

Liste des Mulâtres et Nègres libres du Poste des Opéloussas (Opélousas Post Census of Free Mulâtres and Nègres)

Found at the website of Louisiana Historic & Cultural Vistas. Please click the link below.

<http://www.mylhcv.com/1792-opelousas-census-free-people-color/>

[6] **Jean-Baptiste Guillory**, mulâtre esclave, was born circa 1766, possibly at Mobile, to Jean Joseph Grégoire Guillory of Mobile and Marguerite “Margarita,” his négresse esclave. On 31 December 1770, Grégoire Guillory petitioned for the freedom of Margarita, negra, and her two children (probably Joseph and Jean-Baptiste, who were toddlers at the time). Hall’s database makes the following note: “Was not approved in N.O.-already passed on Dec 31 1770. See Guillory inventory in Opelousas in 1768. There was no date. (See LHC [Louisiana Historical Quarterly] court case also in LHQ 15, p. 545, in 1782, freedom granted in 1782”): Orleans Parish (New Orleans), Notarial Acts, Almonaster y Roxas, #203; Hall, Afro-Louisiana, lines 181-83. Jean-Baptiste Guillory, mulâtre libre, married 3 November 1789 Catherine-Victoire Donato, quarteronne libre, daughter of Donato Bello of the Kingdom of Naples and Marie-Jeanne Taillefer, quarteronne libre of New Orleans. Catherine-Victoire is a full sibling of Martin Donato-Bello above: Louisiana State University at Eunice, Opelousas, 1789.

[7] **Joseph Guillory**, mulâtre esclave, was born circa. 1764, possibly at Mobile, to Jean Joseph Grégoire Guillory of Mobile and Marguerite “Margarita,” his négresse esclave. See notes above on their emancipation. Joseph Guillory, mulâtre libre, fathered children with Marie de la Vigne, mulâtresse libre. He married 19 April 1803 Louise Cheval-Meuillon, mulâtresse libre, daughter of Jean-Baptiste Cheval, also known as Baptiste Meuillon, mulâtre libre – husband of Céleste Susanne Donato, quarteronne libre, full sister of Martin Donato-Bello above – and of Marie Angélique, négresse libre, also known as Angélique Meuillon and Angélique Villeré: St. Landry Catholic Church, mariages, vol. 1, p. 164. Joseph’s succession is dated 3 July 1854: St. Landry Court House, Clerk of Court’s Office, successions, no. 1840. Additional information on Louise’s parents: Jean-Baptiste Cheval, also known as Bautista, Baptiste Meuillon and Baptiste Cheval, mulâtre esclave, was born circa 1760 in Saint-Charles Parish on the German Coast near New Orleans to François Cheval and Marianne Meuillon, négresse esclave, also known as María Juana. On 21 February 1777, in New Orleans, Louis-Auguste Meuillon [sic] filed notice of intent to free two slaves, a mother and son: María Juana, age 40, negra and Juan Bautista, age 12, mulato, slaves Meuillon had inherited from his deceased father, Antoine Meuillon, “for serving us with love and loyalty consistently”: Orleans Parish, Notarial Archives, Garic, vol. 8, no. 67). Baptiste married Céleste Susanne Donatto at the Opélousas Post on 6 February 1796. Groom’s assets: (1) 4 slaves (2) 1,000 piastres cash in New Orleans in hands of Mister Vivant [his sister Louison’s concubine], (3) act of private sell on a farm where he now resides (4) 12 silver place settings (5) 2 silver soup spoons (6) 2 full-sized and fully furnished beds (7) 3 riding horses (8) various utensils and movables. Bride’s assets: (1) 80 horned farm animals marked CF (2) 20 horses (3) 1 tract of land measuring 12 arpents by 60 arpents at

Bois de Mallet [sic] (4) 60 hard piastres in cash (5) various movables (6) full-size bed with all furnishings (7) jewelry (8) 1 armoire. Groom adds 400 dollars cash because of his good and sincere love. Witnesses: Mn [Martin] Duralde, commandant of the Opélousas Post, Mn Dto [Martin Donato] Bello, A Dubroqua, Gorge Bollard [sic], J. Deborde, Paillet, J.B. Fonténot. Signed by Baptiste Meuillon and Céleste Donato: Louisiana State Archives and Records, Opelousas, 1796, no. 178. The couple celebrated a Catholic marriage on 8 Feb 1796: St. Landry Catholic Church, mariages, vol. 1, p. 43. Baptiste fathered Louise with Marie Angélique, also known as Angélica, Angélique Meuillon, Angélique Villeré, négresse libre, possibly a daughter of Jacques Villeré, nègre libre. Baptiste married 6 February 1796 Céleste Susanne Donato, quarteronne libre, daughter of Donato Bello of the Kingdom of Naples, and Marie-Jeanne Taillefer, quarteronne or mulâtresse libre of New Orleans: St. Landry Catholic Church, mariages, vol. 1, p. 43. On 2 February 1787, at St. Charles on the German Coast, Louis-Auguste Meuillon purchased from the estate of Jacques Philippe de Villeré-de la Chaise, later governor of Louisiana, a 15-year-old slave girl named Angélique, “négresse créole”: St. Charles Parish Court House (Edgar, La.), Clerk of Court’s Office, estates, no. 467, conveyances, no. 471. On 05 March 1792 at the St. Charles Post on the German Coast, Jacques Villeré, nègre libre, purchased his female daughter, Angélique – age 25, négresse – from Louis-Auguste [sic] Meuillon for 1,225 piastres: St. Charles Parish Court House, Clerk of Court’s Office, conveyances, no. 1107. Baptiste Meuillon was a great-uncle of Creole inventor, Norbert Rillieux, whose mother Constance “Constanza” Vivant, was a daughter of Baptiste’s sister, Louise “Louison” Cheval, and her concubine, Jean-Charles “Juan Carlos” Vivant of France

Source: Liste des Mulâtres et Nègres libres du Poste des Opéloussas, Papeles Procedentes de Cuba, Archivo general de Indias, 1792, legajo 206