



Calling All Cajuns!

St. Martinville, Louisiana

Fall 1994



"THE ARRIVAL OF THE ACADIANS IN LOUISIANA" - ALMOST THERE!

Robert Dafford's mural depicting the exiled Acadians arriving in Louisiana is in print for the first time on the new Acadian Memorial poster. The mural is 60% complete and the poster is one

means of getting the funds to take it all the way!

The poster was officially unveiled at the recent Acadian World Congress in a presentation to Roland Beaulieu,

Minister of Internal General Affairs of the Province of New Brunswick, Canada, by Patricia Resweber, co-chair of the Acadian Memorial Committee. Patricia assisted Mayor Eric Martin of St. Martinville in this formal presentation and afterwards when posters were presented at the Grand-Pre National Historic Site in Nova Scotia and at two sites on Prince Edward Island, namely, the Acadian Village at Mont Carmel and the Acadian Museum in Miscouche.

Designed by graphic artist Glen Gauthier, the poster describes the four elements of the Memorial with a French translation contributed by the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana. The focus of the poster is the first printed reproduction of Dafford's mural for the Memorial in its most recent stage. Featured is a close-up of two of the Acadian figures, Marguerite Martin and Olivier Benoit as they appear on the painting along with photographs of their descendants, Dolores Guidry Respass and John Benoit, who represented them on the



Minister Roland Beaulieu is shown receiving a framed copy of the Acadian Memorial poster from Patricia Resweber. This was the official unveiling of the first poster and the first viewing of the mural in print.

(Continued on Page 4)

MEMORIAL DONATION



St. Martin Land Company became the first corporate donor to the Acadian Memorial Fund when Harold J. Morrow (right) of Lafayette, Louisiana, vice-president of St. Martin Land Co., presented a \$1,500 check to Patricia Resweber and Janie Bulliard, co-chairs of the Memorial Committee. Looking on at left, is St. Martinville Mayor Eric Martin. At the presentation, it was noted that it was fitting that the corporate donor drive begin with a company so closely tied to Acadian/Cajun Louisiana. St. Martin Land Co. is a land management company with extensive holdings in the Atchafalaya Basin, an area with abundant natural resources that contributed significantly to the survival of the Acadian refugees who settled there.

ACADIAN SIGNATURES ON POSTER

Jacques Melanson
Pierre Chiason
Pierre Bourgeois
Fr. Michel
JV Baux
Gille le blanc
Joseph Hebert
Jb Sonnier
Louis Gautrot
Xavier Theriot
Pioid Labos
Bla Bergeron
Jn Roger
Jean Guidry

Jacqueline K. Voorhies (comp.), "Some Late Eighteenth Century Louisianians" (Lafayette, La., 1973) 487, 519

THE FRENCH CONNECTION - A MEMORIAL PLAQUE GOES TO FRANCE



Janie Bulliard and Teddie Eastin hold the bronze plaque that will be placed on the wall next to the Acadian mural in Nantes, France, to commemorate the twinning of that artwork with the mural being painted for the Acadian Memorial in St. Martinville, Louisiana. Both paintings are by Robert Dafford. From left are Gene and Zaidee Guerin McClendon of New Orleans, who traveled to Nantes in November 1993 with a St. Martinville delegation for the inauguration of the French mural; Bulliard, co-chair of the Acadian Memorial committee; Eastin, representing St.

Martin Bank and the Kiwanis Club; Patsy Breaux, president of Beta Rho Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi; and Peggy Hulin, chairman of the St. Martinville Tourism Commission, a sponsor of the 1993 trip to France. The plaque was purchased with donations from St. Martin Bank, Teche Bank, Beta Rho, Kiwanis, Rotary and Lions Club and will be received in Nantes by M. Gerard Braud, president of Association Régionale de l'Ouest des Amitiés Acadiennes, sponsor of the French mural.

ACADIAN MEMORIAL

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Received Through 11/30/94

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St Martin Land Company
Cedar Rapids, IA

The names listed here are a permanent part of the Acadian Memorial. They represent the donations that made the start of the Memorial a reality by funding one of its elements, the mural. With an historic event as its theme, "The Arrival of the Acadians in Louisiana", will forever capture an important moment in Louisiana history. Squares of the mural are still available to help with its completion. 1994 ends with a fundraising plan in place to commence in January 1995 with a goal of completing the Acadian Memorial. Thank you again for your generous support and kind words of encouragement. Merci!

