

CAJUNS, CREOLES, PIRATES AND PLANTERS

Your New Louisiana Ancestors Format

Volume 3, Number 13

SEMINAR SCHEDULED: Le Comité's African American Special Interest Group (SIG) will hold a genealogical seminar on Saturday, June 25th, at the Delta Sigma Theta Life Development Center, 688 Harding Blvd., (next to Subway) on the Southern University campus in Baton Rouge.

Reginald Washington, Archivist for the Research Support Branch, National Archives and Records Administration, and African American Genealogy Specialist, will present two lectures in the morning. His topics will be *The Dawn of Freedom: Records of the Freedmen's Bureau* and *The Records of the Southern Claims Commission: A Source for African American Genealogy*.



(Editorial Note: Something you may want to check out is a short video that Washington was a part of. To mark Black History Month in February of this year, the National Archives released a short video about the collection in Washington, D.C. "Inside the Vaults" is part of the ongoing effort by the National Archives to make its collections, stories, and accomplishments more accessible to the public. "Inside the Vaults" gives voice to Archives staff and users, highlights new and exciting finds at the Archives, and reports on complicated and technical subjects in easily understandable presentations.) Here is the link.

<http://www.archives.gov/press/press-releases/2011/nr11-77.html>

In the afternoon, Sharon Batiste Gillins, pictured below, a genealogist from Galveston, Texas, will give a presentation entitled *Louisiana Conveyance Records – A Rich Resource for Genealogical Research*.

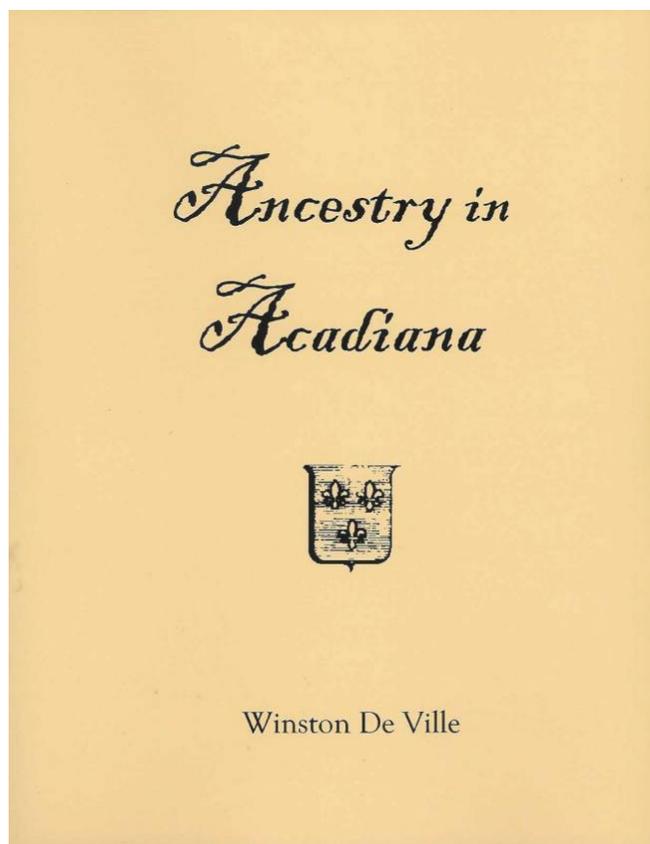


Judy Riffel of Le Comite des Archives de La Louisiane will also discuss and demonstrate some African American genealogy websites. She is one of the best genealogical researcher/preservationists in the U.S. and does outstanding presentations.

Registration begins at 9 a.m. The seminar fee is \$30 at the door. Preregistration discounts, if received by June 17th, are \$20 for Le Comité members and \$25 for non-members. Lunch is on your own. A flyer with registration information is available on Le Comité's website (www.lecomite.org).

