

*Circumstantial evidence* is the stuff of Sherlock Holmes' mind that he pulls from shards of information to weave into the cloth of credibility.

Such is the process used by detectives, lawyers, researchers, and this writer. In this case it is a basic qualifier that some of the details in this writing come from confirmable information. Others are put together by joining time lines or coincidences having to do with the:

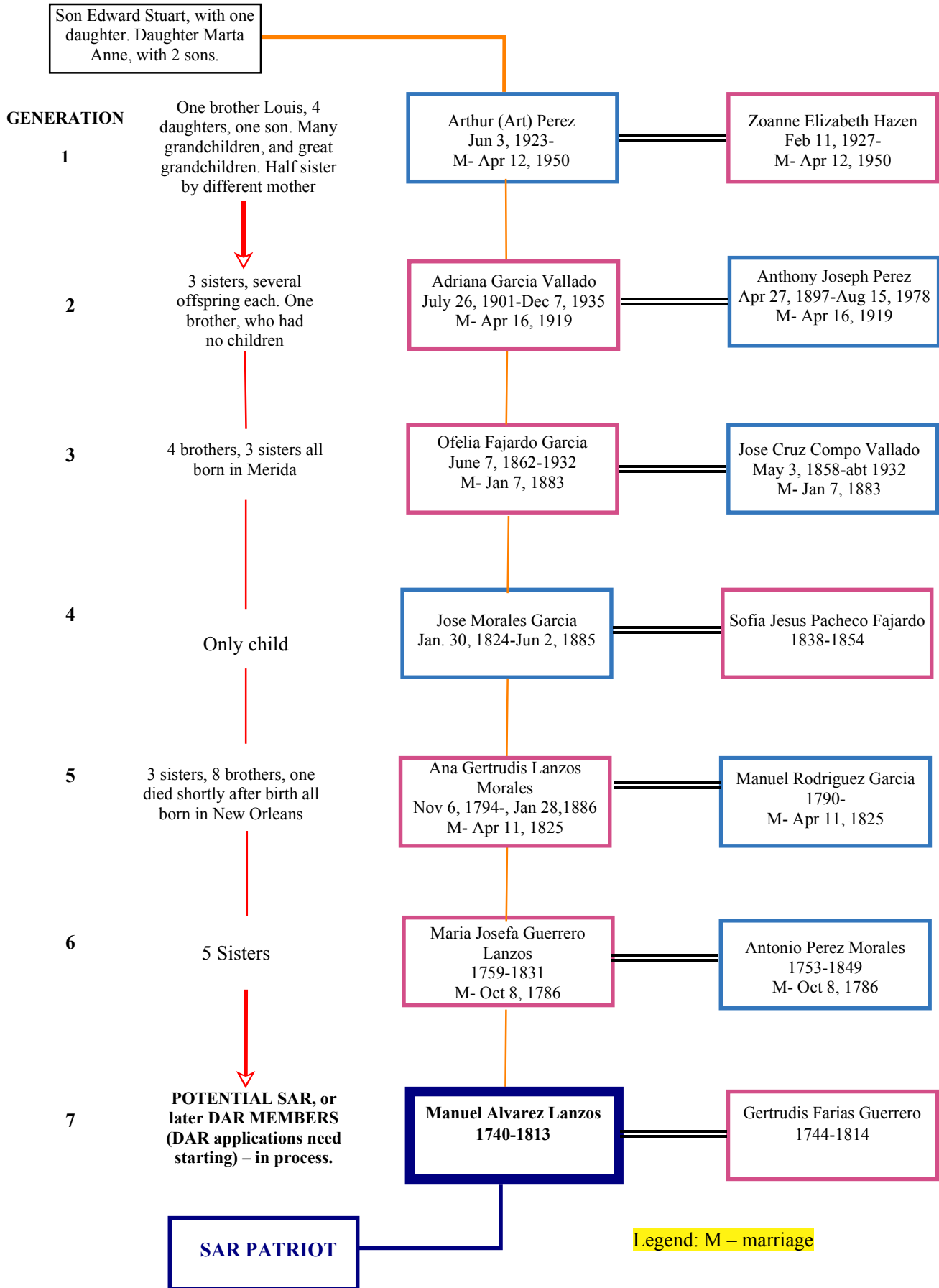
# *Life of Captain Manuel Lanzos* 1740-1813 (age 73)

