



THE HISTORIC NEW ORLEANS COLLECTION

KEMPER AND LEILA WILLIAMS FOUNDATION

Manuscripts Division UPDATE

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PAPERS RELATING TO COLONIAL AND TERRITORIAL LOUISIANA AT THE HISTORIC NEW ORLEANS COLLECTION

In the context of recent readjustments of perspective among early American historians, investigations into colonial and territorial Louisiana's distinctive regional culture (always intrinsically worthwhile) claim added significance. Only a dozen years ago Hugh Kearney was complaining that "the strength of the New England myth has increased, is increasing, and ought to be diminished," but for the British colonies Jack P. Greene and others now argue for the centrality of the Chesapeake and southern colonies in the development of American culture.¹ Then or now, however, English-speaking America was never the whole story.

Contemporary scholars embrace native American cultures as well as French, Spanish, Dutch, and other European settlements from Hudson's Bay and the St. Lawrence River to the Caribbean and the Gulf of Mexico.² And students pursuing Crèvecoeur's great question—"What, then, is this American, this new man?"—may find that the answers from early Louisiana come in several languages, both sexes, and many colors. With descriptions of 94 manuscript collections and 1,388 reels of microfilm about colonial and territorial Louisiana—all of them accessible for research in the manuscripts reading room of the Historic New Orleans Collection—this issue of *Manuscripts Division Update* is an invitation to join the quest, Tuesday through Saturday, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

— Jon Kukla

NEW DIRECTOR NAMED

The appointment of Dr. Jon Kukla as director of the Historic New Orleans Collection was announced recently by Mary Louise Christovich, president of the board of directors of the Kemper and Leila Williams Foundation. Prior to coming to THNOC in May 1990 as curator of collections in charge of the research center, Dr. Kukla directed research and publications at the Virginia State Library and Archives. Born and educated in Wisconsin, he received a Ph.D. in history from the University of Toronto. Dr. Kukla's extensive published scholarship embraces the southern colonies and early American intellectual and political history. He is active in Louisiana, southern, and national historical associations.

Dr. Kukla succeeds Dode Platou, who has directed THNOC since 1986. With her retirement, Mrs. Platou becomes director emerita.

¹ Hugh Kearney, "The Problem of Perspective in the History of Colonial America," in *The Westward Enterprise: English Activities in Ireland, the Atlantic, and America 1480-1650*, eds. K. R. Andrews, N. P. Canny, and P. E. H. Hair (Detroit and Liverpool, 1979), 290-302; Jack P. Greene, *Pursuits of Happiness: The Social Development of Early Modern British Colonies and the Formation of American Culture* (Chapel Hill and London, 1988); Jon Kukla, "Order and Chaos in Early America: Political and Social Stability in Pre-Restoration Virginia," *American Historical Review* 90 (1985): 297-98.

² E.g., D. W. Meinig, *Atlantic America, 1492-1800* (New Haven, 1986) and Greene, "Interpretive Frameworks: The Quest for Intellectual Order in Early American History," *William and Mary Quarterly*, 3d ser., 48 (1991): 515-30.

The cutoff date for inclusion in this issue is April 30, 1812, the date Louisiana became a state. For those collections that include materials after that date as well, the colonial and territorial item count is given in parentheses.

MSS 13 Ernest Caliste Villeré Papers, 1691-1981.

The colonial portion of these papers consists of military appointments and orders issued to Guillaume Duvergé by Vincent Guillaume Le Sénéchal d'Auberville (1755), Louis de Kerlerec (1758, 1759), and Bernardo de Gálvez (1778); and an appointment issued to Bartolomé Duvergé by Baron de Carondelet (1793). Also included are correspondence and genealogical material on the Duvergé and Villeré families. French, Spanish, English; 96 items (6 items).

MSS 23 Acadian Parish Records, 1806-1829.

The Acadian Parish records consist of statements of fees paid by residents for the registration of lands in Ascension, St. James, and Iberville parishes (1806, 1807, 1808, 1811). The statements list the inhabitants, the kind and value of their lands, and the fees due. French; 3 items (2 items).

MSS 29 Louis Durand Letter, 1783 August 11.

In this letter written to Mademoiselle Gèneviévé Voyart, a free woman of color residing in Cap Français, Saint-Domingue, Louis Durand, a free man of color, describes his safe arrival in Louisiana and inquires about family and friends. French; 1 item.

MSS 39 Jean Baptiste Le Moyne, sieur de Bienville, Survey, 1737.

This item is a 1783 copy by Carlos Trudeau of the original 1737 survey of Bienville's plantation across the river below New Orleans. Recorded by Ignace Broutin in 1741, the survey explains the procedure used to measure the boundaries. French; 1 item.

MSS 44 Slavery in Louisiana Papers, 1785-1860.

Pre-statehood slavery material includes items on the slave trade with Africa (1794) and on runaway slaves (1785, 1811). French, Spanish, English; 88 items (3 items).

MSS 55 Dominique You Papers, 1812-1813.

This collection consists primarily of business papers of the French ship *Le Pandoure* and her captain, Dominique You. The near destruction of the ship and the serious injury to Captain You during a storm on the Mississippi River below New Orleans are described in a series of affidavits (23 August 1812). French, English; 33 items (1 item).

MSS 59 William Charles Cole Claiborne Collection, 1775-1817.

In addition to letters from Claiborne, this collection includes the appointments of Shepherd Brown as judge in St. Helena Parish, Pierre Derbigny as official interpreter of French and Spanish for the U.S. government in Louisiana, and Thomas C. Nicholls as justice of the peace in the parish of Orleans. Also included are a bank check signed by Claiborne, Claiborne's appointment as governor of Louisiana, and a passport and

marriage license authorized by Claiborne. French, English; 10 items (8 items).

MSS 65 Grima Family Papers, 1788-1814.

The collection consists of property transactions and certified copies of baptismal records of the Grima family in New Orleans and related members of the Filiosa and Montegut families. French, Spanish, English; 14 items (8 items).

MSS 68 Edward Livingston Letters, 1809, 1821.

