

SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA GENEALOGICAL  
SOCIETY, INC.

# KINFOLKS

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1996



**SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.** is a non-profit, educational organization, organized in 1973 to gather, process and preserve genealogical material. Its objectives are to promote interest in genealogy, to encourage and assist its members in genealogical research, and to conduct such subsidiary projects as shall contribute to that end. SWLGS was incorporated in 1991. The Society does not maintain an office. Telephone numbers listed in KINFOLKS are private numbers. All work is done by volunteers.

**MEMBERSHIP** per calendar year is: \$12 - individuals, \$17 - families (husband and wife) and \$22 - patrons (individual or husband and wife) provides additional financial support. Membership begins in January each year and includes an annual subscription to KINFOLKS. Members joining after January will receive quarterlies for the current year. Correspondence and dues should be sent to SWLGS, P. O. Box 5652, Lake Charles, LA 70606-5652.

**SWLGS** holds its regular meetings on the 3rd Saturday of January, March, May, September and November at 10:00 A.M. in the Calcasieu Health Unit Auditorium, 721 E. Prien Lake Road (corner of Prien Lake Road and Kirkman St.), Lake Charles, LA. Programs include a variety of topics to instruct and interest genealogists. Seminars are held bi-annually.

**KINFOLKS** is published quarterly. Issues should be received by the middle of March, May, September and December. Please return the complete issue for replacement if any pages are missing. Notify the SWLGS of a change of address as soon as possible. Queries are free to members, \$2 for non-members. Single issues are \$4.00. Back issues are available from 1977. Advertising rates are available upon request. KINFOLKS is indexed in the Periodical Source Index (PERSI), Fort Wayne, IN. and Genealogical Periodical Annual Index.

**EDITORIAL POLICY** - We encourage and welcome contributions for inclusion in KINFOLKS, especially unpublished material pertaining to southwest Louisiana. However, we will accept genealogical material referring to other areas. We strive to publish only reliable genealogical information, but neither the SWLGS nor the editors assume responsibility for accuracy of fact or opinion expressed by contributors. Articles are written by the editor unless otherwise specified. We reserve the right to edit and/or reject material not suitable for publication. Articles and queries will be included as space permits. Please send contributions directly to the editor, BETTY ROSTEET, 2801 St. Francis St., Sulphur, LA 70663, phone 318/625-4740. Permission is granted to republish information from KINFOLKS, provided the SWLGS and the author or compiler (if identified) is given due credit.

**SOCIETY LIBRARY** is in the home of SWLGS Librarian, YVONNE GUIDROZ, 2202 21st St., Lake Charles, LA, phone 477-4787. Library hours are from 5:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. on Mondays. To assure your selection is available, consult the society book list (Vol. 19 No. 1, 1995), then call for an appointment. **DO NOT DROP IN!** Our collection is in a private home and we request your consideration and cooperation. Please be prompt in returning books. Fines on overdue books are 10¢ per day. Books cannot be mailed.

**BOOK REVIEWS** - Books donated by the author or publisher will be reviewed in KINFOLKS, and will then be placed in the Society's library or in the genealogical collection of the Calcasieu Parish Library.

## SOCIETY NEWS

### SEPTEMBER MEETING

The September Meeting will be held on Saturday, September 21, at 10:00 a.m. in the Calcasieu Health Unit Auditorium, 721 E. Prien Lake Rd. (corner of Prien Lake Rd. and Kirkman Street), Lake Charles, LA.

The program will be presented by DON C. MARLER of Woodville, TX. His topic will be "The Neutral Zone: Backdoor of the U.S."

Mr. MARLER is the owner of Dogwood Press and will have some of his books for sale; especially those relating to the Melungeons and southwest Louisiana.

Fellowship and coffee begin at 9:30 a.m. JOIN US!!!

Guests are welcome.

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### NEW MEMBERS

1062. BRENDA BROWN FUSELIER, 308 Louie Dr., Lafayette, LA 70503-3324  
1063. RONALD W. BOULLION, 795 Sioux Dr., Lake Charles, LA 70611-3841  
1064. JOHANNIE DEAN, 110 Champions Dr. #422, Lufkin, TX 75901-7325  
1065/66. WAYNE & MARGARET MOORE, 5307 Goos Ferry Rd., Lake Charles, LA 70615  
1067/68. WILFRED & EARLINE BOULLION, 3055 Nanna St., Lake Charles, LA 70615  
1069/70. JOHN & KATHLEEN MILLER HORNUNG, 2624 Mountain Laurel Pl, Reston,  
VA 22091-2019  
1071. MALENA McDANIEL STELLY, 605 N. 7th St., Silsbee, TX 77656-4019  
1072. GLENDA JACKSON REED, 5 Buckner Cir., Ft. McClellan, AL 36205-4400  
1073. JENIFER DUGAS ANDERSON, 404 Pecan St., Sulphur, LA 70663-4926  
1074. SHIRLEY E. PULVER, 2990 Flora Rd., Lake Charles, LA 70607-9117  
1075. MARY ALICE FOSTER DUHON, 1022 Gulf Ln., Sulphur, LA 70663-7064  
1076/77. FREDERICK & BRENDA MARLIN COLLIGAN, 4002 Lettie St., Sulphur, LA  
70663-8358

Membership to Date - 447

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### SOCIETY LIBRARY ADDITIONS

Southwest Louisiana Records, Volume 1-A (1750-1800) Complete Revision  
by Rev. Donald J. Hebert  
Records of Indentured Servants and of Certificates for Land, Northumberland  
Co., VA 1650-1795, compiled by W. Preston Haynie  
The Settlers of the Beekman Patent, Dutchess County, New York, Volume I  
by Frank J. Doherty  
The Neutral Zone: Backdoor to the United States by Don C. Marler

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- SEPTEMBER 21** Saturday - **SWLGS REGULAR MEETING - 10:00 a.m.**  
**CALCASTEU HEALTH UNIT AUDITORIUM, 621 E. PRIEN LAKE RD., LC**  
**PROGRAM - "THE NEUTRAL ZONE: BACKDOOR OF THE U. S."**  
**SPEAKER - DON C. MARLER OF WOODVILLE, TX.**
- OCTOBER 5** "Founders of Natchitoches" 16th Annual Conference  
 Holiday Inn, Hwy 1 By-Pass, Natchitoches, LA - 8 to 4  
 Speakers - Dr. N. BRENT KENNEDY, noted Melungeon researcher  
 (morning session), DANIEL GRAVES AND DR. TOMMY G. JOHNSON.  
 Registration \$10, Lunch \$10 - send to Betty Jones, Secretary-  
 Treasurer, PO Box 411, Natchitoches, LA 71458-0411
- OCTOBER 26** Fall Seminar, Houston Genealogical Forum  
 Speaker - GAYLE WILLIAMS BATTAN
- NOVEMBER 16** **SATURDAY - SWLGS REGULAR MEETING - 10:00 a.m.**  
**CALCASTEU HEALTH UNIT AUDITORIUM, 621 E. PRIEN LAKE RD., LC**  
**PROGRAM - TO BE ANNOUNCED**

1997

- APRIL 26** Louisiana Genealogical & Historical Society Annual Seminar  
 Speaker - MARALYN A. WELLAUER of Milwaukee, WI  
 Topics - Immigration, German and Swiss Research
- MAY 7-10** NGS Conference in the States. Valley Forge, Pennsylvania

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### WANTED - HEBERT BOOKS

Wanted to buy: Southwest Louisiana Records, Vol. 1 and 2 (Original volumes),  
 Vol. 25 and 27 by Rev. Donald J. Hebert.  
 SHIRLEY SMITH, 1033 Audubon St., Lake Charles, LA 70605 (318/478-8845)

Wanted to buy: Southwest Louisiana Records, Vol. 2 (1811-1830) (Original  
 volume) by Rev. Donald J. Hebert.  
 MELBA LeBERT, 5000 Leon Dr. #83, Lake Charles, LA 70605 (318/474-2789)

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## BOOK ANNOUNCEMENT

One of our members, W. T. BLOCK, PO Box 62, Nederland, TX 77627, announces the publication of his new book, Early Sawmill Towns of the Louisiana-Texas Borderlands. This book includes information on sawmill towns, such as DeRidder, Bon Ami, Longville, Oakdale, etc. Mr. BLOCK is the author of several other books, including three volumes of East Texas Mill Towns and Ghost Towns; Sour Lake, Texas: From Mud Baths to Millionaires; Cotton Bales, Keelboats and Sternwheelers: A History of the Sabine and Trinity River Cotton Trades. Some of Mr. BLOCK's books will be for sale at our September meeting through Dogwood Press.



## ANCESTOR CHARTS AND TABLES, VOLUME V - 1997

In 1994, SWLGS published "Ancestor Charts and Tables, Vol. IV." It is now time to begin work on Vol. V so that our members can share their research with other genealogists. This publication will be a continuation of "Ancestor Charts", Vol. I (1985), "Ancestor Charts and Tables", Vol. II (1988), Vol. III (1991), and Vol. IV (1994). It will contain new, as well as revised information.

INDIVIDUAL members may submit only one five-generation ancestor chart or an Ahnentafel (Table of Direct Ancestors) for the appropriate two generations. PATRON and FAMILY members may submit one five-generation chart or an Ahnentafel of two generations each for the husband and wife. If you have an individual membership and wish your spouse's chart to be included in this publication, you may upgrade your membership to a family or patron membership. We will not include charts for deceased or inactive members, so be sure your dues are current for 1997. Deadline for submitting your charts or Ahnentafels is April 1, 1997. As all charts and tables are re-typed for the publication, it is urgent that we receive them as soon as possible.

If you do not wish your chart to be published, please notify us in writing immediately.

Members whose five-generation charts did not appear in Vol. I, II, III or IV, may submit their chart for our new publication.

Members whose five-generation charts were included in previous volumes may submit information on two additional generations of ancestors by using an Ahnentafel or Table of Direct Ancestors format. This table contains the same information as an ancestor chart, but the data is listed in vertical or tabular form to conserve space.

If your five-generation chart was published in Vol. IV, you may submit your sixth and seventh generations of ancestors; if your sixth and seventh generations were published, you may submit your eighth and ninth generations; if your eighth and ninth were published, you may submit your tenth and eleventh; if your tenth and eleventh were published, you may submit your twelfth and thirteenth. Use the Ahnentafel or Direct Table of Ancestors format for this information.

The numbering system is the same for both chart and table forms. The father's number is always twice that of the child. The mother's number is double the child's number plus 1. The numbers are as follows:

1.	First	generation
2. and 3.	Second	generation (parents)
4. - 7.	Third	generation (grandparents)
8. - 15.	Fourth	generation (great-grandparents)
16. - 31.	Fifth	generation (great-great grandparents)
32. - 63.	Sixth	generation
64. - 127.	Seventh	generation
128. - 255	Eighth	generation
256. - 511.	Ninth	generation

512.	- 1023.	Tenth	generation
1024.	- 2047.	Eleventh	generation
2048.	- 4095.	Twelfth	generation
4096.	- 8191.	Thirteenth	generation

Please use the following rules when submitting information:

- (1) Type or write legibly (or print) in black ink.
- (2) Give exact dates if known; if unknown, give an approximate time period (circa; ca).
- (3) Give exact location, if known; if unknown, give state or country.
- (4) Use maiden names of women.

If you are submitting an Ahnentafel (Table of Direct Ancestors), please use the following form:

- (1) Use 1" margins at top and bottom of page, left and right margins.
- (2) Use single space if typing.
- (3) Write or type in this order: member's number (can be found on address label), member's name and member's address.
- (4) Generation number. (Example, Sixth Generation).
- (5) Ancestor's number: ancestor's surname in capital letters, given name; date and place of birth; date and place of death; for males only, date and place of marriage (Example: 246. BROWN, John, b. 4 Dec. 1803, Charleston, SC; d. 17 Feb. 1857, New Orleans, LA; m. 29 Sept. 1824, Atlanta, GA).
- (6) Number and name of wife, surname in capital letters, given name; date and place of birth; date and place of death. (example: see above).
- (7) Continue for each generation.
- (8) After each generation skip a line and write the number of the next generation. (Example, after the Sixth Generation is completed, skip a line and write Seventh Generation).
- (9) Continue for each generation.
- (10) On each succeeding page, write or type your member number and page number and your name. (Example, Member #44-2, PATRICIA DELAUNE HUFFAKER).
- (11) For ancestors whose names are unknown, list ancestor numbers, then unknown. (Example, 102-177, Unknown).
- (12) When ancestors names are repeated - 422. BROWN, John -  
Use Same as #246.

The generations you need to submit are shown next to your name on the address label of your current KINFOLKS.

This publication is a fund raiser for the SWGLS. Selling price will depend on member response and publication cost. Information on publication date will be included in KINFOLKS' first issue of 1997.

Please submit your charts or Ahnentafels (Table of Direct Ancestors) as soon as possible to SWGLS, PO Box 5652, Lake Charles, LA 70606-5652, or to PAT HUFFAKER, ROSIE NEWHOUSE, or BETTY ROSTEET. Any questions concerning charts, Ahnentafels and our publication should be directed to Pat (477-3087), Rosie (436-9970) or Betty (625-4740).



## MAY PROGRAM

JAMES R. ANDRUS, Clerk of Court for Calcasieu Parish, spoke to the members of the SWLGS at the May meeting. Mr. ANDRUS said that virtually all of us will have some document recorded in the Clerk's office, as will our ancestors. Therefore, the records in the Clerk's office are a prime source for researchers.

According to the Louisiana State Constitution, each parish shall have an office for the Clerk of the District Court, except for the Parish of Orleans. Elected every four years, the Clerk of Court is the custodian of all court records, the recorder of deeds, a member of the Jury Commission, the chief election official of the parish and custodian of voting machines. Marriage licenses are issued from this office. It is the responsibility of the Clerk's office to file, store, retain and preserve all public records and documents.

Mr. ANDRUS reminded us that research of Calcasieu Parish records was basically limited to records created after 1910, the year when a fire destroyed almost all of the existing civil and church records of the area. His office has put records for the last ten years on computer, and will, hopefully, computerize the previous years' records sometime in the future.

The Clerk's office is not tax supported, but operates from the money the office makes. At present the Calcasieu Clerk of Court's office employs seventy-five people. Mr. ANDRUS stated that the Louisiana State Legislature dictates the fees charged, salary of the Clerk of Court, and the holidays observed.

A wide variety of records, documents and original instruments can be found at the Clerk's office. Among them are the following:

ADOPTIONS (not available to public; sealed, must get a waiver from court to see.)

AUTOPSY RECORDS

BIRTH RECORDS (Although Louisiana law requires births to be registered by the Bureau of Vital Statistics, some births are recorded in the Clerk's office. These include children born to area servicemen serving overseas.)

BOND BOOKS (bonds posted by public officials)

CHARTERS and PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS

CHATTEL MORTGAGES (on movable property)

CIVIL SUITS (lawsuits involving separation and divorce, property, damages for money judgments, evictions, etc.)

CORPORATE RECORDS

COURT MINUTES (typed record of every proceeding held in open court before a judge)

CONVEYANCES (sales and transfer of property; includes exchanges, judgments, partitions, leases for oil, gas and other minerals, rights-of-way, royalty deeds, mineral sales, boundary agreements, etc.)

CRIMINAL RECORDS (includes everything from driver's violations to murder)

DEATH CERTIFICATES (Although Louisiana requires deaths to be registered with the Bureau of Vital Statistics, a few death certificates are recorded in the Clerk's office.)

DONATIONS (usually of land)

**INQUESTS & CORONERS BOOK**

**JURY LISTS**

**JUVENILE RECORDS** (criminal neglect of family charges; juvenile criminal records; not open to the public)

**LAND RECORDS** (mortgages, liens, judgments, etc.)

**LAWSUITS** (civil records)

**MARRIAGE RECORDS** (applications for license and certificates of marriage.

Some marriages which took place in foreign countries by servicemen are also filed here. Only a driver's license is required for identification, and medical certificates are no longer necessary. Other documents may be found which provide age requirements.)

**MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS** (a variety of documents, including agreements, contracts, powers of attorney, renunciations of usufruct, releases, etc.)

**MORTGAGE RECORDS** (on immovable property)

**NOTORIAL ADOPTIONS** (adoptions of persons over 17)

**OATH BOOKS** (oaths by public officials)

**PLAT BOOKS** (maps of original surveys and subdivisions)

**REGISTER OF TRADE MARKS**

**SERVICE DISCHARGES**

**SHERIFF SALES RECORDS**

**SUCCESSIONS** (all probate records, including tutorships, etc.)

**WILLS**

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**RUMMAGING THROUGH OLD ST. LANDRY CIVIL PARISH RECORDS**

By KEITH P. FONTENOT, Archivist

St. Landry Parish Court House, Opelousas, LA 70570

This article hopefully offers illumination to the genealogist and researcher who are perplexed by the myriad primary record series deposited in the local courthouse. In addition, calligraphy, foreign language, non-standard spelling, archaic chronological abbreviations, and the instrument's intent exacerbate the problems. In essence, the area's rich historical and multi-cultural heritage have produced a unique entity, but have placed numerous brick walls for the modern researcher.

The foreign language pitfall presents a serious impediment, for countless documents were written in French, and some were inscribed in Spanish. The language problem, in fact, produced a name trap game, for the investigator must be cognizant of surnames, cognomens and given names in English, French and Spanish.

Instrument type, like a foreign language, can be rather enigmatic to a novice researcher, but instruments do offer continuity between the past and present. These acts are rather consistent, for human beings sold, purchased and mortgaged property in the 18th century as well as in the present time. The investigator, therefore, must be knowledgeable regarding instrument function, purpose and intent. He or she must differentiate between a cash sale, mortgage sale, procuration, extract of inventory and other acts deposited within a local governmental repository.

The acts deposited in the St. Landry Parish Clerk of Court's Office reflect the parish's rich and diverse history. St. Landry Parish, formed in 1807



as one of Louisiana's original parishes, encompassed most of southwest Louisiana prior to 1840, and was an economic, political and cultural crossroads for the European colonial powers competing for political and economic influence in the old American Southwest.(1) Earlier, however, in the 1760's the Spanish colonial empire established the Opelousas Post to protect its northern Caribbean frontier. The post did not hinder foreign encroachment, but rather its fertile soil and climate attracted Frenchmen, Spaniards, Anglo-Americans, and other ethnic groups to the old Spanish borderland frontier. In short, the Opelousas Post and St. Landry Parish records rival those of New Orleans and Mobile in their significance in the development of the Gulf Coast region as a borderland contested by the three major European colonial powers.(2)

The existing archival records deposited in the St. Landry Parish Clerk of Court's archives represent the region's economic life and unique cultural diversity. The Clerk's archival holdings include not only present day St. Landry Parish, but records representing the area which now includes Acadia, Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron, Evangeline and Jefferson Davis. Therefore, it is not the history of one parish, but rather most of Southwestern Louisiana deposited within the Clerk's archives.

Thus the following record series are contained in the Clerk's office and are an invaluable resource to a researcher or family historian.

#### **BOND (1847-Present)**

An obligation made binding by money forfeit. This is a contingent liability for the faithful performance of certain duties or actions. The monetary obligation becomes actualized by forfeiture, since there is a breach of legal responsibility. At this time, the principal and surety must fulfill the bond's stipulations and pay monetary compensation to the holder.

#### **CHARTER (1914-Present)**

A written instrument that creates and defines franchises of a city, educational, ecclesiastical, corporation or non-profit institution.

#### **CIVIL SUIT (1813-Present)**

This includes litigation whereby an individual seeks redress for a grievance before a tribunal. Divorce, property disputes, parentage, debts and other actions are brought before the court.

#### **CONVEYANCES (1805-Present)**

Instruments by which title is transferred from a person or party to another for monetary consideration. Historically, this has included real estate, chattels, slave emancipations, non-pecuniary judgments and other acts. Cash sales, credit sales and sheriff deeds are but a few instruments found in this record group. Conveyances are also referred to as **alienation**, especially in the 19th century.

#### **CORONER INQUEST (1855-1966)**

An inquiry or examination into the cause of any death where there is a reason to suppose that the death is not due to natural causes.

#### **DONATION (1827-Present)**

A conveyance as a gift, not entailing monetary consideration. Donations

are indexed in a separate index as well as in the conveyances. This series contains all donated real estate, chattels, marriage contracts and last wills and testaments. The donation group should be considered as part of the conveyance records.

#### **IMMIGRATION (1823-1912)**

These documents record an alien's entry into the U.S., applications for U. S. citizenship and oath of allegiance. Sometimes this series gives an immigrant's departure point and birthplace. Prior to 1900, the district court minutes contain immigration information.

#### **LIVESTOCK BRANDS (1854-1940)**

A catalogue of hot-iron brands or ear marks used to identify livestock.

#### **MARRIAGE LICENSE (1807-Present)**

This record series establishes according to law the community of acquits and gains which exist until death or divorce. The marriage record in some cases, but not all, provides parentage, which is critical for family history research. The marriages from 1807-1865 provide this information, but it was deleted from the series for the years 1865-1912. The post-1912 licenses contain parentage, age, birthplace, educational achievement and previous marriages.

#### **MINERAL LEASE (1920-Present)**

A contract by which one conveys minerals or exclusive rights to a second party for a specific rent regarding exploration or production.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS BOOKS (1854-1964)**

The miscellaneous record is in essence part of the conveyances; although a heterogenous collection, they supplement the latter. The rationale for this series was not to clutter the conveyances with sundry items. These vital records should not be denigrated since they form an important part of the parish's notarial history. This collection contains: charters, tax lists, cancellations, power of attorney, quit-claims, agreements, last wills and testaments, chattel conveyances and other acts.

#### **MORTGAGE (1827-Present)**

A conveyance of property (as for security on a loan) on the condition that the conveyance becomes void on payment or performance according to the terms. These include legal, judicial and conventional encumbrances.

#### **NOTARIAL BOOKS (1818-1850)**

The early St. Landry notarial records were rather a chaotic collection prior to 1846. In fact, there was no parish recorder or central repository; and each notary, during this era, kept a separate set of acts passed before him. This series includes: marriage contracts, conveyances, agreements, building contracts and other instruments.

#### **OATH BOOK (1904-Present)**

The Clerk of Court records all oaths for local public officials. This includes public board members, parish and city officials, notaries and any commission issued by the Governor of Louisiana for public office.



**PROBATE (1807-Present)**

This record series is the mother lode for family and real estate history. The probate, in general, is a judicial process whereby the state district court or probate court directs the supervision, disposition and subsequent transfer of the decedent's property to the legal heirs. This document group, although historically referred to by other various titles, primarily relates to property--both real and chattel, tutorship, and in short, inheritance.

**SHERIFF DEED [SALE] (1810-1924)**

A conveyance whereby the sheriff, by virtue of a court order, seizes an individual's property and conveys it at a public sale to satisfy an outstanding debt of encumbrance.

**TAX SALE (1920-Present)**

A conveyance whereby an individual's property is sold by a public official for delinquent property taxes. These acts are indexed in conveyances.

**VETERAN BOOK (DD214)**

A listing of all individuals who have been honorably discharged from the Armed Forces of the U.S.A. This record series dates from World War I to the present time.

**VOTER REGISTRATION BOOK OF 1898**

This record lists the voter's age, nativity, race, residence, occupation, time in the state of Louisiana, year born and the name of the voter's father or grandfather.

The above record series illuminates the researcher's pathway, but there are various documents deposited in the clerk's archives which are of interest to the genealogist, historian and to the general public. Such a vital series are the 18th century Opelousas Post documents, which compose an invaluable record collection, and in short, constitute an important facet of colonial Louisiana. This record series contains land sales, probates, chattel conveyances, marriage contracts and Spanish land grants.

A colonial land concession or patent in **form** was a real estate grant from the colonial governor to an inhabitant. This can be best illustrated by Governor GALVEZ's concession to an Opelousas Post resident. Don BERNARDO de GALVEZ, Governor, Treasurer and Inspector General of the Province of Louisiana, on behalf of King Carlos III of Spain, at New Orleans, on the second day of August 1781, grants a twenty by forty arpent land concession located on the northern side of Bayou Courtableau, near the present town of Washington, Louisiana to JOHN GRADENIGO.(3) This land grant reflects severance from the sovereign to an individual, and in essence was the basis for private real estate ownership.

This private ownership is subsequently reflected in land conveyances between individuals. A February 11, 1786 land sale, for example, in the Grand Prairie of Opelousas illustrates this point, for JOSEPH LaROSE FONTENOT conveys to BAPTISTE DESMARETS an eighteen by twenty arpents tract. The sale was made for consideration of one hundred piasters. There was an additional stipulation that Mr. FONTENOT would construct a large house by the fifteenth of March next on the property. The sale was made payable in money or marketable tobacco next November.(4)

The reference to marketable tobacco illustrates the need to transport this cash crop to market. A May 30, 1789 barge construction contract demonstrated the requirement for conveying colonial staple crops to New Orleans. WILLIAM SNODDEY, the contractor, engages to construct for the sum of three hundred piasters, a barge or narrow boat thirty-nine feet in length by eight feet in width. The craft was to be delivered to DAVID LEJEUNE by next Easter in Bayou Crocodile.(5)

The various record series, moreover, depict different entrepreneurial activities engaged in by free people of color in St. Landry Parish. An 1829 butcher shop partnership reflects HENRY GIRON (free man of color), JOSEPH GRADENIGO (free man of color), EUGENE LEDOUX and ANTOINE DIAVILLE contract to form a partnership for operating a butcher shop in the Town of Opelousas and its vicinity. The various articles specify the business operation and the responsibilities and rights of each partner in the slaughter house's operation and management.(6)

Similarly, other creoles of color engaged in other businesses and trades and formed a vital fact of St. Landry Parish's antebellum economy. MELLON THIERRY, VALMONT GRADENIGO and MATTHEW JADOIN, all free persons of color, were engaged in the carpentry and house joiners trade. In 1840 these individuals, under the name of MELLON THIERRY and Co., instituted litigation against JEAN DUBORDIEU, for non-payment of sixty-nine dollars and fifty cents for materials, service and labor rendered by the plaintiffs.(7)

Later, during the post Civil War era, Afro-Americans established their own separate churches and organizations to meet their people's needs. In 1877, the Independent Colored Benevolent Association was established to care for the sick, assist in burying the dead and assist destitute members of the association. In short, this altruistic society formed an important element in the parish's black community during this era.(8)

In conclusion, the Afro-American community, French creoles, Anglo-Americans and other ethnic groups fused to produce a unique heritage atypical of the U.S. and the American Nation. The researcher, moreover, enters an historical realm where the quill pen and gall ink are the word processors, not the computer and laser jet printer. The handwriting resembles ancient Etruscan script rather than modern English; and in short, the investigator quickly ascertains that the old records do not readily give up their secrets. Finally, this article serves as a guide post to assist the researcher in charting the best course for exploiting and utilizing local archival records.

#### NOTES

1. William J. Sandoz, "A Brief History of St. Landry Parish", La. Historical Quarterly, Vol. 8, 1925. The Parish of St. Landry had originally been established in 1805 by the Legislative Council, Territory of Orleans, as the County of Opelousas.
2. Alexander Decode, This Affair of Louisiana. (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1976), p. 22.
3. Don Bernardo de Galvez to Juan Gradnegio, Land Grant dated August 2, 1781, St. Landry Parish Clerk of Court Archives, Microfilm #3.
4. Land Sale, Joseph Larose Fontenot to Baptiste Desmarests, February 11, 1786, St. Landry Parish Clerk of Court Archives, Microfilm #131.



5. Barge Construction Contract, May 30, 1789, William Snoddey and David Lejeune, St. Landry Parish Clerk of Court Archives, Microfilm #OP 186.
6. Partnership agreement between Eugene Ledoux, Antoine Diaville, Henry Giron, F.M.C. and Joseph Gradenigo, F.M.C., to form a butcher shop in the Town of Opelousas, April 21, 1829. Labyche Acts, Notary Book C, P. 252. Microfilm #8707. St. Landry Parish Clerk of Court Archives.
7. Mellon Thierry and Company vs Jean Dubordieu, May 6, 1840, St. Landry Parish District Court Suit, #2976. Judge Henry Boyce rendered the following judgment: "The cost having been paid, and this cause settled to the satisfaction of the parties, it is ordered that this suit be dismissed". Done and signed in open court this ninth day of June 1840.
8. Independent Colored Benevolent Association, Act of Incorporation, Oct. 1, 1877, St. Landry Clerk of Court Archives, Miscellaneous Book 6, pp. 472-473. #15656.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Mr. Keith Fontenot has graciously given KINFOLKS permission to reprint the preceeding article, which originally appeared in the Louisiana Genealogical Register, Vol. XLI #3, Sept. 1994. Although the article deals with records found in the Opelousas Courthouse, it demonstrates the variety of resources and documents available to researchers in other court house records.

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### CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN VIRGINIA

In the colony of Virginia there was no separation between church and state. The Church of England was the state church of Virginia. Under the established church the parish vestry had civil as well as religious functions.

All children, regardless of religious affiliation, were required to be baptized by Episcopal ministers. Their names, dates of birth and baptism, and the names of their parents are recorded in the parish registers.

The most important civil function of the church was the yearly "processioning" or going over the lands in the parish to determine the ownership and bounds of every tract. These results were recorded in the processioners book. One purpose of this practice was to see how much land each owner had, so as to determine how much tax he should pay the parish to provide poor relief and care of orphans, which was the welfare system of those days.

After the Anglican church was disestablished in Virginia in 1786, the function of processioning was assumed by the county. The custom of processioning was also carried into Kentucky.

The church records that have survived are preserved at the Virginia State Library at Richmond. Some processioning records exist for early Virginia and Kentucky counties. Some of these records have been extracted and printed.

SOURCE: "Bluegrass Roots", Kentucky Gen. Soc., Vol. 19 No. 2, Summer 1992; "Victoria-Crossroads of S. Texas", Victoria Co., TX Gen. Soc., Vol. XIII No. 3.

# **RITCHIE CEMETERY**

Surveyed 12 September 1994 by ROBERT LaLANNE - Member #878

The Ritchie Cemetery is located on South Perkins Ferry Rd. in Moss Bluff, LA.  
If only date shown, it's unknown if this is birth or death date.

