



ELIZABETH SHOWN MILLS

Certified Genealogist® • Certified Genealogical LecturerSM
Fellow & Past President, American Society of Genealogists
Past President, Board for Certification of Genealogists

141 Settlers Way, Hendersonville, TN 37075 • eshown@comcast.net

DATE: 14 June 2020

REPORT TO: File

SUBJECT Jean Baptiste Anty Sr., Natchitoches Parish, LA (1752¹—c1816): Research Notes

BACKGROUND: Legal records created by Marie Thérèse Coincoin of Cane River include two documents executed in March 1813 and 14 September 1814, each of which was witnessed by Jean Baptiste Anty and Pierre Charûau.² Anty's identity is well known as the consort of Coincoin's daughter Marie Susanne Metoyer. However, specifics of his life have never been assembled. That profile is needed to understand the *patterns* of his actions, his location in 1813–14, and the reason why Coincoin chose him on those two occasions—but did not choose him for the 1816 sales of her enslaved people to family members (including Susanne). A similar profile of Charûau's activities is being assembled separately.

This block of research will attempt to identify all or most legal records created by Anty in Natchitoches Parish, and provide nutshells or abstracts. Full translations or transcriptions of all records are not possible due to time restraints on this project.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Anty's documents span all five official districts that lined Cane River during his lifetime:

- **Natchitoches–Grand Écore.** This district includes the town (aka “post”) of Natchitoches and runs up to the juncture of Cane River with Red River at the bluff known as Grand Écore.
- **Grand Coast** (aka Côte Joyeuse and Joyous Coast). This district follows Cane River from the southern outskirts of Natchitoches down to Bayou Brevelle's juncture with Cane River and continues past that point on the east side of the Cane. The area spanned twenty or so miles by the twists and turns of the river.
- **Isle Brevelle.** This long, slim district is bounded on the north and west by Bayou Brevelle, on the east and south by Cane River. At its upper end, plantations and settler families overlap with those on the Grand Coast because the plantations of the Grand Coast families sprawled across both sides of Cane River. Its lower end lay roughly 25 river miles from the post. This set of notes makes the following divisions:

¹ Baptism of Jean Baptiste Anty, 11 October 1752, son of Ignace Anty, cobbler, and Catherine Guerin, *Sacramental Records of the Archdiocese of New Orleans*, vol. 2, 1751–1771 (New Orleans: The Archdiocese, 1988), 5, citing St. Louis Cathedral Bk. B2: 267. Godparents were Jean Baptiste Guerin, sergeant in the company of Aubry, and Marthe Paque (aka Paquier).

² Natchitoches Parish Conveyance Book 3: 308–9, 522. The evidence for the erroneous dating of the 1813 document is being developed in a manuscript entitled “Laying a Legend to Rest: Marie Thérèse Coincoin and CRNHA Archaeological Sites 16NA785 & 16NA789.”

- **Upper Isle Brevelle:** The portion that lies within Township 8N, Range 6 West.
- **Mid-Isle Brevelle:** The upper half of the portion that lies within Township 7N, Range 6 West.
- **Lower Isle Brevelle:** The lower half of the portion that lies within Township 7N, Range 6 West.
- **Rivière aux Cannes.** This district follows Cane River from the foot of Isle Brevelle, through present Cloutierville down (originally) to *les Écores*—i.e., the bluffs variously known as LeCourt’s Bluffs and Monette’s Bluff along the present dividing line between the parishes of Natchitoches and Rapides—about 70 river miles below the post. This set of notes makes the following divisions:
 - **Upper Rivière aux Cannes:** The portion that lies within Township 7N, Range 6 West and T6N R6W—i.e., above present Cloutierville.
 - **Mid-Isle Rivière aux Cannes:** The portion that lies within Township 7N, Range 5 West.
 - **Lower Rivière aux Cannes:** The portion within Township 6N, Range 4 West (i.e., Les Ecores District)
- **Les Écores.** This region (roughly defined by present Township 6 North, Range 4 West) became a judicial district in its own right by July 1809.

This paper’s frequent references to S__, T__N R__W refers to the Section, Township (North), and Range (West) numbers assigned by the U.S. Rectangular survey system.



“Baptiste Antÿ,” as he was commonly called, was twice married: a short-lived marriage in each case. At each marriage, as during his relationship with Susanne Metoyer, he settled in the district where his in-laws lived, but moved again after each relationship ended. His marriages connected him to prominent planters, but he did not achieve their wealth or status. His one appearance as a *syndic* on Upper Isle Brevelle was short-lived. He disposed of his property among his loved ones in his old age, resulting in no succession process to settle his estate. No known record documents his death. *However, documents found in this project bracket his death between 6 February 1816 and 8 January 1818.*

The following chronology of Antÿ’s activities summarizes the record abstracts documented in this paper:

- 1778 January 24: **Rivière aux Cannes.** Married Marie Catherine Gallien, whose family lands lay about 45 river miles from the parish church, just above present Cloutierville. That community settled during the mid-1760s by the interrelated families of Rachal-Cloutier, Gallien, Monet, LeComte, and LeCourt.
- 1779 June 19–September 5: **Rivière aux Cannes.** Birth and baptism of first child, Jean Baptiste Ignace Anty.
- 1784 [no date]: Death and succession of wife Marie Catherine Gallien.
- 1787 September: **Rivière aux Cannes.** Enumerated on census with 5 arpents of land, 2 slaves, 0 wife. Plat maps, land grants, and deeds for Anty and his neighbors identify the land as S43 (and possibly 44) T7N R6W.
- 1788 June 24: married Marie Françoise LeVasseur, sister of his 1791 neighbor Jacques LeVasseur.
- 1790 March 1: **Rivière aux Cannes.** Taxed on 2 slaves.
- 1791 January 12: **Rivière aux Cannes.** Conveyed 5 arpents on left descending (east) bank river to André de St. André on credit for three years. No mention of land on opposite (west) bank.
- 1791 January 18: **outskirts of Natchitoches.** Bought 2½ arpents from Louis Buard, about 2/3 of a mile below the post of Natchitoches.

- 1792 November 5: Conveyed to Capitaine, a free Indian, 4 arpents on the left descending bank at Rivière aux Cannes. This appears to be the land occupied in 1791 by his brother-in-law LeVasseur, who had by then removed to Upper Isle Brevelle. No record of purchase has been found.
- 1793 September: **Natchitoches–Grand Écore District**. Death and succession of second wife.
- 1793 tax roll: **Natchitoches–Grand Écore District**. Tax assessment list for year 1793 (finalized 3 February 1794), charges Anty with 2½ arpents in this district. However, before the list was finalized, Anty relinquished the land (see 26 January 1794 below). At Rivière aux Cannes, neither St. André nor Capitaine was taxed on the land they obtained from Anty. St. André had removed to *Les Écores*, where he is listed among taxpayers but not taxed because he had not yet obtained land rights.
- 1794 January 26: **Natchitoches–Grand Écore District**. Anty and Louis Lambre cancelled the 1791 land purchase of 2½ acres.
- 1794 March 10: Conveyed his 5 arpents (left descending bank of river) at Rivière aux Cannes to his brother Louis.
- 1795 October 15: **Natchitoches–Grand Écore District**. Taxed for 4 slaves, no land.
- 1797: **Grand Coast**. Began a relationship with Marie Susanne Metoyer. Their daughter Marie Susanne Anty was conceived in July 1797.
- 1798 July 28: **Natchitoches**. Partnership with the Natchitoches merchant François Chabus in a billiard hall operation.
- 1799 April 6. **Natchitoches**. Cancelled partnership with Chabus.
- 1799: **Upper Isle Brevelle**. Bought 100 acres from Dominique Rachal on Upper Isle Brevelle, part of S38 & 100, T8N R6W, adjacent to Remy Lambre to whom the land would ultimately be patented.
- September 1800: Witnessed Guisarnat–LaRenaudière marriage with Joseph Derbanne. Guisarnat’s land lay on Isle Brevelle. Bride was daughter of Pierre LaRenaudière & Jeanne LaBerry of lower Rivière aux Cannes.
- 1802 October 29: His newly adult son J. B. Anty Jr. bought land from future father-in-law Pierre Derbanne Jr., upper 2 arpents of S7 & 84 in T76 R6W, **mid-Isle Brevelle**.
- 1803 October: **Upper Isle Brevelle**. Near Remy Lambre and Emanuel Prudhomme. He and Prudhomme each had a child who died the same day; both buried next day at Natchitoches.
- 1803 December: **Isle Brevelle**. Residence stated on promissory note made to him by Louis Monette.
- 1805: On record twice in the company of Joseph Derbanne who lived at the foot of the Isle adjacent to Joseph’s brother Louis Derbanne and François Metoyer.
- 1805: **Upper Isle Brevelle**. Accompanied Mme. Marie (Derbanne) Varangue, a Remy Lambre neighbor in T8N R7W, into the town of Natchitoches to attest her sale of land (part of S51 & 106).
- 1807: **Isle Brevelle**. Residence stated when he gave permission for minor son Valery to marry.
- 1809 June: **Isle Brevelle**. Residence stated when he penned for his sister-in-law an acknowledgement that he had previously sold her (her husband) his Rivière aux Cannes land (S43 T7N R6W) consisting of 5 arpents on left descending bank.
- 1809: Valery Anty sued “Jean Baptiste Anty.” Whether Sr. or Jr. is not stated in catalog entry. Document is not yet located but likely deals with Sr.’s payment to the newly adult Valery for inheritance due from his mother’s estate. Baptiste Anty Sr. appears to have disposed of his Upper Isle land at this point.
- 1810 May: “Baptiste Anty *pere*” is cited (erroneously) as adjacent landowner above 4 arpents that William Owen(s) sold to Alexis Cloutier at Rivière aux Cannes. Lower neighbor was Widow Rouquier

at S114, which was confirmed to Nicholas Galien as part of B1848. The land being sold was acquired by William Owens from the son and heir of the Indian *Capitaine*, who bought the land from Anty; the son allegedly lost it to Owens for debt. This would be the lower part of **S43 T7N R6W**, left descending bank. Baptiste, however, had already sold his adjacent land to his widowed sister-in-law.

- 1810 July 17: **Mid-Isle Brevelle**. Accompanied Auguste Langlois (S 8 & 85 T7N R6W) to Natchitoches for Langlois to attest having witnessed the recent will of Joseph Dupré III of Rivière aux Cannes; Anty was witness to Langlois's attestation but not Dupré's will.
- 1810 July 28: Witnessed will of Louis Verchaire, Grand Coast, adjacent to the Coincoin's homestead.
- 1810 Fall: **Mid-Isle Brevelle and lower Rivière aux Cannes**. Apparently enumerated as the oldest man in the household of J. B. Anty Jr. on S7 and 84, T7N R6W. Anty then moved to mid- or lower-Rivière aux Cannes (T6N, R5 or R4) before the census was completed. He was listed there as a householder, but no data was supplied for his household.
- 1811 January 11: **Not at mid-Isle Brevelle**. Neither Anty Sr. nor sons J. B. Jr. and Valery were present for succession sale of neighbor Jean Pommie (S4 & 81 T7N R6W), although most other surrounding neighbors were there.
- 1811–13: **Rivière aux Cannes**. Both sons (J. B. Jr. and Valery) and their mother-in-law (Widow of Pierre Derbanne II) moved to mid-Rivière aux Cannes, where Pierre Derbanne III had settled on his father-in-law's land (S49 T7N R5W). Widow Derbanne was in S54 where she sold part of her land in 1815 to son-in-law Valery Anty.
- 1813 March 9: **Rivière aux Cannes or Isle Brevelle**. He and **Pierre Charûau**, notary for Isle Brevelle and upper Rivière aux Cannes, witnessed Coincoin's sale of her Grand Coast homestead to neighbor J. B. Ailhaud Ste. Anne. **This is the first time that Antÿ and Charûau appear together—although Charûau had been at Rivière aux Cannes since 1808.** They would appear together numerous times thereafter.
- 1813 June 11: **Rivière aux Cannes**. Son J. B. Jr. (with whom Sr. was apparently enumerated in 1810), had a child baptized at Rivière aux Cannes amid a dozen other children born into Rivière aux Cannes families.
- 1814 September 14: **Lower Isle Brevelle**. He and **Charûau** witnessed Augustin Metoyer's conveyance of land to brother François Metoyer, being lower part of S29 & 103, T7N R6W.
- 1814 September 14: **Lower Isle Brevelle** (same day as above; same parties). He and **Charûau** witnessed Coincoin's sale of her 1807 land to her son Toussaint Metoyer (upper S34 & 98 T8N R6W)
- 1814 December 22: Witnessed marriage contract of J. B. LeComte of **Rivière aux Cannes** (adjacent neighbor to Antÿ's old S43) to daughter of Emanuel Prudhomme of Grand Coast. Apparently served as a family representative for LeComte.
- 1815 January 31: **Rivière aux Cannes** baptism of child of **Valery Anty**, aged 1 year and 10½ months.
- 1815 February 1: **Rivière aux Cannes**. **Jean Baptiste Anty** (does not say Sr. or Jr.) was godparent to child of Philippe LaRenaudière, aged 1 year.
- 1815 February 20: **Rivière aux Cannes**. **Valery Anty** buys 6 arpents frontage there from mother-in-law Marie Françoise Brevelle, widow of Pierre Derbanne—the Simon Goÿ ("Gavelle" on township map T7N R5W) tract at S54 below Cloutierville.
- 1815 June 7: **Lower Isle Brevelle** home of Augustin Metoyer. 3 documents:
 - Baptiste Antÿ conveys to J. B. Jr. a slave named Agnes. **Pierre Charûau** is witness.
 - Baptiste Antÿ and **Pierre Charûau** witness marriage contract of Susanne Metoyer's son Florentin Conant to Augustin Metoyer's daughter Marie Louise.

- Baptiste Antÿ and **Pierre Charûau** witness marriage contract of Antÿ's and Susanne's daughter Marie Susanne to J. B. Metoyer *fils* Augustin.
- 1815 June 9: Donates a Bambara slave, Pierre, about 20, to Susanne Metoyer.
- 1815 June 27: **Lower Isle Brevelle**. Antÿ witnesses church ratification of marriage of François Metoyer. (Priest also ratified marriage for a neighboring couple same day.)
- 1815 October 27: **Lower Isle Brevelle**, likely at home of Augustin Metoyer. **Anty** and **Pierre Charûau** witnessed mortgage from François Lavespère and wife to neighbor Augustin Metoyer. Charûau (who has served as notary since 1811) likely drafted the document. No other notary is named.
- 1815 November 8: **Rivière aux Cannes**. Silvestre Anty, son of Louis and nephew of Baptiste, bought land from Silvestre's father-in-law Pierre Baudoin adjacent to Adelaïde Marriotte—apparently the lower half of S107.
- 1816 February 6: Witnessed the purchase of enslaved couple from Remy Lambre estate by Jean Pierre Hopock of Isle Brevelle (husband of Widow J. P. Cloutier). **Last proved date of existence**.
- 1818 January 8: **Isle Brevelle**. Antÿ's daughter by Susanne Metoyer, Marie Arsene, married Manuel Llorens. **Antÿ was not present**. This document, for the first time, assigned the Anty surname to a child of Susanne, in the father's absence. **Antÿ apparently has died**.
- 1818 May–June & May 1819. J. B Anty Jr. and Paul Poissot (Antÿ's son-in-law) both have substantial sums to purchase a slave woman and a tract of land. Both men **left Rivière aux Cannes and returned to mid-Isle Brevelle**. Each bought land at "Point Pomier"—from Louis Pomier, apparently part of the old Jean Pomier tract where they had lived prior to the c1811 move to Rivière aux Cannes.



One significant problem for *all* land research along Cane River is spotlighted by witness testimony in the U.S. land claim of Antoine Coindet:

"He [the witness] does not believe that any other than a verbal sale passed between the parties which at that date was customary in the transfer of lands."³

As a consequence, we find numerous gaps and contradictions in the chains of title to Cane River lands—including those of Baptiste Antÿ. This project has tried to compensate for those handicaps, to whatever extent possible, by studying records created by all neighboring landowners, ferreting out descriptions of adjacent property that appear in their own purchases, sales, and succession inventories.

RESEARCH NOTES

1772 [UNDATED]

NCA DOC. 741

"A list by height of the militia company at the said post ...

Name: **Jⁿ B^{ta} Anty**
Native country: Natchitoches
Age: 19

³ Testimony of François Davyon [Davion], Claim of Antoine Coindet, Northwestern District Claim B1859, T6N R5W; imaged at OSL: *Search Historical Documents* (<https://www.slodms.doa.la.gov/WebForms/DocumentViewer.aspx?docId=510.00060>). : accessed 2 June 2020).

Height 5'5"
Term 3 years
Attendance: Present at roll call

2 MAY 1777

SR. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

“Marriage of **Andres David**, native of Nantes in Bretana, legitimate son of Andres David and Isabel Ana Morelle ... and ... **Maria Juana Lamalathy**, native of this parish, legitimate daughter of Luis Lamalaty and Juana Victoria Garcia. 3 bans. Witnesses: Pedro la Coste (s), **Juan Bautista Anty (s/ Anty)**, Antonio Vasocu (s), Hermano Casiano de Castonanes (s).⁴

COMMENT:

The document is penned in Spanish, in conformity to requirements during the Spanish era—hence the use of Spanish forms for the names of the French individuals.

“Hermano” Casiano de Castonañes was one of the Capuchin brothers sent temporarily to the Natchitoches outpost.

24 JANUARY 1778

ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

“Marriage of **Juan Bautista Anty** (s) native of Nueva Orleans, legitimate son of Ignacio Anty and Cathalina Guerin ... and ... **Maria Cathalina Galien**, native of Punta Contado [Pointe Coupée], legitimate daughter of **Pedro Galien** and **Maria Rachal**. 3 bans. Witnesses: Casiano de Castares (s), Donado, Capuchino [a brother of the Capuchin order] (s), Antonio Vasocu (s), Luis Rachal (s).⁵

26 DECEMBER 1778

ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

“Baptism of Helena [enslaved child, owner and mother unnamed], aged about one and a half years. Godparents: **Jn. Bta. Anty** and **Elena Cloutié**.”⁶

COMMENT:

Anty’s service as godfather to a slave of the Cloutiers implies that he is living among his new wife’s family at Rivière aux Cannes. Hélène Cloutier was Anty’s sister-in-law, the half-sister of Catherine Gallien. On 15 December 1783, Hélène would marry Ambrose LeComte, who is mentioned frequently in these notes.⁷

5 SEPTEMBER 1779

ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

“Baptism of Ignacio, born June 19, legitimate son of **Juan Bautista Anty** and **Catalina Galien**. Godparents: **Luis Anty** (s) and **Theresa Lamalaty** (s).⁸

COMMENT:

Note that two and a half months elapsed after the child’s birth before its baptism. Clearly, the family was not at the Natchitoches post where children were baptized within 2 to 3 days of birth.

⁴ Elizabeth Shown Mills, *Natchitoches, 1729–1803: Abstracts of the Catholic Church Registers of the French and Spanish Post of St. Jean Baptiste des Natchitoches in Louisiana* (New Orleans: Polyanthos, 1977), entry 1035.

⁵ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1729–1803: Abstracts of the Catholic Church Registers*, entry 1041.

⁶ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1729–1803: Abstracts of the Catholic Church Registers*, entry 2344.

⁷ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1729–1803: Abstracts of the Catholic Church Registers*, entry 1072.

⁸ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1729–1803: Abstracts of the Catholic Church Registers*, entry 1765.

Although Ignacio was baptized only under that name, he (like his father) also carried the full name **Jean Baptiste Ignacio**. As an adult, he rarely used “Ignacio,” typically styling himself as **Jean Baptiste Anty, fils**.

The godmother was the child’s step-grandmother, Marie Thérèse Lamalaty, second wife of the shoemaker Ignace. The godfather, Louis Armand Anty, was the younger brother of Baptiste. He was born 23 October 1762 and baptized 8 November of that year as son of Ignace Anty *dit* Laforme and Catherine Guerin. Godparents were Louis Armand Duerit and Juliene Lournet.⁹

1 SEPTEMBER 1780
PPC-AGI, LEG. 193-A

Company of Capt. Louis Borme: **Louis Anty** and **Jean Baptiste Anty**, Riflemen.¹⁰

6 NOVEMBER 1780
ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

“Baptism of Maria Luisa, born October 12, natural daughter of Maria Ana, slave of **Bautista Dupre**. Godparents: **Baptista Anty** (s) and **Marie Luisa Salveron**.¹¹

COMMENT:

- The plantation of Baptiste Dupré was on the Grand Coast.¹²
- Marie Louise Salvant was the daughter of Jean Salvant and **Louise Lambre** of the Grand Coast. She would marry Jean Chrisostomé Perault in September 1781.¹³

5 MARCH 1781
MELROSE COLLECTION, FOLDER 552

“Sale before Etienne DeVaugine of slave ‘Coffi’ from Gaspard Fiole to **Jean Baptiste Anty**; slave acquired from **Derbonne**. Witnesses: Antoine Ste. Anne, Jean Bte. Roujot.”¹⁴

8 SEPTEMBER 1781
ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

“Baptism of Maria Luisa, born May 26 [1781], legitimate daughter of **Juan Bautista Anty** and **Catalina Galien**. Godparents: **Ambrosio Le Compte** and **Maria Luisa Dupre**.¹⁵

COMMENT:

Again, note that months passed between birth and baptism, indicating a residence distant from the post. Also, both godparents were residents of Rivière aux Cannes. “Maria Luisa Dupré” would appear to be Ambrose LeComte’s sister Marie Louise Marguerite LeComte, the 24-year-old widow of Baptiste Dupré who had died a few days earlier.

⁹ *Diocese of Baton Rouge Catholic Church Records*, vol. 1, 1707–1769 (Baton Rouge: The Diocese, 1978), 136; citing Pointe Coupée Parish Book 3: 102.

¹⁰ Legajo 193-A, Papeles Procedentes de Cuba, Archivo General de Indias, Seville, Spain; transcribed in E. S. Mills and Ellie Lennon, *Natchitoches Colonials, A Source Book: Censuses, Military Rolls & Tax Lists, 1722–1803* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 2017), 80–83. The Papeles are hereinafter cited as PPC-AGI, Seville.

¹¹ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1729–1803: Abstracts of the Catholic Church Registers*, entry 2382.

¹² Succession of Jean Baptiste Dupré, Natchitoches Colonial Archives, Doc. 1554; now housed in Cammie G. Henry Research Center, Northwestern State University.

¹³ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1729–1803: Abstracts of the Catholic Church Registers*, entry 1061.

¹⁴ Carolyn M. Wells, *Index and Abstracts of Colonial Documents in the Eugene P. Watson Memorial Library* (Natchitoches: Archives Division, Northwestern State University, 1980), 8; citing Melrose Collection Folder 552.

¹⁵ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1729–1803: Abstracts of the Catholic Church Registers*, entry 1804.

11 SEPTEMBER 1781

MELROSE COLLECTION, FOLDER 583

“Before Étienne DeVaugine, sale of a Negro formerly property of **Gaspard Fiole** by **Jean Baptiste Anty** to **Louis Verchaire**. Witnesses: **Jean Bte. Roujot** and **Louis Diard**.

1 JANUARY 1782

PPC-AGI, LEG. 195

Company of Captain Louis Borme: **Louis Anty, Jⁿ B^{te} Anty**, riflemen.¹⁶

29 DECEMBER 1782

ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

“Baptism of **Valerie**, born November 9, legitimate son of **Juan Bautista Anty** (s) and **Maria Catalina Galien**. Godparents: **Nicolas Galien** and **Maria Le Court**.”¹⁷

COMMENT:

Again, both godparents are at Rivière aux Cannes—those godparents being Catherine’s brother and his wife Marie Antoinette Le Court de Presle.

