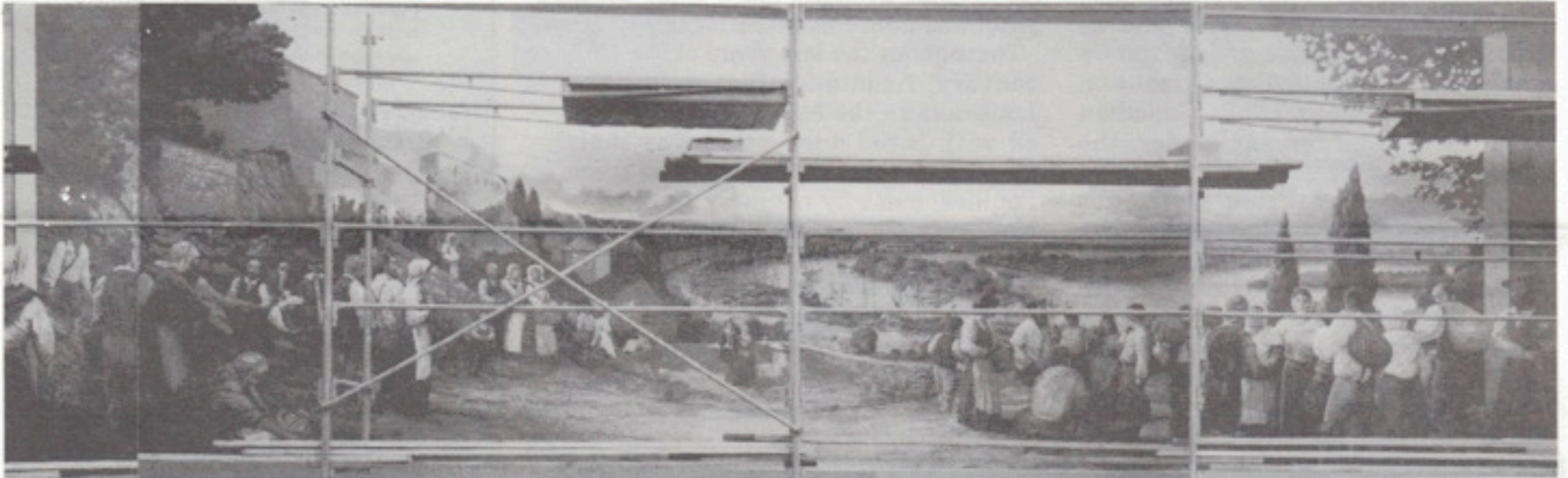




Calling All Cajuns!

St. Martinville, Louisiana

Fall 1993



The mural recently completed in Nantes, France by artist Robert Dafford of Lafayette, Louisiana, depicts Acadian settlers leaving France for Louisiana in 1785. Dafford is

currently painting a twin mural to be installed on the lower level of the Acadian Memorial which features the arrival of the Acadians in Louisiana.

CONGRATULATIONS! IT'S TWINS!

A group from Nantes, France met in St. Martinville with members of The Acadian Memorial to officially twin their murals. Leading the French group was Gerard Braud, president of the "Association Regionale de L'ouest des Amities Acadiennes". Janie Bulliard, chair of The Acadian Memorial Project, said "We celebrate this twinning with Nantes as the

achievement of the primary goal of the Acadian Memorial -- the symbolic reunion of Acadian families who were separated".

In addition to developing a 30 by 12 foot mural, The Acadian Memorial Project also includes the renovation of an historic building to house the Acadian genealogy and history research center, a wall of names list-

ing the approximately 3,000 original Acadian settlers, and an eternal flame to remember all the Acadian exiles. "This project is especially important to us," said M. Gerard Braud, "because, by bringing together the names and the pictorial images of the Acadian settlers, we are also uniting the ancestors

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The characters depicted in the 40 by 14 foot mural in Nantes, France are life-sized and used real descendants of the Acadians as models for the characterizations.



Muralist Robert Dafford is pictured taking photographs in his studio in Lafayette, Louisiana, of models he used in the twin murals. This fall, he will continue painting the mural for The Acadian Memorial.

THE WALL OF NAMES - THE BEGINNING . . .