(Continued from Vol. 20 #2)

ANNIE L. ISRAEL ROMERO b. 5 Aug. 1916 d. 13 Oct. 1984	LYNN MOORE b. 20 Oct. 1920 d. 4 Mar. 1976 Pvt U S Army	HARVEY C. BRUCE b. 5 Sep. 1894 d. 16 Jan. 1958 LA Pvt 363 Machine Gun Bn WWI	MAURICE T. WILLIAMS b. 18 Apr. 1900 d. 18 Jan. 1971
VENONIA KINGREY BROWN b. 26 Jan. 1879 d. 10 Jan. 1964	JOHN N. BROWN b. 23 May 1877 d. 3 Mar. 1954	MARIE P. ARMISTEAD b. 12 Aug. 1914 d. 4 May 1985	THOMAS SAMUEL McMULLEN b. 11 July 1882 d. 6 Sep. 1960
OSCAR J. STANFIELD b. 27 Jan. 1901 d. 29 Oct. 1954	WILLIAM UNSWORTH b. 10 Apr. 1890 d. 12 May 1955 LA Cpl 63 Balloon Co AS WWI	PEARL McMULLEN RODRIGUEZ b. 8 Feb. 1890 d. 24 Jan. 1963	EVERETTE WAYNE HANCOCK, Sr. b. 4 Nov. 1913 d. 12 Feb. 1992 Y3 US Navy WWII
CLIFFORD BROWN b. 16 Nov. 1905 d. 22 Sep. 1982	CARL J. BROWN b. 2 Apr. 1911 d. 2 Feb. 1990	RICHARD LARRY GREEN Infant S/O M/M LARRY O. GREEN b/d 19 Oct. 1957	TOMMY LEE STRICKLAND b. 17 May 1944 d. 6 Jan. 1994
ROBERT E. WHIDDON b. 19 July 1901 d. 6 Apr. 1982	AGNES A. WHIDDON b. 14 May 1909 d. (Preneed)	FLOYD J. BUSBY b. 4 Dec. 1925 d. 29 Nov. 1978 Tec 4 US Army WWII	JESSE J. BUSBY b. 14 Feb. 1891 d. 25 Oct. 1986
EDYTHE MARGARET ARMISTEAD b. 9 Sep. 1914 d. 5 May 1978	DORISE LOUISE ARMISTEAD Inf. d/o A. S. & MARTHA ARMISTEAD b. 11 Jan. 1926 d. 31 Jan. 1926	ELRAY REEVES b. 8 Aug. 1917 d. 9 Sep. 1982 Tec 4 US Army WWII	MARY KATHRYN KOONCE GIBBS b. 11 Aug. 1929 d. 3 May 1957
ALBERT SIDNEY ARMISTEAD b. 22 Dec. 1878 d. 22 Mar. 1936	MARTHA ANN ARMISTEAD b. 8 Oct. 1884 d. 3 Mar. 1973	THELMA B. KOONCE b. 25 Dec. 1907 d. 5 Oct. 1991	SAMUEL KOONCE b. 6 Sep. 1902 d. 27 Aug. 1979
WOODROW W. BRUCE b. 17 Sep. 1917 d. 27 Apr. 1976 U.S. Navy WWII	SARAH ANN RAY BRUCE b. 9 Apr. 1873 d. 22 Feb. 1928	ISAAC D. REEVES b. 12 Mar. 1893 d. 6 Jan. 1966	BERTHA KOONCE REEVES b. 1 Mar. 1898 d. 18 Sep. 1957
ROBERT HARVEY BRUCE b. 7 Mar. 1868 d. 13 Aug. 1950	STELLA BURKS BRUCE b. 12 May 1903 d. 10 Dec. 1990	GEORGE M. STUTTS b. 27 Mar. 1925 d. 4 July 1994	WALLACE W. DOWNS b. 8 June 1937 d. 2 May 1988 Pvt US Marine Corps
		CARL W. LEE b. 24 May 1904 d. 26 Jan. 1994	ROSALIE ELFERT LEE b. 20 June 1905 d. 10 Aug. 1991

JOHN I. LEE  
b. 22 Mar. 1883  
d. 10 Mar. 1960

MAGGIE MORRISON  
b. 14 July 1902  
d. 14 Aug. 1927

SUSAN KOONCE CONEY  
b. 22 Aug. 1869  
d. 20 Dec. 1948

OMMIE RILEY RICH  
b. 1 Aug. 1906  
d. 21 Jan. 1969  
LA S Sgt 3706 Base  
Unit AAF WWII

CHARLES CONEY  
b. 8 Jan. 1907  
d. 12 Mar. 1908

ROLAND L. CONEY  
b. 21 Oct. 1890  
d. 23 Mar. 1913

MARIE CONEY WILSON  
b. 24 Jan. 1913  
d. 26 Aug. 1992

ANNIE M. LASHA  
b. 3 Oct. 1911  
d. 27 May 1988

Mrs. LOU LASHA  
b. 22 June 1881  
d. 2 Apr. 1954

BILLY CHARLES LEE  
1935 - 1936

JACOB WELSH  
b. 29 Dec. 1845  
d. 30 May 1917  
U.C.V.

DAVID WELSH  
b. 4 May 1882  
d. 20 Jan. 1893

NINA LEE  
b. 2 Oct. 1902  
d. 3 Oct. 1902

MARY CONEY LEE  
b. 30 May 1886  
d. 3 Nov. 1933

HILLARY W. CONEY  
b. 24 Jan. 1893  
d. 10 Oct. 1917

ARTHUR J. CONEY  
b. 2 Feb. 1861  
d. 23 May 1925

HENRY W. RICH  
b. 28 Nov. 1909  
d. 10 Aug. 1959

WILLIE CONEY  
b. 13 Jan. 1909  
d. 9 Nov. 1909

MABLE CONEY BROWN  
b. 19 Oct. 1910  
d. 8 Apr. 1993

LAURA REEVES ARDOIN  
b. 11 Mar. 1908  
d. 18 Dec. 1981

OTTO M. LASHA  
b. 10 Nov. 1907  
d. 3 May 1973

TOMMY NEIL LEE  
1945 - 1946

BILL WELSH  
b. 16 Nov. 1922  
d. 27 Dec. 1922

SUSAN WELSH  
b. 26 Sep. 1853  
d. 22 Apr. 1916

GERTRUDE WELSH  
b. 31 Mar. 1879  
d. 19 July 1880

EDWARD M. BALL Sr.  
b. 1 Feb. 1796  
d. 30 June 1883  
War of 1812 U.C.V.

OLEVIA LEE SEAL  
b. 7 Mar. 1892  
d. 20 Mar. 1931

W. M. BURKS  
b. 20 Aug. 1841  
d. 16 May 1917  
U. C. V.

LEROY WHITE  
S/O H.H. & M.J. WHITE  
b. 14 Feb. 1913  
d. 12 Jan. 1925

WILLIAM TAYLOR BURKS  
Oct. 31, 1934  
LA SEAMAN 1/C US Navy

GEORGE J. KARSCH  
b. 25 Sep. 1873  
b. 7 Jan. 1934

ALLIE TRAHAN  
b. 28 Sep. 1922  
d. 18 Apr. 1978  
Tec 5 US Army WWII

OCTAVE DESHOTEL  
TRAHAN  
b. 21 July 1894  
d. 29 July 1957

EMILY DUHON TRAHAN  
14 June 1931

A. B. FRUGE  
b. 16 Aug. 1876  
d. 16 Nov. 1958

RUBY FOREMAN FRUGE  
b. 10 Mar. 1913  
d.  
(Preneed)

FANNIE WHITE  
D/O H.H. & M.J. WHITE  
b. 8 Mar. 1919  
d. 12 Sep. 1919

LOTTIE BURKS  
b. 29 Aug. 1852  
d. 24 Nov. 1924

HUGH H. WHITE  
b. 16 July 1849  
d. 4 Nov. 1921  
Co. M 10 Tenn. Cav.  
U. C. V.

JAMES BURKS  
b. 17 Nov. 1871  
d. 6 Sep. 1926

EVERLYN KARSCH  
D/O M/M GEO.  
KARSCH  
d. 5 Apr. 1939  
(Age 7)

DONNA FAY TRAHAN  
D/O M/M ALLIE  
TRAHAN  
b. 28 Sep. 1954  
d. 30 Sep. 1954

MARCEL TRAHAN  
b. 20 Nov. 1890  
d. 28 June 1966  
LA Pvt Co C 155 Inf  
WWI

JOSEPH RICHIE, Sr.  
1896 - 1964

ROSE MAE FRUGE FARQUE  
b. 11 Jan. 1919  
d. 2 Nov. 1975

STEPHEN STAFFORD FRUGE  
b. 16 Nov. 1906  
d. 10 Nov. 1959

LUTHER ROYER b. 24 Feb. 1913 d. 7 Feb. 1970	GEORGIE RUTH ROYER b. 19 Sep. 1914 d. 14 June 1959	JAMES W. LEE Jr. b. 28 Feb. 1911 d. 27 May 1974	MARIE LANDRY LEE b. 28 May 1906 d. 12 Apr. 1978
MARY E. GREEN JENSEN b. 25 Apr. 1906 d. 8 Aug. 1976	IVER OLIVER JENSEN b. 20 Feb. 1901 d. 10 Dec. 1958	JAMES W. LEE 1981 - 1965	FRANCES C. LEE 1880 - 1948
MARY A. GILLEY LAMBERT b. 16 July 1923 d. 28 Jan. 1993	SAMUEL "WEBB" LAMBERT b. 22 Mar. 1909 d. 26 Aug. 1989	JOSETTE M. HOOPER b. 27 June 1896 d. 1 July 1965	OBIE N. HOOPER b. 20 Aug. 1880 d. 8 Aug. 1955
WILLIE TRAHAN b. 6 Sep. 1901 d. 13 Aug. 1968 A Pvt 16 Airship Co Air Svc WWI	HAROLD C. TRAHAN b. 12 Aug. 1956 d. 26 Mar. 1975 Pvt US Army-Vietnam	ODELIA YOUNG RICHEY b. 25 Aug. 1878 d. 3 Sep. 1948  Infant Son of M/M J. D. RICHEY b/d 15 March 1903	JEFFERSON D. RICHEY b. 9 Mar. 1864 d. 15 Mar. 1941  WILLIAM A. SEAL b. 17 Mar. 1855 d. 19 Aug. 1907
JAMES W. FARQUE, Sr. b. 23 Aug. 1907 d. 28 July 1986	SAUNDRA L. TRBOVICH FARQUE b. 31 May 1942 d. 4 Nov. 1990	WILLIE MAE REEVES b. 18 Oct. 1916 d. 11 Feb. 1917	Infant JAMES D. SEAL b/d 2 Aug. 1917
JAMES FARQUE, Jr. b. 3 May 1941 d. (Prensed)	PURITY SONNIER 3 Sep. 1978	NANCY L. REEVES b. 16 Oct. 1888 d. 15 Oct. 1918	JOHN A. REEVES b. 14 Oct. 1874 d. 14 June 1925
FRED M. WHITE b. 18 July 1902 d. 17 Oct. 1980	CHARLIE WHITE b. 10 May 1910 d. 20 Feb. 1992 MM2 US Coast Guard WWII	JOHN T. REEVES b. 6 Dec. 1878 d. 6 Apr. 1945	AZILEE KOONCE REEVES b. 14 Mar. 1893 d. 25 Feb. 1973
FLORABEL KARSCH FERRANTE b. 2 Oct. 1928 d. 22 Aug. 1973	Infant REEVES b. 20 Feb. 1903 d. 22 Feb. 1903	ERMY AUDRIE REEVES b. 18 Sep. 1921 d. 12 Jan. 1924  HUEY H. WHITE Jr. b. 28 Feb. 1916 d. 12 Jan. 1946 Tech Sgt 6 Armd Div	DANIEL J. BURKS b. 20 Feb. 1889 d. 24 Feb. 1935 LA 39 Div. Corp. 114 Field Sign. BN.
LEROY SIMMONS b. 23 Feb. 1864 d. 27 Apr. 1950	JULIET H. SIMMONS b. 24 July 1876 d. 12 May 1929	MORRIS JAMES WHITE b. 19 Mar. 1921 d. 11 Sep. 1956	DELLA WHITE KARSCH LeBLEU b. 1 Nov. 1900 d. 31 Oct. 1954
MARY JANE DUPREAST KOONCE b. 17 Apr. 1869 d. 7 Mar. 1957	WILLIAM J. KOONCE b. 17 Mar. 1867 d. 9 Nov. 1936	LOTTIE WHITE WALL b. 14 Feb. 1913 d. 25 Sep. 1993	KENNIE "RED" WALL b. 28 Apr. 1906 d. 29 Feb. 1960
WILLIE W. KOONCE b. 13 June 1895 d. 22 Aug. 1933 LA Pvt US Army	NORA KOONCE b. 31 May 1912 d. 23 Sep. 1915	WINNIE BROUSSARD WHITE b. 5 Jan. 1915 d. 31 Mar. 1972	MARY JANE WHITE b. 22 Nov. 1881 d. 27 Apr. 1968  WILLIAM C. WHITE b. 22 Oct. 1907 d. 14 Nov. 1975

(continued next issue)



**ARCHIBALD & ELIZABETH VAUGHAN SMITH**  
**An Early Pioneer Family in Louisiana & Texas**  
By GLENWITH HILTON McHENRY, Member #668

ELIZABETH VAUGHAN, the daughter of EPHRAIM VAUGHAN and ELIZABETH "BETTY" VAUGHAN, was born in Stepney Parish, Maryland on 2 November 1770.(1) About 1790 or possibly earlier, she married ARCHIBALD SMITH III, who was born about 1765 in Worchester County, Maryland.(32) ARCHIBALD was on the Greene County, Georgia Tax list in 1789 with his father, ARCHIBALD SMITH II.(4)

The SMITH family descended from JOHN and REBECCA SMITH who migrated from England to Somerset County, Maryland in 1661.(5) ARCHIBALD SMITH II and his wife MARY, the parents of ARCHIBALD III, migrated from Maryland to Greene County, Georgia by July 1787. The area they settled in later became Hancock County, Georgia. They transferred their church membership from Philip Hughes Broad Creek Baptist Church in Maryland to the Powelton Baptist Church in Georgia in 1787.(6)

No marriage record has been located for ARCHIBALD and ELIZABETH VAUGHAN SMITH, but they were probably married in Georgia. ELIZABETH's mother, BETTY VAUGHAN, named her daughter in her will in 1796 in Hancock County, Georgia. (2) ARCHIBALD's father, ARCHIBALD, SR., named his son in his will in Hancock County, Georgia in 1799.(32)

ELIZABETH and ARCHIBALD SMITH migrated to southeast Louisiana before 1810, with five sons and four daughters. On the 1810 Louisiana census the SMITH family was listed among the inhabitants from Atacapas Church down to Berwick Bay, La.

In 1813 ARCHIBALD paid taxes on 8 slaves in St. Mary Parish, La.(8) The SMITH residence was on Bayou Sale. ARCHIBALD was in the 1812 Battle of New Orleans and was listed on the roll dated 24 December 1814, Newton, Attakapas Parish, La., Baker's Regiment, Louisiana Militia. He was discharged at Franklin, La., 13 March 1815.(9) Two of his sons, WILLIAM V. and GEORGE W., served with him. GEORGE W. SMITH received a 40 acre bounty land grant in Calcasieu Parish, La. on 27 March 1852.(10)

ELIZABETH and ARCHIBALD owned land on both sides of Bayou Sale, near the Gulf of Mexico. On 2 September 1815 they sold their property and home on Bayou Sale to PETER W. ROBERTS.(11) From the terms of the sale we learn the family was engaged in growing sugar cane. ARCHIBALD reserved enough "drops of sugar cane" to plant a quarter of an acre. He kept his cattle and stock, except for his working oxen. He gave ROBERTS the option of paying the last payment balance in good merchantable sugar. The SMITHs were farming and manufacturing on the 1810 census; they possibly owned a sugar mill!

Three of the SMITH children married in St. Mary Parish with licenses from the Franklin Court House. WILLIAM V. SMITH married MELANIE ROBLNET on 12 March 1815.(12) SALLY SMITH married MATHEW WILSON on 31 July 1815.(13) HARRIET SMITH married PETER GORDY on 11 July 1813.(14)

The family was living in St. Landry Parish, La. by 1817. ARCHIBALD paid taxes on 7 slaves in 1817 and 1818 there. The SMITHs were among the early

settlers of Calcasieu Parish. Claim #253, Sec. 36, T9S, R9W for 640 acres shows that he settled in the Lake Charles area previous to 22 February 1817. (18) This area was a part of St. Landry Parish at that time and did not become Calcasieu Parish until 1840.

Their son, GEORGE SMITH, married ELIZABETH ILES, the daughter of WILLIAM and ELIZABETH PACE ILES on 30 March 1821 at St. Landry Parish, La. (17) ELIZABETH's father, WILLIAM ILES, filed a claim for 649 acres (Claim #266, Sec. 27, 34, R9W) on the west side of Bayou Culkesho (Calcasieu) on 22 February 1819 (19), and his son DEMPSEY ILES had an adjoining 640 acre claim. (20)

Two of the SMITH sons, WILLIAM V. (21) and GEORGE (22) received claims of 640 acres each. GEORGE received an additional 40 acres for his military service in the War of 1812. (10) The three SMITHs and the two ILES men owned a total of 3,240 acres of land surrounding and including the lake, at what is known today as Lake Charles and West Lake, La.

ELIZABETH and ARCHIBALD SMITH sold their property on Calcasieu River to ELIAS BLOUNT on 31 January 1822. (18) On 22 February 1824 BURRELL FRANKS, "being sworn says that he has known the land since 1818." It is situated on the right bank of the Calcasieu River at a place called Blount's Ferry; the said ARCHIBALD is a man of about 50 years of age and head of a family. (18)

The SMITH family migrated to Texas in the spring of 1822. (23) They settled on the east bank of the San Jacinto River about ten miles north of Buffalo Bayou. JANE LONG, wife of General JAMES LONG, accepted an invitation to live with the family for a while, and during that time ARCHIBALD became ill with a fever and died. (24)

A statement made by WILLIAM PETTUS, who lived near the SMITHs on the San Jacinto said that ELIZABETH SMITH, ARCHIBALD's widow, and her children went back to the United States (Louisiana), but returned again to Texas. (25) On 4 June 1825 ELIZABETH VAUGHAN SMITH, a resident of Calcasieu Parish, made application to join STEPHEN F. AUSTIN's second colony, the State of Coahuila (Texas), and migrated there in May 1830. (26) She was listed as a 64-year-old widow with a minor son, ALEXANDER, and a minor daughter (name unknown). She received a league of land in Harris County, located on Willow Creek, near the present town of Tomball, Texas.

ELIZABETH SMITH gave one-half of her headright to her son, JAMES, for his help in selecting, surveying and clearing her land and readying it for habitation and cultivation. She gave the other half of her land to her youngest son, ALEXANDER, with whom she made her home in later life. She stated that her husband, ARCHIBALD, was deceased and that her other children were married and well taken care of. (26) The last recorded document concerning ELIZABETH was written on 13 July 1839 and stated that she was blind.

#### SMITH GENEALOGY

- I. JOHN SMITH, SR., b. England; m. REBECCA \_\_\_\_\_, b. England. They immigrated to Somerset County, MD in 1661.

JOHN SMITH (continued)

Children:

1. JOHN SMITH, JR.
2. GEORGE SMITH
3. ANN SMITH
4. DOROTHY SMITH m. \_\_\_\_\_ SAVAGE

Children: THOMAS SAVAGE and REBECCA SAVAGE

- II. GEORGE SMITH, will probated 21 August 1717, Somerset Co., Md.; m. SARAH COX, d/o THOMAS COX.

Children:

1. GEORGE SMITH
2. REBECCA SMITH
3. ARCHIBALD SMITH I
4. SARAH ANN SMITH

- III. ARCHIBALD SMITH I, b. Somerset Co., Md.; will written 24 Sept. 1760, probated 8 June 1761, Worchester Co., MD; m. TARNA TURNER, d/o SAMUEL and SARAH TURNER.

Children:

1. SOLOMON SMITH
2. ARCHIBALD SMITH
3. JOHN SMITH
4. SAMUEL SMITH
5. ABIGAIL SMITH
6. MARY SMITH
7. BETY SMITH
8. GEORGE SMITH

- IV. ARCHIBALD SMITH II, will proven 9 March 1799, Hancock Co., Ga.; m. MARY

ARCHIBALD inherited land called "Plumpton Saltash" from his grandfather THOMAS COX. ARCHIBALD and MARY SMITH migrated to Greene Co., Ga. (later Hancock Co.), July 1787.

Children:

1. JEHU SMITH
2. ARCHIBALD SMITH
3. NANCY SMITH
4. JUDITH SMITH
5. SALLY SMITH
6. GEORGE W. SMITH

- V. ARCHIBALD SMITH III, b. ca 1765, Worchester Co., Md.; m. ELIZABETH VAUGHAN, b. 2 Nov. 1770, Stepney Parish, Md.; d/o EPHRAIM VAUGHAN and ELIZABETH \_\_\_\_\_.(32)

ARCHIBALD and ELIZABETH migrated from Hancock Co., Ga. to Bayou Sale, La. before 1810; to St. Landry Parish, La. and Lake Charles area before 1817.

Children:

1. WILLIAM V. SMITH, m. 12 March 1815, Franklin, La., MELANIE ROBINET, d/o NICOLAS ROBINET/ROBINETTE and MARIE VERDINE.(34)

Children:

1. WILLIAM V., JR., b. ca 1816 (36); m. 29 Jan. 1835, St. Landry Parish, CYADALISE FARQUE.
2. JOHN B. SMITH, b. ca 1820; d. 2 April 1880(35); m. (1) CELESTINE \_\_\_\_; m. (2) ADELAIDE GUIDRY.
3. PIERRE, b. ca 1823; married (1) CLEMENCE \_\_\_\_; m. (2) COLASTIE \_\_\_\_.
2. SALLY SMITH, m. 31 July 1815, Franklin, La., MATHEW WILSON.
3. GEORGE W. SMITH, b. ca 1796, Hancock Co., Ga.; d. 1861/2, Calcasieu Parish, La.; m. 30 March 1821, St. Landry Parish, La., ELIZABETH ILES (17), b. ca 1802, SC; d. 1869/70, Calcasieu Parish, LA; d/o WILLIAM ILES and ELIZABETH PACE.

Children (not necessarily in order of birth):

1. ARCHIBALD SMITH V, b. 22 March 1824, Calcasieu Parish, La. (38); m. 4 March 1851(39), SOPHIA PAUL, d/o MICHAEL PAUL, Sr. and MARY HOLLOWAY(40); migrated to Texas, 1822.(30)

2. HARRIET SMITH, b. ca 1827; m. ca 1846, DANIEL WALKER, s/o Gov. JOSEPH WALKER and CATHERINE CARTER, Rapides Parish, La.(41)
3. ELIZABETH SMITH, b. 17 Feb. 1831 (38); m. ca 1856, DAVID CROCKETT PAUL (38), s/o MICHAEL PAUL, SR. and MARY HOLLOWAY. (40)
4. WILLIAM HENRY SMITH, b. 27 March 1834, Calcasieu Parish(38); m. CATHERINE "KATE" PAUL, d/o MICHAEL PAUL, SR. and MARY HOLLOWAY.(40)
5. JAMES S. SMITH, b. ca 1835, Calcasieu Parish(38); d. before 1866, perhaps in Civil War; m. ca 1859, NANCY BURNETTE (m. 2nd by 1870, WILLIAM C. REEVES)  
Children:
  1. SOPHIA SMITH, b. ca 1860/61
6. SIDNEY "SIS" CELIA (SHELLY ANN) SMITH, b. ca 1837(38); m. 25 Feb. 1856, Barnes Creek, La., CHURCH WELLS ALSTON(46), s/o JOHN D. ALSTON and CELESTINE CLARK.(45)
7. Probably GEORGE SMITH, b. ca 1822, on 1840 St. Landry Parish Census with grandfather, WILLIAM ILES(47); moved with DEMPSEY ILES, Sr. from Calcasieu Parish to Beauregard Parish and later to Rapides Parish.(37)
4. HARRIET SMITH, d. before 1830; m. 11 July 1813, Franklin, La., PETER GORDY.  
Children:
  1. WILLIAM SMITH GORDY, b. ca 1816, Bayou Sale, La.(33); m. 30 Sept. 1838, CAROLINE ELIZABETH GORDY.
  2. ARCHIBALD C. GORDY, b. ca 1820; m. ESTER \_\_\_\_\_.
5. MANAEN TURNBULL SMITH, b. 15 Sept. 1802, Ga.; d. 22 June 1886, Leon Co., Texas; m. (1) 1827, Shelby Co., Texas, MATILDA HALEY; m. (2), 4 May 1856, Leon Co., Texas, ELLEN CHANDLER; migrated to Texas, 1822.(28)
6. ARCHIBALD SMITH, b. ca 1804, Ga.; d. 1845, near Spring, Texas; m. MALINDA HALEY; migrated to Texas, 1830.(30)
7. JAMES S. SMITH, b. 1805/6, Ga.; d. before 1 May 1838, Montgomery Co., Texas; m. in Texas, LOUISA PECK; migrated to Texas, 1826.(27)
8. ELIZABETH SMITH, b. ca 1806, Ga.; d. 1 June 1882, Ellis Co., Texas; m. FREDERICK H. RANKIN; migrated to Texas, 1822.(29)
9. Unidentified daughter, b. St. Mary Par., La.; went to Texas with her mother, 1830.
10. ALEXANDER SMITH IV, b. ca 1812/14, St. Mary Par., La., d. Jan. 1843, Texas; m. 31 Aug. 1837, Harris Co., Texas, MINERVA HOUSE; went to Texas with his mother, 1830.

(AUTHOR'S NOTE: For a complete history on the Texas Smiths, see From Broad Creek to Buffalo Creek by Cecil & Fay Smith, 1988. For a complete history on the Louisiana Smiths, read The Louisiana Link [Castel/LaPrairie - Iles - Paul/Smith] by Glenwith Hilton McHenry, 1995.)

#### ENDNOTES

1. F. Edward Wright, Maryland Eastern Shore Vital Records 1771 - 1775, p.50.
2. Rev. Silas Emmett Lucas, Jr., Some Georgia County Records, Vol. I, p. 113.
3. Franklin Court House, St. Mary Par., La., Marriage #29.



4. Silas Emmett Lucas, Jr., Index to Headrights & Bounty Grants in Georgia, 1736-1909.
5. Gus Skordas, The Early Settlers of Maryland, p.426.
6. Margarette Goldsby Gaissant, Some Church Members & Records & Some History of Some Greene & Hancock County Churches, p. 144.
7. 1810 census, Attakapas Par., La., p. 136.
8. Mary Elizabeth Sanders, Records of Attakapas District, La., 1739-1811, on Bayou Sale.
9. Copy, Military Record #386, Archibald Smith (War of 1812).
10. Copy, Bounty Land Claim #48595, George W. Smith, Calcasieu Par., La., 27 March 1852. Also copy of military record.
11. Franklin, La. Court House, St. Mary Par. Conveyance Record #318.
12. Ibid., marriage #59.
13. Ibid., marriage #29.
14. Ibid., marriage #67.
15. Ramona A. Smith, Land Holders of Southwest La., 1817, p. 21; 1818, p.45.
16. 1840 census, Calcasieu Par. La. Micro copy # M704, Roll #127, p. 77.
17. Opelousas Court House, St. Landry Par., La., marriage #8, George Smith & Elizabeth Iles.
18. Louisiana State Land Office, Baton Rouge, La., Rio Hondo Land Claims #253, Archibald Smith.
19. Ibid., #266, William Iles, Sr.
20. Ibid., #252 Dempsey Iles.
21. Ibid., William V. Smith.
22. Ibid., #279, George Smith, 22 Feb. 1824 (includes map and survey of Claim).
23. Jean L. Epperson, Historical Vignettes of Galveston Bay, p. 29.
24. Ibid., p. 30.
25. Ibid., p. 31.
26. General Land Office & Records Division, Austin, Texas, Spanish Title, Vol. #5, pp. 1466, 1467, 1468.
27. Cecil & Fay Smith, From Broad Creek to Buffalo Creek, p. 15.
28. Ibid., p. 16, Manaen Turnbull Smith.
29. Ibid., p. 17, Elizabeth Smith.
30. Ibid., p. 19, Archibald Smith.
31. Ibid., p. 36, Alexander Smith.
32. Georgia Dept. of Archives and History, Atlanta, Georgia, Will, Archibald Smith, Sr., Hancock Co., Georgia.
33. Mary Elizabeth Sanders, Annotated Abstracts of the Successions of St. Mary Parish, La., p. 186, Peter W. Gordy.
34. Ibid., p. 159, #259, Pierre Verdine, deceased 9 Aug. 1832.
35. Kinfolks, Southwest La. Genealogical Society, Vol. 12 #2, p. 41.
36. Opelousas Court House, St. Landry Parish, La., marriage of William V. Smith, Jr.
37. "Beauregard Parish, La.", speech by Robert Jones, from files of Normand Terry, published in "Glimpse into the Past", Houston Chronicle, 1982.
38. 1850 census, Calcasieu Parish, Lake Charles, La. Micro copy #432, Roll #230, p. 397, family of George Smith.
39. Bible record, Archibald & Sophia Paul Smith.
40. Alexandria Court House, Rapides Par., La., Conveyance #29829, heirs of Michael Paul, Sr.
41. 1860 census, Rapides Par., La., Micro copy T653, Roll #423, p. 70, family of Daniel & Harriet Smith Walker.
42. Obituary, David C. Paul, Alexandria Town Talk.
43. Geneva Bailey Seymour, 1860 Census, Calcasieu Parish, La., p. 77, George Smith family & sons William & James.

44. 1870 census, Calcasieu Par., La., #574. p. 95, Wm. C. Reeves.
45. Beauregard Parish History, p. 912, Alston family.
46. Southwest La. Genealogical Society Chart Book, Vol. 1, #245.
47. Succession of George Smith, Calcasieu Par. Probate #230.
48. Tax Assessment Roll #65, 1865-1870, Reel 6.230.

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### EARLY LAKE CHARLES NEWSPAPERS

A collection of earliest known Lake Charles newspapers has been donated to McNeese State University by STEVE and KENNY FRANKS. Known as THE MARVIN FRANKS/KENNETH LEVINGSTON Collection, the old newspapers include ones which are 128 years old. The collection begins with the Feb. 15, 1868 edition of The Weekly Echo, the first newspaper published in Calcasieu Parish after the Civil War. The first issues of the Echo, which are part of the FRANKS Collection, were published in French and English, particularly the land transactions. The Echo's subscription rate was \$3 annually, which was lowered to \$2 annually in 1871.

The earliest newspaper in Calcasieu Parish was the Calcasieu Press, which was published in St. Landry Parish in June 1855. It ceased publication during the Civil War. The Calcasieu Gazette was published in Lake Charles in 1858, in both English and French by WILLIAM MEYER & Brothers, who had offices in what is now the Charleston Hotel. There are no known copies of the Echo or Gazette.

Included in the FRANKS collection are the following newspapers:

The Weekly and Lake Charles Echo, 1868-1881; Lake Charles Commercial, 1881-1896; Calcasieu Gazette, 1878-1879; American, 1887-1897; Rice Belt Journal, 1906-1913; Jennings Times Record, 1910-1911; Kinder Gazette, 1910-1914; DeRidder Enterprise, 1910-1912 and 1914; Jennings Weekly, 1912; DeQuincy News, 1912-1914; Oberlin News, 1913-1914; Vinton Booster, 1911-1914; Vinton Enterprise, 1911; Lake Charles Daily Press, 1908-1909; Lake Charles Daily American, 1909-1910; Lake Charles American, 1909; Lake Charles Weekly Press, 1908-1909; Daily Times, 1911-1914; the American Press daily and weekly editions from 1910-1917.