1784

NCA DOC. 1738

Mortuary of **Marie Catherine Gallien**, wife of **Jean Baptiste Anty**.

Cited in index but missing from bound documents. It is not cataloged among the courthouse holdings now held in the Melrose Collection at Northwestern State University (NSU).

4 OCTOBER 1785

PPC-AGI, LEG. 198-A

Company of Capt. Louis Borme: **Louis Anty** and **Jean B^{te} Anty, Riflemen**.¹⁸

17 AUGUST 1787

PPC-AGI, LEG. 201

“General Census of the Residents and Sieurs at the Post of Natchitoches and its dependencies ... Rivière aux Cannes.”

COMMENT:

The following extract includes all adults in that community, as an overview of its residents in 1787. I am not listing personal or property details for anyone other than Anty. In the right column, I am adding cross-references to plat map location for those whose landholdings at this time have been identified. See Figure 1 for the map.¹⁹

Madame Widow Leconte	S48 & 117 T7N R6W
Ambrose LeConte & wife	Ditto
J ⁿ B ^{te} Leconte	Ditto
Widow Joseph Dupre [daughter of the Widow]	Ditto
B ^y & Athanase LeCour	S47 & 116 T7N R6W

¹⁶ Legajo 193–A, PPC-AGI, Seville; transcribed in Mills and Lennon, *Natchitoches Colonials, A Source Book*, 86–88.

¹⁷ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1729–1803: Abstracts of the Catholic Church Registers*, entry 1829.

¹⁸ Legajo 198–A, folios 804–808, PPC-AGI, Seville; transcribed in Mills and Lennon, *Natchitoches Colonials, A Source Book*, 86–88.

¹⁹ See E. S. Mills, “Land Transfers & Participants, Isle Brevelle and Rivière aux Cannes, Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana, c1780–1818,” report to file, 29 May 2020.

François Hugues, wife, and Conception [Peres]	S1 & 114 T7N R6W, sold land to Nicolas Gallien / land owned by V ^{ve} Rouquier 1810
Jn B^{te} Anty , 30, 5 arpents land, 2 slaves, 8 cows, 10 horses [no wife] J ⁿ B ^{te} Anty, the son, 8 Valery [Anty, son], 4, no property [His one living daughter is not listed with him] P ^{re} Coutant	S43 T7N R6W [possibly including S44] S40 & 111 T7N R6W sold to P. LaCour (ASP 2:850) ²⁰
P ^{re} Charpentier & wife [widow of Cloutier & Gallien] Alexis Cloutier [son of Mme. Charpentier] Michel Robin & wife	 S38 & 109 / sold by Robin's widow (Mrs. John Horn) to J. B. Brosset
Jn Bte Denis & wife Pre [Cajot dit] Fauleven] & wife, with her Baudouin children Pierre, Nicolas, etc. Nicolas Galien & wife Joseph Torres & wife & children Joseph Mariano ²¹	 S35, 36, 37, 108, 109, 110 S45 T7N R6W

9 DECEMBER 1787

PPC-AGI, LEG. 193-A

Cavalry company of Capt. Louis Charles DeBlanc—Troops: **Jⁿ B^{te} Anty**, Present.²²

24 JUNE 1788

ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

“At 3 p.m., after 2 bans, marriage of **Jean Baptiste Anty**, legitimate son of Ignace Anty and Catherine Guerine, native of New Orleans, now a habitant of this post ... and **Marie Françoise Levasseur**, daughter of François Le Vasseur and Marie Madern, native of this post. Witnesses: Pierre Sorel *dit* Marly (s) and **Jacques LeVasseur** (s).²³

COMMENT:

Jacques LeVasseur was brother of the bride. By 1791 he had acquired land adjacent to his new brother-in-law Antÿ at Rivière aux Cannes: the lower 4 arpents of what is now S43 T7N R6W. By 1792 LeVasseur had moved to Upper Isle Brevelle and Antÿ sold his tract to the former LeCourt slave, the Indian Capitaine.²⁴

Antÿ's daughter by Marie Françoise Levasseur would be a first cousin to Pierre Charûau's wife, through their Mader (Madern, Madert) mothers.

²⁰ *American State Papers: Documents Legislative and Executive of the Congress of the United States*, Public Lands Series, 8 vols. (Washington: Gales and Seaton, 1834), vol. 2: 860. Hereinafter cited as ASP-PL vol:page.

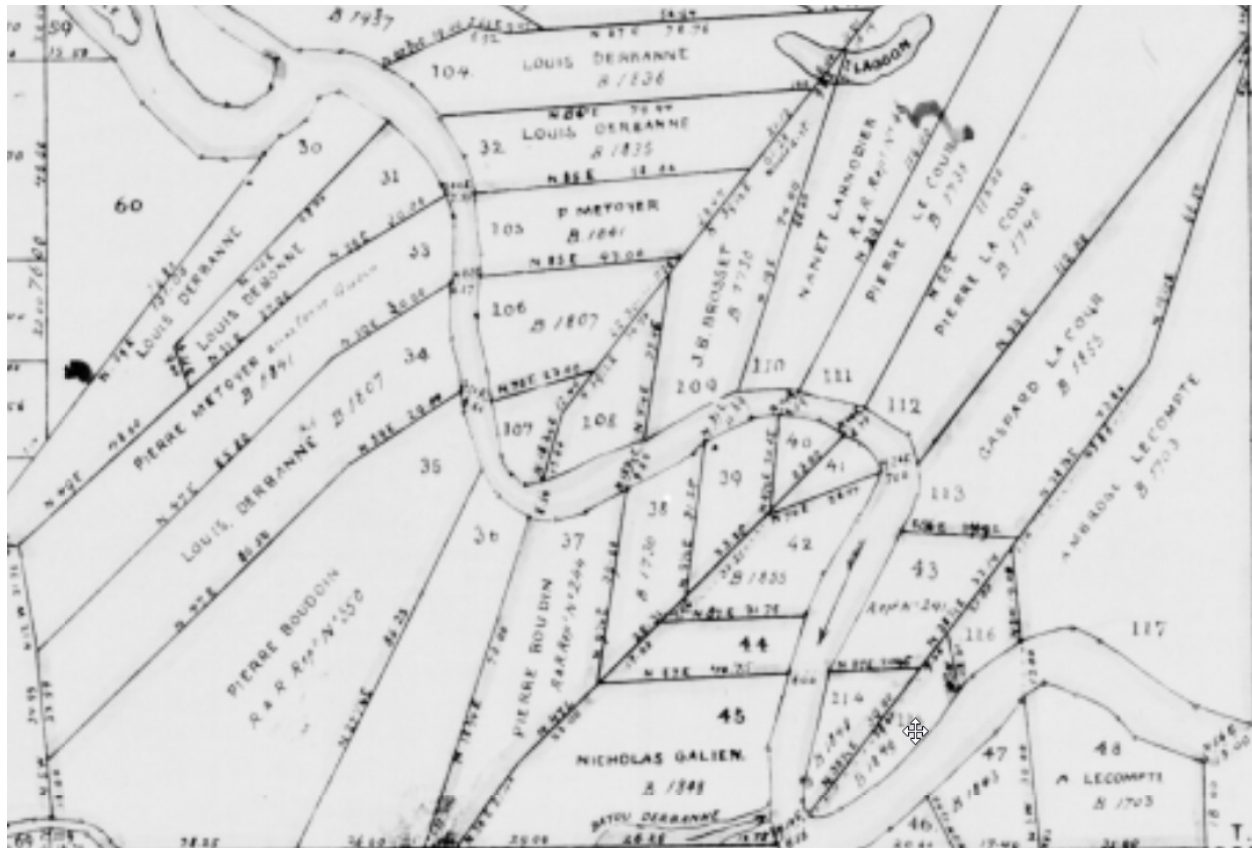
²¹ Legajo 201, PPC-AGI, Seville; transcribed in Mills and Lennon, *Natchitoches Colonials, A Source Book*, 112–13.

²² Legajo 193–A, PC-AGI, Seville; transcribed in Mills and Lennon, *Natchitoches Colonials, A Source Book*, 120–24.

²³ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1729–1803: Abstracts of the Catholic Church Registers*, entry 1640.

²⁴ For Capitaine's placement in the LeCourt household, and the identity of his wife and children born prior to April 1778, see NCA Doc. 1285, Succession of Marie Jeanne LeRoy, wife of Louis Matthias LeCourt de Presle.

Figure 1
SE Corner T7N 6W (Rivière aux Cannes) as Depicted on “Official Plat Map” (1851)²⁵



18 AUGUST 1788
ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH²⁶

“After publication of two bans, marriage of **Alexis Cloutier**, legitimate son of **Jean Baptiste Cloutier** and **Marie Rachal**, native of the post of Pointe Coupée ... and ... **Marie Françoise Lecompte, widow Dupré**, legitimate daughter of **Jean Baptiste Lecompte** and **Marguerite Le Roy**, a native of this parish. Witnesses: **Pierre Sorel dit Marly (s)** and **Jean Baptiste Anty (s)**, habitants.

COMMENT:

Alexis Cloutier was the half-brother of Catherine Gallien, Baptiste Anty’s first wife. Cloutier’s wife was the widow of Joseph Dupré II, nephew of the previously discussed Jean Baptiste Dupré. The Joseph Dupré II plantation was at mid-Rivière aux Cannes in **S71 T7N R5W**.

22 MARCH 1789

²⁵ Snipped from “T.7.N.—R.6.W. North Western Dist^t La.,” Louisiana Office of Lands, *Historical Documents* (www.slodms.doa.la.gov/WebForms/DocumentViewer.aspx?docId=522.01883&category=H#1 : downloaded 14 June 2019). The blurred quality of this map is inherent in the original. That original also carries a numerical list of all sections, the claimant who has been confirmed, the claim number, and the arpentage/acreage.

²⁶ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1729–1803: Abstracts of the Catholic Church Registers*, entry 1546.

PPC-AGI, LEF. 202

Company of Don Louis Charles Deblanc, Captain—Cavalrymen: **Jean Baptiste Anty**.²⁷

1 MARCH 1790

NPR COLLECTION, LSU ARCHIVES

Church Assessment, District of Rivière aux Cannes [in sequence beginning at lower Rivière aux Cannes and ascending the river]:

Nicolas Pon, Richard Chime [Sims], Antoine Coindé, Simon Goie, Pierre Toutant, Charle Danis, Joseph Torre, F^s Davion, Alexis Clouti, Widow LeComte, Ambroise LeCompte, Bertelemy Le Court, Athanaze LeCourt, Nicolas Gallien, François Hughe ...

B^{te} Anty, 1 white male, 2 slaves, 3 reales taxed, 3 reales received in silver ...

Pierre Baudoin, J. B^{te} Denis, Pierre Cajau [stepfather of Baudoins and Mme. Denis], Nicolas Baudoin, Jean Hornie.²⁸

12 JANUARY 1791 / 27 JANUARY 1794

NCA DOC. 2274 & 2275

Before Commandant Louis Charles DeBlanc. **Sieur J. B^{te} Anty** sells to **Sieur André de St. André**, a habitation situated at Rivière aux Cannes containing 5 arpents of frontage bounded on one side by the **Sieur Bouvier** and the other by **Jacques LeVasseur**, on the left descending bank, on which is found a house, etc. 200 piasters. Signed : Anty, André de St. André (x), F^{cois} Calle, Louis DeBlanc. Anty is leaving cattle (17 mother cows, 8 bulls, and 9 young bulls) for St. André to tend. **27 January 1794**: the document is annulled before Louis Charles DeBlanc, with François Rouquier & Paul Marcollay as witnesses.

COMMENT:

The land being sold should be part of **S43 T7N R6W**, upper Rivière aux Cannes. The Bouvier land (see the discussion below regarding his succession) lay in S42 and 113, just north of 43. LeVasseur, Anty's lower neighbor, was his brother-in-law, apparently in the bottom half of what became S43.

Isle Derbanne was the "island" formed between Red River and Bayou Derbanne. It lay to the west of Isle Brevelle and extended to the upper reaches of Rivière aux Cannes, falling primarily into T7N R6&7W.

Re Anty's residence at this time: note below that on 5 November 1792 (the day before proceedings began for Bouvier's estate) Anty made a second land sale at Rivière aux Cannes, disposing of 4 arpents on the left side [descending the river]—apparently the lower part of S43. Both the 5 arpents that Baptiste sold to St. André (and then annulled) and the 4 arpents that Anty sold to the Indian Capitaine, became part of the S43 confirmed to Alexis Cloutier.

Anty is not living in the Rivière aux Cannes area in 1791. As shown below, he moved upriver, almost to the town of Natchitoches—though he would not stay there.

18 JANUARY 1791

NCA DOC. 2278

Before Commandant Louis Charles DeBlanc. **Louis Buart** sells to **Jean B^{te} Anty** a habitation situated at **one quarter league** [ca. 2/3 mile] from the post on the left descending bank, bounded by **J. B^{te} Brevel**

²⁷ Legajo 202, PPC-AGI, Seville; transcribed in Mills and Lennon, *Natchitoches Colonials, A Source Book*, 126–27.

²⁸ Natchitoches Parish Records Collection, Department of Archives, Hill Memorial Library, Louisiana State University (Baton Rouge); transcribed in Mills and Lennon, *Natchitoches Colonials, A Source Book*, 132–39.

and by **Louis Barthelemy Rachal dit Rath**, containing 2 arpents of frontage to the ordinary depth. Plus ½ arpent of frontage at the same place, bounded on one side by **M^{de} Nicolas Laignon** and on the other by **Louis Barthelemy Rachal dit Rath**. || **26 January 1794**: This sale is annulled by both parties, in the commandant's office, with Paul Marcollay and [François] Rouquier as witnesses.

1 AUGUST 1791

ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

"After three bans, marriage of **Francisco Davion**, native of this parish, legitimate son of **Juan Bautista Davion** and **Maria Jacinta Triche** ... and ... **Margarita Cloutié**, native of the parish of Los Alemanes [German Coast], legitimate daughter of **Alexis Cloutié [Sr.]** and **Maria Rachal**. Witnesses: **Bautista Anty**, Juan Bautista Davion, Louis Monet, Atanasio LeCour [Le Court de Presle].²⁹

4 NOVEMBER 1791

PPC-AGI, LEG. 193-A

Cavalry Company of Dⁿ Louis Charles DeBlanc, Captain—Riflemen: **Bap^{te} Anty**.³⁰

4 MARCH 1792

ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

"Baptism of Marie Genevieve Euphrasie, born January 20, daughter of **Jean Baptiste Anty** and **Marie Françoise Levasseur**. Godparents: François Levasseur and Genevieve Levasseur."³¹

"Baptism of Genoveva Eufrasia Anty, born January 20, daughter of **Juan Bautista Anty** and **Marie Francisca Levasseur**, natives of this parish. Godparents: Francisco Levasseur and Genoveva Levasseur."³²

COMMENT:

The original record of this child's baptism is the first of the pair above, recorded in French by a French priest. Some time into his tenure at Natchitoches, the priest began a new register in which he copied all the earlier French-language baptisms into Spanish, the legal language of the regime. Hence, the existence of two baptismal records for the same child.

5 NOVEMBER 1792

NCA DOC. 2424

Before Louis Charles DeBlanc appeared **Jean B^{te} Anty** who sells to the "sauvage" named **Capitaine**, here present and accepting, about 4 arpents of frontage situated at Rivière aux Cannes on the left descending bank. Bounded on the upper by **André de St. André** and on the lower by **François Hugues**. Witnesses: **Remy Lambre**, L^s Chamard. Signed: **Antÿ**, and Capⁿ Sauvage (x).

COMMENT:

Note that these 4 arpents on the *left* bank were bounded as follows:

- on the lower by **François Hugues**. Hugues was Antÿ's adjacent neighbor on the 1787 census.
- on the upper by **André St. André**, that being the 5 arpents Antÿ sold St. André in 1791.

At the time of the 1787 census, Antÿ held only 5 arpents. Whether that land lay solely on one side of the river or both (the customary practice), goes unstated. The lower 4 arpents that he sold above to Capitaine appears to be the tract that was attributed to his brother-in-law Jacques

²⁹ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1729–1803: Abstracts of the Catholic Church Registers*, entry 3378.

³⁰ Legajo 193–A, Papeles Procedentes de Cuba, Archivo General de Indias, Seville; transcribed in Mills and Lennon, *Natchitoches Colonials, A Source Book*, 142–45.

³¹ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1729–1803: Abstracts of the Catholic Church Registers*, entry 1681.

³² Mills, *Natchitoches, 1729–1803: Abstracts of the Catholic Church Registers*, entry 2085.

LeVasseur in the Antÿ–St. André deed. In 1809, Antÿ sold these 5 arpents on the left descending back to his sister-in-law, Widow Louis Anty. The whole 9 arpents would end up as **S43 T7N R6W**, confirmed by the U.S. Land Office to Alexis Cloutier, who purchased the lower 4 arpents in 1810 from Capitaine’s creditor. See those dates below.

Also relevant:

24 SEPTEMBER 1792

NCA DOC. 2419

Before Louis Charles DeBlanc, appears **François Hugues** who says he owes 27 piasters to the succession of deceased **Daniel Barrier** with mortgage on a habitation at Rivière aux Cannes, 4 arpents frontage, bounded on one side [upper] by **Capitaine**, free ‘sauvage,’ and on the other [lower] by the domain. Signed: FU. [very clearly written as FU.] Witness: Buard.

Hugues appears on the 1787 census as the adjacent household below Antÿ. **The 1810 census shows him still in that location.** His land, and the vacant “domain” land of 1792, should be the tract certified to Nicholas Gallien as claim B1848, **S45 (and possibly 114) T7N R6W.**

28 NOVEMBER 1792

NCA DOC. 2428

Jⁿ Baptiste Anty acknowledges that he has received from **François LeVasseur**, his father-in-law, 223 piasters and 3 escalins as the rights of his wife **Marie Françoise [Le Vasseur]** in the succession of **Marie Jeanne Madert**, her mother. Signed: Antÿ, Rouquier, François LeVasseur (x), Paul Marcollay.

NOVEMBER–DECEMBER 1792

NCA DOC. 2432

6 November. Don Louis Charles DeBlanc has been notified of the death of “**Piere**” **Bouvier**, habitant at Rivière aux Cannes, who died without a will. DeBlanc has now gone to the habitation of the deceased, distant from the post about 10 leagues [later said to be about 15 leagues]. There, he found **Antoine Bergeron**, the partner of Bouvier in a crop of tobacco “only,” also the free *negresse* named **Marie Louise [Mariotte]**. He has placed seals on the property.

[n.d.] an untitled list of personal and real property signed by Bouvier (x), which appears to represent property mortgaged to Ambroise LeComte (x) cites the land as “a **habitation of 6 arpents on the right bank descending and 6 arpents on the left bank**, to the ordinary depth. Witnesses: Louis Sienville? and J. Horn. Extensive lists were filed identifying papers held by Bouvier, purchasers of his personal property, and bidders on his land, including ...

17 November 1792, sale of property, describes the land as “a habitation containing **6 arpents** of frontage on **L’Isle Derbanne** and **5 arpents** or about on the opposite side on which there is found a small cabin of potteaux en terre, a corn crib, a chicken coop, and an oven.” Adjudged at first cry to Jean Horns for 8 piasters with Guillaume LeBrun, surety.

9 December 1792, second cry of the land of Pierre Bouvier, about 15 leagues from the post, same description of land on Isle Derbanne, adjudged to Sieur Antoine Bergeon with Sieur P^{re} Brosset as surety.

16 December 1792, third and last cry of the land. Adjudged to Remy Lambre with Ailhaud S^{te} Anne, surety.

COMMENT:

Antÿ is not mentioned anywhere in this lengthy succession file—not among those who owed debts to Bouvier (a storekeeper) and not as a purchaser from the estate. Jacques St. André was a purchaser, but not his brother André St. André who temporarily owned Anty’s land next door to Bouvier. Both Baptiste Antÿ and André St. André had moved from the region.

Bouvier's land was S42 & 116 T7N R6W. Remy Lambre sold this land in 1799 to Gaspard LaCour, the claimant before the U.S. Land Office (claims B1855 & B1856). Gaspard LaCour then sold S42 to Widow Louis Anty (see 1804, below).

Bergeron and Mariotte did not stay on the land. As noted below, Bergeron purchased S35 & 107, several farms upriver, where he was cited as adjacent neighbor, lower side, when Widow Michel Robin (remarried to Horn) sold S34 & 106 to Louis Derbanne in 1798 (NCA Doc. 2867). Before October 1798, Bergeron gave 2 acres off the upper end of his **S35&107 T7N R6W**, both sides of river, to Mariotte in exchange for "washing his clothes" (NCA Doc. 2877). Mariotte filed claim for the land with the U.S. Land Office, but the land was confirmed to Pierre Baudoin.

30 MARCH 1793

ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

"Baptism of Maria Francisca Pomposa, born March 2, daughter of Luis Anty, native of Pointe Coupée, and Maria Juanna Crete, native of this parish. Godparents: **Bautista Anty** and [his wife] **Maria Francesca Levasseur**.³³

COMMENT:

This child was not listed as an heir of her mother, when the mother died six months later.

2–3 SEPTEMBER 1793

ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

Birth of unnamed child on 2 September, endoyée at birth; died 3 September 1793.³⁴

18 SEPTEMBER 1793

NCA DOC. 2478

Succession of **Marie F^{coise} Levasseur**. Sr. Jean Baptiste Ailhaud Ste. Anne, acting commandant, has been informed that Mme. Anty died at 7 o'clock that morning. He has gone to the Anty home with Jean Marc Marchand and Charles Hugo, to place the seals. | | **20 September 1793**: Ste. Anne returned with Charles Hugot and François Nagle to make an inventory and identify the heirs. Children of Anty's first marriage with Catherine Gallien are **[Jean Baptiste] Ignace, Marie Louise, and Valeri**. Children of Anty's second marriage with the deceased are "**Euphrosine Emelie**" [*sic*]. After itemizing household goods, they list slaves and "papers" as follows:

SLAVES:

- 1 *negresse* named Françoise, about 26, with small mulatto Augustin above 6 and small mulatress Agnes, about 3.
- 1 *nègre* named Jacques, aged 40, who is presently with Louis Lambre.

PAPERS:

- Notes on Athanase Poissot 27p 6r and 3p 3r
- Note on André David 7p 4r
- Jn. Bte. Ailhaud Ste. Anne 2p 5r
- André Wardallay 12p 74
- Remy Lambre 10p
- Account of Dominique Barthelemy Rachal 26p

³³ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1729–1803: Abstracts of the Catholic Church Registers*, entry 2126.

³⁴ St. François Church, Reg. 15: p. 4 (baptism); Mills, *Natchitoches, 1800–1826: Translated Abstracts of Register Number Five*, entry 823.

COMMENT:

No land is inventoried, implying that Antÿ owned no land at the time. Note above, 18 January 1791, Baptiste Antÿ bought 2½ arpents on credit from Louis Lambre, a sale that was cancelled on 26 January 1794. Apparently, Antÿ had not paid for the land although it was still in his possession—which would account for his turning over his enslaved man Jacques to Lambre until the debt was paid. When the 1793 tax roll was released on 3 February 1794, the land would be taxed to Antÿ, but he had already forfeited the land the week before.