**The way Lanzos  
became recognized as  
a PATRIOT**



**By: Arthur (Art) Perez**  
(Great-great-grandson, Generation 7)

***LANZOS straight BLOOD LINE FAMILY TREE***  
***Showing Potential for SAR, DAR Memberships***



## MANUEL LANZOS LIFE

### Qualifiers

The opening on the Cover page referenced that investigation requires assumptions, and they are postulated as fact. That is what was done with this gathering of information, thus qualifiers are minimized. Without these “abouts”, “maybes”, or other, words become redundant. When facts are known they are so stated, otherwise it should be accepted that a connection is made without corroboration, certification, or other “proof”.

**M**anuel Lanzos was born in northwestern Spain in 1740 or thereabout.

That record is scant, as is that of his family except for his military that is shown on the last page. That is specific enough to put things together about the timelines of his life, and that of his family.

Incidental regarding the location of his birth is that the Perez lineage came from a place a scant 125 miles eastward on the North Atlantic coast. The map on this page shows that interesting geography. Also incidental is that the new infantry soldier his first assignment was to the Cantabrian Campaign. At 16 years of age he spent the next 7 years within a few hundred miles from his home. It is not likely he saw his family much and later he'd see them even less, as land and sea travel were of the times. Bernardo Galvez would be in that northern Spain area a few years later. When later they crossed paths they had this in common as well as his Spanish heritage. Born in the southern Malaga area Galvez would be appointed the interim Governor of Louisiana before he became a General for the Spanish. Lanzos would serve with, and under Galvez in Louisiana, and Alabama.

Before assignment to Louisiana, he was sent to Panama, staying nearly 4 years. There he married, and they started a family of girls. Uncertainty enters when he was assigned to the Victoria Campaign. No searches added clarification. Even Google Earth disclosed no hints of a place in the Caribbean, North, or South America that looked reasonable. The writer is left with the supposition that it was probably back across the Atlantic to Europe or Spain. Leaving that, the important question remains about



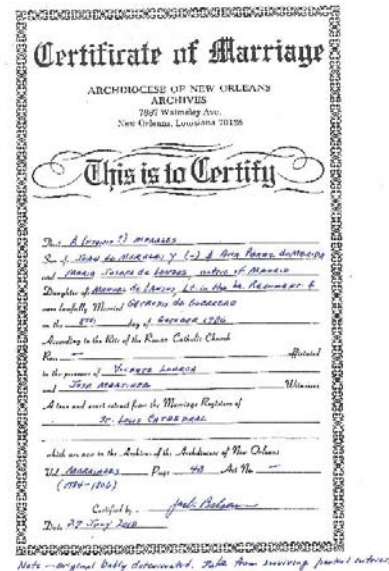
the birthplace of half or most of the Lanzos 6 girls. Finding that Queen Victoria of England started her reign some 10 years later that hypothesis failed.

Sent to New Orleans, Louisiana the Captain bought a house on 632 Dumaine St. It is a bit more than two blocks north of the St Louis Cathedral. On the left side of the Church now as then is flanked by the Cabildo on the left, and the Presbtery (meeting place) on the right. The three buildings face Jackson square.

His oldest daughter Josefa met and was courted by the Spanish Treasurer in New Orleans. The proximity and the size of the community had much to do with the social side. Having less than 1000 people, the mingling of the Spanish was natural. There were the Spanish soldiers having had some mutual prior military assignments were now in New Orleans. One example is Captain Lanzos and Interim Governor Galvez.