These rare newspapers survived the Lake Charles fire of 1910, and contain, in some cases, the only area records for the period preceding the fire.

Originals of the FRANKS/LEVINGSTON Collection will not be available for public viewing. As soon as the collection is microfilmed, copies of the film will be made available to the Southwest Louisiana Genealogical & Historical Library and to the Lake Charles American Press.

Source: Lake Charles American Press, 5/25/1996

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**CALCASIEU PARISH MILITARY BOARD.** On Oct. 7, 1861 the members of the Confederate Military Board for Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana were: JACOB RYAN, DAVID J. REID, J. V. MOSS, WILLIAM H. HASKELL and JOHN A. SPENCE.  
Source: Maude Reid's Scrapbook #1

## COLUMBUS/SINCLAIR CONNECTIONS

It may be necessary to rewrite some of the history of North America. It was long known that LIEF ERICSON and his crew of Vikings made their way to North America and established a colony or two in Vineland. Now the ruins of those ancient settlements have been found, and are in the process of being thoroughly investigated by archaeologists.

Furthermore, in 1398, about a hundred years before CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS reached the West Indies, a Scottish explorer, Prince HENRY SINCLAIR (ST. CLAIR), Lord of Orkney and Baron of Roslin, landed on the shores of Nova Scotia. His crew consisted of 200 men in 13 ships, with an Italian, ANTONIO ZENO, as admiral and navigator. For a while these men lived harmoniously with the native Micmac Indians. Their discoveries have been proven, but have not found their way into history books...yet.

After exploring the land for one season, Prince HENRY ventured as far south as Massachusetts, then returned to Scotland where he died under mysterious circumstances. The story of his exploits almost disappeared except for a few fragments which testify to his deeds. A project is in progress to build a copy of the 14th century Scottish ship and to sail from Scotland to North America in the summers of 1998 and 1999 to mark the 600th anniversary of Prince HENRY SINCLAIR's discovery of the New World.

There are reasons to conclude that COLUMBUS knew of the early explorations. First, although there is not a direct ancestral line of descent that links COLUMBUS with SINCLAIR, there is a family connection. Therefore, it is likely that family tradition "passed down" noteworthy events, such as a transatlantic voyage and the mapping and exploration of a new land. Seven people form the link between COLUMBUS and SINCLAIR.

- (1) HENRY SINCLAIR (b. ca 1345), whose daughter was
- (2) ELIZABETH SINCLAIR (b. ca 1370), whose son was
- (3) JOHN ESCORCIO DRUMMOND (b. ca 1492), who married
- (4) Dona GULMAR de LORDELLO (b. ca 1400), whose 1st husband was
- (5) TRISTON VAZ TEIXEIRA, JR. (b. ca 1400), whose aunt was
- (6) GULMAR TEIXEIRA (b. ca 1420), whose husband was
- (7) BARTHOLOMEW PERESTRELLO (b. ca 1410), brother of
- (8) FELIPA PERESTRELLO (b. ca 1450), wife of
- (9) CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS (b. ca 1447)

Secondly, the Maderia Islands were discovered and explored about 1419 by BARTHOLOMEW PERESTRELLO (b. ca 1390) and TRISTAN VAZ TEIXEIRA (b. ca 1390), family connections of COLUMBUS' wife. Both of these men settled in the islands and raised their families there. The islanders were a small, close-knit community of explorers and would have surely discussed other feats of exploration, such as SINCLAIR's discoveries.

Thirdly, Isabella and Ferdinand, the monarchs of Spain, who financed COLUMBUS' voyages, also had family connections that linked them to SINCLAIR. Their great-grandfather's grandniece, Dona CATHARINA VAES PEREIRA (b. ca 1460) was the wife of HENRY SINCLAIR's great-grandson.

The Zeno Maps, created by the brothers ANTONIO and NOCOLO ZENO, under the direction of SINCLAIR, must have been known by the Spanish rulers. Drawn up in 1393 by the ZENO brothers who were sent to survey Greenland, these maps of the North Atlantic were the most accurate maps available and were used for 300 years.

Further proof of the early discovery lies in the Westford Knight in Massachusetts where an effigy of a medieval knight, dating to about 1200-1300 A.D. was carved on a rock ledge. The sword carved on the rock is reputed to be a medieval sword and the shield bears the Clan GUNN symbols. Sir JAMES GUNN is known to have traveled with HENRY SINCLAIR. Further proof lies with the Micmac Indians, whose very name is the word for "beloved sons" in Gaelic. Their legends tell of a visitor who "built himself an island, planted trees on it, and sailed away in his stone canoe." The "island" refers to a ship, the "trees" are masts and the "stone" refers to the hard deck of the ship. Across the ocean, at the Rosslyn chapel in Scotland are ancient carvings of Indian maize, American aloe cacti and sassafras, carved before COLUMBUS was born. This substantiates the fact that someone in the SINCLAIR family had traveled to America and returned with samples or drawings of plants from the New World.

#### SOURCES:

"More on Prince Henry St. Clair", The Family Tree, Vol. VI #2 (April/May 1996), Ellen Payne Odom Genealogical Library, Moultrie, GA  
Niven Sinclair, "Evidence of the Sinclair/Zeno Expedition, Clan Sinclair Asso., Inc., U.S.A. via The Family Tree, Vol. VI #6 (Dec. 1995/Jan. 1996), Ellen Payne Odom Genealogical Library, Moultrie, GA.

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### HEADRIGHTS

The "headright" was a claim or grant to land introduced to attract settlers to the colonies. Under this system each head of a family was given land, usually 50 acres, with the provisions that he settled on it, improved it and paid a fee to the English Crown. The claimant obtained a headright certificate, a document proving his legal right to the claim. In other times and in other areas the land associated with a "headright" varied. (Concise Genealogical Dictionary, Maurine & Glen Harris)

In Texas a first class "headright" was issued to those who arrived before 2 March 1836; heads of families received one league or 4,428 acres of land, while single men received 1/3 league or 1,476.1 acres. Those heads of families arriving after 2 March 1836 and before 1 October 1837 received second class "headrights" of 1280 acres, while single men received 640 acres. Third class "headrights" were issued to those arriving between 1 October 1837 and 1 January 1840, heads of families receiving 640 acres and single men 120 acres. In order to receive more land, many couples married and immigrated to Texas between those dates. ("Categories of Land Grants to Texas," Red River Co., TX Genealogical Society, Vol. X, Fall 1994)

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As leaves on the trees is the life of man.

HOMER



### A FINAL RESTING PLACE IN THE SHADE OF THE FAMILY TREE

By ANN LOLORDO, Correspondent for The Boston Sun, 8/22/93

(Submitted by VERLIN J. SONNIER, Member #778)

Oberlin, La. At the juncture of two country lanes, the SONNIERs have buried their dead. Here, in Allen Parish, amid the lush green fields of rice along State Highway 26, a sign points the way to a slip of pasture, rimmed by fence posts weathered gray. There, beyond rain rusted gates held fast with a wire hook, lie members of a Cajun clan who settled in this spit of central Louisiana more than a century ago.

This is America beyond the urban skyline and suburban sprawl, a sweep of country far from interstates and airports where fathers still live within sight of their daughters, and some traditions, like burying kin in a small family graveyard on the edge of a field, live as long as a great pin oak.

At the SONNIER Cemetery whitewashed crosses, unmarked cement vaults and, in recent years, squares of polished marble distinguish married kin from blood relation, husband from wife, father from son. And while the headstones seem remarkable, RUBY ROBICHAUX mentions their orientation. "The tombs are (supposed) to go east-west. These are north-south," says the 68-year-old widow, referring to a custom of burying the dead toward the rising sun.

It's a misalignment of unknown origin, and yet one not without some small footnote in history. For this is a family whose ancestors fled from the north, in the Acadian exile from Canada in the mid 1700s, and journeyed south to the bayous of a former French colony where the children of their children's children still speak in a rich, musical patois.

Tacked to a notice board at the SONNIER Cemetery, encased under glass, is a family tree dating back 10 generations to the union of LOUIS SONNIER and LOUISE BASTINAUD dit PELLETIER in 1684. It depicts a family with a penchant for procreating: that first coupling produced 13 children. There are SONNIER men who outlived three wives and SONNIER fathers who baptized daughters Serenity, Charity and Purity. There are SONNIER women who married BOUTTES and FONTENOTS and SONNIER sisters who never married. They are the sons and daughters of farmers, some of whom moved west during the Great Depression to work in the Texas oil fields or followed their husbands to better paying jobs in New Orleans. Some never left Swallow (sic, Souileau).

"You want to know how that graveyard got started?" asks HERMAN SONNIER, 71, who grew up not far from the cemetery in a wood house, long since torn down. "It was my great-grandfather, DONAT SONNIER." At the time, before the turn of the century, the SONNIERs were burying their kin in a country graveyard north of Oberlin. During a funeral, someone broke a picket off the cemetery fence "and the old man who had the graveyard over there, he had something to say about it, kinda raised hell," says Mr. SONNIER. "So my great-grandpa said, 'that's not going to work.'"

From his 600 acre farm that yielded cotton, corn and sweet potatoes, DONAT SONNIER (the Second and not to be confused with his father, son or grandson of the same name) carved out the 2-acre cemetery that bears his family name. "There were no funeral homes (back then)," says Mr. SONNIER, who worked for

a dollar a day building roads during the Depression and then moved to East Texas to earn a living from oil. "Put 'em on a board in the front room. My old man built a lot of caskets, out of cypress, and they would do it mostly at night in the barn."

Mr. SONNIER buried his parents in this cemetery, a grandson who died on the day he was born, and, last year, his wife, the former HAZEL MARIE LANGLEY, whose photograph graces her tomb. "I met her in Elton, La. on the Fourth of July at a rodeo," says Mr. SONNIER who, every other week or so, drives the 108 miles from his home in Nederland, Tex. to visit his wife's grave. "I had a cousin from Swallow (sic, Soileau) that was dating one of her sisters...I guess it was love at first sight. I got married at 18 years old. We stayed together for almost 52 years."

Over the years, as the family tree's branches multiplied, so did its seed, taking root in California, Tennessee and Indiana. A generation of families left Swallow (sic, Soileau), but some retired here. Others returned in death, shipped from Texas and elsewhere, to be buried in the cemetery.

RUBY ROBICHAUX lives down the parish road from the cemetery in a dark brick rancher, nestled among shade trees and overrun by hydrangeas, blue and lilac. "My mother was a SONNIER," says the former Miss RUBY MOLITAR, her husky Cajun lilt pronouncing the surname as though it were "Sonya". Like her first cousin HERMAN, Mrs. ROBICHAUX and others pay \$10 a year to maintain the cemetery and ensure their place there. "If they don't pay their yearly dues, it'll cost them \$50 for a plot," says Mrs. ROBICHAUX, who buried her husband, JERRY DAVID, in the graveyard one November almost nine years ago. After living in New Orleans for years, the couple retired in this hamlet surrounded by flooded fields of rice.

"It's just now coming up," VERLIN J. SONNIER, says of the crop that blankets this region. "In fall, it looks like wheat, all gold and red." Now, the emerald fields bake in the stillness of summer. The air seethes with the heady scent of honeysuckle and a summer shower coaxes apparitions from sun-baked asphalt. Only the growl of a well pump and the incessant chatter of songbirds can be heard as day gives way to dusk.

The architect of the family tree, VERLIN SONNIER, culled the family history from church papers, census data and courthouse records. "I put this thing together so we could see where we come from," adds Mr. SONNIER, a 54-year-old tractor trailer driver from Lake Charles and a cousin to HERMAN SONNIER.

The man who actually tends the SONNIER Cemetery is DALBERT "MIKE" LaFLEUR, whose mother-in-law was a SONNIER. From the front porch of his wood-frame house, the retired highway worker can almost see the cemetery. A short, compact man with a straw cowboy hat on his head and a chaw of tobacco in his cheek, Mr. LaFLEUR talks about the auction held in recent years to raise money for the upkeep of the cemetery. "Last two years, they had a pretty good turnout," says Mr. LaFLEUR, who plans the event with his brother, NICK LaFLEUR, and his cousin, HERMAN SONNIER.

At 74, Mr. LaFLEUR has already made the arrangements for him and his wife, MAZIE. They will be buried in the family cemetery at the corner of two country roads in this place named Swallow (sic, Souileau).

# SONNIER CEMETERY

Recorded by John A. Young

Submitted by Member Verlin A. Sonnier, Member #778

The Sonnier Cemetery is located in Allen Parish, six miles north of Elton off of La. Highway 26. Copied May 9, 1990.

CARRIER, JOSEPH HUGH b. 21 Mar. 1919 d. 22 Aug. 1920	CARRIER, LUCINDY b. 12 Oct. 1912 d. 5 Jan. 1918	ARDOIN, (HARROW?) b. 13 Oct. 1916 d. 29 Dec. 1917	ARDOIN, ULYESE Baby no dates
CARRIERE, LEON Child b. 1 Feb. 1909 d. 1 Feb. 1909	FONTENOT, MAXIM dates illegible	CARRIERE, LEON b. 23 Nov. 18__ dates illegible	SONNIER, BERTHA D. b. 16 June 1896 d. 5 Apr. 1952
SONNIER, PRESTON b. __ Jan. ____ date illegible	SONNIER, MABLE b. __ Aug. 1919 d. 30 Apr. 19__	SONNIER, JOE CURLIE s/o JOSEPH & BERTHA DAVID b. __ July 1928 d. __ Feb. 1929	SONNIER, DONAT dates illegible
MOUILLE, SADNIA b. 27 Jan. 1918 d. 5 May 1923	Child of ARVILLE MOUILLE & EVA SONIER b. & d. 7 Oct. 1915	SONNIER, DONAT b. 2 Jan. 18_1 illegible	SONNIER, MATTIE b. 24 Mar. 1893 d. 28 May 1941
SONNIER, ADAM b. 6 July 1887 d. 3 Oct. 1980	LACASE, ELAVIE w/o DONAT SONNIER b. 11 Apr. 1832 d. 1 Mar. 1910	FONTENOT, FLORANCE date illegible d. 29 Aug. 1923	CHAPMAN, PRESTON 1937 - 1941
DUPLECHIN, ALCIDE 1882 - 1946	DUPLECHIN, NOLINA M. b. 6 July 1892 d. 22 May 1976	VEILLON, LUCILLE b. 8 Aug. 1912 d. 17 Aug. 1985	MARCANTEL, AGNES b. 10 July 1920 d. 26 June 1986
SONNIER, JOHN dates illegible	SONNIER, AZELINE 1866 - 1955	MOULLE, ARVILLER b. __ 1872 d. 6 Jan. 1959	MARCANTEL, TOSHA b. 2 July 1913 d. 22 Apr. 1971
MARCANTEL, DURCENUS b. 7 Feb. ____ date illegible	FONTENOT, LEZIME b. 27 Jan. 1880 d. 1 June 1968	FONTENOT, MARY D. b. 28 Feb. 1916 d. 25 Feb. 1977	SONNIER, ROBERT 1893 - 1981 Pvt. US Army, WW I
SONNIER, SEDONIA F. b. 9 Dec. 1900 d. 27 Jan. 1984	BERTRAND, JOE b. 13 Sep. 1900 d. 17 Sep. 1982	BERTRAND, ANNA A. b. 13 Feb. 1903 d. 6 Nov. 1976	LAFLEUR, EDWARD L. b. 19 Jan. 1920 d. 3 Nov. 1986 Pfc US Army, WW I
LAFLEUR, PAULINE SOILEAU b. 15 Sep. 1887 d. 29 Nov. 1979	GUILLORY, JOSEPH C. b. 18 Oct. 1925 d. 26 Nov. 1955	GUILLORY, CELIZE b. 23 July 1870 d. 23 Aug. 1963	DAVID, DOLZY b. 30 Dec. 1903 d. 14 Oct. 1980
DAVID, Mrs. DOLZY 1906 - 1959	DAVID, JOSEPH 1862 - 1934	DAVID, LEA b. 22 Mar. 1870 (84 years old)	LAFLEUR, JOSEPH b. 19 Feb. 1896 d. 18 May 1986
LAFLEUR, LOUISE DAVID b. 13 Sep. 1899 d. 13 Oct. 1972	MOLITOR, DONALD J. b. 27 Jan. 1960 d. 22 Jan. 1980		

MOLITOR, ALBERT  
b. 14 Feb. 1897  
d. 5 Dec. 1966  
Pvt U.S. Army WW I

ROBICHAUX, JERRY D.  
b. 18 Jan. 1912  
d. 22 Nov. 1984

MOLITOR, APTON  
b. 28 Nov. 1899  
d. 6 Jan. 1968

MOLITOR, LAURA S.  
w/o ALBERT MOLITOR  
b. 25 Feb. 1899  
d. 5 May 1977

SONNIER, DOZIA  
b. 15 Sep. 1894  
d. 12 Mar. 1971

SONNIER, JIMMIE L.  
b. 25 Apr. 1913  
d. 10 Dec. 1966

MOLITOR, WILLARD  
b. 16 June 1926  
d. 11 Apr. 1988

SONNIER, DONAT  
b. 15 Feb. 1887  
d. 11 Mar. 1980

SONNIER, HADLEY  
b. 11 Aug. 1930  
d. 22 July 1985  
S/Sgt USAF Korea-Vietnam

MOUILLE, EVA S.  
b. 10 Apr. 1891  
d. 16 Aug. 1972

RILEY, MICHAEL TODD  
b./d. 10 June 1969

EAVES, EMMA LOU  
b. 17 Feb. 1952  
d. 26 June 1976

SONNIER, HOWARD  
b. 20 May 1917  
d. 15 Dec. 1985  
US Army, WW II

ARTIGO, WILLIAM K.  
b. 18 Jan. 1915  
d. 25 Jan. 1985  
US Navy, WW II

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#### FROM NEW ORLEANS TO HOUSTON IN 1861

In past eras travel was slow, difficult and often dangerous. Schedules were difficult to keep and were subject to weather conditions. A dusty dirt road was soon turned to an impassable quagmire by rain. Wooden bridges across rivers swollen by flood waters were often swept downstream and the rivers, swamps and bayous were usually impossible to cross at flood stage. These problems, in addition to the danger of Indians, bandits and wild animals, made travel extremely arduous. But, regardless of the conditions, the people of olden times traveled freely from place to place.

In 1861 the Texas and New Orleans Southwestern Passenger Route announced a schedule that was an accomplishment of the times. A trip from New Orleans to Houston was announced to be completed in a record 70 hours, subject to weather conditions, of course. This firm booked passengers between the two cities, conveyed the Confederate States mail and carried the southwestern express freight.

From New Orleans a train was taken to Berwick Bay, a distance of 80 miles. From Berwick Bay a steamboat sailed the 70 miles up Bayou Teche to New Iberia. At New Iberia passengers, mail and freight were transferred to the double daily line, a four hours post coach operated by POWELL, TAYLOR & Co. to Niblett's Bluff, a distance of approximately 140 miles. A steamer then conveyed the passengers and cargo down the Sabine for about 70 miles to Beaumont. From Beaumont the railroad ran the 84 miles to Houston. The entire trip was a distance of about 444 miles and was completed in a record 70 hours. The cost of the trip is not known.

This remarkable journey was probably made by many of our ancestors a little over a century ago. Wouldn't they be amazed by the way we travel today?

SOURCE: "Beaumont Enterprise", Oct. 17, 1956; MAUDE REID Scrapbook, Reel 1.8

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**IRISH NATIONAL ARCHIVES.** In January 1991 the National Archives of Ireland, Four Courts, Dublin 7, Ireland officially opened. Government records dating from Ireland's independence from Great Britain (1921) and all other records over 30 years old are housed here.

**EARLY LAKE CHARLES HISTORY**  
(Continued from Vol. 20 #2)

The Lake Charles Weekly American of May 13, 1896 announced the summer session of the Normal School to be held at the High School Building, with Prof. J. E. KENNEY as general manager. On the first day 101 students had enrolled, increasing to 144 by the second day. Teachers included Sup't. McNEESE and Profs. KEENEY, B. S. LANDIS, W. B. HALE, J. I. HARTMAN and J. E. HAMILTON.

Marriage licenses for the week ending May 13 included:

May 5-WILLIAM M. COLE and MOLLIE M. HOLLINGSWORTH

May 7-HENRY PRATER and BEZONIA LYONS

May 11-THOMAS GOLDMAN and ISABELLA STORY

May 11-MADISON McDUFFY and MINERVA TAYLOR

CLEM MOSS, a native of Lake Charles, was valedictorian of the Tulane law class of '96. The Eureka Brass Band planned an entertainment and supper for the nights of May 20 and 21.

Business was good in the town. WILEY, MEYERS & Co. announced their shingle mill, located at the mouth of Bayou Serpent. The list of people registering at local hotels for the week of May 13, 1896 included the following persons.

**WALKER HOUSE**

LEWIS WHITE, ED ROZA, A. YOUNG, F. PURSE, Kinder. D. W. DONAHOE, Johnson's Bayou. ROBERT RONAHOO, J. J. WILLIAMS, THOMAS HEWITT, MONT REEVES, W. CARY, JOHN SCHOMEAUX, ED STINES, CALEB SIMMONS, Oberlin. H. FULTON, F. BENOIT and family, E. E. FAURNEAU, J. LENFEST and family, J. H. COOPER, Welsh. B. S. PRATER, Dry Creek. COOK FRAZIER, Mystic. ED HANEY, LEE LIMBOCKER, Lake Arthur. N. E. HALL, RUFUS GUERIN, Edgewood; J. L. LYONS, J. O. MILLER, JESSE LYLES, Sugartown. L. BERTRAND, Darbonne. ALADIN VINCENT, Vinton. O. S. LANDS, L. C. HESS, Beaumont. ED CUTTING, E. C. WATKINS, Jennings. J. O. STEWART, Hickory Branch. KING RICHARDS, Shreveport. J. M. COLE, G. S. COLE, J. J. KINGERY, JOHN HILL, Pearl. T. H. EGGERT, J. SHAFFEE, Houston. W. A. HARGRADOR, Opelousas. E. F. WILLET, A. D. HARLAN, J. W. ROCHE, Iowa. G. N. POPE, Mermentau. PIERRE BROUSSARD, JOSEPH BOUDREAUX, Cameron. ABE M. LEVY, city, S. D. BROUSSARD, C. B. LOYD, Lakeside. Mrs. DURBRIDGE, Bon Air. C. B. ROOTS, H. HARMON, Orange.

**HOTEL HOWARD**

GUS F. GUIT, PHILLIP RAHM, J. S. POWER, T. N. BLAKE, O. A. DUVENET and wife, T. F. BARDING, W. H. ANDREWS, J. L. JARREAU, R. R. YOUNT, R. M. CHISHOLM, AUG. BLACK, JR., H. R. HAFKESBURG, A. F. LEMPertz, JULIUS C. WOLFF, A. F. ARMAND, HARRY S. WILLIAMS, RANDEL DUGUE, EDWARD FASHIR, F. D. OGDEN, New Orleans. JNO. A. McDONOUGH, LESLIE STONE, W. S. ADAMS, W. F. HESS, L. E. ROZIER, St. Louis. A. D. ASHBAUGH, E. M. BURKE, C. L. PARDEE, ISSAC WILLIAMS, Jennings. JNO. McBRINE, JOHN J. HOOPES, Kansas City. J. SULBY MARTIN, Franklin. J. M. BOOZE, Roanoke. BEN C. BEARDSLEY, D. B. GORHAM, P. L. MONROE, C. W. HOLE, O. E. MORSE, C. J. PETERS, Hon. P. CROWLEY, JNO. E. RUNTE, HARRY J. GEARY, City. Mrs. COZZEN, WM. C. STEWART, LEO. O. LEVY, MATT M. SMITH, W. J. WELLS, New York. E. H. WILSON, A. ROOS, CH. H. GOETTE, J. B. HAMILTON, Houston. W. W. REED, B. M. TALBOT, Orange. CHAS. SCOTT, Edgewood. R. M. SMITH, J. P. HOFFMAN, Memphis. D. B. HUSSEY, Parsons, Kansas. W. M. BONSER, Dallas. GEO. W. LAW, Lockport. A. S. BURR, Bement, Ill. S. P. HENRY, Cameron. W. O. WETHERBEE, Brooklyn. GUS G. DEYFUSS, R. G. MURRAY,



L. C. HIRSHBERGER, M. ULLMAN, Galveston. S. J. HAMILTON, Chicago. W. D. NEVILLE, Bay City, Mich. R. L. MURDOCH, Owensboro, Ky. L. DUPRIE, Opelousas. A. C. JACKSON, S. Carolina. Hon. P. J. CHAPPINS, ED RUDROW, BEN C. BLACK, T. J. TOLER, A. G. GUINN, city council. DR. J. F. MORRIS, Crowley. E. F. NICHOLS.

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#### **CALCASIEU PARISH NEWS ITEMS**

(From the Lake Charles Weekly American, May 13, 1896)

#### **MARSHFIELD**

Prof. and Mrs. SHADDOCK and two of their children have had attacks of fever but are improving. Miss HATTIE READ, daughter of Judge-elect S. D. READ, is spending the week with Prof. SHADDOCK's girls at Marshfield. Miss ALLIE SHADDOCK has closed her school in Lacassine to attend the Normal, after which she will resume it until the term expires. Miss MILDRED SHADDOCK's school at Raymond was finished some two or three weeks since, and she has been home ever since. Both of these young ladies, as well as their brother, E. J. SHADDOCK, will attend the Normal.

Miss MARGARET GRANGER, daughter of our esteemed fellow-citizen, PHILO GRANGER, was married to Mr. JACK BENOIT on April 30 at the home of the bride's father. The marriage occurred about 4 o'clock P.M. A large crowd from the surrounding country was present. Refreshments were served immediately after the ceremony and at intervals afterward until 5 o'clock next morning. Miss GRANGER is one of our brightest and prettiest young ladies, and Mr. BENOIT has won a prize.

#### **FENTON**

JOHN DECKER visited Kinder the previous week. S. J. FENTON visited Lake Charles. Miss OSBORNE of Lake Charles is visiting relatives. A. F. ROBBINS made a business trip to Lake Charles. Mrs. OSCAR MILLER has been entertaining her sister and daughter of Lake Charles. Messrs. WARD ANDERSON and EDWIN WILLARD, Misses LAURA ANDERSON and ABBIE PRENTICE went to Lake Charles Saturday to attend Normal.

The K.C.W.&G. (Kansas City Watkins & Gulf Railroad) pay car passed through the village on the 7th. Mr. JAMES ELLIS was here last week making preparations to have Mr. WATKINS' rice milled. DANIEL KIMBALL's (railroad) car of furniture arrived here from Boone, Iowa. Mrs. S. J. FENTON went to Alexandria Thursday to meet her sister, Mrs. DANIEL KIMBALL. Mr. KIMBALL, wife and son will make this their future home.

EUNICE, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. BAXTER MILLS, is quite sick. Mr. JOSEPH JORDAN's house is about completed, and he will move his family here in the near future. Mr. F. C. BAKER of Phillip's Bluff passed through here Monday on his way to Iowa Station.

#### **OAKDALE**

Most of the HARDIN and RICHARD mill hands will leave here, as the mill is shut down for some time. The people of Oakdale had a picnic on Calcasieu River Friday. All enjoyed themselves very much in fishing and feasting. Miss A. A. DUNN, who ran away from home April 23, returned home the 5th instant as Mrs. WILSON, and seems to be very happy. W. J. DUNN will go to Lake Charles Monday on business. Mr. JO DAVIS, our school teacher, will leave us soon to accept a school at Oaklin Springs. His daughter will teach a school on the Nezpique. He will leave his two little children here in the care of a friend.

JOHN McLEOD and family, who are visiting his mother, will return to their home on Turkey Creek tomorrow. Mr. W. SMITH and wife leave Oakdale Tuesday for a point on the new railroad northwest of here. Miss EMMA NASH returned home from a visit with her sister at Glenmora. Some of the Glenmora boys came down to play baseball with the Oakdale Club and a good time was had.

#### OBERLIN

Rain badly needed. Blackberries beginning to ripen. About half the rice crop planted. The planters are using every exertion to complete their planting where the land is not too hard and dry. General health of the people very good. Doctors are complaining of hard times. Range stock are doing exceedingly well. Plenty of Calcasieu River fish on the streets for sale. A few dissatisfied settlers returning to Missouri, think they can live on blackberries as they wend their way northward. Some Texas cattle buyers collected quite a drove of stock cattle and started an overland drive to Texas on the 10th inst. The prices offered were so low that few of the small stock raisers sold.

GEORGE A. BAILEY and family left here by private conveyance as far as Jennings, where Mrs. BAILEY, who is in bad health, will remain with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. DAUGHENBAUGH, whilst Mr. BAILEY will continue his journey to Jeanerette whither he goes to assume charge of a newspaper, having purchased a plant of J. HARVEY READ.

#### CHINA

Miss MAGGIE JONES is doing housework for Mrs. BUCKLIN this spring. SISSIE TUPPER has been very sick for a long time but is much improved. MATT PILGRIMS' two oldest sons have been very sick the past week. J. J. WATTS reports part of his rice ground too dry to plow. HENRY GARDNER has ordered a new windmill to be used to supply his large herd of stock with fresh well water. He has moved his herd of ponies from his south place to his Marias farm today.

#### RAYMOND

Dewberries, mulberries and tame blackberries are ripe, and the busy housewife is making the most of her opportunity. R. M. HOLCOMB is improving his new farm.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. C. J. EATON on May 5, a son, of standard weight. All hands are doing well, and CHARLES is as happy as a big sunflower.

The W.C.T.U. met at the home of Mrs. C. F. TAYLOR to arrange an ice cream social to be held at the church. F. L. LEWIS of Welsh was out in this neighborhood on bridge business. ROE HINE is working for J. W. RITTER. A. P. BOLLES of China was down in these parts on business Wednesday.

#### GRAND LAKE

Mr. DUHON has been running his rice mill full time for the past week. Mr. MACHETT, an experienced engineer, late from Kansas, is running the engine for Mr. DUHON.

Mrs. W. J. McKEAN and daughters are visting at Cameron this week. M. D. HEBERT is at Cameron attending a meeting of the school board. Miss LORENA HEBERT and Master SAM HEBERT spent the Sabbath with friends here last Sunday and attended the church services. A company comprised of Rev. E. L. WELLS, L. E. WELLS, BERTIE BROWN, J. L. LOVELL and wife, W. C. BROWN and F. C. JOHNSON went to the Gulf and back last Tuesday in a sail boat. W. J. KINGERY and wife and Master HEBERT went to Lake Charles Monday.

## PRIEN LAKE

This is fine weather for blackberrying. Sweet potatoes are being set out. Rice planting is being pushed rapidly while the weather is favorable. Early rice could stand some water now.

Quite a pleasant time was spent at Mr. and Mrs. BAKER's Sunday evening at a party given in honor of Miss EMMA BAKER's arrival from Newton, Kansas. EDGAR TAYLOR and MAX KAUFMAN were calling on friends at Prien Lake Sunday. Mr. WILL LOCK of Lockport crossed the lake Sunday morning to look after his old home, known far and near as the "Lock Place". It is once more occupied.