A letter from Livingston to John H. Causten dated 14 June 1809 urges that the Senate committee under Causten introduce legislation for the relief of exiles from Santo Domingo, many of whom immigrated to New Orleans when forced to flee Cuba. 2 items (1 item).

MSS 79 Spanish Colonial Land Grant Papers, 1767-1834.

The collection consists of petitions for land grants, conferred grants, and certified copies of acts of sale and land grants. Also included is a request by Felipe de Bastrop for an exchange of property. The papers concern the Attakapas, Opelousas, Bayou Plaquemine, Natchez, Natchitoches, and Ouachita regions. Spanish; 21 items (20 items).

MSS 87 Adam Boyd Succession, 1806 December 23.

Boyd's property—a dwelling on the west bank of the river facing the fort of Baton Rouge, bordered above by the land of Miguel Mahier and below by that of Pauline Allain—was sold to Alejandro Patin at auction on 29 June 1800. The document is certified, signed, and sealed in Baton Rouge by Don Carlos de Grand-Pré, colonel of the Royal Army and governor of Baton Rouge. Spanish; 1 item.

MSS 88 Nicolas Michel Edmond Forstall Receipt, 1772 June 3.

This receipt was issued by Martín Navarro, treasurer of the province of Louisiana, to Nicolas Forstall, New Orleans, for payment for his position as *regidor* (councilman) on the Cabildo. French, Spanish; 1 item.

MSS 89 Spanish Colonial Liquor Taxation Letters, 1796.

In a letter dated 13 May 1796, Juan de Castanedo, superintendent of public lands in New Orleans, asks the Cabildo to clarify liquor taxation regulations. In response to Castanedo's request, Pedro Pedesclaux, notary of the Cabildo, asks Governor Carondelet to have Juan Ventura Morales, interim intendant, inform Castanedo of the quantities of liquor brought into the city. Pedesclaux states that liquor brought into the city from Europe is exempt from duty. A letter dated 21 July 1796 from Juan Ventura Morales and Baron de Carondelet to Castanedo allows Castanedo access to the records of goods arriving in the port for the purpose of reporting the amount of tax owed on incoming liquor. Spanish; 2 items.

MSS 91 Spanish Colonial Land Sale Approval, 1804 November 8.

In a royal order of 29 May 1804 from Juan Ventura Morales, Aranjuez, to the Ministry of the Royal Treasury, Morales states that the king [Carlos IV] has approved the sale of royal lands in the district of Baton Rouge. Original copy was signed by Gilberto Leonard and Manuel Armirez, New Orleans. Spanish; 1 item.

MSS 92 New Orleans Leper Hospital Collection, 1796-1802.

This collection consists of documents concerning the financial accounts of the Hospital of San Lazaro (for lepers) during the period in which Juan de Castanedo served as controller of finances. Spanish; 4 items.

MSS 94 Claude Perrin Victor Papers, 1802-1804.

General Victor had been appointed captain general of French Louisiana, but did not assume the position because of the sale of Louisiana to the United States. The papers include Victor's correspondence with other French officials including Louis Alexandre Berthier (minister of war), Denis Decrés (minister of the marine and the colonies), and Pierre Clément Laussat (colonial prefect of Louisiana). Particular detail is paid to the Louisiana Expedition, which was scheduled to sail for Louisiana on 27 November 1802, though it never departed. French; 38 items.

MSS 98 Louisiana Commercial Memoranda, 1782 April 11.

These memoranda concern Louisiana's trade and commercial ties with Spain and France, the trade policies of Bernardo de Gálvez, recommendations for commercial reform, and smuggling between Louisiana and Mexico. French; 2 items.

MSS 100 Henri de Ste. Gême Papers, 1799-1904.

The papers contain correspondence pertaining to Ste. Gême's affairs in Louisiana, the manufacture of sugar, New Orleans social life, Santo Domingo, and the Louisiana Militia (1802-16). French, English; 849 items (16 items).

MSS 102 Butler Family Papers, 1778-1975.

The family papers of Edward George Washington Butler consist of correspondence among family members, the papers of Andrew Hynes as Adjutant General of Tennessee (1812-15), the papers of Edmund Pendleton Gaines (1816-32), and family military and property records. E. G. W. Butler was married to Frances Parke Lewis, daughter of Eleanor Parke Custis Lewis, the adopted daughter of Martha and George Washington, and Lawrence Lewis of Woodlawn Plantation. Andrew Jackson served as guardian for E. G. W. Butler after the death of his father, Col. Edward Butler.

The pre-statehood items primarily concern the landholdings

of Joseph M. and Charles Braud in Iberville Parish. The property, located on the right bank of the Mississippi River, was acquired by the Braud brothers from the widow of Guillaume Barret. Included are procès-verbaux, land surveys, and certified copies of acts of sale. The collection also contains two letters from John Parke Custis (1778, 1780) discussing Virginia social and economic matters and military and political aspects of the American Revolution. 2,034 items (10 items).

MSS 103 Dauberville-Bouligny Family Papers, 1618-1964.

The Dauberville-Bouligny family papers include correspondence (1733-1867), legal and military papers (1618-1860), and genealogical material for both the Dauberville and Bouligny families in Europe and Louisiana. The bulk of the collection consists of land tenure documents and succession settlements involving land in and near Brest, France (1618-1743). Of special interest are the papers of Louis Charles Le Sénéchal d'Auberville, Royal Naval ensign and head of the Company of Vallerenne in New France (1688-96); the papers of his son, Vincent Guillaume Le Sénéchal d'Auberville, intendant commissary of Louisiana (1752-57); and the papers of Francisco and Louis Bouligny, officers of the Louisiana Infantry in the service of Spain. Genealogical material also refers to the Petit de Coulange, Dreaux, and Didier families. French, Spanish, English; 189 items (131 items).

MSS 125 Pierre Clément Laussat Papers, 1769-1835.

The Laussat papers relate to the retrocession of Louisiana from Spain to France and the subsequent transfer of the territory to the United States. Included are correspondence, administrative and fiscal reports, and relevant documents of the Spanish colonial administration gathered by Laussat (1756-1835), the French colonial prefect at the time of the transfer. English, French, Spanish; 642 items (593 items).

