Guidry Family Oak

Bayou Dularge
846 Vice Road Hwy 315
Houma, LA
Google Maps





The beautiful live oak tree on the 800 block of Vice Road has seen generations of the Wilfred Guidry family members grow up on Bayou Dularge. The original house was located right in front of Charles P. Guidry's home today, and became rundown and only provided hay storage. When the roof caved-in, the old house was finally torn down.

One of the Guidry family descendants, Al Poiencot's mother Celina Guidry daughter of Wilfred who grew up on the property related stories of the old oak. Al reflected how she spoke fondly of the shade under the tree during the long hot summers when homes and businesses had no air conditioners. She recalled how a metal cup of cool cistern water refreshed the weary workers resting under the massive branches of the tree. She also spoke of how the people of Bayou Dularge would stop in the shade to rest the horses or mules on their way to and from the church or a family visit. This tree created a community place to take a break because the branches created a shady arbor over the road.

Al, who is over eighty years old, says that he remembers the Live Oak tree being quite large even when he was a child. He also related a 70-year old story with a chuckle about some 'mischievous boys' from Bayou Dularge and the tree. They played a joke on his brother, Bert, taking his wooden cart and climbing to the top of the tree to tie

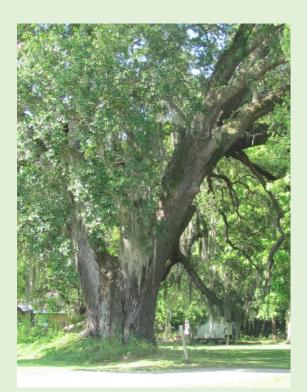
the cart to the top branch. The cart remained undamaged when retrieved.

In 1942, after the deaths of Wilfred and Elmire Folse Guidry, the family opened succession, but the community property remained undivided among the heirs until 1962.

Charles P. Guidry, a family member currently living on the property, explained the area around the tree and property to the rear remains as part of the family estate.

This stately Live Oak tree continues to thrive and provide shade for the passers-by on Vice Road as well as for members of the Guidry family.

Information provided by Al Poiencot, Earline McElroy and Charles P. and Jo Guidry. Story written by Diane Theriot



Photos by Trudy Voisin Hebert