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## BIBLE RECORDS OF THE MALLET FAMILY

Contributed by DOROTHY DOSS MEYER, Member #306

The following records are written in the Holy Bible, Self Pronouncing Edition, containing the King James and Revised Editions of the Old and New Testaments, published by E. T. KECKELER, St. Louis, Mo., 1892.

### BONDS OF HOLY MATRIMONY:

LOUIS VERSTELL MALLETT, son of AUGUST MALLETT and MARY ELIZABETH STERLING, of Center Point, La. and MARY ELIZABETH McCANN of Bayou Jacque, La. were married at Bayou Jacque on the 25th day of October, 1883.

### BIRTHS:

LOUIS VERSTELL MALLETT	b. Sept. 7, 1858	St. Louis, Mo.
MARY ELIZABETH McCANN	b. Oct. 13, 1862	Copiah Co., Miss.
MAUDE IZORA MALLETT	b. Feb. 10, 1885	Center Point, La.
LOUIS OTIS MALLETT	b. Jan. 19, 1887	Alexandria, La.
LELA ESTHER MALLETT*	b. May 31, 1889	Houma, La.
VERSTELL EUELL MALLETT	b. Feb. 16, 1893	Orange, Tex.
SYDNEY BRAUCH MALLETT	b. Sept. 14, 1895	Orange, Tex.
MARY VEDA MALLETT	b. Dec. 30, 1897	Orange, Tex.
LILLIAN NAOMI MALLETT	b. Aug. 28, 1902	Commerce, Tex.

### MARRIAGES:

LOUIS V. MALLETT and MARY E. McCANN	Oct. 25th 1883
JASON P. DOSS and LELIA E. MALLETT*	Aug. 3rd 1909
V. EUELL and NANNIE E. BAUCOM	Aug. 24th 1918
SYDNEY B. MALLETT and NELLY YARBROUGH	Oct. 15th 1920
GEORGE E. WALLACE and MARY VEDA MALLETT	June 25th 1917
DON P. CROSS and LILLIAN NAOMI MALLETT	June 28th 1922

### DEATHS:

LOUIS OTIS MALLETT	Apr. 10, 1889	2 yr., 2 mo., 21 days
MAUDE IZORA MALLETT	Apr. 13, 1889	4 yr., 2 mo., 3 days

\*The name was spelled LELA in the birth records and LELIA in the marriage records. DOROTHY DOSS MEYER is the daughter of JASON PALESTINE DOSS and LELIA ESTHER MALLETT. DOROTHY DOSS married GORDON EDWARD MEYER, Sr. Their children are: MARILYN ELIZABETH MEYER (m. ASA ELSWORTH LOGAN) and GORDON EDWARD MEYER, Jr. (m. TONI WINKFINE).

## OFFICIAL RECORDS

(Contributed by BETTY ZEIGLER, Member #539)

One of the most important areas of research is in the official records, which are located in town halls and county/parish courthouses throughout the country. If these records are analyzed item by item, they will provide you with invaluable information in tracing your family tree. These records can supply you with the name of a previously unknown ancestor and, at the same time, provide you with a brief but unique lesson in American history. Your search may lead you to more courthouse records, libraries, newspapers and various other sources of genealogical information, and will sometimes reward you with the vital statistics of a relative who lived many years ago.

A second method of obtaining information from an official record is by mail. Birth and death certificates of an individual will need to be obtained from the state in which the event occurred. There are compilations which provide you with the name, address and cost of the desired document.

Upon obtaining a copy of a death certificate, check the name of the individual to be sure that you have been sent the certificate which you requested. Then taking each entry item by item, verify all your known information with the data provided on the certificate. The place of death may differ from place of burial, so check local newspapers for obituaries. The location of the birth place of the parents (if they were known and listed) may necessitate that you read the census for an approximate year in another state for additional information. In some cases the certificate may state how long the deceased had been a resident of the state where the death occurred.

Official records are very important areas in genealogical research. Therefore, it is very important that you establish the identification and reliability of the informant on a death certificate. An immediate relative is more likely to know correct information than a distant relative or a neighbor.

The cause of death may have been traumatic. Look for additional information in newspapers to reveal more information than appears on the death certificate. Check inquest/autopsy reports at the courthouse.

Once you have extracted all the information you "think" you can glean from the death certificate, ask a friend or fellow researcher to look it over. You will be surprised at how much someone else may see that you have missed.

Vital records do not have a place in every American pedigree problem. They are a relatively recent source in most areas of the country. Their use is essential, when and where they apply, and no research is complete without them.

The system of registering births and deaths began as early as 1644 in the Massachusetts Bay Colony. By 1692 town clerks were empowered to collect three pence for each birth or death registered and to assess fines upon those failing to report. None of these early laws was very effective.

Death records, especially, contain information of exceptional genealogical value, even though most of them are of relatively recent vintage. Death records forms call not only for information on the death, but also on the birth (date, place, and parentage) of the deceased. A 1915 death certificate on an 80 year old might well provide valuable information about the family (time and place) for an event (birth) which took place in 1835. Lack of knowledge by the informant may result in meagre information. It is not uncommon for the information to be in error. Sometimes an informant did not know, or temporarily forgot; in other cases an informant, for some reason or other, willfully gave erroneous information.

Data on a death certificate can help you verify information from family sources. Dates and places can be verified through vital records. By securing those available vital records beyond the immediate generation, you can more efficiently gather family information and prepare a more accurate genealogical record.

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In Louisiana birth and death registrations were made mandatory in 1914. A few birth registrations existed in the city of New Orleans and other urban areas prior to 1914. For birth certificates over 100 years old and for death certificates over 50 years old, write Louisiana State Archives, P.O. Box 94125, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9125. For copies of more recent birth and death certificates, write Louisiana State Dept. of Health and Human Resources, P.O. Box 60630, New Orleans, LA 70160.

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Hard work and good research techniques pay dividends in genealogy, but coincidence, hunches, long-shots and chance events often lead a researcher to important discoveries.

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### CIVIL WAR PROJECT

The National Archives and the National Parks Service are joining in a cooperative project with the Federation of Genealogical Societies and the Genealogical Society of Utah to create a database of the names, regiments and ranks of the 3½ million Civil War soldiers, both Union and Confederate. Computers will provide information on the 7,000 regiments and units and information on many of the 10,500 battles and skirmishes fought in the war. Researchers at the National Archives and its regional branches and visitors to all Civil War sites operated by the National Parks Service would have access to these computerized records. This project will be installed first at Shiloh, Tenn. Military National Park and Antietam National Battlefield at Sharpsburg, MD. Students, scholars and genealogists interested in the Civil War should be greatly aided in their research by this system.

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Initials seen on tombstones:

- G.A.R. - Grand Army of the Republic. Indicates a veteran who served in the Union Army during the War Between the States.
- C.S.A. - Confederate States of America. Indicates a veteran who served the Confederacy during the War Between the States.
- U.C.V. - United Confederate Veteran. Indicates that the veteran served the Confederacy and was a member of this veterans' organizations.

## WHEN YOU READ A BOOK

Are you often discouraged and dismayed when you try to take the quick and easy approach to researching from books? Each book seems to be arranged differently, especially to confuse you. But actually it is not difficult to understand the author's system; it just takes a little time.

First, do what you always considered a waste of time. Start with the first of the book and read the preface and/or introduction. This will explain the author's approach, the arrangement of the book and the numbering system (if there is one). It will usually tell you what families are included and the geographic area covered.

Many books are not indexed, but instead of discarding the book, study the table of contents, the list of chapters and/or families, or the generations in a certain time period. The book may be arranged alphabetically by family, but may not include an everysurname index. The publication date of the book is an indication of how up-to-date the material is. A book published in the early 1900s will not include someone who was born in 1930, for example. Study the period of time covered by the book.

Beginning genealogists are often confused by various methods of numbering systems or finding the parents of an ancestor. Father DONALD J. HEBERT in his series entitled Southwest Louisiana Records includes the parents' names in parentheses, but does not repeat the father's surname. For example, BREAUX, JEAN BAPTISTE (JEAN and MARIE BROUSSARD) b. 3 Nov. 1835, St. Martinville. This means that JEAN BAPTISTE BREAUX is the son of JEAN BREAUX and MARIE BROUSSARD. CYPRIEN TANGUAY in his volumes of Canadian genealogy, Dictionnaire des Familles Canadiennes, gives a number to the generations. An explanation for the numbering system used in the book, along with abbreviations, is included in the front of the book.

Do not assume that everything you find in print is true and correct. Use information in printed genealogies only as clues to further research. If the book has footnotes, check those sources to establish a preponderance of evidence. Ask yourself questions, such as how reliable is this information? If you have any doubts, ask questions; a librarian will know if a book is reliable or full of errors. But always remember to confirm the information you find in books with documentation.

When you are using books, remember to treat them with the proper care. Many genealogical books are old, fragile and often irreplaceable. Never underline, highlight or write in a book which does not belong to you. Do not "dog-ear" or fold down pages. Be careful not to break the spines of books. Use a bookmark or scrap of paper to mark your place; do not lay the pages of an open book down on a table to hold your place. Use care when photocopying to prevent folded or torn pages and damage to the spine of the book. Remember books are a genealogist's best friend!

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The Roman philosopher Cicero said, "Not to know what took place before you were born is to remain forever a child."



## GENEALOGICAL RESOURCES

(continued from Vol. 20 No. 1)

When you have reached a "brick wall" in your research and cannot think of any place else to look, try the following suggestions:

**MORTALITY SCHEDULES.** These were special enumerations taken for the years 1850, 1860, 1870 and 1880, and listed persons who had died during the preceding 12 months. Mortality schedules were also taken from 1890 and 1900, but these were destroyed by fire. Many of these mortality schedules have been microfilmed and are available from the National Archives or LDS Family History Centers; some have been published. Information in these records includes name, age, marital status, place of birth, occupation, cause of death and duration of illness. Sometimes comments were made by the census taker about the individual or his family.

**SPECIAL CENSUS.** Local, state and federal governments have taken many "special" censuses, which include agricultural and manufacturing censuses, and the 1911 census of Civil War Veterans (mostly for Union soldiers), Mortality Schedules (taken within the 12 months preceding the census for the years 1850, 1860, 1870 and 1890). State Census Records by ANN S. LEINHART tells what and when state censuses were taken, which have survived and where they are housed.

**RELIGIOUS SOURCES AND ARCHIVES.** Churches preserve records of the present, but religious archives collect and preserve older records of their denomination. Records may include minutes, newsletters, confirmations, marriage and baptismal records, death, funeral and burial information, and may give information such as names of family members, sponsors or godparents (who may have been family members), places of residence, ages or birth dates, place of birth and/or death, place of interment, etc. Some churches have church schools, yearbooks, directories or other publications. Request information from the local church or temple, and be sure to include a S.A.S.E. Most religious denominations have religious repositories or archives where old records may be found. Many of these records have been published or microfilmed. Some addresses for church archives follow:

AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES, 3101 Clifton Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45520

AMERICAN BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY, 1106 S. Goodman St., Rochester, NY

EPISCOPAL CHURCH ARCHIVES, P. O. Box 2247, Austin, TX 78767

NAZARENE CHURCH ARCHIVES, 6401 Paseo, Kansas City, MO 64131

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, Salem End and Badger Rd., Framingham, MA 01701

LUTHERAN CHURCH, 8765 W. Higgins Rd., Chicago, IL 60631

FRIENDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY (QUAKERS), Swathmore College, Swathmore, PA 19081

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 12330 Conway Rd., St. Louis, MO 63141

METHODIST CHURCH, P. O. Box 50434, Indianapolis, IN 46250

Also consult The Handy Book for Genealogists for additional addresses. Handbook of American Denominations may help you locate the records of churches which are no longer in existence.

**EXECUTIVE CORRESPONDENCE.** Correspondence between governors and colonial administrators to other persons, survive in many states. They show orders to various people, executive decisions on disputes and often name early residents of an area.

## INFORMATION FROM EXCHANGE PUBLICATIONS

The SWLGS exchanges periodicals with more than 70 other genealogical societies. These publications are excellent research tools and are housed with the collection of the Southwest Louisiana Genealogical & Historical Library, 411 Pujo St., Lake Charles. The following information has been gleaned from some of the periodicals.

**1758 MILITIA ROLL, ARKANSAS POST** is one of the few previously unpublished military lists for the old post. This document was found in the Archives des Colonies, and is published in the Louisiana Genealogical Register, Vol. XLII #4 (Dec. 1995), Baton Rouge, LA.

**MANX ROOTS.** A person from the Isle of Man, located in the Irish Sea between Ireland and Scotland, is known as a Manx. Neolithic ruins are proof that the tiny island has been inhabited for thousand of years, and the Celts and Vikings were among the people who lived on the island. After the Viking period ended, a long time of turmoil (1265-1765) followed as Scotland and England contended for ownership, with the English finally winning. MYLES STANDISH, the military leader of the Pilgrims, was a Manxman of Scandinavian descent. Other famous Manxmen were WILLIAM SAYLE, the first governor of the Carolina colony, and FLETCHER CHRISTIAN, a sailor who became a legend on the H.M.S. "Bounty" under Captain BLIGH. Although the island is small, genealogical research is not necessarily easy. Surnames have not remained static over the years, and lineage has been further confused by the high degree of illiteracy and misspelling of names. Some of the common surnames include COWLEY, CASEMENT, CASTELL, COTTIER, CORKILL, CORLETT, CRENELL, and COSTAIN, CRETNEY, CROWE, FARAGHER, GALE, GILL, GELLING, KILLIP, KNEEN, KINLEY, KEGGIN, LEWIN, LOONEY, MOORE, QUIRK, QUINE, QUANE, QUALYE, RADCLIFFE, STOWELL, SAYLE and SKELLY. Today, more than 500,000 Americans claim Manx roots. Glen Cowley. "A Good Manx is Hard to Find", Ancestry, Vol. 13 #4, July/Aug. 1995, Salt Lake City, UT.

**CHEROKEE ANCESTRY.** The Cherokees are probably the best known tribe, due to the infamous Trail of Tears, on which many were forced to march in the cold winter of 1838-39. Many of the Cherokees owned land and intermarried with white people. If you have Cherokee ancestry, see "On the Trail for Cherokee Ancestors" by MYRA GORMLEY (from Prodigy). Bluegrass Roots, Vol. 22 #4 (Winter 1995), Frankfurt, KY.

**PASSENGER & IMMIGRATION LISTS INDEX.** If you find a reference to your family in WILLIAM FILBY's books Passenger and Immigration Lists, it is possible to obtain a copy of the original source. Write the Burton Historical Collection, Detroit Public Library, 5201 Woodward Ave., Detroit, MI 48202 News 'N' Notes (May 1995), St. Louis, MO Genealogical Society.

**BLOCK FAMILY HISTORY.** An article by SWLGS member, W. T. BLOCK, traces his BLOCK ancestors to Prussia in 1846. He has also traced the SWEENEY family, the family of his mother SARAH JANE SWEENEY, to Virginia in 1655. Descendants of these SWEENEYs live in southwest Louisiana, especially Cameron Parish, today.

The Yellowed Pages, Vol. XXVI #1 (Spring 1996), Southeast Texas Genealogical & Historical Society, Beaumont, TX.

**REPUBLIC OF TEXAS DOCUMENTS.** The Claims Series of the Republic of Texas documents are being indexed and microfilmed by the Texas State Library. Although the activities that are the subject of the Claims occurred between 1835 and 1846, the records themselves date from the Revolution throughout the 19th century. They are among the most heavily used records in the State Archives, valuable alike for family and local historians, and to military and political researchers.

Victoria, Crossroads of South Texas, Vol. XVI #3 (Fall 1995), Victoria Co., TX Genealogical Society.

**MIGRATION PATTERNS FROM QUEBEC TO NEW ENGLAND.** Canadians migrated to New England in 3 waves...about the time of the Revolutionary War (in which many of them fought the English), at the time of the War of 1812, and about 1835-37 (during the Papineau Rebellion, an uprising of the French in the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario against the English control of Canada). Many of the French, fleeing for their lives to the U.S., adopted American translations of their French surnames. For example, Decelles became Sawyer, Descoteau became Hill, Fortier became Foote, Dion became Young, Bernier became Barney, etc. About 1845-50 more French Canadians poured into the mill towns of New England seeking work. Some fought in the Civil War.

American-Canadian Genealogist, Vol. 22 #1 (Winter 1996), Manchester, NH

**BRACKETING DATES WITH POSTAGE STAMPS.** Genealogists sometimes acquire letters and postcards bearing no date and with the cancellation date missing or unreadable. The date can be roughly determined by the denomination of the stamps. Some of the following dates may help you:

- 1639 First postal service in the colonies, at Boston
- 1691 Britain established North American postal service
- 1847 First U.S. postage stamp. Senders could have recipients pay (C.O.D.)
- 1852 First stamped envelopes
- 1855 Pre-payment became compulsory
- 1861 U.S. mail to Confederate states ceased; C.S.A. took over
- 1863 Uniform rates established, based solely on weight, regardless of distance. Rate was 3¢ for 1/2 oz.
- 1873 Postcards could be sent for 1¢
- 1883 Rate was reduced to 2¢ for 1/2 oz.
- 1893 First commemorative stamp (for World Columbian Exposition)
- 1917 Rate increased to 3¢ for 1/2 oz. Postcards cost 2¢
- 1924 Scheduled air-mail service began (postage 24¢)

Jur Heritage, Vol. 36 #4 (Summer 1994), San Antonio (TX) Genealogical & Historical Society

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**BRITISH 1881 CENSUS PROJECT.** This major project of indexing all the 1881 census entries for England, Scotland and Wales is near completion and may hold the key to your family's origins if they left the British Isles in the last decade of the 19th century. These records will be available on microfiche, which may be purchased by libraries or viewed at Family History Centers of the LDS.

**HISTORICAL SOURCES:** Use local histories to familiarize yourself with the world in which your ancestors lived, their dress, mode of transportation, culture, etc.

## QUERIES

Please make all queries clear, concise and easily understood. Give full names of the person; exact date, if known, or an approximate period (ca); and a location. Be sure to state exactly what information you are seeking. Queries are free to members and will be printed as space permits. When you receive an answer, please reimburse for copies and postage.

### **BREAUX, RENAULINE, TRAHAN, DESLODGES, CHARBONNEAU, BOUDREAUX/BOUDROT, AUCOIN, BOURG, RICHARD, BLANCHARD**

Need information on the following:

RENE BREAUX, b. ca 1600, France; m. MARIE RENAULINE, b. ca 1600, France.

GUILLAME TRAHAN, s/o NICOLAS TRAHAN and RENE DESLODGES; m. 13 July 1627, FRANCOISE CHARBONNEAU, b. ca 1610, France.

MICHEL BOUDREAUX/BOUDROT, b. ca 1600, LaRochelle, France; d. 1718, Acadia; m. ca 1640, MICHELLE AUCOIN, b. ca 1618, France.

SIMON BOURG, b. ca 1590, Martaise, France; wife unknown.

MARIE ANASTASIE RICHARD, d/o JOSEPH dit Levieux RICHARD and ANNE (CATHERINE) BLANCHARD, b. ca 1757.

ZILDA M. HEBERT, 535 Hillcrest, Gun Barrel City, TX 75147-8520

### **MIGUEZ, DIAZ, DE GUEYRO/DE QUERO, DE GRANO/GRAVO, ROMERO, DELESA/DEZEZAR, MORERO/MARERO, LA ROSA**

Desire information on the following:

FRANCISCO MIGUEZ and wife MARIA DIAZ.

SALVADORA DE GUEYRO (DE QUERO), b. ca 1754, Malaga, Spain; d. 1814, St. Martinville, La.; m. ca 1765, JEAN MIGUEZ.

MARIA DE GRANO/GRAVO, b. ca 1739, Malaga, Spain; d. 1814, St. Martin Parish, La.

FRANCISCO ROMERO and ISABELLA DELESA/DEZEZAR.

BARTOLOME MORERO/MARERO and JOSEPHA LA ROSA.

ZILDA M. HEBERT, 535 Hillcrest, Gun Barrel City, TX 75147-8520

### **BRUNING/BRUNNING/BRUENING, ZOELLER, JEFFREY, COCHRAN(E)**

Seeking information on the BRUNING, BRUNNING, BRUENING family of New Orleans area, probably Carrollton. THEODOR HEINRICH BRUNING (b. 1821, Prussia; d. 1871, New Orleans) m. CATHARINA ELIZABETA ZOELLER (b. 1821, Baden, Ger.; d. 1891, New Orleans). Their son JOSEPH BISMARCK BRUNING (b. 1860, New Orleans; d. 1917) m. 1880 JANET/JANETTE JEFFREY, d/o JOHN JEFFREY and JANET COCHRANE(E). Postage & copying will be refunded.

HILDA ZOE BRUNING, 22 Bishop Square, Lincoln, NE 68502

### **JACKSON, HESTER, EASON, GILL**

If anyone has information about THOMAS A. JACKSON (b. 19 Jan. 1828; d. 1 Sept. 1900), his wife CYNTHIA ANN EASON (or GILL) of Mississippi, or SARAH HESTER, please contact me. All are buried in Hagar Cemetery, near Ragley, LA.

GLENDIA JACKSON REED, 5 Buckner Circle, Ft. McClellan, AL 36205

### **BARTELL, PETRY**

Need parents and all information on HENRY H. BARTELL (b. ca 1830; d. 1884-1900) and wife ELIZABETH PETRY. He owned Mill Plantation in Henry, LA.

MARGARET RENTROP MOORE, 5307 Goos Ferry Rd., Lake Charles, LA 70615-3221

## BOOK REVIEWS

Records of Indentured Servants and of Certificates for Land, Northumberland County, Virginia, 1650-1795, compiled by W. PRESTON HAYNIE. 1996. \$31.50 plus \$4.00 shipping.

The aim of this book is (1) to give one a view of indentured servitude and (2) to aid in genealogical research. A study of court records pertaining to servants provides a more complete picture of colonial life in Virginia. "Their work not only increased the comfort and convenience of the family (of the planter) but provided it with income as well." Without this picture one's visual image of colonial life might be that only of the landed aristocracy. Such an image would fail to convey the hardships of the servants, their struggles and aspirations — their role in the colonial way of life. Almost 2,000 entries of transcripts are provided here, from record and order books kept between 1650 and 1795. Names mentioned in the early record and order books are rarely indexed; but this major new work contains an 81-page everyperson index of all persons named in the collected court documents.

Soft bound; 398 pp.; index. Order from Heritage Books, 1540-E Pointer Ridge Pl., Suite 300, Bowie, MD 20716. Payment accepted from Visa/Master Card/Checks/ Money Orders.

This is a complimentary copy from the publisher.

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The Settlers of the Beekman Patent, Dutchess County, New York: Volume I, by FRANK J. DOHERTY. 1990. \$85.00

This is volume I in a series which now includes volumes II and III. This volume is subtitled "an historical and genealogical study of all the 18th century settlers in the Patent." The material contained in this work includes general data about the Patent and the civil and military records. The opening touches on the 1680s and then proceeds into the 1700s. There are three chapters devoted to the Revolutionary War in which there are many military rosters. A number of letters written by HENRY BEEKMAN (1688-1776) have survived and are presented here in the chapter titled "Beekman-Livingston Letters." Following this is "Diary of ROBERT GILBERT LIVINGSTON, Jr., of Dover, 1782-Oct. 1785." There is an addenda plus a name index and subject index. The author has indicated he hopes to finish this project with the publication of volume IV and possibly that of V.

Hard cover; XVI, 885pp.; maps; indexes. Order from Frank J. Doherty, 181 Freedom Road, Pleasant Valley, New York 12569.

This is a complimentary copy from the author.

\*\*\*\*\*

LACHINE, QUEBEC PROVINCE, CANADA was the scene of a massacre by Iroquois Indians in 1689. If your ancestors died at Lachine in that year, you can be fairly certain of the cause of their death.

*Ancestor Chart*

Name of Compiler Verlin J. SONNIER Person No. 1 on this chart is the same person as No. \_\_\_\_\_ on chart No. \_\_\_\_\_.

Address 7511 Green Meadow Rd.

City, State Lake Charles, LA 70605

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Chart No. \_\_\_\_\_

16 Donot SONNIER I (Donato)b. 20 Feb. 1803 (Father of No. 8,  
Cont. on chart No. \_\_\_\_\_)

m. 17 Aug. 1824

d.

17 Emilite Francois CASINEAVOb. -- Jan. 1804 (Mother of No. 8,  
Cont. on chart No. \_\_\_\_\_)

d. Louisiana

d.

18 \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_ (Father of No. 9,  
Cont. on chart No. \_\_\_\_\_)

m.

d.

19 \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_ (Mother of No. 9,  
Cont. on chart No. \_\_\_\_\_)

d.

20 \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_ (Father of No. 10,  
Cont. on chart No. \_\_\_\_\_)

m.

d.

21 \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_ (Mother of No. 10,  
Cont. on chart No. \_\_\_\_\_)

d.

22 \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_ (Father of No. 11,  
Cont. on chart No. \_\_\_\_\_)

m.

d.

23 \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_ (Mother of No. 11,  
Cont. on chart No. \_\_\_\_\_)

d.

24 Clement FONTENOTb. 23 Oct. 1821 (Father of No. 12,  
Cont. on chart No. \_\_\_\_\_)

m. 28 Mar. 1893

d.

25 Marie Ann JANISb. 13 Oct. 1827 (Mother of No. 12,  
Cont. on chart No. \_\_\_\_\_)

d.

26 \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_ (Father of No. 13,  
Cont. on chart No. \_\_\_\_\_)

m.

d.

27 \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_ (Mother of No. 13,  
Cont. on chart No. \_\_\_\_\_)

d.

28 Jean Louis FONTENOTb. 27 Feb. 1730 (Father of No. 14,  
Cont. on chart No. \_\_\_\_\_)

m. 8 Oct. 1813

d.

29 Marie Francois DOUCETb. -- 1742 (Mother of No. 14,  
Cont. on chart No. \_\_\_\_\_)

d.

30 \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_ (Father of No. 15,  
Cont. on chart No. \_\_\_\_\_)

m.

d.

31 \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_ (Mother of No. 15,  
Cont. on chart No. \_\_\_\_\_)

d.

4 Donot SONNIER III

(Father of No. 2)

b. 20 Aug. 1864

p.b. Soileau, LA

m.

d. -- 1917

p.d. Soileau, LA

2 Louis SONNIER

(Father of No. 1)

b. 19 Sep. 1904

p.b. Soileau, LA

m. -- 1923

d. -- 1967

p.d. Kinder, LA

bur. Green Oak Cem., Kinder, LA

5 Constance BELL

(Mother of No. 2)

b.

p.b.

d.

p.d.

1 Verlin John SONNIER

b. 28 Oct. 1938

p.b. Edna, LA

m. 28 June 1958 - LA

d.

p.d.

6 Oscar FONTENOT

(Father of No. 3)

b. 21 May 1882

p.b. Kinder, LA

m. 18 Apr. 1903 - LA

d.

p.d.

3 Ienaise FONTENOT

(Mother of No. 1)

b. -- 1908

p.b. Kings Farm, LA

d. -- 1994

p.d. Kinder, LA

bur. Green Oak Cem., Kinder, LA

7 Ozavier FONTENOT

(Mother of No. 3)

b. 28 Mar. 1886

p.b. Kinder, LA

d. 8 May 1957

p.d. Kinder, LA

Elsye Mae NIX

(Spouse of No. 1)

b. 7 July 1940

p.b. Houston, TX

d.

p.d.

8 Donot SONNIER II

(Father of No. 4)

b. 26 Jan. 1831

p.b. Soileau, LA

m.

d. 15 Feb. 1898

p.d. Soileau, LA

9 Flavie LACASSE

(Mother of No. 4)

b. 11 Apr. 1832

p.b.

d. -- 1910

p.d. Soileau, LA

10 \_\_\_\_\_

(Father of No. 5)

b.

p.b.

m.

d.

p.d.

11 \_\_\_\_\_

(Mother of No. 5)

b.

p.b.

d.

p.d.

12 Leeza FONTENOT

(Father of No. 6)

b. 14 July 1854

p.b. Kinder, LA

m. 4 Jan. 1925

d. -- Jan. 1928

p.d. Indian Village, LA

13 Amellia LORMAND

(Mother of No. 6)

b.

p.b.

d.

p.d.

14 Faustin FONTENOT

(Father of No. 7)

b. 16 Feb. 1858

p.b.

m.

d.

p.d.

15 Angelina NEVILS

(Mother of No. 7)

b.

p.b.

d.

p.d.

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1996



**SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.** is a non-profit, educational organization, organized in 1973 to gather, process and preserve genealogical material. Its objectives are to promote interest in genealogy, to encourage and assist its members in genealogical research, and to conduct such subsidiary projects as shall contribute to that end. SWLGS was incorporated in 1991. The Society does not maintain an office. Telephone numbers listed in **KINFOLKS** are private numbers. All work is done by volunteers.

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**SWLGS** holds its regular meetings on the 3rd Saturday of January, March, May, September and November at 10:00 A.M. in the Calcasieu Health Unit Auditorium, 721 E. Prien Lake Road (corner of Prien Lake Road and Kirkman St.), Lake Charles, LA. Programs include a variety of topics to instruct and interest genealogists.

**KINFOLKS** is published quarterly. Issues should be received by the middle of March, May, September and December. Please return the complete issue for replacement if any pages are missing. Notify the SWLGS of a change of address as soon as possible. Queries are free to members, \$2 for non-members. Single issues are \$4.00. Back issues are available from 1977. Advertising rates are available upon request. **KINFOLKS** is indexed in the Periodical Source Index (PERSI), Fort Wayne, IN, and Genealogical Periodical Annual Index.

**EDITORIAL POLICY** - We encourage and welcome contributions for inclusion in **KINFOLKS**, especially unpublished material pertaining to southwest Louisiana. However, we will accept genealogical material referring to other areas. We strive to publish only reliable genealogical information, but neither the SWLGS nor the editors assume responsibility for accuracy of fact or opinion expressed by contributors. Articles are written by the editor unless otherwise specified. We reserve the right to edit and/or reject material not suitable for publication. Articles and queries will be included as space permits. Please send contributions directly to the editor, BETTY ROSTEET, 2801 St. Francis St., Sulphur, LA, 70663, phone 318/625-4740. Permission is granted to republish information from **KINFOLKS**, provided the SWLGS and the author or compiler (if identified) is given due credit.

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**SOCIETY ITEMS FOR SALE** - Ancestor Charts, Vol. I (1985) \$21.95 ppd; Ancestor Charts & Tables, Vol. II (1988) \$21.95 ppd; Ancestor Charts & Tables, Vol. III (1991) \$25.00 ppd; Ancestor Charts & Tables, Vol. IV (1994) \$25.00 ppd; Civil War Veterans of Old Imperial Calcasieu Parish, LA (Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron and Jefferson Davis Parishes) \$40.00 ppd; Subject Index (Vol. I (1977) through Vol. 18 (1994) \$5.00 ppd; SWLGS tote bags, \$10.00 plus \$1.44 p/h. Order from SWLGS, P. O. Box 5652, Lake Charles, LA 70606-5652.

