

PIERRE GABRIEL WARTELLE FAMILY PAPERS
Mss. 5025

Inventory

Compiled by
Luana Henderson

Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections
Special Collections, Hill Memorial Library
Louisiana State University Libraries
Baton Rouge, Louisiana State University

2010

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SUMMARY

Size	2 linear ft.; 10 v.
Geographic Locations	New Orleans, La.; St. Landry Parish, La.; New York, N.Y., Paris, France.
Inclusive Dates	1809-1976.
Bulk Dates	1818-1930.
Languages	English, French.
Summary	Collection consists of legal documents, account books, correspondence, printed material and personal papers that pertain to the business interests, plantation operations, and history of the Wartelle Family and Moundville Plantation.
Access Restrictions	No restriction on access.
Reproduction Note	May be reproduced.
Copyright	For those materials not in the public domain, copyright is retained by the descendants of the creators in accordance with U.S. Copyright law.
Related Collections	Pierre Gabriel Wartelle Account Book, Mss. 440; Ferdinand M. Wartelle Ledger, Mss. 2650.
Citation	Pierre Gabriel Wartelle Family Papers, Mss. 5025, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, La.
Stack Locations	UU:322-323, OS:W, O:62

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

Pierre Gabriel Wartelle was born the son of a wealthy merchant in Brie, France, in 1787. He received his education at the Fontainebleau Military School, and in 1802, he enlisted as an officer in the French army. He served for thirteen years, attaining the rank of captain. During that time, he participated in the Napoleonic Wars in Poland, Austria, Germany and Russia. Wartelle subsequently immigrated to New Orleans, La., where he began a series of commercial ventures and acquired real estate holdings in the business district of the city. In 1820, he settled in St. Landry Parish, La., as a cotton and sugarcane planter. He also established general stores in Opelousas, Ville Platte and Lake Charles. He married Louisa King, daughter of Judge George King, in 1827. After their marriage, they acquired a large plantation at Moundville, La., in St. Landry Parish. The couple had six children who survived into adulthood, George King, Jean Gabriel, Annette, Felix, Amelia and Ferdinand. His youngest son, Ferdinand, married Marie Anne Lastrapes, granddaughter of General Antoine Garrigues de Flaueac. Pierre Wartelle died June 25, 1865. After his death, Moundville continued as a working plantation, but eventually his heirs were forced to sell the New Orleans properties in order to maintain the plantation.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Pierre Gabriel Wartelle and family papers provide a history of the family's business ventures in land and agriculture throughout the 19th century and the first half of the 20th. Correspondence, legal documents, account books, financial papers, printed material and personal papers make up this collection. The larger part is comprised of legal documents that reflect land transfers and property ownership in New Orleans and St. Landry Parish. Account books and financial papers relate to the production of cotton at Moundville Plantation. Printed material relates to agriculture in general. Letters are primarily business in nature; however, some do refer to family matters. Personal papers include documents and the genealogies of the Wartelle and the related Lastrapes and King families.

LIST OF SERIES

Series I. Business and Legal Records, 1816-1956, undated.

Series II. Correspondence, 1836-1952, undated.

Series III. Personal Papers, 1809-1953, undated.

Series IV. Printed Material, 1909-1976, undated.

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

Series I. Business and Legal Records, 1816-1956, undated.

Records reflect the business interests of the Wartelle family in New Orleans and St. Landry Parish, La. Land conveyances and papers concerning land ownership make up the majority of antebellum and post-Civil War records. They include the sale of a New Orleans lot by Antoine Jonan, a free man of color (Feb. 20, 1832, in French) and land in St. Landry Parish by Joseph Collins, also a free man of color. Of particular interest are the several slave transactions found in this series (1825-1865). They contain the first names and some physical description of the slaves. This group also contains plans for the construction of buildings on Gravier St. (ca. 1843) and at the corner of Rue Julia and Rue du Cirque [South Rampart St.] (ca. 1842 -ca. 1852, some items in French). A plat shows a lot at the corner of Rue de France and Rue Moreau [Chartres St.] near Rue Casa Calvo [Royal St.] (ca. 1845, in French). Another plat depicts a block of lots in the "faubourg Washington" area (undated, in French). Papers include a partnership agreement between George King and Pierre Wartelle requiring both men to contribute an equal number of slaves for cultivating sugarcane (May 13, 1829). Other papers attest to Wartelle's desire to become a citizen and his allegiance to the United States (July 9, 1832). Additionally, there is an inventory of Wartelle's property, goods and slaves (May 26, 1845, in French). Wills and estate papers include those of Pierre Wartelle (Jan. 1852, 1874-1879, some items in French) and his brother, Armand Auguste Wartelle (Feb. 24, 1848, ca. 1849, in French). Financial papers consist of receipts, promissory notes and statements. Civil War receipts show the sale of corn to the Confederate States of America and the purchase of CSA stock certificates (1863-1864).

