With Century old limbs reaching over a lazy bayou road, the Duplantis Oak on Bayou side drive in Chauvin has outlived several Duplantis families and their homes. The tree remains to grace the Bayou side and remind the present family members of the generations of ancestors who once lived and thrived on Bayou Lil Caillou in the early years of Terrebonne Parish.

According to the Duplantis Legacy written by Lois Hebert Luke in 1998, this Duplantis Oaks’ top limbs were in the way of space needed to build a new home in 1875 by then owner Victor Terrance Duplantis. He was the son of Terrebonne Parish Pioneer Jean Baptiste Duplantis and Seraphine Charpentier. He married Eulalie Guidry the daughter of Alex Guidry and Clarisse Naquin of Houma.

Victor Terrance is buried across the bayou in St Elie Cemetery. His father and family are listed in the 1830 Terrebonne Parish Census as farmers. Victor Terrance and his wife had 9 sons and 3 daughters. In 1890s the Duplantis family donated land for the Our Lady of Prompt Succor Chapel.

By 1943, then owner, Xavier Francis Duplantis tore down the family homestead and recycled the lumber to build another home near the old tree. He was married to Cornelia M. Duplantis.

Former Terrebonne Parish Sheriff Ronnie Duplantis lived in another home built on the property and talked about his memories climbing the tree as a boy over 50 years ago. –Submitted by Laura Browning-Story by Trudy Voisin Hebert.

Find a Grave JB Duplantis