**NEW LOUISIANA MAP AND BROCHURE** is available free through the Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Office of State Parks, PO Box 44426, Baton Rouge, LA 70894-4426. The map shows all major Civil War battles, including southwest Louisiana's Battle of Calcasieu Pass. It also shows fortifications, camps, national cemeteries and major campaigns in the state. The brochure tells of the history of the war in Louisiana and has articles on museums and plantations in the state.

**SWLGS COMPUTER USERS GROUP** meets the first Saturday of the month at 1:00 P.M. at the SW LA Genealogical & Historical Library, 411 Pujos St., Lake Charles. Its purpose is to share ideas and learn new ways of obtaining, recording and utilizing genealogical information. We have had programs on genealogy on the Internet, and several different genealogy software programs. Anyone interested in this subject is invited. For more information, contact the SW LA Genealogical and Historical Library (437-3490) or JAN CRAVEN (855-4465).

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*\*\*\*\*

The SWLGS will publish its fifth volume of Ancestor Charts and Tables in 1997. Complete instructions for submitting charts or ahnentafels can be found in Vol. 20 #3 of KINFOLKS. If you do not have five generations completed on your chart, please submit those lines that you do have. We ask that all members turn in their charts or ahnentafels as soon as possible. Please support your Society in this endeavor.

### ANCESTOR CHARTS & TABLES, VOL. V - 1997

\*\*\*\*\*

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### NEW MEMBERS

\*\*\*\*\*

Remember to bring canned goods or monetary contribution for our Thanksgiving Basket to be given to Oak Park Pantry.

-----

Guests are welcome.

Fellowship and coffee begin at 9:30 A.M. JOIN US!!!

Confederate Indians."

The program will be presented by MARGIE FINDLEY. Her topic will be "American

St.), Lake Charles, LA.

The November Meeting will be held on Saturday, November 16, at 10:00 A.M. in the Calcasieu Health Unit Auditorium, 721 E. Prien Lake Rd. (corner of Prien Lake Rd. and Kirkman

### NOVEMBER MEETING

### SOCIETY NEWS

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- NOVEMBER 16 SATURDAY - SWLGS REGULAR MEETING - 10:00 A.M.**  
**CALCASIEU HEALTH UNIT AUDITORIUM, 721 E. PRIEN LAKE RD.,L.C**  
**PROGRAM - "AMERICAN CONFEDERATE INDIANS"**  
**SPEAKER - MARGIE FINDLEY**
- 1997**
- JANUARY 18 SATURDAY - SWLGS REGULAR MEETING - 10:00 A.M.**  
**CALCASIEU HEALTH UNIT AUDITORIUM, 721 E. PRIEN LAKE RD.,L.C**  
**PROGRAM - "SHOW AND TELL" PRESENTED BY MEMBERS OF SWLGS**
- MARCH 15 SATURDAY - SWLGS REGULAR MEETING - 10:00 A.M.**  
**CALCASIEU HEALTH UNIT AUDITORIUM, 721 E. PRIEN LAKE RD.,L.C**  
**PROGRAM - TO BE ANNOUNCED**
- APRIL 26 Louisiana Genealogical & Historical Society Annual Seminar**  
 Catfish Town, Belle of Baton Rouge Argosy Landing, North Depot Ballroom,  
 107 France St., Baton Rouge, LA - 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.  
 Speaker - MARALYN A. WELLAUER of Milwaukee, WI  
 Topics: Emigration and Immigration: Routes and Records. (General European)  
 Finding the Ancestral Place of Origin in Switzerland. (Swiss); Seldom Used  
 Keys to Success in German Research. (German); Tracing the Pedigree of a  
 Pre-1850 German Ancestor. (German)  
 Registration fee (includes lunch, coffee breaks and free parking) is \$27.50  
 until April 1, 1997; \$32.50 after this date.. Mail to LA Genealogical &  
 Historical Society, PO Box 82060, Baton Rouge, LA 70884-2060.
- MAY 7-10 NGS Conference in the States, Valley Forge, Pennsylvania**  
 Pennsylvania - Cradle of A Nation  
 For registration: NGS Conference, 4527 17th St. N, Arlington, VA 22207
- SEPTEMBER 3-6 The 1997 FGS/DGS Conference - Dallas, Texas**  
 "Unlock Your Heritage With Creative Problem Solving"  
 For information: FGS, P. O. Box 830220, Richardson, TX 75083-0220

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## SOCIETY LIBRARY ADDITIONS

*Genealogical Guide to Tracing Ancestors in Germany* by Margaret Krug Palen  
*What Did They Mean by That?* by Paul Drake, J.D.  
*The New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, Vol. XXXVIII (1884) and  
 Vol. XXXIX (1885)  
*Natali Memoirs* by Dorothy Belle Natali  
*Southwest Louisiana Records*, Vol. 41 (1909) by Rev. Donald J. Hebert  
*Mississippi Valley Melange* by Winston De Ville

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The SWLGS bought this book for your use. It is a collection of notes and documents for the genealogy and history of the Province of Louisiana and the Territory of Orleans, translated into English. Among the articles is a list of French troops of Illinois in 1752, the census of Opelousas Post in 1774, a tax list of Southwest Louisiana Ranchers ca 1810 and other informative data.)



## **THE NEUTRAL ZONE**

DON C. MARLER of Woodville, Texas, was the speaker at the September meeting of the SWLGS. Mr. MARLER is the author of several books and owns the Dogwood Press, which specializes in books about southeast Texas and southwest Louisiana. The following article is extracted from his talk on the Neutral Zone.

I want to put a little historical context to the era and the area that we will be talking about today. One of the things that makes history so difficult is that you lose the time relationship to other events. You learn in history that the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock in 1620, 128 years after COLUMBUS discovered America, but we don't hear much about what else was going on. The Spaniards were in Mexico before 1500. Around that time they had already introduced the first printing press to North America and had established roads. DeVACA had already explored this area, just 36 years after COLUMBUS discovered America. In 1565, 73 years after the discovery, the Spaniards founded San Augustine, Florida. The Pilgrims were not even born yet. Jamestown, Virginia, was not founded until 1607, 115 years after America was discovered, and the Pilgrims landed in 1620, 128 years after the discovery. LaSALLE explored the Mississippi River area in 1682. Natchitoches was founded in 1714, 222 years after the discovery of America. In 1717 Los Adais, the Spanish capital of Texas, was established near Robeline, Louisiana, and was the first non-Indian settlement in the Neutral Zone proper. The American Revolutionary War was fought from 1775 to 1783, 282 years after the continent was discovered. During this war the Spanish drove cattle across the area to support the Americans against the British. Only 20 years after the Revolutionary War, in 1803, the Louisiana Purchase was made.

After the Louisiana Purchase, Spain and the U.S. got into an argument about where the boundaries were. The U.S. was in an expansive mood; Spain was over-extended and was not nearly as aggressive as the U.S. The U.S. claimed their border extended to the Rio Grande; the Spanish said it was the Red River. Eventually both backed down on their claims and the U.S. claimed the Sabine River while Spain claimed the Rio Hondo River, a branch of which extended to the Calcasieu.

They were almost at the point of fighting. They drew up troops on both sides of the river. In 1796, 13 years after the war, General JAMES WILKINSON assumed command of the U.S. Army. General WILKINSON was stationed at Natchitoches to defend the U.S. claims; General HERRERA was the Spanish commandant. They made a field treaty that established a Neutral Zone of about 500 square miles, into which neither side could send troops or peace officers. (See accompanying map.) It was called by other names, such as the Neutral Strip, No Man's Land and Stinking Hell. At one point it was proposed that it be named the Free State of Sabine, and would be a state of outlaws.

You will hear at times that the Neutral Zone extended into Texas; that is only partly true. Spain was concerned about too many immigrants coming into her territory from the east, because her defenses were stretched too thin, so she unofficially extended the Neutral Zone 20 leagues further into Texas. In 1806 a treaty created an official Neutral Zone. It was a wild and woolly area, full of swamps, canebrakes, marshes, forests and Indians. There were less than 30 white families in the area. It was unsafe to go across the Neutral Zone without an armed party. Things eventually got so bad that both sides went in to clean the outlaws out, but the outlaws knew the land. They left their shacks and retreated to the canebrakes and swamps where they couldn't be found. In 1810 Mexico rebelled and won her independence from Spain. By 1819 the boundaries between Mexican Texas and the U.S. were unofficially resolved and by 1821 they were resolved officially.

From the 1790s there were several filibusters, which were privately financed armies whose plan was to set up independent states. These were usually organized at Natchitoches. Some groups

were composed of residents of the Neutral Zone. Many of them stole horses from Texas and sold them in the east.

JAMES WILKINSON was the commander of the entire U.S. Army. He was also a self-serving, outlaw and a double agent for Spain. He corrupted many men, including PHILIP NOLAN, who was warned not to go to Texas and was killed by the Spanish in 1801. He had about 27 men with him, who were captured and taken to Mexico. One of these was PETER ELLIS BEAN, a gunsmith from the Neutral Zone, who was taken to Mexico where he made guns and gunpowder for the Mexicans. They asked him to go to New Orleans to raise money for their war against Spain. At New Orleans he participated in the War of 1812, then returned to Mexico.

One of the filibusters was led by the MAGEE family who settled near Newton, Texas. They burned shacks and captured outlaws in the Neutral Zone, but these actions had no permanent results. ZEBULON PIKE, for whom Pike's Peak is named, was assigned by WILKINSON to clean out the outlaws in the Neutral Zone, but again the outlaws retreated to the swamps and canebrakes where no one could follow. General JAMES LONG, whose wife JANE was a niece of WILKINSON, lived at Bolivar near Galveston. LONG left for Mexico and was killed; she was left there with a child and a young slave. She had a sister in Alexandria named BARBARA CALVIT.

Another person who was taken in by WILKINSON was AARON BURR. BURR is probably the most unfairly maligned politician in American history because of his clash with THOMAS JEFFERSON. In 1807 AARON BURR led another filibuster to the Neutral Zone. Using the Neutral Zone as a staging ground, he also tried to set up an independent state in Texas and to separate Mexico from Spanish control. Some said that he wanted to set himself up as Emperor. The other charge brought against him was that he tried to separate the Western states, particularly Kentucky, from the Union. There was no evidence of that claim, but it was not illegal. In those days there were provisions for becoming a state and also provisions for leaving the Union. The family of Dr. TIMOTHY BURR of Burr's Ferry near Natchitoches maintains that TIMOTHY BURR was the cousin of AARON and came to Louisiana to assist in AARON BURR'S plots. However, the first written record of TIMOTHY'S presence in Louisiana was in 1809 and there is no proof that he was here early enough.

In 1802 JEAN LAFFITE was active in the New Orleans/Barataria area. Although the term "pirate" has been applied to him, LAFFITE was more a privateer than pirate. He was a smuggler, welcomed by people who wanted to avoid paying taxes on goods. The U.S. government hired privateers, including the LAFFITES, to keep the Gulf of Mexico clear of British and Spanish ships. The anti-slave law of 1808 had a big impact on the Neutral Zone. It forbade the importation of slaves, but plantation owners demanded more slaves for labor and illegal slaves became a big business. LAFFITE smuggled in slaves and sold them from baracoons, large enclosures where slaves were displayed, along the Sabine and Calcasieu Rivers. Slaves weighed an average of 140 pounds and sold for about \$1.00 a pound. They were bought for future sale upriver, where they were sold for \$1000 to \$1800 each. There is a story about 60 slaves who escaped from one of LAFFITE'S baracoons and went to Texas and joined some Indians. These slaves were never found.

In 1810 Mexico won her freedom from Spain. By 1812 the war between the U.S. and England had begun, Louisiana had been admitted as a state and NAPOLEON was still active in Europe. The Battle of New Orleans took place in 1815, with the LAFFITE brothers and their privateers assisting General JACKSON. It was here that JEAN LAFFITE made contacts and met some of his future trading partners, some of whom were from, or moved to, the Neutral Zone. After the War of 1812 the U.S. had no more need to hire privateers, so they cleared out Barataria Bay, and in 1817 LAFFITE moved his headquarters to Galveston. He continued to trade in the Neutral Zone, as farmers along the Red River, Bayou Rapides and Bayou Boeuf created an unprecedented demand for slaves. He was in the slave trade with the BOWIE brothers, who lived up the Sabine



River, and with ARSENE LeBLEU, who lived near Lake Charles. CHARLES SALLIER, the brother-in-law of LeBLEU, was said to have shot his wife, CATHERINE SALLIER, over a brooch supposedly given to her by LAFFITE. (See story in KINFOLKS, Vol. 18 No. 3.) After the shooting SALLIER was said to have disappeared, but in 1823 he testified on the behalf of two men who left with him in 1800. He also wrote a letter to the Spanish regarding LAFFITE'S activities in Galveston.

The Neutral Zone Treaty was terminated unofficially in 1818 and officially in 1821, and settlers started coming to the Neutral Zone and to Texas in earnest. Rev. JOSEPH WILLIS, who came to the Neutral Zone about 1804, was the first Protestant preacher west of the Mississippi. He established over 20 churches in the area. WILLIS was called a "Red Bone", a term we associate today with Melungeon heritage. Other early families included DYAL/DOYLE, NASH, BOWIE, O'QUIN and PERKINS from the Carolinas and JAMES GROVES. All had slaves. RESIN BOWIE (the father of JAMES BOWIE) and others who settled in the Neutral Zone, had fought with FRANCIS MARION, the "Swamp Fox" in the Revolutionary War and the tactics they learned then survived through their descendants. JAMES GROVES, a wealthy Indian weighing over 300 pounds, brought race horses and glass windows with him and had a trading post. About 1850/51 at the Rawhide Fight at Walnut Hill (now called Oakdale), which was on the crossroads for the stage coach, so many were killed that corpses were laid out on GROVES' hides. The dead were buried in the Glass Window Cemetery.

Other events in the history of the Neutral Zone were the Regulator/Moderator War (1826), the Fredonia Rebellion (late 1830s), the Runaway Scrape in the Texas Revolution (1836). During the Civil War the Neutral Zone was a natural haven for those who were too lazy to fight, did not believe in fighting or did not want to fight. Southwest Louisiana was troubled by 3 or 4 groups of Jayhawkers, many of whom made their home in the Neutral Zone.

The land was covered by thick forests and logging was a small operation until after 1865 when the lumber industry began, and new people came into the area. RESIN BOWIE had a one-man steam powered mill. When the vast forests of the Neutral Zone were discovered after the Civil War, the turpentine plants came first to squeeze the sap from the trees before they were cut down. With them came prostitution. When the big lumber companies came in, they brought in their own stores, schools and politicians.

Outlaws from the Neutral Zone included the COPELAND gang, Rev. JOHN MURRELL, JAMES "CALICO DICK" McARTHUR, the MAGEE family, ELI and WILEY CADE, HIRAM MIDKIFF, PETER PARKER and his four brothers (who ran the only boarding house between Natchitoches and Texas and murdered his guests), WILLIAM JENNINGS, WILLIAM TULLY and JOHN BLACK. They made counterfeit money, robbed, murdered and took horses. They altered the saddles of victims and refitted and repainted their wagons. The PARKERS were educated people and later joined STEPHEN AUSTIN'S colony in Texas. There were the YOKUM family and THOMAS JEFFERSON "RED" GOLDMAN (an outlaw in the 1930s). "LEATHER BRITCHES" SMITH was a famous outlaw in 1912. JOSH PERKINS was an outlaw who worked with a lumber crew in one of the sawmills. The WEST and KIMBRELL gang operated from New Orleans to Mexico about 1872 and probably killed more people than any other outlaw group.

By 1890 railroads were brought in to serve the sawmills. Steam power replaced one-man hand operated mills. The timber industry of the late 19th and early 20th century and the Army Camps established during and after WWI also added to the lawlessness of the area.

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For further information, contact Mr. MARLER at Southwest Consultation Services, Inc., Dogwood Press, Rt. 2 Box 3270, Woodville, TX 75979 (phone 409/837-5519).



## **SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA'S NEUTRAL ZONE**

Louisiana was discovered and explored by the Spanish in 1543, but they made no claim to the region. In 1682 LaSALLE claimed the lands for France. He also established a settlement on the Texas coast, but this settlement soon disappeared and France made no further effort to establish a colony west of the Sabine River. After a hundred years of French control, by a secret treaty in 1762, France transferred the Louisiana Territory to Spain. News of the transfer was received with strong discontent among the colonists. Spain did not take full possession until 1769, at which time Spanish law and language officially replaced the French, but the colony remained essentially French in language, law and culture.

The 1769 treaty also left the Spanish in control of the Mississippi River, which had been used as a main water route from Canada and the north since it was discovered. Every sort of craft...keelboats, flatboats, rafts, boats with shallow drafts, pirogues, and later, steamboats...took cargoes down the river to New Orleans. The goods were sold, the flatboat or raft was broken up and sold for lumber in New Orleans, and the men either returned home by ship to an eastern port, walked all the way back or worked their way upstream on a keelboat. Spain's control of the Mississippi and the port city of New Orleans created a fear that they would limit or regulate trade, so intrigue was constantly plotted to keep the Mississippi free for trading.

After the Revolutionary War the trans-Allegheny region and other lands in the west were opened to settlement, and the country began looking for new trade and new markets. In 1795 Spain recognized the Mississippi River as the western border of the newly formed United States, and free trade was assured down the river. An unexpected end came to the free trade policy in 1800 when Spain ceded the Louisiana Territory, including New Orleans, back to France. In 1803 at the time of the Louisiana Purchase, the entire region had a population of only 80,000. President JEFFERSON appointed WILLIAM C. C. CLAIBORNE, the first governor of Louisiana.

The Louisiana Purchase established no specific boundaries to the vast lands. Papers in the French archives vaguely hinted at the border being the Rio Grande. Spain claimed the land to the Rio Hondo and Calcasieu Rivers; the U.S. maintained that the Sabine River was its southwestern boundary. As a result, disputes over the land were constant, plots and intrigues occurred regularly, and threats of war were a continual threat. In his message to Congress in 1805, JEFFERSON stated that Spanish raids along American borders were sufficient cause for war. Americans expected a declaration of war, along with the seizure of Spanish Florida and Texas, at any time but JEFFERSON avoided war and began to negotiate for Florida.

In 1806 Spain sent troops to establish a post on its western border, near Natchitoches. Naturally, the people of Louisiana felt threatened, and armed themselves. Finally in 1806 Spanish and American military officers signed a field agreement which established a buffer zone into which neither side would send troops until official boundaries were established.

The land between these claims was heavily forested with pines, cypress and oaks and became known by various terms such as the Sabine Strip, No Man's Land, the Neutral Zone, the Neutral Ground, the Neutral Strip and the Back Door to the U.S. It was an ideal haven for renegade Indians (who had for years stolen mules and horses from the Mexicans and sold them at Natchitoches), runaway slaves, army deserters, criminals, cattle rustlers and those who wanted to escape law and order in general. It was an isolated area, where land was free for the taking, with plenty of game and fish. It was close to Spanish Texas, always a good place to raid for cattle and horses, and there was easy access to the Gulf of Mexico for smugglers. Laws were neither established or enforced. Therefore, the Neutral Zone became the refuge for outlaws of every kind and variety who used it as a base to raid and devastate other areas.

There were only two main roads across the Neutral Zone, the Old Spanish Trail which crossed from Natchitoches, Louisiana, to Nacogdoches, Texas, and the Opelousas road which followed the present-day highway from Lake Charles to Orange, Texas. Other obscure trails were used by hunters, trappers and Indians. Travel was not safe through the area except in large, armed bands and it became noted for "robberies, murders, and other crimes of an infamous and outstanding character." Finally the situation got so bad that both Mexico and the U.S. violated their treaty and sent in armed troops to clean out the outlaws. In 1812 the U.S. sent ZEBULON MONTGOMERY PIKE with a force of about 40 men. They captured only 16 men; the outlaws knew the land and could elude or escape their captors. But the U.S. troops patrolled the countryside to the Sabine, destroying everything in their path, a policy which created even more hate for authority among the residents of the Neutral Zone.

Smuggling was one of the main businesses in the Neutral Zone. All sorts of goods...cloth, spices, jewels, slaves, sugar, rum...were smuggled through the area and sent to Opelousas, New Orleans and Alexandria, for the benefit of those who did not want to pay tariffs and taxes. When the Louisiana Purchase opened new lands to settlers, the demand for slaves reached a new peak, but in 1808 the U.S. prohibited the importation of slaves. This act presented a golden opportunity for the smuggling of slaves. JEAN LAFFITE is said to have sold goods and slaves through contacts in the Neutral Strip, as well as through his land agent, ARSENE LeBLEU.

In 1818 JAMES and REZIN BOWIE, who had fought in the War of 1812 and had contact with LAFFITE, formed a company to buy contraband slaves from LAFFITE in Galveston. Baracoons, holding pens for slaves, were set up on the Sabine River at Ballew's Ferry, just 10 miles north of Orange, Texas, and at Contraband Bayou near Lake Charles. In 1819 JAMES BOWIE was made a colonel in Dr. JAMES LONG'S "army" when LONG came to the Neutral Strip to recruit fighters to liberate the settlers west of the Sabine from Spanish rule. The attempt was not successful, and the outlaws returned to the Neutral Strip. But the scene was set for JAMES BOWIE to fight the Mexicans once again at the Alamo.

From 1803 until after the War of 1812, several expeditions were organized in Louisiana to help Texans, Mexicans and citizens of Latin American countries win their independence from Spain, fight in rebellions against their governments or to establish independent colonies along the borders of the disputed territory. The headquarters for these so-called "filibustering expeditions" were in New Orleans at cafes such as Turpin's Coffee House on Marigny Street, Maspero's Exchange on Chartres and Banks' Arcade on Magazine. Opportunists like AARON BURR and JAMES WILKINSON (a double agent for the U.S. and Spain) tried to take land from the Spaniards or to establish independent colonies.

The Florida Purchase Treaty of 1819 established the Sabine River as the boundary between Louisiana and Spanish Texas. In 1821 Mexico won her independence from Spain and the Sabine River was officially established as the boundary between the U.S. and Mexican Texas, but relations between the two countries remained strained. Fearing the increasing Protestant Anglo-American immigration from the east, Mexico built forts west of the Sabine River to control the influx of immigrants and to protect Mexican settlements. In 1823 the Mexicans forced STEPHEN AUSTIN'S colony in Texas back across the Neutral Strip, from which some of AUSTIN'S colonists originally came. It was about this time that Fort Atchison was established on the lake at what is now Lake Charles to act as a defense against Mexican aggression into southwest Louisiana. It was also at this time that LAFFITE and his men were run out of Galveston. Many of these privateers made their way up the Sabine River established themselves in the Neutral Zone.

Among the inhabitants of the Neutral Zone in or before 1821, who were said to be associates of LAFFITE were: WILLIAM SMITH, who lived on the Calcasieu; ARSENE LeBLEU, who lived at English Bayou; JOHN AYRES; LATNEY PARROTT; RAYMOND DALEY; HENRY GRIFFITH; MICHEL de RIVIERE (PITHON); JAMES CAMPBELL; JEAN BAPTISTE CALLISTRE; HENRY

PERRY; CHARLES SALLIER, who lived on Lake Charles; PIERRE GUILLOTTE; HENRI NUNEZ; BURELL I. FRANKS and others.

In 1824 in what is now Shelby Co., Texas, American settlers declared their freedom from Mexico and established the Republic of Fredonia. Mexican troops soon restored the Republic to Mexico, and the settlers fled across the Sabine River to the relative safety of the Neutral Strip. In 1835 the War for Texas Independence began and headlines in the New Orleans Bee stated, "Americans to the Rescue." New Orleans cafes again became headquarters for those who wished to aid the Texans. Hundreds of Louisiana men joined up to fight or to give money or supplies. Many of these men passed through the Neutral Strip on their way to Texas. In 1836 Texas settlers were forced to flee to the Strip in the so-called "Runaway Scrape" when they were pursued by SANTA ANA'S Mexican forces. Military aid from Fort Jessup, which had been built in 1823 near Many, Louisiana, to bring law and order to the Neutral Zone, helped defeat the Mexican general. Fort Jessup remained an important military post until the 1840s.

Famous outlaws who had a connection with the Neutral Strip included JOHN A. MURRELL (whose sobriquet was Reverend Devil); HIRAM MIDKIFF, who was probably a member of MURRELL'S gang; JOHN ROBERT WEST; DAN, MARY (WILLIAMS) and JOHN KIMBRELL; JOE McGEE and his sons, BILL, BOWIE, BIG BUD and LITTLE BUD; the PARKER brothers; the COPELAND gang, including JAMES COPELAND, GALE H. WAGES and JAMES "JIM" McARTHUR (alias "Calico Dick"); JOSH PERKINS; the HORTON gang; and many others. WILLIAM WOODRUFF was a notorious outlaw of the Strip who was responsible for murdering every person in Spanish Village near the mouth of Anacoco Creek on the Texas side of the Sabine. It is said that BELLE STARR and JESSE JAMES also visited the Strip.

By the time of the War Between the States (1861-1865) the Neutral Zone was an ideal place into which deserters, Jayhawkers and draft dodgers could disappear. Nightriders and Jayhawkers ambushed and raided both sides, preyed on defenseless homes, and passed on military information. Several of these groups who operated in southwest Louisiana and southeast Texas had their homes and headquarters in the Neutral Strip. A group of about 200 mounted men led by OZEMA CARRIERE operated from the Mallet Woods area and were known as the Mermentau Jayhawkers. Another band operated from the Hineston area near Alexandria. DUNCAN SMITH was one of the well-known Jayhawkers and Union sympathizers of Cameron Parish. After the war many disillusioned and embittered veterans who turned to a life of crime also came to the Neutral Zone.

Jayhawkers contributed to the Union victory in Louisiana. They not only caused deaths and property damage in Louisiana and Texas, but used men and weapons needed for the war in an effort to control them. Vigilante groups, such as the Home Guard (composed of men too old to fight in the regular army) and Regulators also hunted the Jayhawkers in the swamps, thickets and canebrakes.

The southern section of the Neutral Zone was in southwest Louisiana, an area heavily forested with pines, cypresses and oaks. It was virtually a wilderness, with few settlers before 1819. By the 1890s the virgin forests of southwest Louisiana and the rest of the Neutral Zone were discovered by the "Michigan men" and the timber barons. Lumber companies invaded the woods, cut down the trees, built sawmills and company houses, and established company stores. Some paid the men in company scrip, instead of money. Company stores were established which took the scrip as payment, but selections were necessarily limited and the goods were often overpriced. All sorts of abuses occurred; some of the companies used the housing and company store to control their employees, as told in the song, "I owe my soul to the company store."

In retaliation, workers at some of the companies decided to organize labor unions. At Fullerton, ARTHUR L. EMERSON, a former millwright, organized the Brotherhood of Timber Workers in

1910. Disagreements between the companies and the union continued, and gunfighters were hired to protect company property and enforce rules. Soon both sides were armed, and in July 1912 when the union demand that workers at the Graybow mill near Merryville be paid every two weeks was refused, a strike was called. The result was a riot in which several men were killed and was one of the earliest examples of violent strikes in the U.S. The violence of the Neutral Zone continued.

#### SOURCES:

Edwin Adams Davis, *Louisiana, The Pelican State*, Baton Rouge, LA, LSU Press (1972)  
Don C. Marler, *The Neutral Zone: Backdoor to the U.S.*, Woodville, TX, Dogwood Press (1995) .  
Garnie William McGinty, *A History of Louisiana*, NY, The Exposition Press (1949)

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### TIMELINE 1800-1820

The years at the turn of the 19th century were transitional times and marked many changes. Revolutions, with social and political consequences, had just occurred in the American colonies and France. The struggling, young U.S., and old Europe were dominated by new ideas with emphasis on equality and individual expression. The Industrial Revolution, which had begun in the previous century, was continuing and accelerating as men sought mechanical sources of power and new machinery to help with work. During this period NAPOLEON BONAPARTE rose to power, and the Napoleonic Wars raged throughout Europe. NAPOLEON decided to sell the whole territory of Louisiana for \$15 million. President THOMAS JEFFERSON accepted the offer, although no provision was made in the constitution for acquiring lands in this way. JEFFERSON later said that he had "stretched the Constitution until it cracked." With a stroke of a pen, and an exchange of money, the size of the U.S. was doubled. The money to pay for the lands was borrowed from English and Dutch bankers. Many exciting things were also happening in the rest of the world between 1800 and 1820. These events were those our ancestors were experiencing.

**AUSTRALIA.** Flinders circumnavigated the continent. Settlers arrived in Tasmania.

**AUSTRIA.** Defeated at battles of Marengo, Hohenlinden, Ulm. Emperor Francis II of the Holy Roman Empire became Emperor Francis I of Austria. Metternich, new Austrian chancellor. Princess Marie Louise married Napoleon as his second wife.

**CHINA.** Christian literature forbidden.

**DENMARK.** England destroyed Danish fleet at Battle of Copenhagen.

**EGYPT.** Mohammed Ali appointed Pasha by Sultan of Turkey.

**ENGLAND.** British control of India continued. Act of Union between Great Britain and Ireland created the United Kingdom. First treaty with Afghanistan. Slave trade abolished throughout the British Empire. First steam locomotive and first iron bridge built. War with France. Lord Horatio Nelson defeated Franco-Spanish fleet at Battle of Trafalgar, ending threat of French invasion of England. British take-over of Cape Colony in South Africa caused resentment of Dutch farmers (Boers).

**FRANCE.** Napoleonic Wars rage on. Sold Louisiana to U.S. Napoleon crowned himself Emperor of the French, symbolizing independence from the Catholic Church. Gained most of Italy. Defeated Austrian and Russian armies at Austerlitz. Abolished Holy Roman Empire. Conquered Prussia and Portugal. Franco-Spanish fleet defeated at Trafalgar. Napoleon divorced Josephine, married Marie Louise of Austria. Quelled revolt in Santo Domingo. Haiti gained independence from France.

**GERMANY.** Ludwig von Beethoven composed classical music. In Prussia, intellectual and cultural nationalism. Fichte preached the necessity for a German revival based on patriotic virtue and mystical German past, setting a basis for WWI and WWII. National system of education. University of Berlin founded. The philosopher, Goethe wrote. Prussian General von Blucher led fight against Napoleon.

**HOLLAND.** Annexed by France. Louis Bonaparte became King.

**ITALY.** Pius VII made Pope, 1800. Physicist Alessandro Volta produced first electric battery, 1800.

**MEXICO.** Revolution against Spanish rulers.

**LATIN AMERICA.** Independence movements in various countries. Simon Bolivar active in revolutionary movements.

**PORTUGAL.** Explorers began trek across Africa. After country was captured by French, royal family fled to Brazil. Portuguese court established at Rio de Janeiro.

**RUSSIA.** Assassination of Tsar Paul; Alexander I, crowned Tsar of Russia. At war with Persia over annexation of Georgia. At war with Napoleon.