MSS 126 Memoires sur ma vie, á mon fils, pendant les Années 1803 et suivantes, que j'ai rempli des fonctions publiques, savoir à la Louisiane, en qualité de Commissaire du Gouvernement Français pour la reprise de possession de cette Colonie et pour sa remise aux Etats-Unis, 1831.

In his memoirs, Laussat discusses life in colonial Louisiana, the announcement of the Louisiana Purchase by the United States, his role as commissioner for the retrocession of Louisiana from Spain to France, and his role as commissioner for the transfer of Louisiana to the United States. French; 2 volumes.

MSS 127 Mission Politique á la Louisiane, la Martinique et la Guyane en 1803 et années suivantes. Tom. 1., 1803 January 8-1804 April.

This volume contains Laussat's notes on his mission in Louisiana which were later used as the basis for his published memoirs. French, 1 volume.

MSS 132 Robert R. Livingston Letter, 1803 April 3.

Robert Livingston, U.S. minister to France, informs Secretary of State James Madison that Napoleon Bonaparte, First Consul of France, is unexpectedly willing to sell the entire Louisiana Territory to the United States. The letter details the evasive tactics used by the French foreign minister, Charles Maurice de Talleyrand, and the French finance minister, François, marquis de Barbé-Marbois, in negotiating the sale.
1 item.

MSS 139 Thomas Jefferson Letter, 1808 July 18.

Jefferson informs the marquis de Lafayette that according to information received from Armand Gabriel Allard Duplantier, it would be inexpedient to sell his lands in Pointe Coupée Parish. Jefferson mentions the sale's possible effects on Lafayette's controversial land claims near New Orleans.
1 item.

MSS 142 James Wilkinson Letter, 1801 January 30.

James Wilkinson, Pittsburgh, writes a letter of introduction for Mr. J. Pintard of New York to the Honorable William Dunbar of Natchez.
1 item.

MSS 148 Clark-Gallatin Papers, 1802 June 2-August 16.

This correspondence between U.S. Secretary of the Treasury Albert Gallatin and Daniel Clark, consul for the United States in New Orleans, concerns the appropriation of funds to care for sick and disabled seamen. While the funds were not sufficient to establish a hospital, Gallatin informs Clark that President Jefferson has appointed Dr. William Bache of Franklin, Virginia, to care for sick seamen in New Orleans.
3 items.

MSS 157 Record Book of Claims Court, New Orleans, 1789-1792.

The daily records of the claims court contain information on properties confiscated by decree of Spanish officials in New Orleans. Many entries refer to properties and slaves transferred in payment of debt.
Spanish; 1 volume.

MSS 161 Marquis de Lafayette Letter, 1803 June 1.

Lafayette writes to James McHenry, a member of his staff and secretary to George Washington during the Revolutionary War, expressing his joy over the Louisiana Purchase and the land granted him by Congress. Lafayette conveys his distress over the war between England and France. Personal and family matters are also mentioned.
1 item.

MSS 165 Furcy Verret Papers, 1752-1875.

The Verret Papers consist primarily of records of land transactions in Algiers, Louisiana. Most of the documents are notarized copies of the original acts. Mentioned are the Hugon, D'Auterive, Voisin, Villeré, Delachaise, Bienvenue, Olivier,

and Bellet family properties. The papers include three surveys by Carlos Trudeau.
French; 55 items (14 items).

MSS 166 Samuel Wilson, Jr., Collection of St. Louis Cathedral Papers, 1808-1852.

The collection consists of correspondence, financial records, and related documents concerning the St. Louis Cathedral and the efforts of the *marquilliers* (church wardens) to improve and embellish the cathedral. A letter written in 1808 by Père Antoine de Sedella concerning a clock the city council wished to place in the cathedral tower provides insight into the conduct of church affairs and business. Sedella states clearly that his duties are strictly pastoral in nature, and that all matters concerning the material and temporal administration of the church are the responsibility of the church wardens.
French; 25 items (1 item).

MSS 168 Schaumburg-Wright Family Papers, 1800-1896.

This collection is post-territorial, with the exception of a letter dated 22 April 1800 from Manuel de Lanzos, captain of the Louisiana Fixed Regiment, to John McCleary, commandant of Fort Stoddard, concerning Indian unrest in the area. De Lanzos mentions the accidental killing of an Indian by the Spanish at Pensacola and warns of Indian discontent and possible retaliation for this incident. He notes that three Indians were killed by the Spanish at Appalache.
25 items (1 item).

MSS 171 Boulogny-Baldwin Family Papers, 1710-1863.

Most of these papers concern the career of Spanish soldier and administrator Francisco Boulogny (1736-1800). They include official and personal correspondence, appointments, commissions, and a version of Boulogny's 1776 "Memoria" in which he proposes various ways to develop the province of Louisiana.
French, Spanish, English; 148 items (103 items).

MSS 178 Reports on the Cession of Louisiana to Spain by France, 1762.

The first report, by Julien de Arriaga, is divided into four sections—the discovery of the region, French activity in the province, the differences between Spanish and French political organization, and Florida's governance and boundaries. The second is a report on the actual state of affairs by Santiago Disdier. It details the strategic importance of the Mississippi River, New Orleans, English Turn, Pointe Coupée, the posts of Natchez and Arkansas, and the presidio of Natchitoches.
Spanish; 2 volumes.

MSS 184 Journal de la Navigation de la Frégate du Roy l'Opale, 1758-1759.

Captained by the chevalier de Plas, the *Opale* sailed from La Rochelle to bring military reinforcements and provisions to Louisiana. The shipment had been delayed by the early stages of the French and Indian War. The log book contains detailed

information about the ship's measurements, number of soldiers carried on board, the officers' roster, and an account of the voyage.

French; 1 volume.

MSS 186 Rear Admiral Robert Aitchison (ret.) Memoir, 1808-1827.

Admiral Aitchison's memoir covers his naval career from his entry into the Royal Navy at age thirteen to his voyage as captain of the brig *Clio*. The memoir is primarily concerned with Aitchison's travels and experiences on various ships during the Napoleonic Wars and the War of 1812.