As I study these documents from the 1790s and the first decade of the 1800s, I'm noticing *many* credit sales that were made for three years, at the end of which the purchaser still has not paid off the debt. Sometimes, the purchaser is able to secure a mortgage (as in the case of the notary Jean Pierre Marie Dubois). In other cases, the purchaser cannot find funding and then the sale is revoked (as with the Lambre to Antÿ sale of 1791 and the Antÿ to St. André sale of that same year).

Re the death of Mme. Antÿ: The proximity of her death to that of her childbirth suggests that she may have died of complications from childbirth. However, NCA Docs. 2457 and 2469 inform us that yellow-fever was also raging on Cane River at the time.

14 OCTOBER 1793

NCA DOC. 2892

Before Louis DeBlanc, Commandant, appeared **Antoine Lemoine**, fils, who sells to **Dominique Rachal**, 2 arpents of frontage on each bank of Red River on Isle Brevelle, about 8 leagues [24 miles] from the town, bounded on one bank above by **Charles Lemoine fils** and on the other by **Baptiste Barthelemy Rachal**. The land had come to him as a donation, legally recorded, from his father Charles LeMoine Sr. in 1791. On the land is a house of *poteau en terre*, covered in bark, 20' long by 16' wide. Witnesses: Louis Chamard and Paul Marcollay.

COMMENT:

Six years later (1799), **Dominique Rachal sold this land to Baptiste Antÿ** (doc. 2892, now missing). The land lay in **S38 & 100, T8N R6W**. See location analysis under "1799" below.

1 DECEMBER 1793

PPC-AGI, LEG. 159-A

First Company of Cavalry, Dn Louis Charles DeBlanc, Captain: ... **B^{te} Antÿ** ...³⁵

18 DECEMBER 1793

MELROSE COLLECTION, FOLDER 704

Will of **Gaspard Fiol**. Witnesses: Louis Charles DeBlanc, François Monginot, Emanuel Prudhomme, Antoine Prudhomme, Pierre Cannes, Vincent Michel, **Jean Baptiste Antÿ**, François Rouquier."

17 JANUARY 1794

NCA DOC. 2275

Annullment of sale from Antÿ to André St. André, 5 arpents at Rivière aux Cannes.

3 FEBRUARY 1794

MELROSE COLLECTION, FOLDER 703

³⁵ Legajo 159, PPC-AGI, Seville; transcribed in Mills and Lennon, *Natchitoches Colonials, A Source Book*, 149–54.

Tax Roll. "Assessment consented to by the Community in assembly on 30 November 1793 at the rate of one piaster for each head of family or man over the age of 14 and one *escalin* [also written as *real*] for each arpent of land, to finance the public work for the year 1793."

COMMENT:

Baptiste Antÿ is still taxed for the land on the lower outskirts of Natchitoches, in the following cluster:

J^h Lambre, Widow [Juchereau de] St. Denis, Jacq. Prudhomme, Joseph Malige, Widow G^{me} Wardet [née Prudhomme], Louis Vigé, Marie Anne Buard, Denis Buard, J. B^{te} Buard, Augustin Buard ...

J. B^{te} Anty 2½ arpents, 1 piaster paid ...

Marin Grillet, Antoine Grillet, Athanas Poissot the father, Athanas Poisot the son, Edouard Murphy, Antoine Bourdelon ...³⁶

COMMENT:

Antÿ's father-in-law François Levasseur and brother-in-law "Jean François Levasseur Jr.," along with Gaspard Fiol [see 1799 below], were taxed among residents *above* Natchitoches.

10 MARCH 1794

NCA DOC. 2519

Before Louis Charles DeBlanc, **Jean B^{te} Anty** sold to Sieur **Louis Anty his brother**, a habitation at Rivière aux Cannes about 12 leagues [36 miles] from the town, upper neighbor on left descending bank is Remy Lambre; below, the land is bounded by Capitaine a free "sauvage." The premises include a maison poteau-en-terre. 500 piasters. Witnesses: Paul Marcollay, L. Charmard, Ls. DeBlanc. Signed: **Antÿ** and Louis Anty (x).

28 AUGUST 1794

NPR COLLECTION, LSU

"Roster of Public Labors and Contributions, in alphabetical order.

Anty, Jean Baptiste, Type of Labor: Work on road before and around the church 28 August 1794; work on the ditch around the cemetery and the road-bridge, 1 day each.³⁷

AUGUST 1795

MELROSE COLLECTION, FOLDER 716

List of inhabitants and assessments, district of Bayou Brevelle descending the river [to Les Écores], Remy Lambre, *sindic*; list made by Bossiée, *sindic* ...

[At Isle Brevelle, T8N R6W]:

Sivestre Bossié, **Jaque Le Vasseur**, Antoine Prudhomme, Auguste Langlois, Emanuelle Prudhomme, Widow Jaque Lambre, **Remy Lambre**, Remy Poisso, J. B^{tiste} Berthelmy Rachale, Jean Varangue, Athanase Dupré, Pierre Larenaudiere, Julien Rachal, Jean Massis [Massip]

[At Isle Brevelle, T7N R6W]:

Jaque Lacaze, Yves Lissillours, Antoine Negre libre, Pierre Beaulieu, Soulange Bossié [claimant to land of Louis Metoyer, current Melrose], Gil Isquierdo, Jean Delouche, Guillaume LeBrun, Charles Le Moine fils

[At Rivière aux Cannes, T7N R6Ws]:

³⁶ Folder 703, Melrose Collection, Cammie G. Henry Research Center, Northwestern State University, Natchitoches; transcribed in Mills and Lennon, *Natchitoches Colonials, A Source Book*, 155–63.

³⁷ Natchitoches Parish Records Collection, Hill Memorial Library, Louisiana State University Archives, Baton Rouge; transcribed in Mills and Lennon, *Natchitoches Colonials, A Source Book*, 165–72.

Marguerite Negresse libre, Jean Horn, **Antoine Bergeon, Mariote** Negresse libre, Pierre Caseau [Cajot *dit* Faulevant], Nicolas Beaudoin [stepson of Cajot], B^{tiste} Denis [married to Beaudouin stepdaughter of Cajot], Pierre Beaudouin, Pierre Lacour pere, **Capitaine Indien civilisé habitant** [bought Levasseur-Anty land, E side of river, 4 lower arpents of S43], Jean Laurend Bodin, Nicolas Bodin [both Bodin brothers were married to daughters of LeCourt's married Indian slaves Capitaine and Madeleine], François Hugues, Berthelmy Le Cour [Beaudoin and LeCour land extended down into T6N R6W]

[*At Rivière aux Cannes, T6N R6W*]"

Joseph Laures [Taurus, aka Torres], Joachim Davion, Pierre Coutan, Gabriel Laures [Taurus], Simeon Rachale, Berthelmy Rachale *fils* de Louis, Louis Rachale *père*, Louis Monette, Louis Lambre, **André St. André.**

COMMENT:

Antÿ clearly did not return to Rivière aux Cannes or Isle Brevelle after his 1794 annulment of the Lambre land purchase on the outskirts of natchitoches.

15 OCTOBER 1795

PPC-AGI, LEG. 201

General Census of the Slaves of all ages and of all sexes at the post ... [identifying only the slave owners and number of enslaved people] ... **Côte Tulin & including the town**, District of Mr. Edouard Murphy, *Sindic*. Anty appears in this sequence:

Commandant de Blanc, Widow Trichel, Joseph Capuran, François LeVasseur, Guillaume Chevert, Pierre Gagnier, Mme. Widow Remy Totin, Joseph Malige ...

Jean B^{te} Anty, 4 slaves

Marin Grillet, François Monginot, Athanaze Pousseau, François Rouquier the younger, Denis Buard, Dominique Prudhomme, Joseph Tauzin, Joseph Marie Armant, André Rambin, François Rouquier the elder, François Lacaze, Pierre Badin, Mme. Widow Saint Denis, Luc [Sorel *dit*] Marly, Mme. Widow Gaspard Fiol, Athanaze de Mézières, Edouard Murphy, Pierre Ramiz. [End of district]

COMMENT:

The four slaves attributed to Antÿ is the same number as inventoried in 1793 after his wife's death—identified then as a man, a woman, and two children aged 3 and 6.

18 NOVEMBER 1795

ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

"Marriage of **Jean Baptiste Buard**, major son of deceased Gabriel Buart and Marie Anne Rosseau ... and ... **Marie Genevieve Levasseur**, daughter of François Levasseur and deceased Marie Mader. Witnesses: Louis Buard (x), Augustin, Jean Denis Buart, his brothers; and François Levasseur, her father; **Baptiste Anty** (s/Antÿ), her brother-in-law; Jean Levasseur (s), her brother; Marie Grillet, Andre Rambin (s), Marin Grillet (s/Grillte); Metoyer (s); Murphy (s); Rouquier, the younger (s).³⁸

COMMENT:

This is the point at which Jean Baptiste Anty and Pierre Metoyer became "kith 'n kin." The sister of Anty's recently-deceased wife has married the brother of Metoyer's wife.

Jean Baptiste Buard was, through the marriages of his sisters, a brother-in-law to Ailhaud Ste. Anne, Edward Murphy, Pierre Metoyer, François Monginot, and Antoine Rambin.

³⁸ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1729–1803: Abstracts of the Catholic Church Registers*, entry 3411.

1794–1796

Natchitoches in these years was embroiled in a Jacobite rebellion-of-sorts against Spanish authorities, led by their French-born priest, Jean Delvaux. A particular target was the Natchitoches commandant, Louis Charles DeBlanc (grandson of the post founder Juchereau de St. Denis) and his supporters, mostly in the village of Natchitoches. In 1795 Louisiana's Gov. Francisco Luís Héctor, baron de Carondelet sent investigators upriver to Rapides, Natchitoches, and Nacogdoches, resulting eventually in dismissed charges against some 70 men from those posts, including Baptiste Anty.

Fall 1795 reports from Carondelet's first investigator, Capt. José Vásquez Vahamande, informed the governor that the group called *Les Revenants* (The Ghosts) consisted of "six or eight drunks," who were "the engines of the dissention."³⁹ Arrest warrants were issued for nine Cane River males, including Anty's long-time friend Remy Lambre, the Prudhomme brothers and their kin François Rouquier *fils*, and the de Mézières brothers.⁴⁰

A second probe, launched in 1796 under Capt. Antonio de Argote, also dismissed the seriousness of the matter. Argote assured Carondelet that twenty of the men had "repented their earlier misdeeds and now supported the government," in exchange for which Argote had promised "to pardon their past conduct if they kept their pledge to behave properly."⁴¹

Carondelet was not appeased, especially after two officers arrived at New Orleans with the prisoners taken at Natchitoches. According to one of those officers, Sgt. Joaquín Mora of Nacogdoches:

21 June 1796: "The most insolent and daring Revenants of Natchitoches were Pablo Bouet Laffitte, commander of El Arroyo de las Piedras in Texas; Joseph Capurant; Francisco Monginot, a surgeon, the same who was arrested in this capital because in scorn of the Spanish nobility he named his dog 'Aristocrat'; Andrew Verdelaít; Atanasio Mesiere, Josime Mesiere, Santiago Mesiere (brothers); Francisco Bousquier [Rouquier]; Manual Prudhome, Antonio Prudhome, Dominico Prudhomme (brothers and brothers in law of Bousquier [Rouquier]; Luis Armant, now in this royal prison; **Bautista Anty**; Atanasio Poyzot, Juan Bautista Grape; Antonio Bordelon, Alexo Cloutier, Remigion [Remy] Lambre, ensign of the company of Bernardo Dortolans, and a brother-in-law of Bousquier [Rouquier], the merchant, and the three brothers Prudhomme ..."⁴²

Angered by what he clearly perceived as insurrection against his authority, Carondelet ordered the removal of the Natchitoches commandant, Louis Charles DeBlanc, and the banishment or deportation of several of the conspirators. After a pastoral visit by Bishop Peñalver in the fall of 1796 disguised another set of inquiries, Carondelet focused his punitive actions on the parish priest who had already been transferred to Cuba. In the words of historian Gilbert Din, who has studied the affair more deeply than others:

"Punishment amounted to the exile from Louisiana of two ringleaders [Louis Armant and Zosime de Mézières], only one of whom is known to have left; expulsion of two others from the

³⁹ As quoted in Gilbert C. Din, "Father Jean Delvaux and the Natchitoches Revolt of 1795," *Louisiana History: The Journal of the Louisiana Historical Association* 40 (Winter 1999): 5–33, especially p. 14; citing DeBlanc to Vásquez, Natchitoches, October 11, 1795, RDFL, ND, and in AHN, Est., leg. 3900, exped. 2 [and] Vásquez to Carondelet, Baton Rouge, November 21, 1795, ... AHN, Est. leg. 3900, exped. 2."

⁴⁰ Din, "Father Jean Delvaux," 17.

⁴¹ Din, "Father Jean Delvaux," 20.

⁴² *Records of the Diocese of Louisiana and the Floridas, 1576–1803*, roll 1, *Calendar* (Notre Dame, IN: University of Notre-Dame Archives, c1967), cards 125–42. Din, p. 23, n. 23, misidentifies Anty as "Bautista Andry." The diocesan calendar identifies him correctly.

Natchitoches district [Dr. François Monginot and Joseph Capuran], of whom only Capuran departed; and rebuking a few more. Several *revenants* were briefly arrested. ... The remaining offenders got off scot-free.”⁴³

COMMENT:

I have not found Baptiste Antÿ in Natchitoches records for the next eighteen months. *However*, his first child by Susanne Metoyer was conceived in early 1797.

JANUARY 1797

ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

Conception of Marie Susanne [Anty], “quarterone,” calculated from her 30 October birth date, as specified in her baptismal entry.⁴⁴

25 JANUARY 1798

ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

“Marriage of **Jean Baptiste Buart**, after three bans, the widower of Jeanne Levasseur and major, legitimate son of deceased Gabriel Buart and Marie Anne Rousseau ... and ... **Marie Poissot**, legitimate daughter of deceased Remi Poissot and Marie Louis Cave; both are natives of this parish. Witnesses: Elisabeth Felicité DeMèzière, Marie Charlotte Mercie, Athanase Poissot, François Chabuche, Remi Lambre, and **Jean Baptiste Anty**.”⁴⁵

COMMENT:

Even though J. B. Buard is no longer the brother-in-law of Antÿ, the in-law relationships would continue. Antÿ’s daughter Marie Louise in October would marry Paul Poissot, brother of J. B. Buard’s new wife. See below.

29 APRIL 1798

ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

“Baptism of Marie Susanne, born October 30, 1797, *quarterone* daughter of Marie Susanne, *mulatresse* slave of Mr. Metoier, and a father unknown. Godparents: Louis [Metoyer] and Agnes [Poissot], free *mulattoes*.”⁴⁶

30 JUNE 1798

ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

“After three bans, marriage of **Pierre LaCour**, native of this parish, legitimate son of Pierre LaCour and Marie Louise Verge ... and **Marie Therese Brevelle**, legitimate daughter of **Jean Baptiste Brevel** and Marie Françoise **Poissot**. Witnesses: Nicolas Lauve, Jean Baptiste Derbanne, Jean Baptiste LaCour, Jean Baptiste Brevel, **Jean Baptiste Anty**, Pierre Lacour.”⁴⁷

COMMENT:

- This Jean Baptiste Brevel is the man for whom Bayou Brevelle and Isle Brevelle are named. In mid-life, he settled at the foot of the Grand Coast, just across Bayou Brevelle from the Isle.
- Brevel’s wife Marie Françoise Poissot was the aunt of Paul Poissot, who married Antÿ’s daughter Marie Louise.

⁴³ Din, “Father Jean Delvaux,” 33, n. 57.

⁴⁴ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1729–1803: Abstracts of the Catholic Church Registers*, entry 3179.

⁴⁵ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1729–1803: Abstracts of the Catholic Church Registers*, entry 3427.

⁴⁶ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1729–1803: Abstracts of the Catholic Church Registers*, entry 3179.

⁴⁷ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1729–1803: Abstracts of the Catholic Church Registers*, entry 3431.

- The LaCours settled early at Rivière aux Cannes. The groom and his brother **Gaspard LaCour** had land at S41, 42, 112, & 113 T7N R6W, **adjacent to the land Baptiste Antÿ transferred informally to his brother Louis** and later sold to Louis' widow Marie Jeanne Crete.

28 JULY 1798

NCA DOC. 2888

Jean B^{te} Anty and the Natchitoches merchant **François Chabus** formed a partnership, apparently to operate a billiard establishment. The partnership dissolved on 5 April 1799. See that date below.

3 OCTOBER 1798

NCA DOC. 2862

Before Felix Trudeau, commandant. **Jean Baptiste Brevelle** to son **Balthazar Brevelle**, conveys a "young grif" aged about three years named Joseph, for the work that the son has provided the father. Mark of "Baptiste Brevelle." Baltazard Brevelle signed. Witnesses: **Jean B^{te} Anty** (signed Antÿ), François Dubois (Signed Dubois).

COMMENT:

Most documents witnessed by François Dubois, a Natchitoches merchant, were created within the office of the commandant at Natchitoches. I have not established a connection between François and the later notary at Rivière aux Cannes and Cloutierville, Jean Pierre Marie Dubois.

6 OCTOBER 1798

NCA DOC. 2864

Before Felix Trudeau, commandant. Marriage contract between **Paul Poissot**, legitimate son of Remy Poissot and Marie Louise Cavé, and **Marie Louise Anty**, legitimate daughter of **Jean B^{te} Anty** and deceased "____ Galien." The groom brings into the marriage the sum of 300 piasters; **the bride brings 2000 piasters, "animals &c."** Signed Paul Poissot (x), M^e Louise Anty (x), and witnesses Ath. Poissot (x), Prudhomme [Sr.], Remy Lambre, **Anty**, Prudhomme, Rouquier, Guerbois, Dubois, Nicolas Galien (x).

COMMENT:

The bridal sum brought into the marriage by Marie Louise Anty was quite substantial for her era, perhaps an inheritance from her mother's family. Her mother's succession was opened at Natchitoches but the papers have not been found.

6 OCTOBER 1798

ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

"Marriage of Paul Poissot, legitimate son of deceased Remi Poissot and Louise Cave ... and ... **Marie Louise Anti**, legitimate daughter of **Jean Baptiste Anti** and deceased Catherine Gallien; both natives of this post. Witnesses: Remis Lambre, Manuel and Antoine Prudhomme, and Athanase Poissot."⁴⁸

COMMENT:

Remy Lambre was the brother-in-law of the two Prudhommes who signed with him. Athanase Poissot was the putative father of Marie Agnès Poissot, wife of Nicolas Augustin Metoyer, fmc.

7 NOVEMBER 1798

NCA DOC. 2869

⁴⁸ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1729–1803: Abstracts of the Catholic Church Registers*, entry 3433.

Before Felix Trudeau, commandant, and witnesses Sieur **Jean B^{te} Anty** and **François Dubois**. Power of attorney, etc., between Chrisostome Peraut, Sieur Jean Poiret, Pierre [illegible], and Jean Salvan. Signed: Chrisostome Perault (x), Dubois, **Antÿ**, Felix Trudeau.

1799

NCA DOC 2891

Dominique Rachal sold a “plantation” to **Jean Baptiste Anty**. The document was filed with the commandant and numbered; it is registered in “French Archives Index,” compiled 1819, but is now missing. It is not found among the courthouse records that have strayed out and into the Melrose Collection. It may be within the “Natchitoches Parish Records Collection” at LSU.

COMMENT:

This should be the two-arpent tract, with a home 20” x 16” that Dominique Rachal purchased in 1791 from Antoine LeMoine Jr. At that time, Antoine stated that the land had come to him from his father Charles Lemoine Sr. See notes above.

American State Papers—Public Lands includes two relevant entries for this tract, one for Antÿ that awards the land to Remy Lambre; and one for Lambre that identifies Lemoine as the original settler. From this, we can place Baptiste Antÿ in **S38 & 100, T8N R6W**. This would be his home until 1809–10.

cDECEMBER 1806–MAY 1815

ASP-PL 3:78–79

“Claim to land in the county of Natchitoches
[alphabetical list dated 26 May 1815; based on claims filed cDecember 1806 and 1807]
No. 3 / 127

By whom claimed:	Jean Baptiste Anty
Original proprietor or claimant:	Not mentioned
Quantity claimed:	Not mentioned
Nature and date of title or claim:	Possession and occupancy
Class:	C

“Remarks on the foregoing list of claims, with references to the reported numbers:

No. 3. Jean Baptiste Anty. This claim is for two acres on each side of Red river, the depth not mentioned. No proof or other evidence of title has been adduced in support of the claim. Supposed to be confirmed to **Remy Lambert.**”

Antÿ’s **C-class** designation meant that it was “founded on grants *said* to be derived from the French, British, or Spanish Governments; which claims, in the opinion of the Commissioner, are not valid, according to the laws, usages, or customs, of such Governments.” (ASP-PL 3:6)

“Remy Lambert,” as seen below, was issued a **B-class** certificate for this land—i.e., “claims founded on orders of survey, (requettes,) permission to settle, or other written evidence of claims derived from either the French, British, or Spanish authorities; which claims ought, in the opinion of the said Commissioner, to be confirmed.” (ASP-PL 3:6)

19 DECEMBER 1811

ASP-PL 2:848

“Monthly return of certificates issued by the Commissioners of the western district of Orleans Territory, for December, 1811”

Certificate number:	B1687
Issued:	Dec. 19

Name of person under who land was claimed:	Charles Lemain
In whose favor issued:	Remy Lamber
Nature of claim:	Order of survey and settlement
Location:	Natchitoches, Red River
Size:	541.60 acres; 640 arpents

In sum:

- Charles Lemoine Sr. received the original order of survey and settlement
- Lemoine Sr., before 1793, began dividing the land among his children, one of whom sold his 2-arpent share to Dominique Rachal in 1793, who sold to Antÿ in 1799.
- Antÿ filed claim for the land with the U.S. Land Office in December 1806 or thereafter (but before August 1810, as documents show below).
- By 1811, Remy Lambre had bought up the Lemoine parcels (including Antÿ's), filed his claim for the whole, and was issued a certificate confirming his rights on 19 December 1811.
- Lambre's B1687 is placed at S38 & 100 on the plat map for T8N R6W. See fig. 2.

Regarding the location of the Lemoine > Rachal > Antÿ > Lambre land:

- Doc. 2887, a mortgage by **Miguel Hernandez**, states that his own habitation was "about **4 leagues** from the post. Hernandez held **S20 & 92 of T8N R6W**, partly **adjoining Coincoin's homestead** and immediately north of the tract Coincoin bought in 1807 for son Toussaint.
- The Lemoine to Dominique Rachal deed placed the tract of land at "about **8 leagues** from the post." That syncs with the location of Lambre's B1687 tract.

21 JANUARY 1799

NCA DOC. 2881

Jean Baptiste Antÿ was one of the witnesses to the will of "Louise Marguerite Derbanne Dion," widow of Sieur Louis Antoine Juchereau de St. Denis." She X'd. Other witnesses were Edouard Murphy, François Dubois, André Rambin, John Horn, Louis Renould, and J. Bte. Ailhaud St. Ann.

COMMENT:

- Murphy, Rambin, and Ailhaud Ste. Anne were in-laws of Antÿ's Buard in-laws.
- Widow St. Denis lived just below the post of Natchitoches.
- John Horn was married to (and estranged from) Marie Louise Bodin (widow Michel Robin) from Rivière aux Cannes. Horn held land there, but lived at Natchitoches.
- Antÿ in April 1799 sold Horn his billiard table in Natchitoches, which Antÿ had operated on premises belonging to François Chabus.]

