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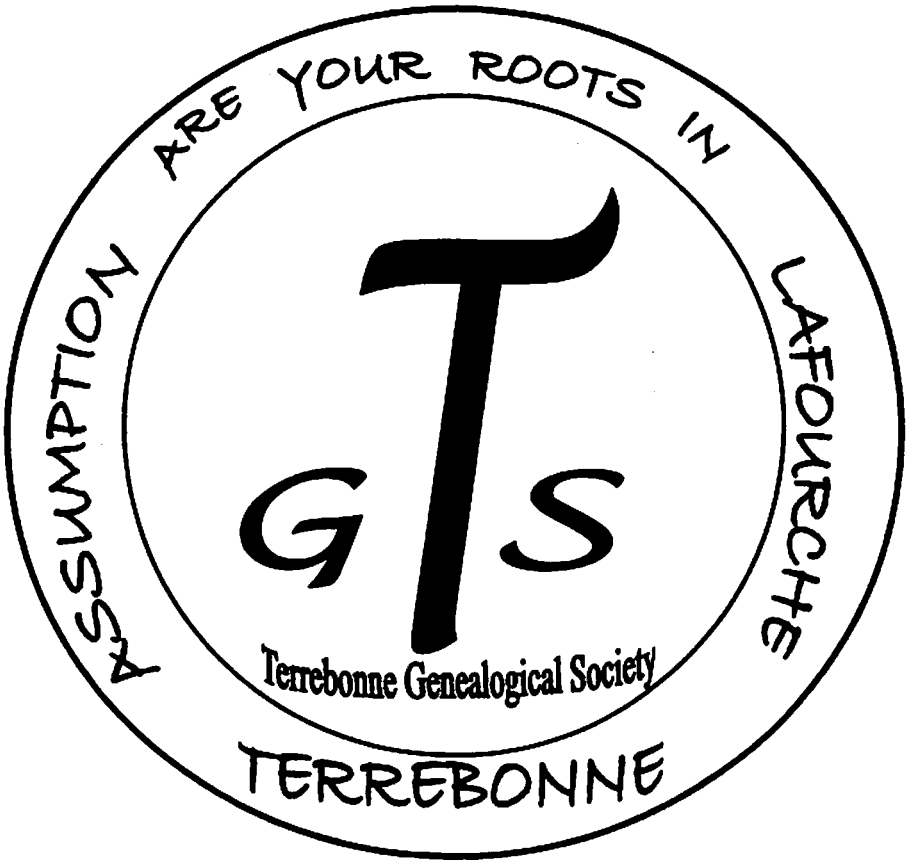
TERREBONNE LIFE LINES

Volume 39 NO. 1 Spring/Summer 2020



A publication of the

Terrebonne Genealogical Society

Houma, LA 70360

Covering the old

"Lafourche Interior Parish" of Louisiana

(Assumption – Lafourche – Terrebonne)

TERREBONNE LIFE LINES

Vol. 39 No. 1 Spring/Summer 2020

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TERREBONNE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
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HOUMA, LOUISIANA 70360
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TERREBONNE LIFE LINES (TLL) is published twice per year (SPRING/SUMMER ISSUE and FALL/WINTER ISSUE). Membership dues, which include a subscription to TLL and our monthly newsletter, are $25 for Individual; $30 for a Family Membership: $30 for Contributing Members; and $22 for Libraries and Societies.

REGULAR MEETINGS are held on the last Saturday of each month except November and December. They begin at 1 pm and are usually held at the Main Branch of the Terrebonne Parish Public Library, 151 Library Dr. in Houma, LA. There is no meeting for the month of November and the December meeting is usually the second Saturday of December.

All material for publication should be submitted to the Life Lines Editor and will be published as soon as possible thereafter. Material should be proof read by the contributor, verifying names and dates. It must bear the contributor's name, address and phone number. If copyrighted material is submitted, the contributor must provide a letter from the owner giving TGS permission to publish the article. Source citations are requested and should show whether it is from a published source, an official source, or personal records. Material and photos submitted for publication will not be returned and become the property of TGS.

QUERIES should be directed to the Editor. They are free but must bear a connection to this area of Louisiana.

DEADLINES for inclusion in the most current issue of Life Lines are April 1, and October 1. We retain authority to delete, condense, expand, correct or refuse material for publication. If the contributor wishes return of material not used, they must provide a SASE with sufficient postage. We solicit articles with family connections to this area.

BOOK REVIEWS are printed upon receipt of the published book when received according to the above deadlines. If after the current deadline, the review will appear in the next issue of Life Lines. Pre-publication announcements are circulated of Society books only, or upon approval of the Executive Board within guidelines set by the Society. Books submitted of review are place in the Terrebonne Parish Public Library's Genealogy collection. We do not accept paid advertising. Neither the Editor nor the Society assumes responsibility or liability for information published in Life Lines or for any errors contained therein.

CURRENT PAID MEMBERS are allowed to take a $1 discount for each full $10 on the purchase price of our books, excluding pre-publication offers, special sales, and membership dues.

An updated **BOOKLIST** is available upon request and the provision of a SASE.

2020-2022

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1911 SACRED HEART MONTEGUT BAPTISMAL REGISTER INDEX

Submitted by Kevin ALLEMAND, Administrator of Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Catholic Archives

These are additional names for 1911 that were omitted from the previous issue.

NAME	RECORD #	NAME	RECORD #
NELTON, Rosina Marie	1911-093	ROBICHAUX, Florence Marie	1911-065
OTTEMAN, Mary Biula	1911-043	ROBICHAUX, Joseph Howard	1911-082
PELEGRIN, Nolton Joseph	1911-010	ROBICHAUX, Joseph Michel	1911-100
PELLEGRIN, Antoine Gustave	1911-051	ROBICHAUX, Joseph Randolph	1911-073
PELLEGRIN, Annie Louise	1911-061	RODRIGUE, Cecilia Lilian	1911-108
PELLEGRIN, Alvin Joseph Narcisse	1911-118	SCHEFFER, Elaine Gertrude	1911-063
PITRE, Rosa Marie	1911-040	STRINGER, Aurelie Henri	1911-058
PRICE, Marie Biula	1911-025	THERIOT, Joseph Albert	1911-044
PRICE, Louis Joseph	1911-036	THIBODAUX, Clemence Gaudia	1911-002
REDMOND, Rea Anne	1911-011	THIBODAUX, Mary May	1911-076
RHODDY, Antoine Milton	1911-104	TRAHAN, Marie Cecilia	1911-028
RHODDY, Marie Alice	1911-116	TRAHANS, Adam Davis	1911-087
RHODDY, Mary Elda	1911-125	VOID	1911-130
RHODES, Thelma Josephine	1911-084	WHITE, Inez Joseph	1911-031
ROBICHAUX, Eugene Jean	1911-098		

1912 SACRED HEART MONTEGUT BAPTISMAL REGISTER INDEX

Submitted by Kevin ALLEMAND, Administrator of Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Catholic Archives

NAME	RECORD #	NAME	RECORD #
AUTHEMENT, Bessie Emma	1912-056	CHAUVIN, John Lowell	1912-069
AUTHEMENT, Joseph Exon	1912-084	CHAUVIN, Marguerite Ora	1912-112
AUTHEMENT, Marcellin Israel	1912-072	CHAUVIN, Marie Santie	1912-085
AUTHEMENT, Marie Laurina	1912-059	CHIASSON, Edouard Francois	1912-115
AUTHEMENT, Marie Lurcretia	1912-121	CHIASSON, Joseph Eddie	1912-046
BELLENGER, Anne Hilmer	1912-032	COURTEAUX, Eleonora Virginie	1912-111
BELLENGER, Pierre Louis	1912-071	CROCHET, Joseph Wenzel	1912-066
BERGERON, Marie Lilian	1912-116	CROCHET, Marie Doris	1912-004
BILLIOT, Lucille Marie	1912-151	CROCHET, Marie Josephine	1912-037
BILLOT, Alcide	1912-129	CROCHET, Mary Cecilia	1912-090
BLANCHARD, Azelie Beulah	1912-141	CUNIOT, Stella Maria	1912-099
BOUDREAUX, Joseph Harris	1912-143	CUNNINGHAM, Antoine Andrew	1912-049
BOUDREAUX, Joseph Magnus	1912-136	DARDARE, Dominique Edless	1912-150
BOUDREAUX, Orestide Mertill	1912-101	DARDARE, Joseph Denis	1912-082
BOURG, Joseph Paulin	1912-017	DARDARE, Marie Julie	1912-114
BREAUX, Joseph Harris	1912-051	DOMINGO, Thomas Hobert	1912-133
BRUNET, Ambroise Antoine	1912-001	DOMINGUE, Etienne Alvin	1912-100
BRUNET, Andre' Edduard	1912-086	DOMINGUE, Marie Biula	1912-123
CHARPENTIER, Marie Eda	1912-078		
CHAUVIN, Florence Ruth	1912-039		

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NAME	RECORD #	NAME	RECORD#
DUPLANTIS, Norman Archey	1912-079	LEBOEUF, Leo Lucius	1912-097
DUPRE, Aurelie Joseph	1912-130	LEBOEUF, Marie Fanny May	1912-076
DUPRE, Cecilia Josephine	1912-120	LEBOEUF, Marie Rose	1912-008
DUPRE, Elie Joseph	1912-065	LEDET, Antoine Niles	1912-095
DUPRE, Franklin Cleveland	1912-075	LEDET, Jean Aurelie	1912-050
DUPRE, Henri	1912-134	LEDET, Joseph William	1912-096
DUPRE, Jean Claude	1912-093	LEDET, Marie Cecilia	1912-094
DUPRE, Jean David	1912-105	LEDET, Paulin Wilfried	1912-140
DUPRE, Josephine Jeanne	1912-047	LEVRON, Josephine Naise	1912-024
DUPRE, Marie Odesse	1912-126	LIRETTE, Edward Leo Aloysius	1912-081
DUPRE, Mary Lucie	1912-119	LIRETTE, Floid Joseph	1912-010
DUPRE, Pierre Cleveland	1912-026	LIRETTE, Marie Jeanne	1912-030
DUPRE, William Joseph	1912-048	LIRETTE, Marie Orilia	1912-025
DUPRE, Xavier Ives	1912-060	LYNES, Eddy St. Martin	1912-045
ELLENDER, Louis Joseph	1912-148	MALBOROUGH, Marie Clonise	1912-135
ELLENDER, Lucilla Murlin	1912-107	MALBOROUGH, May Mary	1912-057
FIELDS, Joseph Gilbert	1912-061	MARIE, Paul Noriss	1912-042
FIELDS, Joseph Michel	1912-035	MARTIN, Marguerite Cecile	1912-147
FIELDS, Raymond Pennafort	1912-015	MARTIN, Maria Eva	1912-110
FOREST, Anne Vallah	1912-044	MARTIN, Victor James	1912-152
FOREST, Marguerite Rubbie	1912-063	MOLINAIRE, Joseph Celeveland	1912-011
FORET, Emile Laurent	1912-118	MOLINAIRE, Josephine Glorsina	1912-018
FORET, Marie Aurelie	1912-108	NAQUIN, Gustave Adam	1912-080
FUNGY, Marie Edna	1912-124	NAQUIN, Joseph Pierre	1912-089
GASTON, Paul Magnus	1912-036	NAQUIN, Maria Augusta	1912-117
GAUTHREAUX, Leodile Elda	1912-068	NAQUIN, Marie Victoire	1912-139
GAUTHREAUX, Pearl Marie	1912-027	NAQUIN, Marie	1912-131
GUIDRY, Alley Marie	1912-003	NAQUIN, Marie	1912-146
GUIDRY, Camille Thaddeus	1912-098	NAQUIN, Wilfred Athanase	1912-113
GUIDRY, Hilda Johanna	1912-092	NEAL, Leonelle Marie	1912-006
GUIDRY, Irvin Joseph	1912-137	NEIL, Virginie Agnolia	1912-127
GUYS, Sidney Joseph	1912-138	PELEGRIN, Marie Lila	1912-106
HEBERT, Anna Eloi	1912-144	PELLEGRIN, Marie Velma	1912-028
HEBERT, Cecile Bernice	1912-055	PELLEGRIN, Wilson Joseph	1912-029
HEBERT, Marie Agnes	1912-041	PICOU, Agnes	1912-054
HOTARD, Dalton Joseph	1912-128	PICOU, Ellis	1912-149
KIEFF, Bernadette Isaure	1912-023	PICOU, Thelma Therese	1912-038
LAPEROUSSE, John Lester	1912-083	PITRE, Antoinette Olga	1912-016
LAPEROUSSE, Leonard Francis	1912-070	PITRE, Mary Eledora	1912-091
LAPEROUSSE, Willis Camille	1912-053	POCHE, Josephine Leona	1912-145
LEBLANC, Frederic Stanley	1912-070	PORTIER, Marie Lillienne	1912-077
LEBOEUF, Antoine Easton	1912-043	PRICE, Berthe Marie	1912-020

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NAME	RECORD #	NAME	RECORD#
PRICE, Louis Joseph	1912-019	SONGE, Mary Virginia	1912-087
PROSPERI, Elisabeth Dorina	1912-074	SPOSITO, Emery Leonard	1912-142
PROSPERI, Elizabeth Lilian	1912-109	STOUFLET, Emery Leonard	1912-064
REDMOND, Malvina Marie	1912-002	THIBODAUX, Joseph Leon	1912-132
RHODDES, Joseph Rollin	1912-102	THIBODAUX, Marie Sidolia	1912-031
RHODDY, Joseph William	1912-088	THIBODAUX, Marie Ulah	1912-062
RHODDY, Marie Daisy	1912-013	THIBODAUX, Marie Viola	1912-058
RHODDY, Marie Lilie	1912-021	THIBODEAUX, Maria Stella	1912-103
RHODDY, Paul Urbain	1912-012	THIBODEAUX, Mary Mildred	1912-125
RHODDY, Victor Alley	1912-022	TRAHAN, Joseph Hazuel	1912-122
ROBICHAUX, Floyd Pierre	1912-067	TRAHANS, Joseph Davis	1912-007
ROBICHAUX, Joseph Lester	1912-034	TRAHANS, Mary Edna	1912-052
RODRIGUE, Josephine Gurley	1912-005	VIGUERIE, Owen Kenneth	1912-033
SMITH, Cleveland Joseph	1912-009	WEST, Adam Andrew	1912-104
SMITH, Vince Justilia	1912-040		

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Submitted by Kevin ALLEMAND, Administrator of Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Catholic Archives

NAME	RECORD #	NAME	RECORD #
AUTHEMENT, Marie Virginie	1913-102	BRUNET, Joseph Wallace	1913-105
AUTHEMENT, Mary Frances	1913-022	BRUNET, Marie Lina	1913-041
AUTHEMENT, Paul Andrew	1913-131	CENAC, Joseph Norman	1913-028
BENOIT, Marie Fabiola	1913-048	CHAMPAGNE, Antoine O'Neil	1913-123
BERGERON, Cecile Marie	1913-092	CHAUVIN, Joseph Wilbert	1913-119
BERGERON, Joseph Henri	1913-091	CHIASSON, Arlette Francoise	1913-019
BERGERON, Joseph Hubert	1913-100	CHIASSON, Ferdinand Joseph	1913-001
BERGERON, Marie Gertrude	1913-133	CHIASSON, Joseph Leonile	1913-006
BERGERON, Therese Clara	1913-129	CHIASSON, Josephine Ida	1913-065
BILLOT, Jackson Vitale	1913-074	CHIASSON, Octave Augustin	1913-085
BILLOT, Ophelia Florestine	1913-066	CLEMENT, John Voyce	1913-076
BILLOT, Pauline Beulah	1913-027	COURTEAUX, Cyrus Michel	1913-130
BLANCHARD, Lilia Marie	1913-052	COURTEAUX, Paul Howes	1913-010
BOUDREAUX, Jeanne Ivonne	1913-081	CROCHET, James Wiclief	1913-094
BOUDREAUX, John Norman	1913-072	CROCHET, Leopold Matley	1913-117
BOUDREAUX, Marie Delanrau	1913-009	DEION, Paul Howes	1913-149
BOURG, Joseph Guy	1913-142	DESROCHES, Magnus Germain	1913-042
BOURG, Lina Kate	1913-082	DESROCHES, Wilbert Antoine	1913-132
BOURG, Marie Louise	1913-013	DOMINGO, Antoine Hurmen	1913-050
BOURG, Paul Joseph, Jr.	1913-061	DOMINGO, Marie Leona	1913-077
BOURG, Paul Laurent	1913-071	DOMINGO, Marie Ozea	1913-113

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NAME	RECORD #	NAME	RECORD #
DUBOIS, Joseph Davis	1913-111	LEBOEUF, Cecile Lydia	1913-135
DUBOIS, Joseph Nelton	1913-070	LEBOEUF, Cecile Unyse	1913-057
DUGAS, Mandry Anne	1913-055	LEBOEUF, James Pantin	1913-007
DUPLANTIS, Marie Beulah	1913-086	LEBOEUF, Joseph Camille	1913-104
DUPLANTIS, Mary Lila	1913-121	LEBOEUF, Joseph Irving	1913-008
DUPLANTIS, Myrthe Louise	1913-103	LEBOEUF, Marie Effie	1913-036
DUPRE, Clerfe Walter	1913-068	LEBOEUF, Marie Naise	1913-003
DUPRE, Emmely Marie	1913-020	LEBOEUF, Marie Sidonia	1913-095
DUPRE, Eve Cora	1913-064	LEBOEUF, Pierre Harris	1913-039
DUPRE, Joseph Whitney	1913-145	LEBOEUF, Wilsey Joseph	1913-144
DUPRE, Josephine Lina	1913-084	LECOMPTE, Joseph Calvin	1913-005
DUPRE, Marie Allie	1913-056	LECOMPTE, Joseph Ecton	1913-107
DUPRE, Marie Clorise	1913-146	LEDET, Josephine Irene	1913-030
DUPRE, Marie Louala	1913-029	LEDET, Marie Louvinia	1913-083
DUPRE, Marie Lucile	1913-017	LEONARD, Clarence Arthur	1913-067
ENGERRAN, Marie Celeste	1913-097	LIRETTE, Anne Lebby	1913-024
ENGERRAN, Joseph O'Neal	1913-136	LIRETTE, Antoine Wilson	1913-127
ESHETE, Antoinette Gussey	1913-073	LIRETTE, Etienne Roy	1913-112
FANGUY, Marie Irene	1913-037	LIRETTE, Joseph Smiley	1913-126
FITCH, Charles Francis	1913-139	LIRETTE, Louise Marguerite	1913-147
GAUTHREAUX, Angelina Marie	1913-108	MALBOROUGH, Marie Vivienne	1913-023
GAUTIER, Irving Paul	1913-124	MALBOROUGH, Volterene Gertrude	1913-137
GUIDRY, Iris Therese	1913-089	MARTIN, Joseph Inez	1913-038
GUIDRY, Marie Mildred	1913-044	MARTIN, Leona Josephine	1913-122
GUY, Lorenza Marguerite	1913-141	MOLINAIRE, Delaide Angelique	1913-098
HEBERT, Antoine Albertie	1913-004	NAQUIN, Marie Agay	1913-120
HEBERT, Marguerite Doris	1913-115	NAQUIN, Marie Anita	1913-109
HEBERT, Marie Theresia	1913-012	NAQUIN, Marie Beulah	1913-025
HEBERT, Melasie Frosine	1913-026	NAQUIN, Marie Virginie	1913-045
HENRI, Charles Camille	1913-143	NEAL, Selma Joseph	1913-134
HENRI, Joseph Ruffin	1913-051	NEAL, Sidney Joseph	1913-043
JAVOT, Helene Norah	1913-060	PELLEGRIN, Joseph Albert	1913-114
LABATRE, John Baptist	1913-035	PELLEGRIN, Joseph Easten	1913-075
LAPEROUSSE, Daisy Marie	1913-049	PELLEGRIN, Leola Marie	1913-116
LAPEROUSSE, Joseph Alven	1913-088	PELLEGRIN, Malven Andrew	1913-106
LAPEROUSSE, Joseph Arthur	1913-096	PELLEGRIN, Marie Mildred	1913-087
LAPEROUSSE, Louise Josephine	1913-099	PELLEGRIN, Philippe Loyd	1913-011
LAPEROUSSE, Marie Alice	1913-062	PELLGRIN, Joseph Melton	1913-032
LEBLANC, Marie Hilda	1913-031	PINEL, Joseph Gilles	1913-093
LEBLANC, Marie Leona	1913-018	PITRE, Paul Bruce	1913-054
LEBOEUF, Andre John	1913-148	PITRE, Pierre Harris	1913-033
LEBOEUF, Anthony Harrold	1913-047	PORTIER, Marie Louise	1913-140

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Submitted by Kevin ALLEMAND, Administrator of Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Catholic Archives

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NAME	RECORD #	NAME	RECORD #
PRICE, Insley	1913-015	SEVIN, Marie Vyna	1913-125
PRICE, John Joseph	1913-079	SMITH, Wilson Joseph	1913-014
REDMOND, Thelma Marie	1913-063	SOUDELIER, Rita Marguerite	1913-080
RHODDY, Cecile Doris	1913-046	STRINGER, Valley Velma	1913-016
ROBICHAUX, Bernadette Livie	1913-078	THERIOT, Anne Aimee	1913-034
ROBICHAUX, Marie Mabel	1913-118	THERIOT, Marie Vyna	1913-053
ROBICHAUX, Pierre Shelby	1913-002	THIBODAUX, Jeanne Ivonne	1913-090
ROBICHAUX, Withney Joseph	1913-069	THIBODAUX, Joseph Neuville	1913-128
RODRIGUE, Eve Rita	1913-058	TRAHANS, Rebecca Delphine	1913-021
RODRIGUE, Jean Eulan	1913-138	TRAHANS, Jessie Lovincy	1913-040
RODRIGUE, Jean Wallace	1913-110	TRAHANS, Joseph Willie	1913-101
RODRIGUE, Rose Felicia	1913-059		

Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Archives & Historical Research Center
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Of importance, the main purpose of the religious center is the preservation of documented diocesan sacramental records, and the most frequent service of the archives is the issuance of certified copies of the certificates. The facility also has a vast collection of published religious historical events, a research room, and artifacts and other memorabilia relative to Catholicism history. The archival building accommodates individuals seeking information pertaining to these pertinent records. Informatively, the staff consists of the Archivist, Administrator, Computer Operator and dedicated individuals who give their time and talent to benefit the center. Please note, the cost of uncertified copies of Baptisms, Marriages and Funeral certificates is $3.00 and certified copies cost $6.00. Come and see us. The staff is looking forward to your visit! The office hours are from 8:00am to 4:00pm on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.

EDWARD D. SAVOIE OBITUARY

From *The Houma Courier*, March 1950

(Note:) Born 25 June 1885 at Montegut, Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana
Died 7 March 1950 at his home in Bayou Blue, Louisiana

Edward D. SAVOIE, 64, died at 9:30 a.m. at his late residence on Bayou Blue route, Houma.

Funeral services were conducted from the residence to St. Louis Chapel on Bayou Blue at 9 a.m. March 8, with a requiem High Mass.

Interment was in St. Francis de Sales cemetery with the Chauvin Funeral Home in charge.

Survivors are his widow, the former Lucille BABIN, four sons, Murry, Richard, Philys, and Carroll of Bayou Blue, and six daughters, Mrs. Eldy DAIGLE, Mrs. Ivy BRIEN, Mrs. Forest MARCEL, Misses Irna and Ellen SAVOIE, of Bayou Blue, and Mrs. Linus FALGOUT of Westwego.

1893 CYCLONE IN THIBODAUX

By Patty Whitney for Bayou History Center, 2019

Here is an interesting article found in the *Thibodaux Sentinel* newspaper of April 22, 1893.

THE CYCLONE AND STORM. Destruction in Lafourche and Terrebonne. Buildings Damaged and Cabins Demolished and Strewn to the Four Winds.

Friday, April 14, 1893, is a day that will long be remembered by the people of the Parishes of Lafourche and Terrebonne.

At 12 noon clouds began to form, with occasional gusts of wind, northwest of this town. At 12:45, at an apparent distance of some ten miles, ominous clouds could be seen, dense and black, moving in every direction and, as it were, extending to the earth. At one o'clock the storm struck this town, accompanied with heavy rain, which with lightning speed swept into the dwellings and buildings wherever there was a crevice or opening. For fifteen or twenty minutes the winds continued in their fury, but luckily for our town, no serious damage or injury was sustained, except a few fences and trees blown down. But it was soon ascertained that the force of the cyclone which passed above the Southern portion of Thibodaux, struck with all its fury a good portion of the buildings around the Acadia sugar-house, the property of Congressman Andrew PRICE, playing sad havoc, and messengers came running into town bringing the sad news; these messengers, through the quick presence of mind of Mr. W. H. PRICE, had come to take back post haste, all the physicians in town, to attend to the wounded, for not only was there destruction to buildings, but also to life. We hastened to the scene, where we discovered a sight, the like of which we had never witnessed before.

On the north-west end of the quarters, seven cabins, occupied by laborers, both colored and Italians, were completely demolished, and with everything in them, clothes, beddings, provisions, etc. were scattered over the field for half a mile along the path of the cyclone.

The boarding house, probably the largest and most convenient one in the State, two stories high, with a long wing on one side, was a wreck. The wing was smashed into a heap, one side of the main building torn off, and the balance left ready to fall at any minute. The church erected for the colored people on the place, although standing, is so badly shaken, that it cannot be occupied again.

The sugar-house cane shed, one of the largest cane sheds in the state, if not the largest, having a capacity of 17,000 square feet, constructed extra strong, fastened and supported by numerous heavy hog chains and covered with Fletcher's prepared roofing, had its roof torn and blown off, and scattered to the four winds; the frame or skeleton work is left almost intact, and although quite a number of wagons and cars were stored under the shed, not one was moved from its position, showing that the cyclone struck only the top of the building.

The roof was taken off the boiler shed, and the main building of the sugar-house was somewhat injured, but not seriously.

1893 CYCLONE IN THIBODAUX

Two persons were killed and fourteen wounded on Acadia, and the following is the list:

Colored.
A child of Test HILL, killed.
A child of Baptist WOODS, killed.
Charlotte WOODS, thigh broken, and a gash in the calf of the leg.
Mose WILSON, leg broken in two places.
Patsy HARDING, leg broken, and her child Willie, two years old, leg broken and hip dislocated.
Lizzie MATHEWS, badly bruised in face and body.

White Italian Laborers.
James BENEDICT, badly bruised.
Benedict Genoesa(?), bruised about the head.
Hytime MONTACHOLA, seriously injured internally, and his son fifteen months old, leg badly bruised.
Juan BENEDICT and wife, seriously injured internally, and two of their children badly bruised.
Carlo VIVANO, badly bruised about the face and body.

Not only their clothes and household furniture, but their labor tickets were gone.

As soon as the disaster occurred, Mr. W. H. PRICE, in charge of Acadia, sent a messenger to Thibodaux for all the physicians to come at once to attend the wounded, who were taken in other cabins and cared for as well as could be done under the circumstances. Together with the manager, Mr. Scott WILLIAMS, and assistants, he proceeded to make arrangements for the homeless ones until they could be fixed up again. In the meantime a subscription was taken up in our town and vicinity to which money, provisions and clothing were generously donated to assist the suffering and destitute.

There is a school for white children on the plantation. The school house was not damaged. Owing to the admirable self-possession and calm judgment of the teacher, Miss CHINN, a daughter of Mr. Bowling CHINN of Baton Rouge, no panic occurred among the children, and none of the pupils were hurt.

Mr. W. H. PRICE, whose rooms are in the large boarding house, was eating his dinner in the front part of the building when the crash came, and left the building very promptly. As soon as the storm had completed its work, he hurried into the devastated quarters, and found the wife of Baptiste WOOD with her leg broken and fastened in the debris, with a dead child near her, and a portion of the wrecked building on fire. He at once called for help and rescued the woman from her unfortunate position.

About one mile below Thibodaux, the dwelling house of Baptiste CARTER, colored, was blown to the ground, and one of his children killed.

On Ridgefield plantation, one half of the roof of the sugar house purgery was blown off.

1893 CYCLONE IN THIBODAUX

On St. Bernard plantation, a mile above Thibodaux, the cane shed roof was blown off, and striking against the overseer's house, demolished one half of the roof and gallery; the family of Mr. MELANCON, the manager, had just left the gallery and gone for refuge into the back portion of the building in time to save themselves. One smoke stack was blown down, one mule killed, and a building to store away agricultural utensils demolished.

On J. S. PERGUS' Waverly plantation, some slight damage was done about his sugar house, and a fertilizing distributor lifted up from the field and dropped into the reservoir.

The cane shed of Mr. G. A. COIGNET near Lafourche Crossing was blown down and a part of it carried over the body of the sugar house.

On the Rienzi place, opposite Thibodaux, a large tree was blown down, killing a mule in its fall.

On Mr. GAUDET's place, adjoining Mr. COIGNET's, a new dwelling house, just completed, was demolished.

On the Raceland plantation, the large cane shed was blown down, one colored man killed and three wounded. A remarkable incident happened under this cane shed just prior to its being blown down; a gentle horse, accustomed to be tied every day under this shed, became panic stricken, broke the bridle, and ran away; this stampeded the mules which were also under the same shed, and just as the last one left, down came the structure. Quite a number of laborers were there also; and most of them following the example of the frightened beasts, left just in time not to be crushed under the debris.

On the Upper Ten, just a mile above Raceland, a part of the sugar-house was blown down, the stable completely demolished, killing three mules and wounding seven or eight. There was one man in the stable at the time; he escaped without injury, although a mule near him was killed.

At LEBLANC and BARKER, a large hay shed, the storing room, and draining machine smoke stack were blown down.

At Georgia, the property of Mr. Chas. S. MATHEWS, three cabins were thrown off their blocks.

At Mr. Sylvere BOURG's, just above Lockport on the opposite side of the bayou, the purgery, one smoke stack and draining machine shed were blown down; the cane shed was badly damaged.

At Canal Harang, the Catholic Church of Notre Dame du Rosaire was partly blown down; we are told the addition that was lately made. In that same neighborhood several outhouses were blown down, but otherwise no serious damage.

In Terrebonne.
The damage in that parish, so far as heard, is as follows:

1893 CYCLONE IN THIBODAUX

The sugar-house on the Island of Cuba belonging to Mr. PIEDRAS was partly blown down, but not as seriously as first reported. It had just been insured against storms for $3000. On this place it had been reported that a son of Mr. Mason DAUNIS, the manager, had been killed; this report is untrue.

On the Ardoyne plantation of Senator John D. SHAFFER half way between Thibodaux and Houma, a part of the sugar house and the roof of the large stable was blown away, and the fine and handsome large residence in course of construction was damaged to the amount of from $1000 to $1500; several large trees in the yard were broken to the ground.

On the Crescent farm belonging to the SHAFFER heirs, several cabins were blown down.

In the rear of the town of Houma, a new school house, full of colored children, was thrown down, all escaping without injury except one child with a broken arm.

On the plantation at the head of Bayou du Large, belonging to the BONVILLIAN boys, formerly the CONNELY place, a large tree fell against a house damaging it considerably, and in its fall, pinned a child to the ground. It was necessary to send for a cross-cut saw to cut the tree to release the child, and when this was done, the child was found uninjured---*admirabile dictu*.

Just as we are going to press, the wounded at Acadia are all doing well, and although there were, in the beginning, serious apprehensions that some of them would die, it is now an assured fact that they will all recover.

Too much credit could not be given to Mr. W. H. PRICE for his great presence of mind on this terrible occasion in promptly calling upon our physicians to assist and care for the wounded in this most unfortunate affair on Acadia.

Acadia Plantation House, Thibodaux, Louisiana

1893 CYCLONE IN THIBODAUX
By Patty Whitney for Bayou History Center, 2019

THIBODAUX OPERA HOUSE

By Patty Whitney for Bayou History Center, 2019

Thibodaux has held the distinction of being the home place of generations of volunteer firemen whose dedication to the community has filtered into the fabric of the culture and social events of the community. After the Civil War, the Thibodaux Fire Company Number 1 maintained a facility known as "Firemen's Hall," which was used to feature cultural and social events designed to educate and entertain members of the community. Amateur and professional entertainers alike used the facility to showcase their talents.

The April 16, 1887 *Thibodaux Sentinel* reported that, "On Saturday, April 30, the Donaldsonville Minstrels will give an entertainment in Firemen's Hall. This is an amateur troupe that has given great satisfaction in Donaldsonville and Plaquemine where it has exhibited, and is worthy of the aid and the encouragement of its neighbors and friends."

In that same paper appeared an article concerning a resolution passed by the fire company to change the name from Firemen's Hall to Thibodaux Opera House, provided that the Home, Hook and Ladder Company Number 1 also agreed. That same paper also reported that the annual parade of the Fire Department of Thibodaux would take place and would equal, if not surpass, any of those that had been held in past years. After the parade, a ball hosted by the committees representing the three fire companies of the department would be held in the newly renamed Thibodaux Opera House.

In that issue of the *Sentinel* it was reported by the Home, Hook and Ladder Company Number 1 and the Thibodaux Fire Company Number 1 that a play entitled *"Boarding House,"* would be presented at the Opera House during the month of May.

On July 23, 1892 the members of Thibodaux Fire Company Number 1 and the Home, Hook & Ladder Company Number 1, and the Home Circle Orchestra, published in the *Thibodaux Sentinel* newspaper a card thanking all who helped with the official Inauguration of the Thibodaux Opera House on July 16 and 17. This included a Comedy-Drama entitled "Hick'ry Farm." The producer was Joseph A. TRONÉ. The cast included: A.E. HOFFMANN, Julius BLUM, Earle KNOBLOCH, C.W. THIBODAUX, Louis J. TRONÉ, Philip J. AUCOIN, Miss Alice TRONÉ, and Miss Louise MÜNCH. The proceeds of the event went to the benefit of two of the fire companies, as well as the Home Circle Orchestra.

The paper reported on the inauguration as follows: "On last Saturday night took place one of the most notable events in the history of our growing little town, namely, the inauguration of the Thibodaux Opera House. Thibodaux in its rapid strides towards progress, growth, and culture, has long felt the need of an institution where the arts of Æschylus could be exhibited in their ancient grandeur and magnificence.

Thibodaux Fire Company No. 1 and Home Hook & Ladder No. 1 have come forward again, as heretofore, to supply the much needed want of our town, and now our citizens can boast of having in their midst one of the finest theatres in the State outside of its metropolis. For some two months past a building committee composed of Messrs. H.N. COULON, S.T.