1 volume.

MSS 187 Greenberry Dorsey Papers, 1788-1790.

Esteban Miro, Spanish governor of Louisiana, supported foreign immigration and partial opening of the Mississippi River to American commerce. The collection documents Miro's interest in encouraging immigration to Louisiana. Dorsey's petition to immigrate to New Orleans, the acceptance of his petition, his passport, and a character statement are included.

Spanish, English; 7 items.

MSS 241 O'Brien-LaSere Family Papers, 1634-1909.

These papers consist of land titles, acts of sale, and legal documents relating to the O'Brien and LaSere families in New Orleans and Shieldsborough, Mississippi. The plantation acts of sale contain detailed inventories of the properties, including buildings, livestock, and slaves.

French, Spanish, English; 41 items (6 items).

MSS 246 Edwin Forman Phelps Papers, 1783-1916.

The Phelps Papers consist of correspondence, a travel diary, genealogical and biographical materials, and other information relating to the Phelps family. A letter from Isaac Ledyard written in June 1783 to his sister, Lucy Phelps, mentions her husband's entering navigation or other trade. In another letter to Lucy Phelps written in April 1791, Mrs. Mary Forman mentions her fear of the Indians and "emigration" items to be sent to Lucy with Mr. Forman.

220 items (2 items).

MSS 255 Wilkinson-Stark Family Papers, 1799-1978.

The correspondence of Horatio Stark, a soldier at various forts on the Mississippi River, describes life on the frontier.

150 items (14 items).

MSS 264 Colonial French Louisiana Letter Collection, 1642-1803.

Included in this collection are letters concerning the Company of the Indies, slave sales, plantation life, wildlife, and hostilities between Spain and France.

French, Spanish; 5 items.

MSS 268 Acts of the Royal French Administration Concerning the Company of the Indies in Louisiana, 1717-1771.

These acts of the French royal administration primarily concern the Company of the Indies in Louisiana, with details about its establishment, securing of trade and land rights, and provisions for settlers.

French; 25 items.

MSS 277 Mathew's City of New Orleans Collection, 1804-1915.

This collection reflects two basic governmental concerns: municipal services and money. Among topics represented are construction projects, fire companies, paving, police, property rental, street cleaning, street lighting, and tax and toll collection.

French, English; 127 items (16 items).

MSS 306 Spanish Louisiana Collection, 1769-1803.

Documenting various aspects of life under Spanish rule, this collection contains accounts receivable, fee schedules, auction announcements, invoices, letters, proclamations, regulations concerning land concessions, and requests for land surveys. Andrés Almonester y Roxas, Baron de Carondelet, Juan Ventura Morales, Alejandro O'Reilly, and Pedro Pedesclaux are among major Spanish figures represented.

French, Spanish; 18 items.

MSS 307 The Early Charity Hospital, 1737-1827.

Written by Dr. John Castellanos in 1897 and dedicated to "Fellow members of the Charity Hospital of Louisiana Alumni Association," this essay traces the development of Charity Hospital in New Orleans from 1737 through 1827. Included are translations of various French and Spanish documents concerning Charity Hospital.

1 volume.

MSS 308 Charity Hospital of New Orleans Collection, 1793-1850.

This collection includes a typescript of the constitution and by-laws of Charity Hospital (1793) and a letter concerning the administration of the hospital (1811).

French, Spanish, English; 2 items, 3 volumes (2 items).

MSS 309 Treaty of Friendship with Indians, 1794 May 16.

The treaty appoints Petit Oiseau, an Osage Indian, an honorary captain in recognition of his service to Spain.

Spanish; 1 item.

MSS 310 Luís de Unzaga Order, 1773 September 11.

Unzaga's order requires all residents of the province to submit to the Cabildo or commander of each district a report on the number of slaves owned. Provisions for the payment of fines and treatment of runaway slaves are also discussed.

French; 1 item.

MSS 311 Philip Mason Memorandum, 1806.

This memorandum gives instructions for the operation of Philip Mason's fire engine: how to create suction in the hose and to maintain the water flow.

1 item.

MSS 312 Myra Clark Gaines Collection, 1802-1946.

The collection includes five certified copies of Spanish colonial documents concerning land on Canal Street and in uptown New Orleans that was involved in this famous nineteenth-century legal case.

French, Spanish, English; 8 items (5 items).

MSS 313 Court Judgment against Aaron Gocham, 1812.

The government of the Territory of Orleans orders the sheriff of Feliciana Parish to collect from Aaron Gocham \$1,051.21½ in fines and \$15.62½ in fees awarded to John H. Johnson in a court case. If Gocham cannot pay, an equivalent in real estate and slaves is to be seized.

1 item.

MSS 314 Bernardo de Gálvez Collection, 1782-1933.

Included in this collection are Gálvez's patent of nobility, conferred by Carlos III in 1783; printed accounts of his actions in Mobile and Pensacola; the announcement of the appointment of his uncle, José de Gálvez, as marquis of Sonora; and an account of the funeral of Matías de Gálvez, his father. Edward Larocque Tinker's *Louisiana's Earliest Poet: Julien Poydras and the Paeans to Gálvez* (New York: New York Public Library, 1933) is also included.

French, Spanish, English; 7 items (6 items).

MSS 315 French Louisiana Documents, 1729-1765.

These French colonial documents relate to economics, medicine, Indians, slavery, and social conditions in Louisiana.

French; 5 items.

MSS 316 Barthélémy Lafon's Contract Book, 1804-1821.

This contract book was used by Barthélémy Lafon (1769-1820) for his construction projects in the New Orleans area. It includes elevations, plans, and details of agreements with carpenters, masons, and surveyors.

French, English; 1 volume.

MSS 317 Baron de Carondelet Proclamation, 1792 October 9.

This proclamation, issued by Baron de Carondelet and Andrés López Armesti, appoints François Gonsolin surveyor for the Attakapas District of Louisiana.

Spanish; 1 item.

MSS 318 Boyd Cruise City of New Orleans Collection, 1810-1822.

Included in this collection is a *Mandat de Payment* to S. Rigaud for the use of his slave Jean Pierre, who worked "in chains" for the city.