ACADIAN MEMORIAL POSTER

"PAUSE FRIEND, READ MY NAME AND REMEMBER."



"ARRÊTE-TOI, MON AMI, LIS MON NOM ET SOUVIENS-TOI DE MOI."

In the mid-eighteenth century, Acadian people such as those depicted here, landed along the banks of Louisiana's many rivers and bayous to establish a new homeland. After being forced to leave their beloved Acadia, these proud people set about reestablishing their culture and history. They settled in the small town of St. Martinville, Louisiana, a settlement that has come to be known as the Acadian Memorial. The Memorial will be the first and only site in the world designed solely to honor an individual, the people who created the Acadian/Cajun culture in Louisiana. In St. Martinville, Louisiana, the Acadian Memorial symbolically completes the work of nature begun over 200 years ago.

MURAL "The Arrival of the Acadians in Louisiana" is a 1942 film mural done in the unique Tardif technique. The figures represent acts of persons documented as Acadian refugees who settled in Louisiana. Some murals are direct descendants of the figures they portray. The mural was restored with one of France's finest, also painted by Robert Dafford, which depicts the departure of Acadians from the 18th century port of Beauport for Louisiana in 1765.

MURAL OF NAMES A listing of approximately 3000 persons who can be identified as Acadian refugees in early Louisiana records are memorialized on the bronze plaques of the Mural of Names.

An inscription above reads in both English and French, "Pause friend, read my name and remember."

ETERNAL FLAME While many dozens of fires ravaged the walls, some were to a waxy pine and some made of oak leaves. Their opportunity to come to Louisiana, "the promised land", never came. At the Acadian Memorial, in the light of an Eternal Flame, their names will live forever.

ARCHIVES Visitors to the memorial can research historical and cultural information on all aspects of Acadian life in Louisiana through a computerized website which also includes extensive genealogical research.

Documented in order their efforts already and to receive their families, the Acadian refugees were driven to seek a new life in a new land. With the Memorial they greatest desire is being fulfilled -- that of reuniting their families. Rebuilding those families once by nature in the Acadian Memorial will symbolically accomplish their great mission.

Available for rental for the Development of Beaches in Louisiana (11001952)

An relief in 2000 work, the people Acadian arrived depicted, a relief on the river banks of the bayou of the Delta Louisiana pour leur nouvelle patrie. Après avoir été déportés de leur Acadie natale, ces gens espéraient et ont vu et installé leur culture et à servir la patrie. Dans la petite ville de Saint-Martinville en Louisiane, un monument historique a été créé pour honorer ces braves Acadiens. Ce monument sera le premier et le seul hommage au monde conçu uniquement pour honorer un individu, les personnes de la culture acadienne de la Louisiane. A Saint-Martinville, Louisiane, le Monument commémoratif acadien complète l'œuvre de la nature qui a été de créer un peuple déporté depuis plus de 200 ans.

MURAL "L'Arrivée des Acadiens en Louisiane" est un relief d'été mural qui mesure 10 pieds par 12 pieds (3m, x 4m). Le panneau représente les réfugiés acadiens arrivés en Louisiane. Certains murales sont des descendants directs de personnes qui les représentent. Ce panneau sera le premier et le seul hommage au monde conçu uniquement pour honorer un individu, les personnes de la culture acadienne de la Louisiane en 1765.

MURAL DES NOMS Une liste d'environ 3000 personnes identifiées comme réfugiés acadiens dans les premiers documents louisianais est

commémorée sur des plaques de bronze placées le long de "Mural des noms". Un inscription au dessus se lit en anglais et en français, "Pause, mon ami, lis mon nom et souviens-toi de moi".

FLAMME ÉTERNELLE Bien que beaucoup de feux dévastaient leurs murs, certains furent en cire et d'autres en feuilles de pin. Ils ont eu l'occasion de venir en Louisiane, "le pays promis" qu'ils ont vu et installé leur culture et à servir la patrie. Dans la petite ville de Saint-Martinville, Louisiane, le Monument commémoratif acadien complète l'œuvre de la nature qui a été de créer un peuple déporté depuis plus de 200 ans.