THIBODAUX OPERA HOUSE

GRISAMORE, S.T. DEMANADÉ, and J.L. AUCOIN of Thibodaux Fire Co. No. 1, and Messrs. R.A. FROST, R.R. MCBRIDE, Paulin NAQUIN, and Henry RIVIERE from Home Hook & Ladder Co. No. 1, have been busily engaged in remodeling and improving what was formerly known as *"Firemen's Hall."* They placed the floor on an incline, built a balcony inside, enlarged the stage, contracted for and procured new scenery and stage fixtures, placed regular theatre chairs therein, and made numerous other improvements; and on last Saturday night formerly opened what will now be known as the Thibodaux Opera House."

The July 16, 1892 *Thibodaux Sentinel* reported: "St. Charles No. 338, C.K. of A., celebrated their eighth anniversary on last Tuesday night by a magnificent banquet given in the large hall of the Thibodaux Opera House. Their celebration proved one of the most notable events of the season. At 8 o'clock p.m. the merry knights and gaily attired ladies, their invited guests, could be seen wending their way from all parts of the town towards the hall of the Branch at the corner of St. Bridget and Green streets. Here a reception was tendered their guests by the knights, and at short intervals the celebrated Thibodaux Brass Band discoursed sweet music for the entertainment and delight of the assembly. The time was whiled away in social intercourse, and when the hour for dinner arrived, at the request of Hon. H.N. COULON, President of the Branch, the nights and their guests, preceded by the band, repaired to the spacious banquet hall. Here a scene pleasing to the sight and tempting to the appetite opened to view. Two large tables spread the whole length of the hall, tastily served and beautifully decorated, graced the brilliantly illuminated hall, and seemed to smile a cordial welcome to all. Soon the knights and their guests were disposed in their respective places, and a cheering sight it was, these gay knights and fair ladies seated around the festival board as in the day of ancient chivalry. Course after course of delicately prepared viands follows the exquisite Creole gumbo, to be followed in turn by ice-cream, cakes and many other delicacies; and for three long hours the select company ate, drank, chatted and made merry.

Then the champagne began to pop, and as the sparkling glass was passed around, the President of the Branch, Mr. H.N. COULON arose and in a courteous manner welcomed the guests in a neat address and assured them of the great delights their agreeable presence had afforded the knights. Mr. Thomas A. BADEAUX, State Vice President, read a letter from Hon. J.D. COLEMAN, Supreme President of the Catholic Knights expressing regret at his inability to attend.

Therein followed a series of toasts which were responded to by the following: Judge A. F. KNOBLOCH for The Order of the Catholic Knights; Mr. J.J. MCLOUGHLIN, State President of the Catholic Knights in Louisiana; Judge L.P. CAILLOUET for the judiciary; Mr. Earle KNOBLOCH for The Ladies; Professor J.A. TRONÉ for the Thibodaux Brass Band.

The dinner over, the company retired to the spacious galleries of the Opera House, where they were regaled with delightful music by the Home Circle Orchestra which, under the leadership of Dr. J.J. DAIGRE, has already attained so much success.

Many diverse and enjoyable entertainment events were played out at the Thibodaux Opera House through the years. By October 1907 Messrs. Frank HOFFMAN & Sons were the lessees

THIBODAUX OPERA HOUSE
By Patty Whitney for Bayou History Center, 2019

THIBODAUX OPERA HOUSE

and managers of the Houma and Thibodaux opera houses, having done so for the previous six years. At that time HOFFMANN was beginning a lease for the Gondran Theatre in Donaldsonville for a five-year period.

By 1910 the Thibodaux Opera House was for sale and advertisements for such appeared regularly in the Thibodaux Sentinel newspaper.

State Library of Louisiana (http://www.state.lib.la.us)

An unnamed band from Thibodaux. No date given. Mr. Phil NAQUIN is the gentleman with the cane in the front. (State Library of Louisiana)

We are looking around for any photos of the old Lafourche School along Hwy 308 at Lafourche Crossing. If anyone has a photo they would like to share, please let me know through the Chamber's office or email at bayouhistorycenter@yahoo.com.

Miss Billiu Entertains

The members of the Girls Evening Club assembled last Thursday night at the home of Miss Maude BILLIU, where several hours were spent very enjoyably. The chief form of amusement was card playing in which the following-named young ladies indulged: Misses Frances RODRIGUE, Adeline, Margaret and Vivian BADEAUX, Louise BARLOW, Leila Mae BREAUX, Virgie and Nora O'NEIL, Marguerite LAGARDE, Mildred and Marion TAYLOR, Isabel NAQUIN, and Maggie and Mildred WRIGHT, Maude BILLIU and Mrs. Alice BILLIU. The prize winners were First, Miss Margaret BADEAUX; second, Miss BILLIU and guest prize, Miss Mildred WRIGHT. A plate luncheon was served.
The Lafourche Comet, 5 November 1931, pg. 5, col. 3

FOUND IN *THIBODAUX SENTINEL* NEWSPAPER DATED 10 MARCH 1894

(Transcribed by Patty Whitney, 2019)

SHERIFF'S SALE.
STATE OF LOUISIANA
18TH Judicial District Court Parish of Lafourche.

Felix LOEB vs No. 3011 Hamilton AYO, et al

TAKE NOTICE THAT ACTING UNDER and by virtue of an order of seizure and sale, emanating from the above entitled Court, in the above entitled and numbered case, I have seized and will offer for sale, at public auction, pursuant to law, to the last and highest bidder at the Court House in the Town of Thibodaux, on Saturday, March 17TH, 1894, between the hours of 11 o'clock a.m. and 4 o'clock p.m., the following described property, to-wit:

1) So much of a certain plantation or tract of land with the buildings and improvements thereon, machinery, mules, and implements of husbandry, situated in the Parish of Lafourche, in the settlement known as the Vacherie Dugue Livaudais, and known as the "Home" plantation, being at about twenty-three miles below the Town of Thibodaux, and at about three miles back of Bayou Lafourche, situated on both sides of Bayou Lavacherie, and which said portion of said plantation measures two arpents front by a depth of about forty arpents, and being the portion of Lot No. 3 of a plan made by BOURGEROL, Deputy Surveyor, and is the two arpents front farthest from Bayou Lafourche, and is bounded North by Lot No. 4, of said plan, and South by the remaining three arpents front of said Lot No. 3 which belongs to vendor, and which was sold to Widow Severin FORET.

2) The undivided fourteen sixteenths of a certain plantation together with all the buildings and improvements thereon, and all the appurtenances thereunto belonging, situated in the Parish of Lafourche, and described and composed as follows, to-wit:

1- A certain tract of land in the plan called "La Vacherie Dugue Livaudais" about twenty-three miles below the Town of Thibodaux, designated by the Number Four, on the said plan of said Vacherie made by BOURGEROL on August 25th, 1835, said lot No. 4on a plan of BOURGEROL, Surveyor, fronts towards the West to a road of sixty feet leading to a road of ten feet leading to Bayou Lafourche, measuring five arpents four toises front on said road by a depth of 1302.3-5 toises on the side of Lot No. 3 and 1268.2-5 toises on the side of lot No. 5, and 163 toises on the rear line bounded in front or West by the aforesaid road, South or towards Bayou Lafourche by the "Home" plantation of Mrs. Widow J. S. FORET and North by lands of Auguste LEDET.

3) The whole of the following three tracts of land together with the buildings and improvements thereon, rights, ways, privileges servitudes and appurtenances thereunto belonging, or in any wise appertaining, formerly part of Uncle Peter plantation, situated, lying and being in the Parish of Lafourche, State of Louisiana in the Vacherie Dugue Livaudais, at a distance of about twenty miles below the Town of Thibodaux, and of three miles from the Bayou Lafourche on the left bank of said bayou, to-wit:

FOUND IN *THIBODAUX SENTINEL* NEWSPAPER DATED 10 MARCH 1894

1-A tract of land measuring five arpents and four toises in width and forty arpents in depth, being lot No. 6 of Section No. 36 in Township 16 South of Range Nineteen East, containing two hundred and seven 46:100 arpents all more or less; bounded on the side towards Bayou Lafourche by Lot No. 5 owned by Auguste LEDET or assigns, on the South by property of Charles S. MATHEWS or assigns, on the North by a public road sixty French feet wide, separating it from lot No. 7, West herein below described, and on the East by part of the tract of said land herein thirdly described, the whole in conformity with a certain plan compiled from the approved Government Court and private surveys of Joseph GORLINSKI, United States Deputy Surveyor and Civil Engineer in 1838 (?1858?) , at Baton Rouge, La.

2-A tract of land measuring five arpents and four toises in width and forty arpents in depth, being lot No. 7 of Section No. 36, in Township Sixteen South of Range Nineteen East, containing 200 15-100 arpents, all more or less, bounded on the side towards Bayou Lafourche by lot No. 8, owned by Cynthia PUGH or assigns, on the South by the Public road hereinbefore mentioned on the East by part of the tract of land hereinafter described, and on the North by the property of Cynthia PUGH or assigns, the whole in conformity with the aforesaid plan.

3-A tract of land adjoining the tract above described and measuring five arpents in width by eighty arpents in depth between parallel lines, lying in section number Thirty-five, Township sixteen south of Range Nineteen East, containing four hundred superficial arpents more or less, bounded on the North by vacant land in section No. 34, on the South by lands of Chas. S. MATHEWS or assignes, on the East by the remainder of said Uncle Peter plantation, and on the West, being the side towards Bayou Lafourche, by lots Nos. 6 and 7 hereinabove described.

4-The undivided seven-eighths of a certain tract of land, situated in the Vacherie Dugue Livaudais, and West of Lot No. 4 of the BOURGEROL plan, and separated there from by a road, and measuring two arpents and four toises front on said road by a depth of thirty six arpents, bounded in front or East by the aforesaid road which measures sixty feet, South or towards Bayou Lafourche by lands of B. A. JOHNSON or C. S. MATHEWS, and North by lands supposed to belong to Dr. E. SOUCHON.

5-The whole of the following described property, to-wit:
A tract of land above and adjacent to the plantation known as the "Gayoso" plantation, situated in said parish of Lafourche measuring four and a half arpents more or less front by about fifty-five arpents deep lying on both sides of Bayou PORTUGAIS, being a part of the undivided quarter of section or Lot No. 37 acquired by J. S. WILLIAMS and J. SAVAGE from Rosemond DUFRESNE on the 2nd of December, 1847.

Also 24 mules, 1 wagon, 6 carts, 3 single carts, 12 two mule plows, 3 four mule plows, 2 two mule mould Board plows, 2 harrows, 2 West cultivators, 1 Cotton

FOUND IN *THIBODAUX SENTINEL* NEWSPAPER DATED 10 MARCH 1894

seed meal distributor, 1 stubble shaver, 2 pea vine rakes, 12 weeding hoes, 5 brier hooks, 12 stubble hoes, 5 cane hooks, 40 cane knives, 6 pack saddles, 12 sets of plow harnesses, 25 loads of hay, 1 stubble digger.

To pay and satisfy the sum of (1) The sum of two thousand nine hundred and forty-seven and 92:100 dollars (2) eight per cent per annum interest on said amount from March 1st, 1893, till paid, (3) the sum of five per cent on the aggregate of said principal and interest as attorney's fees herein, and (4) all costs of these proceedings in cash.

And, which said amount as aforesaid is secured by act of sale and mortgage passed and executed before Earle KNOBLOCH, Notary Public of Lafourche Parish, of date the 17th day of March, 1893.

February 10th, 1894. P.E. LORIO, Sheriff of Lafourche

FOUND IN THE THIBODAUX SENTINEL DATED FEBRUARY 24, 1894

ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

18TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, PARISH OF LAFOURCHE

SUCCESSION OF JOHN A. MUNCH

NUMBER 1396 PROBATES

Whereas Rene J. MUNCH of said Parish, administrator of the aforesaid estate has rendered a final account of his administration of the aforesaid estate:

Now, therefore all persons are hereby warned and notified to file their opposition in writing to the said account with the clerk of said Court at his office in the town of Thibodaux within ten days after the first publication hereof, otherwise the said account will be approved and homologated in accordance with law.

{ LS } Witness my hand the impress of my seal of office at Thibodaux, La., this the 17th day of February, A.D., 1894.

J. W. KNOBLOCH
D'Y Clerk of said Court

PROFESSOR LEVI M. HARGIS OBITUARY

From the *Times Picayune* dated Tuesday 4 December, 1917, Page 10

Submitted by Patty Whitney, 2016

PROFESSOR L. M. HARGIS OF THIBODAUX DEAD

Confederate Veteran and Head of College Was Octogenarian.

Thibodaux, La., Dec. 8 --- Professor Levi M. HARGIS died at his home in Thibodaux this morning at 4 o'clock, aged 83. He had been an invalid for six years. His funeral will take place at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday at St. Joseph Catholic Church.

Professor HARGIS was a native of St. James parish, but he had resided in Thibodaux since he was a boy. Here he gained the distinction of being one of the ablest educators in Louisiana, as may be attested by pupils of his who are scattered throughout the state. When he first came to Lafourche he attended the Scheffenstein College, where he later became a member of the faculty and which position he filled with satisfaction until the Civil War broke out in 1861. He then volunteered as a member of the *Lafourche Creoles* and was chosen as a corporal, later being made the captain of his company, his service throughout the war being characterized by bravery and fidelity commingled with much kindness and consideration as to make him highly esteemed among his fellow soldiers and comrades.

After the way the deceased returned to Thibodaux and he was selected by the late Father MENARD to preside over the destinies of the Thibodaux College, where he remained for twenty-two years. He then resigned, but later he started a private school, which he conducted for five years, until his health became poor about six years ago. His teaching career covered about fifty-four years.

He is survived by his wife and an only daughter. His funeral will be attended by the Confederate veterans in a body.

Mrs. Morvant Entertains

Mrs. Camile A. MORVANT was the hostess to the Auction Bridge Club at her home last Thursday afternoon. The home was prettily decorated in Hallow'een colors and ornaments for the occasion. Club members enjoying the occasion were: Mrs. Horace ARCENEAUX, Mrs. Maurice BRAUD, Mrs. Morris CELESTIN, Mrs. Bill HOFFMANN, Mrs. A. A. LEBOURGEOIS, Mrs. O. C. ROBICHAUX, Mrs. C. P. SHAVER, Mrs. Lawrence LEVERT, Mrs. E. L. DERAMEE and Mrs. N. C. SHAVER. Highest honor went to Mrs. A. LEBOURGEOIS; second to Mrs. F. J. TOUPS. Guests of the Club were : Mrs. Henry DUGAS, Jr, of Napoleonville; Mrs. Chas. DELAS, Mrs. Alfred ROBICHAUX, Mrs. Andrew HOFFMANN, Mrs. Chas. BARKER, Mrs. Taylor BEATTIE, Mrs. Alex CHENET, Mrs. Lloyd L. MEYER and Miss Maude FORET. First guest prize went to Mrs. Henry DUGAS, Jr.; second to Mrs. Alfred ROBICHAUX; cut prize to Mrs. E. L. DERAMEE. A splendid plate luncheon was served.

The Lafourche Comet, 5 November 1931, pg. 5, col. 3

THE CONNELY FAMILY

Submitted by Jess Bergeron

The first CONNELY to come to Terrebonne Parish was Gilmore Franklin CONNELY. Gilmore was a Surveyor, Lawyer and Plantation owner. He settled in Terrebonne Parish sometime between 1835 and 1840.

G. F. CONNELY was a delegate to the convention for Louisiana to secede from the Union in Jan 1861 and was also a member of the same body that voted to join the confederacy on 21 Mar 1861. He owned Mulberry Plantation on Bayou Dularge, located some five miles from Houma. He and his wife, Lucy Leffingwell KELLEY resided on Mulberry Farm. His Four children Ella, Elizabeth, Arthur and James were born there.

Arthur Warren CONNELY, Gilmore's son ran the blockade in 1863 to join the confederate Army in North Louisiana. Arthur CONNELY was aided by one of his Indiana cousins whose company was occupying Houma, LA

Arthur CONNELY served his parish for many years in the Sheriff's office. He was a deputy under Mr. DASPIT and later was elected Sheriff. Arthur CONNELY married Clara HYMEL and they had four sons and seven daughters.

Gilmore Franklin CONNELY, b. 7 Dec. 1815 in Kentucky, d. 4 Apr 1896, s/o Arthur CONNELY and Jane STEELE, m. 14 Feb. 1843 to Lucy Leffeinwell KELLEY, b. 7 Dec. 1815, Illinois, d. 14 Sep. 1900. They are both buried in Magnolia Cem., Houma. They had 4 children.

(1) Ella CONNELY b. @1843. Possible married 14 Oct. 1873 Hma. To Elizah D. BARTON.
(2) Anne Elizabeth CONNELY b. 1 Mar. 1846, d. 9 Apr. 1878, buried Magnolia Cem.
(3) Arthur CONNELY b. 19 Sep. 1847, d. 13 Dec 1915, buried Magnolia Cem., Houma
(4) James Kelley CONNELY b. 20 Jan. 1849, d. 16 Apr. 1853 (Yellow Fever), buried Magnolia Cem., Houma, LA

The only one to carry on the CONNELY surname was Arthur CONNELY.


Arthur W. Connely

Arthur CONNELY, b.19 Sep. 1847, d. 13 Dec. 1915, m. 31 Jan. 1885 Houma, LA to Clara B. HIMEL, b. 1865, d. 13 Oct. 1949, d/o Clairville HIMEL and Lavinia BARTON. Both are buried in Magnolia Cem., Houma, LA.

(1) Edmund McCollam CONNELY b. 14 Nov. 1885, Hma. Epis. Ch., d. 29 May 1957, m. Francis BISLAND, B. 10 Aug. 1887, d. 20 Aug. 1976, d/o John BISLAND and Lydia DUPONT. Both buried in Magnolia Cem. Edmund was a Doctor and he resided in New York City for a while.
    (a) Frances CONNELY, b. 31 Jan. 1922, N. O., LA, d. 24 Sep. 2011, buried Magnolia Cem., Houma, LA. She married ____ SOUTH.
(2) Clara Himel CONNELY, b. 16 May 1887, Hma. Epis. Ch., d. 1 Nov. 1888, Hma. Epis. Ch.
(3) Lucy Ella CONNELY, b. 25 Feb. 1889, Hma. Epis. Ch., d. 8 Apr. 1957, m. 18 Jun. 1913 to William Olivier FELKER, b. 14 Feb. 1885, d. 3 Mar. 1966, s/o William Olivier FELKER and Mary Elizabeth CAMP. They are both buried in Cedarlawn Cem.,


Clara Himel Connely

THE CONNELY FAMILY

Jackson, MS.

(a) William FELKER, b. 27 Sep. 1914, d. 20 Aug. 1992, m. Dorothy HAYDEL, b. 18 Sep. 1913, d. 26 Sep. 1998. Both are buried Garden of Memory, Metairie, LA.

(b) Arthur Connely FELKER, b. 17 Jul. 1917, d. 24 Jun. 1982, m. Lyndel BUTLER, b. 29 Jun. 1924, MS., d. 24 Jul. 1980. Both are buried in Jackson, MS.

(c) Lucy FELKER, b. 1925, d. 1 Aug 2016 Jackson, MS, m. Melvin R. ELDRIGE. Possible s/o Raife T. ELDRIGE and Nora ????.

(d) John FELKER

(4) Georgeia W. CONNELY, b. 28 Feb. 1891, Hma. Epis. Ch., d. 25 Apr. 1972 Magnolia Cem., Houma, LA.

(5) Arthur Warren CONNELY, b. 7 Sep. 1893, d. 15 Sep. 1971, m. Jessie Ruckel LITTLE, b. 23 Jan. 1889, d. 19 Nov. 1941, d/o George LITTLE and Nancy BEARD. Both are buried in Odd Fellowship Cem. Tamaqua, Penn.

(a) Nancy Beard CONNELY, b. 1 Mar 1920 Pottsville, MS, m. John Edward IDENDEN, b. 1921, d. 2013 Bloomfield, NJ, s/o Frederick IDENDEN and Edna WOODWARD.

(b) Arthur Warren CONNELY, b. 13 Feb. 1923 Penn, d. 18 Jul 2004, m. Betty Jane ROTHER, b. @1926, d. 19 Sep. 2016, d/o Rudolph V. ROTHER and Helen HELDEMAN.

(6) William Alexander CONNELY, b. 2 Apr. 1896, Hma. Epis. Ch., d. 31 Dec. 1955, bur. Magnolia Cem., m. 26 Jun 1930 N.O., LA to Mae LOVIERE, b. 24 Nov. 1901, d. 19 Jul 1990, bur. St. Francis Cem. #2, Houma, LA, d/o Elsie LOUVIERE and Agnes COMEAUX.

(7) Flora Bowdoin CONNELY, b. 3 Jul. 1898, Hma. Epis. Ch., d. 5 Jan 1929, bur. Magnolia Cem., m. A. W. ANDERSON.

(8) Lavina May CONNELY, b. 25 Oct. 1900, Hma. Epis. Ch., d, 21 Aug. 1980, bur. Magnolia Cem.

(9) Clairville CONNELYm b. 26 Apr. 1903, d. 13 Apr. 1948, bur. Magnolia Cem., m. 7 Nov. 1925, Thib. Judge to Margaret Ann SHAFFER, d/o William SHAFFER and Retta HENRICUES. Clairville m.2., 19 May 1934 Lafourche Parish Judge to Estelle MARMANDE d/o John MARMANDE and Bertha DUMONT.

(a) Edmund J. CONNELY, b. 12 Aug. 1934, d. 2 Jan. 2000, m. Frankie JACKSON.

(10) Ruth CONNELY, b. 2 Mar. 1906, d. 7 Jul. 1985, bur. Magnolia Cem., Hma, LA.

(11) Catherine CONNELY, b. 11 May 1908, d. 13 Feb. 1973, m. 2 Jul. 1938 Houma Minister to Edmund Alphonse OSTHEIMER, b. 17 Jan 1901, d. 7 Jul 1988, s/o William OSTHEIMER and Gazelle HATCH. Both buried in Magnolia Cem., Houma

(a) Edmund Alphonso OSTHEIMER, b. 3 Mar. 1940, d. 22 Jul. 2002, bur. Magnolia Cem., Houma, LA

(b) Alex OSTHEIMER

(c) Arthur OSTHEIMER

(d) Berwick OSTHEIMER

(e) Sterling OSTHEIMER

THE CONNELY FAMILY
Submitted by Jess Bergeron

PIERRE MARTIN LEMIRE, ACADIAN OF PARIS, FRANCE

Submitted by Essie Cavalier

Pierre Martin Lemire, Acadian, of Paris, France

by Claire Mire Bettag, CG

Claire (Mire) Bettag, CG, is the 5G Granddaughter of Pierre Martin Lemire and his first wife, Marie-Josèphe Forest. A resident of Washington, D.C., she is a native of Houma, Louisiana, where she grew up. Most of her Mire relatives still live in south Louisiana. For more than twenty years she has searched for the origins in France of her Acadian immigrant ancestor, Pierre Martin Lemire.

A genealogical brick wall falls with the surprising discovery of three eighteenth-century documents. Together they confirm that Pierre Martin Lemire, Acadian, was from Paris, France.

Pierre Martin Lemire, immigrant ancestor of many Mires / Lemires in the United States and Canada, was an 18th-century resident of Acadia (now Nova Scotia). He lived in the settlement of Pisiguit (now Windsor), in Acadia's Minas Basin area. Since the late 1800s his presence in New France has been known. But his earlier origins have long been a mystery. Where did he come from—France? Quebec? Somewhere else?

One eighteenth-century document in Ascension Parish, Louisiana, offers a clue. The marriage contract for one of Pierre's sons, Joachim-Bélony,[1] who had appeared in Louisiana by 1766, identifies Joachim's father Pierre as "natif de Paris" (native of Paris). Joachim married Madeleine Melançon and lived in Cabannocer (present St. James Parish), along the Mississippi River. The marriage contract, written on 29 June 1768 by Louis Judice, then Commandant of Cabannocer, bears the signatures of the bride and Judice, and the "x" mark signatures of the groom and other witnesses.[2]

But was Pierre really from Paris? Most Acadians, after all, were not Parisians. Was it just another way of saying he was from France? No one had ever corroborated Pierre's origins in Paris or elsewhere in France, though not for lack of trying. The Paris sacramental registers and the civil registrations of birth, marriage, and death through 1860 had been burned during the riots of the Commune in Paris in 1871. The duplicate set of sacramental and vital records, stored in a different building in Paris, had also been burned. A massive effort was later undertaken to gather information from alternative sources to fill the gap left by the lost records. Ultimately researchers reconstituted about one third of the burned records. Nevertheless, finding ancestors in Paris before 1860 remains a daunting task.

In the hope of finding Pierre Lemire in Paris, researchers—including this author—had searched the alternative and reconstituted sources for years, but in vain. So the question remained: where did Pierre come from? And how, when, and why did he go to Acadia? Pierre was not from one of the founding families of Acadia. Who was he, this late arrival who appeared, apparently alone, almost a century after the founding families, when Acadia had already come under English control?

Then, in March 2019, through a remarkable stroke of serendipity, and access to obscure records now digitized and online, pulled the curtains back. A routine database query for Pierre Lemire—one repeated a thousand times over twenty years on Ancestry, FamilySearch, Généanet and other sites—produced the expected answer: "0 results." But this time it presented another possibility. Généanet offered about fifty published references in its library collection that might be relevant to the search. One abstract of a diplomatic communique published in Library and Archives Canada's colonial records lept out. Referring to a 1736 official French dispatch, it read (in English):

PIERRE MARTIN LEMIRE, ACADIAN OF PARIS, FRANCE

> The Sr. Yardin, citizen of Paris, wishes to know what has become of his nephew, Pierre Martin Le Mire, who sailed from Rochefort in June 1716, and went to Acadia, two years later, to the mining region, where he married.[3]

The dates, places, and names seemed to fit and called for follow-up research in the original records. The abstract also held a new, invaluable piece of information: a new surname to research, Yardin. As it turned out, Yardin was Pierre's mother's maiden name. She had written a will in 1731 that volunteers in Paris had recently digitized and put online. True serendipity! Within one week three original records—a will, written in 1731, and two pieces of diplomatic correspondence dated 1736—told much of the story. Now descendants can celebrate this breakthrough and even stand where Pierre Lemire lived with his family in the heart of Paris.

Background

The first documentary evidence of Pierre Lemire's presence in Acadia dates from 31 October 1727. On that date, along with other inhabitants of Pisiquit, he signed an oath of allegiance to English King George II.[4] Notably, Pierre Lemire signed his name, whereas most signed with an "x." It was a sign of some education, if only minimal.

FIGURE 1 Oath of Allegiance See next page

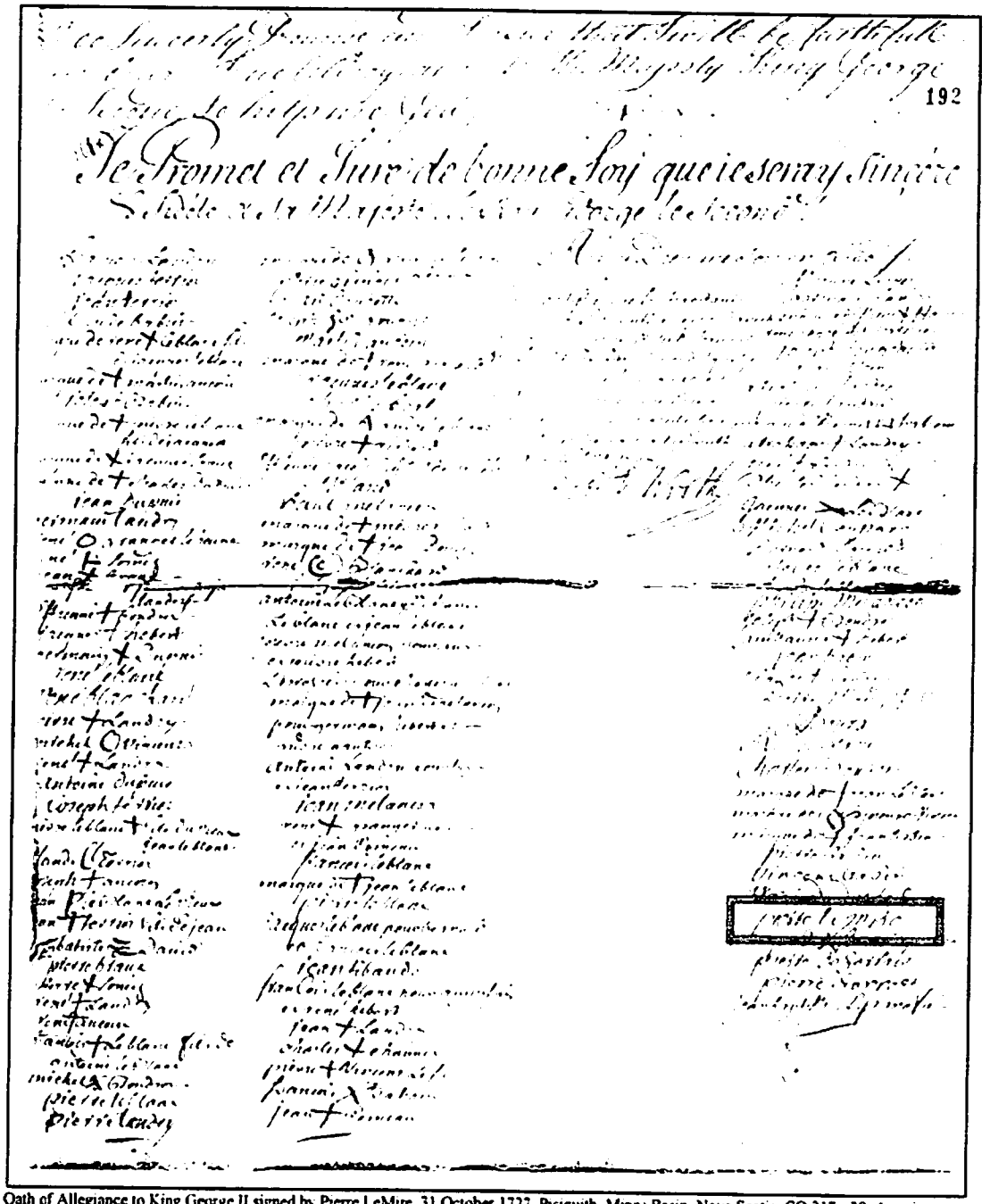
Pierre Lemire's name also appears in the monumental publication of Father Cyprien Tanguay (1819–1902), *Dictionnaire généalogique des familles canadiennes depuis la fondation de la colonie jusqu'à nos jours* (*Genealogical Dictionary of Canadian Families from the Foundation of the Colony to the Present Day*).[5] In the authoritative *Dictionnaire des familles acadiennes* (*Dictionary of Acadian Families*), and in the yet unpublished sequel, Stephen A. White expands information about the family. In Acadia Pierre married (first), according to White, Marie-Josèphe Forest, daughter of Michel (de) Forest and Marie Petitpas. There they had five known children. His wife apparently died before 14 July 1738, when Pierre married (second) Isabelle (Élisabeth) Thibodeau, daughter of Claude Thibodeau and Élisabeth Comeau. Their eight known children were born in Acadia. Pierre Lemire and his family lived in Pisiquit in Acadia's Minas Basin area and belonged to Ste-Famille Parish.[6] Pierre had died by 26 February 1748, when his eldest daughter, Pétronille, married. Pétronille's marriage record says her parents were deceased.[7]

Pierre did not suffer through the Grand Dérangement (the British expulsion of the Acadians) that began in 1755, but details about his death are unknown. Before the deportations his second wife and some of his children took refuge in Chipoudy (1752).[8] Later some settled in Quebec, in Nicolet, along the St. Lawrence River. After the French and Indian War (Seven Years' War) other children of Pierre's were in Pennsylvania, Haiti, and Louisiana.[9]

In Louisiana the surname became simply Mire. Many Mire descendants live today in the Acadian / Cajun parishes of south Louisiana, and in other parts of the United States.

PIERRE MARTIN LEMIRE, ACADIAN OF PARIS, FRANCE

Figure 1
Oath of Allegiance



Oath of Allegiance to King George II signed by Pierre LeMire, 31 October 1727, Pisiquith, Minas Basin, Nova Scotia. CO 217 - 38, America and the West Indies, folio 192. Public Record Office, London, England. Published with permission.

PIERRE MARTIN LEMIRE, ACADIAN OF PARIS, FRANCE

New Sources...New Information

A Will: 12 February 1731
Jeanne (Yardin) Lemire, widow of Pierre Lemire, mother of Pierre Martin Lemire, Acadian

Summary
On 12 February 1731, Jeanne Yardin, widow of Pierre Lemire, dictated her will in Paris to notary Augustin Loyson (notary in Paris, 1724–1761). The will reveals her maiden name, her husband's name, her husband's occupation, where they lived in Paris, and more. Jeanne and Pierre, a day laborer, lived on the "rue de la Tableterie," in the parish of Saint-Germain-L'Auxerrois. The will does not give her husband's date of death, but he had died by the time she wrote her will. She names the three children she had in her marriage with Pierre Lemire: Anne Lemire, married to Martin Ledoux, master carpenter in Paris; Louise Lemire, married to Jean Clement Prieur, master cobbler in Paris, and Pierre Martin Lemire. She says that her son has been "absent" for about fifteen years (so since about 1716) and that he wrote to her on 2 July 1728 from "Mines de Cadix" (the Minas Basin in Acadia), but that she has had no further news since then, despite having written him several letters.

Jeanne (Yardin) Lemire's will establishes her wish to arrange for her son Pierre Martin Lemire to receive his rightful inheritance from his father's succession and from hers, when she dies. She appoints her brother, Pierre François Yardin, "*bourgeois de Paris*" (citizen of Paris) as her executor, and if he is unable to serve, her nephew, Denis Yardin, master leather worker in Paris (presumably the son of Pierre François). She asks him to protect and deliver to her son, or to his children if he has died, his rightful inheritance. If he has died without children, she wants his portion to be divided equally among her daughters' children, by stirpes and not by head. Jeanne Yardin, states she does not know how to write or sign her name.[10] Two notaries, Loyson and Dupuys, sign the will. (See Figures 3–5 for image, transcription, and translation of the will.)

Commentary
Stephen White observes that the will is unusual. Most wills specify a legacy to be distributed, but this one does not. While taking steps to find her long-absent son so he will get his due, Jeanne (Yardin) Lemire nowhere states what comprises the estate. Moreover, where the legacy comes from is unclear. The late Pierre Lemire was a day laborer, and his widow apparently is illiterate. This does not seem like a prosperous family with substantial wealth to distribute. Nevertheless, Jeanne Yardin designates one hundred livres for memorial masses. Moreover, if the family were one of means in Paris, why would the only son of a caring mother remain in the wilds of an almost forgotten colonial outpost an ocean away?[11]

Such questions notwithstanding, the will provides new family information. It includes one especially poignant detail—the name of the street in the heart of Paris where the Mire family lived: rue de la Tableterie. Today Mire / Lemire descendants can visit the precise place where the little street was, near Les Halles, the old market district in Paris. The street disappeared about 1860, when much of Paris was being reorganized, including the Les Halles area. Old maps show the street, which stretched a few short blocks between the current rue Saint-Denis and Sainte-Opportune Place, in the old fourth arrondissement of Paris (today the first arrondissement).