French; 3 items (1 item).

MSS 319 Barthélémy Lafon Letter, 1812 January 8.

Jedidiah Morse, the "father of American geography," sent pages of his geography to Blaise Cenas. Cenas, in turn, asked Barthélémy Lafon to examine the work. Lafon writes to Morse, in Charleston, Massachusetts, to compliment him. Lafon states that he is sending Morse two almanacs and offers assistance in locating further information on "this country."

French; 1 item.

MSS 320 Elias Durnford Directive, 1776 April 20.

This directive orders Surveyor General Elias Durnford to survey an area of British West Florida; it is accompanied by the original manuscript survey map of the grants made to Isaac Mitchell. The directive is signed by Governor Peter Chester.

2 items.

MSS 321 Marquis de Lafayette Bond, 1808 July 12.

This manuscript bond acknowledges Lafayette's debt to Henry Preble of Portland, Massachusetts, in the penal sum of 262,203 francs and 20 centimes. Under the conditions of the bond, if Lafayette pays the sum of 131,101 francs and 60 centimes on or before 26 July 1811, this obligation is void. On 17 March 1812 Preble acknowledges having received 131,101 francs and 60 centimes in full payment for the capital and interest, and states that he has no claim on the land in Louisiana that Lafayette has sold to Sir John Coghill the same day.

1 item.

MSS 323 Enoult Lyvoidais Appointment, 1754 February 1.

Enoult Lyvoidais is appointed second ensign of the Louisiana Infantry replacing Ensign Bellisle.

French; 1 item.

MSS 324 Albert Gallatin Letter, 1810 September 7.

Albert Gallatin, secretary of the treasury, writes to Jonathan Burrall, New York, asking him to purchase 50,000 pounds sterling in London to be used to pay interest on money borrowed for the Louisiana Purchase.

1 item.

MSS 325 Certification of Message from the President of the United States [Thomas Jefferson] to Congress, 1807 February 28.

James Madison, secretary of the department of state, certifies that the attached *Message from the President of the United States, transmitting a letter from the Ministers of the United States, at London on the subject of negotiations, and a letter from the Minister Plenipotentiary at Paris, relative to the late imperial decree, also a letter from Cowles Mead, acting governor of the Mississippi Territory respecting the surrender of Aaron Burr* (Washington City: Duane and Son, 1807) is a genuine copy of the communication sent by the president to Congress. The Senate requested that the message be printed.

French, English; 1 item.

MSS 326 Jean François Merieult Power of Attorney, 1810.

Executed in Le Havre, France, this document transfers power of attorney from Sieur Etienne-Victor Le Janvre of Le Havre to Jean François Merieult of New Orleans. Le Janvre was an agent acting under power of attorney for Marie-Anne François Furet, spouse of Sieur François Morin. Merieult was to handle the New Orleans portion of the succession of Jean Baptiste Nicolas, first cousin of Morin. On the reverse, the document is certified as authentic by the American consul in Paris.

French, English; 1 item.

MSS 327 Etat des Bois, 1748.

This statement details the amount of wood needed to reinforce and level the large storehouse in New Orleans and designates François Laviolette as the carpenter responsible for the project. It is approved by Ignace François Broutin, royal engineer of Louisiana.

French; 1 item.

MSS 328 Land Tenure Record Collection, 1793-1836.

Included in this collection are a mortgage of Grand Encore plantation (on the Red River near Natchitoches) by John Sibley to Joseph Saul (1810), and a deed of conveyance for land in the Natchez District from John Brady to Nicholas Raab (1793).

French, English; 5 items (2 items).

MSS 329 Spanish New Orleans Chimney Tax Records, 1796.

These items record chimney tax collections from the four *barrios* (wards) of New Orleans for 1796. Citizens are listed by house number and the amount taxed. Among households listed are those of Andrés Almonester y Roxas, Francisco Bouligny, Gilberto Guillemard, Juan Francisco Merieult, and Pedro Pedesclaux. Each report is signed by two royal officials, Andrés López Armesto and Juan de Castanedo.

Spanish; 4 items.

MSS 330 Government of the Territory of Orleans Tax Form, 1811 May 27.

Issued by the government of the territory of Orleans, this form instructs Sheriff Dalton of Feliciana Parish to notify John Brown of his tax debt. It is signed by James M. Bradford, clerk of court, and John Rhea, parish judge.

1 item.

MSS 331 Barthélémy Lafon Land Tenure Records, 1798-1818.

Lafon's controversial claim to land located between New Orleans and the Faubourg Ste. Marie is documented in this collection. In 1798, Lafon successfully petitioned the Spanish government for the land and for permission to establish a foundry on it. Although his claim was confirmed by the American government, he did not settle with the city until 11 days before his death in 1820. Included is a 1798 survey by Carlos Trudeau of the property in question.

French, Spanish; 4 items (3 items).

MSS 332 Land Tenure Record of John Nancarrow, 1806 May 23.

Prepared by Samuel Cook, this survey describes the properties of John Nancarrow situated on the Red River near Natchitoches. The survey includes an illustration of Fort Claiborne.

1 item.

MSS 333 Morgan-Wetherill Letters, 1806-1807.

This correspondence between Benjamin Morgan, New Orleans, and Samuel Wetherill, Philadelphia, concerns family matters and Aaron Burr's conspiracy.

2 items.

MSS 334 Bernardo de Gálvez Letter, 1779 November 15.

In this letter to Señor Joachin de [?], Bernardo de Gálvez discusses personal business, a slave sale, and financial matters.

Spanish; 1 item.

MSS 335 James Wilkinson Estate Collection, 1796-1828.

Included in this collection is an act of sale for property in Frankfort, Kentucky, that James Wilkinson sold to Nicholas Lafon (28 September 1796).

29 items (1 item).

MSS 336 Bouligny Family Papers, 1799-1876.