5 APRIL 1799

NCA DOC. 2888

Before Felix Trudeau, commandant, and witnesses Rouquier and Dubois, there has appeared **Jean B^{te} Antÿ** and **François Chabus** who annul their partnership formed before the *greffe* on 28 July last. Antÿ is to pay Chabus the sum of 500 piasters. Signed: **Antÿ**, Chabus, Dubois, Felix Trudeau.

COMMENT:

The document does not indicate the location of their establishment. The following records provide some context. Chabus owned four documentable tracts,⁴⁹ but only one was near or within the bounds of the village:

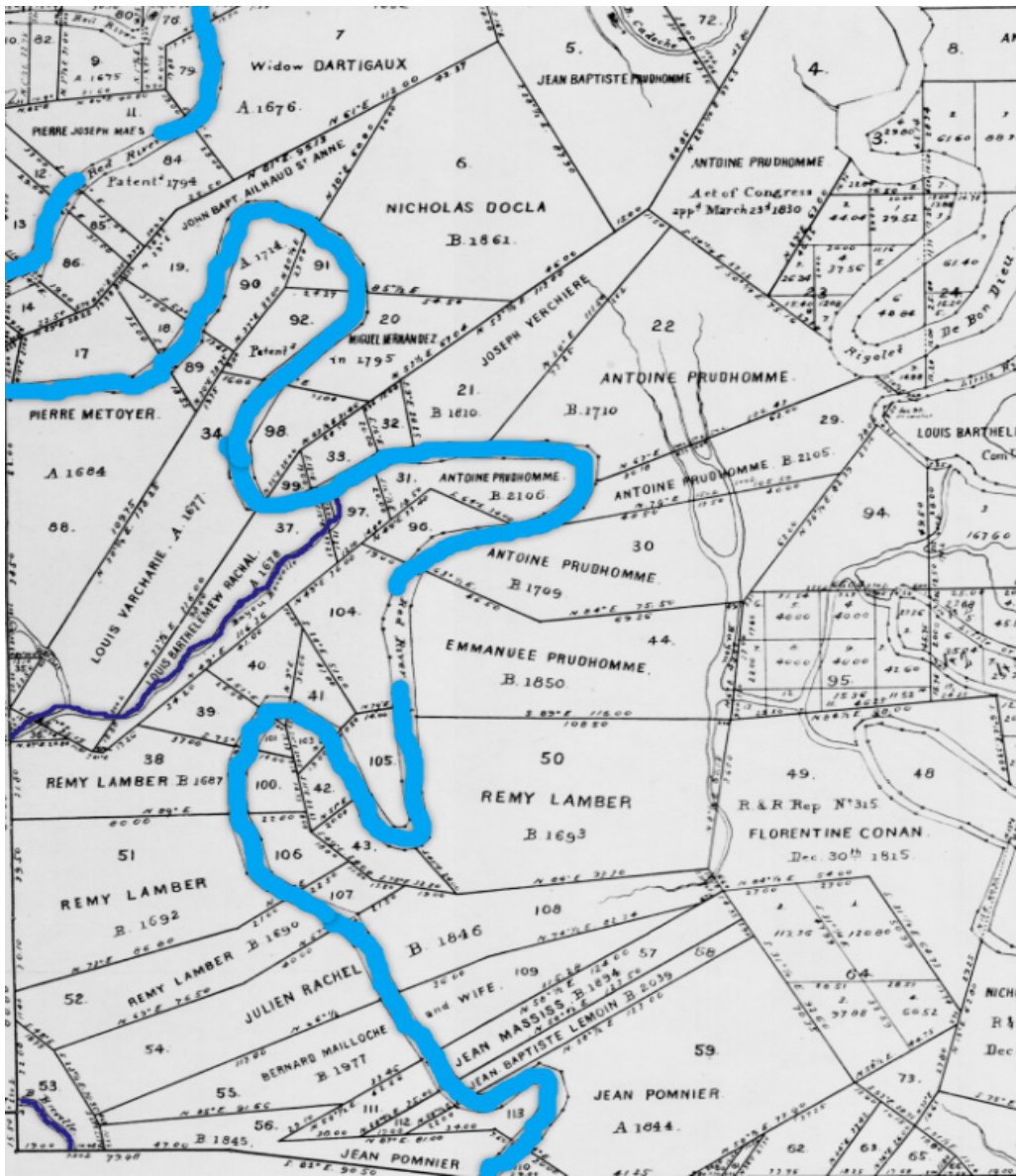
⁴⁹Chabus to Rasily, 1805, NCA Doc. 3265. Also ASP-PL 2:859 for B2013, 2014, and 2016.

ASP-PL 2:859:

Claim B2013, claimed by Jacques Lambre, 239.37 acres, 282.88 arpents, certificate to Chabus. The Bureau of Land Management’s online database shows this tract was finally patented in 1957 in the joint names of François Chabus and Jacques “Lamber.” This final clearance of the title, placing it in **S52 T9 R7W** allots only 96.73 acres rather than the 239.37 originally claimed. It **presently lies between Williams and Keyser Streets in the town of Natchitoches**, north side of Cane River—across the river from the site of the post as it existed c1799.

Figure 2

T8N R6W (Lower Grand Coast & Upper Isle Brevelle) as Depicted on “Official Plat Map” (1850)⁵⁰ Marking Bayou Brevelle & Cane River (which was then the channel of Red River)



⁵⁰ Snipped from “T.8.N.—R.6.W. North Western Dist^t La.,” Louisiana Office of Lands, *Historical Documents* (www.slodms.doa.la.gov/WebForms/DocumentViewer.aspx?docId=522.01909&category=H#1 : downloaded 14 June 2019).

6 APRIL 1799

NCA DOC. 2889

Before Felix Trudeau, commandant, and witnesses **Francois Chabus** and **Francois Dubois**, there has appeared **Sieur Jean B^{te} Anty**, who sells to **Sieur Jean Horn** his billiard operation, which he had conducted with François Chabus. \$160. Signed: Anty, J. Horn, Dubois, Chabus, Felix Trudeau.

COMMENT:

All of the individuals involved in this transaction were then residents of the town of Natchitoches. François Dubois, a town merchant, was a regular witness for the commandant.

The billiard table apparently was not prosperous for Horn, either. On 6 November of this same year, he sold it to a man named "Teal" [Edward or James]. (Melrose Folder 718, "Court Record Book"). By 1804, Horn was posting bond for a license to operate an inn in the town of Natchitoches. (Doc. 3149)

27 SEPTEMBER 1799

NCA DOC. 2914

Felix Trudeau, commandant, and witnesses **Sieur Jean Baptiste Anty** and **Francois Dubois**, have gone to the domicile of **Sieur Jean Josephe Martinot** [Martineau] who died on the 13th of the current month, where he lived with his wife Dame **Marie Magdeleine Labury**, to make an inventory of the property of the deceased. His habitation consisted of 10 arpents on each bank of Red River **about 20 leagues from the town [about 60 river miles]**, with a *maison de poteaux en terre*, covered in bark, and other buildings, bounded on the upper by the land of Louis Toutin and on the lower by that of **Barthelemy Rachal**.

COMMENT:

The succession reference to Barthelemy Rachal as the adjacent landholder on the lower side enables us to place the Martineau homestead to which Jean Baptiste Anty went in September 1799:

ASP-PL 2:867

Certificate No. **B2151**, issued 8 January 1813

Name of person under whom claimed: **Bartelemy Rachal**

Certificate Issued to: Legal representatives of Robert McAlpin

Spanish Concession, 541.60 acres, 640 Arpents at **Hidden Hill**, Rivière aux Cannes

The plat map for T6N R5W places three adjacent landowners in this order, descending the river:

- Sections 57 & 82: Louis Toutin
- Sections 55 & 56: Madeline Labarie
- Sections 50, 51, 54, 86 & 87 Legal Representativse of Robert McAlpin [**B2151** is S51 and 54.]

The site of McAlpin's plantation is still known today as Hidden Hill. Also relevant to the Martineau-Chabus-Anty connection:

12 NOVEMBER 1799

Baptism of Joseph François Martinau, born May 20, legitimate son of Joseph Martinau, deceased, and Marie Magdeleine Laberi. Godparents: **François Chabuche** [Chabus] and Elizabeth Rachal.⁵¹

⁵¹ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1729–1803: Abstracts of the Catholic Church Registers*, entry 2937.

9 SEPTEMBER 1800
ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

“After three bans, marriage of **Bernard Guisarnat**, native of Fean in the province of Varetous in Beard, France, legitimate son of deceased Jean Guisarnat and Catherine Borde, living for several years in this post ... and ... **Marie Louise Larenaudiere**, legitimate daughter of Pierre Larenaudiere and Jeanne Laberi, native of this parish. Witnesses: **Jean Baptiste Anty** and Joseph Derbanne; Pierre LaRenaudiere, her father; Manuel and Dominique Rachal.⁵²

COMMENT:

- The LaRenaudière family, and Manuel Rachal all lived on lower Rivière aux Cannes, between Cloutierville and the present Natchitoches-Rapides parish line.
- Guisarnat settled on the west bank of Bayou Brevelle, opposite Isle Brevelle (**S72 T7N R6W**).
- Joseph Derbanne lived at the foot of Isle Brevelle, between Dominique and François Metoyer. (**S26 & 101 T7N R6W**).
- Dominique Rachal then lived at upper Isle Brevelle where, in 1799, he had sold J. B. Anty 2 arpents (**S38 & 100 T8N R6W**).

No other marriages or baptisms occurred on this same day, or surrounding day, from which we might draw clues to whether this event occurred in the parish church or downriver. However, a broader study of the records suggests that the above event was held at Isle Brevelle or Rivière aux Cannes while the priest was travelling upriver, back to the post of Natchitoches:

- On 12, 24, and 25 August, the priest performed baptisms for individuals at Lower Rivière aux Cannes, about 60 to 40 river miles below the post (entries 2971–2973).
- On 11 September, the priest baptized Baptiste Antÿ’s granddaughter for whom he was the absent godfather. The child’s parents lived on the Grand Coast, about 20 to 15 river miles above the families clustered in the Guisarnat–LaRenaudère marriage (entries 2974).
- On 15 and 28 September, baptisms were held in the parish church within the post of Natchitoches (entries 3262–3263).

11 SEPTEMBER 1800
ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

“Baptism of Remi, about one year old, legitimate son of **Paul Poissot** and **Marie Louise Anti**. Grandparents: Remi Poissot and Marie Louise Cavé; **Jean Baptiste Anty** and Catherine Gallien. Godparents: **Jean Baptiste Anti**, grandfather, represented by **Valeri Anti**, and Marie Louise Cavé, grandmother.⁵³

COMMENT:

The fact that Baptiste Antÿ did not attend the baptism of his grandchild, despite being chosen as godfather—while his son Valery went into the post to serve as his proxy—suggests that Antÿ was either ill, living significantly distant from the post, or else preferred not to attend the parish church. Paul Poissot, the child’s father, belonged to a family that settled along the lower Grand Coast and upper Isle Brevelle. The Lemoine-Rachal land purchased by Antÿ in 1799, was a number of miles *upstream* from Paul Poissot, which suggests that distance did not account for Baptiste Anty’s absence at the church’s baptismal font.

Also relevant: On 25 October 1802, when the Poissots presented their next child for baptism, the godfather (the mother’s uncle Louis Anty) was also absent, with François Rouquier of the

⁵² Mills, *Natchitoches, 1729–1803: Abstracts of the Catholic Church Registers*, entry 3441.

⁵³ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1729–1803: Abstracts of the Catholic Church Registers*, entry 2974.

Grand Coast serving as proxy.⁵⁴ In that case, the godfather was indeed distant from the post, being at Rivière aux Cannes.

29 SEPTEMBER 1800

ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

Birth of Marie Aspasie Anty, daughter of Baptiste Antÿ and Marie Susanne Metoyer, according to her baptismal entry of 16 February 1801.⁵⁵

26 NOVEMBER 1800

ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

“After three bans, marriage of **Jean Baptiste Anty**, son of **Jean Baptiste Anty** and deceased **Catherine Gallien**, his wife ... and ... **Marie Cÿpriène Derbanne**, legitimate daughter of **Pierre Derbanne [II]** and **Marie Françoise Brevel**, native of this parish. Witnesses: Joseph Tausin, Bernard Guichernat, Jean Baptiste Brevel, and Jean Baptiste Theodore Grillet.”⁵⁶

16 FEBRUARY 1801

ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

“Baptism of Marie Aspasie, a *quarterone*, born September 29, 1800 in this post, daughter of Susanne [Metoyer], *mulâtresse* slave of Mr. Metoier, habitant of this post, and of a father unknown. Godparents: Jean Baptiste Etienne Pavie and Marie Therese Elisabeth Metoïé.”⁵⁷

14 MARCH 1801

MELROSE COLLECTION, FOLDER 726

“Settlement of accounts and partition of the estate of **Marie Leclair**, widow of Pierre Derbanne, by her son Louis Derbanne, executor. ... Payments made to ... **Jean Baptiste Anty**. ... Heirs: “Executor’s brother **Pierre Derbanne**. Deceased brother **Jean Baptiste Derbanne** represented by **Pierre Chaler** his brother-in-law, tutor of minor children. Sister **Marie Louise Derbanne** wife of **François Lavespere**. Deceased sister **Marie Victoire** represented by **Pierre Chaler** her husband and tutor of their minor children. Brother **Joseph Derbanne**. Himself **Louis Derbanne**. His brother **Emanuel Derbanne**.”⁵⁸

7 SEPTEMBER 1801

MELROSE COLLECTION, FOLDER “COURT RECORD BOOK”

“Sale of a Negro *brutte* by **Manuel Prudhomme** to **J. Bte. Anty**.”

29 OCTOBER 1802

NCA DOC. 3022

Pierre Derbanne to **Jean Baptiste Anty fils**.⁵⁹

COMMENT:

⁵⁴ Elizabeth Shown Mills, *Natchitoches, 1800–1826: Translated Abstracts of Register Number Five of the Catholic Church Parish of St. François des Natchitoches in Louisiana* (New Orleans: Polyanthos, 1980), entry 36.

⁵⁵ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1729–1803: Abstracts of the Catholic Church Registers*, entry 3276.

⁵⁶ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1729–1803: Abstracts of the Catholic Church Registers*, entry 3443.

⁵⁷ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1729–1803: Abstracts of the Catholic Church Registers*, entry 3276.

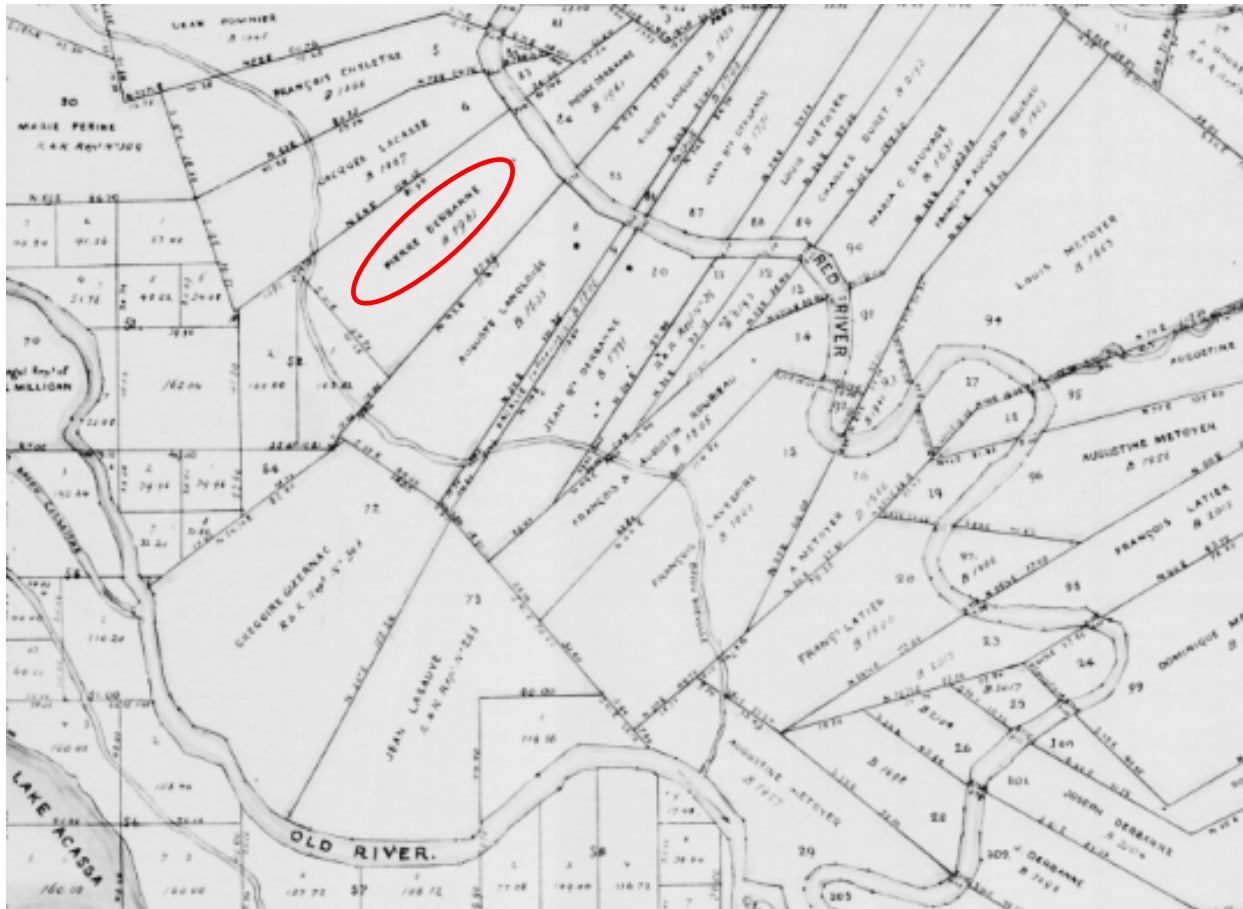
⁵⁸ Wells, *Index and Abstracts of Colonial Documents in the Eugene P. Watson Memorial Library*, 29; citing Melrose Collection Folder 726

⁵⁹ The document is missing from the courthouse series. It is registered, without date or any other descriptor in the courthouse inventory “Index to French Archives” that was created about 1819. The document is also listed and dated in the contemporary inventory of notarial documents, May 1799–December 1806, folder 738, Melrose Collection, Cammie G. Henry Research Center, Northwestern State University, Natchitoches.

The neighborhood attributed by the 1810 census to “Anty fils” (whose household included an older man of the age of Baptiste Sr.) suggests this land should be part of the Pierre Derbanne claim B1961, **S7 & 84, T7N R6W**. This was about three farms above the land Louis and Augustin Metoyer provided for their sister Susanne (consort of Baptiste) when she was finally manumitted in 1815.

For the neighborhood in which this land lay, see Figure 3.

Figure 3
NW Quadrant of T7N R6W (Lower Isle Brevelle) as Depicted on “Official Plat Map” (1851)⁶⁰



22 NOVEMBER 1802

ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

Joseph Derbanne & [Catherine] Brosset

“Marriage, after 3 bans. Groom: native of this parish, legitimate son of Pierre Derbanne and Marie LeClerc. Bride: native of this parish, legitimate daughter of P [document torn] Brosset and Marie Joseph

⁶⁰ Snipped from “T.7.N.—R.6.W. North Western Dist^t La.,” Louisiana Office of Lands, *Historical Documents* (www.slodms.doa.la.gov/WebForms/DocumentViewer.aspx?docId=522.01883&category=H#1 : downloaded 14 June 2019). The blurred quality of this map is inherent in the original. That original also carries a numerical list of all sections, the claimant who has been confirmed, the claim number, and the arpentage/acreage.

Grille. Witnesses: **Jean Baptiste Anty**, Remy Lambre; Bernard Vissoura [Hissoura]; Barthelemi Rachal. Priest: P. Pavie.”⁶¹

15 FEBRUARY 1803

ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

Antoine Grillet & Marie Felicité Perot

“Marriage, after 3 bans. Groom: native and resident of this parish, legitimate son of deceased Marin Grillet and Marie Louise Brevel. Bride: Native and resident of this post, legitimate daughter of Chrisostome Perot and Marie Louise Salvant. Witnesses: **Jean Baptiste Anty**; Dominique Rachal; Joseph Tauzin; and Paul Marcollay. Priest: P. Pavie.”⁶²

16 APRIL 1803

NCA DOC. 3047

Before Felix Trudeau, commandant, and Nicolas Lauve and Paul Marcollay, witnesses, there appeared **Paul Poissot** who sells to **Yves dit Pacalie**, free Negro, a tract of 1.5 arpents of frontage on each bank of Red River, bounded on the upper by Augustin Langlois and on the lower by Jean Bte. Derbanne. 180 piasters. Signed: Yves *dit* Pacalee (x), Paul Poissot (x), N^{las} Lauve, Paul Marcollay, Felix Trudeau.

COMMENT:

This is Pacalé’s confirmed claim B1706 (S9 & 86, T7N R6W). It is less than a mile from the B1961 tract that Poissot’s brother-in-law, **Jean Baptiste Anty fils**, bought from Pierre Derbanne.

24 JULY 1803

ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

Birth of **Marie Arsene Anty**, to **Marie Susanne Metoyer**, date supplied in her 1804 baptismal record.⁶³

6 OCTOBER 1803

ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

“Burial in cemetery of this parish of corpse of **Euphrosine Anty**, who died the preceding day at the age of 10 years, daughter of **Jean Baptiste Anty** and Françoise Levasseur. Priest: P. Pavie.”⁶⁴

COMMENT:

On the same day, there was buried in the same cemetery, a “privately baptized” infant of Manuel Prudhomme and Catherine Lambre, whose upper Isle Brevelle plantation was next door to Remy Lambre in the community where Baptiste Antÿ lived at this time.

9 DECEMBER 1803

NCA DOC. 3806

Louis Monette Succession. Note: “During the month of March next, I will pay to **M^r Jⁿ B^{te} Anty** père of **L’isle à Brevelle** the sum of 35 piasters and 3 rieux, Mexican currency, for the value of his account ...” Signed Mr. Louis Monette (+). Witness: Paillette.

COMMENT:

This raises a question that known data does not answer: What occupation did Baptiste Antÿ have that would involve Monette charging sums on an account with Antÿ? Or did Antÿ have spare

⁶¹ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1800–1826: Translated Abstracts of Register Number Five*, entry 948.

⁶² Mills, *Natchitoches, 1800–1826: Translated Abstracts of Register Number Five*, entry 950.

⁶³ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1800–1826: Translated Abstracts of Register Number Five*, entry 1887.

⁶⁴ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1800–1826: Translated Abstracts of Register Number Five*, entry 823.

money that he loaned to Louis Monette? I have found no similar instance in which other people died owing sums to Baptiste Anty, on “account” or otherwise.

7 OCTOBER 1804

ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

“Marie Arcene. Baptism of a *quadroon* born in this post 24 July 1803, daughter of Susanne [Metoyer], *mulatresse* slave of Mr. Metoyer. Father unknown. Godparents: Joseph [Metoyer], free mulatto and uncle of the infant, and Pelagie [LeCourt], free mulatress. Priest: P. Pavie.⁶⁵

COMMENT:

Almost certainly, Father Pavie knew the identity of the child’s father. The wife of “Mr. Metoyer” was the widow of Father Pavie’s brother Étienne.

OCTOBER 1804

NCA DOC. 3431

Gaspard LaCour sells to **Widow Louis Anty**, a tract of land on the left [western] bank of the river going upstream, containing 4 arpents of frontage to the depth it is able to carry, bounded on the **lower** (going upstream) by the vendor. 100 piasters silver. Passed before Monsieur **Louis Derbanne, syndic** of the District of said Rivière aux Cannes __ 8^{bre} [October] 1804. Witness: Jh Rocheblave. A sideways-written marginal note reads “Gaspard **Derbanne** & Dme. Louis Anty, December 24, 1806.” Acknowledged 24 December 1806 by Gaspard **Lacour** before Edw. D. Turner, Judge.