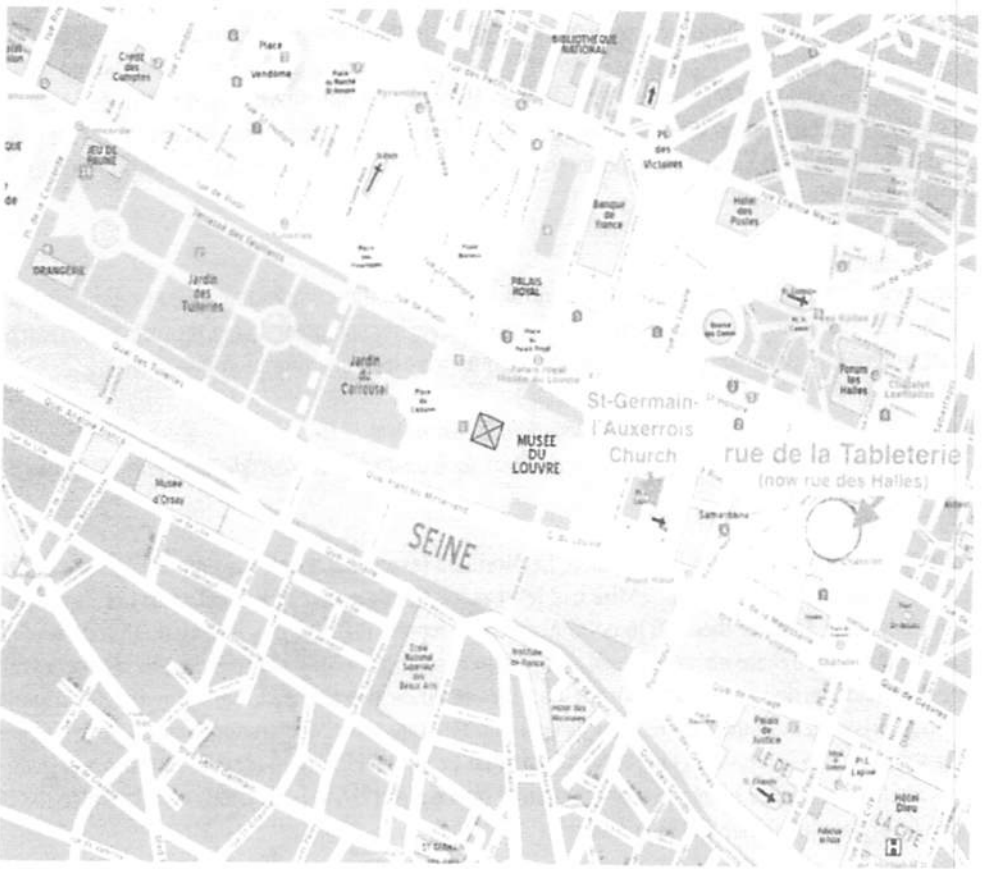
The street was approximately where the current rue des Halles is today.[12] The family's parish church, Saint-Germain-L'Auxerrois, still stands at 2 Place du Louvre.[13]

PIERRE MARTIN LEMIRE, ACADIAN OF PARIS, FRANCE

New research paths

- The date of 12 February 1731, by when Pierre Lemire (father) is known to have died, might help locate death information.
- Might there be a succession record for Jeanne and / or Pierre Lemire's estate, perhaps with an inventory, among the notarial archives in Paris?
- Other contracts by notary Augustin Loyson may relate to the Mire or Yardin families. Generally the same notary served a family over years, sometimes generations, creating many records rich in genealogical information.
- New names—Yardin, Ledoux, Prieur—also perhaps open new doors for future research.
- Did Jeanne's brother, Pierre François Yardin, *bourgeois de Paris*, leave records related to the Lemire family?

Figure 2
Location of rue de la Tableterie, Paris, in 1700s



In present 1st arrondissement of Paris (formerly the fourth arrondissement)
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1st_arrondissement_of_Paris#/media/File:Paris_1st.png

PIERRE MARTIN LEMIRE, ACADIAN OF PARIS, FRANCE

A Dispatch: 15 May 1736
Jean-Frédéric Phélypeau, Comte de Maurepas to Sébastien-François-Ange Le Normant de Mézy

Summary

On 15 May 1736 a high official of the French Navy penned an unsigned communique to "M. Le Normant." The addressee, Sébastien-François-Ange Le Normant de Mézy (1702–1791), was second in command at Île Royale, the "commissaire-ordonnateur."[14] The dispatch was written on behalf of a Mister [Sieur] Yardin, who had asked for help to find information about his nephew, Pierre Martin Lemire. In June 1716, Lemire, a soldier, had left France from the port of Rochefort, bound for l'Île Royale. The dispatch adds that two years after departing France (so about 1718), Lemire had gone to the mining district (Minas Basin) of Acadia, where he married. His family in France had received no news from him since 1728, however. The family was trying to learn what had become of Lemire, because they had to make certain [unspecified] arrangements. Maurepas asks Le Normant to try to find out if Lemire is alive or not, and to let him know what information he finds.[15] (See Figure 6 for the transcription and translation of the dispatch.)

Commentary

Stephen White explains that the missive was one of several similar ones grouped under the title "*Enregistrement des dépêches concernant l'Isle Royale* (Register of Dispatches Concerning Isle-Royale)." It would have been written by the Minister of the Marine, Jean-Frédéric Phélypeaux, Comte de Maurepas (1701–1781). Maurepas was responsible for transmitting official business to New France. The dispatch indicates that Yardin had caused the case to be brought to Maurepas's attention, though it is not clear how that was done. White suggests it was probably through an intermediary.[16]

New research paths

- Written several years after Jeanne (Yardin) Lemire's 1731 will, this communique suggests she probably died between 1731 and 1736, when her brother's efforts to locate her son precipitated this official dispatch.
- The date and port of departure for Pierre Martin Lemire may lead to emigration information.

A Dispatch: 5 November 1736
Sébastien-François-Ange Le Normant de Mézy to Jean-Frédéric Phélypeau, Comte de Maurepas

Summary

Six months after Maurepas penned his dispatch, Le Normant responded. On 5 November 1736 he confirms to Maurepas that, indeed, Pierre Martin LeMire had left France from the port of Rochefort in 1716 to serve in the military at Île Royale. LeMire then left to go to Acadia. He reports that LeMire, having migrated to Acadia's Minas Basin, had settled there about fourteen years earlier (so about 1722) and was then living there with his wife, whom he had married in the parish of Ste-Famille, and their five children. Le Normant had written to a Mr. Maufils, a missionary in the parish. Maufils sent him three items: a "declaration" that LeMire had made in Maufils's presence to establish his identity; a letter that LeMire had written for Mr. Yardin, "*bourgeois de Paris*," his uncle; and a letter giving power of attorney intended for a Mr. LeBoisteux of St-Sulpice to claim his inheritance from both his father and his mother.[17]

A marginal note says that this letter and the papers mentioned in it were given to M. de Cambefort, who is not further identified. (See Figures 7 and 8 for the transcription and translation of the dispatch.)

PIERRE MARTIN LEMIRE, ACADIAN OF PARIS, FRANCE

Commentary

This correspondence confirms the whereabouts of Pierre (son) in the Minas Basin and the makeup of his family, all consistent with information in Stephen White's *Dictionnaire*. White suggests this dispatch is likely written in Le Normant's own handwriting. He speculates that M. Le Boisteux of Saint-Sulpice may have been a friend or relative, as LeMire was sending him the power of attorney to claim the inheritance. Another possibility is that he was a notary, someone whom Maurepas knew. White identifies the third person mentioned as Father Louis Maufils (1697–1743), ordained in Quebec in 1721, and known to have been a missionary at times in Acadia. Unknown still is the identity of M. de Cambefort, mentioned in the marginal note.[18]

New research paths

- The three documents mentioned in Le Normant's reply may exist in French or Canadian archives.
- The identity of Mr. LeBoisteux of St-Sulpice may relate him to the Lemire family.
- The identity of Mr. de Cambefort may be helpful.

Recapitulation

Taken together, these three newly found documents confirm the information previously known about Pierre Lemire, immigrant ancestor of many Lemires and Mires in Canada and the United States. They identify a new progenitor couple in France. The new details provide numerous possibilities for future research. Lemire / Mire descendants can exploit sources in France and perhaps in Canada to expand what is now known about the origins of this Acadian family.

Note: For their assistance, insights, and collaboration, the author thanks Stephen A. White, Genealogist at the Centre d'études acadiennes Anselme-Chiasson at Moncton University, Moncton, New Brunswick, and Ronnie-Gilles LeBlanc, Editor, *Cahiers de la Société Historique Acadienne*. Thanks go also to Sylvie Tremblay, Former Manager of Genealogy Services at the Library and Archives Canada; Judy Riffel, Editor, *Le Raconteur:* and volunteers of FranceGenWeb.

Genealogical Summary

First Two Generations

Generation A

1. Pierre[4] Lemire, day laborer and resident of Paris, France, whose birth place, birth date, and parents are unknown, died before 12 February 1731, probably in Paris. He married, unknown place and date, **Jeanne Yardin**, a resident of Paris whose parents, birth place, and birth date are unknown.[19] She died probably between 12 February 1731 and 15 May 1736.[20]

Pierre[4] Lemire and wife Jeanne Yardin had the following children:

2 i. ANNE[5] LEMIRE, born probably in France, perhaps Paris. She married, perhaps in Paris, Martin Ledoux, master carpenter in Paris.[21]

3 ii. LOUISE[5] LEMIRE, born probably in France, perhaps in Paris. She married, perhaps in Paris, Jean Clément Prieur, master cobbler in Paris.[22]

+ 4 iii. PIERRE MARTIN[5] / LEMIRE, born probably in France, perhaps Paris, about 1667–1709.[23] He died before 26 February 1748 presumably in Acadia.[24] He married (first), probably about 1730 in Acadia, Marie-Josèphe Forest.[25] She died probably in Acadia before 14 July 1738, when her husband (widower) married (second) Isabelle Thibodeau, in Port Royal, Acadia.[26] She died after 1765.[27]

PIERRE MARTIN LEMIRE, ACADIAN OF PARIS, FRANCE

GENERATION A-1

4. Pierre Martin[a-1] **Lemire** (Pierre[4]), born about 1667–1709 probably in France, perhaps in Paris;[28] died before 26 February 1748, presumably in Acadia.[29] He married (first), probably about 1730, probably in Acadia, **Marie-Josèphe Forest**, presumed daughter of Michel Forest and Marie Petipas.[30] Her date and place of birth are unknown; she died before 14 July 1738.[31] On 14 July 1738 Pierre[4] married (second) **Isabelle Thibodeaux**, daughter of Claude Thibodeaux and Isabelle / Elizabeth Comeaux, in Port Royal, Acadia.[32] She was born on 16 November 1710 and baptized the next day in Port Royal.[33] Isabelle died after 1765.[34]

Pierre Lemire and Marie-Josèphe Forest had the following children:

5 i. PETRONILLE[5] LEMIRE, born likely about 1731, probably in Pisiquit, Acadia.[35] She married 26 February 1748 at Beaubassin, Acadia, Michel Poirier, born about 1726. Their marriage record shows him the son of the late François Poirier and the late Marie Haché-Gallant. She was the daughter of the late Pierre Myre and the late Marie Forest.[36] Michel Poirier appears, with a wife and two children, on the list of prisoners held in Halifax in 1763.[37]

+ 6 ii. JOACHIM-BÉNONI [BELLONY / BÉLONI / BELONY] LEMIRE/MIRE, born about 1734–36, probably in Pisiquit, Acadia;[38] died 12 March–23 November 1788 in Cabannocé (now St. James Parish), Louisiana.[39] He possibly married (first) [—?—] Part.[40] They apparently had two children. He married (second), after 29 June 1768 in Cabannocé, Louisiana, Madeleine Melançon,[41] born 27 December 1743 in Grand Pré, Acadia, to Jacques Melançon and Marguerite Broussard;[42] died probably between 1802 and 1805, probably in Cabannocé, Louisiana.[43] They had the following children: Scholastique, Marie Magdelaine, Félicité, Benjamin, Rosalie, Jean-Baptiste, Pierre Bellomie, Alexandre Paschal, Marguerite, Paul, Joseph, and Ana Magdalena.[44]

7 iii. JEAN-BAPTISTE LEMIRE, born before his father remarried in 1738, probably in Pisiquit, Acadia; buried 8 January 1790, Petit-Goave, Saint-Domingue.[45] He married about 1762 (calculated from first child's 1763 birth) Marie-Madeleine Mouton, born about 3 September 1740 in Beaubassin, Acadia, to Jean Mouton and Marguerite Poirier.[46] Jean-Baptiste, a master carpenter,[47] is not listed among three hundred seventy-eight Acadians exiles in Pennsylvania in 1763, nor is the Mouton family.[48] However, a daughter, "Anna Mary," born 18 September 1763, was baptized that day at St. Joseph's Church in Philadelphia. Her baptismal record names her parents as "John Baptist and Magdalen [Mir].[49] The couple's other five children were born in Môle-St.-Nicolas, Saint-Domingue: Louis, born about 1772, buried there 7 September 1778;[50] Marie-Jeanne, born 11 June 1776;[51] Jean-Louis, born 26 January 1779,[52] died there 31 January 1785;[53] Pierre, born 28 December 1782;[54] Henri, born, died, buried there 28 December 1782.[55]

8 iv. LOUIS LEMIRE. No known document names his parents, but when he was likely born this family was the only known Lemire family in Acadia. No marriage or death information has been found to date. He witnessed a 1750 marriage in Port-Lajoie and in 1760 he was godfather in a baptism in Restigouche, New Brunswick, where he likely went during the deportation.[56]

9 v. PIERRE LEMIRE. No known document names his parents, but when he was likely born these were the only known Lemires in Acadia. He was alone in Chipoudy in 1752 and with an unnamed wife and three sons in 1754–55.[57] Acadian genealogist Stephen White notes he is probably the man in the 1763 Pennsylvania census with wife, Madeleine, and three children.[58] The family's fate is unknown. White notes that the family's rapid growth between 1752 and 1755 suggests Pierre may have married a widow who had children by a previous marriage.[59]

PIERRE MARTIN LEMIRE, ACADIAN OF PARIS, FRANCE

Pierre Lemire and Isabelle Thibodeaux had the following children:

10 i. MARIE (LOUISE)[7] LEMIRE, born about 1741, probably in Pisiquit, Acadia, where her parents lived; died 14 January 1789 in Nicolet, Quebec, Canada, and buried the next day.[60] She married on 2 February 1761 in Nicolet, Quebec, André Therrien, son of Joseph Therrien and Marie-Françoise Benoit.[61] The couple had thirteen known children: Marie Françoise, Marie Françoise (2), Louise, André, Jean-Baptiste, Joseph, Louis, François, Pierre, Joseph (2), Bénoni, Julienne, Michel.[62]

11 ii. JOSEPH LEMIRE/MIRE, born about 1742, probably in Pisiquit, Acadia;[63] buried 20 January 1792, in St. Gabriel, Iberville Parish, Louisiana.[64] He married on 22 May 1786, in St. Gabriel Church, Marie-Marguerite Daigle, daughter of Simon-Pierre Daigle and Marie-Madeleine Thériot.[65] Joseph and his brother, Simon, settled in Louisiana after the Acadian expulsion. In 1777 a "Joseph Mire," thirty-four years old, was living in the household of "Beloni" Mirre, identified as a "brother."[66] Joseph and his wife, Marie-Marguerite Daigle, had three known children: Elias, Joseph, Jean-Baptiste.[67]

12 iii. SIMON LEMIRE/MIRE, born about 1744, probably in Pisiquit;[68] died 25 December 1807, buried the next day at Côte Gelée, near St. Martinville, Louisiana.[69] He married, between 31 March and 9 April 1766, Madeleine Cormier, daughter of Jean-Baptiste Cormier and Madeleine Richard.[70] They had nine children: Marie-Anne, Joseph, Pierre, Pelagie, Simon, Marie Françoise Isabelle, Marie Madeleine, Constance, Benjamin.[71]

13 iv. (ISABELLE) ELIZABETH LEMIRE, born about 1745, likely in Pisiquit;[72] died 22 June 1825 in Nicolet, Quebec, Canada.[73] She married on 15 April 1765 Joseph Cotret *dit* René in Nicolet, son of René Cotret and Marguerite Therrien.[74] They had thirteen known children: Joseph, Marie Madeleine, Louis, Elizabeth, Jean-Baptiste, Elizabeth (2), Marie-Ursule, Thérèse, Antoine, Benonis, François, Marie Anne, Michel.[75]

14 v. DAUGHTER LEMIRE, born before 1747, probably in Pisiquit.[76]

15 vi. DAUGHTER LEMIRE, born before 1747, probably in Pisiquit.[77]

16 vii. JEAN LEMIRE, born about 1747, likely in Pisiquit; died 16 December 1757, buried the next day in Quebec, Quebec, Canada.[78] He may have died of smallpox during a 1757 outbreak of the disease in Quebec.[79]

17 viii. DAVID LEMIRE, born before 1747, probably in Pisiquit; died November or December 1757, in Quebec, Quebec, Canada.[80] Like his brother, he perhaps died of smallpox, in the outbreak in Quebec in 1757.[81]

SEE FIGURES 3-8

PIERRE MARTIN LEMIRE, ACADIAN OF PARIS, FRANCE

Will of Jeanne (Yardin) Lemire, widow of Pierre Lemire and mother of Pierre Martin Lemire, Acadian
12 February 1731

Will of Jeanne Lemire, 12 February 1731. Inventaires, contrats de mariage, notoriétés et autres par Augustin Loyson; CHAN, 01/01/1731-03/31/1731 - AN ET-LXXXV-435; Paris, France; viewed on 16 March 2019 on Généanet; Généanet: [illegible].

PIERRE MARTIN LEMIRE, ACADIAN OF PARIS, FRANCE
By;Claire Mire Bettag CG and Submitted by Essie Cavalier

PIERRE MARTIN LEMIRE, ACADIAN OF PARIS, FRANCE

Figure 4

Transcription
Testament: le 12 février 1731
Jeanne (Yardin) Lemire, veuve de Pierre Lemire, mère de Pierre Martin Lemire, Acadien

Testament 12 feb^{r} 1731	[timbre fiscal]	[timbre fiscal]
f bis [?]	Fut presente Jeanne Yardin Veuve de pierre Lemire gagne denier demeurante a paris Rüe de la tableterie, p^{asse} Saint germain L'aux^{e} Estante en bonne Santé de Corps, Saine d'esprit memoire et entendement comme il est aparu aux notaires Sous^{es} par ses discours et maintiens allant et Venans a ses affaires venue en l'Etude de m^{e} Loyson l'un d'Eux où son confrere pour cemandé est aussi Venu, Laquelle apres avoir recommandé Son ame a Dieu et avoir Suplié Sa divine bonté de luy faire misericorde a fait dicté et Nommé aus^{d}. Notaires Soussignes Son testament Ainsi qu'il suit	
+ Premierement, ordonne/ que le plus tost que faire/ Ce pourra, il Soit dit pour/ le Repos des ames dudit/ desfunt son mary et d'elle / Le nombre de ++ Cent messes/ basses, pour la Retribu^{on}/ desquelles il sera payé/ La somme de Cent livres./ ++Deux	+ Declare qu'elle a trois Enfants de son mariage Avec led. desfunt pierre Lemire, Scavoir Anne Lemire femme de Martin Ledoux maitre Menusier a paris Loüise Lemire femme de Jean Clement Prieur maitre Savetier a paris Et pierre martin Lemire Absent depuis Quinze ans où Environ Et qui lui a ecrit des Mines de Cadix ~~au mois~~ Le deux Juillet j vii ^{C} Vingt huit Sans que depuis elle ait pu en avoir d'autres nouvelles luy ayunt fait Ecrire disferentes lettres desquelles elle N'a point Eu de Reponses. Rayé deux mots cydessus comme nuls	
[page 2]	Et Voulant Conserver a son d. fils Sa part et portion dans les biens quelle dellaissera, tant Comme heritier de sad. mere que comme heritier dud. desfunt Son pere de la Succession duquel il n'a Rien recu, Veut et ordonne Qu'aussitost Son deceds Tout Ce qui Se Trouvera revenir et appartenir a son d. fils esd. qualitées d'heritier où autrement dans lesd. biens soit pris et gardé par le Sieur Son executor Testamentaire cy apres Nommé pour appartenir et estre délivré aud. pierre Martin Lemire absent où a ses Enfants a Son desfault et Cependant en estre fait employ produisant rente où Revenu a leur prosfit de l'avis de leurs parens et amis Si Ce n'est que le d. Executeur testamentaire en Veüille faire luy mesme la Rente auquel Cas n'en Sera Fait aucun employ Et En cas de deceds dud. pierre Martin Lemire Sans Enfans onne et Legue lad. part et portion aux Enfans nes	

PIERRE MARTIN LEMIRE, ACADIAN OF PARIS, FRANCE

et anaitre desd. Anne et louise Lemire Ses
filles pour la partager Entr'Eux par Souche et
Non pas par teste dont Moitié pour les enfants de lad.
Anne Lemire Et l'autre moitié pour Ceux de
lad. louise ~~Lemaire~~ Lemire
Et pour Executer le pr[t] Testament lad. testatrice
Nomme Et Choisie la personne du Sieur pierre
francois Yardin, bourgeois de paris ~~Et a Son desfaut~~
Rayé quatre mots nuls cydessus Et approuve le mot Lemire
Surcharge en deux endroits de cette page

[page 3]

Son frere Et a Son desfault denis Yardin, maitre
peaussier a paris son Neveu quelle prie d'en
prendre la peyne Se dessaisisant en leurs mains
de tous Ses biens Suivant la Coutume

++par la dit. Oratrice

Ce fut Ainsy fait dicté et Nommé ** ausd. Notaires
soussignes Et a elle par l'un d'Eux tant cy present
Relû qu'elle a dit bien entendre Et y a percistée
en l'Etude dud. Me Loyson not[re] ôu m[e] dupuys
Son Confrere S'y Rendu Comme dit cy [dessus?] Ce
Douze fevrier mil sept Cent trente Un Et
a declaré ne scavoir Ecrire ny Signer de Ce faire
interpellée,

[Signatures]

Loyson
Dupuys

Testament de Jeanne (Yardin) Lemire, 12 février 1831; Inventaires, contrats de mariage, notoriétés et autres par Augustin Loyson; CHAN, 01/01/1731-03/31/1731 - AN ET-LXXXV-435; Paris, France; vu le 16 mars 2019 à Généanet: https: en.geneanet.org archives registres view 30507 72 .

PIERRE MARTIN LEMIRE, ACADIAN OF PARIS, FRANCE

Figure 5

Translation
Will: 12 February 1731
Jeanne (Yardin) Lemire, Widow of Pierre Lemire, Mother of Pierre Martin Lemire, Acadian

Will 12 feb 1731	[stamp]	[stamp]
f bis [?]	Present was Jeanne Yardin Widow of pierre Lemire day worker living in Paris on de la tableterie Street, parish of Saint germain L'aux[errois] Being in good Physical Health, with a Clear mind[,] memory and understanding as it appeared to the Undersigned notaries through her conversation and conduct going and Coming about her business[.] she came to the Office of mr. Loyson[.] he or his colleague was also summoned and Came[.] After having commended Her soul to God and having Prayed for His divine goodness to have mercy on her[,] she dictated to the said Undersigned Notaries Her will, As follows	
+ First, she directs as soon as possible There to Be said, for the Repose of the souls of her deceased husband and herself ++ Hundred low masses, for which will be paid One hundred pounds. ++Two	+ She states that she has three Children from her marriage To the said deceased pierre Lemire, To wit Anne Lemire wife of Martin Ledoux master Carpenter in paris Loüise Lemire wife of Jean Clément Prieur master Cobbler in paris And pierre martin Lemire Absent for Fifteen years or So And who wrote to her from the Minas Basin of Cadix [Acadia] ~~in the month~~ On 2 July 1728[.] Since then she has received no further news having Written several letters[,] of which she has Received No Responses. Two words ["au mois"] above stricken	
[page 2]	And Wanting to Save for her said son His portion of the property that she will leave, both As heir of his said mother and as heir of His late father from whose Succession he has received Nothing, Wishes and directs that at Her death All That her said son will be entitled to as heir or otherwise of the said property be set aside by the Executor of Her Will Named below and be given to the said pierre Martin Lemire[,] now absent[,] or, failing that, to his Children[.] Meanwhile property is to be used [invested] to produce Revenue[,] with the advice of relatives and friends[.] Or the Executor can use [invest] the property himself. In the Case that the said pierre Martin Lemire dies Without Children The portion for the Children born and to be born of the said Anne and louise Lemire[,] Her daughters[,] is to be divided Among Them by Root [per Stirpes] and	

PIERRE MARTIN LEMIRE, ACADIAN OF PARIS, FRANCE

Not by head[,] Half for the children of the said
Anne Lemire And half for Those of
the said louise ~~Lemaire~~ Lemire[.]
As the Executor of this Will the said testator
Names And Chooses Sieur pierre
francois Yardin, bourgeois de paris ~~And if He cannot~~
Four words above crossed out And approve the word Lemire
in two places on this page

[page 3]

Her brother[,] And if He cannot[,] denis Yardin, master
leather worker in paris her Nephew[,] whom she asks
to accept the responsibility[.] She leaves in their hands
Her property According to Custom

++by the said Speaker
[testator]

This was dictated Thus ++ to the said undersigned Notaries
And Re-read to her by one of Them present
to assure she understands[.] It was done as stated above in
the Office of the said notary Mr. Loyson [and] Mr. dupuys
His Colleague who was present[,] As stated [above?] on This
Twelfth of february one thousand seven Hundred thirty One[.] She
stated she did not know how to Write or Sign her name

[Signatures]

Loyson
Dupuys

Will of Jeanne Lemire, 12 February 1831; Inventaires, contrats de mariage, notoriétés et autres par Augustin Loyson; CHAN, 01/01/1731-03/31/1731 - AN ET-LXXXV-435; Paris, France; viewed online on 16 March 2019: https://en.geneanet.org/archives/registres/view/30507/72.

PIERRE MARTIN LEMIRE, ACADIAN OF PARIS, FRANCE

Figure 6

Transcription and Translation
Dispatch: 15 May 1736
Jean-Frédéric Phélypeau, Comte de Maurepas to Sébastien-Ange Le Normant de Mézy

A M. Le Normant

Id.[em] [le 15 mai 1736]

Le S. Yardin Bourgeois de Paris m'a fait representer, M., qu'au mois
de juin 1716. Pierre Martin LeMire Son neveu fut embarqué a Rochefort
en qualité de soldat pour l'Isle Royale. Que deux ans après il passa
a l'accadie dans le q^{tr} des mines, ou il s'est marié; mais que depuis
1728 sa famille n'en a point eû de nouvelles. Et comme Elle a interet
de savoir ce qu'il est devenu pour des arrangemens qu'elle a à faire,
Je vous prie de Vous informer, s'il est mort, ou en vie, et de me marquer
ce que Vous en aprendrés.

folio 490

* * * * *

To M. Le Normant

Id[em] [the same date; 15 May 1736]

Mr. Yardin[,] Citizen of Paris[,] has informed me that in
June 1716, Pierre Martin LeMire His nephew embarked at Rochefort
as a soldier, bound for Isle Royale. Two years later he went
to Acadia to the Minas Basin, where he married; but since
1728 his family has had no news from him. Since the Family needs
to know what has become of him in order to make some necessary arrangements,
I am asking you to find out if he is deceased, or alive, and to let me know
what You find out.

folio 490

Dispatch from Minister of the Marine, Jean-Frédéric Phélypeau, comte de Maurepas concerning S. Yardin's query, 1736, Fonds des Colonies, Série B, Lettres envoyées, Enregistrement des Depeches concernant l'Isle Royale; vol LXIV, folio 463; Centre des archives d'outre-mer, Aix-en-Provence, France.

PIERRE MARTIN LEMIRE, ACADIAN OF PARIS, FRANCE

Transcription
Dispatch: 5 November 1736
Sébastien-François-Ange Le Normant de Mézy to Jean-Frédéric Phélypeau, Comte de Maurepas

M. Le Normant 5. 9bre. 1736. [stamped] 254

Monseigneur

Le 5. mars 1736. remis a M. de Cambefort
les papiers contenus dans cette Letre, avec
copie de la même Letre.

En conformité des ordres portés par La Lettre
de votre Grandeur du 15e mai dernier, Je me
suis informé du nommé Pierre Martin
LeMire, qui avoit eté embarqué a Rochefort
en 1716 pour venir servir dans les trouppes
de Lisle Royalle, et qui depuis a passé a
L'accadie, Jay appris quil s'y etoit etabli
il y a quatorse ans, et quil demeuroit avec
sa femme et cinq Enfans quil a de son
mariage dans La paroisse de La sainte famille
canton des Mines; M. Maufils missionaire
de cette parroisse a qui J'en ay escris, m'a
envoyé une declaration que le dt. Pierre

[fol 254 verso] Martin LeMire a faitte par devant lu[y]
pour servir a se faire reconnoitre de sa
famille, une Lettre que cet habitant escri[vit]
au Sr. Yardin Bourgeois de Paris son onc[le]
qui s'étoit addressé a Votre Grandeur pou[r]
en scavoir des nouvelles et une Lettre pou[r]
Mr. LeBoisteux de St Sulpice a qui le d[t.]
Pierre Martin LeMire envoye sa
procuration pour toucher ce qu il luy
revient de la succession de ses père et mer[e.]
Je prends La Liberté d'addressé letout a
Votre Grandeur.
Jay L'honneur d'etre avec un tres
profond respect

Monseigneur

Votre tres humble et tres
obeissant serviteur
Le Normant

a Louisbourg ce 5e novembre
1736.

Lettre de M. Le Normant au ministre concernant le nommé Pierre Martin LeMire et la succession de son père; Série C11B, vol 18. Correspondance générale; Ile Royale (R11577-5-4-F); 1736, 5 novembre, Louisbourg; folio 254-254v; microfilm F-147. [old reference number: MG1-C11B]; Library and Archives Canada; original at the Centre des archives d'outre-mer, Aix-en-Provence, France.

PIERRE MARTIN LEMIRE, ACADIAN OF PARIS, FRANCE

Dispatch: 5 November 1736
Sébastien-François-Ange Le Normant de Mézy to Jean-Frédéric Phélypeau, Comte de Maurepas

M. Le Normant 5 November 1736. [stamped] 254

My Lord

5 March 1736. given to M. de Cambefort
the papers mentioned in this Letter, with
a copy of the Letter.

In compliance with the requests in The Letter
of 15 May from Your Grace, I
found information about the said Pierre Martin
LeMire, who embarked at Rochefort
in 1716 to come and serve with the troops
of L'Isle Royal, and who since then has gone to
Acadia[.] I have learned that he settled
there fourteen years ago, and that he was living with
his wife and five Children from his
marriage in Sainte-Famille [Holy Family] parish
in the Minas Basin; M. Maufils[,] missionary
at that parish[,] to whom I wrote, sent me
a statement that the said Pierre

[fol 254 verso]

Martin LeMire made before him
to serve confirm his identity to his
family, a Letter that the settler wrote
To Mr. Yardin[,] citizen of Paris[.] his uncle
who had contacted Your Grace to
get news[,] and a Letter for
M^r LeBoisteux of St Sulpice to whom the said
Pierre Martin LeMire sends his
power of attorney to claim what is due to him
from the succession of his father and mother.
I am taking The Liberty of addressing everything to
Your Grace.
I remain with profound respect

My Lord

Your humble and
obedient servant,
Le Normant

Louisbourg, 5 November
1736.

Lettre de M. Le Normant au ministre concernant le nommé Pierre Martin LeMire et la succession de son père; Série C11B, vol 18. Correspondance générale; Ile Royale (R11577-5-4-F); 1736, 5 novembre, Louisbourg; folio 254-254v; microfilm F-147. [old reference number: MG1-C11B]; Library and Archives Canada; original at the Centre des archives d'outre-mer, Aix-en-Provence, France.

PIERRE MARTIN LEMIRE, ACADIAN OF PARIS, FRANCE

Endnotes

[1] Also called in the records "Joachim-Bénoni," or simply "Bélony," "Benoni," and other variations.

[2] Marriage contract. Joachin Mirre and Magdalen Melancon. 29 June 1768. Marriage Book Q. 671-673; Louisiana Civil Records. 1770-1804. Ascension Parish Courthouse. Donaldsonville. LA. Also. 1766 Census of Cabaanoce. in Jacqueline K. Voorhies. translator and compiler. *Some Late Eighteenth-Century Louisianians: Census Records of the Colony. 1758–1796*; Lafayette. LA: University of Southwestern LA. 1973. Original in Papeles de Cuba (PPC). Legajo 187-A-1. Also. 1769 Census of Cabaanocé. Papeles Procedentes de Cuba (Cuban Papers). Legajo 187-A. entry 130; microfilm. Manuscript Division. Library of Congress. Washington DC. Original in Archivo General de Indias. Seville. Spain.

[3] Registers of King's Orders. Decrees. etc.. Relating to Canada. 4-5 Edward VII. 1905. Sessional Paper No.18; in Public Archives of Canada. *Report Concerning Canadian Archives for the Year 1904: Being an Appendix to the Report of the Minister of Agriculture* (Ottowa: S. E. Dawson. Printer for the King's Most Excellent Majesty. 1905). 234. Viewed 9 June 2019 on Généanet.

[4] Oath of allegiance to King George II: 31 October 1727; Pisiguit. Minas Basin. Acadia; CO 217–38. America and the West Indies. folios 190–92; Public Record Office (PRO. now National Archives). London. England.

[5] Cyprien Tanguay. *Dictionnaire généalogique des familles canadiennes depuis la fondation de la colonie jusqu'à nos jours*. 7 vols. (Montreal: E. Senécal. 1871–90). vol. 5. p. 333. Tanguay lists Pierre Lemire with his second wife and two daughters.

[6] Stephen A. White. *Dictionnaire généalogique des familles acadiennes: 1636-1714*. vol. 2 (Moncton. N.B.: Centre d'études acadiennes Anselm-Chaisson [CEA]. 1999). p. 632. Also. Stephen A. White. "Dictionnaire." pre-publication manuscript. part two. sequel to the cited *Dictionnaire généalogique des familles acadiennes. Première Partie. 1636 à 1714*. The unpaginated manuscript is arranged alphabetically; accessed. courtesy of Stephen White. in July 2009 at the CEA. Moncton University. NB. Canada.