**SPAIN.** Joseph Bonaparte established as King. Peninsular War fought.

**SWEDEN.** Ally of Britain against Napoleon. At war with Russia. Gustavus IV deposed; replaced by elderly, childless uncle King Charles XIII. Throne was offered to France's Marshall Bernadotte, who was instrumental in Napoleon's defeat.

**TURKEY.** At war with Russia and Britain.

**U.S.A.** Washington, D.C. established as permanent capital. Louisiana Purchase, 1803. Ohio became 17th state, Louisiana became 18th. Lewis and Clark explored Louisiana Territory and northwestern lands to the Pacific.

**LOUISIANA.** In 1810 the Florida Parishes rebelled against their Spanish rulers, captured the Spanish fort at Baton Rouge and organized a republic which they called the Republic of West Florida. This republic lasted only a few weeks, and the Florida Parishes were soon occupied by the U.S. New Orleans became the first city in the country to permanently establish opera. On April 18, 1812, Louisiana became the 18th state in the U.S. WILLIAM C. C. CLAIBORNE, who had been appointed the first governor of Louisiana by President JEFFERSON, was duly elected governor of the new state. Newly arrived Americans hoped that the new state would be named for Jefferson, but LOUIS de BLANC de ST. DENIS, a member of the convention from Attakapas, vowed that if the state's name were changed he would "arm himself with a barrel of powder and blow up the convention." Nothing further was said about renaming the state.

CLAIBORNE'S problems in Louisiana were many. It was difficult to collect taxes. There were problems with Indians in the northwest part of the state. He was not trusted. The Creoles who refused to serve in the legislature would not support the state militia, and newly-arrived Americans refused to join military units if it meant they had to leave the state. The New Orleans militia units refused to be mustered into the service of the U.S. British blockade of the Mississippi led to the battle of New Orleans in 1814. Just 32 days after Louisiana was admitted as a state, President JAMES MADISON recommended that the U.S. declare war against Great Britain, a second war between the two countries in less than fifty years.

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### **NEWLLANO, A FAILED ATTEMPT AT SOCIALISM**

The idea of socialism was very popular at the turn of the century, and hundreds of socialistic colonies, like the Newllano colony just south of Leesville, Louisiana, were established to prove the theory was workable. The Llano and Rio Co-operative Colony of California, a farming co-op, had experienced lack of water in California and was looking for new locations. The Gulf Lumber Co., headquartered in St. Louis, decided to cut their land holdings in Vernon Parish, so a deal was made. The Llano Co. bought 20,000 acres and a group of about 300 left California to come to settle in Louisiana. The town around which they settled was originally named Staples, which was changed to Newllano in 1917. The colony went bankrupt in 1937, when gunfights and violence played a part in its closure.

**SOURCE:**

Don C. Marler, *The Neutral Zone: Backdoor to the U. S.*, Woodville, TX, Dogwood Press (1995)

# **RITCHIE CEMETERY**

Surveyed 12 September 1994 by ROBERT LaLANNE - Member #878

The Ritchie Cemetery is located on South Perkins Ferry Rd. in Moss Bluff, LA.  
If only date shown, it's unknown if this is birth or death date.

(Continued from Vol. 20 #3)

COCODRA G. POOLE  
b. 15 Dec. 1920  
d. 9 Oct. 1952  
LA - S2 USNR, WWII

HAROLD LEROY FUSELIER  
b. 13 Dec. 1912  
d. 11 June 1975  
Pfc, US Army, WWII

ORENA B. LANDRENEAU  
b. 30 Apr. 1922  
d. 16 Jan. 1992

HOMER EDWARD NICHOLS  
b. 2 Jan. 1898  
d. 16 May 1960

DON WILLIAMS  
b. 7 May 1907  
d. 12 Oct. 1992

WILLIAM M. WILSON  
b. 10 Mar. 1874  
d. 28 Sep. 1960

ANNIE B. LAMBERT  
b. 2 Jan. 1887  
d. 19 Jan. 1960

WILLIAM EDWARD  
LAMBERT  
S/O M/M H. A. LAMBERT  
13 Feb. 1958

FRANCES N. LAMBERT  
b. 2 Jan. 1927  
d. 8 Dec. 1983

WILLIAM M. HENRY  
S/O M/M PAUL HENRY  
27 Dec. 1948

W. E. "ED" POWELL  
b. 8 Aug. 1904  
d. 18 Nov. 1987

IDA POWELL  
b. 6 Nov. 1913  
(Preneed)

NONA HAYMON FRANKLIN  
b. 12 Jan. 1909  
d. 3 July 1987

EDDIE FRANKLIN  
b. 12 Jan. 1905  
d. 25 Sep. 1971

MARY ROBERTS REEVES  
b. 25 Mar. 1871  
d. 7 Dec. 1954

VALCOUR F. LAMBERT  
b. 23 Nov. 1906  
d. 7 Dec. 1956  
LA - Pfc 129 Sig. Rad.  
Intel Co., WWII

ALLEN FRANKLIN  
b. 26 Mar. 1930  
d. 7 Oct. 1951  
Korean Conflict  
(Killed in action)

W. P. SEAL  
b. 15 Mar. 1879  
d. 16 Aug. 1941

IONE D. SIMMONS  
b. 15 June 1919  
(Preneed)

ANDREW SIMMONS  
b. 9 May 1908  
d. 15 Oct. 1982

BERTHA P. SUTHERLAND  
b. 8 Aug. 1885  
d. 13 Oct. 1975

ROBERT C. SUTHERLAND  
b. 1 Nov. 1880  
d. 18 Feb. 1974

IRIS SUTHERLAND  
CRAWFORD  
b. 10 Dec. 1922  
d. 26 Aug. 1984

OLA SUTHERLAND  
PRATER  
b. 18 Oct. 1898  
d. 8 July 1982

JOHN H. SUTHERLAND  
b. 25 Apr. 1887  
d. 12 Jan. 1951

MINNIE L. SUTHERLAND  
b. 18 June 1889  
d. 21 Sep. 1917

ELIZA ELLEN POWELL  
SUTHERLAND  
W/O CHARLES W.  
SUTHERLAND

CLINTON POWELL  
SUTHERLAND  
b. 6 June 1882  
d. 10 June 1955

LOVINA SUTHERLAND  
SMITH  
b. 15 Feb. 1884  
d. 27 May 1967

b. 27 Apr. 1860  
d. 8 July 1934



NELLIE SUTHERLAND  
SHATTUCK  
b. 19 Aug. 1885  
d. 24 Apr. 1974

GEORGE D. REEVES  
b. 19 Feb. 1870  
d. 22 Aug. 1934

W. A. SEAL, JR  
b. 21 Dec. 1910  
d. 9 Nov. 1920

NATHANIEL M. BUSBY  
b. 27 Aug. 1867  
d. 14 Sep. 1916

ANGIE WELSH KOONE  
b. 1 Apr. 1876  
d. 15 Nov. 1955

CLYDE LASHA  
b. -- 1900  
d. -- 1947

EUGENE T. CALHOUN  
b. 23 Apr. 1894  
d. 21 May 1969

HARDY W. BUSBY  
b. 9 Mar. 1882  
d. 19 June 1953

MABELL FELICE BUSBY  
FRUGE  
b. 9 Feb. 1889  
d. 1 June 1965

VIRGINIA BUSBY REEVES  
b. 29 Feb. 1875  
d. 23 June 1959

ALFRED A. BURNETT  
b. 20 Nov. 1870  
d. 19 Apr. 1950

JOHN S. REEVES  
b. 9 Feb. 1895  
d. 1 Dec. 1980

GUSSIE R. FARNSWORTH  
b. 8 June 1895  
d. 12 Feb. 1984

FLORINIA SAVAGE  
REEVES  
b. 3 Sep. 1898  
d. 5 Mar. 1924

DOROTHY SEAL GILLET  
W/O MAURICE GILLET  
b. 20 Mar. 1921  
d. 12 Sep. 1944

ELVIRA D. BUSBY  
b. 23 July 1875  
d. 23 Oct. 1969

WILLIAM A. DEWITT  
b. 2 Nov. 1813  
d. 22 Dec. 1876

LILLY LASHA  
b. -- 1915  
d. -- 1942

D. J. SARGENT  
b. 25 Jan. 1939  
d. 15 Sep. 1993

FREDDIE W. BUSBY  
b. 16 Jan. 1919  
d. 9 Sep. 1947  
LA - Pvt Air Corps, WWII

CLARA BURNETT  
CARPENTER  
b. 6 Mar. 1894  
d. 10 Oct. 1966

JACOB S. REEVES  
b. 23 Mar. 1870  
d. 4 June 1953

LEO C. BURNETT  
b. 6 May 1920  
d. 24 July 1955  
LA - Tec 5 Co. A.  
1270 Engr C. Bn, WWII

CLIFF W. REEVES  
b. 25 July 1900  
d. 7 May 1966

CHARLES F. FARNSWORTH  
b. 2 June 1878  
d. 28 Aug. 1952

ETTA REEVES  
b. 20 Apr. 1875  
d. 10 Feb. 1924

MASURIA L. BUSBY  
b. 9 Nov. 1849  
d. 16 Feb. 1881

LEE KOONE  
b. 26 Oct. 1873  
d. 25 Nov. 1941

DARRELL WAYNE  
DARBONNE  
3 Oct. 1965

LLOYD L. LASHA  
b. 17 Sep. 1904  
d. 24 July 1975

ALICE BUSBY  
b. --  
d. 21 Jan. 1946

MYRTLE L. BUSBY SHELTON  
b. 8 Sep. 1922  
d. 19 Oct. 1956

HOMER R. REEVES  
31 Mar. 1934  
LA - Wagoner 17 M.G. Bn 6 Div

LEON M. BURNETT  
b. 28 Feb. 1917  
d. 1 Feb. 1937  
LA - Pvt 29 Inf.

FRED A. BURNETT  
b. 9 Apr. 1908  
d. 4 Mar. 1967

J. H. ADAMS  
b. 25 Nov. 1887  
d. 24 Mar. 1948

ANNA MAE ADAMS  
b. 11 May 1925  
d. 27 Aug. 1937

JOE ALLEN REEVES  
b. 19 Mar. 1871  
d. 8 Oct. 1935

JOE A. REEVES  
b. 7 Nov. 1910  
d. 14 Dec. 1989  
Pfc US Army, WWII

BEVERLY BROWN BUSBY  
b. 5 Mar. 1948  
d. 20 Nov. 1973

JOE BUSBY  
b. 1 May 1893  
d. 8 Oct. 1945  
LA - Pvc 1 CI  
52 Spruce Sq.

LULA SEAL  
b. 19 Jan. 1894  
d. 7 Nov. 1960

JESSE E. KOONCE  
b. 11 June 1915  
d. 1 June 1970

MARGARET ALICE  
REEVES ROBERTS  
b. 11 Mar. 1887  
d. 24 Feb. 1950

GERALD FLOYD REEVES  
b. 9 May 1926  
d. 16 Nov. 1988  
T Sgt US Air Force, WWII

REV. F. C. BURKS  
b. 14 Nov. 1889  
d. 22 Nov. 1949

SUSAN STUTES BURKS  
b. 5 May 1874  
d. 26 Nov. 1955

JOHN A. MARYMAN  
b. 20 June 1876  
d. 23 Jan. 1963

AL RONALD GUINN  
b. 9 Apr. 1933  
d. 2 Jan. 1993

CLARA MORGAN REEVES  
b. 1 Feb. 1878  
d. 9 July 1956

HERMAN R. REEVES  
b. 4 Apr. 1908  
d. 26 Jan. 1973

ALZENA BURNETT  
REEVES PARKER  
b. 13 Nov. 1898  
d. 1 June 1969

FORREST L. REEVES  
b. 12 Mar. 1904  
d. 6 June 1985

TOM SEAL  
b. 18 Feb. 1885  
d. 16 May 1970

ELDER M. KOONCE  
b. 30 July 1888  
d. 3 Sep. 1976

JOHN G. ROBERTS  
b. 22 Mar. 1869  
d. 9 Aug. 1953

RALEIGH J. REEVES  
b. 31 Jan. 1881  
d. 9 Oct. 1951

MARY BURKS  
b. 1 Apr. 1897  
d. 19 May 1967

GEORGE M. BURKS  
b. 11 Apr. 1892  
d. 23 Feb. 1970

VIRGIL L. DONHAM  
1907 - 1975

MINNIE LEE GUINN  
b. 22 Oct. 1934  
(Preneed)

RAYMOND O. REEVES  
b. 17 Jan. 1917  
d. 10 Oct. 1957  
LA - S. Sgt. US Army, WWII

ELMA M. REEVES  
b. 15 July 1910  
(Preneed)

THOMAS O. BUSBY  
b. 15 Nov. 1900  
d. 19 Mar. 1963

BERNADETTE F. REEVES  
b. 15 Oct. 1914  
(Preneed)

HARRY SAVAGE  
b. 12 Jan. 1899  
d. 9 Nov. 1964

LAURA A. KOONCE  
b. 5 Feb. 1895  
d. 17 June 1987

CHARLES LINDBERG  
FOWLER  
b. 31 Dec. 1928  
d. 13 Aug. 1975  
Pvt. US Army, Korea

CORA KOONCE REEVES  
b. 30 Nov. 1888  
d. 30 May 1959

ROBERT BURKS  
b. 15 Aug. 1873  
d. 29 Sep. 1959

EFFIE B. BURKS  
1892 - 1983

M. J. HUNT  
b. 4 Mar. 1914  
d. 11 Oct. 1980  
Ammf 2 US Navy, WWII

**AN INTERESTING ANCESTOR, THOMAS A. JACKSON**  
Researched by GLENDA JACKSON REED, Member #1072

Family history states that THOMAS A. JACKSON was born 19 January 1828 and that the middle initial "A" stands for ANDREW. There is no documentation to prove either. The 1850 census shows him living in Jackson Co., Mississippi, married to CYNTHIA ANN, who was born in Mississippi. Family tradition gives her maiden name as GILL, but LDS records show her maiden name as EASON.

In 1850 THOMAS JACKSON'S occupation was given as a collier (charcoal maker). Charcoal was known to have been an export product sent to New Orleans from the west side of the river near Pascagoula in this period. During this time in the JACKSON house was a 1 year old daughter, JOSEPHINE; a 15 year old girl, ELIZABETH CATES; and ELIZABETH JACKSON, a 35 year old woman.

Oral history says that THOMAS JACKSON and his family traveled to Louisiana by wagon train sometime during the mid-1850s. There were also many other Mississippi families traveling with them, including the COOLEYS, HESTERS and VAUGHANS. At least one brother of THOMAS' is said to have traveled on to settle in Texas. No name is known for this brother or any other of his family members, although THOMAS is said to have come from a large family. The 1880 census states that THOMAS' father's birth place was New York and his mother's was Mississippi. This coincides with family oral history that says his father came from "up North" looking for work and land. After arriving in Mississippi and meeting his future wife, THOMAS' father decided to stay, marry her and settle there. Many of the other families on the wagon train settled near the JACKSONS in Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana, near what is now the small community of Ragley, just north of Lake Charles.

Little is known about the early settlement of the THOMAS A. JACKSON family. His homesite was on a high hill located on the west side of what is known as Jackson Gully. The 1860 census shows his occupation as "teamster" and the value of his personal estate as \$500.00. By then his family had grown by three sons, JOHN, THOMAS and ANDREW, and another daughter, MARY. JOSEPHINE is no longer shown in the household, but there is an eighteen year old girl named PAMELIA EASON whose occupation is listed as seamstress.

During the War Between the States THOMAS served as a Private in the Texas Cavalry, Co. A., Daly's Army, Ragsdale's Battalion. He is found on a list of enlisted men paroled by Lt. Col. WILLIAM ROY at Alexandria, Louisiana, on 10 July 1865. His Regiment had surrendered in New Orleans on 26 May 1865 after hearing of General LEE'S surrender. His name is also found in *Records of Louisiana Confederate Soldiers and Louisiana Confederate Commands, Vol. I*, compiled by ANDREW B. BOOTH, Commissioner, Louisiana Military Records, 1920.

In 1870 THOMAS JACKSON and his family still lived in the same place. The value of his real estate was \$200.00, his personal estate was \$400.00 and his occupation was listed as "farmer." By that time three more sons, ALBERT, HENRY and JAMES, were added to his ever-growing family. By the 1880 census their family was complete, with the birth of GEORGE, CYNTHIA B., WILLIAM D., PENELOPE R. and CORA C. There was a total of twelve live children. The diary of a family friend, THOMAS RIGMAIDEN, who frequently visited their home, states that on 15 January 1865 "Mrs. JACKSON'S baby died at birth."

Some JACKSON family members remember the oral history of this family a bit differently. It was told to them that in 1873 CYNTHIA (spelled SYNTHA) died giving birth to her tenth child, WILLIAM DAVID. Then THOMAS A. JACKSON married SARAH HESTER sometime between 1873 and 1876, and that she gave birth to the last two children, dying at the age of twenty-four.

No documentation of his marriage has been found, and the 1890 census shows CYNTHIA ANN, age 48, as the mother of all twelve children. SARAH HESTER'S tombstone is near THOMAS A.'S, but does not show her name as JACKSON. CYNTHIA ANN'S tombstone showing her death year as 1873 is very new, so this cannot be considered as documentation. LDS records show the mother of the last child, CORA CALDONIA, as being CYNTHIA ANN EASON.

JOHN ELLIS JACKSON, grandson of THOMAS A., remembers his grandfather telling stories of an Indian man who lived with him during his latter years. There is evidence that Indians did live in that area of Louisiana during this time.

THOMAS A. remained a farmer living on Jackson Gully for the rest of his life. He died 1 September 1900 and is buried in Hagar Cemetery along with his wife CYNTHIA ANN, SARAH HESTER and several other family members. This cemetery is located within a few miles of the old THOMAS A. JACKSON homesite. Other family members are buried in Magnolia Cemetery, not far away. Many JACKSON descendants still live along Jackson Gully and in the surrounding area.

My grandfather was WILLIAM DAVID JACKSON, the tenth child of THOMAS and CYNTHIA ANN JACKSON. He is the only child who moved away to a different area of Louisiana. He first settled in DeRidder. Later he settled in Russville where he homesteaded land and started several small business operations including raising cattle to provide meat to a nearby sawmill town, a cotton gin, a turpentine plant and a mercantile store. He also served as deputy sheriff and sat on the school board for a short time to finish the term of a deceased member. His picture hangs in the entrance lobby of the Pitkin High School in Pitkin, Louisiana.

WILL JACKSON, as he was known to his friends and family, remained there after the Fullerton Sawmill closed its doors and the inhabitants moved away to find work elsewhere. Russville became known as Fullerton, and the house, store and some of the out-buildings remain standing today, though uninhabited and in great disrepair. WILL JACKSON died 27 September 1916 and is buried in Blue Branch Cemetery in Pitkin. The home of his son, WILLIAM DAVID JACKSON, Jr., sits now where the old cotton gin of his father once stood. Many of WILL JACKSON'S descendants still live in the nearby area.

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### **MICROFILM OF OLD AREA NEWSPAPERS**

The Southwest Louisiana Genealogical & Historical Library, 411 Pujo St., Lake Charles, has received the microfilm of copies of the earliest known area newspapers from the LEVINGSTON-FRANKS Collection, which was recently donated to McNeese State University Library. These rare newspapers are, in some instances, the only area records for the period preceding the Lake Charles fire of 1910. The earliest Lake Charles newspapers have been indexed for obituaries, successions, marriages and births, but none of the other area newspapers have been indexed. For a list of newspapers in the Collection, see KINFOLKS, Vol. 20 #3.

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**GENEALOGY PROGRAMS ON PBS** will begin in January 1997. The first episode will deal with beginning genealogy. Subsequent programs will feature special problems and interviews with genealogists. Check local scheduling.

**INFORMATION ON KANSAS PIONEERS** is being sought by the Topeka Genealogical Society. If you have an ancestor who was a Kansas pioneer, write them at PO Box 4048, Topeka, KS 66604-0048.

**1807 SETTLERS OF LAKE CHARLES, LOUISIANA  
JURISDICTION OF ORCOQUISAC, TEXAS**

(The following was translated by ELIZABETH SHOWN MILLS, CG, FASG, who kindly gave her permission for its use. Source: Bexar Archives, Reel 37, Frames 161-63, University of Texas, Austin. Reprinted from Louisiana Genealogical Register, March 1982, Baton Rouge, LA)

November 1, 1807 - Camp of Orcoquisac

Census that shows the immigrant families who are in this post, unable to proceed because they have no mounts, and so I have permitted them to establish themselves here. Also shown are the number of cattle and horses each has.

(Translator's Notes)

First Family

AGUSTIN BENDOT, widower

(BOUDROT)

his children:

BENXAMIN, 16 years

MARIA MARGARITA, 15 years

servants:

MARIA LACADINT

property:

Horses, 3      Cattle, 150

Another Family

SEBASTIAN BENUA

(BENOIT)

HIPOLITE LEBLIUT, his wife

(LeBLEU)

his children:

JOSE DEFESU, 4 years

MARIA DOLORES, 3 years

MARIA JOSEFA, 8 months

Another Family

MARIA MAGDALENA VENUA, widow

(BENOIT, widow of BERNARD

children:

FAVRON)

LUYS PABRO, 8 years

(FAVRON)

DENIS, 5 years

AGUSTIN, 2 years

MARIA CELESTINA, 10 years

property:

Horses, 1      Cattle, 6

Another Family

FEDERICO ESCOMAN

(STOCKMAN)

CATARINA ESBOMEN

(\*)

children:

GEORGE, 21 years

ENRRIQUES, 15 years

DAVID, 13 years

JUAN, 11 years

PEDRO, 9 years

MARIA, 4 years

FRANCISCO, 2 months

\* The 1828 Census of Nacogdoches (Town Proper), Texas, gives her name as "Desponete." See Translations of Statistical & Census Reports of Texas (3 reels, San Antonio: Institute of Texas Culture, 1979, Reel 2, frame 905.

Another Family

Don CARLOS SALIET (CHARLES SALLIER\*\*)  
CATARINA LEBLIUT, his wife (CATHERINE LeBLEU)  
children:  
ALEJANDRO, 3 years  
LUISA, 2 years  
property:  
Cattle, 200 Horses, 2  
\*\* It is he for whom Lake Charles is named.

Another Family

BLAS LECHAM (BLAISE LeJEUNE)  
CATARINA, his wife (ANA QUINTERO)  
children:  
BAUTISTA, 32 years  
CELESTINA, 7 years  
property:  
Cattle, 15

Another Family

JOSE GIRUDT (GIROUT)  
CELESTINA ERNIBESOM, his wife (CELESTE ROBINSON)  
children:  
JOSE, 4 years  
MARCELA, 3 years  
property:  
Cattle, 80 Horses, 3

Another Family

SELOME DUCER (ANSELM DOUCET)  
ANGELA BLESD, his wife (MARIE ANGELA LeJEUNE)  
FRANCISCO, his son, one year  
property:  
Cattle, 20 Horses, 1

Another Family

JUAN EROMDREQUE (JOHN AARON DRAKE, Sr.)  
SERAFINA ESMITT, his wife (CHARITY SMITH)  
children:  
MARIA LUYSA, 14 years  
Servant, CARLOS, 32 years  
property:  
Cattle, 200 Horses, 6

Another Family

JUAN EROMDREQUE (JOHN AARON DRAKE, Jr.)  
ROSALIA APSEER, his wife (ROSALIE ABSHER)  
children:  
FRANCISCO, 6 years

EROM, 5 years  
RICARDO, 4 years  
SERAFINA, 3 years  
JUAN, one year and 6 months  
MARIA, 11 months  
Servant, CIRILDO LAMDREY

(AARON, III)

Another Family

SANTIAGO MEGLASAM  
MARIA MANTA, his wife  
children:

(JACOB McGLOTHIN/McLAUGHLIN)  
(MARY THOMPSON)

ANA, 10 years  
BEATRIS, 6 years  
MATILDE, 4 years  
FRANCISCO, 3 years  
ANTONIO, 2 years

NOTE

- that the families of PEDRO FRUCHED (FRUGE') and FRANCISCO MERCANTEL, who were here, were forced by me to return to the place they came from because I noticed that they conducted themselves very badly.
- that DANIEL BOOM and his family are enroute to San Antonio de Bejar with a petition to settle there.

Camp at Orcoquisac, November 1, 1807

s/GERONIMO de HERRERA

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**CALCASIEU PARISH GENEALOGY ON INTERNET**

The US GenWeb project began in Kentucky in 1996 with the idea of providing a single entry point for Internet sites for all counties/parishes in the U.S. to obtain and exchange genealogical information. At Calcasieu Parish's Site, you can post queries, request simple look-ups from published resources, obtain information about the Southwest Louisiana Genealogical Society, list your name, address (E-mail or postal) and your Calcasieu Surnames on the "Calcasieu Cousins" page. To participate, contact JAN CRAVEN at 2008 Cheryl Lane, Lake Charles, LA 70611-3339 or (E-mail) [jcraven@iamerica.net](mailto:jcraven@iamerica.net)

When mailing in queries, please use this format:

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ (your name)

SURNAMES: \_\_\_\_\_ (surnames you are inquiring about)

LOOKING FOR INFORMATION ON: \_\_\_\_\_ (specific information)

(Your query **MUST** have a Calcasieu connection or it will **NOT** be posted. In submitting the query, write it exactly as you wish it to appear. Space is limited, so please be brief. The address for the Calcasieu GenWeb Site is <http://cust2.iamerica.net/jcraven/calpar.htm>  
Visit and participate, please!

**UNIVERSITY OF NEW ORLEANS GETS FILM.** WDSU, an NBC affiliate donated its film and video library, which contained a half-century's worth of film clips, to UNO'S Earl K. Long Library. The films contain 48 years of Louisiana life...news events, political speeches, Mardi Gras parades, hurricanes, ball games and other events. It will take a year or more to catalog and index the films, but after that they will be available to researchers and historians.

## EARLY CALCASIEU PARISH FAMILIES

On or before February 22, 1824, there were about half-a-hundred families living in the wilderness of southwest Louisiana, the area now known as Calcasieu Parish. Most of these families settled on or near the west bank of the Calcasieu River or along some of its western tributaries. Many of these came before 1824, but the dates of their arrivals are often unknown. Some stayed and raised their families; others died, moved on or at least had disposed of their improvements by 1824.

Among those families known to have been living in southwest Louisiana before 1824, but not in 1824, were the following heads-of-households, who are given with the earliest known date of arrival and approximate period of residence.

SALLY ANDRUS	(1814-1821)
WILLIAM ANDRUS and wife MARTHA	(? -1814)
JAMES ASHWORTH, Sr.	(? -1820)
MOSES ASHWORTH	(1816-1818)
REGIN BOWIE, Sr.	(? -1818)
AARON CHERRY	(1820-1823)
NATHANIEL CLIFTON	(1820-1824)
JOSEPH CORNOW	(1818-1820)
PHILIP V. DEVERS	(1818-1820)
GEORGE FOGLEMAN	(1817-1818)
JOHN GILCHRIST	(1818-1823)
JOHN B. HAMILTON	( ? )
WILLIAM ILES	(1818-1820)
GIBSON JOHNSON	(? -1823)
JOSHUA JOHNSON	(1818-1820)
GEORGE ORR	( ? )
JORDAN PERKINS	(1817-1819)
CHARLES SAVAYARD (SALLIER)	(1818-1819) ????
ARCHIBALD SMITH	(1818-1821)
ABEL TERRELL	(1818-1823)

Those known to be living in the area in 1824 are given below with the approximate dates of their arrivals.

JAMES ASHWORTH, Jr.	(1819)
ELIAS BLUNT	(1821)
DRURY BUNCH	(1819)
MARTIN CAMERSUE (CAMERSAC)	(1818)
JAMES BARNETT	(1821)
DAVID CHOATE	(1818)
JOHN CLARK	(1813)
JOSEPH CLARK	(1818)
Mrs. COLEMAN	(1823)
HARDY COWARD	(1823)
ISSAC FOSTER	(1818)
BURRELL FRANKS	(1816)
JAMES GOINS	(1819)
JOHN HENDERSON	(1819)
ELIAS HUNT	(1823)
DEMPSEY ILES	(1820)
GEORGE KING	(1818)
ARSENE LeBLEU	(1821)
HENRY MOSS	(1818)



MICHAEL NEAL	(1818)
GEORGE ORR	(1818)
HIRAM OURS	(1818)
REES PERKINS	(1823)
JACOB RYAN	(1816)
JACOB E. SELF	(1820)
GEORGE SMITH	(1818)
WILLIAM SMITH	(1818)
GEORGE THOMPSON	(1818)

Others who were well acquainted on the west side of the Calcasieu River, but who were not necessarily residents of present-day Calcasieu Parish were: DAVID HOOSIER and JOHN HOOSIER, who had knowledge of the area back to at least 1817; ISSAC PUGH, who had been in the area at least as early as 1818; JAMES SIMMONS, who was familiar with the area as early as 1813; JOHN STEWART, who had been in the area in 1818; and THOMAS STEWART, who was also acquainted with the area and its inhabitants in 1813.

NATHANIEL WEST is known to have lived west of the Calcasieu River at an early date. He may have been living just south of present-day Sulphur, where Vincent Settlement now is located, at the time of the 1820 census.

Persons known to have lived west of the Calcasieu River in the Calcasieu Parish area on or before February 22, 1824, are shown below, with the censuses (if any) in which they appear.

NAME	1820	1830	1840	1850
SALLY ANDRUS (1814-1821)				
WILLIAM ANDRUS (1814)				
JAMES ASHWORTH, Sr. (1818)	"			
JAMES ASHWORTH, Jr. (1819)	"			
MOSES ASHWORTH (1816)	"	"		
JAMES BARNETT (1821)				
ELIAS BLUNT (1821)				
REGIN BOWIE, Sr. (1818)		"		
DRURY BUNCH (1819)		"		
MARTIN CAMESUE (CAMERSAC) (1818)				
AARON CHERRY (1818)	"	"		
DAVID CHOATE (1819)	"	"		
JOHN CLARK (1813)				
JOSEPH CLARK (1818)				
NATHANIEL CLIFTON (1820)				
Mrs. COLEMAN (1823)				
JOSEPH CORNOW (1819)				
HARDY COWARD (1823)		"		
PHILIP V. DEVERS (1822)		"		
GEORGE FOGLEMAN (1817)				
ISSAC FOSTER (1818)				
BURRELL FRANKS (1816)		"		
JOHN GILCHRIST (1819)	"	"	"	"
JOSEPH GOINS (1819)	"	"		
JOHN B. HAMILTON (1819)				
JOHN HENDERSON (1819)		"		
DAVID HOOSIER (1817)		"		
JOHN HOOSIER (1817)		"		
DEMPSEY ILES (1817)		"		

GIBSON JOHNSON (1823)	"
JOSHUA JOHNSON (1818)	
GEORGE KING (1818)	
ARSENE LeBLUE (1818)	" "
HENRY MOSS (1814)	"
MICHAEL NEAL (1818)	"
GEORGE ORR (1818)	"
HIRAM OURS (1818)	
JORDAN PERKINS (1819)	"
REES PERKINS (1823)	"
ISSAC RYAN (1816)	"
JACOB RYAN (1816)	"
CHARLES SAVAYARD (SALLIER) (1818)	" "
JAMES E. SELF (1820)	
JAMES SIMMONS (1814)	"
ARCHIBALD SMITH (1818)	"
GEORGE SMITH (1818)	" "
WILLIAM V. SMITH (1818)	"
JOHN STEWART (1818)	"
ABEL TERRELL (1818)	
ARCHIBALD THOMPSON (1818)	"

SOURCE: Yellowed Pages, Vol XI, #2, May 1981, Beaumont, TX

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### WHAT HAPPENED TO THE "MAYFLOWER" ?