Oldest daughter Josefa meets, was courted by, and then, on October 8, 1886 marries Antonio Morales the Spanish Treasurer. The marriage was unusually fertile shown by records of 12 births easily found in the City. Yucatan relatives think in total before conclusion they had 16 children. About 1810 one of the daughters 7<sup>th</sup> Ana Gertrudis, would move with some of the family to Yucatan. There she would later marry Manuel Garcia.

In younger years Zoanne, and I made a few trips to Yucatan, there we saw a lot of relatives. Zoanne, being more diligent about family record papers gathered and kept them. The papers were considerable. Some had mentioned the name Antonio Morales, with a few statements of his assignment. Antonio Morales was highly visible in New Orleans as well as Yucatan. There he was mostly in the Merida area. At the age 96 he died in the community of Ixamal just a few dozen miles east of the that city. The important thing is that he left a trail, and a daughter who also lived into her nineties, died in Merida made it easy to find records.



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### PATRIOT

The dictionary definition of the word Patriot relates to one who is patriotic. For such organizations as the Sons, or Daughters of the American Revolution (SAR, and DAR) it is a noun defining a person who has been suitably certified that they were living in this country, and had fought in the Revolutionary War. It is specific, and is the entry point for anyone interested in joining either organization. One has to show certified blood line connection to such a person in order to become a Son or Daughter of the Revolution.

The first encounter of this writer with the SAR was a meeting. I'd been invited by a golfing friend Dr. Bob Shell to attend a meeting. Knowing about the DAR the Sons group was unknown to me, further there was not even a hint that I might be qualified. The speaker was interesting, and with time, the thought stirred enough to think that maybe the Spanish soldier Lanzos might be a suitable Patriot. Knowing nothing about the process, or the rules, I started asking questions, and found the historian for the group, the Galvez Chapter of Mobile, Michael Glass some questions. At first the inquiries were purely hypothetical about Manuel Lanzos. Mike soon came up with his historic house in New Orleans. This paper includes considerable detail about the house. Much more information would surface.

*It is incidental that Lanzos served under the Spanish General Bernardo de Galvez, who was stationed in New Orleans. It is also incidental that the General was recognized for being assigned as the Victory of the Louisiana territories and stationed in New Orleans. He went on to capture Manchac, Baton Rouge, and Natchez, then Mobile and Pensacola. He rode in a 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade with George Washington. Later recognized by Act of Congress. His name was used for Galvez LA, Galvez Street in New Orleans, and the city of Galveston Texas, later the SAR Chapter of Mobile.*

## MILITARY RECORD

The short story of the process that spread over not more than two years, the military record of Lanzos did appear. I believe that it was Mike Glass also who found it. The source book, paper or document having Lanzos Military Record was lacking..

That record did provide a way to glean such things as his age, and places he was assigned, that was then added to historic events including the specific statement – He was at “the siege and capture of Mobile”. It did



look solid. Such solidity would have to be made complete by the location of the document from which the pages were printed. Someone suggested a visit to the University of West Florida, Pensacola. A trip to the Special Collections basement at the Pace Library led to Dean DeBolt the archivist historian. He quickly found the book that had the pages with the military record of Manuel Lanzos. General Bernardo Galvez with his soldiers, and sailors efforts defeated the British at Baton Rouge, Mobile, and Pensacola. The success even netted the British Forts at Natchez, then St. Louis. Finally from there they sent a group of

soldiers, with some or perhaps mostly French military, and natives to the Fort St. Joseph. They took that fort occupied it for the day, raised the Spanish flag, burned the fort, and left for St. Louis. Being February that could not have been an easy journey. Captain Manuel Lanzos, as stated before was at the siege of Mobile, and was put in charge of the Fort Rosalie at Natchez. The bottom line is that all these engagements deprived the British of the supply routes for their military in the northeast. General Galvez (see sidebar) was recognized by both George Washington and Congress for their assistance in the defeat of the British.

