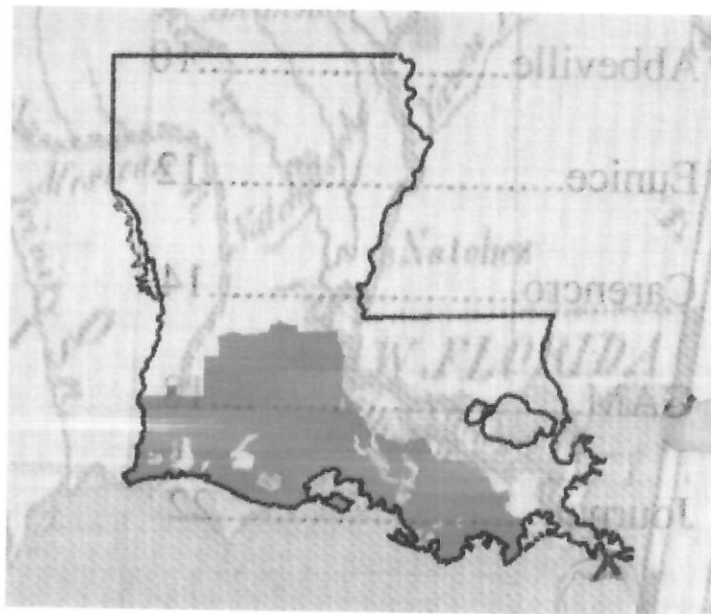


*Welcome to the Louisiana
Cajun Heritage Caravan
N-36-C-2
March 27 -April 9, 2007*



This drivers manual has been put together to provide you with information about tours, meals and directions. Including guidelines, job descriptions, campgrounds, itinerary, and cost. Please drive safely and "pass a good time" in Cajun Country.

*Caravan Leaders
Rick & Marilyn Solera*

WHAT IS A CAJUN

by Bob Hamm

Between the red hills of North Louisiana and the blue waters of the Gulf of Mexico, lives the Cajun. Among the marshes and the bayous, the tall oaks and whispering moss, he carries on the traditions of his hardy Nova Scotian ancestors, les Acadiens, whose flight from persecution brought them to the lush South Louisiana soil over two centuries ago.

In other parts of the world, little girls are made of sugar and spice and everything nice, while little boys are made of snips and snails and puppy dog tails.

Little Cajun children - or, Acadian, if you will - are made of gumbo, boudin and sauce piquante, crawfish stew and Oreilles de Cochon. A Cajun child is given bayous to fish in, marshes to trap in, room to grow in and churches to worship in.

A Cajun likes fiddles and accordians in his music, plenty of pepper in his courtbouillon, shrimp in his nets, speed in his horses, neighborliness in his neighbors and love in his home.

A Cajun dislikes: people who don't laugh enough, fish enough, or enjoy enough of all the good things God has given to the Cajun Country. He doesn't like to be hurried when he's resting or distracted when he's working. He doesn't like to see people unhappy and he'll do all he can or give all he has to bring a smile to a face stricken with sadness.

A Cajun likes to dance and laugh and sing when his week of hard work has ended.

And just as Saturday night at the fais-do-do replenishes his store of energy and his personal balance so he can meet the next week's chores with vigor ...Sunday at Church refreshes his spiritual and moral values and keeps strong his always-sustaining faith.

A link with a proud past, a Cajun is a man of tolerance who will let the world go its way if the world will let him go his. He is a man of great friendliness who will give you the crawfish off his table, the Sac-au-Lait off his hook or the shirt off his back. But if you cross a Cajun, he'll give you the back of his hand or the toe of his boot.. If he likes you, he'll give you his whole wide, wonderful world. If he doesn't, he'll give you a wide berth.

A Cajun is a complex person, with as many ingredients in his makeup as there are in the gumbo Mama makes for special company. He has tolerance for those who earn it.... charity for those who need it.... a smile for those who will return it.... and love for all who will share it..

BUT... a Cajun can be as stubborn as a mule and as ornery as an alligator. If he sets his head on something, he'll fight a circle saw before he'll yield to your opinions. You'd as well argue with a fence post as try to change the mind of a Cajun.

And, as fun-loving as he is, a Cajun can work as long and hard as any man. He carved out "Acadiana" by hand, from the swamps and marshes and uncultivated prairies. But when the work is done and the argument ended, a Cajun can sweep you right into a wonderful world of joie de vivre with an accordian chorus of "Jolie Blonde," and a handful of happy little words..... five little words to be exact:

Laissez les bon temps rouler!! Let the good Times Roll !

Caravan Time Schedule and Directions

Frenchman's Wilderness Campground
2076 Atchafalaya River Road
Breaux Bridge, LA 70517 PH 337-228-2616

✓ Tuesday, 27th Frenchman's Wilderness

From Jct of I- 10 & Hwy- 3177 (exit 121).
Go South 0.7 mi on Hwy 3177
Campground on right side.

3:00 pm	Welcome to the Louisiana Cajun Heritage Caravan Orientation and Social meeting..
5:00 pm	What we will do in Baton Rouge on Wednesday and Thursday.
6:00 pm	Catered Meal (Bring your chair, drinks, and soup spoon) (Kitty Treat)
7:00 pm	Louisiana History. And Learn Cajun dancing.

Wednesday, 28th Frenchman's Wilderness

8:15 am	Loading bus for Baton Rouge
8:30 am	Bus Departing for Baton Rouge
9:30 am	Governor's Mansion
10:30 am	New Capitol.
12:00 noon	Lunch at Casino Rouge (Kitty Treat)
2:00 pm	Bus Departs for the New Louisiana Museum
3:30 pm	Bus will depart for the campground
5:00 pm	Crawfish Clutch (GAM) #1
6:00 pm	Evening meal on your own.
7:00 pm	Louisiana History And Learn Cajun dancing

Thursday, 29th Frenchman's Wilderness

7:15 am	Loading bus for Morning Call
7:30 am	Bus Departs for Morning Call for Coffee & Beignets. (recommend no breakfast)
10:00 am	Bus will depart for the Rural Life Museum
12:00 noon	Lunch (Dutch Treat)
1:15 pm	Old Capitol
3:30 pm	Bus will depart for the campground
5:00 pm	Crawfish Clutch (GAM) #2
6:00 pm	Evening meal on your own.
7:00 pm	Drivers Meeting and Louisiana History And Learn Cajun dancing

Rabins 6:00

Directions to all tours:

Governor's Mansion and State Capitol Complex

Leaving campground turn Left onto Hwy. 3177.
Go north to I-10.
Turn right (east) onto I-10 to the Mississippi River Bridge.
Proceed over bridge to I-110 and carefully merge into the traffic.
As soon as possible merge into the right lane and exit at the Capitol Access Road.
Proceed to the Governor's Mansion.

Casino Rouge

Go west to the river road
The address is 1717 River Road

Louisiana Museum

660 N. 4TH Street Baton Rouge La. 70802
Across From New State Capitol

Frenchman's Wilderness to Coffee Call:

When leaving campground turn Left onto Hwy. 3177. Go north to I-10.
Turn right (east) onto I-10 to the Mississippi River Bridge.
Proceed over the bridge staying in the right lane and Exit to the right on I-10
Carefully merge into the traffic in the next lane to the left.
Continue east on I-10 to College Dr. exit 158.
Turn right on College Dr. and go to the next traffic light and turn right.
Then turn left into the Coffee Call parking area.