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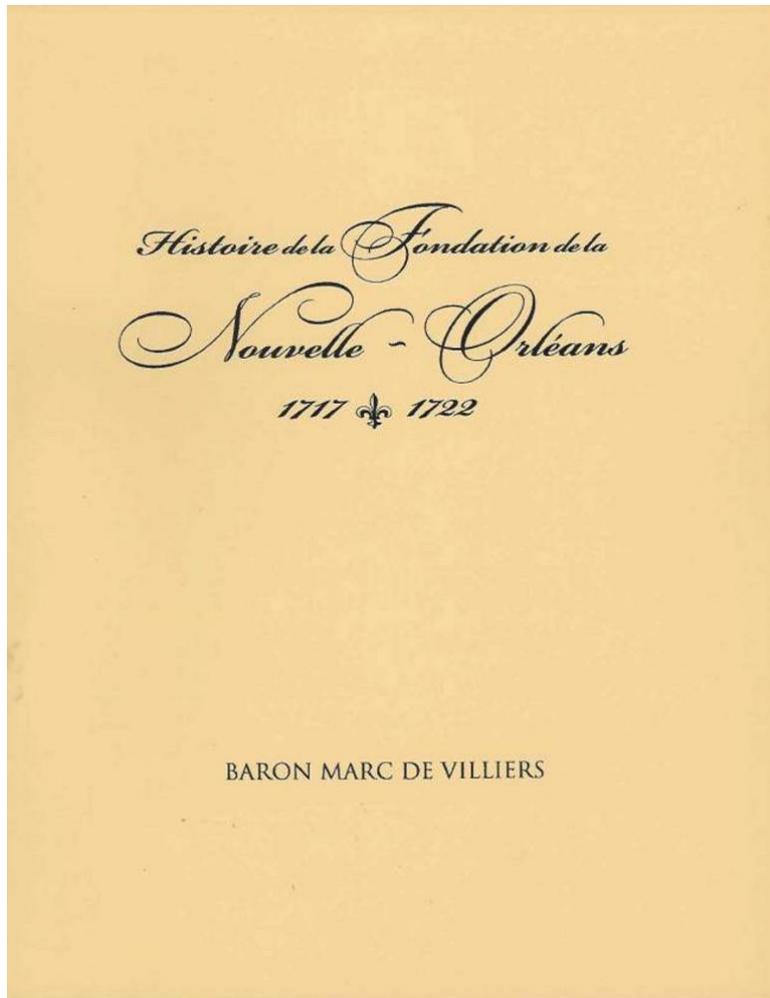
ANCESTRY WRITINGS: *Ancestry in Acadiana* is another book from Winston De Ville and recently re-published by Claitor's Publishing in Baton Rouge. It contains De Ville's selected writings for the genealogy and history of the Mississippi Valley and the Gulf Coast. While all subjects do relate to ancestry, they, by no means, all relate to Acadian genealogy. The region of Louisiana named "Acadiana" was created by legislative fiat in 1971. It includes some areas that are "Acadian" neither by origins of the first settlers nor by culture.



This collection of articles began publication in 1984 in the popular magazine, *Louisiana Profile*. The articles reflect interest in virtually every aspect of Louisiana family history and goes far to record the evolution of genealogy in the state. There are lots of interesting articles here that most researchers will find very interesting. The first edition appeared in October of 2001. It contains 101 pages, but it does not contain an index. Sometimes this is a handicap, but in this case, it would just add a page or two and a quick perusal can find you what you might be searching for anyway. This new edition from Claitor's sells for \$28.50.

HISTORY IN FRENCH: *Histoire de la Fondation de la Nouvelle Orleans: 1717-1722* is another nice research aid, but it is printed in French, so unless you can read and translate this language into English, this is not the book for you. However, if you can translate this one, it is a great one for your library.

This one is about Baron Marc de Villiers du Terrage and is from the compilation by Baron Marc De Villiers with a new foreword by Winston De Ville. The story says that Baron de Villiers of early New Orleans is undoubtedly a classic in the historiography of Louisiana. He appeared for the first time in Paris towards the end of WWI. Although his work is so famous and so often quoted, few copies of the first edition are available in public libraries and universities.



There were problems in finding details on the daily lives of the young in colonial Louisiana. This book contains many interesting gems. For instance, in addition to reporting little known but fascinating info about the major events of the founding of the city, this book chronicles some of Baron's Louisiana stories which are most interesting for the reader. It is not enough just to know when and where our ancestors lived. It is equally important to know how, and this book seems to get this subject on the right track to understanding. The book of Baron de Villiers is an excellent example of great sources in the city's early history. The new printing from Claitor's Publishing – in French - is priced at \$33.50 and is a soft-cover volume.

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FREE SERVICE: Correspondence to this column should be directed to Damon Veach, Cajuns, Creoles, Pirates and Planters, 709 Bungalow Lane, Baton Rouge, LA 70802-5337. The e-mail address is ancestorslaveach@cox.net. Queries and book reviews are printed as space permits, and you are encouraged to take advantage of this free service. Claitor's Publishing can serve as a distributor for self-published

genealogy titles. Go to their homepage for details on how you can obtain this excellent service.