

Calling All Cajuns!

Acadian Memorial Foundation, Inc.

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Spring 2000

Family Associations make donations

Generous donations to the Foundation from the Association of the Heberts of the World, La Maison des Duhon, Inc. and La Famille Naquin ushered in the new millennium. The January meeting of the Foundation Board was attended by Russell Gaspard, his wife, Laura H. Gaspard and Barbara Hebert who presented a check for \$1000. At the meeting in March, Mr. Dudley Duhon, a member of the Board of Directors, presented a donation from the Duhon family in the amount of \$500.

In April, Betty Naquin of Bourg, LA and Rev. Naquin represented La Famille Naquin with a donation of \$500 to AMF.

The groups expressed gratitude to the Foundation for the help we gave during the Congrès Mondial celebration in 1999 in sharing proceeds of the sale of goods produced by the Foundation. The 'seed money' helped get their organizations off to a good start as participants received a 40% rebate on AMF items sold through their respective Family Associations.

The donations will be used for humanities projects at the Memorial and the families will be recognized for their generosity. Thanks! Heberts, Duhons and Naquins all!

Annual membership meeting

Tuesday, June 20, 2000, the regular meeting of the Board of Directors will also be our annual membership meeting. We will receive nominations for a new slate of officers and officially welcome new Board members. Nominations

from the floor will also be considered.

Director Jolene Adam tells us there will be an opportunity to visit the Museum of the Acadian Memorial in the St. Martinville Cultural Heritage Center, which also houses the African American Museum. The Center is scheduled to open later this year.

Another sneak preview may be a viewing of the video about the making of the Acadian Memorial to be finished by the end of May.

Look for your meeting agenda and program in the mail!

Grand-Pré comes to the Acadian Memorial!

The Acadian Memorial took on new significance when it was part of the twinning of Evangeline Oak Park in St Martinville with the Grand-Pré Historic Site in Nova Scotia, Canada, in 1996. The significance of the twinning was brought to mind with the recent visit of Donna Doucet, director of promotion and programming at the Canadian site.

In an exchange program funded by a grant from the International Partnership Among Museums, Director Jolene Adam welcomed Donna Doucet to the Acadian Memorial for a month long study of how the Memorial functions. Jolene will spend the month of July working with Ms. Doucet in Canada.

While at the Memorial, Doucet made a presentation in both French and English about an important project to memorialize the recently discovered Sainte-Famille Cemetery, a pre-dispersal Acadian burial ground in the area of Grand-Pré. More information about this project can be obtained from the Acadian Memorial office.

Cecilia classmates 'remember'

A theme of the Acadian Memorial was reinforced recently with a gift of \$444.65 received in memory of Judy Guidry Angelle, a deceased member of the 1963 high school graduation class of Cecilia, LA. The gift was presented by Kathleen Leblanc Dugas through AMF Board member Christy D. Maraist. A request was made that genealogy books on southwest Louisiana published by the late Reverend Donald Hebert would be purchased with the gift for the library and that a bookplate recognizing the memorial gift would be mounted in each book.

Thank you Cecilia class of 1963!

From the President

My term of office ends in June and I want to take this opportunity to express appreciation and gratitude to all who have so faithfully supported the Memorial with a membership in the Foundation. This is the only mission of the Foundation – support for the Acadian Memorial. In the last two years your membership dollars and volunteer help have brought us through truly exceptional times.

In November of 1998, the Memorial was honored as the only secular site visited by an emissary from Roman Catholic Pope John when Cardinal Pio Laghi gave the site his special blessing.

In April of 1999, in a ceremony at the State Capitol in Baton Rouge, John Allen Leblanc unveiled a beautiful scale-model of the Acadian Memorial building. "This is our Grand-Pré," said the Lafayette woodworker, as onlookers applauded. The model is on display in the State Capitol along with an exhibit case of information about Louisiana's Acadian Memorial.

In August of 1999, thousands of visitors to Congrès Mondial made the Memorial a high priority stop. And, the official French closing Mass at St. Martin de Tours in St. Martinville, featuring a procession of Acadian family name flags was truly the highlight of the two-week gathering.