The Spring of 1993 newsletter listed 132 names of Acadian refugees that appear on an information kiosk next to the Evangeline Oak on the Bayou Teche in St. Martinville. These names were compiled for the inauguration of Evangeline Oak Park in 1990, from the following sources: a pact, dated April 4, 1765, between Captain Bernard Dauterive and the heads of eight Acadian families to raise cattle in the Attakapas country on shares with him; the names of thirty-two Acadians who were in New Orleans on April 30, 1765, to exchange Canadian "card" money for current tender; the 1765 records of Acadians in the archives of St. Martin de Tours Catholic church in St. Martinville; and, the Census of Attakapas and Opelousas taken by the Spanish authorities, dated April 25, 1766.

These names, together with more than 2,500 additional names, are the beginning of the Wall of Names. The additional names have been drawn

from the civil, military and church records of Acadian refugees who settled along the Mississippi River, the Bayous of Lafourche, Teche and Vermilion, old Imperial Saint Landry Parish, and the parishes of Natchitoches and Pointe Coupee. Names were also gleaned from lists of passengers aboard the schooners Britannia and Brigitte and the seven ships that brought more than 1,500 Acadians from France in 1785.

Throughout the last years of the 18th century, Acadian refugees came to Louisiana in the hope of being reunited with loved ones - this was their greatest desire. Now, rebuilding these families, name by name on the Wall of Names in the Acadian Memorial will finally accomplish their symbolic reunion.

Anyone knowing of additional resources for names is asked to contact the memorial's Genealogy Committee.



Donnie Thibodeaux of New Iberia, Louisiana was the winner of the Acadian Memorial's trip to Paris, France. His name was drawn from all of those people who had purchased mural squares. Pictured are M. Gerard Braud from Nantes, France, Thibodeaux, and Phillippe Gustin of Lafayette, Louisiana's Centre International. Thibodeaux plans to make the trip this fall.

SPREADING THE WORD . . .

In recent weeks, the Acadian Memorial Project Committee has appeared before history & genealogy societies, civic groups and the Police Jury of the twenty-two parishes that comprise the "Acadiana" area of Louisiana. Besides telling the story of the Memorial across south Louisiana, the committee asked that each Police Jury adopt a resolution in support of the project. The resolution, which has been unanimously adopted in every instance, also encourages individuals and businesses to lend their support.

Based on the one adopted by the legislature of the State of Louisiana which designates St. Martinville "the official home of the World Memorial To All Acadian Refugees Who Ended Their Exile In Louisiana", it clearly states the reasons for the memorial and identifies its elements - a Mural, a Wall of Names, an Eternal Flame and a Multi-Media Archive.

You may obtain a copy of the concept of the Memorial and a copy of the resolutions by filling in the order form on page 3.

More Figures for the Mural

(Continued from Fall '92 newsletter)

10. Alexis & Honore Breau

were brothers who came with their families from Maryland in 1768 to reunite with relatives and who, after much dissension, did it "their way" and settled at Cabonnoce .

11. Salvador Mouton

arrived, circa 1764 with a group of 20 persons believed to be the earliest refugees from Acadia in Louisiana. He is listed with his family on the Cabonnoce census of 1766.

12. Joseph Landry

was an Acadian refugee at Cabonnoce in 1769. In 1812, Landry was a member of the Louisiana Senate from the County of Acadia (now, St. James and Ascension Parishes)

13. Olivier Theriot

was a shoemaker in Nantes, France, and a leader of more than 1500 Acadians that came to Louisiana from France in 1785.

14. Firmin Breau

was in Attakapas in 1766. Breau's Bridge, LA, the "Crawfish Capital of the World", is named for him.

15. Pierre Guidry

arrived from Maryland in 1769, settled at Fort St. Louis des Natchez and later moved to Attakapas where he was known as the "patriarch of Grande Pointe" later named Cecilia, Louisiana. (Dolores G. Respass from Port Arthur, TX, is asking for Guidry descendants to support the figure of Pierre Guidry with a donation to the Mural fund)

16. Olivier Benoit

Arrived in 1769 from Maryland via an ill wind that first blew his boat to Texas. His group became the first "Texas Cajuns".

17. Pierre Pitre

is listed on the 1766 Census of Opelousas with a son and a daughter who have been identified as Francois and Francoise Pitre. He was deceased by 1770 - (Suzy Lemoine of Ville Platte, LA, is asking for Pitre descendants to support the figure of Pierre Pitre with a donation to the Mural fund)

18. Jean Baptiste Semer

was in Attakapas in 1766. His family was reunited nineteen years later when his father Joseph, and his sisters Marie and Anne Francoise, arrived in Louisiana from France aboard the ship L'Amitie in 1785.