Records include daybooks and account books relating to plantation operations and crop production (1929-1956). They also contain cotton statements, delivery receipts, promissory notes, and laborers' time books. Other material includes a speech on the farm economy given to farmers of Tensas Parish (March 17, 1937). Also present are minutes of the first meeting of the St. Landry FMA County committee (July 31, 1953). In addition, this series contains an appeal heard by the Supreme Court of Louisiana regarding a government claim of the eminent domain along Bayou Cocodrie (1953).

Series II. Correspondence, 1836-1952, undated.

Business letters relate to the sale of property and to general agriculture. Among the correspondents is Auguste Wartelle, who writes on both business and family matters. He writes from France to Pierre that his sons are doing well in their studies, and he adds that he spends time at the Paris stock exchange (Oct. 30, 1845). Family letters also discuss possible heirship to property in Lower Manhattan, N. Y. (Feb. 18, 1925) and family lineage.

Series III. Personal Papers, 1809-1950, undated.

This series consists of family documents and genealogies of the Wartelle and related Lastrapes and King Families. They include documents (1809-1821, 1857) related to Pierre Wartelle's military service in Napoleon's army, including his commission, service record, and receipt of the Legion of Honor and St. Helena Medal. In addition, there are baptism certificates for Pierre Gabriel and Jean Gabriel Wartelle (Sept. 11, 1834, in French), and a copy of Armand Auguste Wartelle's birth certificate (Sept. 1834, in French) issued by the U. S. Consulate in Paris. Short biographical sketches of Pierre Wartelle (undated) and General Gariques de Flaujac, 1780-1845 (Sept. 29, 1838) are also present. A small notebook contains literary excerpts (undated), and scrapbook pages have newspaper clippings on meal preparation (1913, undated). Clippings are pasted onto account book pages dated 1826-1829. Of note is a photograph showing the front door of Moundville Plantation house (undated). There are also photocopies of photographs showing unidentified family members (undated).

Series IV. Printed Material, 1909-1976, undated.

Agriculture bulletins disseminated by the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture and the LSU Agriculture Extension comprise the largest part of this series. They relate to farm operations, pest control, care of livestock and crop production. A St. Landry Parish report gives statistics as to why tenant farmers and sharecroppers do not produce certain farm products (undated). In its report, the Dept. of Agriculture addresses the issues related to family farms and the importance in maintaining them. A biographical sketch on Pierre Wartelle published in the *Atakapas Gazette* gives a history of Moundville Plantation and the Wartelle family (1976). Of note is a legal brief presented to the Supreme Court of Louisiana regarding a government claim of the eminent domain along Bayou Cocodrie (ca. 1953). Printed material also includes advertisements, catalogs and manuals for farm equipment. **Note: See appendix A for list of published items.**

INDEX TERMS

Terms	Series
Agricultural laborers--Louisiana.	I, IV
Cotton growing--Louisiana--Saint Landry Parish.	I, IV
Cotton trade--Louisiana.	I, IV
Eminent domain--Louisiana--Saint Landry Parish.	I, IV
Free African Americans--Louisiana--New Orleans.	I
Free African Americans--Louisiana--Saint Landry Parish.	I
Inheritance and succession.	I, II
King family.	III
Land titles--Registration and transfer--New Orleans (La.).	I
Land titles--Registration and transfer--Saint Landry Parish.	I, II
Lastrapes family.	III
Livestock--Louisiana--Saint Landry Parish.	IV
Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station.	IV
New Orleans (La.)--Buildings, structures, etc.	I
New Orleans (La.)--History--19 th century.	I
Plantation owners--Louisiana--Saint Landry Parish.	I
Saint Landry Parish (La.)--History--19 th century.	I
Saint Landry Parish (La.)--History--20 th century.	I
Saint Landry Parish (La.)--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.	I
Slaveholders--Louisiana--New Orleans.	I, II
Slaveholders--Louisiana--Saint Landry Parish.	I, IV
Slaves--Louisiana.	I, IV
Sugar plantations--Louisiana--Saint Landry Parish.	I, IV
Sugar trade-- Louisiana.	I, IV
Tenant farmers--Louisiana	I, IV
United States. Dept. of Agriculture.	II, IV
Wartelle family.	I-IV
Wartelle, Armand Auguste.	I, II, III
Wartelle, Pierre Gabriel, 1787-1869.	I-IV
Women slaves--Louisiana.	I