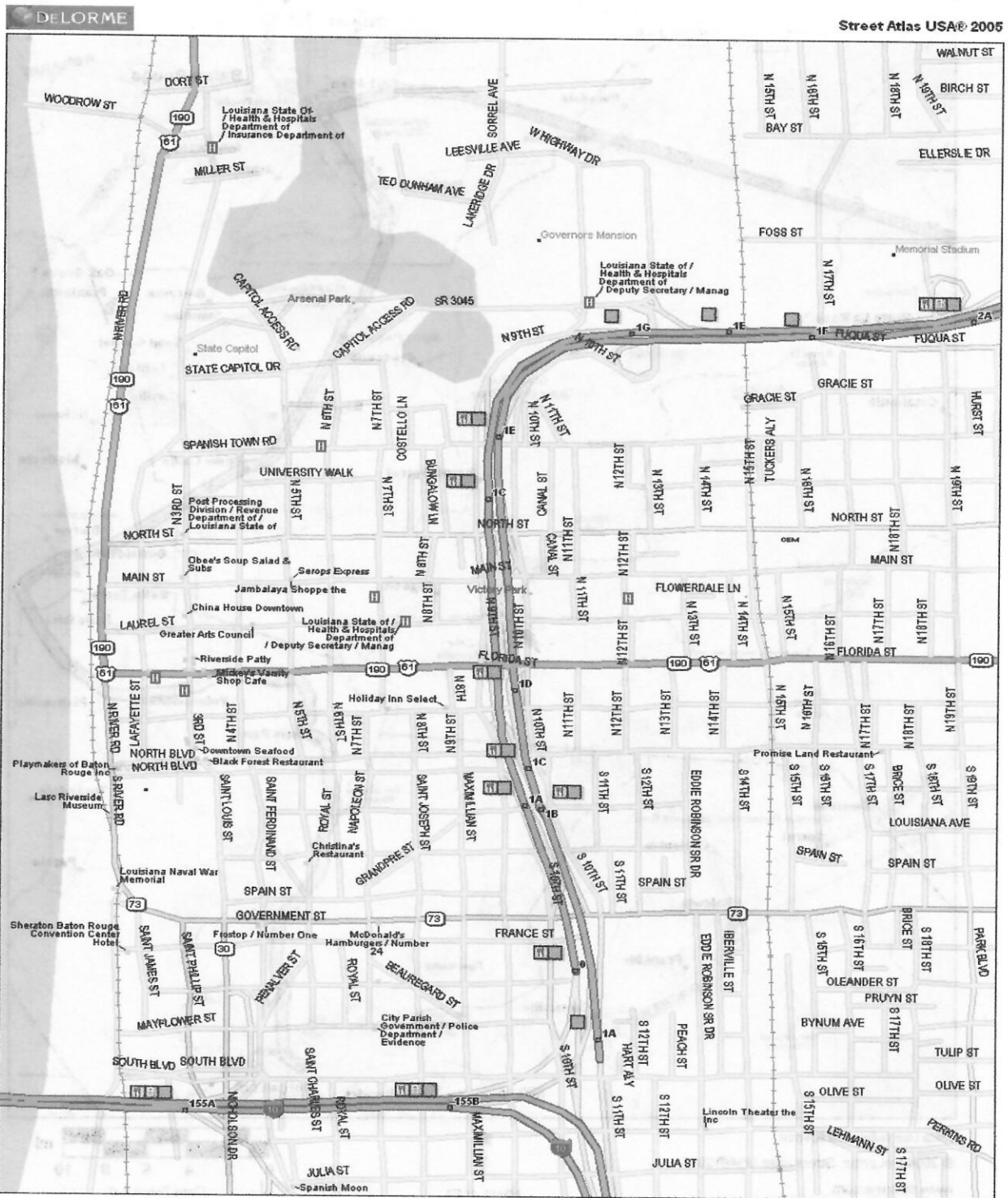
Rural Life Museum

Turn left (north) onto College Dr to the I-10.
At I-10 turn right (east) onto I-10
Stay on I-10 to Exit 160
Exit 160 is Essen Lane
Look for entrance sign on the right not far from the I-10 exit.
Entrance at 4650 Essen Lane

Restaurant

Turn right (south) onto Essen Lane
Stay on Essen Lane to Perkins Rd.
At Perkins Rd turn right (west) onto Perkins Rd.
Stay on Perkins Rd to Lee Dr
At Lee Dr turn left (south) to Burbank Dr.
At Burbank Dr turn right (west).
Stay on Burbank Rd to Walk On Restaurant at 3838 Burbank Dr.

BATON ROUGE

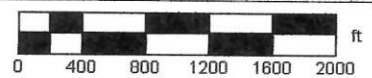


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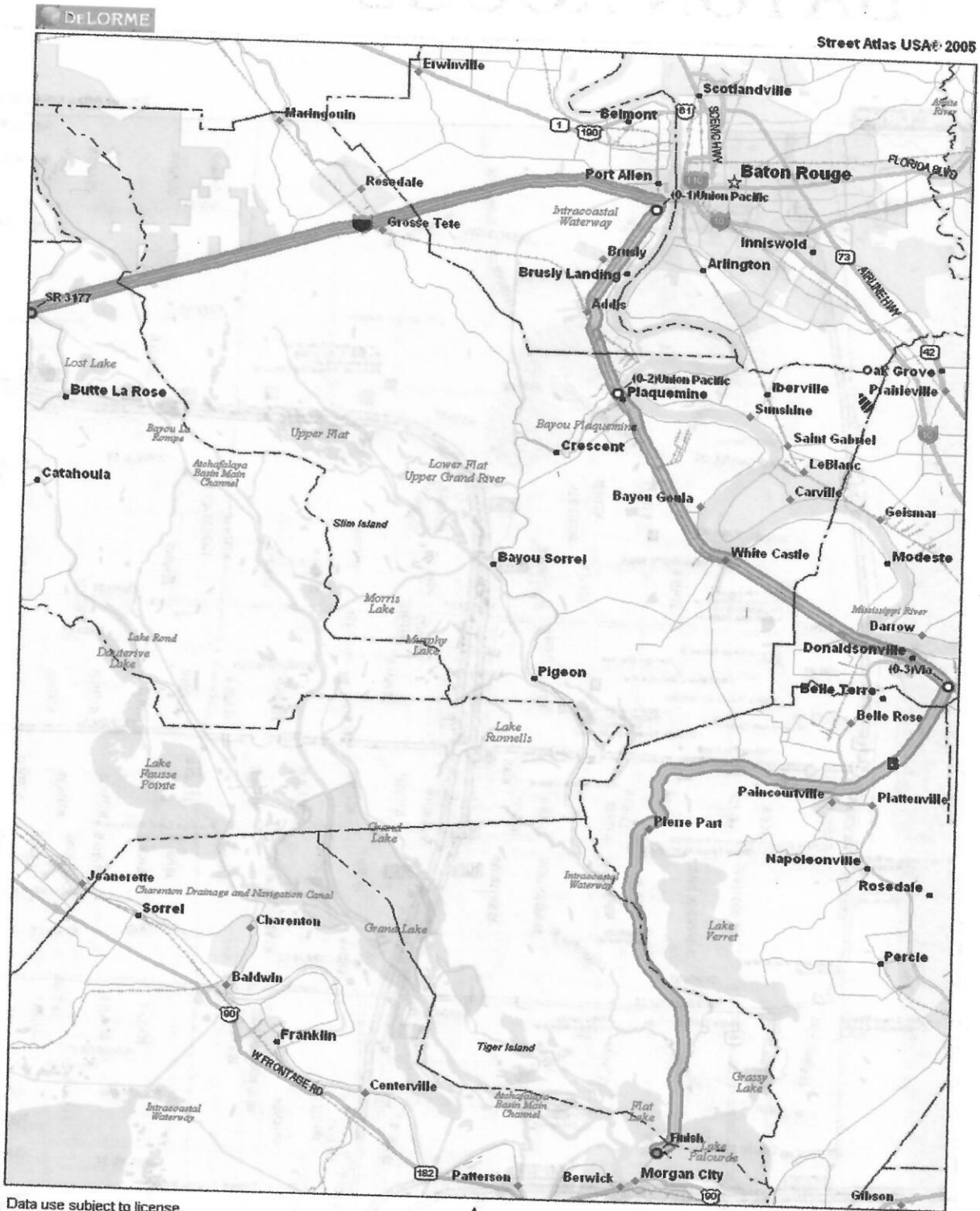
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★
MN (1.3° E)

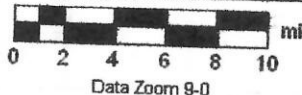


Data Zoom 14-0

Frenchman,s Wilderness To Lake End



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Friday 30th Lake End Campground Do not arrive before 2:00 pm

Turn left on Hwy. 3177 turn right (east) on I-10. To exit 153.
Turn right (south) at Exit 153 onto Hwy.1 towards Plaquemine.
Stay on Hwy 1 to Donaldsonville.
In Donaldsonville go straight onto Hwy 3089 (There is a Wal Mart on 3089)
Stay on Hwy 3089 to Hwy 70.
Turn right (west) on Hwy 70 at signal light.
Stay on Hwy 70 to Lake End Campground.
Lake End campground is on the left side of Hwy 70.in Morgan City.