As Thanksgiving time grows near, we begin to think about the Pilgrims and the beginnings of our country, but did you ever wonder about what happened to the "Mayflower", the ship which brought the first colonists to the New World? A barn built from timbers from the historic old ship "Mayflower" is located on a farm in Old Jordans, Buckinghamshire, England. The old barn dates from about 1624, just four years after the "Mayflower" brought the Pilgrims to the New World. It was the custom in the 1600s to reuse old ship's timbers; many were made into barns. One of the timbers bears the letters "R HAR I", which may have been part of the words "Mayflower Harwich." Intricately carved doors are identified as having come from the "Mayflower."

In 1618 THOMAS RUSSELL bought the farm. In 1639 his son, WILLIAM, took over the management of the farm. WILLIAM RUSSELL was a member of the Society of Friends, a religious sect also known as Quakers, who, at that time, were persecuted for their religious beliefs. Many early Quaker meetings were held at the RUSSELL home, and their meeting house was built nearby. Coincidentally, WILLIAM PENN, the founder of the colony of Pennsylvania, and his wives are buried on the old farm. American Quakers sought to have PENN'S grave removed to Pennsylvania, but the British government declined. The old cemetery and meeting house have been restored.

SOURCE: Central Fla. Genealogical Society via The Family Tree. (Dec. 1995/Jan. 1996), Ellen Payne Odom Genealogical Library, Moultrie, GA.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: An article about "The Mayflower Pilgrims" appears in KINFOLKS, Vol. 17 #. 4 (1993).

**SWLGS IS NOW ACCEPTING 1997 DUES**

**JAMES H. "HARVEY" JACOBS, AGE 93, DEAD**  
Submitted by VIRGINIA Y. HILL, Member #436  
(Copied from Lake Charles Newspaper, dated January 11, 1925)

JAMES H. JACOBS, better known throughout the rural section of what was once "Old Imperial Calcasieu" Parish as "Uncle HARVEY JACOBS", died Friday morning at 4 o'clock. In the faith of his father and surrounded by children, relatives and friends, the end to a long and useful life came at the old home place in the Windham Creek community, near Fields, in Beauregard Parish.

This old pioneer citizen of Southwest Louisiana was 93 years, 11 months and 19 days old at the time of his death. He is survived by two sons and four daughters: E. M JACOBS of DeQuincy, Mrs. Z. S. H. PATERSON, Mrs. O. W. YOUNG, P. H. JACOBS and Mrs. LEWIS WHITMAN, all of Fields. Three children of his marriage to Miss ELIZABETH HYATT in 1865 preceded him to the grave, as did also his wife, on February 24, 1922.

The deceased was born in Clark County, Mississippi, on January 30, 1830. His parents moved with him to Southwest Louisiana when he was but three months old. He had continuously resided in this part of the state ever since that time.

At the outbreak of the civil war he enlisted in Co. H, 20th Texas Regiment, and served throughout the war. At the close of the conflict he married Miss HYATT and in 1871, settled in the old home place in the piney woods near Windham Creek, where he died.

He chose farming as his occupation and on his little homestead, with a number of gentle cows and surrounded by a good range for his hogs, he made a living for his large family. During these years on his little farm, he has seen grow up around him, 30 grandchildren and 20 great grandchildren.

The story is told how that during the Civil War the young soldier had a very serious case of pneumonia, as so many southern boys did, and the doctors pronounced him dead, and he was prepared for burial. Just as the coffin reached the door going out to the cemetery, the corpse survived and for more than sixty years the Grim Reaper was cheated of his victim.

In 1878, "Uncle HARVEY" joined the Primitive Baptist Church and in 1880, what has long been known as the Mt. Pisbah Primitive Baptist Church, was organized in his home, with seven members. Soon afterwards the South Louisiana Primitive Association held one of its annual meetings with the small and very young church. During the two days (of the meeting), "Uncle HARVEY" cared for 37 of the "brethren", sisters, friends and children, which were not counted. This meeting was held early in October. "Uncle HARVEY" had a large cotton house, the entire of which was covered about a foot deep with cotton. Comforts were spread on the cotton and all the men and boys slept there. Plenty to eat and a good place to sleep, the whole association fared sumptuously.

When the government surveyors sectioned Southwest Louisiana, they secured the services of "Uncle HARVEY" with his wagon and ox team for moving from one part of the country to another. For this assistance, which was very fortunate for them, they secured and gave him the homestead place of 164 acres, where he lived so long and raised a large family, against any member of which naught has ever been charged.

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**CORRECTION:** A typographical error was made in the article "ARCHIBALD & ELIZABETH VAUGHAN SMITH", Vol. 20 #3, p. 107, on the last person named on the SMITH genealogy. The name should be HOLLOWAY, instead of HOLOOWAY.

## SPATES BIBLE RECORDS

(Submitted by YANOULA McCOOL, Member #719)

The following information was found in the family Bible of Mrs. DAVID L. SPATES of Port Arthur, Texas. The flyleaf is dated Dec. 28, 1917. Mrs. SPATES was born and married in Vinton, Louisiana, and was the former VIOLA ELENDER. Thirteen of her fourteen children were born near Hackberry, Louisiana, the last one having been born in LaBelle, Texas. The first three were baptized in the Catholic Church at Creole and the next eight were baptized in the Catholic Church at Lake Charles.

### REGISTER OF BIRTHS

Calcasieu, Louisiana

DAVIDE SPATES	Born July 12, 1868
VIOLA SPATES	Born Jan. 12, 1875
FLORENCE SPATES	Born Dec. 31, 1892
CLELL SPATES	Born Aug. 13, 1895
MYRON SPATES	Born Mar. 28, 1897
LORA SPATES	Born Aug. 13, 1898
ALYES SPATES	Born Nov. 11, 1900
NEIL SPATES	Born Jan. 3, 1902
EDITH SPATES	Born Aug. 30, 1903
MADONNA SPATES	Born May 20, 1905
ROBERT SPATES	Born July 12, 1907
EVERETT SPATES	Born Sep. 19, 1909
RUBY SPATES	Born Oct. 23, 1913
IDA PEARL SPATES	Born July 12, 1919
GEORGIE LEE HARTLEY	Born July 24, 1921

### REGISTER OF MARRIAGES

"PARENTS"

DAVIDE SPATES & VIOLA ELENDER married June 25, 1891

"CHILDREN"

CLARENCE SPATES & KATHERINE CHEVIS married July 21, 1911

FLORENCE SPATES & HOMER COOK married June 6, 1916

CLELL SPATES & LONA PARKS married Aug. 30, 1917

MYRON SPATES & MARY ELLA WOOLEY married Jan. 12, 1917

LORA SPATES & GEORGE HARTLEY married Jan. 10, 1917

EDITH SPATES & SAM STEVENSON married Sept. 23, 1922

NEIL SPATES & SOPHIA married July 1924

ALYES SPATES & CLARICE

### REGISTER OF DEATHS

MADONNA SPATES died May 20, 1905 (marginal note: "stillborn")

RUBY CHRISTINE STEVENSON died June 21, 1925, age 87

CLARENCE SPATES died Sept. 5, 1927, age 35

JEANETTE SPATES died Oct. 5, 1932

Father - DAVID L. SPATES died Sunday at 2 P.M. Feb. 18, 1962, age 93 yrs 4 months and 6 days

CLELL SPATES died Sept. 7, 1965, age 70

VIOLA SPATES died Aug. 6, 1966 (different handwriting)

### GRANDCHILDREN

DWIGHT SPATES

MYRON G. COOK

Borned

Borned March 3rd

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BUFORD COOK	Borned Dec. 6th
HELEN JANE COOK	Borned Oct. 26, 1924
DOROTHY RUTH SPATES	Borned Oct. 30, 1918
EUGENE WALLACE SPATES	Borned March 15, 1922
MARICE SPATES	Borned Jan. 18, 1920
JENNETT SPATES	Borned Aug. 24, 1923
JAMES MYRON Jr. SPATES	Born Aug. 30, 1925
GEORGIE LEE HARTLEY	Born July 24, 1921
LORINE CLARA HARTLEY	Born Aug. 1, 1924
SHIRLEY HARTLEY	Born Sept. 22, 1920
YANOULA ROSE STEVENSON	Born Oct. 28, 1923
RUBY CHRISTINE STEVENSON	Born Oct. 23, 1924
SOPHIA STEVENSON	Born Feb. 4, 1929
(EDITOR'S NOTE: Several lines were skipped here.)	
LARRY GORDON ROESLER	Borned Dec. 16, 1935
LEON LEONARD ROESLER	Borned Sept. 19, 1937
JANET RUTH ROESLER	Borned Nov. 28, 1943
DENISE ELIZABETH ROESLER	Borned Oct. 8, 1951

### OBITUARY OF DAVID L. SPATES, FEBRUARY 18, 1962 D. L. SPATES LEAVES 111 DESCENDANTS

DAVID L. SPATES, 93-year-old Channelview (Texas) man who celebrated his 70th wedding anniversary last year, died Sunday, leaving 111 descendants. SPATES, a retired farm and real estate man, died in San Jacinto Memorial Hospital, Baytown. He had been ill for some time.

Born in Liberty, Texas, July 12, 1868, he moved to Lockport, La., with his mother and was orphaned at the age of 5. He was married June 15, 1891, to VIOLA ELLENDER of Vinton, La. The SPATES moved to Freeport in 1916 and then later to Houston, moving to Channelview in 1931 where he had lived since.

Survivors include his wife; six daughters, Mrs. FLORENCE LANDRY, of Groves; Mrs. LORA HARTLEY of Baytown; Mrs. EDITH STEVENSON of Houston; Mrs. ALICE BURNS, Mrs. RUBY ROESLER and Mrs. IDA PEARL SHEFFIELD, all of Channelview; six sons, J. M. SPATES of Freeport; C. N. and E. E. SPATES of Houston; S. A. and G. C. SPATES of Channelview; and R. L. SPATES of Paron, Ark.; 38 grandchildren and 61 great-grandchildren.

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### CDs AT THE SW LA GENEALOGICAL & HISTORICAL LIBRARY

The following is a list of CDs available at the Library. Some of these have been donated by SWLGS members as gifts or memorials.

Family Finder Index and Viewer	First Families of America, Vol. 1
Acadian Genealogies	Census Index: U.S. Selected States/Counties, 1860
Louisiana Land Records 1700s - 1908	1850 U.S. Census Index: NY
Louisiana Marriage Records	1870 U.S. Census Index: VA, WV, NC, KY
Marriage Index: AL, GA, SC	U.S. Census & Mortality Schedules: TX
Marriage Index: AR, MO, MS, TX	(Census 1860, 1870, 1880 & Mortality 1890)
Marriage Index: GA	Census Index/Tax Lists: Colonial America-pre 1790
Marriage Records Early-1850 West of Mississippi River: AR, CA, IA, LA, MN, MO, OR, TX	
Marriage Records Early-1850 Southern States: KY, TN, VA, WV, NC	
Precision Indexing Databases (US Census Index Series) NC, SC	
Everton Publishers (Computerized Family File and Roots Cellar)	

## **MORE MELUNGEON INFORMATION!**

(The following information was extracted from an article by SANDRA M. LORIDANS entitled "Jalisco Researcher Documents 65 Grandparents in 6 Years", printed in the Gowen Research Foundation *Newsletter*, Vol. 7 #10, June 1996. This bulletin is housed at the Southwest Louisiana Genealogical & Historical Library in Lake Charles. You may contact Ms. LORIDANS at Apartado Postal 844, 45900 Chapala, Jalisco, Mexico.)

My maternal grandmother, MARY EMILY PERKINS MARICLE, told stories of her birth in 1877, at which time her Indian mother died in Mississippi, and of her father's trip with her back to his mother's home in Texas by covered wagon, and the subsequent death of her father when she was 3 years old. What she never told me, nor did it occur to me to ask, was the name of her grandmother who reared her. In Texas census records, I found her with her grandparents, JACOB PERKINS and MARY JANE MARICLE PERKINS. From there, it was easy to find the parents of JACOB, who were JORDAN and VIRGINIA JANE "JENNY" GOINS PERKINS, both native South Carolinians. JORDAN and JENNY married in St. Landry Parish in 1814.

The parents of JENNY GOINS were JOHN GOINS and NANCY JOHNSON GOINS. JENNY'S siblings were BENJAMIN, JAMES, STEPHEN (married EDITH PERKINS), JEREMIAH "JERRY" (married SARAFINA DRAKE), JOHN (married FRANCES "FANNY" NASH), and WILLIAM (married CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH NELSON). This information comes from the Bible of WILLIAM GOINS, which is a part of the Jacobs Collection housed in the Beauregard Parish Library, Louisiana.

You need to know what was happening in the area around your ancestors. My native state was Louisiana, an area which has lived under the flags and legal systems of six different nations, three of them within 20 days. By the late 1700s, Louisiana was under Spanish rule; however, it was still heavily populated by the French. As a result of the Revolutionary War, pioneers from Virginia, and the Carolinas began to settle in what are now the states of Tennessee and Kentucky. Most of these settlers were farmers and sent their produce down the Mississippi River by flatboat to New Orleans to meet seagoing vessels to Europe.

At this time the American government was not very strong and the Revolutionary War had left it with an empty treasury and little power. I imagine my ancestors felt that they must help themselves. It was during this time that Spain allowed "friends only" to move their produce-laden boats by the Mississippi. After WASHINGTON was elected president, the new nation became more respected, and citizens of the U.S. were able to navigate the Mississippi and place goods in the warehouses of New Orleans prior to shipping them, without paying duty. The Louisiana Territory progressively became a bigger burden to Spain and by 1800 a secret treaty was made with France to change owners. By this time THOMAS JEFFERSON was president and realized that the U.S. needed to own this valuable piece of real estate. It was into this turmoil that my earliest Louisiana ancestors entered.

JOSHUA PERKINS, father-in-law of JENNY GOINS PERKINS, was born in November 1759 in the Little Pee Dee River area of South Carolina (Marion District). He was still in South Carolina in 1777, living near GILBERT SWEAT and JOHN BASS. JOSHUA PERKINS lived in South Carolina, North Carolina and Tennessee. He accompanied GILBERT SWEAT when he left Tennessee and came to the Big Black River in Mississippi, moving to Opelousas, Louisiana, in 1804, one year after NAPOLEON sold Louisiana to the U.S. Proof comes from a deposition of JOSHUA PERKINS given in 1830 which was read in the trial of JOHN BASS & wife vs. GILBERT SWEAT, NO. 1533 in the District Court of St. Landry Parish, Louisiana. Fortunately, Spain required much documentation among the inhabitants. In addition, early settlers who lived under the Spanish rule were forced to marry in the Catholic Church, where many records have

been preserved. In St. Landry Parish all of the early marriages were recorded by Father HEBERT, a Catholic priest.

JOSHUA PERKINS caused me great concern. I first found him referred to as a "free man of color". This, at first, had a very unsettling affect on this white southern Anglo-Saxon who was born in Shreveport in the extreme northwest part of the state. Below the middle part of the state, we had the French Acadians and the "Redbones". Although I never gave them any thought, I knew that I was certainly not related to any of them. My father was born in Arkansas and my mother was born in Texas. Little did I know at the time, but my deepest roots were within the area of Louisiana which was referred to as the "Rio Hondo" or "Neutral Territory". It was also known as "no man's land".

At the time of the Louisiana Purchase in 1803, there was no boundary established between the Province of Texas and the Louisiana Territory. The Spanish governor of Texas attempted to claim this small strip along the Sabine River. Because the Spanish wished to avoid an altercation, an agreement was reached to recognize this territory as a Neutral Strip, which it remained until 1819. However, in 1812, in order to establish the ownership of the land and because the original Spanish land grants were missing, claimants had to appear before a committee in Natchitoches, Louisiana, and file notice as to how long they had owned the land and from whom it had been purchased. JORDAN PERKINS, husband of JENNY GOINS PERKINS, is one of those referred to as an original claimant, along with REESE PERKINS. JAMES GOINS, JAMES ASHWORTH, SR. and JR., MOSES ASHWORTH and THOMAS NASH are also listed as claimants or former claimants.

JORDAN and JENNY GOINS PERKINS are both found on Louisiana census records as "mulattos" and later on Texas census records as "Indians". In Louisiana, because of the vast number of French, Spanish, Indians and other nationalities located within its borders, census takers were instructed to list all persons of "any" color as "mulatto" or "free persons of color".

JOSHUA PERKINS came to Louisiana with ISSAC PERKINS, assumed to be a brother, and GEORGE PERKINS, either a son of JOSHUA or ISSAC. By researching and eliminating almost every PERKINS who was born about that time and who lived in the areas described in JOSHUA'S deposition, I kept going back to a rather well-known and researched JACOB or JOSHUA (known by both names) but referred to as "Old Jock" PERKINS, husband of POLLY BLACK. Their children bore almost identical names to those of my grandfather and they lived and moved in the same areas. An incorrect date of birth for a son JOSHUA (married SALLY BAKER) resolved the fact that this JOSHUA was actually the son of JOSHUA, SR.'S eldest son, JACOB.

*The War Trails of the Blue Ridge* by SHEPHERD M. DUGGER relates the story of the PERKINS who in 1826 discovered the Cranberry Iron Mine, along with the tale of JOHN KITE'S log-rolling on the Watauga. One of KITE'S neighbors, ELICK BAKER, had a daughter, SALLY, and all were invited to attend the log-rolling, the scene of JOSH PERKINS meeting SALLY. They were later married and names of their children are related in the book. The book tells that the "PERKINS boys" had a wealthy father who they knew was dark-skinned and claimed to be of Portuguese descent.

Further evidence of "Old Jock" PERKINS' personality, wealth and dark-skin was presented in an 1858 Knoxville, Tennessee, trial when his grandson, JACOB F. PERKINS, a school teacher, sued JOHN R. WHITE over JACOB'S right to be an election official. WHITE had filed an objection due to the color of JACOB'S skin. They called 18 elderly witnesses, many who had known this family in Pee Dee, South Carolina. Transcripts of the trial state that these witnesses knew "Old Jock" and he was "tall, dark-skinned, mixed blood and looked half-white." Many considered him Portuguese since his hair was described as bushy or curly, not kinky, resembling an Indian more than a "Negro". He kept race horses and a ferry by Roan's Creek and associated with "decent, respectable" white people like LANDON CARTER, a wealthy man owning 3,716 acres in

Washington Co., Tennessee, in 1795.

The witnesses for the defense said "Old Jock" was a "Negro" or "Mulatto", with kinky hair who was treated as a white. One witness said he had known JOSHUA in North Carolina about 1798, and most of his children married whites. JACOB F. PERKINS lost his case in the lower Court, won it in the Court of Appeals and lost it again in the Supreme Court. Further evidence of JOSHUA'S connection with this family was found in the Revolutionary War record of a brother, GEORGE PERKINS, who was born in the same place and lived in the same areas before moving to Kentucky.

Why JOSHUA PERKINS moved to Louisiana is not known. However, the PERKINS, GOINS, DRAKES, ASHWORTHs, NASHs, and JOHNSONS might have been following my 4th great-grandfather, JOSEPH WILLIS, SR., the first Protestant minister west of the Mississippi River. JOSEPH WILLIS, SR. was born to an Englishman and an Indian maiden, thus born a slave under the laws of the state of North Carolina in 1758. It is known that he served as a militiaman in Georgia and was later found in the church records of Greenville, South Carolina.

It is believed that he left there with RICHARD CURTIS, founder of the Baptist churches of Mississippi, and is found in Mississippi Baptist records for a brief time. The Baptist preacher first preached in Louisiana while Spain still ruled, thus in peril of his life. Spain had already threatened to send RICHARD CURTIS to work in the silver mines of Mexico if he did not stop preaching. JOSEPH WILLIS, SR. spent much of his lifetime in the "no man's land", preaching and establishing churches in the area, including a ministry to the Indians where he was also known as the "Apostle to the Opelousas."

It appears that many of his followers were of Indian, mixed-blood, and/or Melungeon descent, namely the SWEATS, ASHWORTHs, COKERS, GIBSONs, JOHNSONS, and, of course, the GOINS.

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### **MORE ON THE MELUNGEONS**

A letter by ELIZABETH SHOWN MILLS in *Ancestry* (May/June 1996) warns of using undocumented research to link families with the Melungeons. She states that "the pre-Tennessee origins of most Melungeon families have been documented by those who follow sound research principles--and they were not in Tennessee prior to the arrival of the 'first white settlers.' The well-known founding families of the group now called 'Melungeons' have been traced one step at a time, back through western North Carolina and Virginia to typically diverse settlers of the Virginia seacoast of the 1600s and early 1700s." She further states that interested readers should consult well documented studies of Dr. VIRGINIA EASLEY DeMARCE, including "Very Slightly Mixt: Tri-racial Isolate Families of the Upper South-A Genealogical Study" (*NGS Quarterly*, March 1992) and "Looking at Legends---Lumbee and Melungeon: Applied Genealogy and the Origins of Tri-Racial Isolate Settlements" (*NGS Quarterly*, March 1993).

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**LOUISIANA AFRICAN-AMERICANS.** A courtesy copy of the premier edition of this publication has been received and will be housed at the Southwest Louisiana Genealogical & Historical Library in Lake Charles. For more information, contact them at P. O. Box 16726, Baton Rouge, LA 70893.

**HELPFUL HINT.** Do not laminate records, newspapers or documents. The heat used in the process causes yellowing and deterioration.



## **EARLY LAKE CHARLES HISTORY**

(Continued from Vol. 20 No. 3)

From The American, May 20, 1896

Dedicatory ceremonies for the Christian Church of Lake Charles were held. The church has 36 members. GEORGE H. WOOLMAN, chairman of the building committee, addressed the congregation. Prof. and Mrs. E. M. DOUTHET led the choir. Keys to the church were delivered to Rev. CLAUDE JONES, pastor.

Marriage licenses were issued for the week ending 20 May 1896 to the following persons: WILLIAM C. LYLES and LYDIA REEVES, A. J. BAILEY and ROSE BAILEY, HORACE HUNT and GEORGIANNA RYAN, ALBERT BATES and MARY E. ALLEN, SAM P. CRAIN and LAURA G. STANFIELD.

The Excelsior Cycling Club reorganized and named the following gentlemen as officers: D. C. WILLIAMSON, president; S. DELMOULY, secretary; and SOL REINAUER, treasurer. Also mentioned were Messrs. McCAIN, PREAGER and WINTERHALTER. The paper announced that there are 80 bicyclists in the town.

New homes being built include that of Mr. A. SHIVELY on the Boulevard, Rev. HARRIS (pastor, M. E. Church) on S. Common, J. W. WATSON on Cleveland St., G. M. GOSSETT on S. Hodges and TUG RASPBERRY near RYAN & RICHARD'S mill. The home of J. G. POWELL on the corner of Broad and Hodges Streets is undergoing improvements.

JIM HOUSTON and J. W. WEBSTER were passengers on the "Henrietta" and took a trip to the Gulf. Mr. LOREE and GEORGE HORRIDGE left for their summer homes in Vinton, Iowa. Messrs. FERGUSON and DAVIS, who have been farming east of town, leave Thursday for Arizona, traveling overland. J. H. NEAL, business manager of The American, and his wife went to Houston on business and will run down to Galveston on a pleasure excursion. DICK WAKEFIELD, who went to see the count made for governor at Baton Rouge, has returned to Lake Charles and is "not over enthusiastic over the honesty and purity of some of our legislators." E. HAMAND will represent southwest Louisiana at the general conference of the Dunker Church of the U.S. at Ottawa, Kansas.

Business notes include advertisements by ADOLPH MEYER, "Your Druggist", near the post office. J. W. WATSON has sold his interest in the Kansas City Meat Market to his partner C. A. BARR. Messrs. GEORGE & SWIFT received 25 fine roadsters last week. Mr. GEORGE purchased them in Kansas City. The Southern Home Building and Loan Association of Atlanta, Georgia, has organized a branch in the city with Mr. SOL BLOCH, president; W. M. MURRAY, vice president; D. B. GORHAM, attorney; and C. R. BARBE, treasurer and agent. Seven hundred shares of stock were subscribed. The shares are \$100 each.

Commencement exercises for the Lake Charles College were announced. Miss EDNA L. KING finished her studies in the college department and takes her degree, while Misses ETHEL J. EDGAR and DELLA G. BEARDSLEY complete the preparatory course and will receive diplomas. On the program were GERTRUDE BEARDSLEY, MARGIE SPEARING, EMMA J. MOSS, EDITH PHILSON. ETHEL J. EDGAR, HAWKINS CARROLL, CYRILLA BRADEN, EDNA KING and JESSIE SPEARING.

Prof. J. E. KEENY, B. S. LANDIS, W. B. HALE, J. L. HARTMAN and J. R. HAMILTON are conducting the Calcasieu Summer Normal. Teachers and those expecting to be teachers who are attending are: LULU HOAG, EUNICE JENKINS, JENNIE BROWN, D. D. HEREFORD, C. J. BROWN, F. R. BARTLETT, LOUISE WENTZ, AMY McMULLEN, ANNA FAUCETT, Mrs. A. E.

PRICE, STELLA GARRISON, A. J. JONES, W. C. HEARD, LILLIAN ARCHER, DAN B. GORHAM, J. ALTON FOSTER, J. L. JOHNSON, ANNIE STEVENS, HATTIE READ, M. R. STEWART, W. K. FORD, MINORA GRUBB, E. R. HENDRICKS, S. A. MILLER, MATTIE SHERARD, E. L. MILLER, ELLA RAY, MOLLIE HARROP, LORENA KEARSE, HATTIE DEES, N. DORA FLORY, LEONORE LOXLEY, JAMES WILLIAMS, D. A. BLAND, J. A. NEWLAND, C. H. LOVE, LAURA ANDERSON, KATE THURMAN, EDNA KING, EDITH BLACKSHIRE, Mrs. J. H. BURGER, S. J. ILES, J. I. NICHOLS, Mrs. FLORA NICHOLS, LAURA M. KEENY, LUCY M. ANDERSON, CARL WHITMAN, ANNA DAVIDSON, HARDIE D. DEAR, LIZZIE PRICE, ABBIE PRENTICE, NETTIE RADIKLE, CORA SUTTER, JOHN G. MOSS, NAOMI C. ESSELSTEIN, SALLIE BRANTLEY, MARY F. MURRAY, LILA CHARTIER, OLLA VAN BROOK, ALICE SHADDOCK, W. W. MILLER, E. K. BROWN, MAGGIE SULLIVAN, WALTER F. DEITZ, TUSHUA EDDLEMAN, Mrs. CATHERINE MURRAY, CHARLES M. HUGHES, A. J. HEARD, MARY WALMSLEY, JESSIE M. BLACKSHEAR, GERTIE STEWART, BELLE BRADLEY, H. WALTON, MAGGIE G. HARROP, T. E. HYATT, WILLIAM COLE, EDEN A. BAGSLEY, ELVIN C. WILLARD, C. McLEOD, W. C. JOHNSON, E. G. WATSON, LULU BRIGGS, MELICENT HENDRICKS, ROE BEACH, EVELANA JONES, L. E. WELLS, WILLIAM HEBERT, WARD ANDERSON, YIEVE REED, AGNES KELLOGG, KATIE BRODERICK, BERTA M. O'BRIEN, CORA E. BARNESTEIN, ETTA CAMPBELL, CELILIE JONES, DORA CAGLE, DAISY BAKER, ALICE VAN BROOK, NINA PINDAR, CORA HEWITT, ALLIE CURLEY, MATTIE LUTZ, LOU PRATER, FLORENCE GODEAU, SADIE M. SHAW, ALICE C. LILES, C. T. HEREFORD, LOUIS S. LILES, LIZZIE TURNER, R. L. McFARLAND, ESTORGE LeBLANC, MARTIN HEBERT, E. J. SHADDOCK, ADA LAVENDER, HARRIET ELLENDER, MONTIE SMITH, MILDRED SHADDOCK, ELLA GODWIN, LYDIA PENNY, Mrs. E. M. CLARK, J. C. DAVIS, J. L. WILLIAMS, EULA DAVIS, E. A. RICHARD, PEARL HARLAN, JOE SUTTLES, DORA MULLER, MAGGIE HAYES, EMMA MOSS, ANNIE REID, RONA KEENER, RUBY WEBER, RUBY GRAY, NERVA FAUCETT, BURL CLEMENT, HARRY CRAWFORD, LANIER RICHARDSON, EWELL THOMPSON, BEN FOSTER, BERTHA HAUPT, ARCILLA ELLENDER, EVELYN PRICE, NANNIE SUTTLES, CLAUDIA RAWLINGS, RELIEF RICHARDS, VIOLA LOCKE, EMMA OLSEN, PEARL DEES, MABEL DEES, NELLIE LOVE, FLOY MARSH, MARY PICKETT, LULA HARMANSON, BEN SOLOMON, EDGAR WILLIAMS, NELLIE HUDSON, LOIS WENTZ, STELLA McNEESE, MARY PRICE, MAUD BOWERS, CYRILLA BRADEN, FLOY MOSS, DELIA MOSS, MOLLIE KINDER, SALLIE McMULLEN, ANNIE GOODRICH, MARELINE GOODEAU, WILLIAM MAYO, MAXIE KAUFMAN, OSWALD McNEESE and EDWARD GORHAM.

Letters advertised for the week by J. P. GEARY, Postmaster, were:

#### LADIES' LIST

ARMSTRONG, LULA  
ANSON, Miss DAERAH  
BURNETT, NELLIE  
BROWN, Mrs. J. H.  
CALERHOME, Mrs. IDA  
COOPER, Miss IDA  
COOPER, Miss IRA

DAVIS, Mrs. EFFIE  
DONES, Miss ANNIE  
GLORIES, Miss MARY  
GRANGER, CLAMAN  
HAYDEN, Mrs. KATE  
HENDRICKS, ELLEN  
LEE, Miss MARY

LEWIS, CONSTANCE  
MANTON, CLORAN  
MOOR, LILLIE  
MORRIS, Miss MARTHA  
ROGERS, Miss ADDIE  
SMITH, Miss EDNA  
WILLIAMS, ALICE

#### GENTLEMEN'S LIST

ARMSTRONG, H.  
BALY, GEO.  
BARBEE, ROBT.  
BATTY, EULO  
BEL, A. P.  
BROCK, FRED A.  
BROWN, GEO.  
BROWN, SAM.