[7] Marriage. Pétronille Myre and Michel Poirier. Registers of the Parish of Notre-Dame-de-l'Assomption-de-Beaubassin. 1712–48; Departemental Archives of Charente-Inférieure (now Charente-Maritime). La Rochelle. France; microfilm F1038; CEA. The record states that her mother and father are deceased.

[8] Rôle des Habitans de l'Acadie français. 1752. GI 466. no. 30. Centre d'archives d'outre-Mer. Aix-en-Provence. France (CAOM).

[9] White. "Dictionnaire. part two."

[10] Will of Jeanne (Yardin) Lemire. 12 February 1731. Inventaires. contrats de mariage. notoriétés et autres par Augustin Loyson; Centre historique des Archives Nationales (CHAN). 01/01/1731-03/31/1731 - AN ET-LXXXV-435; Paris. France; viewed on 16 March 2019 on Généanet.

[11] Email. Stephen White to Claire Bettag. 29 March 2019.

[12] Le cadastre de Paris par îlot. 1810–1836; 15ème quartier. Marchés. ilots 1 and 3; *Atlas Vasserot et Bellanger (1830–1850)*; F/31/79/02 and F/31/79/04; Archives of the City of Paris; online at: http://archives.paris.fr/f/plansparcellaires/tableau?&crit1=12&v=12_1_Tabletterie%28rue%20de%20la%29 Also. J. de la Tynna. *Dictionnaire topographique*. étymologique *et historique des rues de Paris* (Paris: J. de la Tynna. 1812). 436. Also. "Rue de la Tablèterie." WikiGenWeb. http://www.francegenweb.org/wiki/index.php?title=Rue_de_la_Tabletterie.

[13] Saint-Germain L'Auxerrois is a Catholic Church in Paris: https://saintgermainlauxerrois.fr .

[14] *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*. http://www.biographi.ca/en/ . The "*commissaire-ordonnateur*" was a high-ranking colonial officer. At Île Royale. he was second in rank. just below the governor.

[15] "Le président du conseil de marine à M. Le Normant (President of the Navy Council to M. Le Normant;" 1736. Fonds des Colonies. Série B. Lettres envoyées. 16631789 – 4194 vol. 64. folio 490; Library and Archives Canada. microfilm reel c4194; 100113 MG1B; original at the CAOM.

[16] Email. Stephen White to Claire Bettag. 22 March 2019.

[17] "Lettre de M. Le Normant au ministre concernant le nommé Pierre Martin LeMire et la succession de son père (Letter from M. Le Normant to the minister concerning the said Pierre Martin LeMire and the succession of his father);" Fonds des Colonies. (R11577-5-4-F); 1736. 5 November. Louisbourg; folio 254–254v; microfilm F-147. [old reference number: MG1-C11B]; Library and Archives Canada; original at CAOM.

[18] Email. Stephen White to Claire Bettag. 25 March 2019.

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[19] Jeanne (Yardin) Lemire will, 12 February 1731.

[20] She died after the 12 February 1731, when she dictated her will, and probably before Maurepas wrote to M. Le Normant on 15 May 1736, asking for information about Pierre Martin Lemire so his family could make (unspecified) "arrangements." See Jeanne (Yardin) Lemire will, 12 February 1731; also, Letter to M. Le Normant, 1736.

[21] Jeanne (Yardin) Lemire will, 12 February 1731.

[22] Ibid.

[23] Ibid. The date of birth is unknown. However, he was doubtless an adult when he signed the oath of allegiance in 1727, and his first child was probably born about 1731. He had died by 1748, when his eldest daughter married. Therefore a calculated birthdate could be about 1667–1709 (he was sixty years old when he signed the oath, had children during his sixties and seventies, and died at the age of about eighty; or alternatively, he signed the oath at age eighteen, fathered children during his twenties and thirties, and died at age thirty-eight).

[24] Marriage, Pétronille Myre and Michel Poirier, Registers of the Parish of Notre-Dame-de-l'Assomption-de-Beaubassin, 1712–48. Her marriage record says he was deceased.

[25] No known document of this marriage exists. If their five children were born at the same average rate as most other Acadian children, the couple probably married at least eight years before Pierre's second marriage in 1738. For the date estimate, see White, *Dictionnaire*, 632. Also, White, "Dictionnaire, part two." White also refers to Father Cyprien Tanguay, *Dictionnaire généalogique des familles canadiennes*, vol. V (Montréal: Éditions Élysée, 1975), 333.

[26] Marriage, Pierre LeMire and Isabelle Thibodaux, Registers of Port-Royal, microfilm F1019, CEA. The document names the bride's parents and specifies that the groom is a widower.

[27] Isabelle Thibodeau was alive when her daughter Elizabeth married on 15 April 1765. See: Marriage, Joseph Coltret [*dit* René] and Isabelle-Élizabeth Lemire, Saint-Jean-Baptiste-de-Nicolet register; F15252, CEA. Also, White, "Dictionnaire, part two."

[28] Jeanne (Yardin) Lemire will, 12 February 1731. No known documents reveal the date or place of birth. However, he was undoubtedly an adult when he signed the oath of allegiance in 1727, and his first child was probably born about 1731. He was deceased by 1748, when his daughter married. Therefore, a broad calculated birth date range could be about 1667–1709 (sixty years old when he signed the oath, fathered children in his sixties and seventies, and died at eighty; or age eighteen when he signed the oath, fathered children in his twenties and thirties, and died about age thirty-eight).

[29] He died before the marriage of his eldest daughter. See: Marriage, Pétronille Myre and Michel Poirier, Notre-Dame-de-l'Assomption-de-Beaubassin parish registers, microfilm F1038; CEA. The record says her father is deceased.

[30] No marriage record survives. Assuming their five children were born at the average rate for other Acadian families they were probably married at least eight years before Pierre remarried in 1738. For the date estimate, see White, *Dictionnaire*, 632. Also, White, "Dictionnaire, part two." He cites Tanguay, *Dictionnaire généalogique*, 333. Her death date was before "widower" Pierre's remarriage to Isabelle Thibodaux on 14 July 1738.

[31] Marriage, Pierre LeMire and Isabelle Thibodaux, Registres de Port-Royal, microfilm F1019, CEA. The marriage record names her parents and specifies he was a "widower."

[32] Marriage, Pierre LeMire and Isabelle Thibodaux, Registers of Port-Royal, microfilm F1019, CEA. The record names her parents and says that the groom was a widower.

[33] White, *Dictionnaire*, 1522. White cites the Port-Royal parish register.

[34] Marriage, Joseph Coltret [*dit* René] and Isabelle-Élizabeth Lemire, Saint-Jean-Baptiste-de-Nicolet register; F15252, CEA. Isabelle Thibodeau was not yet deceased at the time of her daughter's marriage on 15 April 1765. Also White, "Dictionnaire, part two."

[35] No birth record exists. An estimated birth date is based on her marriage date, 1748, assuming she was about seventeen years old. It also considers the estimated marriage date of her parents, about 1730.

[36] Marriage, Pétronille Myre and Michel Poirier, Notre-Dame-de-l'Assomption-de-Beaubassin; microfilm F1038; CEA.

[37] "French Acadians Living as Prisoners in Halifax under British Government on 12 August 1763;" Archives des Affaires *Étrangères*, Paris (now at Courneuve, near Paris).

[38] The birth date range is calculated from the ages given in the Louisiana colonial censuses and placing it before his father's remarriage date (1738). The Cabannocé censuses list him in 1766 (thirty years old), 1769 (thirty-three), and 1777 (forty-three). "List of inhabitants at Kabaannocés," 1766. Voorhies, *Some Late Eighteenth-Century Louisianians*, 209. Also,

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"1769 Census of Cabahannocée;" PPC, Library of Congress (LC). Also, census of "Saint-Jacques à Cabahannocer, 1777," Papeles Procedentes de Cuba (Cuban Papers), Historic New Orleans Collection (HNOC), Williams Research Center, New Orleans, LA. Original in Archives of the Indies, Seville, Spain.

[39] Died between 12 March and 23 November 1788. Land sale, Alexandre Henderson to Joachim Mire, 12 March 1788, conveyances E:43–47; and land sale from Joachim Mire succession, 23 November [to 7 December] 1788, Notarial Acts 2:63–74; both at Ascension Parish Clerk of Court.

[40] White, "Dictionnaire, part two."

[41] Marriage contract, Joachim Mire and Madeleine Melancon, 29 June 1768, Ascension Par. marriages Q:671–3; Clerk of Court. The marriage contract is the only record of the marriage. It is also the document that refers to Joachim Mire's father, Pierre Lemire, as "natif de paris," (native of Paris).

[42] Baptism, Madeleine [Melancon]; Grand-Pré, Saint-Charles-aux-Mines parish registers, 1707–1748, folio 53; microfilm F1942, *CEA*. The register is now at the Diocese of Baton Rouge Archives (BRDA). Acadian refugees carried the baptismal register to the parish of St. Gabriel in Louisiana. It is in the third register of Acadian Records, item 24b.

[43] Marriage records for three of their children, help establish a death range for her. Marriage, Pablo Mire and Marie Celestina Lanoux, 22 February 1802, St. James Parish Registers (SJA) 2:60; BRDA. The record names Madeleine Melancon, mother, without saying she is deceased. The 1804 marriage of another child says she is deceased. See, marriage, Henry Melançon and Marguerite Mire, 6 February 1804, SJA 2:71; BRDA. Another child's marriage in 1805 names Madeleine Melançon, mother, but does not say she is deceased. Perhaps the priest simply neglected to note the fact. See, marriage, [Ana] Magdelaine Mire and Edouard Bourgeois, 21 January 1805, SJA 2:80; BRDA.

[44] White, "Dictionnaire, part two."

[45] Burial, Jean Lemire, Petit-Goave register (1763–84) no. 137, folio 1, État-Civil, Saint-Domingue (Haiti); 85 MiOM 72; CAOM.

[46] White, "Dictionnaire, part two."

[47] Burial, Jean Lemire; 85 MiOM 72, CAOM. His children's church records mention his occupation.

[48] White, "Dictionnaire, part two." Also, "Liste Des noms et nombres de Tous Les accadiens qui Sont dans la pinsilvenia;" Roy, *Rapport sur les Archives de France relatives à l'Histoire du Canada*, 618–20.

[49] "List of Baptisms of St. Joseph's Church (Philadelphia), *Records of the American Catholic Historical Society of Philadelphia*, 1:273.

[50] Burial, Louis Mire, Môle-Saint-Nicolas register, 1776–88, no. 133, folio 17, État-Civil, Saint-Domingue (Haiti); 85 MiOM 71, CAOM.

[51] Baptism, Marie Jeanne Mire, Môle-Saint-Nicolas register, no. 133, folio 12; CAOM.

[52] Donald J. Hebert, *Acadians in Exile*, reprint edition (Rayne, LA: Hebert Publications, 1996), 329; abstracted from parish register of Môle-Saint-Nicolas, Saint-Domingue. Originals at CAOM.

[53] Burial, Jean Mire, Môle-Saint-Nicolas register (1776–88), no. 133; État-Civil, Saint-Domingue (Haiti), 85 MiOM71; CAOM.

[54] Burial, Pierre Mire, Môle-Saint-Nicolas register, no. 133, folio 1; CAOM.

[55] Baptism, Henri Mire, Môle-Saint-Nicolas register, no. 133, folio 39. Also, burial, Henri Mire, Môle-Saint-Nicolas register, no. 133, folio 40; both at CAOM.

[56] White, "Dictionnaire, part two." He cites registers of Port-LaJoie and Restigouche, Quebec.

[57] Census of Chipoudy; Papiers Thomas Pichon, Collection VIRE, microfilm F559; CEA.

[58] "Liste Des noms et nombres de Tous Les accadiens qui Sont dans la pinsilvenia;" Roy, *Rapport sur les Archives France relatives à l'Histoire du Canada*, 618–20.

[59] White, "Dictionnaire, part two."

[60] Death/burial, Marie Lemire, Burial Register of Saint-Jean-Baptiste Parish (1760–91), Québec, Canada; microfilm F1525 CEA. The record says she was "about 38" when she died. However, that would give her a birth date of 1751 and an age of ten at marriage. More likely she was closer to age forty-eight when she died, giving a calculated birth date of 1741, as stated by White in "Dictionnaire, part two."

[61] Marriage, André Therrien and Marie (Louise) Lemire, Saint-Jean-Baptiste Parish register, Nicolet, Quebec, 1716–1744, 1:4; Family History Library (FHL) microfilm 1,018,146, Salt Lake City, UT.

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[62] All born in Nicolet (Quebec) Canada. See Parish Registers for Baptism-Marriage-Burial, St. Jean-Baptiste Parish, Nicolet, Quebec, Canada, 1716–1882; microfilm reels 1018146–1018148 and 1689455, Family History Library (FHL), Salt Lake City, UT.

[63] Birth date based on age in 1763 Port-Royal census; CAOM; also, microfilm F1801; CEA.

[64] Burial, Joseph Mire, St. Gabriel (SGA) church register 8:16, item 79; BRDA.

[65] Marriage, Joseph Mire and Marie Marguerite Daigle, SGA 14:4, item 8; BRDA.

[66] Also, census of "Saint-Jacques à Cabahannocer, 1777;" HNOC.

[67] Children born in St. Gabriel (Iberville) Louisiana. See BRDA, vol. 2, 547–549.

[68] Birth date calculated from age in 1769 and 1777 censuses of Cabannocé (twenty-five and thirty-three years old), and the 1770 militia list (twenty-five years old).

[69] Donald J. Hebert, *Southwest Louisiana Records: Church and Civil Records*, vol. 1 (Eunice, LA: Hebert Publications, 1974), 413. The entry cites death record, parish registers of St. Martin of Tours (SMT) 4:490.

[70] Ibid. Hebert cites SMT, with no date. White, "Dictionnaire, part two," cites the date as 31 March 1766, a date taken from Lillian Bourgeois, *Cabanocey: The History, Customs, and Folklore of St. James Parish* (New Orleans: Pelican Publishing Company, 1957), 171. Bourgeois published a "List of the Acadians married since the establishment of Kabahannossé," originally in the PPC, 178A, AGI. Stephen White said by email to Bettag, 22 December 2010: "The dates given [in Bourgeois's list] are presumably the dates of the marriages themselves. This is borne out by the fact that for some of the couples contracts…exist, and these are generally dated a couple of days earlier than the dates…[in] the list." The Cabannnocé census of 9 April 1766 lists him with a wife. The 1769 census lists him with a wife and two children, the oldest being two years old.

[71] White, "Dictionnaire, part two."

[72] Birth date calculated from marriage in 1765, assuming she was about twenty years old. Marriage, Joseph Coltret [*dit* René] and Isabelle-Élizabeth Lemire, Saint-Jean-Baptiste of Nicolet register; microfilm F15252, CEA. Also, White, "Dictionnaire, part two." Though her death record says she was ninety when she died in 1825, suggesting a birth date in 1735, that date predates by three years her parents' marriage. White postulates this was an error, and considering the birth dates of her siblings, suggests she was born about 1745, and was eighty years old at death.

[73] White, "Dictionnaire, part two." See, previous note for birth date calculated from the death record.

[74] Marriage, Joseph Coltret [*dit* René] and Isabelle-Élizabeth Lemire, Saint-Jean-Baptiste of Nicolet; F15252, CEA.

[75] Parish Registers for Baptism-Marriage-Burial, St. Jean-Baptiste Parish, Nicolet, Quebec, Canada, 1716–1882; microfilm reels 1018146–1018148 and 1689455, FHL.

[76] White, "Dictionnaire, part two." Two daughters appear on the 1752 census. If Pierre died ca. 1747–48, the daughter must have been born between 1738–ca. 1747–48.

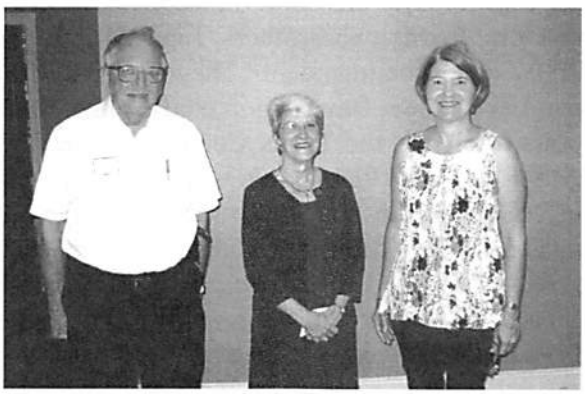
[77] Ibid.

[78] Ibid. The death record lists him as two years old. White suggests "dix" (ten) was erroneously transcribed as "deux" (two). If he was two when he died in 1757, he would have been born in 1755, but his father died before February 1748. If he was ten at death in 1757, he would have been born in 1747, when his father was alive.

[79] "Smallpox," *Canadian Encyclopedia*.

[80] White, "Dictionnaire, part two."

[81] "Smallpox," *Canadian Encyclopedia*.



L to R: Essie Cavalier, Claire Mire Bettage, unknown lady

PIERRE MARTIN LEMIRE, ACADIAN OF PARIS, FRANCE
By;Claire Mire Bettag CG and Submitted by Essie Cavalier

NORTON BOURG ORAL HISTORY TAPE

Transcribed by Philip Chauvin, Jr.

O. H. Tape # 102 Recorded 22 April 1983. Interviewed by Glen Pitre.
[Start by giving your name, when you were born and where you was born.]
My name is Norton BOURG. I was born in 1909 in Bourg, April the 2nd in 1909

BOURG, Norton (Joseph & Lelia LECOMPTE) m. Irene BELANGER 4 Nov 1930 Montegut, LA C. P. (Hma., LA Ct Hse. Mar. v. 63 - 64 p. 399). {Norton Joseph BOURG, Sr. age 85, died 24 Jan. 1995, f/o Jerry Anthony. Norton J. Jr., Mrs. Vincent (Geraldine) JERLONSKI, Mrs. Darby (Delora) SIMONEAUX AND Mrs. Albert (Bessie) LEDET Jr.}

BELANGER, Irene (Arnold & Cecile BOUDREAUX) m. Norton BOURG 4 Nov 1930 Montegut, LA C. P. (Hma., LA Ct Hse. Mar. v. 63 - 64 p. 399). {Irene BELANGER BOURG age 93, died 13 Jan. 2008}

[The village is Bourg and your name is Bourg?]
That is all together, just like in Houma there is F. X. BOURG, it is all the same, and basically all the Bourg's are related. After that we moved to Montegut. We moved to Montegut because they did not have enough place in Bourg for us to stay. So we had to come down. In 1933 we bought this place. That was after we got married. That wasn't during the bad times. The bad time was in 1930 – 1931. That was the time of the depression. When we moved here, we used to cut sugar cane for fifty cents a day, both me and my wife. It was for South Coast, but it wasn't for South Coast, it was another company, but I can't remember the name.
[Was it a person or a company?]
No, it was a company, I can't remember the name.
[Was it a family?]
No, but I can't remember the name.
[When was it taken over? Was it before the depression or after?]
It was in the depression that is when South Coast took it over.
[All over the United States, there was a depression at that time.]
Down here it wasn't the same.
[Why]
Well, in 1929 oil was discovered. Texaco came down here. Before Texaco, there was a gas well in the LIRETTE field. That was before Texaco came down. Texaco was from Texas. They sent a shooting crew down here. When they first started, they started basically on their own. They discovered little pockets of oil. It was not Texaco that started drilling. It was J. S. ABRICROMBIE, a contractor. It was two brothers, John ABRICOMBIE was the tool pusher and James ABRICOMBIE was the superintendent. They started drilling a well. They had one at Caillou Island, Lake Barre, Lake Chien, Bay Junnop, and Golden Meadow. At that time is was ABRICOMBIE. Two years after that the Texas Company came and took over the operation themselves Jr. ABRICOMBIE left. In 1934, that is when I went to work for Texaco. The wage and hour law was not in effect. It did not take effect until after 1945 that is when the war stopped. In 1945 that is when I quit and I went in business for myself. When I first started off, they did not have pipe lines, they used to handle all of it by barge. It was a fellow from Morgantaw (sic), Louisiana who had all the barges. When I first started, we used wooden barges; I would load up at Barre

NORTON BOURG ORAL HISTORY TAPE

and you could follow me by the slick that was on the water. They say the oil would give its taste to the oysters. That is not true, no way. I could go to Lake Barre and on the pilings; you could see the oil marks all the time. When the tide would go up, the oil would go into the Marsh. They say the oil would give a bad taste to the oyster that is not true, the oil was on top and the oysters were found underneath. We used to go on the pilings of the tank batteries, break the oyster off and we used to eat those. They didn't have no oil taste on them. It was some lawyers that wanted to make some money off them. They got guys from Houma that went all the way to Buras and Laffite. They wore out tires trying to find people to sue. Some of that came from that big well that blew out.

[When you first started working for the oil companies, you worked for ABRICROMBIE?

Yes.

[Did you go work on the oil platforms?]

I could not work for them, that was part of the Texas Company. I had to work on the boat; I was too young to work out there. At that time I was about eighteen years old. I couldn't go on Texaco payroll until I was twenty-one. When I got to be twenty-one, Texaco put me on their pay roll. In those days, all they had was luggers. They had no speed boats.

[What did the luggers do? Would they bring people out?]

Yeah, they did everything. They used to use them for tugs. That was some big tugs in those days, some of them boats were about forty feet long. If a fellow had an engine of forty horsepower, he really had something. Today they have them on outboards.

[Did they have a lot of work in those days?]

Oh yeah, they had a lot of work, but at first we had to limit our expenses. Everything was cheap and the area was depressed. They hired a lot of people. A lot of people worked for them. They would hire the boats they wanted. They would pay as high as nine dollars a day for a boat and two men. That was the only kind of work they had at that time. If you missed one day, they had somebody there to replace you. A dollar a day, 24 hours, day and night, if you wanted to. For a dollar a day, my wife and three children, we saved $300 dollars to buy this piece of property.

[When they first came, was it people from around here that they hired?]

When they first came down here, the people that actually worked on thee rigs were strangers. When it came to the boats, they had to get people that were from here. People from Shreveport couldn't run the boats down here. We were one of the first people that was hired when the wage and hour law came. We were working thirty hours a week. When we started they would limit us to 36 hours a week, then it went down to thirty. When your thirty hours was done, like at five o'clock in the morning, take your pack and go. You couldn't work anymore. You couldn't work twenty hours this week and 50 hours next week. When your 30 hours was done, you couldn't work anymore that week.

[When you first started, how much were you paid?]

I don't remember exactly. I saved the stub from the first check I ever got paid, I will find it for you. I don't remember exactly, but I think it was about $2.50 a day.

[That was a lot of money.]

That was plenty money then.

[How did they pick the people that were hired?]

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I knew a man; he is dead now, every morning he got up at four o'clock in the morning. Sometimes he walked, from Houma, all the way down Terrebonne for a year. After a year and a half, they finally hired him. He almost died on the job; they hired him right before they fired Owen LEBOEUF. As far as the oil company, I am very satisfied. If it was not for the oil company, with my family I would be in serious trouble. On Lafourche and Terrebonne, if it would not be for the oil company the people would not have survived the depression. But, look at what they are doing to the oil companies today. The way things are people have turned against them. The people were spoiled. You see all them millionaires and people with money, well that is not going to happen again. It has to go down some, I don't say it is going back to the 30's or the 29's, but it is going to have to go down, that is the only way people can operate. They can't borrow money, because the interest is so high to pay it back. The interest has to go down; I think that is one of the things that is wrong with our country.

[What kind of jobs did ABRICROMBIE offer the people to put them to work?]

They didn't drill, the people around here did not have any experience, but as time went by, they started hiring them and they would teach them how to drill, they hired them as roustabouts.

[How long did it take before the people around here to get the better jobs?]

I took at least a couple of years. They took them at starting position, and if they liked them they would put them in a drilling position. A lot of people from around here went to work for the oil companies. Originally most of the people who did the drilling came from east Texas or north Louisiana, Shreveport. A friend of mine started driller and they wanted him to go to work for them as a standby driller. They wanted him to go on a wooden deck, that thing was so unstable, the thing was about to fall apart. He said no, I don't think I will go to work for you; I am not ready to die.

[When you first went to work for Texaco, you just worked deliveries?]

Yes I worked deliveries.

[Did they buy their own boats?]

Yes they bought their own boats.

[So they didn't have any more contracts?]

Oh year the still had contractors for boats, they always had them, and they still have them. The CENACS, they have quite a few boats working for them. I used to work for CENAC.

[Was it some wooden boats that they used?]

Oh yeah, it was all wooden boats. I was one of the first ones that supplied speed boats. After the war, I built two wooden speed boats about forty feet long. I started hauling crews for different companies and Texaco called me to go to work for them. I leased my two crew boats. We didn't make much in them days, thirty dollars a day. When things started getting bad, they pulled up all their board walks and everything.

[What did they do with it?]

They burned some of it and some they gave to people;

[They had a lot?]

Yeah, the rigs from the Atchafalaya Bay, all the way to Grand Isle to the end of the Mississippi River. At that time that was all drilled by Texaco. They had nobody else. Then as time went by, a few more companies came; Union Oil came and started drilling. For the most

NORTON BOURG ORAL HISTORY TAPE

part, at one time, Texaco had it all. Humble had the Lirette field. The two companies were Humble and Texaco.
[When did Humble come?]
Humble came in 1939. 1940.

End Tape # 102 – Begin Tape # 103/

[People who didn't have a job with an oil company; Were they jealous?]
Well it didn't do them any good to be jealous, they didn't have the character to go to work, so they weren't hired. In 1938, we were making a dollar an hour; we were making some money, yeah. If you put in an application and you had the qualification and the bosses knew you, you would get on, if they needed the man, they would hire you and put you on the payroll.
[When the first well came in, did people drive by to see it?]
Yeah, but really they were on the water, really the only people who could see them had boats. The only people who had access to go on the rigs were people that worked for CENAC, some deck hands and all. The company would only bring authorized people out there. They didn't want many people out there because of the danger. The sight seers would only get in the way.
[Was there a lot of people that came?]
A lot of people from Golden Meadow and Des Allemand. Well not many, but they had some that came looking for jobs. But then the oil company, that is when they went to Paradise and start drilling for oil. Then they went to Buras and they went to Grand Isle. They brought a lot of stuff to Grand Isle. They were hauling tubing and casing by truck.
[Was all the derricks out of wood?]
No, by that time, they had only one rig that was made out of wood. After that it was all steel. In those days, they really didn't have any high rigs like today. They were all small, about 100 feet.
[Did they leave the rigs and derricks there?]
No, at Dog Lake and Pelto, they left some small derricks, but for the most part, they moved them all to Leeville, maybe. They had so many derricks. The few derricks they left to put the pumps on. They would pump, then as time went by, they took the pumps out. They just let them free flow. They didn't have any pump; the pressure would bring it up.
[How about Leeville?]
Leeville, I remember, they had a lot of pumps over there. I remember Leeville, before they had a road there. They had a gravel road to Golden Meadow then only had a dirt road. I would bring the men down to Leeville by boat. Later on they put a ferry across the bayou. That is when they started building the road to Grand Isle. I lived through all that. The people today, they couldn't do that. It would blow their mind; trying to do that today.
[In those days, was it like seasonal?]
Oh no, big companies like Texaco, if you were a regular worker, you had a job. Today some of those guys worked, but not the oystermen. In those days, if you had a job with Texaco, you worked year round.
[The people living there were forewarned as to what was coming?]

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No, nobody knew about that. Louisiana land had several big boats, about 35 feet long and they started going down there seismography. That was the only thing they knew. They knew something was going to happen, but they didn't know what it was.
[Louisiana Land had the boats?]
That is when Louisiana Land bought the land rights from LaTerre.
[Instead of – (Laughing)
That, I don't know.
[I know what you mean; I remember when LL&E came.]
I don't know if they bought it. They may have made a deal. I don't know.
[When did that happen, before your time?]
No, no in about 27, 28, 29, before the oil companies came. The land people, I don't know if it was bought, given or how they got it.
[The prairie out there, was it just open?]
Oh yeah, you couldn't see a light out there. You couldn't see a picket out there. You couldn't see a light unless it was a boat with a light.
[Did people trap then?]
Around here there was nothing to trap. In the west over there, they had trappers, but around here there wasn't anything to trap in those days.
[Did they have anybody trapping?]
There was very few.
[When people started trapping, they had to lease land?]
No, it was all open, you could trap anywhere you want.
[L. L. & E. did they have some boats built?]
Oh yeah, they had some boats built.
[Specifically for that?]
Yeah., but we didn't know what was going on out there.
[Was it people from around here that ran the boats?]
Yeah it was people from around here.
[Where did the people on the boat come from?]
That, I don't know, but I know they had some Yankees in there. The BOURGS were the first people here to work for Louisiana Land. Some people went to work for Louisiana Land.
[They started off small?]
Yeah, they started off by doing some shooting. For several years, they did the seismograph and then, they started drilling.
[When did the people learn that it was a big thing?]
When the Wage and hour law first started, like Texaco, if you went to work for them, they kept you, unless you were no good. They started hiring people and keeping them. For us, like me. I started working on the boats, the luggers. I was eighteen, they started hiring at twenty one, then in 1945 I built two boats and they called me to go to work for them. That lasted until 1965. I worked for them until 1965, 65 or 70. I worked on my boats and then it was hard to get people to work. Things started getting slow, so I got rid of the two boats.
[Was that the original two boats you got built?]

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Oh yeah, they were still good boats. In fact one of them, they made a trawl boat out of it. It was made of good wood. I went and buy the wood myself. I found the wood in Ponchatoula. Good cypress I went to Bayou Gauche to buy the ribs and I went to Ponchatoula to get the planking.
[In those days did you have to talk English?]
No, we didn't have to talk English, most of them didn't, and we used to talk with ourselves. Now there are restrictions, a high school education, college education. If there wasn't so much college education, this would be a better world to live in (laughing)
[If there was no college education there would be nobody at the space center.]
Space that is a difficult situation. In those days you had one way and somebody had a different way, one way or the other you got the job done.
[Most of the time they stay out there?]
The field, most of the time they stayed out there. They had camps, but up the bayou, they went to Houma. Down here they provided places for people to stay. There was a two story building, but for the most part, they went to Houma after they finished the day's work. Around here, they had boarding houses, too.
[Did they have any camps?]
Yeah.
[Did they go by boat?]
No they had a road down here, they would go by car.
[What about people's camps?]
About that time by truck, they had a warehouse down there. Texaco had two trucks. One of them brought the groceries and the other one brought the materials, hardware, lights and stuff. J. F. ABRICOMBIE had pickup trucks. They had a machine shop down there. Texaco had boat houses and they had a mechanic's shop down there.
[What kind of jobs did they have there?]
Well, they only had two kinds of jobs. In those days they had those gin pole trucks, drag lines and fork lifts. Everybody that worked in the field did just about everything. In those days, they had a lot of people hired. Today they don't make shallow wells. In those days they brought in a ship {tanker}. They dug a canal and put in there. That was there to put the oil in.
[What were the ships made of?]
Out of steel, the name of the ship was the "Tampico". I worked on it for a while chipping paint and painting, for a while. After the war, they started taking the oil out in the pass in barges. They would load it up right there and take it to the ships from the Wine Island pass. The barges would bring the oil from the derricks and bring it to the tanker, which was inside the pass. Bigger tugs would take the tanker out and load the oil in ships.
[Did they have many tankers?]
They only had one.
[How about the barges?]
They had several small barges.
[Were they built here?]

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Nobody built barges here. In those days, all that stuff on Industrial Boulevard was here. The guy that organized "Chromalloy" was the Time keeper for the Texas Company. The guy that organized Chorley was Shaw and I can't remember the other guy. The first guy that ever welded for Texaco down there at Montegut was a fellow by the name of HORNSBY. HORNSBY had a welding shop near the end of Howard Avenue on the bayou side in Houma.
[Where did HORNSBY learn how to weld?]
I don't know, but I guess like everybody else, like when these people come from Texas, the welders needed helpers and when you work for somebody for a long time, you learn.
[How were the relations, when the people from outside came in? Did the people like each other?
Oh yeah, the people got along real good. It wasn't like today; today it is dog eat dog. Today people think they like each other, but it is the almighty dollar they love.
[How many people worked there? Was it a hundred?]
Oh yeah it was over a hundred. They had several fields and each field, like drilling rig, several men worked on them.
[Were many of the people working, were people from here?]
Oh yeah, as for the other people that came down here, they had families somewhere else, they didn't stay. The people from around here, they stayed once you had a job. I don't know if I ought to tell you or not. People like the assessors, they know you have a piece of property and they know like you are going to lose it, go bankrupt, they got some connections; they can pick it up for nothing. That is how some of those people got that property. If they didn't do it, they got a friend, some kickback. They only had two banks back then. Same thing about the sheriff. He would go seize stuff,
[You mean like the bank"]
You take the bank that was started in Bourg, "Citizens Bank", he moved it to Houma. Some guys got together and built this bank and moved it to Houma. It wasn't always the banks, it was the individual, you had your deed and borrow on it, couldn't pay and they would take your deed, because you had already signed it to him. Right there on Barrow Street, on the Corner Main and Barrow. They moved to where they are at now. That is when the Citizens Bank and Terrebonne Bank started making their branches. I don't think it did them any good. I will tell you one thing, they got too many banks and they got too many finance companies. And they got too many lawyers. They had three banks and they were all alike and it is which one that wants to get over the other guy.
[In those days it was only big businesses that actually borrowed from banks.]
Yeah.