COMMENT:

LaCour’s 4 arpents on the left bank going *upstream*, bounded by himself on the lower, should be the small triangle known as S41 T7N R6W, confirmed to Pierre LaCour. One tract (confirmed to Gaspard LaCour) lies between it Section 44, the tract eventually confirmed to the Widow Anty. See Figure 1.

13 APRIL 1805

NCA DOC. 3266

Petition gathered and filed by the syndics F^{cois} Rouquier the younger, Jean Bap^t Buard and F^{cis} Perault. Suit filed against John Sibley for commencing to build a structure that goes twenty feet onto the land belonging to the community. Signatures and marks included

Col. 1: Pierre Brosset, F^é Latié, Charle Le Moine, P^{re} Baudoin, F^{cois} Davion, N^{la} Galien, J^h Duprès, Ignace Anty

Col. 2: Pierre Quiéry, L^s Buard, Ailhaut Ste. Anne, Prudhomme JB?, Remy Lambre, Francois Chelaittre, *Veuve Frédéric*, Fçois Frederic, Guill^{me} Le Brun, P^{re} La Cour, Antoine Coindét, Jacque Verchere, An^{ne} Bergon, Jn Pomier

Col. 3: T^{te} Buard, Ber^{mie} Rachal fils, L. B. Rachal, Levasseur, Charle Duret, Jⁿ B^{te} Latié, P^{re} La Cour fils, Berth^{mie} Le Cour, P^{re} Cahot [Cajot?], Jⁿ B^{te} La Vigne

Col. 4: Rouquier, Jullien Rachal, Jⁿ P^{re} LaLande

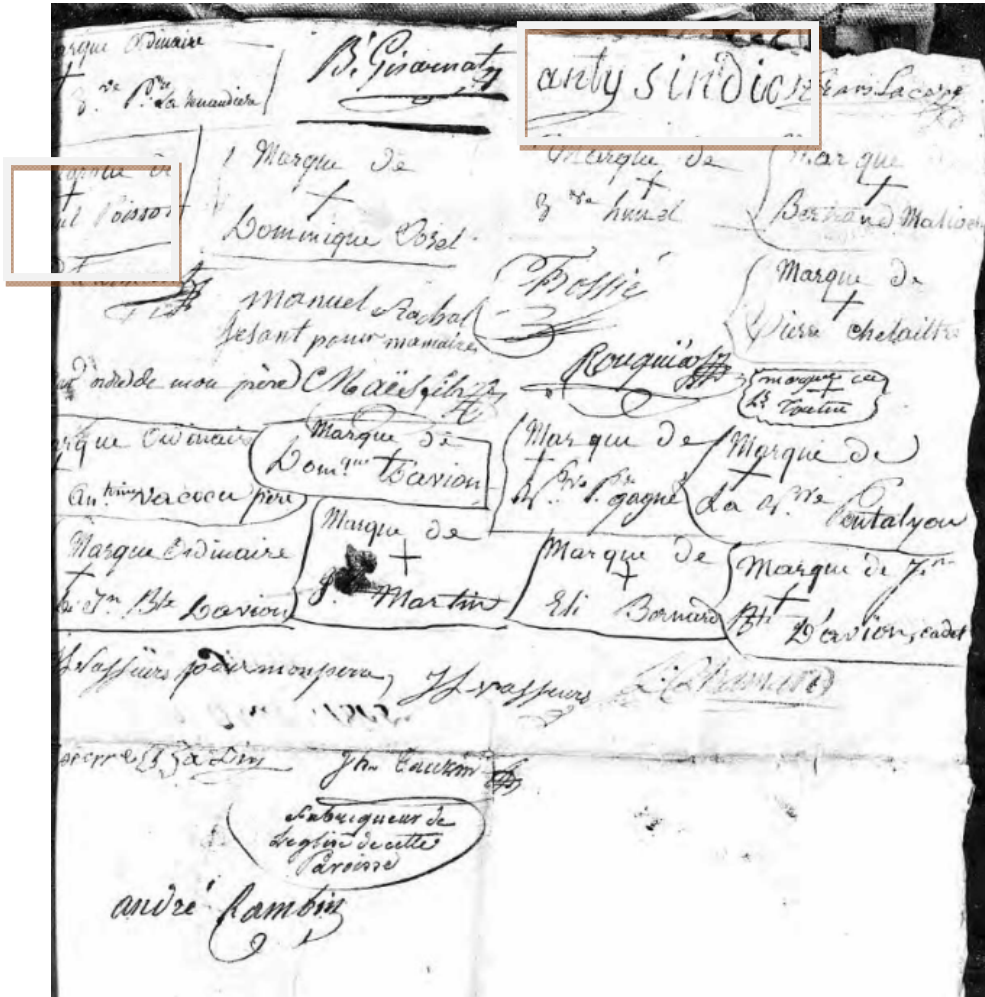
Col. 5: Metoyer, L. Verchair, Remy Perot, Zⁿ Me____, B^{te} Derbanne, Soulange Bossie, G^{rite} LaCour, Th^{nase} LeCour, Jⁿ B^{te} Denis, B^{te} Rachal

[next page]

Col. 1: V^{ve} P^e La Renaudier, Paul Poissot, Bte Armant, “By order of my father Maès *fils*,” Antoine Vacocu *père*, Jⁿ B^{te} Davion, LeVasseur *pour mon perre*, Pierre Badin

⁶⁵ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1800–1826: Translated Abstracts of Register Number Five*, entry 785.

- Col. 2: B. Gisarnat, Dominique Sorel, Manuel Rachal *pour ma maire*, Dom^{que} Davion, J. Martin, H. Vasseur, Jh. Tauzin *fabriqueur de Leglise de cette Paroisse*, André Rambin
- Col. 3: **Anty Syndic**, V^{ve} Himel, FBossié, Rouquière, E^{ne?} P^{re?} Gagné, Eli Bernarde
- Col. 4: Frans. Lacasse, Bertrand Malioche, Pierre Chelaitre, B. Toutin, V^{ve} Pentalyon [Pantalleon], B^{te} Davion *cadet*, L. Chamard



COMMENT:

- Buard would have been *syndic* for the Grand Coast, South of Natchitoches.
- Rouquier was *syndic* for the town of Natchitoches, although he owned at least one piece of land at Rivière aux Cannes that his widow would sell to Jean Pierre Marie Dubois.
- Perault was *syndic* for the Grand Écore district, north of Natchitoches.

The other regions of the parish/county for which a *syndic* was appointed were Isle Brevelle and Rivière aux Cannes. Considering the October 1804 document above (Doc. 3431) and one of April 1805 below, naming Louis Derbanne as *syndic* at Rivière aux Cannes (Doc. 3270), we may conclude that **Baptiste Anty was *syndic* for Isle Brevelle**. This is the only reference I've found to him holding this position; apparently it was not for long. His level of literacy—attested by the fact that he never penned any document, only signed them—ill qualified him for the *syndic* post.

Determining Antÿ's locale would depend upon whether the names on the second page were signed in columns or across the page. If we read the names *horizontally*, Antÿ signed

- just before Dr. François Lacaze, a surgeon long in the town of Natchitoches, who was living with Antÿ when he died. Lacaze was buried 4 June 1806 in the cemetery at Natchitoches (Mills, *Natch. 1800–1826*, entry 851).
- two names before Paul Poissot, Antÿ's son-in-law.

The names on this page are a geographic mix, as though names were collected when individuals came to town on business. **Antÿ, noticeably, did not sign among others from the Grand Coast, the Isle, and Rivière aux Cannes, except for his son-in-law.**

Antÿ's service as *syndic* was brief. On 10 April 1805, the state legislature set up a new governing structure for "counties" in Louisiana, with new appointments to be made. Other new appointees were Judge Alexander, Athanase DeMézières Jr. as Treasurer, Andrew Price as Sheriff. (See documents surrounding 3295–3307.) And so, we find ...

NCA DOC. 3292

21 February 1806

Remy Lambre sells land to Jean Baptiste Paillet, with an affidavit drawn up **1 March 1806** by "**Bellabre Dumas, justice of the peace [Isle Brevelle].**"

In 1807, Coincoin used Dumas when she purchased part of the grant of Louis Vercher (see Map 1 citing Verchaire), for her son Toussaint. Dumas died shortly thereafter, resulting in an inventory of his merchandise in his storehouse on the plantation of Antoine Prudhomme.⁶⁶

7 MAY 1805

NCA DOC. 3279

Paul Poissot sells to **Joseph Derbanne** for \$600, a Negro Slave named John Louis, aged 35, "very black complexion ... warranting the slave to continue sound and able bodied one year, accidents excepted." Witness: James Johnson. The document appears to have been penned by Capt. Edward Turner, the new American commandant.

COMMENT:

Poissot, Antÿ's son-in-law, seems landless at this point. In 1803, he had sold his land (S9 & S86 T7N R6W, midway of the Isle) to Yves *dit* Pacalé.

Joseph Derbanne lived near the foot of the Isle with land stretching across Red River between Dominique Metoyer and Louis Derbanne (brother of Joseph) on the east side and between Dominique and François Metoyer on the west side.

23 SEPTEMBER 1805

NCA DOC. 3307

Marie Derbanne sells to **Remy Lambre** for \$425 a plantation situated at 8 leagues below the post [about 24 miles], consisting of 8 acres [frontage] on each side of Red River to the ordinary depth, bounded above by the plantation of **Augustin Robieu** and below by that of **Widow Etienne Verger**. Signed: Marie Derbanne (x), in presence of **Antÿ** and Gisarnat, witnesses. The document is attested by John C. Carr, acting for "M. Alexander, Judge."

⁶⁶ LaLande to Marie Therese, 5 June 1807, Natchitoches, "Original Conveyance Acts," Book 42, doc. 501; Leland to Toussaint Metoyer, 21 April 1821, Confirmation of sale of land, Conv. Book 10:41. Also succession of Bellabre Dumas, NCA Doc. 3547.

COMMENT:

The handwriting appears to be that of the parish clerk, John C. Carr.

This Marie Derbanne should be **Marie de l'Incarnacion Derbanne, widow of Joseph Dupré I**, whose daughter Marie Françoise married Étienne Verger in 1775.⁶⁷ At the time of this sale, Marie Derbanne was the estranged wife of Jean Varangue, authorized by the court to act in her own name. She and some of her children were landholders at Rivière aux Cannes.

The land should be *the upper half* of Remy Lambre's B1692, **S51 and 106, T8N R6W**; the U.S. claim for this land was filed by Jean Varangue, Marie Derbanne's husband. The *lower half* soon be sold to Lambre by Marie Derbanne's daughter, Widow Étienne Verger. See 30 August 1806 below.

Antÿ's service as a witness to the widow Derbanne's land sale suggests that he was still her next-door neighbor—still living on the land he bought from Dominique Rachal.

3–4 DECEMBER 1805
ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

"Burial in cemetery of this parish of a little Negro boy who died the preceding day after having been privately baptized. He was son of Susanne, mulatress slave of Mr. metoier. Priest: P. Pavie."⁶⁸

12 MARCH 1806
NCA DOC 3328

Declaration made by Sr. **Baptiste Lavigne** that he had found an infant drowned in Red River and taken him to the house of Sr. **François Lavespere**. Others who could affirm: Sr. François Lavespere, Marie Derbanne his wife, **Sr. Joseph Derbanne, François Lattier dit Gros Joseph, Remy Lambre, Jean Baptiste Antÿ** and several others. Signed: Lavespere, **Jh Derbanne, Remy Lambre, Antÿ, Bellabre Dumas**, Justice of the Peace.

COMMENT:

Lavespère, to whose house the corpse was taken, was the adjacent landowner to François Lattier, who was the adjacent landowner to Joseph Derbanne.

After the discovery and the deposit of the corpse at the home of Lavespère, two of the involved men from that community (Lavespère and Joseph Derbanne) went to the nearest justice of the peace, Bellabre Dumas on Remy Lambre's plantation, to report. If Antÿ was still on the land that he purchased in 1799, then he should not have been a witness to the actual drowning fifteen or so miles away unless he was visiting there. More likely, he witnessed Lavigne's report to the JP Bellabre Dumas.

30 MARCH 1806
NCA DOC. 3341

"**Marie Dupres (Widow of Etienne Verger)**" sells to **Remy Lambre**, a tract of land on Red River, on Isle Brevel, about 18 miles below the post, containing 4 acres front on each side of the river, with the ordinary depth, bounded above by land of the said Remy Lambre which he purchased of the "Widow Derbanne" [Widow Dupré, *nee* Derbanne] and below by the habitation that the said Remy Lambre purchased of the Widow Larenaudiere." Signed: Marie Dupre, widow of Etienne Vergey (x). Witnesses: Francis Johnston, **Antÿ**.

⁶⁷ Mills, *Natch. 1729–1803: Translated Abstracts of the Catholic Church Registers*, entry 1017.

⁶⁸ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1800–1826: Translated Abstracts of Register Number Five*, entry 1724.

COMMENT:

The land described here lay on the Upper Isle, being the lower portion of **S51 & 106 T8N R6W**. The upper portion was sold to Lambre, by Marie's mother, on 23 September 1805. The document appears to have been executed before (and penned by) John C. Carr.

23 APRIL 1806

NCA DOC. 3360

Before John C. Carr, Clerk of court, appeared **Paul Poissot** and wife **Marie Louise Anty** who mortgage to Nicolas Lauve, merchant of said county, a Negro slave named Pierre, another named Jacques, a Negress named Celeste, and one other Negresse name Françoise, as surety for a debt of \$800 which they confess owing to Lauve. Signed: Paul Poissot (x), Marie Louise Anty (x), Banner Bastrop, Armant.

26 APRIL 1806

NCA DOC. 3362

Before **Louis Derbanne**, justice of the peace, appeared **Marie Derbanne** [widow of Joseph Dupré I], wife of Sieur **Jean Varangue**, who sells to Sieur Jacque Lacase, here present and accepting, a small Negresse named Marie Thérèse, aged about 7. \$400. Signed: Marie Derbanne (x), Jacque Lacasse (x). Witnesses: **Remy Lambre and Antÿ**.

COMMENT:

This is the same Marie Derbanne who sold her Isle Brevelle land to Remy Lambre. She was the first cousin of the justice who drafted this document, both of them being one-quarter Chitimachas. Her half-Chitimachas father Jean Baptiste and Louis' half-Chitimachas father Pierre were brothers. Louis was acting as Justice for the Rivière aux Cannes District.

29 APRIL 1806

NCA DOC. 3364

Bellabre Dumas, Justice of the peace, has gone to the home of **Sieur Julien Rachal** to make an inventory of the goods of Sr. **Baptiste Brevel**, deceased [father-in-law of Rachal], in the company of Sieurs **Remy Lambre and Jean Baptiste Anty**.

COMMENT:

The associations suggest this was Baptiste Sr.

6 MAY 1806

NCA DOC. 3367

"I **François Bellabre Dumas**, attorney and justice of the peace of the United States, undersigned, living at Isle Brevel, county of Natchitoches, in default of a public notary established in this post, am acting and functioning as such in the presence of witnesses hereafter named." There has personally appeared Sieur **Remy Lambre** who declares selling to **Sieur Jacques LaCasse**, both inhabitants of this county, a small mulatto named Jean Baptiste Dorsino, aged about 10. \$500. Witnesses: **Jean Baptiste Anty** and Yves Lissillour, habitants. Signed: Remy Lambre, Yves Lissillour, **Antÿ**, Bellabre Dumas avt. [advocat = attorney].

15 MAY 1806

NCA DOC. 3369

Bond posted by **Joseph Foret**, "to keep a **Ferry** across the **Bayou Brevel**, for the space of one Year from the date hereof." He promises to "well and truly keep the said Ferry and ... keep a good and sufficient Boat or Boats, the necessary Implements, together with the necessary attendance, and shall in all

matters and things relative thereto conform himself to the Law of this Territory.” Signed: Joseph Foret (+), witnesses: John Nancarrow and D. Vercher.

COMMENT:

Foret renewed this bond on 30 December 1806, Doc. 3444.

The location of the ferry helps us understand the difficulty of land travel from the Grand Coast to Rivière aux Cannes. The next ferry below this (about 15 miles below) was kept near the foot of Isle Brevelle by Joseph Derbanne. After a better road was laid through the Isle, passing through the next-door land of Derbanne’s brother-in-law Charles Lemoine Jr., Lemoine was issued the license to keep the ferry. (See the 1809 parish court case, Derbanne vs. Lemoine).

4 JUNE 1806

NCA DOC. 3395

François Bellabre Dumas, undersigned justice of the peace living on Isle Brevel, states that he has been given notice that **Sr. François Lacase**, surgeon, died yesterday at the **Isle Brevel home** of Sr. **Baptiste Anty père**. Therefore, Dumas has gone to the home of Sr. Anty where he found the Sr. Yves Lissilour. Seals have been placed on the goods of LaCase, including a small cabinet at the entrance of the said maison and a *bois de lit de repos* [a daybed, of wood] Signed: Bellabre Dumas, justice of the peace; Lissilour, **Antÿ**.

COMMENT:

The presence, in Antÿ’s house, of a cabinet and daybed belonging to LaCase suggests that LaCase was living with Antÿ as opposed to having died suddenly while visiting there or passing by.

10 JULY 1806

NCA DOC. 3335

Inventory by John C. Carr, estate of **Françoise LeComte**, deceased wife of **Alexis Cloutier**, and widow of **Joseph Dupré** [Joseph II]. The first document in the file is a list of “inventoried property for which I [Alexis Cloutier] am accountable”:

- “a plantation on which the said Alexis Cloutier resides” containing Seven hundred and twenty nine Acres agreeably to the plan and having thereon a Brick building in an unfinished state, thirty five feet long & twenty feet wide, one Cotton Gin & Tobacco House, One sla [*sic*] dwelling House, Two Negro Cabbins, Fifteen thousand Bricks unbaked, Twenty thousand Shingles, a quantity of Timber shaped for the Brick House”
- “Two Acres of Land adjoining Athenas Lecour below.”

The second item is a full inventory of the estate held in common by Cloutier and wife, taken by (and signed by) **Antÿ, Antoine Coindet**. The land is described as:

- “Two Acres of Land adjoining Athenas Lecour below”
- “10 acres of Land in front on the left hand side of Red River in descending about one league [three miles] distance from the habitation of Alexis Cloutier.”

Item 3: “Before me, **François Bellabres Dumas**, justice of the peace ... appears **Jean Baptiste Anty** and **Antoine Coindet** ... appraisers of the objects comprising the succession” ... who declared that the deceased owned

- one tract containing 10 arpents of frontage on the left bank of Red River distant about one league from the habitation of the Sieur Alexis Cloutier, estimated at 150 piasters.

Signed: **Antÿ, Antoine Coindet, Bellabre Dumas**.

COMMENT:

The plat map for **T7N R5W** (see Figure 4) credits Cloutier with two tracts—the lower of which

appears to be the tract containing 10 acres of frontage, although the total acreage does not match. The two tracts are

- **S60**, 317.10 acres, left side descending.
- **S48**, 84.47 acres, both banks; apparently the present site of Cloutierville.

The land of Cloutier's wife, as Dupré's widow, would appear to be part of **S71 T7N R5W**. (See Figure 4.)

11 JULY 1806

NCA DOC. 3382

Judge Edward D. Turner conducts the succession sale of the goods of **Baptiste Brevelle**, who died intestate on the 25th of April of the present year. Mr. John C. Carr administrator. Witnesses: **Louis Derbanne, Antÿ**, F. Bossië, "acting for Mr. Carr administrator." Also present and signing: **Remy Lambre**, Btte. Adle, Baltazard Brevelle, Julien Rachal (x), Baptiste Brevelle (x), Rachale *fils* (x), Piere Derbanne.

11 JULY 1806

NCA DOC. 3390

[English language version of 3382]

Edwd. D. Turner, Judge of Probate acting as notary, went to the house of the late **Jn. Baptiste Brevelle** to inventory his property in the presence of **Julien Rachalle** "at whose House the said Baptiste died on the 25th of April, where he had resided for the last Six years." Signed: John C. Carr, Julien Rashalle (x), **Antÿ**.

3 OCTOBER 1806

NCA DOC. 3413

Paul Poissot to John Louis Buard, sale for \$350, a certain Negress aged 12 years named Francis. Signed: Paul Poissot (+). Witnesses: N^{las} Lauve, B^{te} Armant.

3 OCTOBER 1806

NCA DOC. 3414

Paul Poissot to John Baptist Armand, sale for \$350, a certain Negress aged 7 years named Jacques. Signed: Paul Poissot (+). Witnesses: N^{las} Lauve, Jn Ls. Buard.

COMMENT:

Antÿ's son-in-law is still in debt.

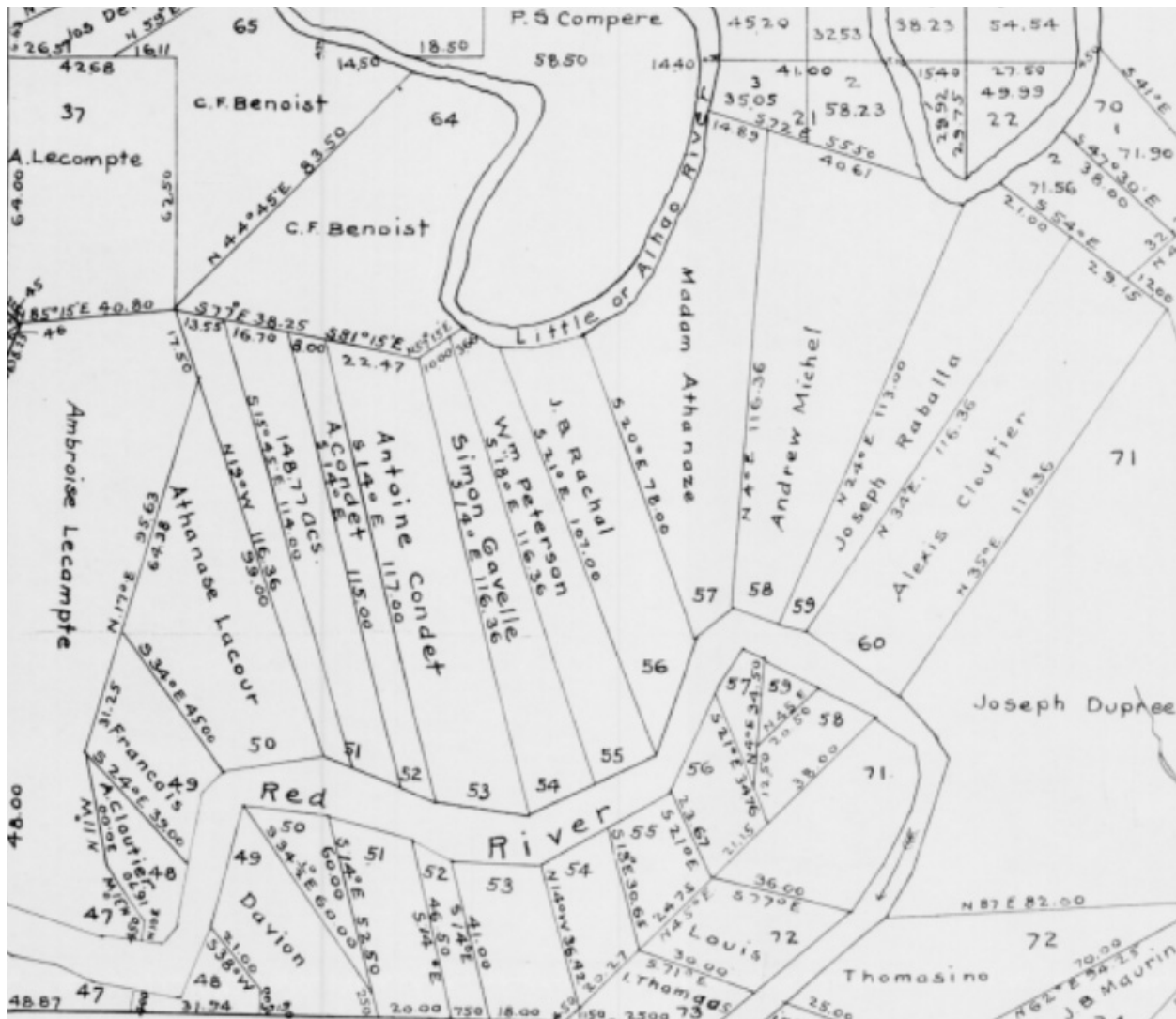
LATE 1806

ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

Birth of Valsain, "natural son of Susana Metoyer," according to his 1814 burial register.⁶⁹

⁶⁹ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1800–1826: Translated Abstracts of Register Number Five*, entry 1745.