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Stack Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folders</u>	<u>Contents</u>
UU:322	1	1-13	Series I. Business records , 1816-1877.
	2	1-12	Series I. Business records , 1879-1956, undated.
OS:W		1	Oversize material. Sale of slave, April 23, 1825. Plat- Rue de France, Rue Moreau, New Orleans, 1845. Mortgage, 1884. Statement for year 1927-1928. Data sheet on land ownership, undated. Plat-"faubourg Washington" area, undated.
O:62		v. 1	Manuscript volumes. Daybook, 1937:April-1938:May.
		v. 2	Daybook, 1939:May-1942:Sept.
		v. 3	Daybook, 1943:March-1945.
		v. 4	Daybook, 1946:Feb.-1950.
		v. 5	Account book, 1939-1948.
		v. 6	Account book, 1943-1951.
		v. 7	Account book, 1929-1950
		v. 8	Account book, 1933-1950.
		v. 9	Account book, 1940:Oct.-1956.
		v. 10	Account book, 1948-1950.
UU:322	3	1-4	Series II. Correspondence , 1836-1952, undated.
	3	5-15	Series III. Personal papers , 1809-1953, undated.
OS:W		1	Oversize material. Baptism certificates, 1834.
UU:323	4	1-86	Series IV. Printed material , 1909-1976, undated.
OS:W		1	Oversize material. Advertisement for weed killer, undated.

APPENDIX A

- Attakapas Gazette*, v. XI, no. 4, 1976: Winter.
Achieving a Balanced Agriculture, 1940: April.
Amazon Hose and Rubber Co., undated.
Beef Production in the Cotton Belt, *Farmers' Bulletin* no. 1379, 1923:Nov.
Blount True Blue Line Catalog, undated.
Building Up a Run-Down Cotton Plantation, undated.
Catalog of Cole Cotton Planters, Combination Planters, Plain View Seed Planters, Twin Plain View Planters, Guano Sowers, and Grain Drills, undated.
Cauliflower As a Truck Crop for Late Fall and Early Winter Harvesting, *Extension Circular* 188. 1940:April.
Civil Aeronautics Board, undated.
Control of Diseases and Insect Enemies of the Home Vegetable Garden, *Farmers' Bulletin* no. 856, 1917: Nov.
Crops and Markets, v. 4, no. 11-12, 1927:Nov.-Dec. v. 5, no. 1, 1928:Jan.
Cotton Ginning, *Farmers' Bulletin* no. 1465, 1925: Oct.
The Cultivation of Cotton, 1922.
Drawing Instruments of Dietzgen Design, 1921.
An Economic Study of Factors Affecting Farm Organization and Power of Sugar Cane Farms, 1929, *Louisiana Bulletin* no. 215, 1930:Nov.
Effects of Sumer Soil-Conserving Crops on Yields of Other Crops, no. 1. 1936:Aug.
Effects of Winter Soil-Conserving Crops, no. 2. 1936: Sept.
Factors Affecting Profits from Dairy Herds, *Louisiana Bulletin* 338, 1942:Feb.
Factors Influencing the Severity of the Root Rot Troubles of Sugar Cane, *Louisiana Bulletin* no. 212, 1930:May.
Family Farm Policy Review, 1951: June 11.
Farmer's Guide, undated.
Farm Time Savers, 4th edition. 1945
Feeding Hogs in the South, *Farmers' Bulletin* , no. 411, 1910:Sept. 15.
Feeding Practices,. 1931.
Feeding Practices, 1932.
Forage for the Cotton Belt, *Farmers' Bulletin* no. 1125, undated.
Hog Houses, *Farmers' Bulletin* no. 438, 1916.
Hog Houses, *Farmers' Bulletin* 438. 1917.
How to Grow an Acre of Potatoes, *Farmers' Bulletin* , no. 1190, 1921:March.
Insecticidal Control for Sugarcane Borer, *Louisiana Bulletin* no. 201, 1927:Aug.
The Inside Story of Your New Plymouth, 1946.
Investigations on the Sugar Cane Disease Situation in 1925 and 1926, *Louisiana Bulletin* no. 197, 1927:April.
Irwin Wood Boring Tools, undated.
List Prices no. 10 for Eugene Dietzgen Co., 1924: June.
Methods of Poultry Management at the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station, 1909:May 20.
Motorist's Handbook and Buyer's Guide, undated.