Note:

There are many pretty oak trees, antebellum homes and bayous along this route. You will also see the Mississippi River levee to your left as you're traveling down Hwy.1. From Donaldsonville on your left is Bayou Lafouche, which goes all the way to the Gulf of Mexico at Grand Isle. Down Hwy 70 there is marshland with cypress trees and cypress knees. At Pierre Part you cross Pierre Part Bay which flows into Lake Verret and Belle River, which also flows into Lake Verret and into Lake Palourde, which is next to Lake End Campground. The Atchafalaya Basin is the largest freshwater river basin in the world containing nearly 500,000 acres of swamps, lakes and bayous. When going on the swamp tour dress very warmly in layers, rain coats, head scarves, hat and maybe blankets, depending on the weather.

- 12:00 noon Lunch on your own.
 - 3:30 pm Depart for Brownell Memorial Park and Carillon tower.
 - 5:00 pm Crawfish Clutch (GAM). #3
 - 6:00 pm Evening meal on your own.
-

Saturday 31th Lake End Campground *Bring lunch*

Cajun Jack Swamp

- 7:30 am Group # 1 - 1 to 9. Departs for Cajun Jack Swamp Tour
- 7:30 am Group # 2 - 10 to 18. Departs for International Petroleum Museum Exposition Tour
- 10:30 am Group # 3 - 19 to 26 Departs for International Petroleum Museum Exposition Tour
- 10:30 am Group # 2 - 10 to 18 Departs for Cajun Jack Swamp Tour
- 1:30 pm Group # 3 - 19 to 26. Departs for Cajun Jack Swamp Tour
- 1:30 am Group # 1 - 1 to 9 Departs for International Petroleum Museum Exposition Tour
- 4:30 pm Church Service in Pavilion, if someone will hold Services.
- 4:30 pm Catholic Mass at Sacred Heart Church
- 5:30 pm Evening meal on your own
- 6:45 pm Drivers Meeting.

Directions to all tours:

Lake End Park to Brownell Memorial Park & Carillon Tower:

Take a turn right out of Lake End Park onto Hwy. 70 Carillon Tower 3 miles to the right

Lake End Park to the International Petroleum Museum

Take a left turn out of Lake End Park onto Hwy. 70.
Follow Hwy70 past Lakewood Hospital and turn left onto Ninth Street
Follow Ninth Street (Hwy.70) past signal light and turn right onto Brashear Ave..
Stay on Brashear Ave. to 1st Street
Turn left (south) onto 1st Street
Stay on 1st Street and go under the Railroad tracks
Continue on to 1st street to the opening in the seawall and go through.
Turn right to the Rig Museum. Where you will see the parking area.

Lake End Park to "Cajun Jack"

Turn right out of Lake End Park campground onto Hwy. 70.
Stay on Hwy 70 for about a mile to Russo Landing on the left side

Lake End Park to Sacred Heart Church:

Take a left turn out of Lake End Park onto Hwy. 70.
Follow Hwy70 past Lakewood Hospital and turn left onto Ninth Street
(Ninth St. is a continuation of Hwy. 70).
Follow Ninth Street (Hwy.70) past signal light and turn right onto Brashear Ave..
Stay on Brashear Ave to 3rdStreet.
Turn left (south) onto 3rd Street
After crossing train tracks
You will see the church on your right
Church 318 3rd street. PH 348-8108

Lake End Park to Morgan City Swamp & Gardens:

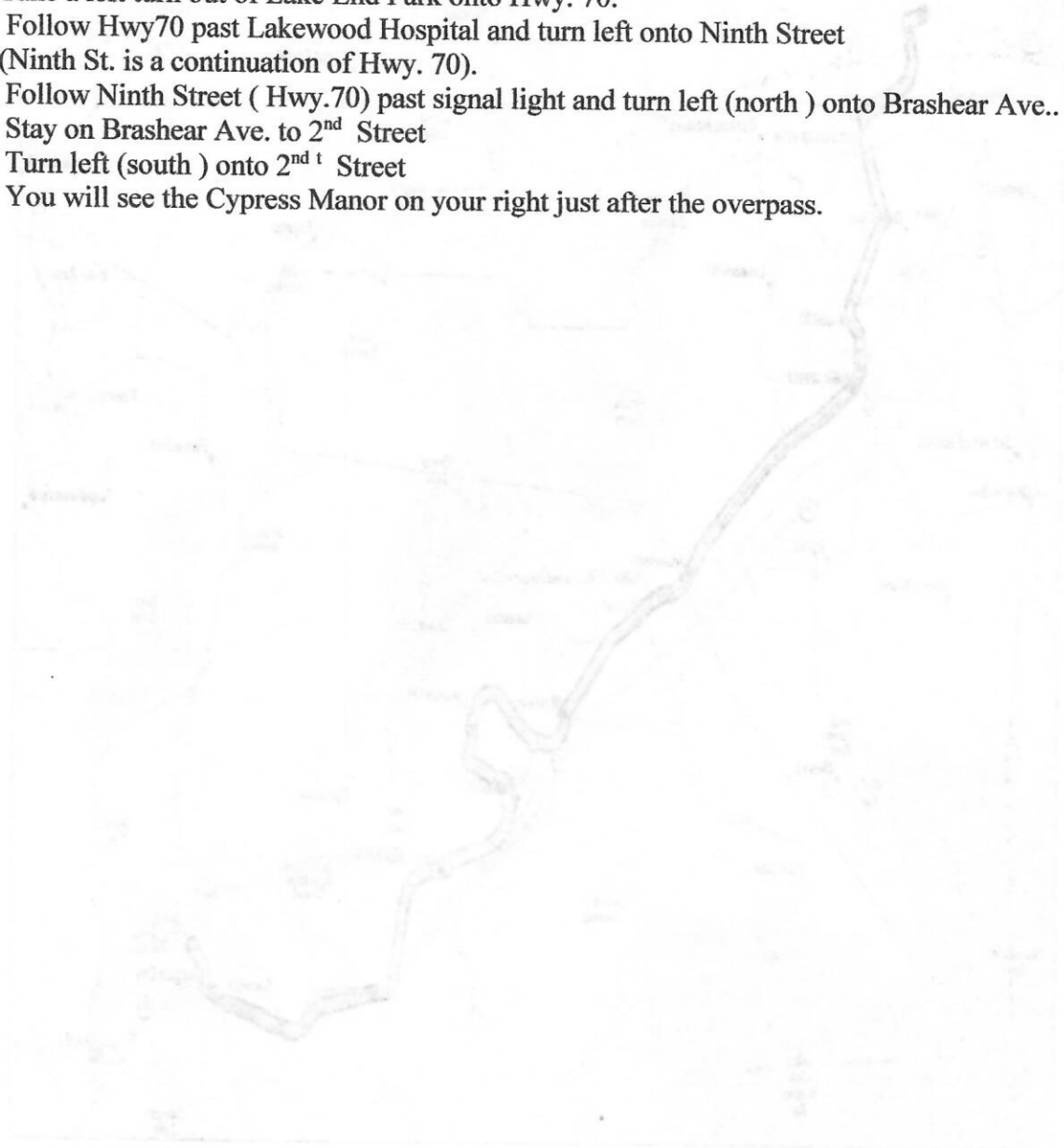
Take a left turn out of Lake End Park onto Hwy. 70.
Follow Hwy70 past Lakewood Hospital and turn left onto Ninth Street
(Ninth St. is a continuation of Hwy. 70).
Follow Ninth Street (Hwy.70) past signal light and turn right onto Greenwood St.
At Greenwood street go onto Hwy 182
Turn left (east) .This will be Hwy 182
Stay on Hwy 182 to Myrtle St
Turn left on Myrtle St. (signal light)
Morgan City Information Center is on the left.