Joseph de Maison Rouge (d. 1799), a French aristocrat who came to Louisiana to escape the Revolution, received a large land grant from Spain to attract immigrants to Louisiana. Maison Rouge died at the residence of Francisco Bouligny. Bouligny produced a will, dictated to the notary Pedro Pedesclaux by Maison Rouge the day before his death, in which Maison Rouge bequeathed his lands to Francisco Bouligny's youngest son, Luis. Francisco Bouligny was accused of forging the will and poisoning Maison Rouge. Documentation in this collection includes material used to substantiate the Bouligny claims as well as the claims of the children of Maison Rouge.

French, Spanish, English; 44 items (7 items).

MSS 337 Jean Baptiste McCarty Letter, 1782 November 16.

Jean Baptiste McCarty (1750-1808) instructs Joseph Feu of Havana to pay Thomas McIntire 1000 pesos in settlement of an account.

Spanish, English; 1 item.

MSS 338 Philander Chase Letter, 1805 December 11.

In this letter to John Reade, Poughkeepsie, New York, the Rev. Philander Chase reports on his arrival in New Orleans. He describes the city, the Mississippi River, plantations, fertile soil, crops, and the climate.

1 item.

MSS 339 Santo Domingo Refugee's Letter, 1802.

During the 1802 slave uprising in Santo Domingo, two

neighbors, Sabourand and Longuet, escaped from the island, neither knowing the fate of the other. Longuet made his way to Cuba and then moved to New Orleans. Sabourand escaped by ship to Baltimore, traveled to New England, and eventually settled in France. In this letter from France, Sabourand responds joyfully to a letter from Longuet in Cuba. Sabourand describes his narrow escape in which he was assisted by a free person of color.

French; 1 item.

MSS 340 Raymond and Roger Weill Collection, 1716-1909.

Included in this collection is a letter from John Baptiste Charles Lucas (1738-1842), district judge of the Northern District of Louisiana, to Governor James Wilkinson requesting the selection of a place and time for the meeting of the territorial legislature (1805). Another letter dated 30 July 1808 complains about the city council's actions in the election of Barthélemy Lafon as an alderman. The election was declared null because Lafon was reportedly not a resident of the district in which he ran. In response, Lafon placed notices in the city's newspapers stating that his residence was indeed in the appropriate district. The city council accepted Lafon's position and declared him the winner. The collection also includes correspondence dated 1810 to Robert Porter, acting collector of the Custom House in New Orleans, concerning conditions of boats and of the port in general.

French, English; 126 items (3 items).

MSS 341 Alexander Miller Daybook, 1810-1814.

The day book of Alexander Miller, a carpenter and builder in Natchez, records his work on the residences of James Andrews and of John Linton, a prominent planter of the region.

1 volume.

MSS 342 LeBreton Family Papers, 1652-1982.

Colonial and territorial items in this collection consist of successions, succession status reports, marriage contracts, acts of sale, baptismal certificates, and other documents relating to the de Boré and LeBreton families. The papers refer to such allied families as de la Freniere and Destrehan.

French, Spanish, English; 272 items (24 items).

MSS 343 Elisabeth House Trist Letter, 1807 June 16.

Written to Mary (Peachy) Gilmer in Martinsville, Henry County, Virginia, Mrs. Trist's letter gives a cogent and detailed account of her views on Aaron Burr's trial for treason. She ridicules the rumor that President Jefferson is trying to "sink Monroe" to insure that Madison will succeed to the executive office. The letter concludes with a long, colorful account of the recent duel between Daniel Clark and Governor Claiborne.

1 item.

MSS 344 Nicolas de Verbois Collection, 1781-1789.

Nicolas de Verbois was born in 1752 in New Orleans. A career military officer, he served with Gálvez in the Pensacola

campaigns. According to the service record prepared in 1797, he served some 15 years at the Iberville Post. Included are letters to him and wills that he certified during his tenure as post commandant.

French, Spanish; 5 items.

MSS 345 Samuel Wilson, Jr., City of New Orleans Collection, 1782-1974.

While most of the collection covers the years 1820-45, it includes an approval of payment for repairs to public buildings (1782) and excerpts from the minutes of the city council authorizing the mayor to purchase the Tremé property on Bayou Road (1810).

French, Spanish, English; 80 items (3 items).

MSS 346 Catharine Toupard Estate Inventory, 1806.

This inventory, prepared by Alexandre Garnot, testamentary executor of the estate of Catharine Toupard, lists the property she owned in the Attakapas District.

1 item.

MSS 347 Manchac Land Tenure Records, 1794-1822.

Included in this collection are plats prepared by Carlos Trudeau for land near Bayou Manchac with associated letters patent. The plat dated 1794 has the alpha/numeric classification of D73/T581 and shows the property of John McKeong. The second item, a copy (1822) of a survey dated 1799, describes the property of Santo Larche.

Spanish, English; 2 items.

MSS 348 Champel Letters, 1781-1782.

Writing to his cousin Jacques Joseph Sorrel in the Attakapas District, Champel gives an account of his voyage to Pensacola to pick up cargo and prisoners. The mission failed because of weather conditions. The second letter is an unofficial, eyewitness report of preparations for the celebration in New Orleans of Bernardo de Gálvez's successful campaign in Pensacola.

French; 2 items.

MSS 349 Bernardo de Gálvez Marriage Certificate, 1777 November 2.

This is a copy of the marriage certificate of Bernardo de Gálvez and Marie Félicité de St. Maxent from the marriage register of the St. Louis Cathedral, New Orleans. It is signed and certified by Constantine Maenhaut, pastor of the cathedral from 1850 to 1864.

Spanish; 1 item.

MSS 350 Evaluation of Luís Vilemont Report, 1799 May 19.

Luís Vilemont served the French and then the Spanish government in colonial Louisiana. A naturalist, he made trips to Virginia, Pennsylvania, Upper Louisiana, Canada, and New Mexico for the Spanish crown. Vilemont sent three reports to the secretary of the Indies outlining his suggestions on

finances, Indians, and immigration to Louisiana. Francisco Requena and Bernardo Yriarte were Spanish officials assigned to evaluate Vilemont's reports. They concurred with Vilemont that Indians on the colony's borders should be weaned from dependence on the United States and discouraged from engaging in commerce with British subjects. They urged Spain to protect the otter-skin industry and to use Louisiana as a buffer against Anglo-American ambitions in Mexico. Vilemont's suggestions were not acted upon by the Spanish. Spanish; 1 item.

