

Bypass Ancient Oak

Bayou Blue

253 Bayou Blue Bypass Rd

Gray, LA

[Google Maps](#)



Adorned with 'Resurrection' fern with long-limbs draped in moss this ancient live-oak graces the Bayou Blue Bypass Road. Confederate soldiers are said to have sleep under these ancient limbs during the Civil War.

[National Wildlife Federation-Resurrection Fern](#)

The site near the road and the Oaks huge size reflects many hundreds of years of service to residents. Prior to the wooden hoist and probably because the tree leans toward the once old dirt road the tree assisted during the sugarcane grinding season. This tree rigged with a hook-up rope and chain gathered sugarcane stalks up onto the wagon pulled by horse or mule. A portion of the chain remains in the tree.

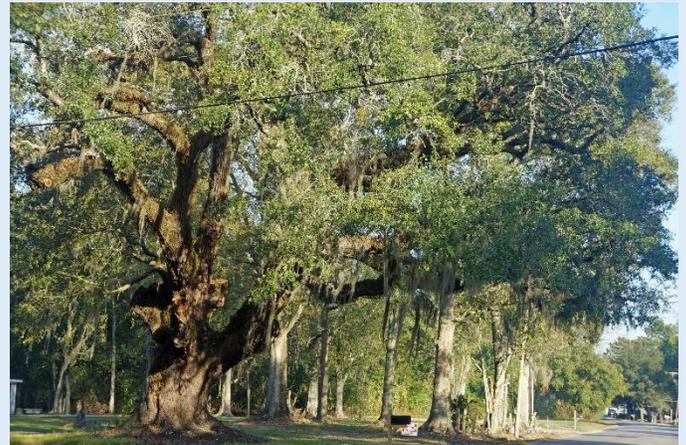
Near this tree once stood, a small and gracious older home built over 150 years old. The old home torn down, after years of wear and tear and a large branch falling and damaging the house. The new home built behind by James Modisett now has a scenic view of the old oak tree. The Modisett family said they tried to keep the old home because they knew it had some historic value. Modisett purchased this property over 25 years ago from John Daigle and Daigle purchased it from Wallace Thibodaux.

Assessor's records show it once belonged to Cordelius Samanie (1862-1928) the son of Joseph Samanie and Adele Azelie Thibodaux. Cordelius married Rosalie

LaDouceur the daughter of Jean Baptist Martin dit LaDouceur of Canada and Caroline Hebert. Both Cordelius and Rosalie were born at the onset of the American Civil War.

Modisett's daughters, Sidney M. Ordoyne and Marrshan M. Cagle took time to relate their knowledge of the tree and what the old live oak meant to their family. For years, they lived under the branches and would play and hung swings from the branches during their childhood. Joy and fun were the main priority of the children growing up in this rural setting. At this location and standing beside this tree one can almost imagine living back to a more relaxing time. Story written by Trudy Voisin Hebert

[Rootsweb Genealogy Samanie](#)



Photos by Trudy Voisin Hebert

