

*Inscription on a bronze plaque in the Acadian Memorial garden:*

THE ETERNAL FLAME

HONORS ALL PERSONS EXILED FROM NOVA SCOTIA  
IN 1755. IT REFLECTS THE BURNING FAITH OF "THEIR SACRED  
ATTACHMENT TO THEIR HOMETLAND AND TO THEIR RELIGION"

DEDICATED 10 DECEMBER 1995

ENDORSED BY  
THE LOUISIANA JUNIOR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

SUPPORTED BY THESE CHAPTERS:

ST. MARTINVILLE  
BREAUX BRIDGE  
PARKS  
NEW IBERIA  
LAFAYETTE  
BATON ROUGE

*About the Eternal Flame*

*The Eternal Flame is the second element of the Acadian Memorial to be installed. Its source of fuel is Louisiana natural gas fed through a mechanism equipped with an electric sensor designed to restart the flame should it accidentally be extinguished. The flame rises through the center of a polished granite oval. Its surface is inscribed with the outline of the Atlantic rim and marked with the major settlement sites of the Acadian refugees. Text on the apron reads: UN PEUPLE SANS PASSE' EST UN PEUPLE SANS FUTUR --A PEOPLE WITHOUT A PAST IS A PEOPLE WITHOUT A FUTURE. A mission of the Acadian Memorial is to affirm the past and in so doing, assure the future.*

*As the element of fire is traditional in the rituals of the Catholic Church, so the Eternal Flame represents the deep attachment of the Acadian exiles to their religion. Additionally, it burns in memory of all exiles, the unwanted and the outcast, and, through the constancy of its flame symbolizes the ability of a culture to rekindle itself despite immense hardship.*

*The city of St. Martinville and the Acadian Memorial Committee and Foundation thank the Jaycee clubs listed above who provided the financial support necessary to install this element of the Acadian Memorial.*

*Acadian Memorial  
Eternal Flame Lighting Ceremony  
Sunday, December 10, 1995  
St. Martinville, Louisiana*

*1:00pm Procession from St. Martin De Tours to the Acadian Memorial*

*1:30pm Eternal Flame Ceremony*

*Master of Ceremonies - Raymond Hebert*

*Welcome - Mayor Eric Martin*

*Event Chairman - Patricia D. Resweber*

*Eternal Flame Committee - Teddy Eastin, Chair*

*Bernard Breaux*

*Sponsors:*

*St. Martinville Jaycee President - Martha Hebert*

*Louisiana Jaycees - Mike Johnson*

*Breaux Bridge Jaycee President - Johnny Carriere*

*Parks Jaycee President - Terry Borel*

*New Iberia Jaycee President - Donna Gaspard*

*Lafayette Jaycee President - Simone Degaytair*

*Baton Rouge Jaycee President - Lisa Bordelon*

*Honored Guests:*

*Acadian Memorial Committee - Jane G. Bulliard*

*Rev. Keith DeRouen, Pastor, St. Martin De Tours*

*Rev. Jean Marie Jammes*

*Rev. Kenneth Morwant*

*Rev. Donald J. Hebert*

*Rev. Msgr. Jules O. Daigle*

*Hon. Craig Romero, Senator*

*Hon. Sydney Mae Durand, Representative*

*Lighting Ceremony:*

*Blessing of the Eternal Flame - Rev. Keith DeRouen*

*Lighting of the Eternal Flame - Mr. Mike Johnson*

*Raymond Hebert - "Ave Maria Stella"*

*Entertainment:*

*The Cajun Band Cinq Sous*