MSS 351 Letter from Francisco Requena to Miguel Cayetano Soler, 1799 May 19.

Miguel Cayetano Soler was treasurer of Spain during the late eighteenth century. Requena's letter expresses the concern of Spanish officials about the encroachment of Anglo-Americans in Louisiana and the interest of the American government in the territory. Spanish; 1 item.

MSS 352 Déclaration du Roy concernant les ordres religieux et gens de main morte établis aux colonies françois de l'amérique, 1743 November 25.

The document's importance rests in its 23 articles detailing the governance of religious orders and other tax-exempt organizations in the French colonies, particularly in Louisiana. Issued only a few months after Pierre Rigaud, marquis de Vaudreuil-Cavagnial, replaced Bienville as governor, the regulations reflect Vaudreuil's stringent Catholicism. He demands the strict observance of all religious regulations. The document notes that the Catholic church cannot accept slaves as part of bequests, nor can it receive money derived from the sale of slaves.

French; 1 item.

MSS 353 City of New Orleans Mandats de Payment, 1806-1830.

These orders were issued by the mayor to the treasurer to pay for services rendered to the city by various individuals, including night watchmen, constables, carriage makers, and the city overseer.

French; 347 items (62 items).

MSS 355 Observations sur la Colonie de la Louisiane, 1796-1802.

This manuscript copy of James Pitot's original account of the last years of Spain's domination of Louisiana and the lower Mississippi Valley is a commentary on and an analysis of Spanish policies. Pitot, a leading French businessman in New Orleans, provides information on social customs, race relations, police administration, judicial procedures, agriculture, Indian trade, religion, commercial relations between the United States and Spanish Louisiana, and an analytical topography of the area. Published as *Observations on the Colony of Louisiana from 1796 to 1802* by James Pitot (Baton Rouge: Louisiana

State University Press for the Historic New Orleans Collection, 1979).

French; 1 volume.

MSS 356 Charles Pinckney Letter, 1804 March 4.

Charles Pinckney, Madrid, writes to William Lee, agent for the commercial affairs of the United States of America, Bordeaux, concerning the delivery of his mail. Pinckney mentions the objection of the king of Spain to France's sale of Louisiana to the United States.

English; 1 item.

MSS 357 Albert Gallatin Letter, 1807 July 29.

This letter from Albert Gallatin, U.S. secretary of the treasury, to James Brown, U.S. agent for land claims in New Orleans, pertains to the grant of part of the commons to the corporation of New Orleans. Gallatin suggests that proper attention be given to the measurement of the distance and form of release required from the corporation for the adjacent ground.

English; 1 item.

MSS 359 Macarty, New Orleans, to Monsieur, 1745 November 12.

Macarty voices his concerns about the d'Artagnan concession. He raises legal questions about money owed the Company of the Indies and a slave sale. He protests certain aspects of the sale and expresses his regret at not being able to go to France to deal directly with the Company of the Indies on these matters.

French; 1 item.

EL 11.1984 Louisiana Land Survey Records, 1787-1827.

Consisting of more than one thousand surveyors' drawings, certifications, and notes, the collection is divided into series based upon organization, region, and surveyor. Of the 13 series, eight concern the colonial and territorial periods for both Louisiana and the Natchez District.

French, Spanish, English; 838 items, 4 volumes (697 items, 2 volumes).

MICROFILM

NEWSPAPERS

Louisiana Courier, 1810-1833, 1836-1860, 86 reels.

Louisiana Gazette, 1804-1826, 26 reels.

Moniteur de la Louisiane, 1802-1803, 1806-1814, 3 reels; reels 62 and 63 of *Correspondance à l'arrivée en provenance de la Louisiane* contain scattered issues of December 1803 and January 1804.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

Record Group 21: Records of the District Courts of the United States.

Records of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana, 1806-1814 (M1082), 18 reels.

Included in this microfilm publication are two volumes of minutes for the court and files for 769 cases. The minutes provide a record of court proceedings from 5 November 1808 to 14 December 1814, when court was recessed because of the threat of British invasion. The case files include suits filed under maritime, civil, and criminal laws; the majority are maritime cases.

Record Group 29: Census Records, Louisiana.

1810 Census (M252), 1 reel.

Record Group 49: Records of the Bureau of Land Management.

Bound Records of the General Land Office Relating to Private Land Claims in Louisiana, 1767-1892 (M1382), [A joint publication of the Historic New Orleans Collection and the National Archives], 8 reels.

These records were accumulated by Division D (Private Land Claims) of the former General Land Office. Although the majority of the claims relate to the present state of Louisiana, some concern land in Alabama, Mississippi, and Missouri. The records are bound according to the board of land commissioners or land commissioner, land office, and location or type of claim, and include transcriptions of French, Spanish, and British documents.

Unbound Records of the General Land Office Relating to Private Land Claims in Louisiana, 1805-1896 (M 1385), [A joint publication of the Historic New Orleans Collection and the National Archives], 2 reels.

The records include letters received from land commissioners, abstracts of certificates, patent certificates, orders for surveys, and plat and survey notes.

Record Group 56: General Records of the Department of the Treasury.

Treasury Department Papers Relating to the Financing of the Louisiana Purchase (T712), 1 reel.

This collection of documents concerning the purchase of Louisiana includes papers of Secretary of the Treasury Albert Gallatin; Thomas Jefferson; the Baring Company of London; the Hope Company of Amsterdam; François, marquis de Barbé-Marbois; and Robert Livingston.

Record Group 59: General Records of the Department of State.

State Department Territorial Series, Orleans Series, 1764-1813 (T260), 13 reels.

These records include printed ordinances, translations and

transcriptions of documents, articles about colonial Louisiana, and papers relevant to the Louisiana Transfer.

Dispatches from United States Consuls in New Orleans, 1798-1807 (T225), 1 reel.

These records include imprints; census records; an index to the outgoing correspondence of Daniel Clark, consul of the United States to the port of New Orleans (1802-1804); and copies of selected correspondence of Spanish and American officials.