Also, in 1999 we were awarded a grant of \$40,000 through a Louisiana State Museum program of assistance for small museums. The grant is producing a video on the development of the Acadian Memorial, a portion of which will be used as visitor information in the new Museum of the Acadian Memorial. The grant paid for a small theater with TV and DVD player to view the video and also provided for carpeted benches in the theater area, and cypress benches and display cases for the Picard paintings in the Acadian Memorial.

Although an important aspect of the grant and the other activities noted here is recognition of the Acadian Memorial as a monument of sufficient importance to be supported by state funds and high on the agenda of visiting dignitaries, it is the daily visitation to the Acadian Memorial that is most significant for me. Attendance continues to grow with 30 visitors per day since this fiscal year began in July 1999. This is double the average for 1998-99.

Recently, LONGevity, Inc. was contracted to develop our existing website into an on-line boutique. Look for our new look and Acadian Memorial Foundation products on the Internet in 2000!

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve the Foundation as President for the past two years. I look forward to volunteer work at the Acadian Memorial and encourage your continued and generous support of the Foundation and its mission. Thank you.

Remember to Re-Member!

Don't forget

To

Re-Member

Sometimes "**Remembering**" to do that important task just slips by us. If that is the case with your **Acadian Memorial Foundation** membership, we bring this to your attention--

"Don't forget to Re-Member"

WE NEED YOU

Check the membership expiration date on the address label!

ACADIAN MEMORIAL FOUNDATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

Bill my: MASTERCARD _____ VISA _____

EXPIRATION DATE: _____

CARD NUMBER: _____

NAME ON CARD: _____

PHONE # _____

YES, I WANT:

_____ **Charter Membership \$2,000**

- *Sponsorship of a mural figure
- *Four-color mural print signed by artist
- *Lifetime pass and membership
- *Souvenir pack
- *Name displayed on plaque

_____ **Lifetime Membership \$500**

- *Four-color mural print
- *Lifetime pass and membership

_____ **1 Year Family Membership \$25.00**

- *1 year pass for 2 people

_____ **1 Year Single Membership \$15.00**

- *1 year pass for 1 person

Please mail this application with selected membership fee to:
The Acadian Memorial Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 844, St. Martinville, LA 70582

Acadian Memorial Souvenirs

Prints and Posters / Affiches

1. Commemorative art print of the amazing Memorial mural, "The Arrival of the Acadians in Louisiana" by Robert Dafford, 26"x12" full color lithograph, limited edition, signed and numbered, includes key to figures. \$65
2. Poster print of Acadian Memorial mural, 20"x10," full color lithograph, includes mural key. \$12
3. "Odyssey of a People," interprets the exile and shows routes Acadians followed. Bilingual fr./Eng. \$15
4. Acadian Odyssey Quilt color poster, 12"x18" \$10

T-shirts

5. Colorful Memorial mural on white shirts. Bi-lingual fr./Eng. Youth M or L, Adult S,M,L,XL,XXL, or XXXL. \$18



T-shirt



Acadian Descent Pin

Pins / Épinglettes

6. "Of Acadian Descent / De Descendance Acadienne" dark blue lapel pin with gold Eternal Flame logo. \$5
7. Lapel pin of Acadiana flag of Louisiana. \$3

Books and Magazines / Librairie

8. *Acadian Memorial Wall of Names* lists all Acadian refugees who came to Louisiana. Souvenir Edition. Bi-lingual fr/Eng \$10
9. *Acadia: Sketches of a Journey* by Cécile Chevrier. Breathtaking images and texts on early Acadia, the exile, and new

beginnings. Bilingual fr/Eng. \$20

10. *Acadian Family Names* by revered genealogist Stephen White. Bilingual fr/Eng. \$4
11. *Scattered to the Wind*. The definitive history on Louisiana Acadians by renowned author Carl Brasseaux. \$5
12. *Acadiana Profile Magazine* Acadian history issue with cover and centerfold of Memorial mural. \$2.50
13. 3-issue *Acadiana Profile* series on Acadian history (includes No. 12 above). \$7.50

Flags / Drapeaux

14. Acadiana flag of Louisiana
3 in x 5 in, nylon on mini pole. \$3
3 ft x 5 ft nylon w/ grommets \$30

15. Acadian flag from Canada, nylon.

3 ft x 6 ft \$30
4 in x 6 in \$5



14.