GRAIN, LOYD  
HAWARD, R. S.  
HEMBREE, G.  
HOLE, G. W.  
HUNTER, CHAS.  
JOHNSON, A. W.  
JONES, JAMES  
LAURS, JAMES

RYANS, M. T.  
SCOTT, CHAS.  
(foreign)  
SHALL, COSTE  
STARKS, GEO. L.  
TRIBLETT, E.  
TOMPKINS, M.  
VORLOPETATE, W.

BURNS, GEO.  
CONNER, PAT  
COPPELL, W. C.  
CUNNINGHAM, M.  
DANIELS, D. B.  
DYKES, JESSIE  
FREEMAN, J. W.  
GREEN, CHAS.

McMULLAN, N. D.  
MANION, JAS.  
MARTIN, CHAS. (2)  
MOOR, EDWARD  
MOOR, I. P.  
NOYES, WILLIE  
PERTY, DANIEL  
PIZZAN, TOMA

WEBB, R. P.  
WESS, GABE  
WHITNEY, C. M.  
(Prof.)  
WILLIAMS, JEFF  
WILLIAMS, THOMAS  
WOODS, ALFRED

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The lists of the people registering at the following hotels for the week ending May 19, 1896, included some of the visitors from as far away as New Orleans, Dallas, Boston, Chicago, San Francisco and New York. For the sake of brevity we have included only area people.

#### WALKER HOUSE

C. L. LYLES, JAMES EUBANKS, Sugartown; A. W. BAKER, Country; A. J. PRATER, Westlake; J. J. KINGRY, J. KINGRY, Jr., JOHN HILL, Pearl; ED. STINES, N. TOUNTONS, Oberlin; M. K. RAY, G. W. CALDWELL, Mermentau; P. H. FAIRBANKS, Eunice; H. A. GOEDA, Bayou Chien; D. W. DONOHUE, ELVIN DONOHUE, Johnson's Bayou; W. C. HAUGHTELIN, J. BOCKHAVEN, Welsh; HENRY STANTON, Hawkeye Ranch; W. M. ZUNSTREAM, Orange, Tex.; J. O. STEWART, Hickory Branch; KING RICHARDS, Oakdale; I. J. MILLS, Fenton.

#### HOTEL HOWARD

GEO. S. FRAZIER, A. D. McFARLAIN, Dr. THOMAS L. TERRY, Mrs. M. D. MORELAND, Jennings; WM. CAGNEY, CHAS. RAMSEY and wife, JOHN BROOKS, J. SHELDON TOOMER, JOHN H. POE, W. W. DAY, B. BEARDSLEY, C. B. LOYD, A. J. PERKINS and family, RALPH HOWARD, A. L. WILLIAMS, Lake Charles; TOM C. SWOPE, Beaumont; R. M. WILLIAMS, A. W. MILLER, Galveston; S. M. REIN, L. T. GRUBBS, Orange; WEDLAND FURRATI, New Iberia; F. F. ROGERS, Forest Hill; C. E. ROBERTS, Alexandria; A. ST. GAUDAIN, St. Landry Par.; G. W. LAW, Lockport; D. J. WILLIAMS, Glenmora; V. MAYNARD, Mermentau; Miss EVALINA R. JONES, Iowa; JOSEPH KNIPPING, Rayne.

### CALCASIEU PARISH NEWS ITEMS

From The American, May 20, 1896

#### JENNINGS

The 8th annual parish Sunday School convention will be held at Jennings on June 11 at the Methodist Church. The committee on entertainment consists of Miss MINORA GRUBB, Mrs. K. C. SNIVELY and Mrs. C. S. MORSE. Assisting in the program are W. E. GILLET, Rev. IRA N. PARDEE, A. G. MURRAY and C. M. FIELD.

#### FENTON

ZEKE THOMPSON was in Kinder last week. J. J. MILLS made a business trip to Alexandria and was a Lake Charles visitor last week. JAMES ELLIS made another business visit to this village last week. R. H. KEENER and Mrs. C. W. HOLE and son JOE were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. AL FRAZER. Miss IDA FRAZER of Lake Charles visited her brother and wife.

CAL SUTHERLAND of Lake Charles works in the rice mill. JOHN SUTHERLAND, who has been working in the rice mill, has resigned his position to accept a position in Lake Charles.

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The **First Louisiana Lottery** was founded in 1866 during the Reconstruction era. The state was undergoing a period of political and economic crisis, and the lottery was founded to alleviate some of the state's financial woes.

## ORIGINAL RECORDS

Genealogists are always told "Consult the original record." Find the primary source. Why is this so important?

First of all, if you see the original record yourself, there can be no doubt about someone else's interpretation of the document. Sometimes, an abstractor or translator misconstrues or miscopies the information, reverses numbers or fails to copy all of the pertinent information.

In addition to finding the specific information you are seeking, in an original document additional information may be found that provide valuable information. For example, a baptismal record may provide name, date of birth and baptism of the infant, birthplace, religious denomination, and name of parents. In many cases, names of grandparents or other relatives who may have acted as sponsors or godparents, the date of the parents' marriage and other genealogical information may be found. In a death certificate, date, cause and place of death date but the date and place of birth may also be found, as well as names of the parents of the deceased (if the person who gave the information knew these facts). It is always advisable to obtain documents made close to the time of the event when everything was fresh and clear in minds than to rely on later, or secondary, evidence recorded when memory of a past event must be recalled or when the recorder was not actually present at the event.

Published works are secondary sources, and, although much valuable information may be found in them, are always suspect by genealogists. Primary information can be wrong if it has been incorporated with secondary information. As always, evaluate your evidence.

If you are unable to find the original record relating to an event in your ancestor's life, you must carefully analyze other information, such as newspaper articles, cemetery records, and establish a "preponderance" of evidence to support your conclusion.

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## MURPHY'S LAW FOR GENEALOGISTS

1. You finally get a day off from work to go to a courthouse, and when you get there, they are closed for emergency plumbing repairs.
2. You finally find the obituary of your ancestor in an old newspaper but all it says is "...died last week..."
3. You spend an eternity looking for great grandmother's maiden name, and when you find it, your mother tells you she already knew that but you never asked her.
4. You spend half your life looking for the other side of the family, only to find they lived right across the street but had changed their name because of a family feud.
5. You write down the address of a long-lost relative on the back of the telephone bill, and when you go to find it, your spouse has been helpful and paid it the day before.

(Acadian Genealogy Exchange)

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**FAMILY TREES ARE WORTH CULTIVATING.** If you are the first in your family to search for your roots, you can pass on your knowledge of family background and traditions to future generations. If someone before you has traced some of the family lineage, they have not "done it all." Add more information and more generations to the existing knowledge about your family.

## INFORMATION FROM EXCHANGE PUBLICATIONS

The SWLGS exchanges periodicals with more than 70 other genealogical societies. These publications are excellent research tools and are housed with the collection of the Southwest Louisiana Genealogical & Historical Library, 411 Pujo St., Lake Charles, LA. The following information has been gleaned from some of the periodicals.

**FRENCH AND INDIAN RELATIONS IN THE ILLINOIS COUNTRY.** These accounts from the journal of Abbe FRANCOIS DELAPORTE make interesting reading. He told that the French duped the Indians on many occasions, often saving their lives in the process. In one case, a French officer learned that the savages planned to scalp him. He shaved his head, covered it with a wig and went before the chief of the Missouris. Tearing the wig from his head, he threw it on the ground and said, "You want my scalp? Pick it up if you dare." The astonished Indians remained as though petrified. The Frenchman further bluffed that he could burn and dry up all their lakes and rivers and destroy their forests. To convince them, he had a vessel full of (alcoholic) spirits brought to him, and set it on fire with a match. The savages, who did not yet know of this liquor, were astonished. At the same time, he drew a magnifying glass from his pocket, placed it in the sun and set fire to a piece of dry wood. The Indians, no longer doubting that he could dry up their lakes and consume their forests loaded him with presents and sent him on his way. Another ruse was practiced on the Indians by an Italian who placed a small mirror on his chest to prove to the Iroquois, who came to look at themselves, that he carried them in his heart. This article is part of a continuing series.

L'Heritage, Vol. 19 #73 (Jan. 1996), St. Bernard (LA) Genealogical Society, Chalmette, LA

**MADAM LANGLOIS, MOTHER OF CREOLE COOKING.** Shortly after New Orleans was founded in 1716 the women of New Orleans arrived at Gov. BIENVILLE'S house, banging their black cast iron pots. In what was probably the first organized protest in America, the women insisted that the governor listen to their grievances and demanded to know about the colony's indigenous foods. The governor, sensing potential trouble, agreed and sent his housekeeper, MADAM LANGLOIS, a cousin of his mother, to live with the Indians for approximately six weeks. She discovered how they transformed native foods into delicious fare. She learned to use bay leaf to add flavor to foods, to make a meal from cut corn or to boil the ears whole. She found that the Indians would stuff squirrel with local pecans and spices, and became adept at preparing one of the better-known Indian corn dishes still appreciated today, corn and butterbeans melded to produce a dish we call "succotash." On returning to the city MADAM LANGLOIS shared her new knowledge with the ladies of New Orleans in what must have been the first home economics course held in North America.

Ascension Roots, Vol. XVI #1 (March 1996), East Ascension Genealogical & Historical Society, Gonzales, LA.

**NAMES OF JEWS REMOVED FROM IGL.** Representatives of the Jewish community and leaders of the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints have reached an agreement in which 360,000 entries in the church's IGI (International Genealogical Index) will be removed. The entries represent thousands of Jewish Holocaust victims entered in four major extractions which resulted in church post-death baptisms of the victims and their listings in the IGI. The IGI is an index to deceased persons who have received one or more LDS ordinances, either in person or on their behalf at their death. In addition to removing the names of Holocaust victims, the church's practice of baptizing Jewish people who are not direct ancestors of living members of the LDS will be ended. The agreement stated that Jewish records for genealogical purposes only will continue to be kept and made available to the public.

Bulletin, Vol. 45 #2 (Winter 1996), Seattle (WA) Genealogical Society



**"FROM FISH TO FLOWERS"** is an early history of Bellingrath Gardens, a beautiful estate just outside of Mobile, Ala., in the town of Theodore. Originally granted as bounty land to Pvt. EDWARD SMOOT, the land was purchased in 1840 by EDWARD PARKER, whose family built a large fishing camp on the land which was known as "Parker Place". Each year many tourists visit the lovely gardens, paying particular attention to the five hundred-year-old "Parker Oak".

"From Fish to Flowers", Deep South Genealogical Quarterly, Vol. 33 #2 (May 1996) Mobile (AL) Genealogical Society

**THE NEW ORLEANS RIOT OF 1866** was the result of many complicated issues, foremost among which was the radical Reconstruction government's plan to eliminate the white vote (only males could vote). The complex questions that led to the radical reconstruction period, as well as some of the events leading up to the riot, are discussed. A list of 155 men who were killed or wounded in the riot follows.

The Louisiana Genealogical Register, Vol. 43 #2 (June 1996), LA Genealogical & Historical Society, Baton Rouge, LA

**THE MELANCON ORIGIN**, long thought to be Scottish, has been established as being French. The ancestor of this family in Acadia was PIERRE LAVERDURE, a French Huguenot who went to England where he married an Englishwoman named PRESCILA MELANCON. PIERRE went to Acadia with Sr. THOMAS TEMPLE during the English occupation. Two of his sons adopted their mother's surname, MELANCON, and stayed in Acadia, while a third, JOHN, kept the surname LAVERDURE and moved to Boston. After Acadia was returned to France in 1667 the family settled in Boston with the exception of the two sons PIERRE and CHARLES MELANCON, who had married Acadians and converted to Roman Catholicism. PIERRE, who married MARIE D'ENTREMONT, helped found the settlement of Grand Pre. CHARLES married MARIE DUGAS and settled in Port Royal; he went regularly to Boston, possibly to visit his daughter MARIE, who lived there and had married a French Huguenot, DAVID BASSET. Despite family connections and collaboration with the Boston colonists, the British deported the MELANCON families from Acadia in 1755. They were shipped to several New England colonies, as well as to the prisons in the south of England. Some of the families managed to escape and found refuge in Quebec, particularly in the Trois-Rivieres region.

Terrebonne Life Lines, Vol. 15 #2 (Summer 1996), Terrebonne Genealogical Society, Houma, LA

**WHEN SURNAMES DISAPPEAR.** Only 20% of the surnames used still exist after 13 generations. 90% of all family names from the 1700s are now extinct. In 1974 the Social Security Administration had 1,265,556 different surnames on file, of which 448,663 had only one occurrence. Over 5000 surnames of knights listed in the Doomsday Book of 1086 have died out. Heir Mail, Vol. 18 #4-6, April, May, June 1996, Crow Wing Co. (MN)

**CREVASSE!** The very word struck terror into all who lived along the Mississippi River. It meant that there was a break in the levee which protected the land and people from the vicious flood waters of the river. This interesting article tells of the crevasse which threatened some of the richest sugar plantations in the country, in St. John the Baptist Parish in June 1893. In the same issue are translations of some documents concerning the DARSENBOURG/ARSENBOURG case in the early 1700s.

Les Voyageurs, Vol. XVII #3 (Sept. 1996), German-Acadian Coast Historical & Genealogical Society, Destrehan, LA 70047

**INBREEDING** is not necessarily bad, according to Dr. JAMES V. NOEL of the University of Michigan. He believes that the benefits of inbreeding, that is cousins marrying cousins, outweigh the modest biological hazards. The frequency of major genetic defects was only 1.5% higher in the marriage of cousins than it was in the marriage of unrelated people.

Sequoia Genealogical Society Newsletter via The Family Tree, Vol. VI #5 (Oct./Nov. 1995), Ellen P. Odom Genealogical Library.



## QUERIES

Please make all queries clear, concise and easily understood. Give full name of the person; exact date, if known, or an approximate period (ca); and a location. Be sure to state **exactly** what information you are seeking. Queries are free to members and will be printed as space permits. When you receive an answer, please reimburse for copies and postage.

### **PRESTRIDGE, WHITE**

Need information on JERRY W. PRESTRIDGE (b. 16 July 1937, Canton, MS, s/o RALF PRESTRIDGE and MARY WHITE, probably of Canton).  
PATRICIA ANN SMITH, 2802 Allen St., Sulphur, LA 70663

### **CASSIDY, CLAYPOOL, SMITH, McHUGH, McCORMACK, KENNETT**

Need information on parents, wife and child of JAMES A. CASSIDY (b. 1846; m. HESTER JANE CLAYPOOL, d/o JOHN S. CLAYPOOL and ELIZABETH SMITH). Had one child, ADDISON C. CASSIDY (m. BRIDGETT McHUGH). Their child, MARY CATHERINE CASSIDY (b. 2 Aug. 1877, Bowling Green, KY; d. 13 Dec. 1951, Lacassine, LA; m. ROBERT PETER McCORMACK). Also need information on ROBERT McCORMACK (b. Ireland, d. 13 Oct. 1904, Crowley, LA; m. MARY ANN KENNETT, b. England; d. 22 Jan. 1927, Beaumont, TX). Son ROBERT PETER McCORMACK (b. 22 May 1875, Crowley, LA; m. MARY CATHERINE CASSIDY).  
MALENE McDANIEL STELLY, 605 N. 7th St., Silsbee, TX 77656-4019

### **BODEM, REIMBACH, SNEIDER/SNIDER/SNIDER-CARL, McFARLAND, TANNER**

Need information on JOHN PETER BODEM (s/o PETRUS BODEM of Germany and MARGARTHA REIMBACH) and wife, CAROLINE SNEIDER/SNIDER/SNIDER-CARL. Daughter JULIA (b. 14 June 1870, Kansas City or Sedalia, MO or Sidney or Dayton, OH; d. 9 Sept. 1943, Beaumont, TX; m. 1st, CHARLES WILLIAM McFARLAND; m. 2nd, DAVID VINSON TANNER). Also need information on DAVID TANNER (b. 1818, TN), father of DAVID VINSON TANNER (b. 5 Oct. 1846, MS; d. 15 Jan. 1900, Beaumont, TX; m. 1st, CINDY; m. 2nd, JULIA BODEM McFARLAND).  
MALENE McDANIEL STELLY, 605 N. 7th St., Silsbee, TX 77656-4019

### **MURRAY, JACKSON, WILLIAMS**

Please help me find FRED MURRAY, my great-granduncle. He was born ca 1874, SC. In 1920 he lived near Oakdale, La., and worked at a sawmill. He and his wife, KIPPY MURRAY, had a child VIOLA MURRAY, and he had step-daughters, ALBERTA JACKSON, EASTER and RUBY WILLIAMS. In 1930 he moved to New Orleans and contact was lost. Anyone knowing of his descendants is asked to contact me.  
INETHA WHITE, 22-27 99th St., East Elmhurst, NY 11369

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**THE FEDERAL DRAFT** was created by Congress in March 1863. White male citizens from ages 25-40 were eligible. Aliens who had declared naturalization intentions were prime candidates for the draft, and white married males 20-35 years and unmarried males 25-45 years were required to serve. With parental permission males 17-20 years could serve. The draft created three types of records: a Consolidated List (arranged by state, which gives place of residence as of 1 July 1863, country of birth, marital status, occupation and military unit); Descriptive Rolls (may give personal description and place of birth), which are filed with the state in which he was conscripted; and case files on drafted aliens. Check state and national archives for these conscription records.

**STATE FLAG OF LOUISIANA**, although used since the late 1800s, was not officially adopted until 1912. The design of the flag consists of a group of pelicans in white/gold on a field of blue.

## BOOK REVIEWS

The following books are complimentary copies from the publisher. Order from Heritage Books, Inc., 1540-E Pointer Ridge Place, Suite 300, Bowie, MD 20716. Payment may be made by Visa/Mastercard/Checks/Money Orders.

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*The New England Historical and Genealogical Register: v. XXXVIII 1884; v. XXXIX 1885.* Published quarterly under the patronage of the New England Historic Genealogy Society. 1996 facsimile reprints. \$29.50 per volume plus \$4.00 shipping.

Volumes XV (1861) and XVI (1862) were reviewed in KINFOLKS, Vol. 18 #3, 1994; Volumes XXIII (1869) and XXIV (1870) were reviewed in KINFOLKS, Vol.19 #2, 1995.

Volume XXVIII 1884: Genealogies: BALDWIN; BONYTHON; CHEEVER; DOLE; FENWICK; GREENLEAF; JOHNSON; PHILBRICK; STAGG; THOMPSON; UNDERWOOD; WARNET; WING; WOODHALL. Also some biographical sketches. Other records: Records of Braintree, MA; Milton, MA; Farmington, CT; Longmeadow, MA; Portsmouth and Winchester, NH. Plus Beverly Records abstracts; and genealogical notes on the BARRETT family of Concord, the BIGGE family, THOMAS BELL, ELIZABETH BRETLAND, SYMON BRADSTREET, the BROWN and BUTTRICK families of Concord, and others. Also some farmer families of Concord; early maps of Massachusetts and Boston Harbor; Farmington, CT church records; genealogical queries; historical notes and letters relating to early New England; letters of OLIVER CROMWELL (1655) and others; Middlesex County records (abstracts); Necrologies; English genealogical gleanings; York County abstract deeds. Biographical sketches: CALEB R. AYER; GEORGE BARSTOW; JOSEPH DANE; AUGUSTUS C. & SOPHIA H. DODGE; GEORGE T. DOLE; ALFRED L. ELWYN; ELIZABETH FARNSWORTH; JOHN L. GARDNER; SARAH B. GREELY; HENRY B. & SYBELLA H. HALL; HIRAM B. HOBBS; LUCINDA F. & WILLIAM H. HOYT; ANDREW A. HUMPHREYS; WILLIAM S. JOHNSON; JOSEPH LEONARD; FREDERICK LYPOLDT; ORASMUS H. MARSHALL; ALPHEUS S. PACKARD; WENDELL PHILLIPS; ELIZA SUSAN QUINCY; SEWALL SARGENT; BAXTER P. SMITH; NICHOLAS TRUBNER; MARTHA D. WASHBURN; WILLIAM A. WHITNEY; CHARLES WILSON.

Volume XXXIX 1885: Genealogies: CLEVELAND; COTTON; DE INSULA; ELIOT; FAWKNER; KENDALL; LISLE; MOODY; ROBINSON; ROGERS; ROYALL; SAMBORNE; WEEKS. Biographical sketches: GEORGE C. ARNOLD; CHARLOTTE BATTLES; PORTER CORNELIUS BLISS; HENRY GEORGE BOHN; MOSES BROWN; RICHARD CUMMINGS; NATHANIEL DAVENPORT; JOSIAH R. DEAN; FRANCIS S. DRAKE; HENRY L. EUSTIS; JACOB G. FOREMAN; RICHARD FOXWELL; MARCIA P. C. LADD; THOMAS LEWIS; GEORGE LUNT; WILLIAM MOUNTFORD; GEORGE RUDD; THOMAS VIAL; JAMES B. R. WALKER; AARON, CHESTER, & PHINEAS WENTWORTH; DANIEL D. WHEDON; LEONARD WITHINGTON; HARRISON WRIGHT; NATHAN WYMAN. Other records: Early inhabitants of Barbados (list); article on Cabo de Arenos (Sandy Hook) listing over 50 maps produced of the Atlantic Coast between 1500 and 1700; records of Farmington, CT; court records of the Province of Maine; records of Winchester, NH; English researches and gleanings; Necrologies; queries; Historical Society proceedings; book notices; abstracts of wills & deeds; inhabitants of Blue Point and Casco Point, 1658; roster of soldiers in King Philip's war; and more.

Soft bound, 476pp., 425 pp., illus.; indexes.

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**MEMBERSHIP IN THE SWLGS WOULD MAKE A NICE CHRISTMAS GIFT!**

*What Did They Mean By That? A Dictionary of Historical Terms for Genealogists*,  
by PAUL DRAKE. 1994. \$25.00 plus \$4.00 shipping.

Words from the past give insight to the speech, occupations, material goods - life in general - of our ancestors. The family historian must seek out the records of the merchants, courts, legislators, and churches, as well as the everyday expressions of the common men and women. This collection of more than 3,000 words includes many occupations, descriptions of early furniture and foods, common medical terms and herbal remedies, and many expressions, once common, yet now all but forgotten. The words found here are seen at every turn of research; in court documents (especially inventories of estates, court entries, and law suits), books, newspapers, letters and song. It can be said that this work is written with a pleasing style that is entertaining and educational. About language Mr. Justice Holmes said it best: "A word is not a crystal, transparent and unchanging. It is, rather, the skin of a living thought, and its meaning may vary greatly with the time and the context in which it is found."

Soft bound; 233pp.; illus.; references.

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*Genealogical Guide to Tracing Ancestors in Germany* by MARGARET KRUG PALEN.  
1995. \$19.95 plus \$4.00 shipping.

The unification of Germany gave rise to this updated version of the author's previous work entitled *Genealogical Research Guide to Germany*. It is pointed out by the author that before research by mail or travel to Germany, the researcher must do some essential research in the United States. Steps are described to help one with this quest. When one begins research in Germany, one will then know exactly what kinds of records are available there, where to find them, how to get access to them, and how to decipher them. Included are lists of German terminology and useful phrases with English translations, along with illustration of Gothic script and many of the types of forms and records one may encounter. There is historical background about the cities and people of Germany plus one chapter on doing Jewish research.

Soft bound; 156pp.; illus.; maps; biblio.; glossary; photos; facsimile; index.

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**NATURALIZATION OF AN AMERICAN CITIZEN.** Naturalization papers for foreign immigrants can be found in court houses and archives, but when was a U.S. citizen required to become naturalized? A law enacted in 1907 declared that a woman, even though she were born in the U.S., would lose her American citizenship if she married an alien who had not become an American citizen. In order to become a citizen again, the woman was required to go through the naturalization process when her husband became a citizen. This law was in force until 1922. (*Kin Tracer*, Vol. 17 #3, 1994, Marin Co., CA)

**NATURALIZATION DATA IN FEDERAL RECORDS.** If you are unable to find your ancestor's naturalization papers in the courthouse, check other federal records, such as passport and homestead applications, which may contain naturalization information. Passport applications can be found in the General Records of the Department of State, Record Group #59. Homestead applications are filed with the Bureau of Land Management, Record Group #49. The law required that a naturalized citizen who applied for a passport before 1906 must provide proof of naturalization, and these records are generally in the passport file for that person. Proof of naturalization was also required when applying for a homestead, and the pertinent documents appear in the applicant's file.

Name of Compiler Glenwith H. McHENRYAddress P. O. Box 3011City, State Pineville, LA 71361Date October 1996*Ancestor Chart*

Person No. 1 on this chart is the same person as No. \_\_\_\_\_ on chart No. \_\_\_\_\_.

Chart No. \_\_\_\_\_

b. Date of Birth  
p.b. Place of Birth  
m. Date of Marriage  
d. Date of Death  
p.d. Place of Death

4 William Sanford BRADY

(Father of No. 2)

b. 19 Feb. 1844  
p.b. Ellisville, MS  
m. 8 Nov. 1866 - MS  
d. 26 June 1935  
p.d. Elmer, LA

2 Thomas Charles BRADY

(Father of No. 1)

b. 14 May 1872  
p.b. Covington Co., MS  
m. 18 Dec. 1895 - LA  
d. 29 Nov. 1912  
p.d. Elmer, LA

5 Sarah Ann DYESS

(Mother of No. 2)

b. 4 Feb. 1844  
p.b. Georgia  
d. 19 June 1898  
p.d. Elmer, LA

1 Lessie Ethel BRADY

b. 6 June 1907  
p.b. Elmer, LA  
m. 31 Dec. 1924 - LA  
d.  
p.d.

6 Archibald SMITH

(Father of No. 3)

b. 22 Mar. 1824  
p.b. Calcasieu Par., LA  
m. 4 Mar. 1851 - LA  
d. 31 Mar. 1894  
p.d. Rapides Par., LA

3 Harriet (Hattie) C. SMITH

(Mother of No. 1)

b. 7 Mar. 1874  
p.b. Hinston, LA  
d. 10 Apr. 1961  
p.d. Oakdale, LA

7 Sophia PAUL

(Mother of No. 3)

b. 10 Nov. 1830  
p.b. Rapides Par., LA  
d. 30 Dec. 1913  
p.d. Rapides Par., LA

Henry Allen HILTON

(Spouse of No. 1)

b. 27 June 1901 d. 31 July 1967  
p.b. Rapides Par., LA p.d. Rapides Par., LA

8 James (Jim) BRADDEY

(Father of No. 4)

b. 21 July 1808  
p.b. North Carolina  
m.

d. 10 Nov. 1880  
p.d. Mississippi

9 Elizabeth DAVIS

(Mother of No. 4)

b. 30 Sep. 1809  
p.b. Pendleton Dist., S.C.  
d. 29 Sep. 1863  
p.d. Mississippi

10 Thomas D. DYESS

(Father of No. 5)

b. -- 1812  
p.b. Georgia  
m. 10 Nov. 1836 - GA  
d. -- 1868  
p.d. Cherokee Co., TX

11 Nancy N. JENKINS

(Mother of No. 5)

b. -- 1817  
p.b. Georgia  
d. -- 1868  
p.d. Cherokee Co., TX

12 George SMITH

(Father of No. 6)

b. -- 1796  
p.b. Hancock Co., GA  
m. 30 Mar. 1821 - LA  
d. after 1860  
p.d.

13 Elizabeth ILES

(Mother of No. 6)

b. -- 1802  
p.b. South Carolina  
d. after 1860  
p.d.

14 Michael PAUL, Sr.

(Father of No. 7)

b. 10 Sep. 1798  
p.b. Louisiana  
m.  
d. 29 Sep. 1870  
p.d. Elmer, LA

15 Mary HOLLOWAY

(Mother of No. 7)

b. 18 May 1804  
p.b.  
d. 26 Nov. 1872  
p.d. Elmer, LA

16

b. (Father of No. 8,  
Cont. on chart No. \_\_\_\_\_)

m.

d.

17

b. (Mother of No. 8,  
Cont. on chart No. \_\_\_\_\_)

m.

d.

18

b. (Father of No. 9,  
Cont. on chart No. \_\_\_\_\_)

m.

d.

19

b. (Mother of No. 9,  
Cont. on chart No. \_\_\_\_\_)

m.

d.

20

b. (Father of No. 10,  
Cont. on chart No. \_\_\_\_\_)

m.

d.

21

b. (Mother of No. 10,  
Cont. on chart No. \_\_\_\_\_)

m.

d.

22

b. (Father of No. 11,  
Cont. on chart No. \_\_\_\_\_)

m.

d.

23

b. (Mother of No. 11,  
Cont. on chart No. \_\_\_\_\_)

m.

d.

24 Archibald SMITH

b. -- 1765 (Father of No. 12,  
Cont. on chart No. \_\_\_\_\_)  
m. -- 1790/91

d. between 22 Feb 1824 and  
4 June 1825

25

Elizabeth VAUGHN(Mother of No. 12,  
Cont. on chart No. \_\_\_\_\_)

b. 2 Nov. 1770-MD  
d. after 13 July 1839 - TX

26

William ILES

b. 5 Mar. 1763 (Father of No. 13,  
Cont. on chart No. \_\_\_\_\_)  
m. -- 1784/87

d. after 1843 census

27

Elizabeth PACE(Mother of No. 13,  
Cont. on chart No. \_\_\_\_\_)

b. -- 1760/70  
d. -- 1830/40

28

Jacob PAUL

b. -- 1770 (Father of No. 14,  
Cont. on chart No. \_\_\_\_\_)  
m. 17 July 1792 - LA

d. after 1830 census - LA

29

Marie Anne LaPRAIRIE(Mother of No. 14,  
Cont. on chart No. \_\_\_\_\_)

b. 1772  
d. before 7 Aug. 1808 - LA

30

James HOLLOWAY

b. -- 1779 (Father of No. 15,  
Cont. on chart No. \_\_\_\_\_)

m.

d.

31

Catherine "Katy" LaCROIX(Mother of No. 15,  
Cont. on chart No. \_\_\_\_\_)

b. -- 1783  
d. -- 1848 - LA

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**HOW LONG WILL YOU BE REMEMBERED?** In a National Gallup Survey, 105 adults 18 years of age and older were asked if they knew the first names and occupations of their great-grandparents. Only 2% knew the names of all their great-grandparents and more than 60% did not know the names of any of their great-grandparents. Only 8% knew the occupations of all of their great-grandparents...including the predictable answer of great-grandmother being a housewife. More than 40% did not know the occupations of any of their great-grandparents. How long will you be remembered?

(Editorial note: If this is not a case for writing your family histories, there will not be a better one!)

Kinfolk, Alexander Co., NC Ancestry Asso., via Family Tree Quarterly, Vol. 6 #3 (Sept. 1996), Cobb Co., GA.

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(Washington Post, via Kinfolk, Alexandria Co., NC Ancestry Asso., reprinted in Family Tree Quarterly, Vol. 6 #3 (Sept. 1996), Cobb Co., GA)

**ABSTRACTS OF COURT CASES.** These supplementary records, which are found at the county/parish level, are often overlooked by genealogists. Sometimes they offer important information.



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