the east bank of Helotes Creek. The location was ideal for his family homestead and for his general store and blacksmith shop. Arnold and wife Amalia “Mollie” (Benke) (1860-1921) raised their six children on the second floor. The Guggers sold the property to Wilbert “Bert” Hileman in 1908, and it has subsequently changed hands several times. The home has served as the Helotes Post Office twice, under postmasters Arnold Gugger (1888-1904) and Blanche Maltzberger (1944-1953).

The two-story limestone building features 18-inch thick, rough-course walls.

An L-shaped wood porch extends around the front and side of both stories. The stairs, now inside the building, were originally erected on the southside of the house.

In 1981, Hank Cunningham moved his bicycle shop, then located at Helotes Park Plaza to the homestead. The Helotes Bicycle Shop has been in business at this location for four decades.