Figure 4
SW Corner of T7N 5W (Mid-Rivière aux Cannes) as Depicted on "Official Plat Map" (1840)⁷⁰



cDECEMBER 1806

ASP-PL 3:78-79

A table of claims submitted 14 May 1815, entitled "Claims to land in the county of Nachitoches [*sic*]" includes:

Report no. 3

Register's no. 127

By whom claimed: **John Baptiste Anty.**

Original Propriety or claimant: None mentioned

Quantity claimed: not mentioned

⁷⁰ Snipped from "T.7.N.—R.5.W. North Western Dist^t La.," Louisiana Office of Lands, *Historical Documents* (www.slodms.doa.la.gov/WebForms/DocumentViewer.aspx?docId=522.01878&category=H#1 : downloaded 14 June 2019). The blurred quality of this map is inherent in the original. That original also carries a numerical list of all sections, the claimant who has been confirmed, the claim number, and the arpentage/acreage.

Nature and date of the title or claim: Possession and occupancy
Class of claim: C.

COMMENT:

This table does not provide the date that each claimant submitted their claim. **I am tentatively dating this at December 1806**, that being the date that the Old Land Board held its first meeting at Natchitoches.

The 14 May 1815 date is the date the Opelousas Land Office submitted its table to the U.S. General Land Office.

“No. 3. **John Baptiste Anty**. This claim is for **two acres** on each side of Red river, the depth not mentioned. No proof or other evidence of title has been adduced in support of the claim. Supposed to be confirmed to **Remy Lambert** [Lambre].”

COMMENT:

This two acres would be the tract that Antÿ purchased from Dominique Rachal in 1799. The claim tells us that he was still on the land as late as December 1806 when the Old Board met at Natchitoches, but he conveyed the land to Lambre before 1815.

ASP has no other Lambre/Lambert/etc. entries for this piece of land.

As noted above under the purchase document in 1799, this should be part of **S38 & 100 T8N R6W**.

26 JANUARY 1807

NCA DOC. 3335

Succession of **Marie Françoise LeComte**, wife of **Alexis Cloutier**

[A small leaf tucked inside the bigger document]

Today, before me **François Bellabre Dumas**, justice of the peace ... living at Isle à Brevel, has appeared Sieurs **Jean Baptiste Anty** and **Antoine Coinde**, both habitants of this county, in their capacity as appraisers of the estate of Dame Françoise LeComte, deceased wife of Sr. Alexis Cloutier. ...

One document was also signed by **Louis Derbanne**, the erstwhile auctioneer, justice of the peace, and notary at Rivière aux Cannes.

COMMENT:

Marie Françoise LeComte, whose land was at Rivière aux Cannes below present Cloutierville, was not a kinswoman of Antÿ. Her husband, Alexis Cloutier, was a half-sibling to Anty's first wife.

19 FEBRUARY 1807

NCA DOC. 3469

Before **François Bellabre Dumas**, attorney and justice of the peace living at Isle Brevelle, has appeared Sieurs **Ambroise Comte**, as tutor of the goods of Sieur **Joseph Duprè his nephew [Joseph Dupre II]** also present, legitimate son of deceased Sieur Joseph Duprè and Dame **Françoise Comte** deceased spouse of Sieur **Alexis Cloutier**. Also appeared Sieur Alexis Cloutier acting in his own name and as natural and legitimate tutor of Sieur **Sévère Cloutier** his minor son by the said dame widow Comte, deceased in the month of May last. Dumas has gone to the home of Sieur Ambroise Comte at Rivière aux Cannes for the appraisal of the succession by Sieurs **[Jean Baptiste] Anty, [Louis] Derbanne**, and **[Antoine] Condé**. Signed: Alexis Cloutier (+), Sr. Ambroise Comte (+), Antÿ, Remy Lambre, Murphy, Jh. Derbanne, L. Derbanne, W. Murray, M^l Prevost Duprés.

10 MARCH 1807

NCA DOCS. 3868 & 3869

Before **François Bellabre Dumas**, there appeared Sieur **Louis Berthelemy Rachal** who declared his intent to sell to **Emanuel Prudhomme**, here present and accepting, a tract of land situated at **Bayou Brevelle**, formerly surveyed by Sr. Maës, bounded by the Bayou and on the other part by the purchaser. \$500. Witnesses: Sieur Antoine Prudhomme and **Batiste Anty**. Signed: Prudhomme, **Anty**. || **No date 1810**: L. B. Rachal appears before John M. Carr to acknowledge that he has sold to Prudhomme his land lying between Bayou Brevell and Prudhomme's plantation. Witnesses: Dubois, James Denny. Recorded 10 October 1810 by Judge Carr in Book 2, folios 43 and 44.

COMMENT:

Louis Barthelemy Rachal's land was **S37 & 99 T8N R6W** (see figure 2), a long triangle sliced lengthwise by Bayou Brevelle. Adjoining his backside was the **Charles LeMoine** tract from which Dominique Rachal had purchased two arpents that he later sold to Baptiste Anty. Immediately north of Louis Barthelemy Rachal was Louis Verchaire (Dominique's father-in-law), part of whose land would be sold later this year to Marie Thérèse Coincoin for her son Pierre Toussaint.

EARLY 1807

ST FRANÇOIS CHURCH

Conception of **Marie Thérèse Carmelite Anty**, the last child born to **Jean Baptiste Anty** and Marie **Susanne Metoyer**. She was baptized 21 December 1809 "aged two years."⁷¹

25 MAY 1807

NCA DOC. 3495 (A)

Marriage contract executed before **Louis Derbanne**, justice of the peace. Groom: **Pierre Derbanne fils**, legitimate son of Pierre Derbanne [II] and Marie Françoise Brevelle. Bride: Demoiselle **Astasie Davion**, legitimate daughter of François Davion and Margueritte Cloutier. Representatives for the **groom**: Joseph Derbanne his paternal uncle, Baltazar Brevelle his paternal [maternal] uncle, Pierre Lacour [unreadable relationship], **Jean Baptiste Anty his brother-in-law**. Representatives for the **bride**: Alexis Cloutier her maternal uncle, Nicolas Galien her *oncle charnel* ["uncle by blood"; half-uncle, actually] **Jean Baptiste Anty her uncle**, and Jack Verchere her cousin. Signatures: Baltazard Brevelle, Jh. Derbanne. Jean Baptiste Anty (x), Pierre Lacour, **Anty**. Also M Prevost Dupre and Antoine Coindet, official witnesses. || **15 August 1807**, the couple acknowledged the contract before John C. Carr. Marriage Bond: 16 August 1807.

COMMENT:

The "Jean Baptiste Anty" who was brother-in-law of the groom would be Jean Baptiste Jr., married to Marie Cyprienne Derbanne. He could not sign his name

The "Jean Baptiste Anty" who was uncle of the bride would be Jean Baptiste Sr., who was a half-uncle by affinity. His first wife Catherine Gallien was a half-sister to the bride's mother, Margueritte Cloutier.

Document identification note: This document carries the number 3495 on the top left back side of the last page. Immediately before it is a different document (François Rouquier to Emmanuel Levasseur) that carries the same number 3495 on the top right corner of its first page.

5 JUNE 1807

NCA DOC. 3559

⁷¹ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1800–1826: Translated Abstracts of Register Number Five, 2058*.

Before François Bellabre Dumas, attorney and justice of the peace at Ile à Brevel, **Jean Baptiste Tessier**, native of Illinois and inhabitant of Natchitoches County and **Marie Jeanne Verger**, widow of Sr. **Malbert**, a native of this post, make a mutual donation. Signed: Sr. Baptiste Tessier (+), Marie Jeanne Verge, **Antÿ**, Yves Lissilour, Bellabre Dumas.

5 JUNE 1807

NOTARIAL CONVEYANCE BK 42, DOC. 501⁷²

Before François Bellabre Dumas, lawyer and justice of the peace ... living at Isle à Brevel, appeared Sieur **Jean LaLande** (x) who sells to **Marie Thérèse, free Negress** (both of Natchitoches Parish) a tract of 4 arpents frontage on each bank of Red River, adjoining Sieur **Berthelemy Rachal** on the upper and Sieur **Louis Vercher** on the lower ["Verchaire" on the plat map]. The seller acquired the land from Sieur Vercher, his father-in-law. \$500 payable next month. Witnesses: **Baptiste Anty (s/ Anty)**, **Rodger M^c Peak**.

"As a copy conforming to the record remaining in our hands. Bellabre Dumas, justice of the peace."

COMMENT:

As alluded to in Dumas's note, the document is a copy—with signatures also copied by Dumas in his own handwriting. Dumas filed this copy with the parish clerk. The whereabouts of his original files are not known.

13 NOVEMBER 1807

NCA DOCS. 3555–3556

"**Antÿ**" signed (but did not write) a letter of permission to the "Grand Judge" of Natchitoches, saying that he was "indisposed" but he hereby grants permission for his son **Valeri Anty** to marry. The unidentified scribe noted that it was written from "Isle à Brevel le 13 9bre 1807." || **16 (18?) November 1807**: A similar document was penned in a different handwriting, by which **Pierre Derbanne** (x) gave permission for his daughter **Marie Aspasia Derbanne** to marry Valerie Anty. Witnesses: David Case, John T. Duforest.

COMMENT:

Parental permission would have been required if Valery had been underaged, but he was born 9 November 1782. There is no possibility that the Valery born that year had died and a younger sibling was given his name. Baptiste Antÿ's first wife, Valery's mother, died in 1783, just months after his birth. At the death of Baptiste Antÿ's second wife in 1793, the mortuary notice identified the children of each wife and Valery was again attributed to the first wife. He was, at the time this permission was given, already 25.

17 SEPTEMBER 1807

NCA DOC. 3547

"I, ^{F^{cois}} Rouquié the younger, Justice of the peace commissioned by Mr. Carr, have gone to the **habitation of Mr. Antoine Prudhomme** in presence of Mr. **Baptiste Anty** and Sr. **Dominique Rachal**, residents of this parish, to inventory the **effects of deceased Belabre Dumas**. Signed: D. Rachal, Antÿ, "Rouquiér Juney" *juge de paix*.

⁷² This volume is not part of the series labeled "Conveyances" that begins in 1732 (on back wall of Clerk's Office at the time this volume was used onsite). It's not part of the series labeled "Conveyances" that begins in 1806 (low shelving in middle of office). This volume was shelved with a group of random notarial volumes (bound original documents) on a tall case one tier from the left wall (when facing the record room from the clerk's office itself). I am recording the location from the time I used the volume because other researchers report difficulty locating odd volumes of this type when they carry a label similar to a larger series. Neither this volume nor this record will be found in those standard series.

23 SEPTEMBER 1807

NCA DOC. 3542

Before J. C. Carr, grand judge of the parish, appears **Emanuel Prudhomme** who sells a Negress named Clémence aged about 28 years for 810 piasters, on time, to **Joseph Foret**. Signed: E. Prudhomme, Joseph Foret (+), D. Rachal, **Anty**. Recorded Book 1: folios 222, 223, 224, 8 June 1810.

14 JUNE 1809

NCA DOC. 3700

"I declare having sold to **Madame V' Louis Anty** a tract of land of 5 arpents frontage situated at Rivierre aux Cannes, bounded on the upper by Mr. **Gaspard Lacour Jr.** and on the lower by **Capitaine Sauvage**. ... Isle a Brevel, 14 June 1809, in faith of which I have signed with witnesses. **Anty**. J. F. Hertzog, temoins. Rodger McPeak, Test."

COMMENT:

The handwriting of the document and Hertzog's signature are in the same hand.

Anty does *not* state whether he is conveying land on both sides of the river or on just one side. He does not say whether the "upper" and "lower" references are descending or ascending descriptions; but descending was by far the most common mode of description.

Of the cited neighbors, LaCour owned on both sides, Capitaine only on the east bank. Thus, we know that the Anty-to-Anty sale must be on the same bank—specifically, the north part of **S43 T7N R6W**. Whether it includes S44 across the river is not conclusive from this document.

The supplemental record below clearly states that the land was solely on the left bank:

"No. 240—247. Maria Jeanne Crette, widow of Louis **Anty**, claims two hundred superficial arpents of land, viz: five arpents front, by forty deep, situated on the left [ascending\ bank of **bayou Canes** [Rivière aux Cannes] in the county of Natchitoches, bounded above by land of **Gaspard Lacour**, and below by that of **Alexis Cloutier**, accompanied by an authentic deed of sale from **John Baptiste Anty** to the claimant, for five arpents front, by the depth that may be, dated the **17th July, 1810**; and a plat of survey dated the 24th January, 1813, by J. Irwin, a United States' deputy surveyor, for twenty-six and six one-hundredths superficial acres in favor of the claimant. The evidence of Pierre Baudin, taken the **9th October, 1812**, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for twenty-four consecutive years preceding said date, **the first seven years by J. B. Anty, and the last seventeen by the claimant and her husband.**"⁷³

However, the final adjudication by the Land Office allotted the east-bank land to Alexis Cloutier. Similarly, the land office confirmed to Pierre Lacour Jr. the west-bank land which that Widow Anty had bought in 1804 from Gaspard LaCour. Without known explanation, that final adjudication assigned Widow Anty to the west-bank's S44, which she did not claim.

Note that the date of the sale from Baptiste Anty to his sister-in-law is said in ASP to be 17 July 1810 while the filed document at the courthouse is dated 14 June 1809. The 1810 date may represent the date the widow obtained a certified copy for submission the the land office.

18 SEPTEMBER 1809

DOC. 3736

⁷³ ASP-PL 3:193.

Before witnesses, we have made the inventory and estimation of the goods belonging to deceased **Joseph Cantalogue** [5 items.] [Signed] Compere & Hertzog, Administrators. **Antÿ**, witness. **Fçois Frederic**, witness.

1809

MICROFILM PC.4

“Valery Anty vs Jean Baptiste Anty.”⁷⁴

COMMENT:

This would seem to be a suit by Valery against his father for his inheritance from the estate of his deceased mother. About this time, Baptiste Antÿ appears to have disposed of the Isle Brevelle land that he had purchased from Dominique Rachal—apparently via an unrecorded sale to Remy Lambre, in whose name the land was confirmed.

TO DO:

Order this court file from the Clerk’s Office for study, when the office resumes answering research requests. From the catalog notation it is impossible to discern whether Valery Anty is suing his father or his brother.

12 FEBRUARY 1810

DOC. 3768

At the maison of Mr. **Dominique Rachal**, was present **Louis Verchere** who sells to Mr. **Dominique Rachal** a habitation situated on the Joyous Coast [Grand Coast] of Red River composed of 6 arpents of frontage on each bank of the river, with the depth it is able to carry. Bounded on the upper by the land of **Pierre Métoyé**, **Mulatre libre**, and on the lower by the lands of the seller. \$450. Signed L. Verchair, Prudhomme fils, L. B. Rachal, **Antÿ**. Done before **Paillett, justice of the peace**. [Also a sale to son Jean Pierre, almost illegible.]

COMMENT:

- Paillett was Dumas’s replacement for j.p. at upper Isle Brevelle.
- Dominique Rachal was married to Vercher’s daughter Marie Rosalie.

12 FEBRUARY 1810

DOC. 3837

Louis Verchaire’s will was drawn at the house of Dominique Rachalle. Witnesses: **Antÿ**, L. B. Rachal, Prudhomme *fils*. Signed by *Paillette* who appears to have drawn up the document as notary. His estate was opened 28 July 1810. (See below)

7 MAY 1810

DOC. 3797

William Owens of Natchitoches Parish, merchant, sells to **Alexis Cloutier** “a certain Tract of Land situate on the East Bank of Red River in the parish aforesaid, containing four arpents in front with all the depth privilege and appurtenances ... **bounded above by the Land of Baptiste Anty pere and below by that of Madame Rouquier.**” \$200. Signed: W^m Owens. Witnesses: Bossië, Paillette. Before J. C. Carr, Judge.

⁷⁴ Natchitoches, Parish Court files, microfilm PC.4. The court files in this series were disassembled by the State Archives prior to filming in the late 1970s. Individual documents were rearranged by year, then alphabetical by surname. Many cases in this series were carried over from one year to the next, which means the relevant documents in a single case may be filmed under different years. The inventory supplied to me by the State Archives at that time does not contain a similar entry for the Antys in any other year, suggesting that microfilm PC.4 is the only one that needs to be examined. For this case, the fact that the documents are cataloged only for 1809, suggesting a quick settlement.

COMMENT:

Cloutier filed his U.S. claim for this 1807 land in 1813. His claim papers tell us this:

1810–13

ASP 3:218

“No. 546-251. **Alexis Cloutier** claims one hundred and sixty superficial arpents of land, viz: four arpents front, by forty deep, situated on east bank of the River aux Cannes in the county of Natchitoches, bounded above by **land of Baptiste Anty, Sen.** The notice is accompanied by a certified copy of a deed of sale from William Owen to the claimant, dated the 7th of May, 1810, and a **plat of survey by Joseph Irwin, dated the 24th of January 1813**, for 33 4/100 acres on the left bank. The evidence of **Louis Derbanne**, taken the 9th of October 1812, states that twenty-five or twenty-six years ago, the land was inhabited by **Pierre Captain, a Christian Indian**, who continued thereon to the time of his death, about four or five years ago [i.e., from 1787–88 to about 1805]; that **his son continued on the land** until the claimant took possession about a year ago; and that William Owen, who sold to Cloutier, claimed it on account of a debt owing to him by said Indian, but is not positive this was the case.”

Cloutier’s tract should be S43 T7N R6W. Note that this description affirms the conclusion that the land of **Baptiste Antÿ Sr.** was on the *east* bank only, above the land Cloutier purchased.

Antÿ had already sold the land in 1794 to his brother Louis, saying that it lay between the lands of Remy Lambre (who sold to Gaspard LaCour) on the upper and “Capitaine, an Indian” on the lower.

There is clearly a land-allotment problem with this tract. Cloutier claimed that the tract he bought from Owen had a depth of 40 arpents. However, the completed surveys show that 40 arpents of depth would have significantly overlapped a claim by his neighbor and in-law Ambroise LeComte. To compensate, the adjudication allotted Cloutier 9 arpents along the river, including land of both Capitaine and Antÿ. To compensate, Widow Anty was reassigned by the land office to S44, across the river—a tract that has gone without a claimant for some reason these records don’t explain.

Mme. Widow Rouquier was née Buard. She inherited the Hughes *dit* Tonant land from her mother, the Widow Buard, to whom Hughes had sold the land. (Docs. 2178 and 3979).

16 JULY 1810—31 DECEMBER 1811

DOC. 3833

16 July 1810: At the request of **Ambroise LeComte**, Judge Carr has assembled witnesses at the dwelling house of the said LeComte to open the annexed papers purporting to be the Last Will and Testament of **Joseph Dupres [III]**, late of this parish, deceased. Carr has interrogated Messrs. Charles Noyrit, **Louis Derbanne**, **John Louis Hopok**, and **Jacques Verchaire**, witnesses, whose names are subscribed to the testament. They say they were present at the house of the deceased on the 6th Instant and found him in Bed sick of body but of sound mind and he dictated the will to them. All signed, together with **Antoine Condet** and **Comte fils**.

17 July 1810: **Jacques Levasseur** (s) appeared before Judge Carr to state that he was present when the will was written and that Dupres was in sound mind. Witnesses to the attestation: Ch^s Noyrit, Comte *fils*.

17 July 1810: **Auguste Langlois** appeared before Judge Carr to say that he was present when the Testament was dictated by Joseph Dupré who was at the time of sound mind, etc. Signed Auguste Langlois. Witnesses to the attestation: **Antÿ**, Comte *fils*. Dupré’s will is attached, leaving \$6,400 to “*mon frere Jⁿ B^{te} Severe Cloutier*,” \$300 and a slave woman to “*la Mulatresse Adelaide*,” and the rest to “*mes*”

Enfants Philippe Valsin, Marie Doralise & Noel” [children of Adelaide]. **Jean Pierre Marie Dubois** signed as witness to the will and appears to have drafted the document in his capacity as notary at Rivière aux Cannes.

COMMENT:

“La mulatresse Adelaide” was Adelaïde Mariotte, the first cousin of Antÿ’s consort, Susanne Metoyer. Adelaïde’s mother Marie Louise *dite* Mariotte was sister of Susanne’s mother Marie Thérèse *dite* Coincoin.

25 July 1811 John C. Carr, at the request of Ambrose LeCompte Executor of the last will and Testament of Joseph Dupre, has gone to the “dwelling house of the deceased and then and there in presence of Messrs. **J. J. Paillette, William Murray** and **Gasparite LeCour**, has taken an inventory of the property. Includes “Habitation at the river of Cannes containing ____ [*sic*] arpents front on each side Red River bounded above by Sever Cloutier and below by **Mr. Thomasin**.” Dupré held notes on *many* neighbors, including

- “Athanaze free Negroe fifty dollars” and another for Athanase of \$200
- Wm. Owens, \$49.88

COMMENT:

Young Joseph Dupré’s land was S71 in T7N R5W. The neighboring land attributed above to Sévère Cloutier, Dupré’s half-brother, is attributed by the plat map to Sévère’s father, Alexis Cloutier (S58 & 60). Louis Thomasine’s land was adjacent to Dupré on the lower side (S72).

Also inventoried was “Receipt of **Marriotte**, free negress, for 352 doll^s for hire of **Adelaide** [Mariotte’s daughter who was Dupré’s consort]. Witnesses: W. Murray [attorney], Paillette, Gasparite LaCour (+), John C. Carr.

31 July? 1811: John C. Carr met Mr. Ambroise Lecompte, testamentary executor of the will of Sr. Joseph Dupre, at the home of the said Sieur Dupré and in presence of Alexis Cloutier, to take an inventory. Signed: Ambrose Lecomte (+), Alexis Cloutier (+). Witnesses: Antoine Coindet, François Davion, Comte *fils*, Dubois. [No land].

3 September 1811: Placing of the seals on the goods of Joseph Dupré in the house of Ambroise LeCompte, in presence of Sr. Remy Lambre and Comte *fils*.