15.

Postcards / Cartes Postales

16. Memorial mural by Robert Dafford. \$1.50
17. Acadian Odyssey Quilt: folding notecards 8 pack for \$10
~ Incredible! ~ or each \$1.50
postcard each \$1.00

18. Stunning series by Claude Picard painted for Parks Canada depict an Acadian harvest, refusal of the oath, imprisonment, deportation, burning of houses and fields, and Acadian resettlement. 6 card set for \$5.50

TO ORDER, fill in this form, clip it out and mail it (or a photocopy), along with your check or credit card authorization payable to:

Acadian Memorial Foundation
P.O. Box 844
St. Martinville, LA 70582

or order by phone at (318) 394-2258.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP, Country _____

Telephone _____

Quantity	Item #	Description / Size	Price Each	Total Price
If more room is needed for listing your order, please do so on a separate sheet of paper or on a photocopy of this form.			Subtotal	•
<input type="checkbox"/> Enclosed is my check or money order for \$ _____			Shipping \$4 (\$6 if print included)	
<input type="checkbox"/> I'd rather charge it to my (circle one) VISA MC Account number: _____			TOTAL	

Expiration _____

Signature _____

Du bureau de la directrice--par Jolène Adam

Nouvelles expositions à venir au Monument! – In 1996, the State of Louisiana awarded \$255,000 to the Acadian Memorial Project, to be used toward renovations needed to house the Multimedia Center on the 2nd floor and an Acadian and multicultural interpretive center in the historic building next door. The City of St. Martinville contributed an additional \$300,000 to renovate this adjacent structure.

It was clear that the Memorial needed an interpretive center, so that even visitors unfamiliar with Acadians can understand the meaning and importance of the Memorial. But the multicultural component had yet to be defined.

AMF board members shared various ideas with City officials, who decided that the City's most pressing need

was for an African American Museum. Thus was born the St. Martinville Cultural Heritage Center, scheduled to open this August.

In the Center, the Museum of the Acadian Memorial will interpret the Acadian experience in Canada, the Acadian exile, the arrival and establishment of Acadians in Louisiana, the forging of Cajun culture, and Evangeline. Among the items on display will be the Acadian Odyssey Quilt by the Quilters' Guild Acadienne and reproductions of the Claude Picard Deportation series, donated by Russell Gaspard. A 10-minute video will introduce visitors to the Acadian Memorial next door.

The African American Museum will tell the story of Africans and African-Americans in Louisiana beginning in the 1700s. With emphasis on the Attakapas District of early Southwest Louisiana, the museum will interpret the arrival of Africans, their enslavement, the rise of free people of color before the Civil War, and the Reconstruction Period following the Civil War. A 26' mural by Dennis Paul Williams will highlight the trades and accomplishments of St. Martinville's free people of color.

Associated Engineers and Architects and Craig Prosper Builders have almost finished renovations to the building that will house the Center. They are currently adding a restroom wing. Jules Babineaux of Exhibits, Etc. in Scott, Louisiana is the exhibit designer for the Center.

Research for the Acadian exhibits has been funded by a \$2000 grant from the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities and your contributions to the Acadian Memorial Foundation. Dr. Carl Brasseaux, associate director of the Center for LA Studies at ULL, has furnished the historical data, and I am preparing text plaques.

Scholars for the African American Museum include Dr. Carl Brasseaux, Professor Glenn Conrad, director of the Center for LA Studies at ULL, Dr. Raymond Lockett of Southern University, and Gregory Osbourne of the African Resource Center at the

New Orleans Public Library. Research for the exhibits has been funded through LEH, while Exhibits, Etc. will prepare the text plaques.

The exhibits will feature colorful images and up-to-date interactive electronic components that highlight the stories of individual Acadian exiles and allow visitors to learn about Acadians in Louisiana.