APPENDIX A (cont.)

The Nation's Agriculture. 1953:June
Old-Time Quality Knives, undated.
Open This Door to Farm Property Improvement, undated.
Outlook for American Cotton, Bulletin , no. 4. 1930:Dec.
Owner's Manual: Farmall H, undated.
Owner's Manual: Farmall A and AV, undated.
Owner's Manual: International Hopper Cooled 1½ to 2½ and 3 to 5 H. P. Model "LB" Engines, undated.
Owner's Manual: Setting Up Instructions and Parts List: Cane Tools Nos. HV-1 and MV-1, undated.
Owner's Manual: Setting Up Instructions and Parts List: Farmall Cultivators Nos. Av-136 and AV-138, undated.
Painting on the Farm, Farmers' Bulletin no. 1452. 1925:Aril.
Peanut Growing for Profit, Farmers' Bulletin no. 1127, 1920:July.
Permanent Pastures, 1938:June.
Plants: Culture of Fruits, Vegetables, Grain, Grasses, and Seeds, 1925:Feb.
Poisoning the Boll Weevil. Ca. 1919
The Potato as a Truck Crop, Farmers' Bulletin no. 407, 1910:Oct. 7.
Prevent Storage Rots of Sweet potatoes, leaflet, no. 106. 1934:Sept.
Prevention, undated.
St. Landry Parish Reports, undated.
The Self-Feeder for Hogs, Farmers' Bulletin no. 917:Dec.
Sewage and Sewerage of Farm Homes, Farmers' Bulletin no. 1227, 1928:Oct.
Smith and Wesson Catalog, undated.
The Soil Rot Disease of Sweet Potatoes, Louisiana Circular no. 21, 1937:Dec.
Some Facts about Malaria, Farmers' Bulletin no. 450, 1921 Nov.
Soybeans: A Valuable Legume Crop, 1928.
Stainless Steel and Stainless Iron, 1924.
Storage of Canned Foods, Bulletin no. 17, 1949.
Storage of Sweet Potatoes, Farmers' Bulletin no. 1442, 1925:Feb.
Studies on Sugar Cane Roots, Louisiana Bulletin 223, 1931:July.
Sugarcane for Sirup Production, Circular no. 284. 1933:Oct.
Sugar-Cane Sirup Manufacture, Department Bulletin no. 1370. 1925:Oct.
Sugar Cane Variety Report, Louisiana Bulletin no. 274. 1936: June.
Sugarcane Variety Work at the Test Fields, Louisiana Bulletin 211. 1930:May.
Sugar Warehouses and Other Necessities of the Sugar Industry Catalog, 1935.
Suggestions for Increasing Corn Yields in Louisiana, Extension Circular 138. 1930: March.
Supreme Court of Louisiana no. 38,438, ca. 1953.
Sweet-Potato Growing, Farmers' Bulletin 999, 1921: Sept.
Systems of Hog Farming in the Southeastern States, Farmers' Bulletin 985, 1918: June.
The Use of Cyanamid as a Source of Nitrogen for Sugar Cane in Louisiana, Louisiana Bulletin no. 237, 1933: June.
Variety Tests of Sugar Cane at the Sugar Experiment Station, Louisiana Bulletin no. 199, 1927.

APPENDIX A (cont.)

The Velvet Beat, Farmers' Bulletin no. 1276, 1922: Nov.

When White is White, undated.

Winter Legumes for Louisiana, Extension Circular 166, 1936: July.

Winter Oats for the South, Farmers' Bulletin 436, 1911: April 15.