{End Tape # 103 – Begin Tape # 104.}

[The other ones would borrow from the merchants?]
Yeah, that was how it was, they would borrow from the merchants. You take the ELLENDERS for instance, about a mile below the Point-aux-Chene Road, all the way up to where the water tower is at, on both sides of the bayou, almost all of that was for the ELLENDERS. There was only one store, Henry ELLENDER. You know where the close drying is, that was where the store was. In those days Henry ELLENDER was a resident on the

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plantation, the plantation owned the store. In those days, you couldn't just go and buy anywhere you wanted, if you worked for the plantation, you had to buy from the store. You got paid in little slips and you had to bring that slip to the store to buy your groceries or whatever you bought. At the South Coast, it was the same thing. If you worked there, you had to go get a little slip and you had to go to the store to get paid, in groceries or whatever.
[With that slip they had to give you some cash?]
You had to have a real good reason to have some cash. Usually you had to spend it at the store.
[Oil companies, did they pay with slips like that?]
Oh no, they didn't do it like that.
[I bet the people was glad about that?]
Talk about they were glad. Those guys that were working for the oil field company, they were in high cotton.
[So you have any last things you want to say?]
I never had a fight in my life. If I had to tell something to a man, I look him in the face and I told him. If he had something to tell me, he looked me in the face and tell me. I have never had anybody hit me in the face. You had to work out your problems by talking. People that fight don't get it. You take the islands down there or Last Island. They got all kinds working down there. They are always arguing who own what. They want to fix their boundaries. They are doing all kinds of surveying and all that kind of thing. They sent money down here, the people down here don't get any money, the people in Houma get all the money to do studies of things, they spend all the money doing studies they never get anything done. When they run out of money, they get some more money and do the same thing. The millionaires get to be bigger millionaires. It is always the same thing. I can tell you in the last six months, if six months, it might be less, we lost on the island right there 150 feet of property. I am talking on each island. I am not talking about a foot wide; I am talking about the whole island. They kept doing surveys, then they go out there to the island and it keeps on eroding. Nobody does anything about it. Every now and then they send an airplane out there, come down low, I can see it. They don't do nothing with that. Every time they do these studies with the airplane that is a million dollars in a millionaire's pocket. The same thing with the locks. When closed, the locks erode from the inside and when they are closed, the gulf erodes from the outside. You take three weeks ago, when they had that big tidal wave on Grand Isle?
[Yeah.]
We had a tidal wave here, me and my wife were in our camp, the water came five feet over Last Island. We saw it. You know what caused that, we had been having a South wind, pushing that water in, then overnight, all of a sudden, the wind turned around and a strong north wind was pushing it out. The wind from the North was stronger than the wind from the South. Last week ago, we had another one. That one wasn't quite as bad as the one before. It was only about two and one half feet. That one on Grand Isle was high. Those big Mango bushes, the water was so high, you could only see the top of those big black Mango bushes. It turned one of my boats over. It was not a pirogue, a small boat, it even drowned the engine.
[You notice the erosion is changing the land?]

NORTON BOURG ORAL HISTORY TAPE

Oh yeah, you can notice it from day to day. You take a ball of dirt. If it is small, it erodes faster every day. If it is big, it is going to erode at the same speed, but you are not going to notice it every day. It is going to look like it is going to erode slower, but it is really the same amount. Lake Jean Charles and Lake Barre used to be separate lakes. Now, it is all one lake, they are all the same. It used to be they had land between them two lakes. I remember that, I used to go there. It's not that many years ago. If they would work more and study less, maybe they would have something.

End of recording on Tape # 104.

{Family in 1940 Terrebonne parish Ward 6 above Montegut}

BOURG, Norton	H	M	30	M	Crew Boat Driver
BOURG, Irene BELANGER	W	F	25	M	
BOURG, Geraldine	D	F	8		
BOURG, Dolores	D	F	5		

{Family in 1930 Terrebonne Parish Ward 6}

BOURG, Norton	Head	W	N	19	1911				LA	LA	LA	farmer
BOURG, Lelia LECOMPTE	M	W	F	34	1896	W			LA	LA	LA	
BOURG, Luis	B	W	M	18	1912				LA	LA	LA	oilfield laborer
BOURG, Guy	B	W	M	16	1914				LA	LA	LA	oilfield laborer
BOURG, Della	Si	W	F	14	1916				LA	LA	LA	
BOURG, Cleveland	B	W	M	10	1920				LA	LA	LA	
BOURG, Mary	Si	W	F	9	1921				LA	LA	LA	
BOURG, Louetta	Si	W	F	6	1924				LA	LA	LA	
BOURG, Bessie	Si	W	F	4.3	1926				LA	LA	LA	

OBITUARY OF COLONEL DUNCAN S. CAGE

Transcribed by Patty Whitney, April 2020

Found in *The Thibodaux Sentinel* newspaper dated Saturday, 27 June 1885

Col. Duncan S. CAGE, of the parish of Terrebonne died at Bladon Springs, Alabama, on June 20, 1885, and was buried in the family burial ground, near Houma, on Tuesday, June 23 last. Col. CAGE has, for many years, been a conspicuous citizen of Terrebonne, to which parish he immigrated from Mississippi, nearly 40 years ago.

He has been honored by his constituents in an election to the Legislature and served them faithfully, at other times, in the Police Jury. Mr. CAGE was a man of talent, and filled all positions with which he was honored, with dignity and justice.

The deceased was a planter by occupation, but always took a deep interest in every measure, calculated to improve the condition of his fellow men. In his younger days he was possessed of considerable oratorical ability, and was often found engaged in political debates upon the issues before the people.

Col. CAGE had just passed his three score years. But few men had drawn around so many attached friends, bound to him by his great social and genial qualities. He has passed away leaving a numerous family to mourn the loss of one whose place no mortal can fill.

Peace to the memory of a good and useful man.

THIBODAUX IN TIME: 1885 SANBORN MAP FOR THIBODAUX

By Patricia Whitney for Bayou History Center, February 2020

Insurance can be defined as "a risk transfer mechanism that ensures full or partial financial compensation for the loss or damage caused by events beyond the control of the insured party." (businessdictionary.com). The first known examples of insurance were related to marine activities, where merchants and traders would pledge their ship or cargo as security for loans. In early societies which did not use money or financial instruments but relied instead on barter and trade, insurance was the function of people forming "friendly societies," where participants made regular contributions to a common fund, which was then used to pay for losses suffered by individual members. In some cases, the common factor was a pledge of help. If one person's house burned down, the members agreed they would help to rebuild. This form of insurance had its drawbacks, and societies that began to use money and financial tools developed other forms of providing risk coverage, particularly through the creation of insurance companies and government agencies.

Fire insurance can be traced back to the Great Fire of London in 1666, when more than 13,000 structures were destroyed. The tragedy forced the development of a tool for covering the risk against fire. It was considered so urgent that Sir Christopher WREN included an Insurance Office in his new plan for the redevelopment of London after the fire. It wasn't until 1681 when Nicholas BARBON, a famed economist, and eleven of his associates established the "Insurance Office for Houses" to insure brick and frame homes and they initially covered 5,000 homes.

In 1752 Benjamin FRANKLIN founded the "Philadelphia Contributionship for the Insurance of Houses from Loss by Fire," but the company refused to insure wooden houses because the risk of fire was too great. An analysis of the risk was considered of the utmost importance in whether a company was able to offer coverage to a client. In the early years of the industry, underwriters would make personal trips to every property which was seeking coverage in order to analyze the risk involved. As the country and industry grew, individual site visits became too burdensome, so another method of assessing risk was urgently needed.

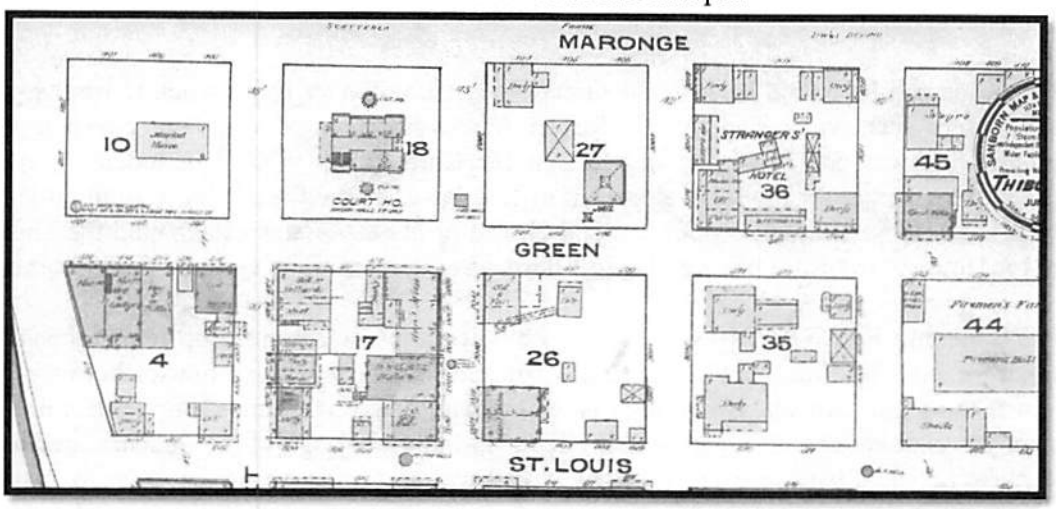
In 1866 a civil engineer and surveyor, Daniel Alfred SANBORN, was contacted by Aetna Insurance Company to prepare maps of areas in Tennessee that could be used to assist underwriters in analyzing a property's risk for property damage, particularly fires. SANBORN saw the opportunity to open a lucrative new market and established the D.A. SANBORN National Insurance Diagram Bureau in New York City. They published an atlas of Boston and began to develop and sell maps of additional cities and towns across the country. The maps contained detailed information about properties in approximately 12,000 cities and towns in America. From that time forward, Sanborn held a monopoly over fire insurance maps, which continued until the 1960s, when insurance companies stopped using the maps for underwriting. The last of the SANBORN fire maps was published in 1977 on microfilm, but the company modified its services to include geospatial products and remains in business to today.

Sanborn maps contain enormous amounts of information that can be helpful to various interests. They are indexed and carry both general and specific information pertinent to the town in question. There are outlines of buildings, including the location of windows and doors; street

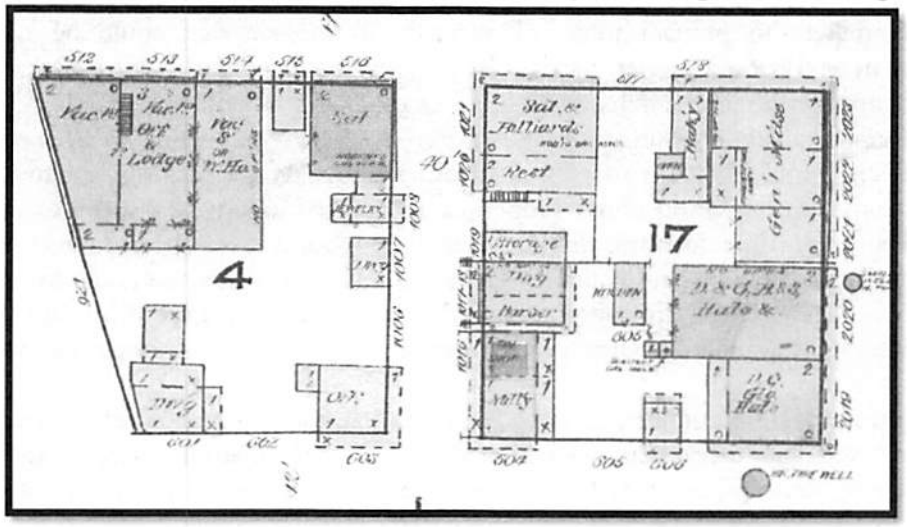
THIBODAUX IN TIME: 1885 SANBORN MAP FOR THIBODAUX

names and dimensions; property boundaries; fire walls; natural geological features; transportation corridors, such as railway lines and roads and bridges; the uses of buildings and the materials used in their construction; an assessment of local fire departments; existence and location of sprinklers, fire hydrants, gas outlets, large ovens, fuel sources; the names and locations of public facilities like churches and government buildings; and even some quirky types of information, such as where prominent individuals live or locations of brothels, stables, and others.

The Sanborn Fire Map of 1885 for the City of Thibodaux can be found online at the Library of Congress. It covers most of the historic, downtown area and is a very interesting glimpse into what Thibodaux would have looked like at that time. The maps are large, but here are some sections that I've drawn out of them in order to use as an example.



Square 10 originally held the Market House but today is home to Thibodaux City Hall. The courthouse is in Square 18, and the old jail is in Square 27. The Stranger's Hotel is in 36. Square 4 held warehouses, a saloon and other structures. Dwellings are designated as "Dwg."



WARREN BOURGEOIS ORAL HISTORY TAPE

Transcribed by Philip Chauvin, Jr.

Oral history Tape # 3 – Recorded January 10, 1983.

[You were saying that you were on the School Board?]
I have been a member for a period of twenty years. From December 9, 1962 until last month, December 31, 1982.
[You must have seen a lot of changes?]
Our system has changed considerably in the last twenty years. I feel that Terrebonne Parish School Board is one of the top boards in the state of Louisiana, both in the way we operate our schools and from a financial standpoint. At the present time, we balance our budget every year and I think that our teachers are paid at the very top of the state level. I think in 1981, we were number one in the state, if you include fringe benefits, which we have provided for personnel.
[Thinking back to 1962, I am thinking about integration, consolidation -]
Yes my twenty years have been hectic at times, but I enjoyed it thoroughly. We went through three sales tax elections, which were held primarily to raise the salaries of our people. We lost the first two, however the third one, we did pass it, and fortunately for the people of this parish, we were able to air-condition every school in the parish, and raise the teacher's salary from an income produced by the sales tax.
[When you started in 1962, what was the situation, then?]
In 1962, our schools enrolment was approximately 16 thousand. We have had quite a bit of growth in this twenty-year period we are running between 21 thousand and 22 thousand students. Or operating budget, our entire budget in 1962 was four million, 900 thousand. At the present time our budget is 57 million, one hundred thirty-five dollars. You can see there is a great deal of change in that regard. Remember there has been a tremendous amount of inflation in the last twenty years.
[What about the schools themselves, there are a lot more?]
We built, the year I became a member of the board, we opened our second high school in the parish, and that was South Terrebonne. Prior to 1962, there was only one high school in the parish of Terrebonne, Terrebonne High School. Then we opened South Terrebonne in 1962 – 63 session. That is near Presquille. That is a new building. About ten years later we opened H. L. Bourgeois High School, which is located a Gray. We need another high school at the present time. Hopefully sometime in the foreseeable future, we can convert Ellender Junior High, which is located on the air base, make that a high school.
[What has been the direction of consolidation?]
Prior to 1962, Terrebonne Parish was a consolidated school system, and still is, as far as financial situation, but we had only one high school in the parish. That was Terrebonne High School; busses would run from all areas of the parish, all the different bayous and bring all the students to Terrebonne High School. Of course Terrebonne High School was getting too big; about 1960 there was a bond issue, which enabled the board to build South Terrebonne. I became a member of the board just about that time the school opened.
[What was it that you all consideration that it was too big?]
Yes, when a school has more than 1300 –1400 students, it is just too big and I think a high school with about 1200 students is just about the right size. If it is much less than that it is too expensive to operate. The maximum benefits we get out of our tax dollars, is operating a school with about 1200 students.
[Going back, what experience did you have with school?]
My father was superintendent of schools from 1914 until 1955, at the time of his death {d. 17 June 1955}. He died about ten days prior to his retirement date. I have always had a profound interest in the educational system here in Terrebonne Parish.

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[Did each little town have their own school?]
Oh yeah, on the elementary level we have them throughout the parish. We have been upgrading our schools, through the years with replacing frame buildings with brick buildings, with modern school buildings, and I think we have an excellent physical plant throughout the parish.
[Were you a teacher?]
No I have been a banker all of my life, ever since I finished LSU, started working in the bank and I have been in this industry for forty-years or more.
[I was wondering way back when, did they have their own high schools?]
Back in the early 1900's there were two high schools, there was Terrebonne High School, or as it was known then as Houma High School and then one at Bourg, known as Bourg High school. The one at Bourg was discontinued back sometime in the early 1920's, I think. Those students were transferred to Terrebonne High School. There was only a difference of about 8 or 9 miles, and it is so much more effective from a financial standpoint, to operate one school, rather than two schools at that time.
[Each of the towns have their own first grades?]
Oh yeah, throughout the parish, there are schools down on every bayou. I think right now we have approximately forty schools in the parish, including the high schools. Now one interesting aspect is that while I was a member of the board, I was one of the proponents for the type of education, that will enable people to train themselves to go out in the workforce, speaking primarily students that have no plans of going to college, and we have our vocational technical school on the base. We were able to obtain the facilities and the land from the U. S. government, when the base was terminated. I think this is a common sense approach to education, because the good Lord didn't intend everybody to be a doctor, a lawyer or other professions. We train young men and women to become plumbers, electricians and the various trades. I think that this has paid off, and I am hopeful that in the near future we can build another school in the upper end of our parish., somewhere between Houma and Schriever, to take care of the large number of students who would like to take these courses, but we don't have enough room for them at the school at the base.
[When did the emphasis begin on vocational schools?
We were the first parish in the state to have a facility like that and I am very proud of it. Mr. Fred THIBODAUX, member of the board, who is now the oldest man in service on the Terrebonne School board, he wouldn't let us forget about it. We couldn't afford it in the early years, but with his insistence and my supporting him very heavily, we finally got the board to go along with it.
[About what time was that?]
About ten years ago. I don't know the exact date, but it must have been about ten years ago. You were asking about some of the things that happened through my twenty years on the board, we had several failed tax elections, and finally we passed one. That put us in a good financial situation. Another thing we did with the funds that emanated from the sales tax, we were able to air-condition every classroom in Terrebonne Parish. We were the first school system in the state to achieve this. Other parishes have filed suit and we are proud of it. Now, while being a member of the school board there was some rather dramatic changes in our mode of operation. We had integration. First of all I want to go back and correct myself, I said at one time there were one high school in the parish, there were two, Southdown High School was a black high school, before we became fully integrated and was capably run, particularly during the time that Mr. Adrian PERTUIT was principal. He made it an excellent school and some of their graduates have gone off into the work force as doctors, lawyers and professional football players. Mr. LEWIS with the Buffalo Bills, was a first round draft choice, he is a graduate of that school.

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[Was there a hard time during integration?]
Again, another first, we were the first parish in the state of Louisiana to have full integration. That was about ten years ago. With the help of the black leaders of the parish, the ministers, they worked with us and we had practically no problems what so ever during this period of integration. Other parishes were not quite so fortunate, they had some problems. I think you are familiar with Lafourche Parish and I know Thibodaux High School had some problems over there.
[Did you have any special problems, you not only had black and white, but you had Indians?]
Let me tell you about that, I have to go back and retract something, I said we had one high school, it was a large high school, then we had Southdown High School and shortly before I became a member of the board and for a very short period of time, we had an Indian School, which was a high school. That was only for a very brief period, because full integration took care of the Indians, it took care of white and black situation, so now we have one. Do you want me to make some comments on the financial end?
[If you like.]
Our entire budget at the present time, the operation of Terrebonne Parish School system, is fifty-seven million dollars. When I became a member of the board twenty years ago, I believe I did mention this, our budget was four million 900 thousand. I know we are comparing apples and oranges, but that is a tremendous change.
[It seems that was phenomenal growth in Terrebonne Parish.}
Yeah, but know Terrebonne Parish grew greatly in the last twenty years, but the school population did not grow at the same percentage as the growth of the parish, because when I became a member, the board ran about 16,000 students or close to it and now we have approximately 22, 000.
[The population doubled.]
It has almost doubled in the last 20 years.
[How do you attribute that? Can you explain it?]
The size of the families are dwindling. They have fewer children per family now, than they had 20 years ago. Forty years ago, the families were much larger.
[Was there something else that gave you an extra headache that other parishes didn't have? At one time there were a lot of students that couldn't speak English.]
Oh no, I think that in 1962. Practically every person in Terrebonne Parish could speak English. Now when I started working in the bank, back in 1937, there were quite a number of people wanted us to take care of their banking problems or business in French. I couldn't speak French, but fortunately I was in the Citizens Bank and Trust Company and we had two people or three people in the bank that could speak French.
[Were most teachers from this area?]
No not necessarily, a lot of people who were employed as teachers were from other parts of the state. I know St. Bernard Parish, St. Landry Parish and the western part of Louisiana; they seem to drift down to Terrebonne. Most of those people went to USL and SLI at that time. Back then in the late 60's we had a scarcity of teachers, so we had to go out of state to beat the bushes, to get people to come in and teach in Terrebonne Parish. Fortunately our salary schedule was greater that some of these salary schedules in those various parts of Mississippi so, we had a lot of implants from Mississippi. A few from other states, too. A lot of teachers came to Houma or Terrebonne Parish; their husbands were working in the oil field or the oil industry. They had taught in other parts of the country, and we employed them. We never had as great a problem as some of the other parishes, but we did at one time have some people in the class rooms who were not college graduates and they were special teachers, on special certificates and the only way we could keep them is that they had to go to summer school at some college or university in the state to work towards their degree. Right now, all of our teachers are college graduates. Over 90 percent of them are college graduate teaching in their own field. In some cases we might hire a

WARREN BOURGEOIS ORAL HISTORY TAPE

college graduate who is not certified to teach, might not have a major in a certain area. We can employ them provided they go to summer school and work towards their major in that field.

[What do you attribute the shortage to?]

At that time, it was occasioned by the fact that teaching was not a very lucrative profession. It has always been that way. Right now, we have caught up, to a certain extent, with other industry. A person can work for an oil company, without a college degree and make much more money than a degree teacher. It was unfair, but since we have been able to increase the pay along with the people of Terrebonne Parish voting taxes, the sales tax and things of that nature and capable financial management in the central office, we have been able to bring our teachers up. For a number of years, we could hardly get a teacher out of Texas, because their scale was much higher than that of Terrebonne Parish.

[You hear about the old basics, reading, writing and arithmetic, I imagine the curriculum has changed a lot?]

The curlicue has changed –

[Besides vocational education?]

Yes, it has changed somewhat. I always like to get down to basics. I think a student should be well trained in reading, writing and arithmetic. That is the basis. Then there have been some innovations in the education system. I am not an educator. I hate to criticize some things that have been done, and some things that have not been done, but I always felt that the basics were the most important thing in the education of our children. Reading, writing and arithmetic and when I say arithmetic, I mean mathematics going up the line. Reading is a must. A young kid starts learning how to read when he gets in the first or second grade, but knowing how to read and our teachers encouraging them to read outside reading, is a great plus for the educational process for a child.

[Do you think that having Nichols State close by?]

Nichols State has been a blessing to the people in Terrebonne Parish. So many of our children or our graduates, could not have afforded a college education, had it not been for Nichols being our neighbor. The Terrebonne Parish school board provides transportation for students in Terrebonne Parish. We send them daily to Nichols. They can live at home; go to college, with only a fractional part of the expense, when considering children who are not living close to a university, such as Nichols. Nichols is an excellent school.

[Do you remember some other things?]

Yes, the early part. The education process in Terrebonne Parish, I am talking about from 1900 to about the time of the mid 1950's, my father was superintendent of schools here from 1914 until 1955. His thesis for his master's degree, tells us the history of education in Terrebonne Parish for about forty years. A copy of it is at the South Down museum {The Library has two reference copies in the non-fiction section "Four Decades of Public Schools in Terrebonne Parish"}. If you want some information, I think you will find the facts are valid there, would help you with what you are working on now.

[Let's go back to integration; it was in the news a lot.]

A great tradition ceased with the Supreme Court ruling on Brown vs. Board of Education that was some 25 or 30 years ago. A lot of people thought we would have problems that it wouldn't work. There was a great doubt, whether it would be effective. We went through the integration with a minimum of problems. Practically, no problems at all. It is as it should be one school for all races, creeds.

[How do you explain that Terrebonne was the first to fully integrate?]

I don't know. The justice department must have just picked us out and said you are it, you are the first.

[It was sponsored from the outside?]

Oh yeah.

[It wasn't internal?]

Not internal at all.

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[You hear about people fighting it tooth and nails.]
When New Orleans schools were integrated, Chet MORRISON was then mayor. You probably were a little boy at that time, but they had all kind riots, all kind of problems. We thought that here in Terrebonne we might have some, because we have some hot heads in the blacks and the whites, and we thought probably -. No such thing occurred here. We are so fortunate. That is the way it should be. I think the churches had a great deal of influence.
[The churches were involved?]
That is right.
[Did parents look at it as something that was good at that time or generally looked it as something that we have to do this?]
Well you put words in my mouth there. Terrebonne Parish School board could not fight the federal government, although there were some people who thought we were too lenient, that we were laying down, not fighting it, but we knew eventually it as going to come about. We decided as a board to go ahead and accept it and hopefully we wouldn't have any serious problems. We had no problems to amount to anything.
[Didn't it happen that suddenly, there were two people for one job, like two principals and one high school?]
We had some of those problems and we worked them out. Really, I thought it was going to be a big problem. Some people were rather patient, they knew that their turn was coming. We couldn't fire a person in one job, just to put a black person, and I guess we got by and the racial balance is there in our school system.
[The public was supportive?]
Generally speaking, yes. I got some telephone calls during that period, but not the kids. It was some of the irate parents. You know, on some occasions I ran those people down and they didn't talk anymore. I said if they want to get me off the board that was their privilege. I went through four of five elections and I was successful each time. I had one good friend of mine; oh he was highly critical of my actions. I am not going to mention names, but he thought those - . In fact he told me that he would never vote for me again. He is my good friend today, and I think he voted for me the last time I ran.
[I will ask you a question, when you were president of the school board-.]
I was not president of the school board, I am president of this bank. I was a school board member for a long period of time. I was too busy and was not interested in being president.
[What happened to the other high school?]
My theory is this, I vote my convictions and let the chips fall where they may. I know I made some enemies, political enemies through the years because I didn't go along with what they wanted me to. I always weighed the situation and always thought what was best for our students, it is best for the Terrebonne Parish school board. I would vote my convictions along those lines.
[Can you recall some of the things your father use to talk about, or what did he change?]
My father was a very young man when he became superintendent at the age of 26. He came to Terrebonne Parish knowing only one person, from St. James Parish. A week or so later, he was elected superintendent. He was there over four decades.
[And he received his degree where?]
At LSU and Jefferson College, this is no longer in existence. He believed in consolidation, because of the financial end of it. It is cheaper to operate one secondary school, that two, three or four of them. It was cheaper to transport them into town to one central point.
[That must have been very difficult in 1914?]
Oh yeah. Some of the travel was by boat. They had busses that were prior to World War I, and at a number of schools the kids were brought in by boat.

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[Did that stop before World War I?]
I don't recall just when. The busses have been running from that time up until now.
[Since this parish has a lot of people working in the seafood industry, were not any problems with that?]
I remember when I was a student, some of the boys in my classes, I am talking about elementary school, would take off to work in the fields when the potato season came around, or help their daddy in the trapping season. The teachers and the faculty always helped those students and they progressed from one grade to another. Now it is mandatory, all children in the state of Louisiana of educable ages must attend school. At that time, it was optional in the parish.
[Was that a problem?]
It was a problem, but not a major problem. All those kids were educated.
[What were the major problems?]
I would think that most of the problems have been financial. We could so much better job than we are doing now, or were doing during the years, if we had more money. I am not complaining, because I think we are in good shape right now. When I left the board 10 or 12 days ago, I am happy to know that we are operating in the black, and we are not having any real problems, in spite of the fact that we are in a recession right now. You know sales taxes are a great –

End of Tape # 3 begin Tape # 4.

When you think of it. Where did you go to school?
{Question directed to unnamed female person in attendance.}
(In Paris.)
The university de Paris.
(Yes.)
Not City University? That is on the way to St. Cleve.
(No.)
That is Paris at the Sorbonne.
(Yes.)
[Short dialog in French.]
I studied the French language, so you went to a different school?
(Yes.)
You know where, I use to go to a church, St. Mary Aglae that is not it. I will think of it in a minute.
[Another question, Catholic schools have been active in the parish?]
Oh yeah, in fact people of Terrebonne Parish are owe a great debt of gratitude to the order of Nuns that came here shortly after the Civil War. I think they came in the 1870's and that the sisters Marionite of the Holy Cross. You know that shortly after the Civil War, our Acadian fore fathers were busy trying to make a living. The kids worked out in the fields, they were trying to bring back the economy to what it was prior to the Civil War and there were one room schools on various plantations throughout the parish. Most of the teachers were not qualified to teach, they had no college degree or anything like that. They did a beautiful job. I am talking about other than the sisters. The sisters came in the 1870's. They gave us a shot in the arm. That made people realize the benefits of education. They were more apt to vote for a school tax. You know at that time, we didn't have any money for a school tax. We just existed; things were rough after the civil war. You know, those teachers, in the one room schools, were able to teach grades one through seven or eight and they had the Mc Duffy readers and that is how they would promote from one class to another, but they were all in one room. Very often a very bright child would be sitting in the back of the room and he would be listening to what is going on in the second or third or fourth grades and he was in the second grade, two grades apart, he picked it up and he could accelerate his education along those lines. I am talking about the brighter kids. Education is so

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different today, from what it was a hundred years ago.
[In what way?]
They gave the very rudiment type of education back, say in the 1880's, in comparison to our high schools. There is another area that I didn't cover especially, you know we have some children that have problems and we are directed by the state department to make a special effort to educate those kids, and we do. They are doing a beautiful job of it.
[To your knowledge, were there any French schools in the parish?]
Not to my knowledge. I think French was taught generally, the language was used in the classrooms fifty to a hundred years ago. I know my mother who is now still surviving, she is almost 93, she was taught in Thibodaux by the Mount Carmel Sisters and her prayers and the teaching when she started school in the 1890's was in French and English, but mostly in French. I am sure it was the same way here in Houma.
[Do you remember your father speaking of that as a problem?]
Not really. Occasionally some family would move into Terrebonne Parish from the north. I remember when I was in high school, we had, I had a good friend that came in from Michigan or Minnesota and he thought that the schools were so different over here from what they were in his home state. It was almost unbelievable. He became a Cajun after a while.
[Is there any other points that you would like to mention?]
Not really, unless you have some other questions. My sister is going to try to get some pictures. I know they have some at my mother's home. My sister is going to look them up and I will forward them to you. Now don't get into banking, because banking has change so much since I got into banking.
[Why not?]
I have been in banking forty-five years, ever since I graduated from LSU. In the old days we weren't highly regulated like we are now. A person walking in a bank and apply for a loan, I could just scribble out note across my desk and you did not have to have a lot of back up information. I knew if his name was good or bad. I would make a credit judgment and that was it. Today we are so highly regulated with various government regulations, that it is a constantly changing industry. I am not going into detail on that.
[You can talk about banking; we are not limited to education here. That is something that some people are interested about.]
I will give you an example of Terrebonne Parish. In 1937 when I started in banking, I remember at the Citizens Bank and Trust Company, which is the fore runner of the First National Bank of Houma. We were not a million dollar bank yet. Our total resources were 950 thousand and today that bank is between 250 and 300 million. I was the seventh or eighth employee in the bank. We did everything. Now banking is more specialized. You have somebody working as a loan officer, somebody working as a teller, their paths don't cross. The economy has been excellent in Terrebonne Parish. This new institution, two and a half years old, today our bottom line is around thirty million. This has been the goal up to a few months back, when the recession hit. It hit us like everybody else, because this area is so highly dependent on the oil industry.
[Did the banking industry grow from the inside or outside here? In the beginning was it local people who made a bank or people who moved in made the bank?]
No, the two large banks in Houma are the First National Bank and Terrebonne Bank and Trust Company. The Terrebonne Bank and Trust Company was founded in 1910. It is the oldest institution in Terrebonne Parish. The First National Bank or its forerunner was in 1919. At a later date the American Bank opened and they are now about 10 or 12 years old. Some seven years ago, the Progressive Bank opened. Two years ago, we opened. I can't find my bank directory. I could give you exact dates. In 1937 the First National Bank had possibly a million and the Terrebonne Bank two and a half million. There were about three and a half million total resources between the two banks.

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[It took the Terrebonne bank twenty-five years to pass you?]
You can't make that kind of comparison, apples and oranges -. I wish I could find my book. Here it is. The American Bank opened in 1964, so they are 18 years old. Their total resources are around seventy-eight million. The Progressive Bank opened in 1974 and their total assets in the spring of 1982 were seventy-five and a half million.
[You have been with the bank since 1937?]
Yes.
[It must have been the very beginning of the oil, was it a factor?]
Well the oil industry, opened up Barre Field around 1928 – 1930. That is when they began exploring, and brought some wells in, in 1930.
[They did their banking locally?]
No, all those oil companies are either in Houston, Atlanta or New York. The local banks received deposits from businesses that support the oil industry.
[When was the first time some local fellow came in and said I have a great idea, I can do a service to the oil companies?]
The banks in this area were really too small to get too involved with the large loans that were required by the oil companies.
[I am not thinking about big oil, I am thinking like crew boats.]
Oh yeah, we got involved in that real quick.
[When?]
I would say in the early 1930's, before I was in the bank. I think that when I joined the bank in 1937, we had some accounts for crew boats, work boats and a couple of tugs, maybe. The loans in those days were pretty small in comparison to what is required now.
[One crew boat today would require all the assets you have.]
Not only that, the boat builders and construction people, the service companies.
[Over the years, was the bank generally owned by local people?]
Up until a few months ago, all banks in Houma were local stockholders primarily. One bank just recently has been acquired by the Allied Bank in Houston. The stockholders live out of town. That is getting to be a trend throughout the nation. The big banks are trying to buy out the small banks. Someday somebody will be knocking on the door, trying to buy us up. I am not going to be here much longer, I am sixty-nine years old and my days are numbered in the banking industry, but my stock is not for sale.
[How are the banks doing now?]
We are riding out the recession real well. But actually it is like a depression, there are so many businesses that are going out, going bankrupt or liquidating. They can't fight it out. Everything is so different, up until a year ago. Now we have problems.
[Do you find yourself owning boats?]
We have been very fortunate, we have charged off some loans, not large. We had one or two bankruptcies that ended in Bankruptcy court. Hopefully we will recover most of our money that we loaned out. It is not the people's fault. They thought the good days would just continue. From time to time, but - . I know a fellow had a beautiful business going, a new business, a machine shop. He had quite an investment in it. I made a loan on a lathe, but he didn't have too much down payment, so I took additional security, a mortgage on his house, as additional collateral. I know we can't lose anything, but I certainly don't want to take the man's house. His business is down, down, down. We are going to work it out.