For more information on the Museum of the Acadian Memorial, contact me at (337) 394-2258. To learn more about the African American Museum, contact interim director Danielle Fontenette at (337) 394-2250.

Le Monument à LSU! – As curator/director, I represented the Memorial at LSU's intensive workshop for Louisiana teachers of

French, Spanish and Social Studies, called *Whose Land Is This?* I made a presentation about Louisiana's early Acadians and about what we have to offer schools. I also learned more about what educators need to teach their students about Acadians. *Merci* to the team at LSU's French Education Project for a fabulous workshop. *Gros merci* to the many dedicated teachers of French, Spanish and Social Studies, who go out of their way to teach young Louisianians about their state's heritage.

Tops for field trips! – The Louisiana Resource Center for Educators has selected

the Memorial as one of the top 50 field trip destinations in Louisiana. Students who visit the Memorial see the mural, Eternal Flame and Wall of Names, and they do a fun, hands-on activity to learn about individual Acadian settlers in Louisiana. Contact the Memorial for more information on student programs.

Le Monument dans les nouvelles! – Watch *Southern Living*, A&E network, and TBS for features including the Acadian Memorial. *Southern Living* is considering an article on modern Acadians in Canada and Louisiana who have visited both *Acadies*. The A&E series "Love Chronicles" will feature the Memorial in a story on Evangeline. Finally, local author James Lee Burke has included the Memorial in a TBS documentary of his favorite places to visit in Louisiana.

Almanac – Call for (337) 394-2258 for details!

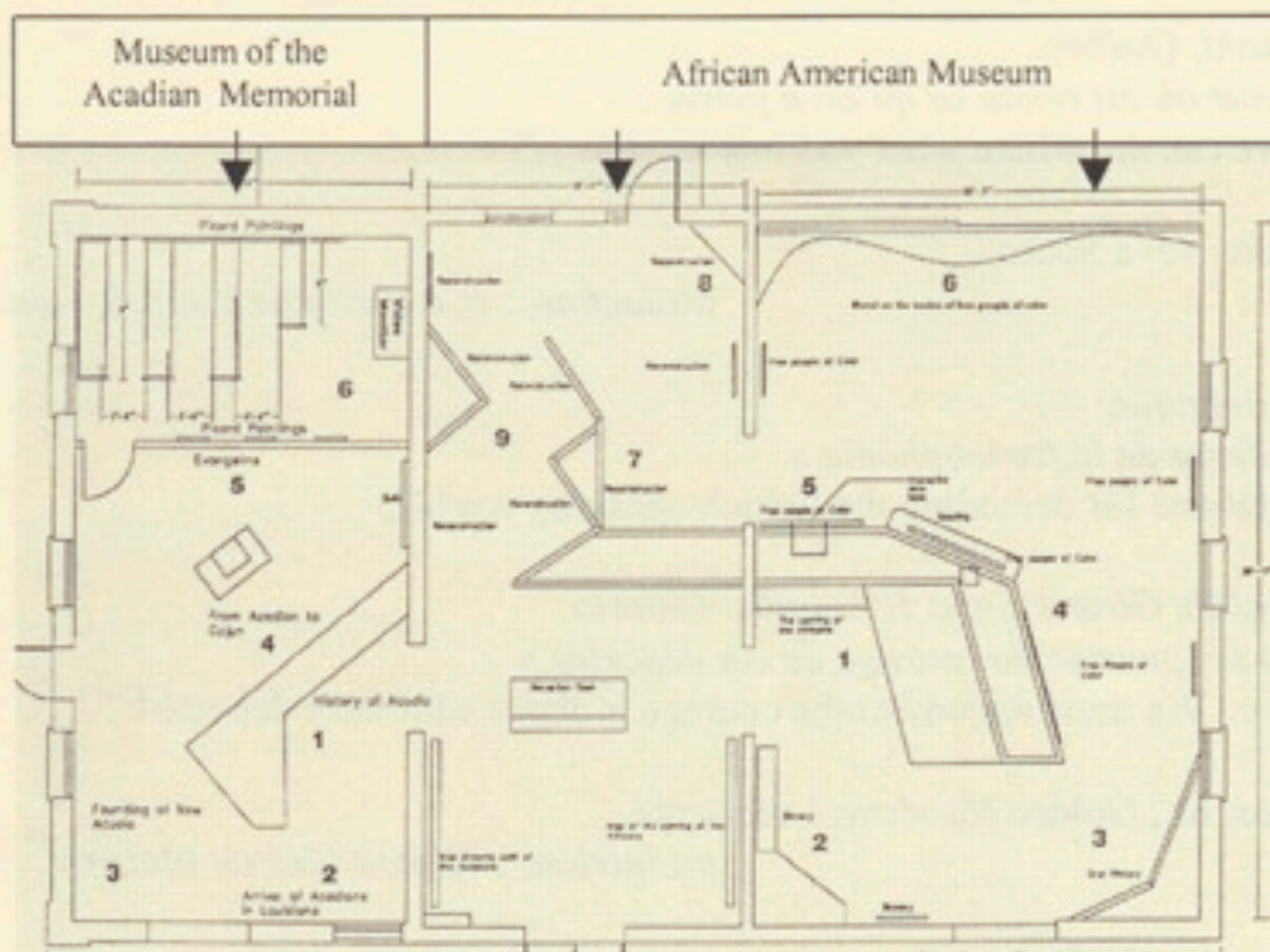
May 20, 2PM – 4th graders share family histories. (*en français*).