6 ____? 1811?: LeComte notified the parish judge that a suit had been brought against him as executor by Sévère Cloutier [minor half-brother of the deceased, whose father Alexis actually instigated the suit] protesting the will and that the will had been found valid except for bequests to slaves [namely to Adelaïde and the children she had by Joseph Dupré]. Much else transpired. A sale was held, drawing buyers from the upper Isle (Baptiste Brevelle and Remy Lambre) but **no member of the Anty family**. Ambrose LeComte bought Dupré’s plantation but a subsequent note of **31 December 1811** states that at the request of LeComte, Judge Carr sold the land to Alexis Cloutier.

28 JULY 1810

DOC. 3837

Judge John C. Carr has gone to the house of Madam **Louis Verchaire**, Widow of Louis Verchair late of said parish deceased. In presence of Messrs. **J. J. Paillette** (s), **Jⁿ B^{te} Anty** (s/ **Antÿ**) and **Jⁿ B^{te} Prudhomme** (s/ Prudhomme *fils*), witnesses whose names are subscribed upon a sealed packet purporting to be the last will and Testament of Louis Verchaire” and also in the presence of John Pierre (x), Jacques (s), and Joseph (x), sons of the deceased, all of whom have reached the age of majority. Also in the presence of the widow and Rosaline, wife of **Mr. Dominique Rachal**, daughter of the deceased. The will was read aloud and all declared upon their oaths that it was “word for word” as they had witnessed and that the testator appeared to be of sound mind. The widow Marie Louise is appointed tutor of the minors.

Recorded by Judge Carr on 31 July 1810 in Record No. 2 folios 3 & 4. || **12 February 1810**: date the will was drawn at the house of Dominique Rachalle. Witnesses: **Anty**, L. B. Rachal, Prudhomme *fi*ls. The will was also signed by *Paillette* who appears to have drawn up the document as notary.

COMMENT:

In July 1810 Anty seems to be still on his land. The census of 1810, which seems to double-count him in his son’s household and his own, did not begin until the first Monday in August.

6 AUGUST–15 DECEMBER 1810

U.S. CENSUS

(beginning at mouth of Bayou Brevelle & descending Cane River)

COMMENT:

This census began on the first Monday in August 1810. It was certified complete on 15 December 1810.

Below I am presenting the full “neighborhood,” in the order enumerated, for three successive regions, as one descends the river:

- Mid-Isle Brevelle, where Valery Anty and J. B. Anty Jr. lived on land acquired from their inlaws.
- Lower Isle Brevelle and upper Rivière aux Cannes
- Lower Rivière aux Cannes, from Cloutierville to Monette’s Bluffs.

Note that many householders are identified only by surname, a custom of the time and place for well known individuals. I am copying census data only for the households headed by the Antys. I am adding, in editorial brackets, the section, township, and range where each household appears on the township plat.⁷⁵

<u>Census household</u>	<u>T8N R6W</u>
Baltazard Brevelle	
Compère	[S52 & 107]
Adley fils	
Julien Rachal <i>fi</i> ls	[S52 & 107]
François Frederick	
Auguste Robieux	[S52 & 107]
D ^{me} V ^e Julien Rachal	[S54 & 108]
Jacques Levasseur	[S55 & 109]
Jean Massippe	[S57 & 111]
Jean B ^{te} Lemoine	[S58 & 112]
James Miller	[m. Pommier, S 56, 59 & 110, 113]
D ^{me} V ^e Pommier	[S56, 59 & 110, 113; also S4 & 81; widow of Jean Pomier]

	<u>T7N R6W</u>
Valeri Anty	[m. Marie Aspasia, daughter of Pierre Derbanne Jr.]
Jacques Lacasse	[S6]
Pierre Derbanne [Jr.]	[S7 & 84]
Anty fils	1 white male 45– [likely J.B. Sr., age 53] 1 white male 26–45 [J.B., Jr., age 31]

⁷⁵ 1810 U.S. census, Natchitoches Parish, LA, p. 210, beginning line 11.

Ambroise Lecompte [many sections along border with T7N R6W]
 Alexis Cloutier [S48, present Cloutierville, widower of Lecompte’s sister]

[Lower Rivière aux Cannes; below present Cloutierville]

François Davion [S49; married to Cloutier’s sister Marguerite]
 Athanase Lecour[t] [S50; on land granted to self or father Louis Mathias LeCourt de Presle]
 Antoine Coindet [S52 & 53]
 Simon Goy [S54]
 P^{re} Labombarde [S55; Wm. Patterson “Peterson” claim on plat map]
 Jean B^{te} Rachal [S56]
 Pierre Kerry [not located; living either on S57, 58, 59, 60 or 71]
 Louis Tomassine [S72, 73]
 Franc^s Poirier dit Vincent [not located]
 Joseph Raballé [S59, brother-in-law of Pierre Charûau]

[p. 212]

Census household T6N R5W

Jean B^{te} Bonnette [S80-81]
 Eman^l Derbanne [S78-79]
 Joseph Taure [S69]
 Jean B^{te} Morin [S74]
 Paul Couty [S65; “Coutant” in ASP-PL 3:198]
 Pierre Michel [S62, 64, & 76]
 Berthelemy Rachal [S51 & 54; Hidden Hill adjoining “Little Eva” Plantation]
 P^{re} Nolasque De Porcuna [S55 & 56; married to Madeline Laberie]
 Nicolas Beaudin [Bodin]
 Madame Porter [S38, 40, 42, 43 T6N R5W; S82 T6N R4W]

Census household T6N R4W

James F. Porter S82; estranged husband of Mme. Porter; living on her land]
 Antⁿ Rachal [S54, 55, 56, 57]
 Jacob St. André [S50, 51]
 Narcisse Prud’homme
 André St. André [S45, 46]

COMMENT:

Here, the enumerator has reached the Natchitoches-Rapides parish line. He turns and moves back up river, either on the opposite bank or else picking up households that were not at home on his way down.

D[a]me V^e Gagnier [née Marie Louise Davion; sister of François Davion S49 T7N R5W; Baptiste Antÿ appraised her husband’s estate in 1798; see Doc. 2844]

Anty pere [no census data; he apparently was not home when the census taker passed; in such cases, neighbors typically identified the missing homeowner]

John Biggs [1813 bought the 640-acre vacherie of James Young, adjoining Laurent Bodin in Lower Natchitoches on Bayou St. Jean (variously St. Jenn, San Juan)]

Census household T6N R5W

Jacquet Lecompte [S47, B1703 confirmed to Ambroise LeComte after Jacquitte’s death in 1814; Jacquitte also claimed 640a, both sides, lower Red R, used as a vacherie]

Robert Morrow
Jean Morantin
Jean Bte Brevelle [m. to Melanie Derbanne, neice and ward of Louis Derbanne]
Charles Lavignie
Pierre Fendlevent [Pierre Cajot dit Faulevent; stepfather of the Baudoins above Cloutierville]
M^e Gertrude [du Roy] [S63; daughter of Joseph Taurea/Torres at S69; ASP-PL 3:199] “No. 311–827) 5 arpents front on waters of Red River, between Paul Coutant {S67} & Jean Jacques Rachal {S65}}.
F. V^e [St.] Germain [S65 or thereabout; adjacent to Joseph Taure, Pierre Michel, Jacques Vallery; see ASP-PL 3:198]

[p. 213]
Madⁿ Dupre [S71]
Pierre Derbanne [III] [S49; living on land of father-in-law François Davion]
[etc.]

COMMENT:

The path of the census taker places Baptiste Antÿ Sr. in Lower Rivière aux Cannes, Township 6, Range 4 or 5.

23 AUGUST 1810

NCA DOC. 3858

Inventory of the goods of deceased **Julien Rachal**, including “The Plantation Dwelling House [illegible word] the plantation has **8 arpents** on each side of the river in front with the ordinary depth, upon which is a crop of Cotton and corn ungathered.” Also a Tract of Land containing **20 arpents** in front on Red River [S61 T6N R5W at lower Rivière aux Cannes], bounded on the upper side by land of Pierre Michele, Auguste Langlois, and below by land of Simeon Rachal *fils*. Witnesses: Compere [son-in-law], Rouquiér, Paillette, Balthasar Brevelle [the widow’s brother]. Drawn by John C. Carr. || The estimation (same day?) describes the plantation as “bounded above by Land of Auguste Roubieu and below by land of Jacques Levasseur.” Tobacco crops are itemized in the estimation. Same witnesses. || **2 September 1810**. Auction. Widow bought the plantation. Baptiste Lattier bought the outlying tract adjacent to Simeon Rachal. Same individuals were purchasers, along with Baptiste Brevel, Pierre Derbanne, Btte. Adlé, Gasparite LaCour, Joseph Derbanne, D. Rachal [brother-in-law], François Lattie, ___ Bossier, Lavespere, Jh Vercher, J. J. Paillette, Auguste Roubieu, Placide Bossier, **J. B. Anty, fils** (x), ___ Beaudry, Louis Lambre, Remy Lambre, Prudhomme *fils* signed as witness.

COMMENT:

- The plantation of Julien Rachal was on upper Isle Brevelle, a couple of miles above the land that Pierre Derbanne sold to J. B. Anty *fils*, S54 & 108.
- The tract of 20 arpents adjacent to Simeon Rachal appears as S61 on the plat map for T6N R5W, near present Marco.

20 NOVEMBER 1810

DOC. 3876-3877

Jacques Lacasse (x) appears before Judge John C. Carr to make his last will and testament. Wife **Marie Louise Dupré**. Witnesses: Auguste Langlois, Jean B^{te} Rachal, B^{tte} Adlé, **Antÿ**, Fçois Frederic, J^{as} Miller, P. Morrow. Same day. Will of his wife Marie Louise Dupré. Same witnesses.

COMMENT:

The number of witnesses from LaCasse’s neighborhood suggests that Judge Carr has gone to Isle Brevelle to draft the document for them. LaCasse’s land falls into this sequence in T7N R6W—mid-range of Isle Brevelle:

- Section 4 Jean Pommier
- Section 5 François Cheletre
- Section 6 Jacques Lacasse
- Section 7 Pierre Derbanne [from which J. B. Anty Jr. & Valery Anty both bought 2 arpents]
- Section 8 Auguste Langlois
- Section 9 Pacalé
- Section 10 Jean Baptiste Derbanne
- Section 11 Louis Metoyer, sold to Susanne Metoyer

Comparing the list of this will’s witnesses with the 1810 census, it appears that Baptiste Anty on 20 November was still at the home of his son J. B. Jr.

21 NOVEMBER 1810

DOC. 3880

Judge Carr gives orders of administration to **Marie Robert Dupré**, widow of deceased **Jean Pommie**. Family meeting to be held on the 9th next; those attending are to be **Pierre Michell** [Zoriche] brother in law, **Auguste Langlois**, **_____ Hertzog**, **Remy Lambre**, **Antoine Prudhomme**, **_____ Cheletre**, and J. J. Paillette, Cousins. [names bound into crack of book]. The account of the family meeting identifies Hertzog as *Henry* and Cheletre as *Pierre*. Witnesses to inventory: Jacques Lacasse (+), Dubois, Auguste Langlois, Jas. Miller. Witness to appraisal: Jean Massip (+), Pierre Michell (+).

COMMENT:

“Perite Derbanne pere” in 1810 would be Pierre Derbanne Jr., father-in-law of both Valery Anty and J. B. Anty Jr. The first Pierre Derbanne died in the 1790s. **No Anty participation in this document.**

14 JANUARY 1811

DOC. 3880

Account of the succession sale for **Marie Robert Duprè**, widow of deceased **Jean Pommie**, conducted by Judge Carr, includes the individuals named in earlier proceedings, as well as Jean Baptiste Derbanne, François Adley, “Perite Derbanne pere,” Baptiste Lattie, François Schletre, Antoine Himel, François Frederick, Antoine Himel, Widow Julien Rachal, François Roubieu, Louis Pomier, Th. M. Linnard, Andre Himel, Balthazar Brevel, Guillaume Bernard, Wm. Murray, Baptiste Barthelemy Rachal, Jean Baptiste Adle, François Roubieu, Jean Pierre Marie Dubois—but **not Jean Baptiste Anty, Sr or Jr.**

26 FEBRUARY 1811

DOC. 3905

Valery Anty (x) is in debt to **Remy Lambre** (s) for \$300 due in installments of \$100 beginning in March 1812 and \$100 each March thereafter until paid. He guarantees payment with a mortgage against “the said slave” [who was not previously mentioned or named in this document]. Witnesses: Jⁿ Cortes, Jⁿ P^{ie} M^{ie} Dubois. Judge John C. Carr.

COMMENT:

This appears to represent the credit-purchase of an enslaved adolescent or one past middle age.

6 MARCH 1811

DOC. 3917

Jean Baptiste Anty buys from Alfred Cantrell (s) of the state of Tennessee, “a negroe named Caswell.”
Witnesses: Jh Tausin. Dubois.

Same day: Cantrell sold to Joseph Tausin, “a negress named Rhodie and her mulatto son about twelve months old,” at which time witnesses were Dubois and **Antÿ**.

COMMENT:

The fact that Joseph Tausin purchased from Cantrell on the same day as J. B. Jr. suggests that Baptiste Antÿ and his son J. B. Jr. were in the town of Natchitoches, where Tausin and the fellow witness François Dubois both resided.

Note that J. B. Jr. makes his slave purchase 8 days after Valery’s. The fact that both sons of Baptiste Antÿ are buying slaves simultaneously, the first such purchase for them, suggests that their father may have paid them an inheritance—either a settlement from their mother’s succession or an advance on his own.

The 1809 Parish Court suit “Vallery Anty vs. Jean Baptiste Anty” and the fact that Antÿ, in this period, drops out of records of upper Isle Brevelle and reemerges among settlers of Rivière aux Cannes, suggests he sold his Isle Brevelle land to settle with his sons and then relocated at Rivière aux Cannes, below present Cloutierville.

10 DECEMBER 1811

DOC. 4032

At Rivière aux Cannes, succession inventory and appraisal of **Marianne Cephalise Lambre** in community with her husband **John Baptiste LeComte**. Includes a note of obligation of **Dominique Metoyer** for \$56.00 due in March 1811 and a note of **Antÿ** for \$112 due in March 1812. Inventory signed by Antoine Coindét, **Antÿ**, B^{te} Lecomte *fils*, Remy Lambre. Apparently on the same day, LeComte was appointed tutor of his minor son, Antoine Prudhomme was appointed undertutor, and LeComte requested that the inventory be adjudged to him at its estimated value. Signed: **Antÿ**, Remy Lambre.

9 OCTOBER 1812–24 JANUARY 1813

ASP 3:193

“No. 240–247. **Marie Jeanne Crette, widow of Louis Anty**, claims two hundred superficial arpents of land, viz: **five** arpents front, by forty deep, situated on the **left bank** [left descending bank] of **Bayou Canes** [Rivière aux Cannes], in the county of Natchitoches, bounded above by land of **Gaspard Lacour**, and below by that of **Alexis Cloutier**, accompanied by an authentic deed of sale from **John Baptiste Anty** to the claimant, for five arpents front, by the depth that may be, dated the **17th July 1810**, and a plat of survey dated the **24th January 1813**, by J. Irwin, a United States deputy surveyor, for twenty-six and six one-hundredths superficial acres in favor of the claimant. The evidence of **Pierre Baudin** [Beaudoin], taken the **9th October 1812**, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for twenty-four consecutive years preceding said date, the first seven years by **J. B. Anty**, and the last seventeen by the claimant and her husband.”

COMMENT:

This is clearly S43, because of the position of Capitaine. When these claims were finally adjudicated, the land of Widow Anty was reassigned to the *right* descending [west] bank. The tract that Baptiste Antÿ sold to her on the *left* descending bank—in which the deed clearly stated that it was bounded below by the Indian Capitaine—was assigned by the U.S. Land Office to Alexis Cloutier, who bought Capitaine’s land from the merchant William Owens, to whom Capitaine’s son had been indebted.

As discussed under 1810 above, Cloutier claimed that Capitaine’s land consisted of **4 arpents of frontage to a depth of 40**. However, it was not possible for the surveyors to allot him 40 arpents of depth because that bumped into the land of another influential planter, Ambrose LeComte. Instead, the final adjudication added Widow Anty’s five arpents of frontage onto the 4 arpents of Capitaine/Cloutier land and gave Cloutier **9 arpents** of frontage to compensate for the depth that he did not have. The widow was then reassigned to S44 across the river.

It is possible—as sometimes happened in situations such as this—that Cloutier made a token payment to the widow or her heirs to settle the dispute or to persuade the widow to relocate across the river. If so, it was not recorded with the parish judge.

9 MARCH 1816 [1813]⁷⁶

DOC. 4132 [MISSING]

CONV BOOK 3:522–23

“Let it be known by all to whom it concerns that I, **Marie Thérèse Coincoin**, free Negress” for \$1,850 cash paid by Mr. **Jean Baptiste Ailhaud**, convey to him 7 arpents and 1 perche of frontage on the right [descending] bank of the river and 6 arpents of frontage on the left, bounded on upper by Mr. **Victorin Metoyer** and on the lower, each bank, by the purchaser. Witnesses: **P^{re} Charûau, Anty**. “Natchitoches, the ninth day of the month of March of the year of our Grace 1816.” **20 April 1816**. Before P. D. Cailleau LaFontaine, parish judge, appeared **Marie Thereze Coincoin** (x), a free Black woman who in presence of **P^{re} Charuau** and **Jⁿ B^{te} Anty** has acknowledged signing the deed. Signed: P^{re} Chareau, Anty [signatures as copied by the clerk into the record book, without the diacriticals that Charûau and Anty consistently used].

11 JUNE 1813

ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

“Baptism of infant born 15 of [blank] 1813, legitimate daughter of Philipe Brosset and Marie Thérèse Vrevel [Brevel]. Godparents, **Jn. Btte. Anty Jr.** and [his wife] Marie Cyprienne Derbanne.”

COMMENT:

This baptism clearly occurred at Rivière aux Cannes. From entries in his register, we can follow the priest downriver:

- 11 June 1813, the baptized children and godparents were from the **Lower Isle** families of Cruz, Lattier, Brosset, followed by a Baudoin from **upper Rivière aux Cannes** (entries 559–61)
- 12 June 1813, the baptized children and godparents were from the **upper Rivière aux Cannes** families of Baudoin, Rabalé, Brossset, LaCour, Derbanne, Gallien, and **Anty** (entries 562–65)
- 13 June 1813, the baptized children were from the families of Couty, Torres, * Zarichi, Labery, Wallet, Nolasco de Porcuna—all families living at **mid-to-lower Rivière aux Cannes** (entries 566–569)

COMMENT:

The latter group is the Rivière aux Cannes neighborhood in which Anty was enumerated in 1810.

7 JULY 1813

DEED BOOK 3: 86–87, DOC. 49

Before Judge Pierre David Cailleau Lafontaine, appeared Mr. **Ailhaud St. Anne** (s), habitant, who manumits an enslaved male *nègre* named **Grand Baptiste**, aged about 50 years. “Made and passed at

⁷⁶ The evidence for the erroneous dating of the 1813 document is being developed in a manuscript entitled “Laying a Legend to Rest: Marie Thérèse Coincoin and CRNHA Archaeological Sites 16NA785 & 16NA789.”

the **domicile** of Ailhaud St. Anne, in presence of witnesses “Sieurs **Anty Pére**, Benjamin Metoyer (s/B^{min} Metoyer), Narcisse Prudhomme (s),

COMMENT:

These are original signatures in the record book, suggesting that Lafontaine took the book with him when he went to Ailhaud’s house on the Grand Coast.

18 AUGUST 1813

NCA DOC. 4316

We, **Simon Goÿe** (x), and **Nanette Denis** (x), spouse of Simon Goÿe declare that they owe Mr. **Jⁿ P^{re} M^e Dubois**, \$200. To secure the debt they mortgage their habitation at Rivière aux Cannes, consisting of two arpents of frontage on the right bank descending and four arpents or about on the left bank, bounded on the upper by Mr. **Antoine Coinde** and on the lower by **Wm. Owens**. Witnesses: Jas. F. Porter, Comte fils. || 26 May 1814 proved before Judge P. D. Cailleau Lafontaine by Jean Bte Comte *fils*.

23 NOVEMBER 1813

NCA DOC. 4325

Estate of **William Owen** to **John Biggs**, sale of the former vacherie of **James Young** \$160 paid to James Blutworth, curator of the estate. Before Judge P. D. Cailleau Lafontaine, parish judge.

COMMENT:

John Biggs was Baptiste Anty’s adjacent “neighbor” on the 1810 census. Given that Owen(s) was a merchant in Natchitoches and did not personally live on any of the downriver tracts he took over when planters could not pay their bills at his store, it seems likely that Biggs was on this land as a renter at the time of the census. Also relevant:

ASP-PL 3:200

“No. 325–909. The legal representatives of **James Young** claim six hundred and forty superficial acres of land, situated on both sides of **Young’s bayou** in the county of Natchitoches, bounded above by land of **Lawrence Bodin**. The evidence of **François Robin**, taken the 2d October, 1813, establishes the land to have been inhabited and cultivated for seventeen or eighteen consecutive years preceding this date; for the first seven or eight years by James Young, and subsequently by his widow and family.”

“No. 324–887. **Lawrence Bodin** claims six hundred and forty superficial acres of land, situated on both sides of **bayou Young**, in the county of Natchitoches, bounded above by land of **James Young**. The evidence of **François Robin**, taken the 2d October, 1813, establishes that the claimant, upwards of forty years of age, has inhabited and cultivated the land for fifteen consecutive years preceding this date.

Lawrence Bodin was the son-in-law of the Indian Capitaine, to whom Anty sold his 4 arpents in 1792. Robin was Bodin’s nephew.

NCA DOC. 3339

Manuel Derbanne sold to Andre “Mitchell” 5 acres on each side of river, about 30 miles below the post, bounded above by Madame Baudoin and below by Alexis Cloutier (on left descending side) and Baptiste Italien (on right). Derbanne had purchased this land from “**Jean Lorant Baudin**” according to witnesses **Simon Goille**, Pierre “Cenquatier” [Sans Quartier] and “Jacque Enbroise [Jacque Ambroise Lecomte].

This Young’s Bayou land almost certainly lies in lower Natchitoches Parish—as opposed to the current Young’s Bayou on the outskirts of the town of Natchitoches. Vacheries in this period

were set up on new land, usually uncleared, and within reasonable distance (5 or so miles) from the owner's residence. Bodin was a settler of Lower Natchitoches.

22 JANUARY 1814

DOC. 4257

Before P. D. Cailleau Lafontaine, Judge, Mr. **Alexis Cloutier**, habitant, makes a donation to Dufroi & Derzilin, natural infants, white and free, of Sieur **Nicolas Gallien**, Cloutier's brother: land situated in the district of Rivière aux Cannes, on the left bank of Red River, containing **4 arpents** of frontage with the depth it is able to carry. The land was obtained from the Sieur deceased **Wm. Owens**. Made and done at the domicile of Alexis Cloutier. Signed: Alexis Cloutier (+), Nicolas Gallien (+), Ambroise Lecomte (+). Witnesses: Auguste Langlois, Jⁿ P^e M^e Dubois, Comte *fils*.

COMMENT:

This land should be the lower 4 arpents of S43, T7N R6W. Widow Louis Anty held the upper 5 arpents. See the discussion above under date of 7 May 1810.

I have not identified the mother of the twins Dufroi and Derzilin Gallien.

2 SEPTEMBER 1814

ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

"Burial of natural son of Susana Metoyer who died of fever at the age of eight. Priest: F. Magnes."⁷⁷

COMMENT:

Father Magnes' typical formula was to say that he had buried someone "in the cemetery of this parish." For this entry and two after it, he did not use those words. The other two individuals were from families at Rivière aux Cannes. The only other consecrated grounds in the parish (aside from the cemetery in Natchitoches that was always referenced as "the cemetery of this parish") was Shallow Lake Cemetery at Rivière aux Cannes.