WARREN BOURGEOIS ORAL HISTORY TAPE

[Beyond the oil industry, do you do a lot of business with shrimp boats?]
Through the years, I would say yes. They don't have too much of that type of paper when I came here. In the old days, they use to make crop liens, farm lands and all that kind of stuff. That has pretty well phased out. This is most likely because most of the farmable land in Terrebonne Parish was owned by the South Coast Corporation and South Down Sugars, big people. The small farmer has disappeared.
[You didn't deal with big corporations?]
At one of the banks I was with, we had some deposits from those people operations. Terrebonne Bank had the other one. Most of it was done at the big money centers.
[What about development?]
Not with this bank, but the other band developed subdivisions and that sort of thing.
[It must have been a boom.]
Oh yeah, the building boom lasted ten or twelve years. It made Houma almost double in size. Some of the people moving into Houma couldn't find a house to rent. The contractors got together and they started building houses. They built plenty of them. Summerfield Subdivision sprung up overnight, you might say. That subdivision can't be ten years old, just about ten years old. You know the number of houses in South Down West, Summerfield and all that area and the other areas surrounding Houma, between Houma and Thibodaux there a lot of subdivisions, a lot of homes have been built in that area.
[Did the banking industry get a lead in that?]
We got involved in it, but I don't know if we got a lead. They pushed it pretty good. I can't give you a tract record on this bank, because we are such a new bank.
[Speak in general terms.]
I prefer not to get too involved, with other banks.
[You don't have to mention names; we are speaking in general about the banks.]
Oh yeah, but it doesn't bother me at all.
[You would think that a banker would contact a contractor, instead of the contactor contacting the banker.]
I think bankers got involved in it. I know I did.
[How do banks generally organize? Is it just a few shareholders?]
Well, the first thing you have to do is be able to get a charter. This is a state bank, now you have to prove to the state banking department, that there is room or need for another bank in the community. To get the charter, you are pretty well on the way. The state department of FDIC come and makes a survey. Find out whether or not they think that there is room for another bank. They look and see what the chances of it being successful, and after a while, you get the charter or are assured of a charter. Then you go out and sell stock to individuals. Of course, you were beating the bushes before the charter was issued, trying to get pledges for stock, which we did, for the sale of stock. We capitalized at, a capital structure of two million dollars. One million in capitol, 500 thousand in surplus, and 500 thousand in undivided profits. The first six months we were not in operation, we opened on June the 30th; we had to catch back the pre-opening expenses. With four or five people employed by the banking organization, and there is a lot of other expenses. The first six months that we were in operation, we trying to catch back what we lost before the bank opened. Since that time we have developed our undivided profits now, now this is a new bank. Our capital stock is still at one million, our surplus is over 500 thousand and our undivided profit is one million and one thousand. In other words, we made 500 thousand in two and a half years, paid income tax on it. But that is not the whole thing, we had reserves. We had reserves for possible loan losses, because we had two million, 10 thousand in that. In other words we take as much as they allow you to and put it in reserve for loan losses, that way you don't have to pay income tax.
[That don't sound right.]
We put as much as we could in that area.

WARREN BOURGEOIS ORAL HISTORY TAPE

[How many common shareholders are there?]
We had about 380 or something like that. We spent one million, 100 thousand on the building, and we had to make some money to pay for it.
[I imagine so. You are going to keep the one in front?]
No we will move that off, we are trying to sell it right now. It is mobile, it is two trailers there.
[Well do you have any other areas of expertise?]
No.
[Are you a fisherman?]
Do you have any other Harvard graduates that you went to school with?
[There was a woman from Larose.].
A woman?
[Yes.]
I remember when Harvard was strictly a man's school.
[She is back in school now, going to Yale.]
She will be a graduate of Harvard and Yale; she will have pretty good credentials, won't she?
[Well I guess this is about it.}
This tape is off now?
[No, it is still running.] End of recording

Warren Bourgeois, past banker, is dead at 80

By BUSH BERNARD
The Courier Jan. 20, 1994

Warren Bourgeois, known as Mr. Boo to those who worked with him during his more than 40 years as a banker in Houma, died at 2:45 p.m. Thursday from complications asspciated with diabetes and pnuemonia.

Bourgeois, 80, worked for First National Bank of Houma as a vice president for most of his adult life, retiring in 1979. He was South Louisiana Bank's founding president a year later and stayed with the bank until 1985, when he retired again.

"He was kind and compassionate. Everyone at the bank loved him," said Jo Anne Plessala, who worked with Bourgeois at both banks.

She said Bourgeois was liked and respected by his employees.

"They called him Mr. Boo. I'm sure everyone at the bank had a soft spot in their heart for him," she said.

"He always put other people first," said Chuck Weaver, president of South Louisiana Bank, who said he knew Bourgeois all of his life.

"He put the community, the employees and the customers first. He never did it for (personal) gain. He always did what was right."

"One of the most admirable things about Mr. Bourgeois was he was always a person of high character, high moral standards. He was just incorruptable," Weaver said.

Bourgeois, who served in the Army during World War II, was active in community affairs, serving in several organizations, including the Knights of Columbus, Lions and Veterans of Foreign Wars. He also served on the Terrebonne Parish School Board from 1962 to 1982, when he retired from the board.

Bourgeois was a native of Convent. His father, H.L. Bourgeois, for whom the high school in Gray is named, was a longtime superintendent of schools for Terrebonne Parish.

Visitation will be from 6 to 9 p.m. today and from 9 a.m. until funeral time Saturday at Chauvin Funeral Home.


Warren Bourgeois

Funeral services are scheduled for 11 a.m. Saturday at St. Gregory Catholic Church in Houma with burial in St. Francis de Sales No. 2 Cemetery.

He is survived by his sons, David A. Bourgeois of Houma and Warren H. Bourgeois Jr. of Tampa, Fla.; a sister, Gertrude M. Bourgeois of Houma; a brother, L. Vernon Bourgeios of Houma; and two grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Melba Vickers Bourgeois; parents, H. L. Bourgeois and Gertrude Lajaune Bourgeois; brothers, Marion and Donald Bourgeois; and a grandchild.

The family requests that donations be made to the American Diabetes Association, 3540 South I-10 Suite 301, Metairie, La., 70001.

WARREN BOURGEOIS ORAL HISTORY TAPE
Transcribed by Philip Chauvin, Jr.

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO

By Susan Caro Dupre

Digging Potatoes with Paw Paw Caro

One of my favorite childhood memories with my Grandfather, Morris Caro was "digging potatoes". My Grandfather was known as Paw Paw to all the grandchildren and great-grandchildren. My Paw Paw had one son and three daughters who were married and had children. Usually at the end of May our families would gather together in the field behind Paw Paw's house on lower Bayou Blue to dig potatoes. The family would meet late in the afternoon following school and work. This was the time when we could all come together to help Paw Paw harvest his potatoes.

Paw Paw would plow open the rows with his red, Farmall 100 tractor; thereby turning up the red-skinned, garden potatoes. The family would gather potatoes from one end of a row to the other. There were about a dozen rows, each approximately 200 feet in length. Generally, it took the family about three hours to collect all the potatoes.

The potatoes were harvested easily. When the family began to dig potatoes in the field, one could hear the chatter of cousins, parents giving directions, and the joyous laughter of children. The children would be bare-footed most of the time as they walked, ran, or played in the rows. The warm earth was felt under their feet and between their toes. Their hands became caked with brown, soil as they picked potatoes one by one or dug them from the dark, lumpy, plowed up earth. Family members had to contend with red ants and fuzzy, black caterpillars. The red potatoes were collected in crates, or whatever was available, and were later transferred into burlap sacks.

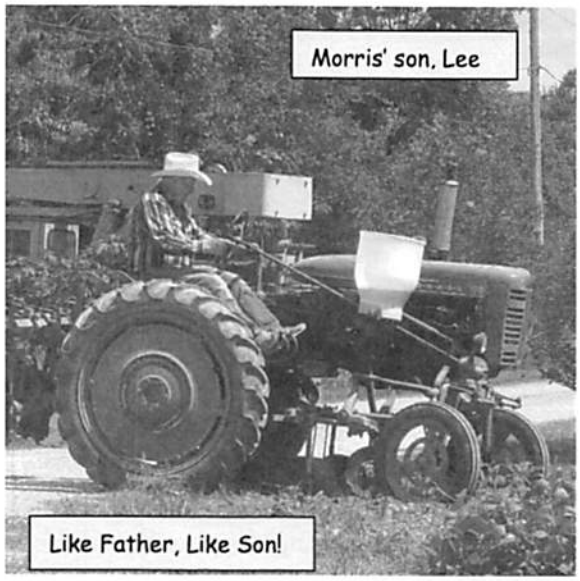
Then, the harvest would be shared with all Paw Paw's family. Some potatoes were stored in Paw Paw's barn for use during the coming months, while others were taken home by each of the families. Later, the women were responsible for preparing delicious meals with the fresh, garden potatoes. The potatoes were cooked in various manners. They were fried, smothered with onions, or boiled with ham. After mealtime, adults would frequently be heard saying in French "ca c'est bon" meaning that's good.

As the granddaughter of Morris Caro, I have thought about this special childhood memory of "digging potatoes", and realize that the experience with Paw Paw had been a gift. We learned teamwork and cooperation, how to harvest what was grown and then to eat well, a cheerful enjoyment of life (translated as "joie de vie" in French), and we gained knowledge about a family tradition. The experience with Paw Paw also provided a lifelong lesson. The lesson being, if you work hard you will reap a myriad of blessings.

Farming had been a tradition of the Caro family for six generations. My Grandfather, Morris had been a farmer, and he had learned farming from his Father, Etienne. Etienne had learned from Jean, his Father. Morris' son, Lee continued the tradition and passed on the love of farming to his sons, and daughters as well as his grandchildren and the great-grandchildren.

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO By Susan Caro Dupre, the daughter of Lee Caro, granddaughter of Morris Caro, great-granddaughter of Etienne Caro, and Great-great-granddaughter of Jean Carreau

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO



My Grandfather

My Grandfather, Morris John Caro was born on September 22, 1908 in Houma, Louisiana (LA). [1] Early records identified Morris as Maurice (the French translation). He was the youngest child of Etienne Arthur Carro and Natalie Fedora Crochet.

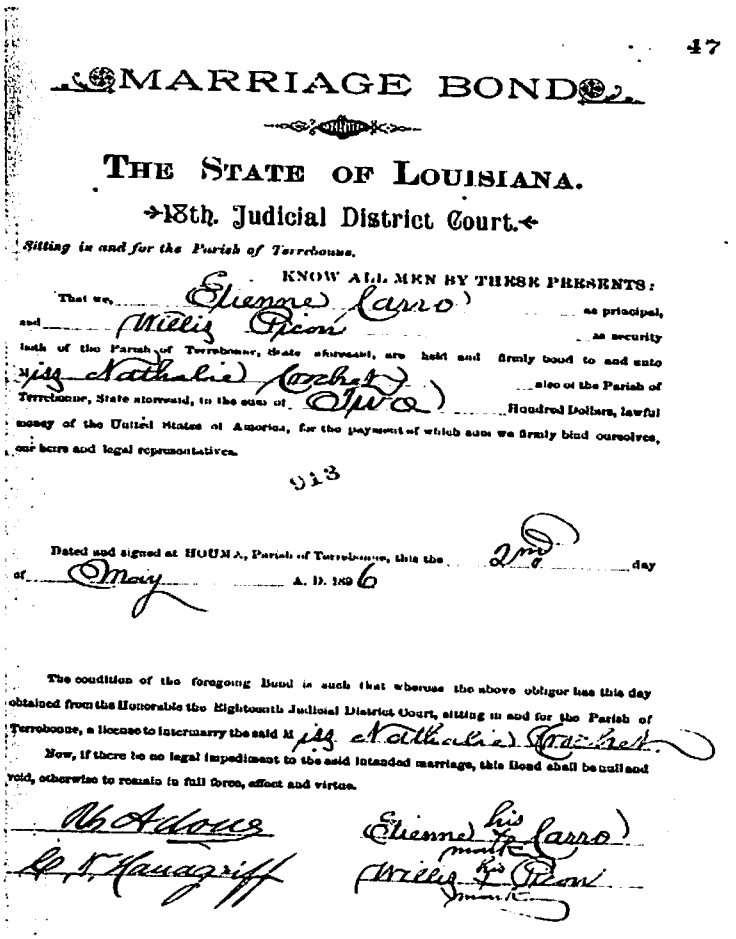
Etienne Carro was born on January 24, 1869 in Terrebonne Parish [2] and was one of fourteen children. [3] Lee Caro Sr. had been told by his Father, Morris that Etienne was probably born on Ashland plantation where Etienne's Father, Jean Carreau had worked as a cooper (barrel maker).[4] Etienne married Natalie Crochet on May 2, 1896.[5] Natalie Crochet was born on June 1, 1876, and was the daughter of Joseph Crochet and Marie Marcel.[6]

Natalie Fedora Crochet and Etienne Arthur Carro

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO By Susan Caro Dupre, the daughter of Lee Caro, granddaughter of Morris Caro, great-granddaughter of Etienne Caro, and Great-great-granddaughter of Jean Carreau

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO

A marriage bond was posted at Terrebonne Parish Courthouse on the same day of Etienne and Natalie's marriage.[7] During the 1700s and early 1800s, marriage bonds were commonplace in the United States of America.[8] The bond indicated an intention to marry and designated an amount of money to be paid in the event that the marriage did not take place.



47

MARRIAGE BOND

THE STATE OF LOUISIANA.

18th. Judicial District Court.

Sitting in and for the Parish of Terrebonne.

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

That we, Etienne Caro as principal, and Willis Picou as security both of the Parish of Terrebonne, State aforesaid, are held and firmly bound to and unto Miss Nathalie Crochet also of the Parish of Terrebonne, State aforesaid, in the sum of Two Hundred Dollars, lawful money of the United States of America, for the payment of which sum we firmly bind ourselves, our heirs and legal representatives.

013

Dated and signed at HOUMA, Parish of Terrebonne, this the 2nd day of May A. D. 1896

The condition of the foregoing Bond is such that whereas the above obligor has this day obtained from the Honorable the Eighteenth Judicial District Court, sitting in and for the Parish of Terrebonne, a license to intermarry the said Miss Nathalie Crochet

Now, if there be no legal impediment to the said intended marriage, this Bond shall be null and void, otherwise to remain in full force, effect and virtue.

W. A. Adams — Etienne his X mark Caro

L. T. Hauzgriff — Willis his X mark Picou

In 1897, Etienne purchased 4 arpents of land on the right descending bank of Bayou Blue for $225 dollars (See Table 2).[9] The 1910 census noted that Etienne was living in Ward 5 on a home farm. At the age of 41, Etienne owned his home, and had no mortgages. Etienne's native tongue was French. He could not read or write. Etienne and Natalie had three children (Mary Jane, dau, age 11; Ernest, dau, age 8; and Maurice, son, age 1). Family members and multiple supporting documents substantiate that Ernest was actually Armance, a daughter. [10]The 1930 census noted that Etienne was a farmer and widowed. He could speak English, had no radio, and Maurice was the only family member living with him. [11] The 1940 census noted that Etienne was 71 and widowed. He lived with his son, Morris and family. Etienne had never attended school.

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO

Natalie Crochet died at the age of 47 on August 24, 1923.[12] The cause of her death was chronic interstitial nephritis, cardiac disease, and diabetes.[13] Etienne died at the age of 82 on July 22, 1951 at his Bayou Blue home.[14] He had bronchiectasis (lung disease) for 15 years and the etiology of his death was generalized cancer.[15] Etienne was buried at the Matherne Cemetery in Bayou Blue.

STATE OF LOUISIANA CERTIFICATE OF DEATH STATE FILE No. 9 472

PERSONAL DATA OF DECEASED: Caro | Ettienne | Arthur | DATE OF DEATH 7/22/51 11:30 P.M.
Male | White | Widowed | Natalie Crochet
Jan. 24, 1869 | Terrebonne | Louisiana
Farmer | Farm

PLACE OF DEATH: Bayou Blue (Rural) | Terrebonne | Life
Bayou Blue Rte. | None

USUAL RESIDENCE OF DECEASED: Bayou Blue (Rural) | Terrebonne | La.
Bayou Blue Rte., Houma, La. | USA

PARENTS: John Caro | France | Adele Ordineaux | Donaldsonville, La.

INFORMANT'S CERTIFICATION: 7/23/51

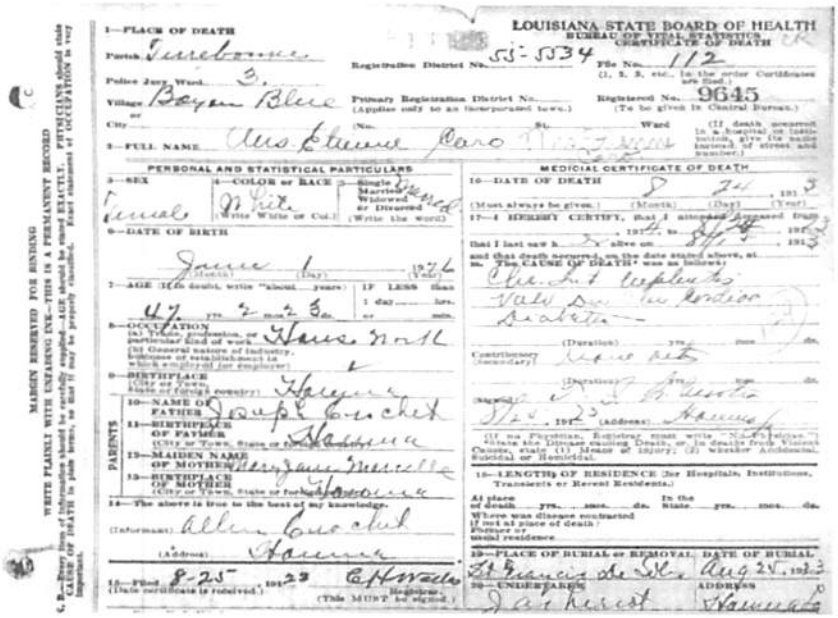
CAUSE OF DEATH: Generalized Carcinomatosis
Bronchiectasis 15 yrs.

DEATHS DUE TO EXTERNAL VIOLENCE

PHYSICIAN'S CERTIFICATION: 7/23/51

FUNERAL DIRECTOR'S CERTIFICATION: 7/24/51 | Matherne, Bayou Blue

BURIAL TRANSIT PERMIT: 381 | Terrebonne | 7/25/51



LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS
CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

1—PLACE OF DEATH: Parish Terrebonne | Registration District No. 55-5534 | File No. 112 | Police Jury Ward 3 | Village Bayou Blue | Primary Registration District No. | Registered No. 9645 | City | Ward

2—FULL NAME: Mrs Etienne Caro

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS
3—SEX: Female | 4—COLOR or RACE: White | 5—Single, Married, Widowed or Divorced: Widowed
6—DATE OF BIRTH: June 1 1876
7—AGE: 47 yrs. 2 mos. 23 ds.
8—OCCUPATION: Farm work
9—BIRTHPLACE: Houma
10—NAME OF FATHER: Joseph Crochet
11—BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER: Houma
12—MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER: Marie Jane Marville
13—BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER: Houma
14—The above is true to the best of my knowledge. (Informant) Allen Crochet (Address) Houma
15—Filed 8-25 1923 (Date certificate is received.) C. A. Wade (Registrar) (This MUST be signed.)

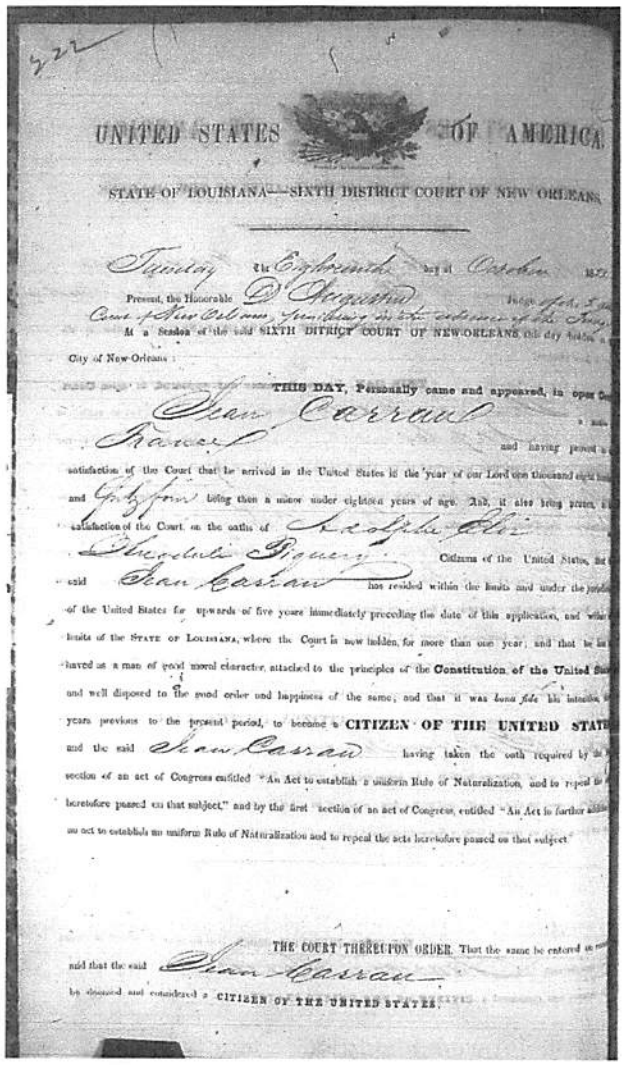
MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH
16—DATE OF DEATH 8 24 1923 (Month) (Day) (Year)
17—I HEREBY CERTIFY, that I attended deceased from 1921 to 1923 that I last saw h. alive on 1923 and that death occurred on the date stated above, at
18—The CAUSE OF DEATH was as follows: Chr. Int. nephritis Vals. Dis. in Pericar. Diabetes
(Duration) yrs. mos. ds.
Contributory (Secondary)
(Duration) yrs. mos. ds.
Signed J. A. Lirette M.D. 8/24 1923 (Address) Houma
(If no Physician, Registrar must write "None.") State the Disease causing Death, or in deaths from Violent Causes, state (1) Means of Injury; (2) whether Accidental, Suicidal or Homicidal.
19—LENGTH OF RESIDENCE (for Hospitals, Institutions, Transients or Recent Residents.) At place of death yrs. mos. ds. In the State yrs. mos. ds.
Where was disease contracted if not at place of death? Father or usual residence
20—PLACE OF BURIAL or REMOVAL: St Francis de Sales | DATE OF BURIAL: Aug 25 1923
21—UNDERTAKER: Jas Herbert | ADDRESS: Houma

MARGIN RESERVED FOR BINDING
WRITE PLAINLY WITH UNFADING INK—THIS IS A PERMANENT RECORD

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO By Susan Caro Dupre, the daughter of Lee Caro, granddaughter of Morris Caro, great-granddaughter of Etienne Caro, and Great-great-granddaughter of Jean Carreau

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO

Jean Carreau, Etienne's Father was born in Northwest France in the Church Parish of Plounez on June 4, 1828.[16,17] Jean's parents were Joseph Carreau and Anna LeRider. According to Lee Caro Sr. as had been told by his Father, Jean had been a whaler in France.[4] Jean's naturalization papers state that he arrived in 1844 and he was granted full United States citizenship on October 18, 1853.[18]



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

STATE OF LOUISIANA—SIXTH DISTRICT COURT OF NEW ORLEANS

Tuesday the Eighteenth day of October

Present, the Honorable D'Aubigny

City of New-Orleans:

THIS DAY, Personally came and appeared, in open Court

Jean Carreau

France

satisfaction of the Court that he arrived in the United States in the year of our Lord one thousand eight

and being then a minor under eighteen years of age. And, it also being proven to

satisfaction of the Court, on the oaths of

Citizens of the United States, that

said Jean Carreau has resided within the limits and under the jurisdiction

of the United States for upwards of five years immediately preceding the date of this application, and within the

limits of the STATE OF LOUISIANA, where the Court is now holden, for more than one year; and that he has

behaved as a man of good moral character, attached to the principles of the Constitution of the United States

and well disposed to the good order and happiness of the same; and that it was bona fide his intention, five

years previous to the present period, to become a CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES

and the said Jean Carreau having taken the oath required by the

section of an act of Congress entitled "An Act to establish a uniform Rule of Naturalization, and to repeal the

heretofore passed on that subject," and by the first section of an act of Congress, entitled "An Act to further amend

an act to establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization and to repeal the acts heretofore passed on that subject."

THE COURT THEREUPON ORDER, That the same be entered on

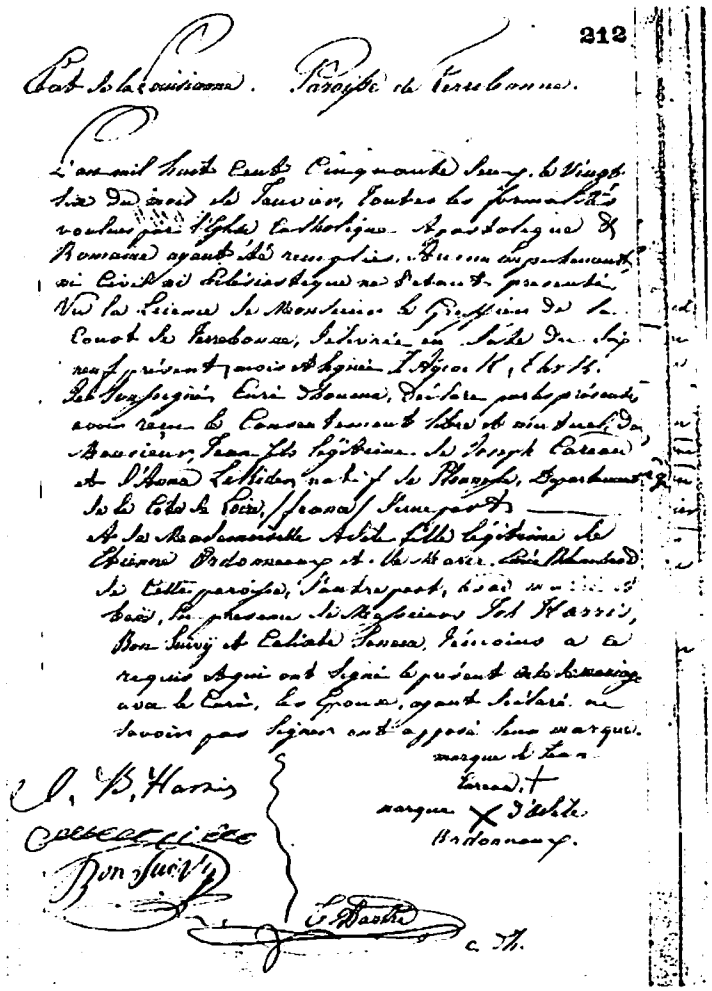
and that the said Jean Carreau

be deemed and considered a CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES.

One record indicates that J. Carreau arrived on March 15, 1855 in New Orleans on the ship, Arendal and he was identified as a mechanic.[19] However, this information is questionable due to the fact that Jean was married and had 3 children by 1855. Jean married Adele Ordonneau at St. Francis De Sales Catholic Church on January 26, 1852 in Houma, LA.[20] Their

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO

marriage document was in French.[21] Adele Ordonneau was born on May 6, 1834 in Napoleonville and was the daughter of Etienne Ordonaux and Marie Emee Blanchard.[22]



According to the 1860 Census of Terrebonne Parish, Jean Carreau (John Carraux) was a farmer.[23] His Father was born in France. John was 32 years old, and his wife, Adele was 26. John, Adele and their four children (Cyprien, age 7, male student; Joseph, age 6, male student; Alvina, age 4, female and Adela, age 1, female) were identified as family 9, and all were born in Louisiana. The probable identity of Alvina was Olivia Carraux who was born December 9, 1856. Also, the probable identity of Adela was Elfrida Adela who born August 18, 1858. John and Adele could not read or write. They owned $300 in real estate, and $300 in personal possessions.

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO

Louisiana › Terrebonne › Ward 12

Page No. 2

SCHEDULE 1.—Free Inhabitants in 12th Ward in the County of Terrebonne State of Louisiana enumerated by me, on the 4th day of June 1860. E. B. Guidry Asst Marshal

Post Office Houma La.

Dwelling-houses numbered in the order of visitation.	Families numbered in the order of visitation.	The name of every person whose usual place of abode on the first day of June, 1860, was in this family.	Age.	Sex.	Color, white, black, or mulatto.	Profession, Occupation, or Trade of each person, male and female, over 15 years of age.	Value of Real Estate.	Value of Personal Estate.	Place of Birth, Naming the State, Territory, or Country.	Married within the year.	Attended School within the year.	Persons over 20 years of age Can not read.	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper, or convict.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
		Désiré	5	M					Do.				
		Elvina	2	F					Do.				
9	9	John Carrau	32	M		Farmer	1200	1200	France			1	
		Adele	26	F					La.			1	
		Cyprien	9	M					Do.		1		
		Joseph	6	M					Do.				
		Alvina	4	F					Do.				
		Adela	1	F					Do.				

[24]Jean enlisted for the Civil War on April 8, 1862 under Captain Albert G. Cage, owner of Ashland Plantation. The Civil War began April 12, 1862 when the Confederates bombarded Fort Sumter in Charlestown harbor, South Carolina. [25] According to Bergeron, Cage organized an independent Lafourche Company (Darden Rangers) in Thibodaux, LA. [26] The company moved to Memphis Tennessee, and became part of Wirt Adams' Regiment Cavalry which was also called the 1st Mississippi. It became the 2nd Company F, Wood's Regiment (Confederate) Calvary. [27]Booth notes that Wood's Regiment was not a LA regiment; but was considered a Confederate regiment. It was comprised of many companies from several states including LA. One explanation for the name changes is that as men died, the cavalry had to regroup and form new units to gain larger groups of soldiers.

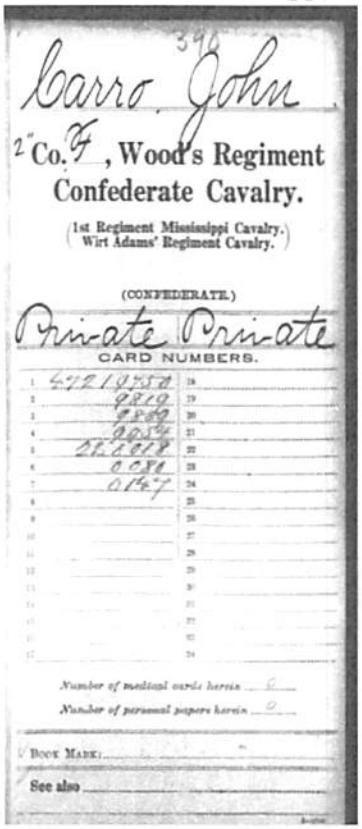
During the Civil War, the soldiers did not have dog tags for identification.[28] Tags did not come about until World War I. The soldiers would scratch their name on a belt buckle, write their name on a piece of paper or clothe that would then be sown into their clothing. The soldiers carried 50 pounds of equipment, wore wool jeans, and the Confederate meal consisted of 2 rations of meat, a thick slice of bacon, 1 biscuit, and 1 spoon of peas. On long marches, the soldiers had hardtack which was a 3 inch square rock hard, tough, flat, bland cracker made of flour, water, and salt. It was unappealing to the soldiers and songs were made about it.

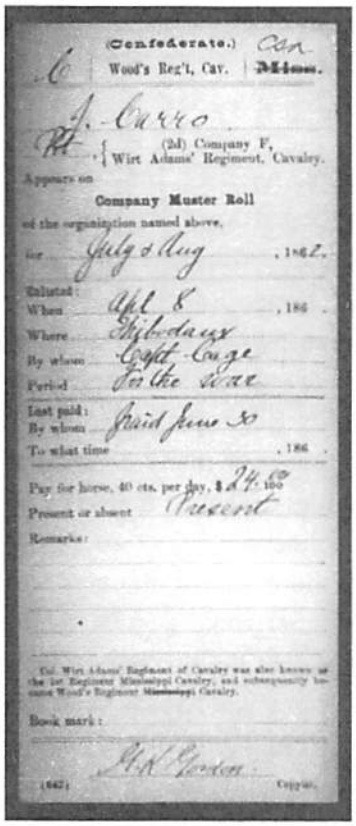
MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO

Water was polluted frequently since Confederate camps were located below the Union camps and water drained downhill. Many died of dysentery, malaria and yellow fever. Dysentery was a bacterial infection that caused severe diarrhea, and it was the single greatest killer of the Civil War soldiers.

Wood's Regiment was not French; subsequently, Jean was listed on the muster rolls as John. [24]John was identified as a private, and Captain Cage's signatures were present on the muster rolls. On the July through August 1862 muster rolls, John received "pay for horse" at 40 cents per day resulting in $24 dollars.

According to Booth, John was present on muster rolls for July 1862 to April 1863.[27] John was detailed as a currier for Lt. General Pemberton on May 15, 1863. John was absent on the muster roll for June 30. [29]Rowland notes that Adam's placed soldiers to protect plantations and observe movements along the Mississippi River. A group of couriers advised the Commander at Vicksburg regarding the federal movements. It is possible that John became a currier in this manner. According to Pemberton's reports, Adam's kept him well informed about federal movement. Historians tell me this is a big deal because Lt. Pemberton was defeated at Vicksburg. John continued to be present on the muster rolls for July 1863 to Oct. 1863. John had been a soldier for approximately a year and a half.





MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO By Susan Caro Dupre, the daughter of Lee Caro, granddaughter of Morris Caro, great-granddaughter of Etienne Caro, and Great-great-granddaughter of Jean Carreau

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO

Jean did return home. Lee Caro Sr. remembered being told a story about a young boy who had called out to his Mother, " MaMa' MaMa' there is a Yankee coming!" [4] The man was a long bearded individual returning home from the Civil War. It is believed that the boy was one of Jean's children and the man was Jean. The most cited date for the end of the Civil War has been April 8, 1965. [30]Post war records regarding Jean could not be found. [28] Stafford with State Archives in Baton Rouge could not locate a pension at the state level. No discharge or parole records were found during a visit to the Vicksburg Cemetery and Old Courthouse Museum. Records were often difficult to locate because as the war ended, the soldiers would just return home.

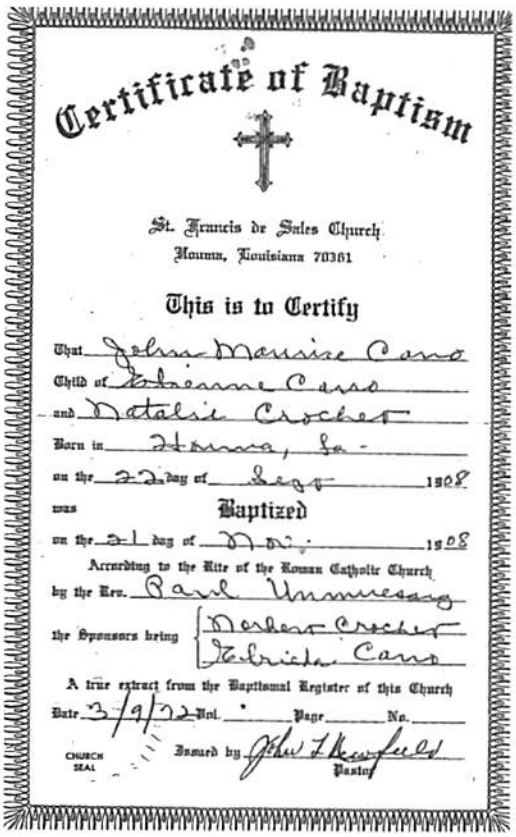
According to historians, our ancestors in LA had a difficult life after the war. The union government was in charge and LA was under Marshall Law until 1878. Perhaps, this was the reason for being unable to locate the 1870 Census for John Carraux.