Lake End Park to Wedell - Williams Memorial Aviation Museum of Louisiana:

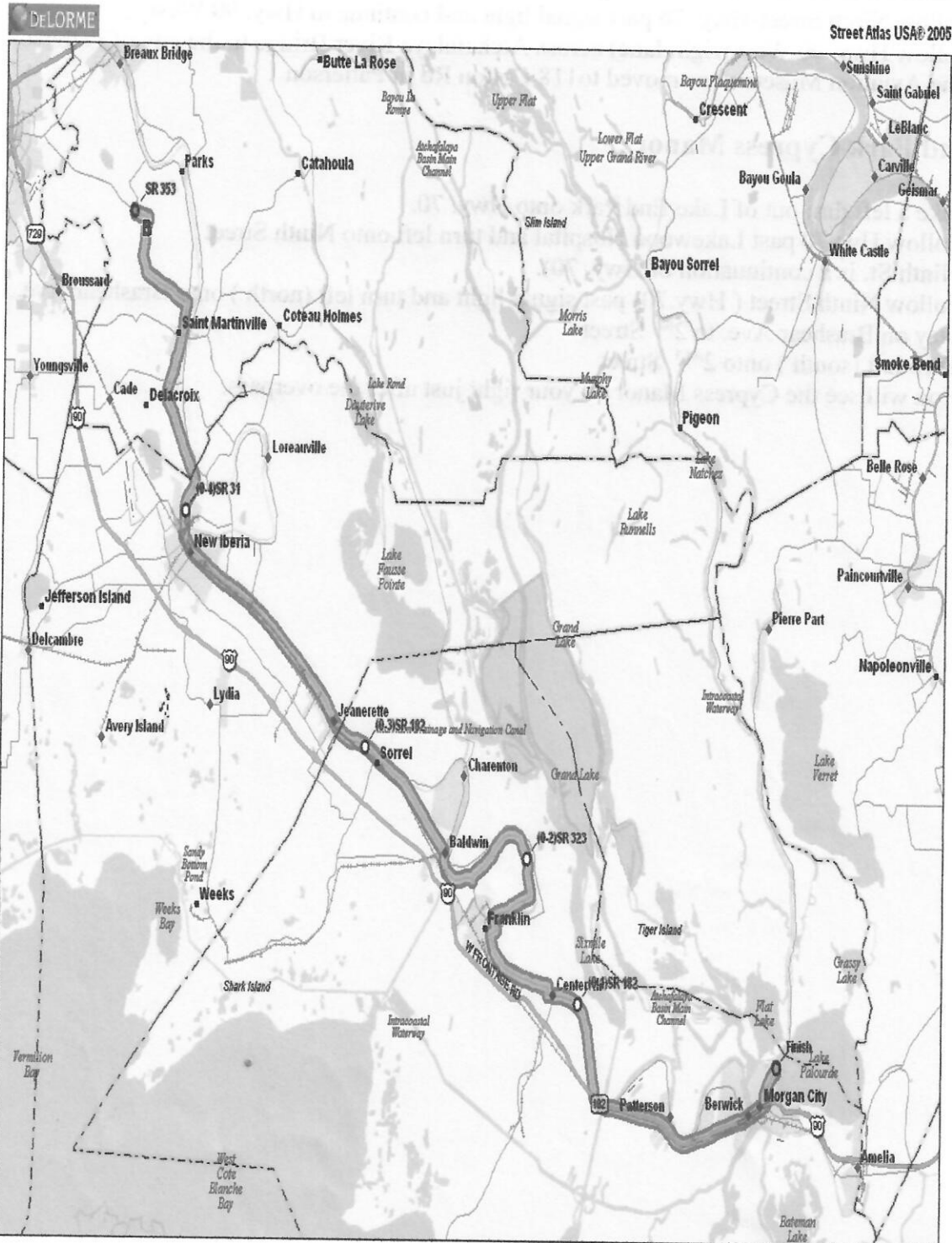
Take a left turn out of Lake End Park onto Hwy. 70.
Follow Hwy. 70 past Lakewood Hospital and turn left onto Ninth Street
(Ninth St. is a continuation of Hwy. 70).
Follow Ninth Street-Hwy. 70 past signal light and continue to Hwy. 90 West.
Follow Hwy. 90 West (right lane) across Atchafalaya River Bridge to the city of Patterson.
The Aviation Museum has moved to 118 Cotton Rd in Patterson.

Lake End Park Cypress Manor

Take a left turn out of Lake End Park onto Hwy. 70.
Follow Hwy70 past Lakewood Hospital and turn left onto Ninth Street
(Ninth St. is a continuation of Hwy. 70).
Follow Ninth Street (Hwy.70) past signal light and turn left (north) onto Brashear Ave..
Stay on Brashear Ave. to 2nd Street
Turn left (south) onto 2nd Street
You will see the Cypress Manor on your right just after the overpass.



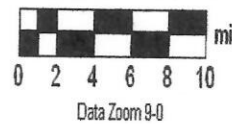
Lake End To Catfish Heaven



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Lake End Campground to Catfish Heaven Campground 70 miles
1554 Cypress Island 1PXY
St Martinville LA.. 70582 Ph. 337-394-9087

Sunday 1st Catfish Heaven Campground Do not arrive before ~~2:00 pm~~ ^{2:30 pm}

Leaving Lake End Campground turn left on Hwy 70.
Turn left on Ninth Street (Hwy 70) to Hwy. 90.
Turn right onto Hwy. 90 and cross over the Atchafalaya river bridge on Hwy 90,
Stay on Hwy 90 to the Calumet Bridge and continue for ½ mile to Hwy. 182.
Turn right on Hwy. 182.
Stay on Hwy. 182 until Hwy 31.
Turn right on Hwy 31 (Chestnut St.).
About two blocks, Hwy 31 turns left - Jane Street)
Stay on Hwy 31 to Hwy 353 (go all the way through St Martinville to Hwy 353)
At Hwy 353 turn left onto Hwy 353 (Cypress Island Road).
Stay on Hwy 353 to Catfish Heaven Campground on the left. (turn left at the second flashing light)
(Turning in the campground is a Blvd. be sure you stay to the right).

12:00 noon Lunch on your own.
4:00 pm Tour the largest nesting area of wading birds.
5:30 pm Evening meal on your own

Passumio Restaurant

Monday 2nd Catfish Heaven Campground

9:00 am Depart for Avery Island "Jungle Gardens"..
12:00 noon Picnic Lunch (Bring a picnic lunch)
1:30 pm Tabasco Plant Tour
3:00 pm Tabasco Store (On your own when you leave the plant tour.)
5:00 pm Steak Cookout (bring your own grill to cook on, napkin, plate, drink and utensil.
6:30 pm Drivers Meeting

Tuesday 3rd Catfish Heaven Campground

8:30 am Depart for Shadows on the Teche (A National Historic House).
10:00 am Tour Konriko (The oldest rice Mill in America)
12:00 noon Lunch on your own In town..(Eat light)
1:30 pm Depart for PHI (Petroleum Helicopters, Inc (Repairing Helicopters).
5:30 pm Depart for Mulates. Eating and Dancing to Cajun Music. (Dutch treat)

Wednesday 4th Catfish Heaven Campground

8:00 am Depart for St Martinville Tour.
12:00 noon Lunch on your own.
2:00 pm Leave for Abbeville RV Park

Directions to all tours:

St. Martinville Tour:

When leaving campground, turn right on Hwy 353 to Hwy 31.
Turn right(east) on Hwy 31
Turn left on Bridge St (before church) go one block and turn right to the Evangeline Oak.
Park on either side of the Blvd. close to the Oak Tree at the end of the Blvd. and in legal zones. .

Catfish Heaven Campground to Avery Island

Leaving campground, turn right on Hwy 353 for 5.9 miles,
Turn right on Hwy 31 for 9.7 miles
Turn right continuing on Hwy 31 (Chestnut St.) to St. Peter St.
Turn left on St. Peter Street to Center St. (Hwy. 14)
Stay on Hwy 14 to Hwy329 (Turn left (south) just before a set of tracks)
At Hwy 329 turn left (south) onto Hwy 329 to Avery Island

Don't cross RR tracks

Catfish Heaven Campground to "Shadows On The Teche":

When leaving campground, turn right on Hwy 353 for 5.9 miles,
Turn right on Hwy 31 for 9.7 miles
Turn right continuing on Hwy 31 (Chestnut St.) to St. Peter St.
Turn left on St. Peter Street to Center St. (Hwy. 14)
Turn left on Center St. to Main St.
Turn left on Main and "Shadows On The Teche"

Shadows On The Teche to Konriko Rice Mill

Exit rear of parking lot, go left onto Charles St. Stay on Charles St to Ann St.
At Ann St. Turn right (east) on to Ann St. Cross over the railroad tracks.
Konriko on the left- 301 Ann St.