OTHER U.S. REPOSITORIES

William L. Clement Library: Louisiana Manuscripts, 1787-1802, 1 reel.

Some 245 persons are mentioned in this collection of 148 land grants representing the following districts and parishes: Ascension, Attakapas, Concordia, Feliciana, Galveztown, Natchez, Opelousas, Pointe Coupée, Rapides, St. Bernard, St. Charles, and Valenzuela.

Newberry Library: Ayer Manuscripts Collection, ca. 1722-1726, 1 reel.

Two plans of New Orleans, three maps of the Mississippi River, and a plan of Fort Balize are included on this microfilm.

Chicago Historical Society: James Wilkinson Papers, 1764-1823, 2 reels.

Consisting of about 700 items, this collection includes correspondence, reports, and other papers related to Wilkinson's life and military career. Material on the following topics is included: governmental policies and Indian treaties, Wilkinson's activities and army affairs in Louisiana (1800-1806, 1809), Aaron Burr's conspiracy trial (1807), and the inquiry into Wilkinson's conduct (1811-12).

Library of Congress: Papers of Vicente Sebastian Pintado, 1787-1842, 6 reels.

The papers of Vicente Sebastian Pintado (1774-1829) reflect his duties as alcalde, commandant, and surveyor general of West Florida. Land records, particularly concerning the Baton Rouge, Feliciana, Mobile, and Pensacola districts, are supplemented by correspondence between Pintado and surveyors working under his supervision.

New Orleans Public Library: New Orleans Cabildo Record Transcripts, 1769-1803, 4 reels.

This translation of the original five-volume manuscript series contains the administrative records of the municipal governing body of New Orleans during the Spanish period.

University of Notre Dame: Records of the Diocese of Louisiana and the Floridas, 1576-1803, 12 reels.

In the early 1880s a plan was devised for establishing a national center for Catholic historical materials at the University of Notre Dame. Documents were collected from throughout the country. Originally part of the archive of the

archdiocese of New Orleans, the earliest records date from 1756 while the majority are from 1776-1803.

ARCHIVES NATIONALES DE FRANCE

Correspondance a l'arrivée en provenance de la Louisiane, C¹³ series, 1678-1819, 68 reels.

Composed of the sub-series C^{13A}1-54, C^{13B}1, and C^{13C}1-5 from the section *colonies*, the series primarily contains correspondence from Louisiana received by the *secrétaire d'état de la Marine*. While some nineteenth-century correspondence is in the collection, the majority is pre-1767. The basic guide to the material is *Correspondence a l'arrivée en provenance de la Louisiane* by Marie-Antoinette Menier, Etienne Taillemite, and Gilberte de Forges (Paris, 1976, 1984).

CENTRE DES ARCHIVES D'OUTRE-MER (formerly the SECTION OUTRE-MER)

Atlas Moreau de Saint-Méry, 1730-1845, 1 reel.

Méderic Moreau de Saint-Méry (1750-1819), a distinguished jurist, administrator, and politician, assembled a vast collection of documents, maps, and plans that was acquired by the French government between 1817 and 1840. The material on this reel relates primarily to the lower Mississippi River valley and the Gulf Coast.

Dépôt des Fortifications des Colonies, Louisiane, 1698-1768, 1 reel.

A collection of 141 items containing documents, maps, and plans concerning New Orleans, the Balize, Biloxi, Dauphin Island, Mobile, Natchez, and the Mississippi River.

ARCHIVO GENERAL DE INDIAS

Santo Domingo Papers, Louisiana, 1757-1810, 141 reels.

Included in this microfilm edition are *legajos* (bundles of documents) 2529-2689, containing information useful to ethnohistorians studying native American tribes as well as students of the social, political, economic, and military history of Louisiana. Forming a part of the records of the Audiencia of Santo Domingo, the papers reflect the subordination in judicial matters of Louisiana to that governing body, hence the name Santo Domingo papers. The basic guide to this collection is

Catálogo de Documentos del Archivo General de Indias, Sección V, Gobierno, Audiencia de Santo Domingo sobre la Epoca Española de la Luisiana by José de la Peña y Cámara, Ernest J. Burrus, S.J., Charles Edwards O'Neill, S.J., and María Teresa García Fernández (Seville and New Orleans, 1968).

Cuban Papers, Louisiana, 1762-1824, 990 reels.

After the Louisiana Purchase, Spanish authorities moved that portion of their archives not relating to private land claims and court cases from Louisiana to Mobile and Pensacola. In the Adams-Onís Treaty of 1819 Spain ceded Florida to the United States; the archives were then moved to the *Archivo General de Cuba*; in the 1880s they were moved to the Archive of the Indies in Seville where they were named *Papeles de la Isla de Cuba* because of their provenance. The basic guide to this material is Roscoe Hill's *Descriptive Catalogue of the Documents relating to the History of the United States in the Papeles Procedentes de Cuba deposited in the Archivo General de Indias at Seville* (Washington, 1916). The manuscripts division has the following *legajos* available on microfilm: 1-227B, 488-560, 562-706, 772, 830, 1054-55, 1109, 1137, 1145-47, 1232-33, 1393-94, 1425, 1440-44, 1524-25, 1533, 2317-21, 2335-38, 2343, 2357-72.

ARCHIVO GENERAL DE SIMANCAS

The Hojas de Servicio Militares de Florida y Luisiana, (1789-1815), 2 reels.

This collection of personnel records of the Spanish militia in Louisiana and Florida contains a synopsis of each individual's military career.

MISCELLANEOUS MICROFILM FROM OTHER SPANISH ARCHIVES:

Biblioteca de Cataluña
Biblioteca de Palacio Real
Biblioteca Nacional
Museo Naval
Real Academia de la Historia
Servicio Geográfico Militar
Servicio Histórico Militar

The manuscripts division is a part of the research center at the Historic New Orleans Collection, which also includes the library and the curatorial division. The reading rooms are open to researchers from 10:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. Inquiries by mail and telephone are welcome at (504) 523-4662. Each year, the Historic New Orleans Collection, a nonprofit operating foundation, adds thousands of research materials to its holdings through purchases and tax-deductible donations.

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