ARCHIVES Les visiteurs du mémorial peuvent rechercher tous les aspects de la vie historique et culturelle des Acadiens en Louisiane, soit à l'aide d'un ordinateur qui inclut des recherches généalogiques.

Alors qu'ils cherchent leur identité culturelle et à leur être familiaux, les réfugiés acadiens ont été forcés de chercher une nouvelle patrie. Ce monument commémoratif est le plus grand acte de la culture acadienne, celui de réunir leur familles perdues. Leur plus grand désir est de reconstruire leurs familles. Rebuilding those families once by nature in the Acadian Memorial will symbolically accomplish their great mission.

Disponibles pour la location pour le Développement de Beaches en Louisiane (11001952)



For more information write to:
ACADIAN MEMORIAL
PO Box 379 Daps, LA
St. Martinville, LA 70582
Or call (504) 884-1237

Vous avez, une grande place pour
de votre nom sur notre site en
ACADIAN MEMORIAL
PO Box 379 Daps, LA
St. Martinville, LA 70582

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>SP 0164
MURALE, Tardif
Barronville Vieux
Louisiane Mémorial</p> <p>SP 0165
MURALE, Tardif
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Louisiane Mémorial</p> |
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THE ACADIAN MEMORIAL

The new poster describes the four elements of the Memorial with a French translation by Council for the Development of French in Louisiana. Its focus is the first printed reproduction of Robert Dafford's mural for the Memorial in its most recent stage. Printed in sepia ink on heavy cream-colored

stock it is a beautiful reminder of the Acadian Memorial. Mural squares are still available for a tax deductible donation of \$50 each 6" x 6" square - your permanent memorial to a loved one or to an Acadian ancestor.

Posters at \$15 (U.S.) each + \$3.50 (U.S.) shipping

Enclosed is my check/M.O. for \$ _____

Bill my _____ Mastercard _____ VISA

Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____

Name on Card _____

Address _____

Tax Deductible Donation - IRS 170 (c)(1)

Mural Squares at \$50 (U.S.) each

Mural Squares:
List name for memorial below or name and address for gift.

Memorial _____

Gift _____

ARRIVAL

(Continued from Page 1)

mural.

Also featured, is a rendering of the Acadian Memorial Building by architect Robert Barras and a partial listing from the Wall of Names. The border is enhanced with reproductions of actual signatures of some Acadians who settled in the area of St. James Parish.

"It was an emotional experience," said Polly Richard of Scott, Louisiana, who attended the Acadian World Congress and was there when the poster presentation was made. "My eyes filled with tears," she continued, "when she (Patricia Resweber) read the names on the poster." Polly responded as did many others in the audience as Patricia began the presentation with the theme of the Memorial, "Pause friend, read my name and remember". And then, she slowly read aloud each name from the partial list of the Wall of Names featured on the poster. It was a moment of great emotion. In closing, Patricia noted that her mission to the World Congress was to bring the spirit of the people remembered at the Acadian Memorial in St. Martinville, Louisiana, to the reunion of their families and once again say their names in their old homeland. "It was an opportunity", she said, "to bring the Louisiana reunion to the Acadian reunion."

NEXT MEETING:

January 18, 1995
Acadian Heritage Museum
Erath, Louisiana



Exploring scenic routes in New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island as well as Nova Scotia was the group of persons pictured above who traveled together from St. Martinville, Louisiana to attend Congr s Mondial held in New Brunswick, Canada, in August of this year. At the far right, the lady in the plaid dress is Dolores Guidry Respass of Port Arthur, Texas who, with her husband, was part of the group as the winner of the "trip for two" offered by the Memorial project last year. Dolores also sponsored the figure of Marguerite Martin on the mural with a donation of \$2000. The group is looking forward to the next Acadian World Congress which is slated to be held in Louisiana in the year 2004.

Newsletter produced by The Teche News, St. Martinville, LA

The Acadian Memorial Project

*P. O. Box 379, Dept. AM
St. Martinville, LA 70582*