From the parking lot to Petroleum Helicopters, Inc.:

Leaving the down town parking lot turn Left (west)
Go one block to the light and turn left to Hwy182
Turn left (south) onto Hwy 182.
At Hwy 14 turn right (south) onto Hwy 14
Stay on Hwy 14 to Hwy 90
At Hwy 90 turn right (north) onto Hwy 90
At Kaliste Saloom Rd Sign turn Left (east)
Petroleum Helicopters is to the right. (PHI sign is yellow)
Don't pass up the Air Port.

Catfish Heaven Campground to Mulate's Restaurant in Breaux Bridge:

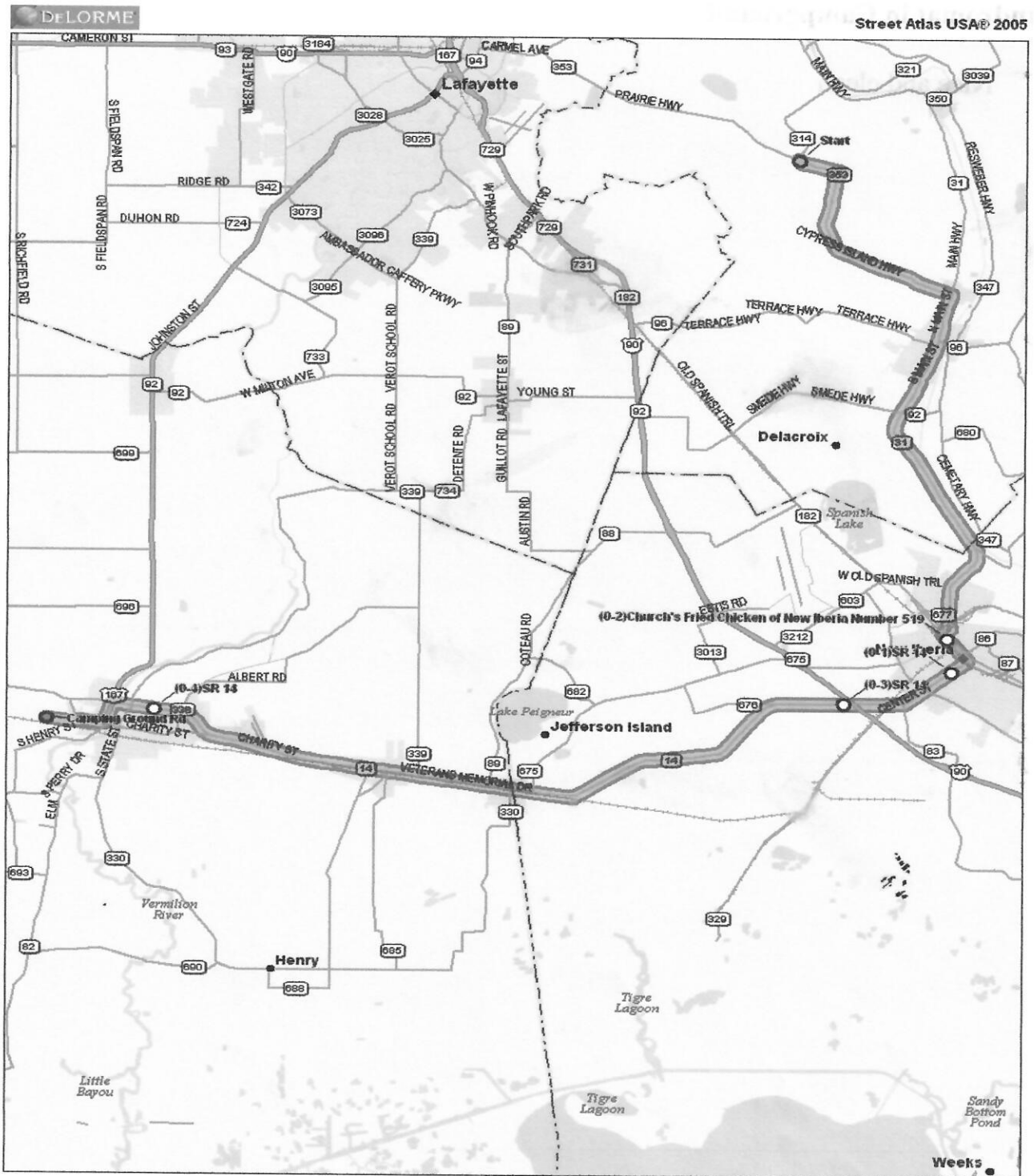
When leaving campground, turn left on Hwy 353 (at the curve do not take 314)
Stay on 353 to Hwy. 94.
Turn right on Hwy. 94.
Stay Hwy 94 for about 6 mile to Mulate's
Mulate's is on the right

Laundromat in Campground

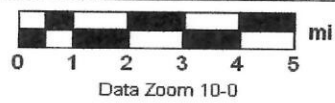
Nice and clean



Catfish Heaven to Abbeville



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Catfish Heaven to Abbeville RV Park, 40 miles
1501 W Port St (Business 14)
Abbeville, La. 70510 PH 337-898-4042

Wednesday 4th Abbeville RV Park Do not arrive before 2:00 pm

Leaving campground, turn right on Hwy 353.
Stay on Hwy 353 to Hwy 31 at Hwy 31 turn right onto Hwy 31.
Continuing on Hwy 31 to St. Peter St. (Hwy 128 ¹⁸²)
Turn left on St. Peter Street Hwy ¹²⁸ to Center St. (Hwy. 14)
At Center St (Hwy 14) turn right onto Hwy 14
Stay on Hwy 14 to Abbeville.
In Abbeville stay on Hwy14 bypass to Hwy167.
(Do not take Business route through town) .
(This way you have bypassed all the Business area in town).
At Hwy 167 turn left. Stay on Hwy 167 to Hwy 14 Business.
At Hwy 14 Business turn right on to W. Port St which is Business Hwy 14.
After turning right onto Business Hwy 14 look for campground signs on left.

Wednesday 4th

5:00 pm Leave for Richard's Restaurant (Dutch Treat).

Thursday 5th Abbeville RV Park

8:00 am Tour of Abbeville and reception at city hall with coffee, beignets.
11:00 am Shopping Downtown
12:30 pm Leave for Shucks Restaurant
1:00 pm Lunch at Shucks (Dutch Treat)
2:30 pm Leave for Acadian village
5:30 pm ? Happy Hour. Free evening

Friday 6th Abbeville RV Park

8:30 am Tour Crawfish Farm
12:00 noon Lunch in Kaplan at the D White House (Kitty Treat)
1:00 pm Drivers Meeting
2:00 pm Leave for Cajun Campground in Eunice

Directions to all tours:

Tour of Abbeville

Leave Abbeville RV Park turn right on Hwy 14 Business.
Go to city square and go around and park in the back on N. Jefferson St.
Go to city hall for the tour.

Shucks Restaurant:

On West Port St at the intersection of Hwy 14 and Hwy 167.

Crawfish Farm tour

Leave Abbeville RV Park turn left on Hwy 14 Business to Hwy 13 in Kaplan. At Hwy 13 turn right for about 10 miles. The farm is on the right. There is a cream colored metal building before the house, also a white picket fence near the house.