[31]In 1872, John purchased property in lower Bayou Blue from Raymond Knight. One hundred nineteen acres were bought for $1200 dollars. [32]The 1880 Census of Terrebonne Parish, noted that John Carreau was from France, resided in Ward 3-outside city of Houma at dwelling number 387, and that he was a 52 year old farmer. His spouse Adele was 48 years old and a housekeeper. The eleven children living with them were identified as follows: Joseph, a 27 year old single, son and laborer; Oliver, a 24 year old single, son at school; Adele, a 22 year old single, daughter at home; Aimee, daughter of 20, single and at home; John, a 18 year old single, son and laborer; Marie, a daughter of 15 and at school; Eva, a daughter of 10 and at school; Lee, a son of 7 and at school; Louise, a daughter of 6 and at school; Eugene, a son of 4; and Jennie, a daughter of 1. The probable identity of Oliver was Olivia, a 24 year old daughter. Other members in dwelling number 387 included Edwin C. Belanger, a 38 year old clerk, and his 34 year old wife, Marie Eudora who kept house, and their five children. Taylor Porche, a 25 year old widower and laborer as well as his 2 young children were also in the residence.

Jean died at age 60 on July 14, 1888 due to a accidental drowning.[33] According to the coroner's report, on July 7, 1888 John Caro (French translation Jean Carreau) left his home on Bayou Blue in a small pirogue. He went to Lockport. Upon his return home that same evening and under the influence of liquor, he fell out of his pirogue in a Lockport canal connecting Lake Long to Bayou Blue.[34] At the time of death, he may have been residing on property he had purchased earlier from Raymond Knight. Jean's wife, Adele died November 17, 1920 at home in Terrebonne Parish according to an affidavit.[35] Jean and his wife were buried at St Francis De Sales Cemetery # 1 in Houma, LA.

My grandfather, Morris John Caro was baptized on November 21, 1908 at St. Francis De Sales Church in Houma.[36] Sponsors on the Baptism Certificate were Elfrieda Carro (an Aunt) and Norbert Crochet (an Uncle). According to Lee Caro Sr., Morris' Godmother was Lousiana (Lousian) Crochet, daughter of Norbert Crochet.[4]

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO



Certificate of Baptism

St. Francis de Sales Church
Houma, Louisiana 70361

This is to Certify

That John Maurice Caro
Child of Etienne Caro
and Natalie Crochet
Born in Houma, La.
on the 22 day of Sept 1898
was Baptized
on the 21 day of Nov. 1898
According to the Rite of the Roman Catholic Church
by the Rev. Paul Unmuessing
the Sponsors being Herbert Crochet
Fabricia Caro
A true extract from the Baptismal Register of this Church
Date 3/9/22 Vol. Page No.
CHURCH SEAL Issued by John T. Kenfield Pastor

Clement and Mary Jane

Morris was the only son of Etienne Carro, but he had two sisters. Mary Jane, "Jenny" Caro was born July 10, 1898 in Houma, LA and baptized on September 3, 1898 according to the Birth and Baptism Record of the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux.[37] However, the birth date engraved on her tomb stone is July 10, 1900. She married Clement Vital Rogers, son of Clebert Rogers and Marie Richaud on February 28, 1924 in Houma, LA by city judge.[38] The children of Mary Jane were Clement "Too-Too" Leon Rogers (m. Ellen Savoie) born in Barataria, LA., Hazel Rogers (m. J. C. Boudreaux), and Pearl Rogers (m. Andrew Bourg). According to the certificate of death, Mary Jane died January 26, 1950 due to having chronic nephritis for 10 years and hypertension (high blood pressure) for fifteen years.[39] Lee Caro Sr. and Caroline Caro Matherne recollect that Tante (English translation is Aunt) Jenny had leukemia.[4,40] The death certificate did not mention a history of

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO

leukemia. In addition, the certificate of death indicated that Mary Jane was born on July 10, 1900; however, the church records indicated her birth was in 1898. She was buried next to her Father, Etienne Caro at the Matherne Cemetery on lower Bayou Blue as evidenced by this author's visit to the grave site (1 Lot 16) on February 12, 2020.

A second sister, Armance Francoise Caro was born February 25, 1902.[41] She had a marriage by city judge (Lic. 576) to Morgan Rogers on November 26, 1923 and later married at St. Ann Catholic Church in Bourg, LA. on March 30, 1924.[42] Clement and Morgan Rogers were two Baptist brothers who married 2 sisters. The children of Armance were Celine Rogers (m. Newton Bergeron), Marie Rogers (m. Reynold Rhodes), and Blanch Rita Rogers. [43]Blanch was born on November 26, 1926 and died when she was only 5 months old. She had been seen by a physician on April 4, 1927 and died on April 8, 1927 as a result of colitis. The informant on the death certificate was Etienne Caro. Caroline recalls that Marie Rogers was her Godmother, and Armance Rogers was the Godmother of Lee Caro Sr. [40]Also, Lee's Godfather was Denis Roger. Armance died at the age of 82 on March 27, 1984 in Terrebonne Parish according to a Houma Courier obituary.[44] A death certificate could not be found for Armance. Armance and her husband Morgan Rogers were buried at the old Rogers-Evest Cemetery on Bayou Blue, LA as evidenced by this author's visit to grave site (E04 Plot 8) on February 12, 2020. The grave site was located near the entry road of the cemetery. The tomb stone for Armance confirmed the date of death in her obituary. Morgan Rogers' tombstone was engraved with a birth date of November 24, 1904 and death date of September 21, 1975.

Early Years

Morris lost his Mother at an early age. Morris was 15 when his Mother died according to dated records.[12] Lee and Caroline believed Morris was 13 at the time of his Mother's death.[4,40] Following the death of his Mother, Morris lived with his Father and two sisters. Armance married three months following her Mother's death, and Mary Jane married a year later.

Morris worked on the family farm most of his younger years. He adapted to farming life early on with hard work from daylight to night fall. Besides working alongside his Father for many years, he also became employed as a farm hand. According to an affidavit dated August 4,

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO

1971, Morris was 62 years old, and a lifelong resident of Bayou Blue since boyhood.[45] The affidavit indicated that Morris worked for Dr. Prentiss Parker at the age of 14 or 15 cultivating land for crops. Lee Caro Sr. recollects that his Father, Morris, stated that he had plowed the field of Dr. Parker and earned 50 cents a day.[4] The property described in this affidavit was purchased by Dr. Parker from Wiley E. Thibodaux on May 24, 1915, and recorded in the Lafourche Parish Clerk's Office in C. B. (conveyance book) No. 46, folio 420. The affidavit further notes that Clement V. Rogers leased the land for a period of time. The land had been cultivated by Dr. Parker, Morris Caro, Clement Rogers, and Lovincy Folse. Later this property became the estate of Lovincy Folse.

Growing up on Bayou Blue was eventful for Morris. Morris related many events to his son, Lee.[4] Morris said that he and his Father, Etienne had gone trapping on Bayou Blue near the family farm, but on the Lafourche side. As they came out of the marsh and stepped into the woods, they were confronted by a sudden hail storm. A barrage of flat, oyster shell-shaped ice began to sail through the air attempting to pierce their flesh. They had to find cover behind the trees until the storm subsided. Upon return to the farm, their clothing was removed, rinsed, and hung outside on the clothes line for drying. The following morning, their clothing was found frozen stiff.

Morris shared another life event with his son, Lee.[4] Morris said that over a period of time many different residents had seen a mysterious white shadow in the Bayou Blue area during dark nights. One evening, Morris was riding his horse with a bull whip at his side, and he saw the white shadow described by others. Morris had recalled seeing a white dog in the area. So, when the white shadow appeared, he reacted by cracking his whip near the shadow. A mournful howl followed from what sounded like a dog. At that moment the mystery had been solved.

Horseback was a common mode of transportation for Morris. Besides carrying a bull whip when on horseback, Morris carried another possession. Morris was known to sling a pair of boxing gloves over his saddle when he visited the village of Bourg.[4] Bourg was four to five miles away from home. The boxing gloves may have been carried to convey strength and to offer or accept a challenge to those passing by.

While in Bourg, Morris would go to the post office to pick up mail. The post office was located in the general mercantile store which was a one room building. Morris also attended mass at St Ann Catholic Church.

Sometime after 1930, Bourg and Bayou Blue became permanently separated by the Intracoastal canal. Land previously used for raising sugar cane became transformed into a navigable canal. First, the Intracoastal canal was routed to the Company Canal and later it was rerouted across Bayou Blue toward Larose. [4] Morris was involved in this endeavor as he worked on a bucket dredge for the purpose of levee containment. The dredge was a device with buckets that scooped material such as mud from the environment and relocated that material to form levees.

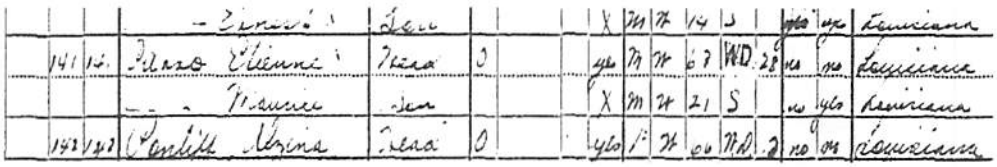
MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO

Morris attended school in Bourg prior to the formation of the Intracoastal canal. He completed 2nd grade and started 3rd grade, which he didn't complete according to Lee Caro Sr.[4] Most likely, Morris did not continue with school because he was needed on the family farm.

Morris' son, Lee also attended the Bourg Elementary School. Lee recalled that his Father as well as himself had been taught by a same school teacher during their early years at the Bourg School. Lee recollected crossing the Intracoastal Canal at the Company Canal to attend school when he was in about 3rd grade. [4] A bus took him to the canal which he then crossed, and a bus on the Bourg side would transport him to school. Lee with two or three other children who were not his siblings would cross the canal in a flat bottom boat with no adults present. Lee stated that he could not swim at the time and did not wear a life vest. Lee remembered a specific event when crossing the canal. He said, a big boat was coming fast. A woman who lived near the canal saw the boat and she was jumping up and down, while steadily waving her hands, and attempting to get the boat captain's attention. Thankfully, all went well.

According to the 1930 census of Terrebonne Parish, Morris (Maurice) was 21 years old and living with his Father, Etienne who was a widower.[46] They resided in Ward 05. Etienne was about 63 and the census stated Etienne's Father was from France.

1930 US Census

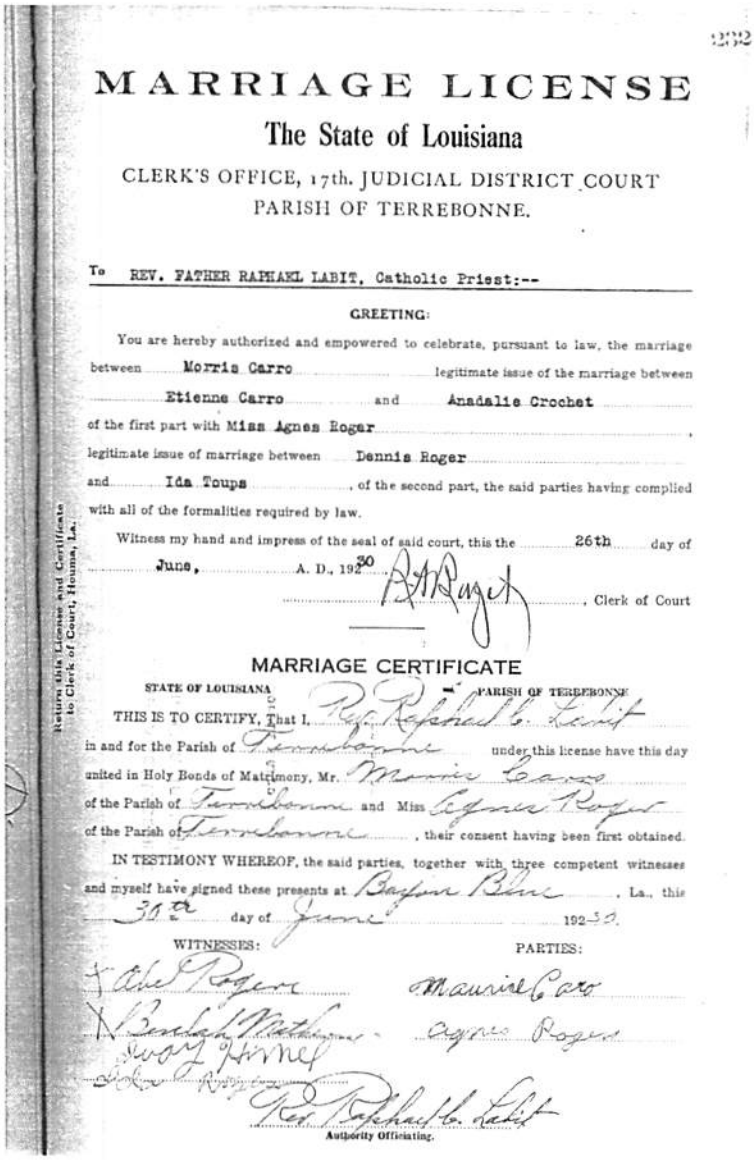


At the age of 22, Morris married Agnes Julie Rogers on June 30, 1930 at St Ann in Bourg, LA.[47] Witnesses were Abel Rogers, Beulah Matherne, Ivay Himel, and Ida Rogers. [48]Signatures on the marriage certificate were Maurice Caro and Agnes Rogers. [49]Agnes was born January 21, 1907 in Lockport, LA and was the daughter of Dennis Rogers Sr. and Ida Toups. [50]Agnes' Father died on November 17, 1927 at age 50. Agnes was 20 years old at that time. [51]Years later, Agnes related to Duane Caro (grandson) that her Father was diagnosed with pneumonia and died quick. Whenever she spoke of her Father, she was sad and it would bring tears to her eyes. Agnes was 23 years old when she married Morris. Agnes told Duane and others that she thought she would be "an old maid,[51] but Morris saved her".

Morris and Agnes Caro

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO By Susan Caro Dupre, the daughter of Lee Caro, granddaughter of Morris Caro, great-granddaughter of Etienne Caro, and Great-great-granddaughter of Jean Carreau

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO



1292

MARRIAGE LICENSE

The State of Louisiana

CLERK'S OFFICE, 17th. JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
PARISH OF TERREBONNE.

To REV. FATHER RAPHAEL LABIT, Catholic Priest:--

GREETING:

You are hereby authorized and empowered to celebrate, pursuant to law, the marriage between Morris Carro legitimate issue of the marriage between Etienne Carro and Anadalie Crochet of the first part with Miss Agnes Roger, legitimate issue of marriage between Dennis Roger and Ida Toups, of the second part, the said parties having complied with all of the formalities required by law.

Witness my hand and impress of the seal of said court, this the 26th day of June, A. D., 1930, Clerk of Court

Return this License and Certificate to Clerk of Court, Houma, La.

MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE

STATE OF LOUISIANA PARISH OF TERREBONNE

THIS IS TO CERTIFY, That I, Rev. Raphael B. Labit in and for the Parish of Terrebonne under this license have this day united in Holy Bonds of Matrimony, Mr. Morris Carro of the Parish of Terrebonne and Miss Agnes Roger of the Parish of Terrebonne, their consent having been first obtained.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the said parties, together with three competent witnesses and myself have signed these presents at Bayou Blue, La., this 30th day of June 1930.

WITNESSES: PARTIES:

Ida Rogers Maurice Caro

N. Bendel Mathews Agnes Rogers

Ivory Hymel

Lee Rogers

Rev. Raphael B. Labit
Authority Officiating.

I was unable to determine how Morris and Agnes met; however, they lived in close proximity of one another. Agnes' Father, Dennis Rogers Sr. (French translation was Denis Rogere) purchased land in Lafourche Parish on the left descending bank of Bayou Blue in 1917. [4] The Rogers' family moved to Bayou Blue years later. The Etienne Farm where Morris had grown up was less than a mile from the Rogers' property.

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO By Susan Caro Dupre, the daughter of Lee Caro, granddaughter of Morris Caro, great-granddaughter of Etienne Caro, and Great-great-granddaughter of Jean Carreau

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO

According to Lee Caro Sr., Agnes Rogers was possibly seventeen when the family moved to Bayou Blue from Eagle Island.[4] Eagle Island was an area located between Bayou Blue and Lockport. While Agnes lived in Eagle Island, a paddle boat would sometimes pass through the Barrow canal which was in close proximity to Agnes' home. The paddle boat would sometimes stop and Agnes' family would purchase bananas. Bananas must have been a real delicacy for Agnes' family as she had shared this story with her grandson, Duane Caro.[51]

Agnes and Morris attended the mission Chapel of Saint Sophie on Bayou Blue. [4] According to St. Louis Catholic Church of Bayou Blue history, a tract of land was donated for the mission Chapel.[52] It was constructed in October 1936. Reverend Labit was the priest. The tract of land was located on the Lafourche side of Bayou Blue between the Etienne Carro and Dennis Rogers estates. Morris helped with the building of Saint Sophie.[4] He was also involved in attainment of the Chapel's altar which came from Donaldsonville.[4] Morris' daughter, Mrs. Catherine Foret was a catechism teacher at Saint Sophie. According to the history, many of Morris' family members assisted the priest on the altar. The members included Morris' son, Lee Caro, as well as several of Morris' grandchildren. These grandchildren included James Caro, John Caro, Duane Caro, Micheal Foret, Mitchel Foret, and Brady LeBouef. St. Sofie closed in 1967 and the parishioners transferred to Saint Louis around 1965.

Mission Chapel of St.

Morris and Agnes had 4 children: one son, Lee; twins, Catherine and Caroline; and Dorothy. They were born at home on Bayou Blue.

Morris and Agnes Caro

Agnes, Lee, Catherine, Dorothy, Carolyn, and Morris

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO By Susan Caro Dupre, the daughter of Lee Caro, granddaughter of Morris Caro, great-granddaughter of Etienne Caro, and Great-great-granddaughter of Jean Carreau

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO

[53]Lee Joseph Caro was born on October 7, 1933 in Houma, La. [54]He married Rena Mary Folse, of the Lovency estate mentioned earlier. Rena was the daughter of Lovency (Cank) Pierre Folse and Melodia Marie Blanchard. Lee and Rena were married on February 14, 1953. Lee and Rena had 8 children (Susan, James, John, Duane, Lee Jr., Timothy, Paul, and Jeanie).

John, James, Lee J, Paul, Duane, Tim
Jeanie, Rena, Lee, Susan (left to right)

Lee had numerous jobs over the years.[55] When Lee was fourteen, he worked as a farm hand for his Mother's brother, Uncle Willie Rogers who died in a Doctor's office with asthma. Then at the age of sixteen, he worked as a gas station attendant for Uncle Clement who was the owner of a gas station on Main Street in Houma. At eighteen, Lee was employed by Delta Exploration below Venice, LA on a quarter boat during the Summer of 1950. He was a kitchen worker with the responsibility for making sandwiches, and ice cream using a hand-crank device. At nineteen, Lee worked on the Ray Guidry Farm on Bayou Blue and cared for the cattle, corn crop, and hay from 1953 (year Susan was born) to 1955. At this time, Lee made twenty-five dollars a week to support his family. In 1955, James was born and Lee became a welder helper and then a ship fitter building boats for Pelican Marine. He worked with this company until 1958 with a starting pay of 90 cents an hour, and progressed to $2 an hour.

As Lee's family continued to grow, he was in search of better paying jobs. For a short time in1958, he was a roustabout for Gracie Hellums. Then in 1958 to 1960, Lee worked for Delta Intracoastal Drilling as a welder to plug and abandon dry wells. Next Lee was a welder for Delta Iron Works from 1960 to 1962. Lastly, Lee became fully employed by Benoit's Machine Shop in Houma from 1962 to 2000; subsequently working for Benoit 38 years. First, he was a welder, then a shop foreman, and advanced to a superintendent of heavy construction. When the oilfield slowed down, he went into maintenance and even drove 18 wheelers for Benoit. Lee's wife, Rena was a homemaker. She loved cooking and baking and after taking a few cake decorating classes she purchased a license in 1975 to bake for the public. Caro's Cake Shop was opened. Lee and family built the original cake shop and the several additions that followed. Once retired, Lee assisted in various ways at Caro's Cake Shop.

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO By Susan Caro Dupre, the daughter of Lee Caro, granddaughter of Morris Caro, great-granddaughter of Etienne Caro, and Great-great-granddaughter of Jean Carreau

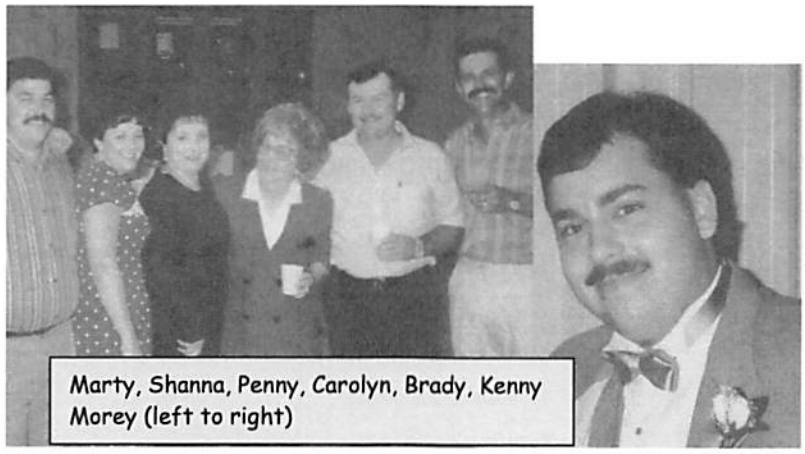
MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO

Lee developed an interest in his family genealogy over many years, and became a member of Terrebonne Genealogical Society. He was the catalyst for his daughter, Susan to join the Society and for her to write the history of his Father, Morris Caro.


Elton, Diane, Mitchel, Eric Micheal, Catherine, Mary Patricia (left to right)

Catherine Marie Caro was the first of the twins to be born on September 3, 1936.[56] She married Elton Joseph Foret Jr., son of Elton Foret and Velma Boyer on February 11, 1953.[57] Catherine and Elton had 6 children (Micheal, Mitchel, Diane, Patricia, Eric, and Mary). Catherine was a homemaker and became a Licensed Practical Nurse. She was employed as a clinic nurse for 45 years. She became a choir member for St. Louis Catholic Church and in later years devoted her life to visiting the sick. Elton died July 29, 2002 at his home due to a massive heart attack.[58] Three years earlier, Elton had a triple heart bypass. The church records indicated that Elton died at age 68 on July 30, 2002.[59] Elton's siblings called him June. He was cremated as per his wishes and buried in a Foret family tomb at St. Mary Church in Raceland, LA.[58] Catherine was married a second time to Earl Anthony Vice, son of Ollie J, Vice and Louise Falgout on December 4, 2002,[60] and they had no children. [61]Earl Vice died April 29, 2017 from generalized cancer.

Caroline May Caro was the second twin born on September 3, 1936.[62] Carol, Carolyn, or Caroline were names used by her family members; however, Caroline was her true name.[40] Caroline married Adrain (Pete) Joseph Leboeuf, son of Emilian LeBoeuf and Julia

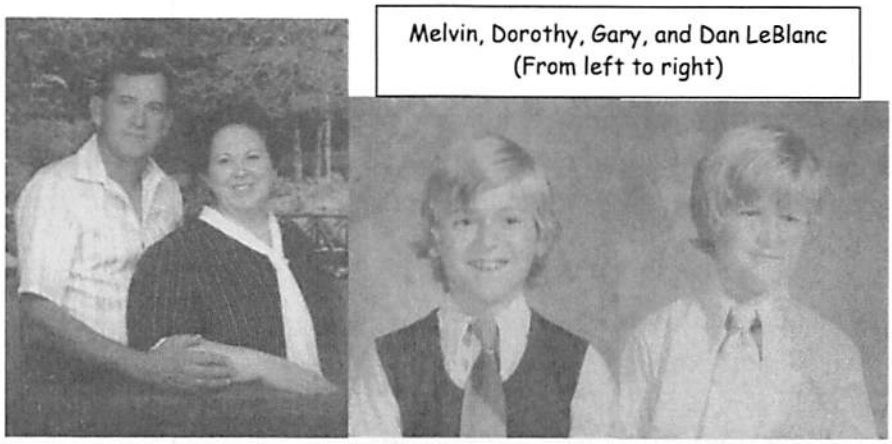

Marty, Shanna, Penny, Carolyn, Brady, Kenny Morey (left to right)

Henri on May 5, 1985.[63] Their son Brady was born. Later, Caroline had a civil marriage to Morris Joseph Labit Jr., son of Morris Joseph Labit on December 5, 1985. Caroline and Morris had 3 children (Shanna, Marty, and Morey). Caroline was a homemaker and later cleaned homes

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO

with great care. She married a third time to Earl (Pete) Joseph Matherne on September 14, 2002 at St. Gertrude in Des Allemands.[65] Earl Matherne died June 4, 2006.[66]

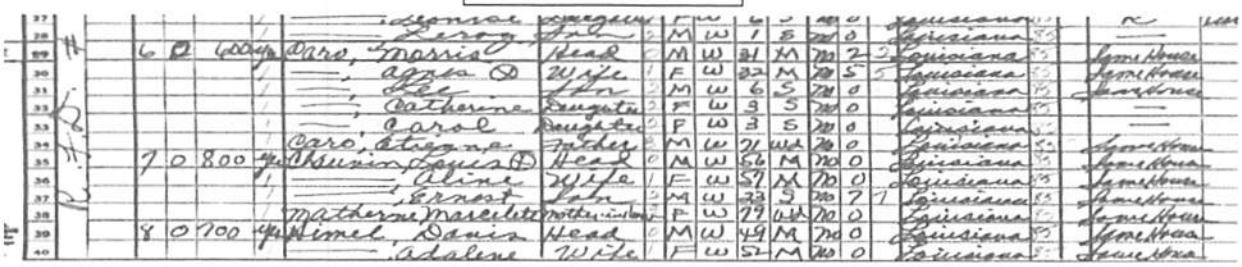
Dorothy Ann Caro was born April 5, 1943.[67] Family members often referred to her as Dot. She married Melvin Paul LeBlanc, son of Armand P. LeBlanc and Pansy Hebert on November 16, 1963.[68] Dorothy and Melvin had two sons (Gary and Dan). Dorothy was a homemaker, baker at Caro's Cake Shop, and a member of the choir at St. Louis Catholic Church. On March 18, 2016, Dorothy passed away peacefully with her loved ones at her bedside at Terrebonne General.[69] She had a history of atrial fibrillation, a leg thrombus (clot), and fibrocystic pulmonary fibrosis.[70] Dorothy was buried at St. Louis Cemetery. Melvin worked for Surbo Tubular Services as a machine shop foreman. He enjoyed fishing and was a member of the Terrebonne Black Bass club and a past president. Melvin died September 15, 1999 of an inoperable, rapid growing brain tumor. [71]



Melvin, Dorothy, Gary, and Dan LeBlanc
(From left to right)

According to the census of 1940, Morris was 31 and living in Ward 5, Bourg, Terrebonne Parish.[72] Living in the household was his wife Agnes (31), Lee (6), Carol, and Catherine (3) and Etienne (71). This census indicated that Morris and Agnes were the same age, but in reality Agnes was older.

1940 US Census

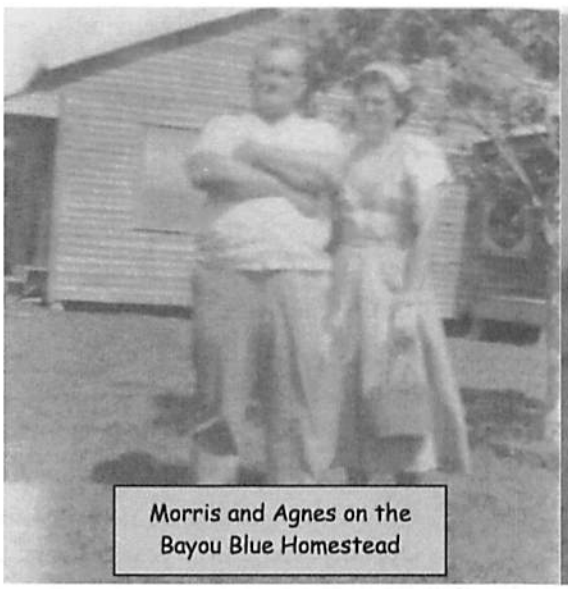


MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO By Susan Caro Dupre, the daughter of Lee Caro, granddaughter of Morris Caro, great-granddaughter of Etienne Caro, and Great-great-granddaughter of Jean Carreau

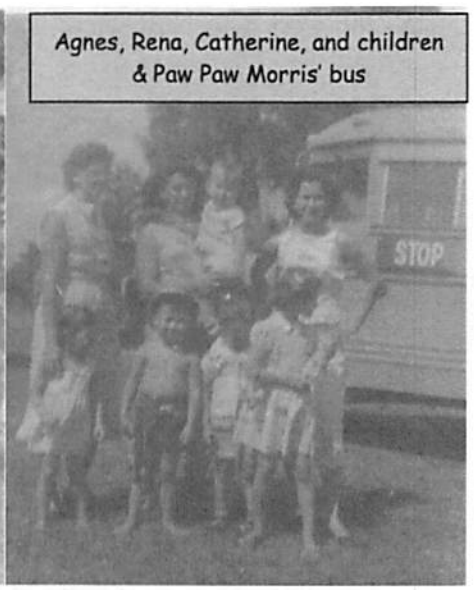
MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO

Morris lived in Bayou Blue the majority of his life. Morris worked the fields with 2 mules named Mandy and Snook. Caroline stated that Mandy was a big mule and Snook was a smaller one. Caroline remembers when Morris was training his mules.[40] Morris hitched the mules to a heavy sled of some sort to practice pulling. According to Lee Caro Sr., Morris bought the two mules from Borne Mule Trading Company probably from Raceland. [4] At that time, Lee recalled that the mules were considered to be very expensive. Morris' Father, Etienne had a horse, but no mules. On the farm, Morris grew potatoes, okra, peas, and corn. Lee says "they always had enough to give away".[4]

When Morris had married, he had other jobs besides being a farmer said Lee Caro Sr.[4] Morris was employed as a Roustabout or oilfield helper for a while. He gained employment with the Highway Department, and was responsible for mud jacking which repaired dips in the highway by pumping a mixture of sand and water under the road to lift settled concrete. He also worked for the Terrebonne Parish School Board as a janitor and bus driver. After Morris retired, he was finally able to afford purchasing a tractor to help with his farming.



Morris and Agnes on the Bayou Blue Homestead



Agnes, Rena, Catherine, and children & Paw Paw Morris' bus

Schriever Years

One day Lee Caro Sr. was in his barn cutting seed potatoes attempting to get ready for the planting of potatoes in his son John's field. While he cut, he told stories about his childhood.[73] He said, Grandpa Etienne was getting to old to do the work required to maintain the Bayou Blue Farm, but he still wanted to be the boss. So, this caused Morris to decide to purchase property in Schriever to farm for himself. The property area was known as the Project Farms. Originally,

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO

individuals worked these farms and they had a small section to grow food for themselves. The farmers got tired of working for others and left. Land became deserted for a while. Then when the property was to be resettled, Morris bought some. Morris loaded up his wagon, 2 mules Mandy and Snook, Lee's little dog (Nouge), and moved to Schriever. Agnes and the children rode in the 34 Plymouth family car.

A lot of hard work was required to ready the fields on the Schriever Farm. [4] The land was densely overgrown with tremendous weeds to overcome said Lee. Sugar cane was the main crop. Lee Caro Sr. explained how the sugarcane was planted.[4] Lee said, in September some of the cane was cut, topped, and loaded in the wagon. Cane stalks would be taken from the wagon, and three pieces of stalk would be placed side by side in the newly opened rows. The joints of the cane were not to be placed in the same area. Then the rows would be closed and a roller would be passed over the dirt to pack it down. This was necessary to prevent air pockets and enhance sprouting. A few weeks later, in October the main crop of sugar cane was harvested using 2 mules and a cane knife. It was hard work, particularly since Morris had no tractor to help with planting or harvesting.

Even though the work was hard, there was time for school and for family visits.[4] Lee and his sisters attended school in Schriever for 3 years and had some good memories. Lee recalled becoming friends with the Principle's daughter, Claire. Lee also remembered traveling to see family in Bayou Blue. The family visits were infrequent as it took all day by car.


Schriever Railroad Depot

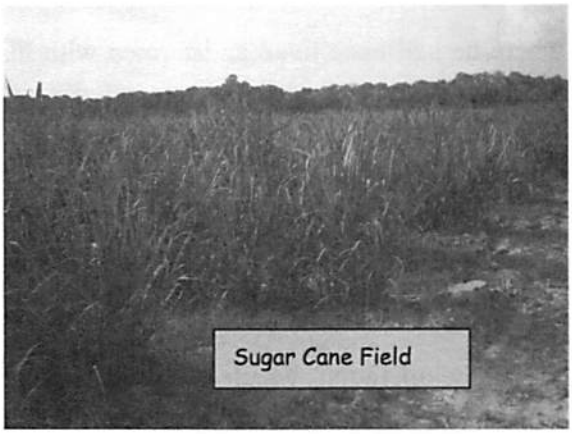
Morris and his family resided in Schriever from 1945 to 1948. Their home had been near a railroad which linked Schriever to Morgan City and New Orleans. Morris' youngest daughter, Dorothy was 2 or 3 years old when living in Schriever. Dorothy was often frightened by the whistle of the passenger train as it passed the Caro home. She would run and hide under the curtain-covered kitchen cabinets.[51] Morris' two mules, Mandy and Snook reacted with fear also when they heard the high-pitched whistle and rumbling of the train on the tracks. Suddenly, the mules would run quickly into the barn. [4]

The railroad improved travel and subsequently, trade in the Schriever area. However, in the late 1940's the lingering effects of the Great Depression (1930-1939) were still being noticed in Schriever. Millions of men had lost their jobs, and were looking for work all over the country. The railroad station in Schriever brought many hobos into the area in search of work

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO

opportunities. These men were often hungry, and found their way to the home of Morris and Agnes. Agnes always found something to feed the hobos. [4]

During the time Morris and family resided in Schriever, an event occurred between two of Morris' children. Caroline recalls being asked by her Mother to bring Lee something to eat as he was working in the sugarcane field.[40]



Shortly after her arrival, Lee gave her a dare as a playful jest. If she crossed over an imaginary line, he would throw his hoe at her. Caroline took the dare as siblings often do to prove their bravery. When the hoe was thrown, it unfortunately bounced out of control cutting Caroline's foot. Then in an act of chivalry, Lee held the flap of tissue on her foot closed and carried Caroline on his back for a very long distance toward their home. When Morris returned home, Caroline was taken to Ellender Hospital in Houma, LA where she received many stitches in her foot. Caroline states that there was no medication to numb the area. She would yell out as the stitches were placed. Her Mother insisted that she stop yelling or the police would be called. Caroline remembers telling her Mother, "call them". Over time Caroline's foot healed. In later years of her life, Caroline related this story.

