

## [Roger Miller](#)

**I just made a very significant find about our Gerig family in Alsace in the late 1700s. I will post it in the next day or two. Please read the following in preparation for that post. I have mixed feelings about sharing it. It will be "very" disconcerting and jarring for most people to read. I debated whether to keep it secret, but decided I can't. What follows is preparation for that post. The find centers around Moise (Moses) Gerig. The location of COTE D'ECHELY is key.**

That said what follows is interesting in its own right. Oddly enough, we have another hotel and a restaurant right where they may have lived.

I may have located where our Gerig family lived in the municipality of Saint Marie-aux-Mines prior to moving to the valley of Hang in 1774. It is a locale in the area called **COTE D'ECHELY**. Google maps reveals a single lane winding road with that name in the southwestern end of the town. The road is about 1/2 miles long along one side of a narrow valley. It in turn is located in the area of **LA PETITE LIEPRVE** where Jacob Amman settled with his earliest followers at the end of the 17th century (circa 1700). If you remember, Jacob Amman and most all of his followers left this area in 1712 following the order to expell the Anabaptists from France. It is interesting to find Moise (Moses) Gerig and possibly Christian Gerig in the same location 58 years later.

Christ (short for Christian?) Gerig mentions that Moise (Moses) Gerig is a farmer in **Cot d'Eschery** in 1770. See the footnote from a 1981 Mennonite Family History Journal article I attached below. The author of the article was focused on Moise Gerig and only mentions Christ Gerig in passing. Viewing the original journal note and/or the French document it was derived from would be informative. I assume Christ (Christian) Gerig lived in **Cot d'Eschery** as well. I included two photos of Cote D'Echery. One is of an old building at the entrance to the narrow road. The building is now a furniture store. I also included an aerial photo looking down on a hotel and restaurant looking over the area of Cote D'Eschery. Is this the area that both Christian and his brother Jean (Hans) Gerig and Moise (if he is their brother) were born and raised? If and/or how we are related to Moise Gerig is going to be very important to know!

<sup>24</sup> Birth of Christen Joder on March 10, 1750, witnessed by Mosy Gerrig in *Belfordt: Register der Gemeind von Lamä*, published by Association Francaise d'Histoire Anabaptiste Mennonite. Moise Gerig, farmer in 1770 at le Cot d'Eschery near Ste. Marie-aux-Mines, mentioned in record of application by Christ Gerig in Archives du Haut-Rhin, E. 2014, copied in manuscript notes of Charles Mathiot, p. 117. A photocopy is in the files of the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society.



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*Moses Gerig & possibly Christian Gerig II lived on farms here perhaps on this road??*

Burger Rodolphe

Hostellerie Les Bagennes - Brasserie...

*Jacob Amman settled here with his early followers circa 1700*

LA PETITE LIEPVRE

Côte D'Echery

Petite Liepvre

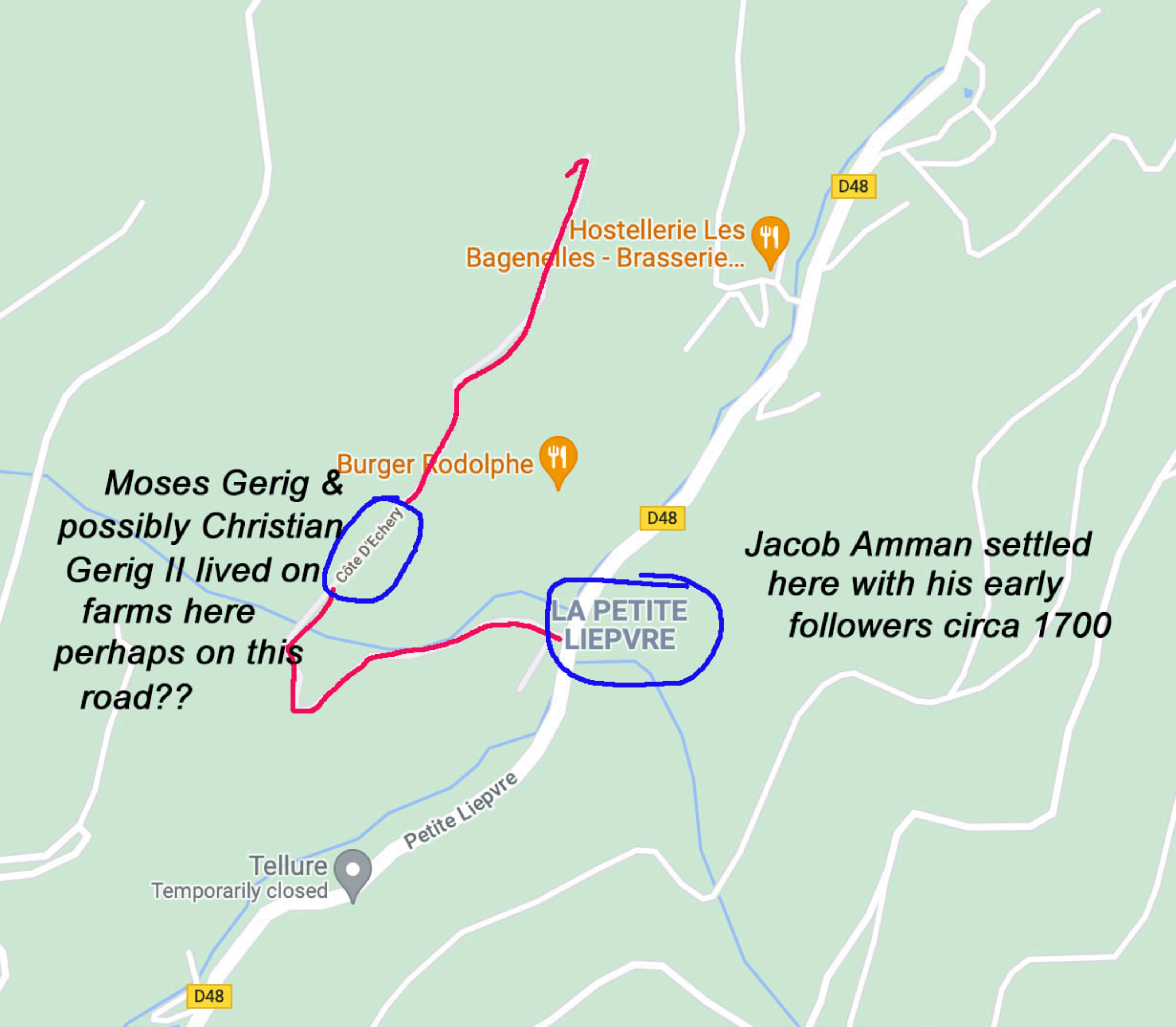
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An aerial photograph of a mountain resort. The central focus is a large, multi-story building with a brown roof and light-colored walls, identified as the 'Hotel & Restaurant'. To its right is a smaller, single-story building with a similar roof. A paved parking area in the foreground contains several vehicles, including a white van, a white car, and a grey car. A green playground structure is visible in the lower right. The resort is situated in a valley with rolling green hills and dense forests. In the background, more mountains are visible under a blue sky with scattered white clouds. The text 'COTE D'ECHERY' is overlaid in the center of the image, and 'Hotel & Restaurant' is overlaid on the main building.

*COTE D'ECHERY*

*Hotel & Restaurant*



Furniture Store

Cote D'Echery single lane road  
about a half-mile long

Petite Liepvre Road

Google