June 3, July 1, Aug 5 – Monologues and vignettes of mural characters in the afternoons.

June 20, 5PM – Annual Members' Meeting – all invited!

August 14, 7PM – *Fête Nationale des Acadiens*: French choir at St. Martin de Tours, anticipated mass for the Assumption.

August 14 and/or 15 – Open house and *tintamarre* at the Memorial for the *Fête Nationale*. Call us to volunteer!



Floor plan of the St. Martinville Cultural Heritage Center, to be housed in newly renovated historic building next door to the Acadian Memorial.

Ce que les visiteurs disent à propos du Monument...

What visitors are saying about the Memorial...

W. Schumacher, Crowley, Louisiana:

"Don't live without coming here."

traduction: «Ne vit pas sans venir ici.»

Joseph Luis Benga, vice président de la commission d'éducation, Ile de Gorée, Sénégal:

«...Ce Mémorial contribue à une identité positive.»

translation: "This Memorial contributes to a positive identity."

Randy & Ann Jenkins, Jefferson, Oregon:

"A history and culture we have much to learn about. Very interesting! Nice job!"

traduction: «Une histoire et une culture dont nous avons beaucoup à apprendre. Très intéressant! Bien réussi!»

Sophie Pelletier, Rimouski, Québec:

«Enfin, nous pouvons voir où est rendu ce qu'on a perdu...»

translation: "Finally, we can see where what was lost went to..."

T. Delaney, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia:

"Quite a history, eh!"

traduction: «Ca c'est une histoire, hein!»

Gy Baudot, Grandieu, Belgique:

«Félicitations pour la défense de la francophonie.»

translation: "Congratulations for defending the French-speaking world."

Mariette Arteau et Grégoire Girard, Saint Hyacinthe, Ontario:

«Impressionnant. Il faut se souvenir du courage de ces déportés.»

translation: "Impressive. We must remember the courage of those who were deported."

Murphy & Kathy Callais, Sr., Golden Meadow, Louisiana:

"Very much enjoyed."

traduction: «Ç'était bien un plaisir.»

Olympe Arceneaux Butcher, Lafayette:

"Always a pleasure to visit here!"

traduction: «C'est toujours un plaisir de visiter ici!»

Dahl & Lola Knaus, Bella Vista, Arkansas:

"Lovely monument to a people and a history worth remembering."

traduction: «Un beau monument pour un peuple et une histoire qui méritent la souvenance.»

H. Nguyen, Abbeville, Louisiana:

"This is fun!" (field trip)

traduction: «C'est amusant!» (sortie scolaire)

MONUMENT
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ACADIAN
MEMORIAL

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