14 SEPTEMBER 1814

NCA DOC. 4364

CONV BOOK 3:306-7

To whom it may concern, I, **Augustin Métoyer**, *mulâtre libre*, and **Marie Agnés** mulatresse libre, my wife, living at Isle à Brevelle, in presence of the witnesses undersigned, declare that I convey to Sr. **François Metoyer**, *mulâtre libre*, also living in this parish, a tract of **13.75 arpents** frontage, situated in this Parish on the right [descending] bank of "la petite Rivière dite Bourguignon" bounded on the upper by us, the vendees, and on the lower by the extreme base of Isle à Brevelle, where it enters Lac à la vase, that is on the left bank, opposite. The land on the left [descending] bank opposite the said sellers and the said acquirer was acquired from the late **Guillaume LeBrun**. The land on the left bank is bounded on the upper by the sellers and on the lower by **Mr. Louis Derbanne**. \$400. Augustin, Agnes, and François all X'd. Witnesses **P^{re} Charûau** and **Antÿ** signed. **16 September 1814** Augustin and Agnes acknowledged the sale before P. D. Cailleau Lafontaine, Parish Judge. **P^{re} Charûau** also appeared before the parish judge to acknowledge witnessing the document. Anty did not.

COMMENT:

- In the original Doc. 4364, the name of Augustin's wife is written as **Aniès**.
- 14 September was a Wednesday. Note, below, that multiple documents were transacted that day with the same witnesses—including Coincoin's sale of her supplemental farm land to her son Toussaint. *Pierre Charûau would be the notary who drafted them.*

⁷⁷ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1800-1826: Translated Abstracts of Register Number Five*, entry 1745.

14 SEPTEMBER 1814

NCA DOC. 4365

CONV BOOK 3:308–9

Marie Thérèse Coincoin (x), free Negress, in presence of the undersigned witnesses, conveys to **Toussaint Metoyer** (x), free mulatto, a land situated on the Cote Joyeuse [Grand Coast] containing **5 arpents of frontage on the right bank** of Red River, bounded on the upper by Mr. **Jn Bapte. Prudhomme fils** and on the lower by the same and **Dominique Rachal**—also 4 arpents opposite on the left bank, bounded above and below by the same parties. \$1625. The acquirer states that he well knows the property. Witnesses: **P^{re} Charûau** and **Antÿ**, signed. The document was drawn up in French, place not stated. **17 September 1814**: “Marie Thérèse Coincoin, a free black woman” appeared before Parish Judge P. D. Cailleau Lafontaine to acknowledge the conveyance. **John Bte. Anty** also appeared to attest that he had witnessed the document, but **P^{re} Charûau** did not. Lafontaine recorded his certification in English.

COMMENT:

Note that both Augustin’s document and Coincoin’s document were drafted the same day, using the same witnesses and same notary—a man who lived in 1810 on Dominique Metoyer’s lower tract.

However, all parties did not go into Natchitoches on the same day to acknowledge their sales. Augustin, Agnes, and Pierre Charûau made the trek upriver to Natchitoches on the 16th. Coincoin and “son-in-law” Antÿ made the trip on the 17th.

Also relevant to this tract of land:

23 FEBRUARY 1821

SUCCESSION BOOK 3: 56

Inventory & Estimation of Jn Bte. Prudhomme in community with his dec. wife. Includes:

- “A plantation purchased of B^{my} Rachal containing two hundred and forty seven arpents estimated at \$3,000.
- A 1798 plantation purchased of Pierre ? Maes having nineteen arpents front on the left bank of Red River & nineteen arpents and a half on the right bank ... estimated at \$4,000.
- A plantation purchased of “Doclas Marianne & Marie Louise Badin N.L.,” having 800 arpents estimated at \$4,000.
- A plantation purchased of **Toussaint Metoyer N.L.**, having five arpents of frontage on both sides of the red river, estimated at \$4000.

17 SEPTEMBER 1814

NCA DOC. 4365

CONV BOOK 3:308-9

“Marie Thérèse Coincoin, a free black woman” appeared before Parish Judge P. D. Cailleau Lafontaine to acknowledge the conveyance she had made on the 14th of September to her son Toussaint. **John Bte. Anty** also appeared to attest that he had witnessed the document; witness **P^{re} Charûau** did not. Lafontaine recorded his certification in English.

22 DECEMBER 1814

DOC. 4388

Before P. D. Cailleau Lafontaine, at the Domicile of Sieur **Emmanuel Prudhomme**. Marriage contract of Sieur **Jean Baptiste Lecomte**, major son of Sieur **Ambroise Lecomte** and his wife **Hélène Cloutier** to **Marie Adéle Prudhomme**, minor daughter of Sr. Emmanuel Prudhomme and Dame Catherine Lambre. Signed: B^{te} Lecomte *fils*; M^e Adéle Prudhomme. Witnesses: Lambre Prudhomme [bride’s mother],

Narcisse Prudhomme, Mr. Comte Pére, **Antÿ**, M^e Adaline Prudhomme, Prudhomme, S^{te} Anne Prudhomme, Phanor Prudhomme.

COMMENT:

Typically, *each* party to the marriage contract selected “friends and family” to witness the contract. Some of the Natchitoches contracts explicitly state which party the witness was there for. In this case, it’s likely that Antÿ was representing the LeComte-Cloutier family, to which his first wife belonged. Again, the implication is that he was living down at Rivière aux Cannes, in the Cloutier-Lecomte neighborhood, from where he accompanied the groom and the groom’s father to the contract ceremony at Prudhomme’s home on the upper Isle.

31 JANUARY 1815

ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

“Baptism of Juan Bautista, aged 1 year, 10 and a half months, legitimate son of **Valery Anty** and Maria Despasy Dervanne [Aspasie Derbanne]. Godparents: Miguel Dervanne and Arselina Cloutierre. Priest: Franco. Magnes.”⁷⁸

COMMENT:

Padre Magnes, the pastor of this era, typically wrote his sacramental entries in Spanish. Hence, the rendering of French names in Spanish.

1 FEBRUARY 1815

ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

“Baptism of Roselin Olis Arnaudiere [La Renaudière] aged 1 year, legitimate son of Felipe Arnaudierre and Denis de Eny [Denis]. Godparents **Jn Btta Anty** and Rosalia Arnaudierre. Priest: Franco. Magnes.”

COMMENT:

Magnes is clearly at Rivière aux Cannes when he recorded this entry in the following sequence:

- 30 January 1815, baptism of two children belonging to (and with godparents from) the families of Rachal, Cloutier, Anty, and Derbanne—including a child of **J. B. Anty’s son Valery** (entries 507–8)
- 31 January 1815, ditto families of Brosset, Brevel, Vercher, Gallien, Bonet, Denis, LaRenaudiere, and Beaudoin—including a child of **Louis Anty’s son Silvester** and wife Marie Baudoïn (entries 509–14)
- 1 February 1815, ditto, families of LaRenaudière, Guisarnat, **J. B. Anty** [fils], Thomassy, Porrier, Derbanne, Denis, Simon Goy [Goelle] (entries 515–20)

20 FEBRUARY 1815

DOC. 4426

CONV BOOK 3: 375–76

Before P. D. Cailleau Lafontaine, Parish Judge, has appeared **Françoise Brevelle, Widow [Pierre II] Derbanne** (x), who sells to **her daughter Marie Aspasie**, wife of Sieur **Valery Anty** (x) a tract of land in the District of **Rivière aux Cannes**, containing 6 arpents of frontage, being 3.5 arpents frontage on the right bank and 2.5 arpents frontage on the left bank, bounded on the right bank, at the upper, by land of **Antoine Coinde** and on the lower by land belonging to the Succession of deceased **William Owens**. On the left bank, it is bounded on the upper by land of **Antoine Coindé** and on the lower by land of the minor **Jⁿ B^{te} Goye**. \$430. Passed at the domicile of Sieur **Ambroise Comte** in the district of Rivière aux

⁷⁸ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1800–1826: Translated Abstracts of Register Number Five*, entry 509.

Cannes. Witnesses: Comte *fiils* (s), Ls Derbanne (s). Acknowledged 20 February 1815 before Judge Lafontaine.

COMMENT:

The Coindet-Owens-Goy neighborhood was in **T7N R5W**, a couple of miles below present Cloutierville. The land being conveyed here would appear to be the upper half of the tract confirmed to Simon Goÿ (“Gavelle”), **Section 54**.

7 JUNE 1815

DOC. 4462

Before P. D. Cailleau Lafontaine, acting as notary public, appeared **M^r Jⁿ B^{te} Anty père** (s) who conveys to **M^r Jⁿ B^{te} Anty fiils (x)** a Creole mulatresse slave named Agnes, aged about 25, guaranteed free of maladies and vices. \$1000. Passed at **Isle Brevelle home of Augustin Metoyer**, free man of color. Witnesses: James F. Porter, Pierre Charruau (signed as **Charûau**).

COMMENT:

Note that this transpired the same day (Wednesday, 17 June) as

- succession proceedings for Marguerite, wife of François Metoyer (Succ Bk 1:314–18)
- marriage contracts of Antÿ’s daughter and her half-brother Florentin Conant, below.
- sale by Marie Louise LeComte, wife of James F. Porter, to her husband: a mulatress slave named Lucie, aged about 25, \$900. Witnesses: **P^{re} Charûau**. Done at Isle Brevelle home of **Sieur Charles Lemoine**, proprietor of the “24-Mile Ferry.” (Doc. 4463).

Antÿ did not participate in the Lemoine-Lecomte transaction. Nor would Mme. Porter have been present at the creation of the document that her estranged husband witnessed in the home of Augustin Metoyer. By social conventions of their time and place, Porter could freely associate with free men of color; his going to Augustin’s home to witness the document was commonplace. Mme. Porter would have waited at the Lemoine hom and ferry station, while the menfolk who had come up from Rivière aux Cannes, transacted their business at Augustin Metoyer’s home.

7 JUNE 1815

DOC. 4464

DEED BOOK 4:156–19

Marriage contract, place of execution not stated, between **Jean Baptiste Florestine [Conant]** (s/ Jⁿ Baptis Florrentin) and **Marie Louise [Metoyer]** (x). He, minor son of Marie Susanne, fwc. She, minor and legitimate daughter of Augustin Metoyer and his spouse Marie Agnes. Goods of the groom consists of \$200 that his mother has given him in contemplation of the marriage and 4500 piasters in silver, effects, movables, animals, etc. Goods of the bride consists of 5 arpents of land on each bank of Red River, bounded on the upper by the land of **Susanne Metoyer**, free woman of color, and on the lower by the father of bride; also a sum of \$600 in silver, making all together the value of \$1600. Witnesses: Prudhomme, **Antÿ, Jas. F. Porter, P^{re} Charûau**.

COMMENT:

The place of execution is not stated, but this whole block of Metoyer documents on Wednesday, 7 June, was likely drawn up at Augustin Metoyer’s home, as his other documents were in this period.

7 JUNE 1815

DOC. 4465

DEED BOOK 4:159–161

Marriage contract, place of execution not stated, between **Jean Baptiste Metoyer, fils Augustin** (s) and **Susanne** (x) daughter of **Marie Susanne** (x). Augustin Metoyer (x) gave them 5 arpents of land, with him being the upper neighbor and Jn Bte. Latier being the lower neighbor. Witnesses: Prudhomme, **Antÿ**, Jas. F. Porter, **P^{re} Charûau**.

COMMENT:

- Again, the place of execution is not stated, but was logically the home of Augustin Metoyer.
- Note that Antÿ was there, but his daughter Susanne was not given his surname.

c JUNE 1815

ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

Marriage. Date torn away. "**Jean Baptiste Augustin Metoyer**, free mulatto, aged 19, legitimate son of Augustin Metoyer and M^e Agnes [Poissot], also free *mulattoes* ... and ... **Susanne Metoyer** [Antÿ] aged [17] years, natural daughter of Susanne Metoyer, a free *mulattresse* [all natives of this post]. Signed: J. Bte. Metoyer, *fils Aug^{tin} m.l.*; **P^{re} Charûau** (s); **Antÿ** (s); Jn Bte Florentin [Conant] (s); Louis Metoyer, *m.l.* (x); Joseph Metoyer, *m.l.* (x); Auguste *fils Aug^{tin} Metoyer, m.l.* (s); Agustin Metoyer (x); Marie Agnes (x); Susanne Metoyer, *m.l.* (x)."⁷⁹

COMMENT:

Note, again, that Antÿ is there for the marriage of his and Susanne Metoyer's daughter—but, again, the daughter is not given his name.

The published church abstract made from the severely damaged register suggests that the marriage may have been 1816, because of the cluster in which this record fragment appeared. The marriage contract, subsequently found, clearly dates the marriage in 1815.

Two days after the marriage contract, one further document was created by Antÿ and Susanne. Within relationships of their type, this type of document often marks a dissolution of the relationship, similar to a final settlement in a divorce proceeding.

9 JUNE 1815

DOC. 4470

DEED BOOK 3:406

Before P. D. Cailleaux Lafontaine, parish judge, **Jean Baptiste Antÿ [Sr.]** acknowledged conveying to **Suzanne Metoyer**, woman of color, a Negro slave named Pierre of the Bambara nation, aged about 20. \$1000. Made and passed in the parish of Natchitoches *at the home* of Sieur **Manuel Prudhomme** at Isle à Brevelle, with Em. Prudhomme and **Ambroise Sompayrac** witnesses. Signed: **Antÿ**, A Sompayrac. Susanne made her mark.

COMMENT:

This occurred two days after the marriage of their daughter. This is the last document I've found that places Suzanne and Baptiste Antÿ in the same place at the same time.

27 JUNE 1815

ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

François Metoyem [Metoyer] & Marie Arthemise [Dupart]

"Ratification of civil marriage after 3 bans. Groom, a free mulatto, widower of Margarite, a free *mulattresse*, native of this parish, aged 30. Bride: natural daughter of Victoria Milon and a native of New

⁷⁹ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1800–1826: Translated Abstracts of Register Number Five*, p. 112, entry 720.

Orleans. Signed: Victoria Milon (x); Louis Metoyer, *m.l.* (x); Dominique Metoyem, *m.l.* (x); Joseph Metoyer, *m.l.* (x); Jh. Derbanne (s); **Antÿ** (s). Priest: Franco. Magnes.”⁸⁰

COMMENT:

This ratification was not done at Sunday Mass. 27 June fell on a Tuesday.

27 OCTOBER 1815

DOC. 4534

Sieur **Francois Lavespère** (s) and **Marie Louise Derbanne** (x) his wife, in the presence of S^{rs} P^{re} **Charuau & Jean Bap^{te} Antÿ**, undersigned witnesses, declare that they owe **Augustin Metoyer**, a free man of color, the sum of \$1085. To secure they debt they give a mortgage on their land at Isle à Brevelle, containing 10 arpents of frontage on each bank of Red River, bounded on the upper by **François Frederick** and on the lower by the said **Augustin Metoyer**. The sum is used to pay to the heirs of deceased **Pierre Derbanne** for a mulatress slave named **Magdelaine** and her infant **Manuel**, whom she purchased from the succession. Signed: **Antÿ**. || **20 November 1815**: acknowledged by Lavespère before Judge P. D. Cailleau Lafontaine in the presence of M. A. Gauvain and Jⁿ P^e M^e Dubois.

8 NOVEMBER 1815

DOC. 4531

Before P. D. Cailleau Lafontaine appeared Mr. **Pierre Baudoin** (x), habitant, who sells to his son-in-law (*son gendre*) **Silvestre Antÿ**, also domiciled in this parish, a tract of **one arpent at Rivière aux Cannes**, on right bank of Red River to the depth it can carry, bounded on the upper by lands of the purchaser and on the lower by lands of the seller. \$130. Done at Natchitoches in the presence of Alexandre Germeuil and Cesar Murphy, witnesses.

6 FEBRUARY 1816

DEED BOOK 4:223–24

Remy Lambre succession to **Jean Bte Antÿ, fils**. Sale of *nègre* Caesar, slave for life. No age given. 950p. Witnesses: P^{re} **Charuau**, J. P. Hopock.

6 FEBRUARY 1816

DEED BOOK 4:224-25

Remy Lambre succession to J. P. Hopock. Sale of mulatto named Moses and *negresse* Marguerite for \$2845. Witnesses: P^{re} **Charuau, Antÿ**.

COMMENT:

This is the last record proved for Baptiste Antÿ. Below, I’ll continue to chronicle the activities of his children for several years, to show his non-presence at their events.

23 FEBRUARY 1816

DEED BOOK 3:505–6

Judge P. D. Cailleau Lafontaine has, at the request of **Madame Françoise Brevelle, widow [Pierre II] Derbanne**, gone to the habitation of **Pierre Derbanne [III]** situated in the district of Rivière aux Cannes, where the said Derbanne sells to her son Pierre Derbanne [III] a Negro slave named Augustin, Créole, aged 20 years. \$700 piasters. Signed: Veuve Derbanne (x), Pierre Derbanne (x), Pre S. Compère (s), Ls Derbanne (s).

COMMENT:

⁸⁰ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1800–1826: Translated Abstracts of Register Number Five*, entry 1054.

The widow Derbanne appears to have moved to Rivière aux Cannes soon after the 1810 census.
No Anty participation.

4 MARCH 1816

DEED BOOK 6:9

At Natchitoches, before P. D. C. LaFontaine, Judge & notary. **Jacques Vercher** to **Louis Metoyer**, sale of slaves: Marie, *negresse* of Congo, 25, and Bide, 3, her infant, for \$750. Witnesses: **Pre Charuau** and Lavespère. [No **Anty** participation.]

7 SEPTEMBER 1816

DEED BOOK 6:79-81

Pierre Baudoin sells to **Sylvestre Anty** land at Rivière aux Cannes, 3 arpents frontage on left bank [descending?], bounded on the upper by a free mulatress named **Adelaide** and on the lower by land belonging to vendor. Witnesses Athanase Brosset & Ls Gallien.

COMMENT:

The named Adelaide should be on the land of her mother Mariotte at **S107**, on the left descending bank. Pierre Baudoin owned the land below that, on both banks (S108 and 37). The plat map for T7N R6W also credits him with all of S36 & 107, with no reference to Mariotte's 2 arpents at the upper end of those two tracts. Considering that Mariotte had only the upper part of S107, the only way that Baudoin could have sold Anty 3 arpents frontage lying between Adelaide and himself would be for him to have sold the lower half of S107.

27 JANUARY 1817

SUCC BOOK 2:143-52

Succession of **Antoine Rachal**. Inventory supervised by **Louis Derbanne, J.P.** at the home of the deceased, "at place called **Ecords**" [subsequently, Monette's Bluff]. **Accounts held** on 20 planters along river, including Mr. Ramond, Mr. Gilard, Ambroise LeComte (2), F^s Baudry, Mr. Porter, Mr. Lavespère, Mr. Auguste Langlois, "Augustin Metoyer, *m. libre*," Pre Massip, Mr. **Pierre Charuau**, Louis Metoyer *m. libre*, Baptiste Chenal, Daniel Maconelle, François Roubieu, Jⁿ Pre M^{ie} Dubois, Mr. Compère, Joseph Lavigne m. l., Mr. L^s Derbanne, **Mr. Jⁿ Baptiste Anty**, Mr. Antoine LeMoine. Witnesses included **P^{re} Charuau.**"

COMMENT:

The coupling of "Mr. Jⁿ Baptiste Anty" with Charuau, as well as the emphasis on his middle name, does imply that this is a reference to Baptiste Sr. However, given that these are promissory notes (i.e., debts), they could have been executed years earlier. It does not suggest that he was still alive in January 1817.

8 JANUARY 1818

ST. FRANÇOIS CHURCH

Manuel Llorens & Marie Arsene Anty

"Marriage. Groom: aged 28, native of New Orleans, free man of color, natural son of Francisco Llorens [white] and Francisca Nivette. Bride: 15, native of this post, free woman of color, **natural daughter of Jn Btte Anty** and Susanne Metoyer. Signatures of witnesses: Susanne Metoyer (x); Agustin Metoyer (x); Pierre Metoyer (s); Jn. Bte. Metoyer *fils Aug^{tin}* (s); Maxlle. Metoyer (s); Augte. Metoyer (s); J. Bte.

Metoyer *fils de* Louis (s); J. Bte. Dominique [Metoyer], *fils* (s); Florantine Conant (s); Francisca Nivette (x).
Priest: Franco. Magnes.⁸¹

COMMENT:

Almost certainly, Baptiste Antÿ is dead at this point. He attended the marriage of his two older daughters by Susanne and signed their marriage records—as he did with the marriage of Susanne’s son Florentin Conant. This is the first marriage he did not attend *and the first one that actually names him as the father*, something found in no record created while he was present.

7 JUNE 1818

DOC. 4915

Valeri Anti (x) sells to Monsieur **J. B. Chenal** (s/ B^{te} Chenal), here present and accepting, a Negress named **Suzanne** coming from the succession of deceased **Pierre Derbanne**, aged about 15 years. \$750. Also signed Marie Aspasite Derbanne, *femme* Vallery Anty (x). Witnesses: Jⁿ P^{re} M^e Dubois, V^{tin} Adlé, Carles, Silvestre Rachel.

COMMENT:

Pierre Derbanne II was the father-in-law of both Valeri Anty and J. B. Anty Jr.

20 MAY 1819

NCA DOC. 5086

Louis Thomasine (x) sells to **Mr. Paul Poissot** (x) land on right descending bank of Red River containing undetermined frontage, bounded by **Pierre Quiery** and deceased **Athanase, free Negro**, which was acquired by **Alexis Cloutier**. \$850. Witnesses: Spotswood Mills [attorney from Virginia], F. Vienne, L. S. Hazelton. Before Parish Judge **Charles Slocum**.

21 MAY 1819

NCA DOC. 5088

Ls Pomier (x) for \$500 paid by **Jean Baptiste Anty** (x) sells a tract of land on left descending bank of Red River, 4 arpents front, bounded below by land of **Sylvestre Bossier** and above by lands of **Pierre Delouche**. Witnesses: **James Loccard, Milton Slocum**.

COMMENT:

Note the absence of “Sr.” or “Jr.” for Anty. The implication is that there is now only one man by that name. The fact that this Jean Baptiste Anty X’d, while Jean Baptiste Sr. had signed every document he created since the 1770s, also attests that Anty Sr. is not the man of this document.

Clearly, after Baptiste Antÿ passed, J. B. Jr decided to return to the Poissot-Pomier neighborhood where he and his brother-in-law, Paul Poissot, established adjacent farms (see below).

Note also that on 20–21 May 1819, these two heirs of Baptiste Antÿ (Paul Poissot and J. B. Jr.) have substantial cash to make a (rare for them) investment in more land.

21 MAY 1819

NCA DOC. 5087

Louis Pomier to **Pierre Delouche**, whereas Pomier owns land at **Point Pomier**, on right bank only, bounded above and below by lands of Delouche, he promises not to sell the land to anyone else but Delouche. Witnesses: **J. W.? Bell, Jas. Loccard**.

⁸¹ Mills, *Natchitoches, 1800–1826: Translated Abstracts of Register Number Five*, entry 785.

[DATE?]

NCA DOC. 5188

Ls Pomier (x) to Paul Poissot (x). Sale of land on right descending bank of Red River at **Point Pommier** which he bought from his mother on 27 April 1816 “so much only excepted as sold to **Bt. Anty** of 4 arpents front on left bank on 21 May 1819.” Witnesses: **F. Vienne, L. S. Hazelton.** Before Judge Carr.