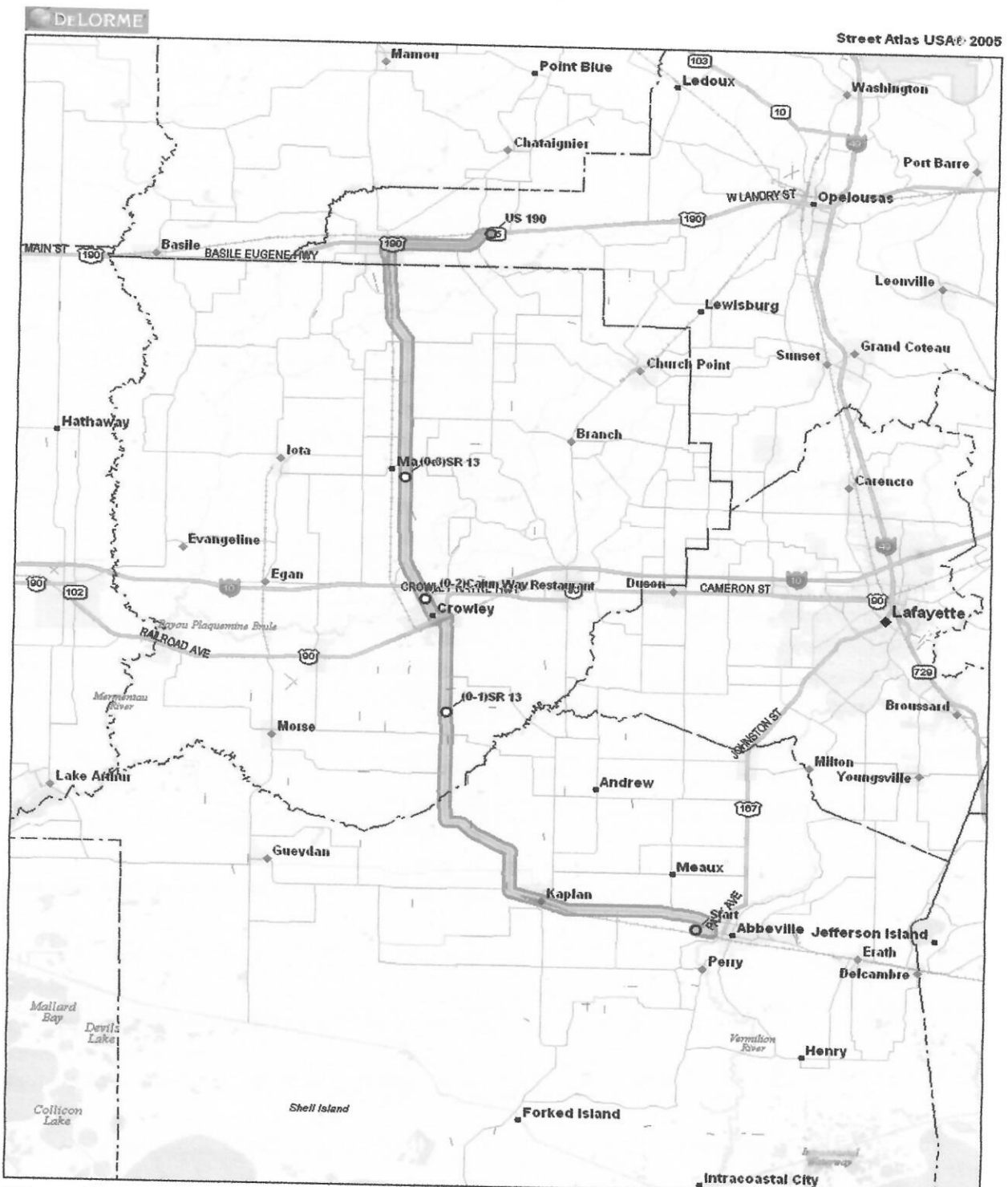
Crawfish Farm to D White House

? Go south on Hwy 13 to Hwy 14. At Hwy 14 turn left to Church Street turn left at Church St and go to 12th St. At 12th street turn right for one block to Irving Street. At Irving Street turn left to David Road. At David Road turn left onto David Road. The D White House is on the right side of the road. Use second gate for entrance.

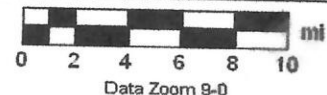
Abbeville To D. White House

Leave Abbeville RV Park turn left on Hwy 14 Business to Kaplan. Turn right on Church Street and go to 12th St. At 12th street go one block to Irving Street. At Irving Street turn left to David Road. At David Road turn left onto David Road. The D White House is on the right side of the road. Use second gate for entrance

Abbeville To Cajun Campground



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Abbeville RV Park: to Cajun Campground 48 Miles
5552 Hwy 190 East
Eunice, La 70535 337-457-5753

Friday 6th Cajun Campground Do not arrive before 2:00 pm

Leaving turn left (west) onto Hwy 14 Business to Hwy 13 ..
At Hwy 13 turn right (north) onto Hwy 13 to Hwy 90 and Hwy 13
At Hwy 90 & 13 turn left (west) for a short distant to Hwy 13 North.
At Hwy 13 turn right (north) to Hwy 190
At Hwy 190 turn right (east) to Cajun Campground about 6 or 7 miles on the right side of Hwy 190.

5:00 pm Leave for D.I.'s Cajun Restaurant

Note

Dine at one of our fine local restaurants or for a little music with your food visit DI's

Cajun Restaurant and Dance Hall about 13 miles southwest of Eunice (D. I.'s is a well know Cajun food restaurant situated in the "middle of nowhere" specializing in crawfish supplied by the crawfish ponds that surround the restaurant. A homey family restaurant full of locals dancing to live music (except Thursdays) and stuffing themselves with crawfish and catfish. Some items are not fried, but most are -- or they're stuffed or topped with a sauce -- and it's all good.

Saturday 7th Cajun Campground

8:30 am Group # 1- 1 to 13 leave for Savoy's French Accordion Maker and Music
8:30 am Group # 2- 14 to 26 leave for Fred's Lounge
10:00 am Group # 1-1 to 13 leave for Fred's Lounge
10:00 am Group # 2-14 to 26 leave for Savoy's French Accordion Maker and Music
11:30 am Group # 1&2-1 to 13 and 14 to 26 leave for Nick's Restaurant.
12:30 pm Lunch at Nick's Restaurant (Kitty Treat)
1:00 pm Welcome to the city by the Mayor
2:00 pm Prairie Acadian Cultural Center. Film on Exile of Acadians
3:00 pm French Music Demonstration
4:00 pm Tasting Acadian food.
~~6:00 pm~~ Liberty Theater. We will have your tickets at the door at 5:30 pm. (A one hour show)
5:30 -

Directions to all tours:

Going to D. I. Restaurant:

On Hwy 190 go 5 miles west of Eunice, turn South (left) on Hwy 97, Restaurant 8 miles on right

Going to Fred's in Mamou:

Leaving campground turn right and then turn left on to Hwy 190. Go over a set of tracks and turn right onto Hwy 13 (north). Continue on Hwy. 13 north for 10 miles to Hwy. 104. Turn right on Hwy. 104. Go a short distance to 6th St. (Cajun Grocery Store to the right). Turn left on 6th St (6th St is also the continuation of Hwy. 104). Go about 5 or 6 blocks. Fred's is on the right.

Going to Savoy's in Eunice:

Leaving campground turn right and then turn left on to Hwy 190. travel 3.4 miles to Savoy's Music Store on the right of Hwy 190.

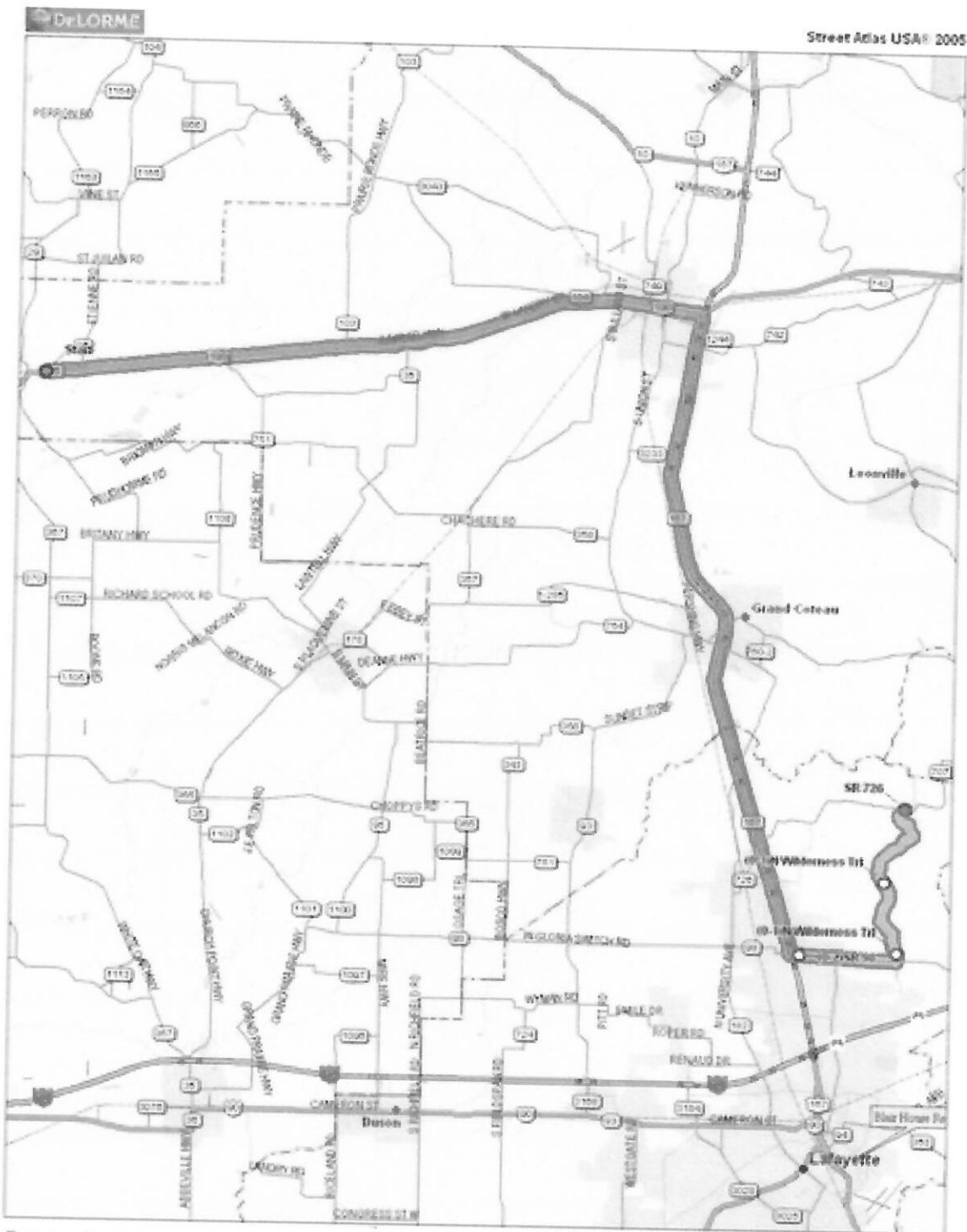
Nick's Restaurant:

From the junction of Hwy. 13 and Hwy. 190 go south on Hwy. 13 and turn right on Park Street. Go one block and park together in parking lot across the street from the Liberty Theater. We will walk to restaurant from the parking lot. It is a very short distance.

Nick's Restaurant to Cultural Center:

Walk back to the parking lot on Park St . The Cultural Center and the Liberty Theater are across the street, on the corner.

Cajun To Bayou Wilderness



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Data Zoom 10.0

Cajun Campground to Bayou Wilderness RV Campground Resort, 36 miles
201 St Clair Road
Carencro, LA. 70520 Ph 337-896-0598

Sunday 8th Bayou Wilderness RV Campground Do not arrive before 2:00 pm

Leaving Cajun Campground turn right on Hwy190 to I-49.
At I-49 turn right to Hwy 98 (also called Gloria Switch Road).
At Hwy 98 turn left onto Hwy 98.
Go on Gloria Switch Road (Hwy 98) for 2.3 miles to North Wilderness Trail.
Look for Bayou Wilderness RV Campground signs .
Turn left on North Wilderness Road Trail (immediately after you cross a bridge).
Go 0.7 miles to Bayou Wilderness RV Resort.

9:00 am	Church on your own.
12:00 noon	Lunch on your own.
1:00pm	Depart for Bayou Wilderness in Carencro.
4:30 pm	Scavenger Hunt.
5:00 pm	Social Hour.
6:00 pm	Pizza & Wine Party. .

Monday 9th Bayou Wilderness RV Campground

7:30 am	Continental breakfast by campground Owners.
9:00 am	Depart for the candy maker.
10:00 am	St John Cathedral and St John Oak.
12:00 noon	Lunch on your own.
5:00 pm	Social time and Picture Taking at Lafayette Restaurant.
6:00 pm	Banquet at Lafayette Restaurant.

Lafayette's Restaurant
1025 Kaliste Saloom Rd
Lafayette, LA. 70508

Phone 337-216-9024

Directions to all tours:

Bayou Wilderness RV Resort to the Candy makers Leave Bayou Wilderness campground, Go South on N Wilderness Trail, right on Gloria Switch Rd. for 4 miles (going under 1-49) to Hwy. 182 .Turn Right (north) onto N. University and go to the 3823 hundred block of N University . Candy Maker on the Left

Bayou Wilderness RV Resort to St John Cathedral: South on N Wilderness Trail, right on Gloria Switch Rd. for 4 miles (going under 1-49) to Hwy 182 (University). Turn left on Hwy. 182 for 5.4 miles to Versailles Blvd. (High School building to the right). Turn left on Versailles Blvd. Travel for 2 blocks to St. John Street, turn right. Church is two blocks down on the right.

Bayou Wilderness RV Resort to Lafayette Restaurant. Go out of the campground to N Wilderness Trail. At Gloria Switch Rd. turn right onto Gloria Switch Rd. to I-49. Turn left onto I-49. After you cross I-10, I-49 becomes Hwy 90. Stay on 90 to Kaliste Saloom Rd. Turn right onto Kaliste Saloom Rd. You will cross W Pinhook Dr. The Lafayette Restaurant is on the left just past John Wayne Dr. **1025 Kaliste Saloom Rd**

END

As your Caravan Leaders: We would like to thank you for enlightening our lives by letting us be in your life. May all your roads lead to a happy ending and your heart be filled with happiness every step of the way!

Rick & Marilyn

This Journal of the Louisiana Cajun Heritage Caravan has some highlighted places, tours and things we did. Also there are My Note's on the pages for you to fill in the things you like to remember. It will be nice to look back at the things that you saw and did.

LOUISIANA CAJUN HERITAGE CARAVAN -JOURNAL

Day 1

Frenchman's Wilderness Campground: Was the first day of the caravan. It's a perfect day, sunny and in the 60's and I love looking across the expanse of green grass studded with tall old trees, the branches still bare, except for occasional clumps of mistletoe. A pair of hawks is raising a nest full of babies in one of them.

Everyone gets settled and mid-afternoon we all meet in the pavilion for orientation, we introduced ourselves, received our Driver's Manuals, socialized and later enjoyed a catered meal of gumbo, potato salad and an array of tempting desserts. We learned some Louisiana History before starting out on our 2 week journey across Cajun Country. As darkness fell a number of groups gathered for some rousing games of Joker.



(My Note's)

Day 2

We headed for Baton Rouge in our comfortable tour bus. Nearly 300 yrs. ago, Baton Rouge was named by Iberville who led an expedition along the Miss. River. He found a pole stained with animal blood which was a dividing line between 2 Indian tribes. Because of this "Red Stick", Iberville christened the area "Baton Rouge".

Our first stop was the Governor's Mansion, built in 1962 and still being used by the present governor, Kathleen Blanco. The rotunda floor features the state seal beautifully done in hand cut marble. Murals in the foyer depict the flora and fauna of Louisiana.

Next we toured the tallest state capitol building in the nation - 450 ft. tall, with 34 stories and 49 steps, one for each state as it joined the union, with Alaska and Hawaii on the top step. The 27th floor offers panoramic views of the city and the mighty Mississippi River.

We had a buffet lunch at the Casino

We then visited the Louisiana State Museum
"Wow!"

Back at the campground, we had our first
"Crawfish Clutch" which is the Cajun
version of a
GAM - Get Acquainted Meeting, or simply -
a "Happy Hour". We ended the evening by
having dinner together at a local restaurant

(My Note's)



Day 3

Finds us headed to Baton Rouge again for Coffee and Beignets at the Coffee Call. The Cajun donuts couldn't have been fresher and we reboarded the bus covered with powdered sugar

Our next stop of the day was the LSU Rural Life Museum. It showed the lifestyles of the 18th and 19th century Louisiana people. It contains 25 buildings spread over 5 acre

On to lunch at the Walk On Restaurant on the LSU state college grounds.

Final stop was the Old State Capitol with its stained glass windows, spiral staircase of iron and brass and cypress wood throughout. We saw a film on the La. Purchase. The complex set of events seems to be that France was broke and had to sell, didn't want England to get the land, sold it to the US for 15 million, which the US did not have, so the US borrowed it from England.

We ended the evening with a crawfish clutch, a driver's meeting and a La. History Lesson.