MEMORIAL T-SHIRTS

White shirt (50/50 Screen Stars Best, USA) L, XL & XXL only. \$18.00 includes tax, handling & shipping. For an additional \$5.00 we will insert a copy of "The Acadian Memorial: the Concept", the resolution adopted by the State of Louisiana, and the sample resolution adopted by the 22 Parishes of Louisiana. Perhaps you would like to present the resolution for adoption in your community?



Win a Trip to Canada!

...and help build the Acadian Memorial while you're at it.

7 days in New Brunswick, Canada, in August 1994, to participate in the Acadian World Congress which will celebrate the 390th anniversary of the founding of Acadia, 1604-1994. Round-trip air fare and accommodations for two. Drawing to be held April 24, 1994, at *Festival International de Louisiane*, Lafayette, Louisiana.



ACADIAN FLAG

Your name will be entered into a drawing for the trip to Canada each time you contribute \$50 to the Acadian Memorial Project's Mural Fund. This special offer is made to mural square donors between April 25, 1993 and April 24, 1994.

To donate to the Mural and enter the drawing for the free trip to Canada, or to purchase T-Shirts, or Concept paper, fill in this form, or a photocopy of it, clip it out and mail it along with your check to ACADIAN MEMORIAL PROJECT, City of St. Martinville, P.O. Box 379, Dept. AM, St. Martinville, LA 70582. Make check payable to Acadian Memorial Project.

Yes! I want:

- ___ Mural Squares \$50 each ___ Concept/Resolutions at \$5
- ___ Memorial T-Shirts \$18 each
- Mural Design: ___ L ___ XL ___ XXL
- Bldgn Design: ___ L ___ XL ___ XXL

Enclosed in my check for _____

Bill my ___ Mastercard ___ Visa Expiration Date: _____

Card Number: _____ Name On Card: _____

Check here if mural square is a gift or memorial. List name & address of recipient at right and the name & address of the sender below. A photo acknowledgement will be sent to recipient.

Name _____

Address _____

Name

Address

City, State, Zip

TWINS

(Continued from Page 1)

of those Acadians, both the ones who chose to stay in France and those who set sail for America."

The Acadian Memorial is "selling" 6 inch by 6 inch squares of the mural to fund the continuation of its painting by artist Robert Dafford. Pat Resweber of the Fund Raising Committee said, "We ask that all friends of the Memorial purchase mural squares now to help support the continued work on the mural." The committee's goal is to sell 200 squares to fund painting in October and November. Members of the Committee are negotiating with Festival International to exhibit the mural during the festival in April, 1994 in Lafayette, Louisiana.

Remember, your donation to the mural will be permanently acknowledged in The Acadian Memorial building. If you choose to donate in the memory of a loved one or to sponsor a specific mural figure, that will be acknowledged, too. Everyone purchasing a mural square now will also be eligible for the drawing for the free trip to New Brunswick.

Calling All Cajuns Calendar

7:00 PM Wednesday, October 20, 1993

Acadian Memorial Quarterly Meeting at Lagnaippe Too, 204 E. Main, New Iberia, LA.

Open meeting but meal reservations are a MUST as the Landry's are cooking just for us! Roullard of chicken breast with pasta and salad has been selected at \$8.95. Make reservations by October 15th with Audrey Brignac, 318-394-2233, 10AM-4PM daily.

Sunday, December 12, 1993,

Mass at St. Martin de Tours in

St. Martinville, Louisiana and St. Martin de Chantenay, Nantes, France, to commemorate the arrival of the brig, Caroline, the last of the seven ships of the Acadian Expeditions, which arrived at the Balize, below New Orleans, on December 12, 1785. Both churches honor St. Martin Bishop of Tours, France. In St. Martinville, this commemorative Mass will also begin the St. Lucy Festival of Lights on St. Martin Square.

7:00 PM Wednesday, January 19, 1994

Acadian Memorial Quarterly Meeting

at Back in Time Cafe & Gift Shop, 145 W. Landry Street, Opelousas, LA. Soups, salads and sandwiches, and the story of the twinning of the murals in Nantes, France.

April 20-25, 1994

Festival International de Louisiane,

Lafayette, Louisiana. Winner of the Trip to Canada will be drawn at this time.

THE ACADIAN FLAG

(Fleur de lis)

Silver fleur de lis on blue background represents the French origins of the Acadians.

(Castle)

Gold castle on red background represents Spain, the country that controlled Louisiana at the time the Acadians came here.

(Star)

Gold Star on white background represents Our Lady of the Assumption, Patroness of the Acadians, *Maris Stella*. It also represents the active participation of the Acadians in the American Revolution.

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The Acadian Memorial Project

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