During the time Morris lived in Schriever, Uncle Clement, Aunt Mary Jane, and children had lived with Grandpa Etienne.[4] Once again, Grandpa Etienne didn't like losing control on his farm. So, Grandpa Etienne asked Morris if he could come live in Schriever. Morris thought for a while, and after talking things over with Agnes, they agreed that Grandpa Etienne could come live with them. Consequently, Grandpa Etienne left his farm for a brief period of time. [4]

Back on Bayou Blue

After 3 years of residing and working the Schriever property, Morris began to have severe pain related to kidney disease and kidney stones. Caroline remembers her Father lying for periods of time across the rows in his field until the pain subsided.[40] Soon a kidney operation would be needed. Following the operation, Morris would be unable to work and pay his property note.[4] Subsequently, the Schriever property was sold to Richard Dawes, a lawyer from New Orleans on March 15, 1948. The property included part of sections 72 and 38, as well as section 71 in Township 15 South, Range 16 East, of Terrebonne Parish. The combined 41.152 and 15.517 acreage for both tracts equaled 56.749 acres more or less. The property was sold for $5000. For additional information, see attached Table 1.

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO

One year earlier in 1947, Etienne had divided his Bayou Blue Farm property between his 3 children. Morris purchased a third of Etienne's property for $100. Each of Morris' sisters purchased one-third of the property also. For additional information, see attached Table 2.

Morris owned a portion of the Bayou Blue Farm where he had once lived and farmed with his Father, Etienne. Morris' family and Grandpa Etienne returned to Bayou Blue. Lee Caro Sr. remembers his Grandpa Etienne to be a "thin man of average height".[4] "He had a handle-bar mustache that was not exceedingly long". "He smoked Virginia Extra and King B cigarettes." Cigarettes were 25 cents a pack. Etienne continued to live on the Bayou Blue farm with Morris, Agnes, and family until his death.


Etienne Caro

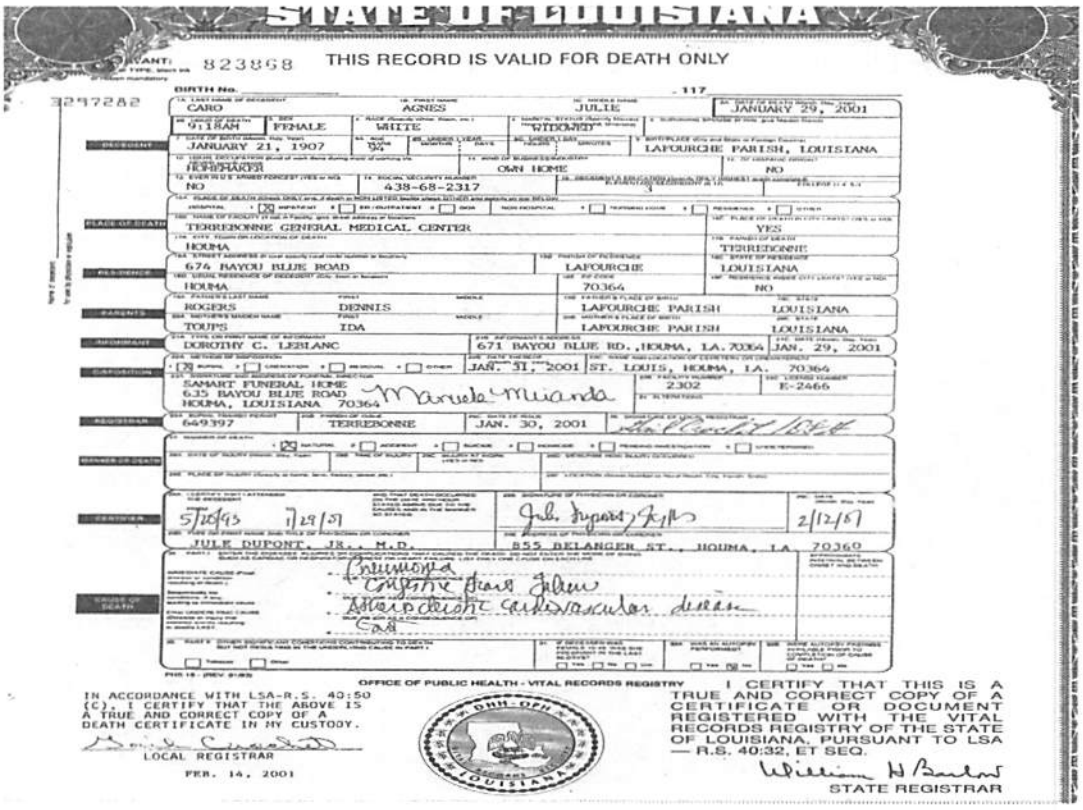
Soon, Morris had his kidney operation which required a large incision and a drain. Afterwards, the drain site healed very slowly. During the recuperation period after surgery, Morris was unable to perform a lot of activity. Lee explained that he was 16 and that he was responsible for working the field for one year. [4] Also, during the Fall of that year, Caroline recalled that Dot had to pick pecans.[41] Morris would point them out and she would gather them.

Morris worked on his farm for many more years. Later, Morris wanted to sell Lee the Bayou Blue Farm for $12,000.[4] Lee had recently borrowed money for a new addition on his house on Caro Acres road. Consequently, he could not afford to buy it. Morris sold the property to Clydis Arceneaux for $12,000 in 1972. See Table 2 for further information.

Morris and Agnes then moved to the left descending bank of Bayou Blue onto a tract of land from the Rogers' estate. For further information, see attached Table 3. On this property Morris built a garage, first. He and Agnes lived in the garage for a while. Morris' grandson, Duane related that Dot said her Father wanted things to be built strong so that it could last for years.[51] When Morris built his house, a storm room made of cinder blocks was added to the north side of his house. There was a small window in the room. On the front porch of their home was a short, white-washed chair with a leather seat. The legs had been shortened in order to allow Morris easier access to putting on and removing his shoes.[4,51] On November 24, 2019 Duane, Morris grandson said he had this chair and that he uses it in the same manner his grandfather did. Agnes and Morris lived in this home for many happy years. Agnes was content being a homemaker, and loved life. During visits with Maw Maw Agnes in later years, I often asked my Grandmother the following question. How do you feel, Maw Maw? She always said, "I feel like a Spring chicken"! She lived in the home which her husband had built until hospitalized for pneumonia, and congested heart failure. She

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO

died on January 29, 2001 at the age of 94.[74] Her death certificate also noted that she had a history of atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease.[75]


STATE OF LOUISIANA

823868 THIS RECORD IS VALID FOR DEATH ONLY

3297282 BIRTH No. 117

CARO | AGNES | JULIE | JANUARY 29, 2001
91YRAN | FEMALE | WHITE | WIDOWED
JANUARY 21, 1907 | 94 | LAFOURCHE PARISH, LOUISIANA
RETIRED | OWN HOME
NO | 438-68-2317
TERREBONNE GENERAL MEDICAL CENTER | YES
HOUMA | TERREBONNE
674 BAYOU BLUE ROAD | LAFOURCHE | LOUISIANA
HOUMA | 70364 | NO
ROGERS | DENNIS | LAFOURCHE PARISH | LOUISIANA
TOUPS | IDA | LAFOURCHE PARISH | LOUISIANA
DOROTHY C. LEBLANC | 671 BAYOU BLUE RD.,HOUMA, LA.70364 | JAN. 29, 2001
JAN. 31, 2001 | ST. LOUIS, HOUMA, LA. 70364
SAMART FUNERAL HOME 635 BAYOU BLUE ROAD HOUMA, LOUISIANA 70364 | 2302 | E-2466
649397 | TERREBONNE | JAN. 30, 2001
5/20/93 | 1/29/01 | 2/12/01
JULE DUPONT, JR., M.D. | 855 BELANGER ST., HOUMA, LA 70360
Pneumonia
Congestive Heart failure
Atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease
CAD

OFFICE OF PUBLIC HEALTH - VITAL RECORDS REGISTRY

IN ACCORDANCE WITH LSA-R.S. 40:50 (C), I CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF A DEATH CERTIFICATE IN MY CUSTODY.
LOCAL REGISTRAR
FEB. 14, 2001

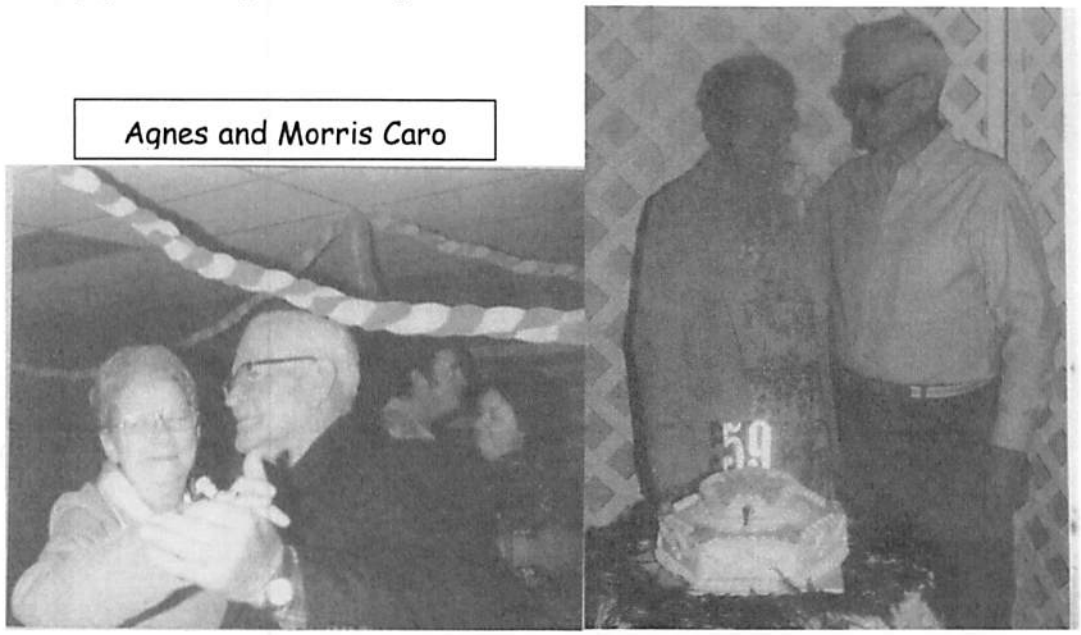
I CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF A CERTIFICATE OR DOCUMENT REGISTERED WITH THE VITAL RECORDS REGISTRY OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA, PURSUANT TO LSA — R.S. 40:32, ET SEQ.
STATE REGISTRAR

According to the family, Morris was of good character. He was a hard worker as evidenced by many years of farming and other employment. He was Catholic. As a religious man, he attended mass regularly, and prayed his rosary.[4] During Lent, he demonstrated abstinence and occasionally prayed the rosary with his children.[40] Lee related that on the night of the Fete du Dieu (Feast of the Blessed Sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ), [4] Morris would fire a single gunshot toward the heavens in honor of this Feast day. Also, Morris was strict and he expected discipline from his children.[4] Caroline recalled that if they went somewhere, the children could not play.[40] They were expected to be on their best behavior. Morris was a also serious man and demonstrated concern with important matters. Lee recalled that his Father was a sincere man, and "if he told you something then, you could rely on him".[4]

Morris loved to eat (manger is translation in French). "He enjoyed most anything", said Catherine.[71] She related that her Father especially liked Agnes' cooking; however, "if salt was lacking from his food, he let you know somebody made a mistake!" Catherine also shared that he did not like unfamiliar foods.

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO

In addition, Catherine said that some of her Father's favorite things to do were "visiting with people and listening to his radio".[70] Duane recalled a visit with Morris and Agnes.[51] Duane said, when I arrived, Paw Paw Morris was watching television. He stood up and turned the television off. He said, I can watch television anytime, but I can't visit with you very often. Lee related that his Father enjoyed listening to boxing and to World War II commentators on the radio.[4] Caroline recalled that "Paw Paw and Maw Maw both loved to go eat crabs on Sundays", and that Morris "enjoyed dancing in his later years".[40]



Agnes and Morris Caro

Morris was strong, and a tough man. Caroline remembers when Morris would tense his stomach allowing anyone to jab him as hard as they liked, and "he took it".[40] Mitch, Morris' grandson told the story about killing a pig for a boucherie.[76] Mitch and his Father, Elton went to assist Morris with catching a 300 to 400 pound pig. Morris seemed to handle that pig with ease as he pulled that pig around in preparation to cut its throat and allow it to bleed out. After seeing the way Morris handled himself with that pig (La Cochon in French), Mitch had a new found respect for his Paw Paw Morris. Mitch related another example of his Grandfather's toughness. Mitch said, " Paw Paw picked up a hitchhiker one day when traveling to the French Market in New Orleans to sell his okra which had often been picked by grandchildren and other family members. Mitch continued by saying, "Paw Paw usually carried a knife, so he showed the gentleman his weapon to demonstrate that he was in charge".

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO By Susan Caro Dupre, the daughter of Lee Caro, granddaughter of Morris Caro, great-granddaughter of Etienne Caro, and Great-great-granddaughter of Jean Carreau

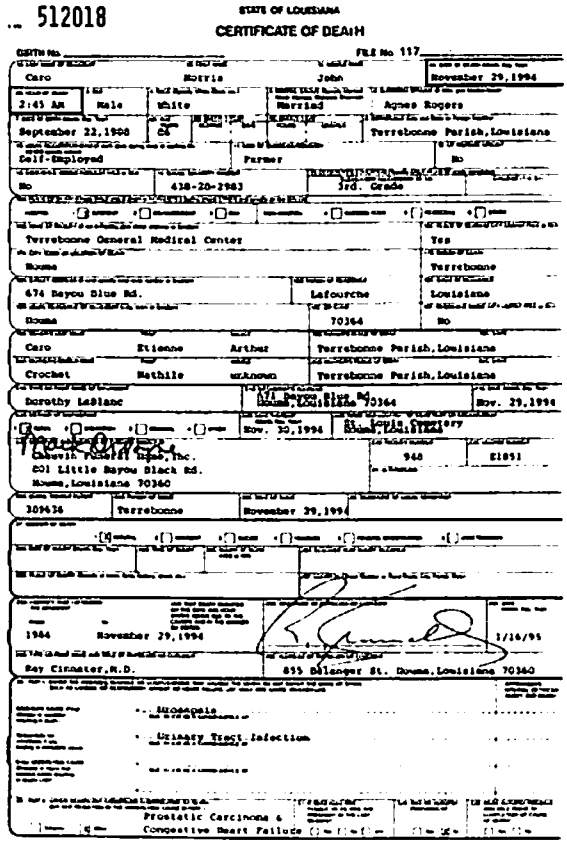
MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO

Later Years

Morris needed medical care toward the latter years of his life. The family was vigilant and worked together to maintain care around the clock for Morris at home. However, a sad time came when he required care that the family could no longer provide at home. All his children had been experiencing medical problems of their own. Lee and Caroline were having back problems, Dot had hand surgery, and Catherine had to undergo surgery for breast cancer.

Morris' life experiences could not prepare him for the most difficult time in his life, placement in a Nursing Home in 1993.[70] He had endured old age, illness, and the loss of a leg. Even though several nursing homes were tried, it was never satisfactory.[70] Catherine would bring her Mother, Agnes to the nursing home every day and all day Agnes stayed to provide comfort. Catherine who had been a practicing Nurse for many years always visited her Father at lunch time, and she brought her Mother home each evening. Family members were supportive and helped as needed. Morris became critical and angry at times as his independence lessened. He endured the rest of his life in the nursing home. I recall visiting with my Grandfather in the nursing home one evening. He was unhappy being there. I remember attempting to encourage him to get involved with various activities. He told me that I just didn't understand what it was like.

Morris was 86 when he died of urosepsis due to urinary tract infection while in Heritage Manor.[77] He had a history of prostate cancer, diabetes, and a below the knee amputation. I was unable to determine which leg he had lost. However, Lee shared that in 1941 Morris had the measles and a milk leg (thrombophlebitis). Morris' leg was huge with development of necrotic tissue. Leeches were placed on his diseased leg as a medical therapy while he was hospitalized at Charity Hospital in New Orleans.[4,40,70] Leeches probably helped decrease venous congestion, dilated vessels, and prevented further development of blood clots. The leg was then always considered his "bad" leg. Years later as a result of diabetes, an amputation was performed on the opposite leg.


512018

STATE OF LOUISIANA

CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

FILE No. 117

Caro | Morris | John | November 29, 1994

2:45 AM | Male | White | Married | Agnes Rogers

September 22, 1908 | 86 | Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana

Self-Employed | Farmer | No

No | 438-20-2983 | 3rd. Grade

Terrebonne General Medical Center | Yes

Houma | Terrebonne

674 Bayou Blue Rd. | Lafourche | Louisiana

Houma | 70364 | No

Caro | Etienne | Arthur | Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana

Crochet | Nathile | Unknown | Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana

Dorothy LeBlanc | 171 Bayou Blue Rd. Houma, Louisiana 70364 | Nov. 29, 1994

Nov. 30, 1994 | St. Louis Cemetery

Caswell Funeral Home, Inc.
801 Little Bayou Black Rd.
Houma, Louisiana 70360

948 | E1851

309636 | Terrebonne | November 29, 1994

1944 | November 29, 1994 | 1/16/95

Ray Cinnater, M.D. | 855 Dularge St. Houma, Louisiana 70360

Urosepsis

Urinary Tract Infection

Prostatic Carcinoma 6

Congestive Heart Failure

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO By Susan Caro Dupre, the daughter of Lee Caro, granddaughter of Morris Caro, great-granddaughter of Etienne Caro, and Great-great-granddaughter of Jean Carreau

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO

Morris died on November 29, 1994 at 2:45 am.[78] Ray Cinnator was the physician of record. The Death Certificate indicated that he was married, a resident of Lafourche with address being 674 Bayou Blue, and had been a self-employed farmer prior to placement in the nursing home. It also noted that Morris did not serve in the military. Probably this was due to being an only son and being a farmer. Morris was courageous until the end.

Morris "carried on the heritage his Father gave him" and had a full, long life. He was "survived by his wife, of 64 years, Agnes Rogers Caro"; one son, Lee; three daughters, Catherine, Carolyn, and Dorothy all from Bayou Blue; 20 grandchildren and 28 great-grandchildren. He was buried in the St. Louis Catholic Church mausoleum. He is remembered always for "the good he left here on Earth, his faith, his love for his wife and family, his courage, and goodness".[79]

Special thanks to Lee Joseph Caro Sr. for his insights, and recommendations. He has contributed significantly to preserving the history of Morris Caro, his Father.

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO

FAMILY PHOTOS

Three Generations of Caros:
Etienne, Morris, Lee (left to right)

Catherine, Carolyn, Dorothy, and Lee
(left to right)

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO By Susan Caro Dupre, the daughter of Lee Caro, granddaughter of Morris Caro, great-granddaughter of Etienne Caro, and Great-great-granddaughter of Jean Carreau

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO

OTHER FAMILY PHOTOS

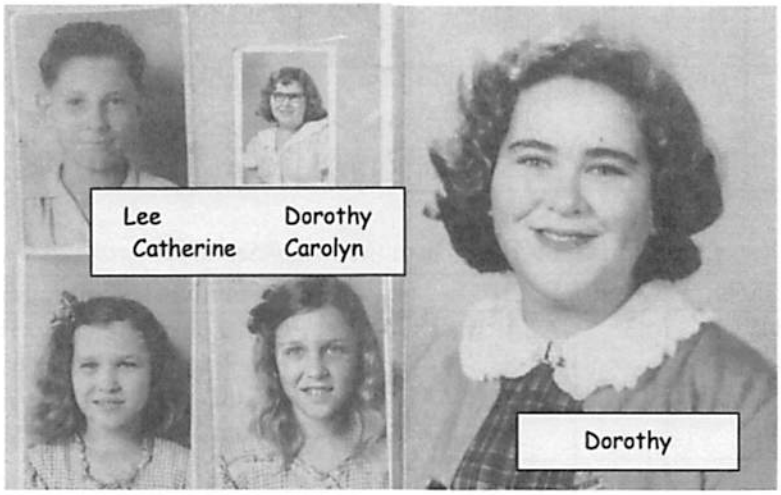
Carolyn, Agnes, Catherine
(top, left to right)
Dorothy (bottom)

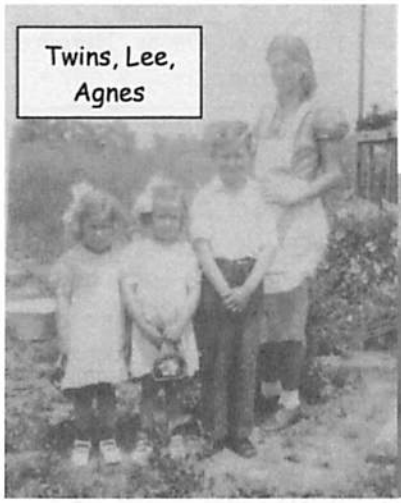
Catherine and Carolyn (twins)

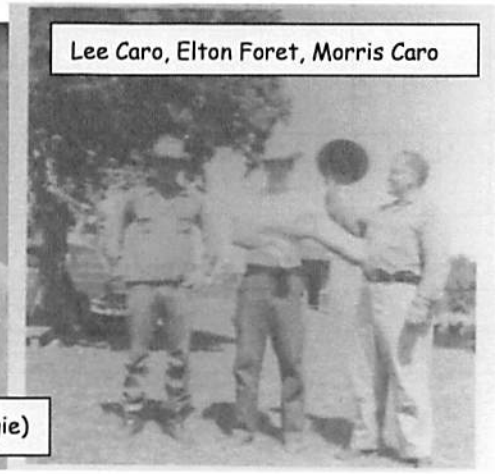
MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO By Susan Caro Dupre, the daughter of Lee Caro, granddaughter of Morris Caro, great-granddaughter of Etienne Caro, and Great-great-granddaughter of Jean Carreau

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO

OTHER FAMILY PHOTOS







MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO By Susan Caro Dupre, the daughter of Lee Caro, granddaughter of Morris Caro, great-granddaughter of Etienne Caro, and Great-great-granddaughter of Jean Carreau

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO

Table 1 Description of Schriever Property

Conveyance Book	File #	Page	Date	Persons involved
CB 146	59720	158	Jan. 1, 1945	USA to Morris Caro; Bankhead – Jones-Tenant Farm Act
CB 160	72990	439	March 15, 1948	Morris Caro to Dawes

Table 2 Description of Bayou Blue Farm *(North half-Sec. 31, Township 17 South, Range 18 East)*

Conv Book	File #	Page	Date	Person involved in transactions
CB DD	24/ 4625	83	April 13, 1874	Purchase: Francois Bourgeois from Theophile Robichaux, Alidor Matherne, and Joseph Matherne (undivided 1/3 of 320 acres) for $640
			Jan. 28, 1882	Partitian: Alidor and Joseph Matherne
			Oct. 20, 1876	Purchase: Oscar Bergeron from Alidor Matherne
			Jan. 19, 1897	Partitian: Oscar Bergeron and Cecile Bergeron
CB QQ	46/ 8840	536	Jan. 25, 1897	Purchase: Etienne Caro purchased from Oscar Bergeron (right descending bank of Bayou Blue) 4 arpents- *bought about 11 years after marriage. * was about 38 years old.
CB 152	66734	465	Mar. 14, 1947	Purchase: Morris Caro from Etienne Caro (widower-Aug. 24, 1923)- 1 arpent and 106 feet bounded above by Armance Rogers and below by P. E. Parker, right descending bank for $100. *Armance and Mary Jane also given a share
CB 338	231572	312	June 4, 1972	Purchase: Clydis Arceneau from Morris Caro for $12,000

Table 3 Description of Caro-Rogers Property

Conv Book	File #	Page	Date	Persons involved
CB 338	231586	322	June 4, 1962	Donation: Agnes Rogers to Morris Caro

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO

Notes for Morris John Caro

[1]Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Office of Archives. Birth and Baptismal Record no. 1908-185 for John Maurice Carro. Thibodaux, Louisiana.

[2]Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Office of Archives. Birth and Baptismal Record no. 1869-000 for Etienne Arthur Carreau. Thibodaux, Lousiana.

[3]Caro, L. (1992). Caro, Caaro, Careau Family. *Terrebonne Life Lines.* vol. 11, Spring 1992, pgs 54-61.

[4]Lee Caro Sr. Oral history of Morris Carro. 2019 by Susan Caro-Dupre of Bayou Blue, Lafourche Parish. Houma, Louisiana.

[5]Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Office of Archives. Marriage Record no. 1896-018 for Etienne Carro and Nathalie Crochet. Thibodaux, Louisiana.

[6]Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Office of Archives. Birth and Baptismal Record no. 1876-050 for Natalie Fedora Crochet. Thibodaux, Lousiana.

[7]Terrebonne Parish Clerk of Courts. 18th District Court. Marriage Bond no. 47 for Etienne Carro and Nathalie Crochet. Houma, Louisiana.

[8]Dehler, Tamie. (2007). Genealogy: Think of a Marriage bond as an intention to marry. Retrieved from http://www. Tribstar.com/news/lifestyles/genealogy-think-of-a-marriage-bond-as-an-intention-to/article_od4cof38-f3a7-5e88-a556-e75bbaca2bd4.html

[9]1910 United States Federal Census, database with images, search (http://search.ancestryheritagequest.com: accessed 31 May 2020). Entry for Etienne Caaro. Houma, Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana.

[10]1930 United States Census, database with images, search (http://search.ancestryheritagequest.com: accessed 31 May 2020). Entry for Etienne Carro. Houma, Terrebonne Parish Louisiana.

[11]1940 United States Census, database with images, search (http://search.ancestryheritagequest.com: accessed 31 May 2020). Entry for Etienne Caro. Houma, Terrebonne Parish Louisiana.

[12]Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Office of Archives. Funeral Record no. 1923-044 for Nathalie Crochet-Caro. Thibodaux, Louisiana.

[13]Certificate of Death for Mrs. Etienne Caro, August 24, 1924. File no. 112. Louisiana State Board of Health. Bureau of Vital Statistics.

[14]Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Office of Archives. Funeral Record no. 1951-012 for Etienne Arthur Caro. Thibodaux, Louisiana.

[15]Certificate of Death for Ettienne Arthur Caro, July 22, 1951. File no. 9472. Louisiana State Department of Health. Division of Public Health Statistics.

[16]Ruble, J. P. Our Caro Ancestors in France. *Terrebonne Life Lines.* vol. 21. No. 3, pgs. 224-234.

[17]Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Office of Archives. Marriage Record no. 1852-000 for Jean Careau and Adele Ordonaux. (Notes for groom 6/4/1828. Le Plounesse, France. Original Church Registry, V 2, P 24.) Thibodaux, Louisiana.

[18]Naturalization Certificate for Jean Carrau. United States of America. State of Louisiana. Sixth District Court of New Orleans Naturalization of Minors, V. 1 (10/14/1853-2/17/1884) p. 22.

[19]Ancestry.com. New Orleans, Passenger Lists for J Carreau, 1813-1945.

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO

[20]Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Office of Archives. Marriage Record no. 1852-000 for Jean Careau and Adele Ordonaux. Thibodaux, Louisiana.
[21]Terrebonne Parish Clerk of Courts. Marriage document in French. doc # 212. for Jean Careaux and Adele Ordonaux. Houma, Louisiana.
[22]Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Office of Archives. Birth and Baptismal Record no. 1834-381 for Adelina Ordeneaux. Thibodaux, Louisiana.
[23]1860 United States Census, database with images, search (http://search.ancestryheritagequest.com : accessed 31 May 2020). Entry for John Carraux. Houma, Terrebonne Parish Louisiana.
[24]Civil War Service Records. "Digital Images". Fold 3. http: www.fold3.com: Confederate Cavalry, Company F. pgs. 1-8. Entry for John Carro.
[25]Bostick, D. (2011). *Fort Sumter National Monument: "Where the Civil War Began".* Charleston, SC: Charleston Postcard Company.
[26]Bergeron, A. (1989). *Guide to Louisiana Confederate Military Units (1861-1865).* United States of America: Louisiana State University Press.
[27]Booth, A. (1820). *Records of Louisiana Confederate Soldiers*, vol. 2, p. 267.
[28]Vicksburg National Military Park and Old Court House Museum. Personal communication with Historical tour guide on November 14, 2011. Vicksburg, Mississippi
[29]Rowland, D. 1st Mississippi Cavalry (Adams/Wood's). Retrieved from http://www.mississippiscv.org/MS_Units/1st_MS_CAV(AW).htm
[30]Archives in Baton Rouge. Personal communication with Bill Stafford on 10/6/2020. Baton Rouge, Louisiana.
[31]Terrebonne Parish Clerk of Courts. Sale of property from Raymond Knight to Jean Carreau. Conveyance Book AA, March 18, 1972. pgs. 123-125. Houma, Louisiana.
[32]1880 United States Census, database with images, search (http://search.ancestryheritagequest.com : accessed 31 May 2020). Entry for John Carreau. Houma, Terrebonne Parish Louisiana.
[33]Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Office of Archives. Funeral Record no. 1888-479 for Jean Carro (Carreau). Thibodaux, Louisiana.
[34]Wright, N. Coronors's Inquest Book A, Terrebonne Parish, LA. *Terrebonne Life Lines*. vol. 5. 1986. p. 32.
[35]Terrebonne Parish Clerk of Courts. 20th District Court. Succession Pro no. 1503. Includes Affidavit of Death for Adele Ardeneau. February 15, 1921.
[36]Certificate of Baptism for John Maurise Carro. November 21, 1908. Houma, Louisiana. Copy in possession of Susan Caro Dupre.
[37]Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Office of Archives. Birth and Baptismal Record no. 1898-141 for Mary Jenny Caro. Thibodaux, Louisiana.
[38]*South Louisiana Vital Family Records*. Church and Civil Records of Lafourche and Terrebonne for marriage of Mary Jane Carro and Clement Rogers. p. 39. Vol. 7. (1924-1926). Terrebonne Genealogical Society, Inc. Houma, Lousiana.
[39]Louisiana State Archives. Certificate of Death for Marry Jane Rogers, January 26, 1950. p. 953. vol. 16. Baton Rouge, Louisiana.
[40]Caroline Caro-Matherne. Oral history. 2019 by Susan Caro Dupre. Bayou Blue, Lafourche Parish. Houma, Louisiana.

MEMORIES OF MORRIS JOHN CARO

[41]Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Office of Archives. Birth and Baptismal Record no. 1902-094 for Armance Francoise Caro. Thibodaux, Louisiana.
[42]Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Office of Archives. Marriage Record no. 1924-003 for Armance Francoise Caro and Morgan Joseph Roger. Thibodaux, LA.
[43]Louisiana State Archives. Certificate of Death for Blanch Rita Rogers, April 8, 1927. p. 4456. Vol. 10. Baton Rouge, Louisiana.
[44]Death of Armance Rogers. Houma Courier Deaths 1985. Terrebonne Parish Library. Terrebonne Genealogical Society. Houma, LA.
[45]Affidavit of J. C. Walker Jr., Notary Public from Morris J. Caro, August 4, 1971, Terrebonne Parish, Houma, LA.
[46]1930 United States Census, database with images, search (http://search.ancestryheritagequest.com : accessed 31 May 2020). Entry for Maurice Carro. Houma, Terrebonne Parish Louisiana.
[47]Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Office of Archives. Marriage Record no. 1930-005 for Maurise John Carro and Agnes Julie Rogers. Thibodaux, LA.
[48] Terrebonne Parish Clerk of Courts. 17th Judicial District Court. Marriage License and Certificate of Marriage for Maurice Caro and Agnes Rogers #232. June 30, 1930. Houma, Louisiana. Duplicate copy in possession of Susan Caro Dupre.
[49]Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Office of Archives. Birth and Baptismal Record no. 1907-020 for Agnes Julie Rogere. Thibodaux, Louisiana.
[50]Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Office of Archives. Death Record no. 1927-050 for Denis Rogere.
[51]Duane Caro. Oral History of Morris Caro. 2019 by Susan Caro-Dupre. Bayou Blue, Lafourche Parish, Houma, LA.
[52]Porche, B. (1975). *Our Heritage: St. Louis Catholic Church*. Bayou Blue History (1915-1975). The Mission of St. Sophie. p. 50.
[53]Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Office of Archives. Birth and Baptismal Record no. 1933-033 for Lee Joseph Caro . Houma, Louisiana.
[54]Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Office of Archives. Marriage Record no. 1953-008 for Lee Joseph Caro and Rena Mary Folse. Houma, Louisiana.
[55]Lee Joseph Caro Sr. Oral History of Lee's jobs through the years. July 4, 2014 and June 3, 2020 by Susan Caro-Dupre. Bayou Blue, Louisana.
[56]Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Office of Archives. Birth and Baptismal Record no. 1936-044 for Catherine Marie Caro. Houma, Louisiana.
[57]Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Office of Archives. Marriage Record no. 1953-007 for Catherine Marie Caro and Elton Joseph Foret Jr. Houma, Louisiana.
[58]Patricia Foret-Hebert. Oral history of Elton Foret. 2019 by Susan-Caro Dupre. Houma, Louisiana.
[59]Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Office of Archives. Funeral Record no. 2002-037 for Elton Joseph Foret Jr. Houma, Louisiana.
[60]Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Office of Archives. Marriage Record no. 2002-008 for Earl Anthony Vice and Catherine Marie Caro. Houma, Louisiana.
[61]St. Louis Catholic Church. Death of Earl Anthony Vice on April 29, 2017. Personal communication with Jamie Gravois on June 3, 20202. Bayou Blue, Houma, Louisiana.

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[62]Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Office of Archives. Birth and Baptismal Record no. 1936-043 for Caroline May Caro. Houma, Louisiana.
[63]Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Office of Archives. Marriage Record no. for 1954-006 for Adrian Joseph Leboeuf and Caroline May Caro. Houma, Louisiana.
[64]Terrebonne Parish Clerk of Courts. 32nd Judicial District Court. Marriage License and Certificate of Marriage of Morris Joseph Labit Jr. and Caroline May Caro #33181. December 5, 1985. Houma, Louisiana. Copy in possession of Susan Caro-Dupre.
[65]Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux Office of Archives. Notation of Marriage for Caroline May Caro to Earl Joseph Matherne on 9/14/2002 found on Birth-Baptism Record no. 1936-043. Des Allemands, Louisiana.
[66] Memory Card of Birth and Death for Earl (Pete) Joseph Matherne Sr. Funeral Service at St. Gertrude Catholic Church. Birth December 25, 1931. Death June 4, 2006.
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[79]Samart Funeral Home. Prayer card for Morris Caro. Possession of Susan Caro-Dupre. Bayou Blue, Houma, Louisiana.

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