(My Note's)



On day 4

We traveled through the small towns and narrow roads, the trip took 3 hours, but “Who Cares?” We slowly traveled through the Cajun countryside on the “Old Spanish Trail” and marveled at the stately trees on both sides of the road, and cemeteries that resembled gardens, resplendent with flowers honoring departed kinfolk. And of course were “stack Trains,” (just missed one of those) and last but not least, we became fairly familiar with the name “Teche”. Now, we don’t know what “Teche” means, but the individual must be Louisiana’s Donald Trump!”. In 84 miles, the following were seen: “Teche Pharmacy,” “Teche Hospital,” “Teche Gas Stations,” “Teche Medical Insurance,” “Teche French Bread Bakery,” “Teche Auto Parts,” and finally, believe it or not, the “Teche Theater”. Finally, arriving in Morgan City around 12:30 pm we both settled in and had a “Teche Bologna & Cheese Sandwich!”. We are staying at Lake End Campground on the shores of Lake Palourde. We had a tour of the Carillon Tower bells at Brownell Memorial Park. We listened to bells ringing while we walked on a narrow path through the swamp, surrounded by cypress trees covered with Spanish moss.

(My Note’s)



On day 5,

Our caravan was divided into 3 groups today to go on the swamp tour and visit the oil drilling rig. Capt. Jack's Swamp Tour up the Atchafalaya River showed us various birds, animals and the Cajun dwellings, both floating and on pilings. We were told about the water level, jig fishing, alligator hibernation, cypress trees and other swamp lore. This area claims the first filming of the Tarzan movies.

We climbed the many steps of the Mr. Charlie Oil Drilling Platform. The rig was the first submersible drilling rig used offshore and is now a training facility and museum. We were given an overview of the life and work on an offshore oil drilling platform.

(My Note's)



On Day 6

Finds us at Catfish Heaven Campground in St. Martinville, the Birthplace of Acadiana.

At Martin's Lake Bird Sanctuary we saw many egrets and a large number of "roseate spoonbills" displaying their wide, pink wings. Standing guard under the trees, waiting for baby birds to fall out of the nests, the alligators were ready.

(My Note's)



On Day 7

Takes us to Avery Island, home of "Tabasco" Pepper Sauce for over 125 years. The island is a salt dome where salt is still actively mined. The dynamiting takes place at night and the salt is removed during day shifts. We toured the Jungle Gardens and had a picnic lunch on the grounds.

We ended the evening with a steak cookout at the campground. Afterwards we had a seminar on the "Sportsman's Paradise".

(My Notes)



On Day 8

We departed for Shadows on the Teche - an antebellum home built in 1834. 40 trunks, filled with 17,000 letters, pictures and receipts, documented 4 generations of one family and how they lived 170 years ago. The home sits on 2-1/2 acres of gardens with century old live oaks.

Our next stop was Konriko, the oldest rice mill in America where we saw a film on Cajun Culture, watched rice being packaged and had a taste of one of the rice products they sell.

After lunch we went to Petroleum Helicopters, Inc. where helicopters are taken apart and then restored to like new condition. They own and operate a fleet of 297 helicopters and provide helicopter support to a majority of the major oil and gas producers.

We ended the evening at Mulates, the original Cajun Restaurant specializing in good food and live Cajun music and dancing. Many of our caravaners enjoyed themselves on the dance floor.

(My Notes)



On Day 9,

We saw the Evangeline Oak, the most photographed tree in the world; visited St. Martin de Tours Catholic Church which is the mother church of the Acadians and was established in 1765; saw Evangeline's statue; saw the 12x30' mural at the Acadian Memorial and visited the Cultural Heritage Center. In the afternoon we left for Abbeville RV Park and ended the day with a big "Happy Hour".



(My Note's)

On Day 10

Our day started at the mayor's office where we were given a breakfast of beignets, pain perdu (French Toast), biscuits & Steen's cane syrup, orange juice and coffee. Our guides, in their red

caps and outfits, showed us the Vermilion Parish Courthouse, Magdalene Square with its statue of Pere Megret who donated the land to be used only as a park and other city buildings. We could then shop until it was time to leave for lunch at Shucks Restaurant. Most of us watched the oysters being shucked and then ate our share; raw, stewed, broiled and fried.



With full tummies, we left for the Acadian Village which is a replica of an 1800 village, complete with many separate buildings and a chapel

(My Note's)

(e'ato' (M)

On Day 11,

We visited a crawfish farm and were taken in Mr. Matthews wheel-driven crawfish retrieval rig (4 or 5 at a time) where he single-handedly picked up traps, emptied them of crawfish, rebaited them with fish and replaced them in the water. This whole operation was carried on without stopping the boat.

We had lunch in Kaplan at the D White House where Lena & Kearney Saltzman, La. Acadiana Unit members, served us delicious crawfish fettuccine. In the afternoon, we left for the Cajun Campground in Eunice, La.

(My Note's)



On Day 12

We split into 2 groups. The first group visited Savoy's French Accordion Maker and attended the music jam session in which anyone with a musical instrument can join in. Marc Savoy showed us how he makes the accordions and sells them around the world for up to \$1,700 each, depending on the wood used. It takes about 3 months to complete one accordion.

The second group went to Fred's Lounge in Mamou. A local French radio program is broadcast every Saturday morning from the lounge. The owner of the lounge is the widow of Fred and she sings with the band and circulates around the room passing out pieces of sausage called "boudin" and sampling Peppermint Schnapps.

Lunch was at Nick's Restaurant in downtown Eunice. A city representative gave us certificates as Honorary Cajun Citizens of Eunice. In the afternoon we went to the Prairie Acadian Culture Center where we saw a film about the Exile of the Acadians from Nova Scotia. There was a French Music demonstration and then a cooking demonstration where we were given samples of what had been cooked earlier. At 6:00 P.M. we went to the Liberty Theater for a Cajun and Zydeco musical show. After a very busy day, we returned to our campground around 8 P.M.

(My Note's)



FRED'S LOUNGE
IN MEMORY OF
ALFRED "FRED" TATE
1914 - 1992
11-20-16 Fred purchased
Tate's Bar, now known as
Famous "Fred's Lounge,"
Mamou, LA. In 1960 Courir
de Mardi Gras was revived at
Fred's Lounge. June, 1962
the late Revon Reed began
remote radio program at Fred's
Lounge which is still alive
today (KVPI 1050AM) Radio
station. French Renaissance
(Cajun Music, Language and
Culture) after WWII originated
at Fred's Lounge.

We moved to our final campground, Bayou Wilderness RV Campground Resort in Carencro, La. In the afternoon we all participated in a scavenger hunt. We had a social hour at 5:00 P.M. and then at 6:00 P.M. we had a Pizza and Wine Party.

(My Notes)

The tour began at the Cathedral oak on the grounds. The tree is more than 450 years old and is the 3rd oldest live oak in Louisiana. It is 125 ft tall with a trunk diameter of 8 1/2 ft. The large limbs, covered with resurrection fern, had to be supported by screw jack braces in several places. It was estimated that the acorn, from which the tree grew, was planted not long after Columbus discovered America.

We next visited the cemetery, which dates back to 1820, and the museum where we saw a display of authentically dressed 18th Century figures fashioned by Neapolitan craftsmen and purchased over a 30 year period by Frank Hamby and Jeffrey Green.

The evening ended with our final banquet at Lafayette's Restaurant where canvas plaques were given out.

From Rick and Marilyn -- We would like to thank you for enlightening our lives by letting us be in your life. May all your roads lead to a happy ending and your heart be filled with happiness every step of the way!

(My Notes)

On Day 14

Started with a continental breakfast at the campground. We then carpoled to Lafayette for a tour of the Cathedral of St. John. The cathedral ceiling is 53 ft. high and has a seating capacity of 700. During the 1985 renovation a new organ, built in Quebec, was installed. It has a total of 3038 pipes, ranging from 16 ft. down to 1/8 inch in length.

The tour began at the Cathedral oak on the grounds. The tree is more than 450 years old and is the 3rd oldest live oak in Louisiana. It is 125 ft. tall with a trunk diameter of 8.5 ft. The huge limbs, covered with resurrection fern, had to be supported by screw jack braces in several places. It was estimated that the acorn, from which the tree grew, was planted not long after Columbus discovered America.

We next visited the cemetery, which dates back to 1820, and the museum where we saw a display of authentically dressed 18th Century figures fashioned by Neapolitan craftsmen and purchased over a 30 year period by Frank Hanley and Jeffery Gueno.

The evening ended with our final banquet at Lafayette's Restaurant where caravan plaques were given out.

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(My Notes)