## CERTIFICATES

The Lanzos record was definitely not all that had to be gathered. Certificates had to be acquired to prove each blood-line step. That started in New Orleans where much searching had already taken place. Early searches were at the New Orleans Historic Collection Library on Royal Street. It progressed to Archdiocese specific searches with certificates, for names known to connect the new New Orleans Perezes step by step to Manuel Lanzos. The pieces fell into place, and were left with a void from New Orleans to Yucatan, then back to Louisiana to connect all the dots through the added generations.

**LANZOS – LIFE & MILITARY *TIMELINE***  
**Summary (from birth, and marriage records of New Orleans Archdiocese)**

Date Assigned	Age	Rank & Service	Duration	
About 1740	Born			Padron Galicia, Spain
1 June 1756	16	Soldier, and corporal	6y – 11 mos	Cantabria Infantry – location hilly area near North Atlantic
23 Feb 1763	23	Sergeant second-class	3 y – 10 mos	Panama he married, wife mothered two maybe 3 children
1 May 1768	28	Sergeant first-class	11y – 7.5 mos	Victoria Infantry. Unable to find specific Spanish military actions. Possibly was in Europe or Spain. Conflicts with the British Portugal, or France had been continuous through history. There are other geography possible.
28 Oct 1778	38 40	Lieutenant Lanzos involved	14y – 8 mos	Louisiana Infantry <b>March 12, 1780 Spanish capture Mobile Fort Charlotte from British</b> <b>Note his military record at the “siege and capture of Mobile”.</b> Mobile then 500-600 population, with Spanish, French, creoles, indians, and blacks. Service record describes expeditions against marauding indians.
1783 1786	46	Buys New Orleans house		adjutant-major Oldest daughter Josefa weds Treasurer Antonio Morales, 8 Oct,
18 Oct, 1787 1792	47 52	Captain Commandante of Mobile		Time spent in NO some in Mobile, and less in Natchez Found documents going into early 1800 when he retained role.
20 June 1797 1804	57 64	Captain Military status unknown		In charge at Natchez at time of revolt there. <b>Last of military record</b> Mobile Probate has papers, last to be signed by Lanzos
1813	93	died		Search for death records, or burial unsuccessful.

Nephew Augusto (Cuxo) Rios Peon who now lives in Can Cun was asked to contact the Cathedral in Merida. He was born there, and mother Gladys lives there. So had prior family.

*When he visited that city It was simply a matter of establishing a means to extract the certified documents. Within a few months he managed to get that completed. The needed SAR documents now seemed to be in hand. The filled Application was dispatched to the Alabama organization for acceptance, than off to the National for same. With the Military Records book now among the document collection no further questions surfaced. Process completed -- **I became a member of the Sons of the American Revolution.***

It would be nice to conclude with the acceptance of daughter Marta Anne to the **Daughters**. The work to do that is in process Hopefully establishing Lanzos as a PATRIOT for that organization will be added. At some future editing this qualifier may be removed.

Much historic information has been collected over time, and some of it in this paper. That includes much detail about the house in New Orleans, and the signature of Manuel Lanzos from the Probate Court Archives of Mobile County. From Charles Torre III of the Mobile Museum a copy of the Mobile Daily Register sheet showed that the retired Captain became the Commandante of Mobile. His stay on the Gulf Coast would total nearly thirty years. After 1792 until 1804 he was in Mobile and signed lots of legal documents there as Commandante. His signature is on the cover of this paper.



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**Plaque outside house on 632 Dumaine St.:**  
*there is the simple acknowledgement the house belonged to the Captain, and family.*



**HERE:** *Now open for Newcomb Pottery display exterior of main floor now painted*



**ABOVE:** *House has six large rooms each with fireplace. Three rooms across front open to the entry porch, three on back to the rear porch. Besides that each room has a doorway to its mated ones.*

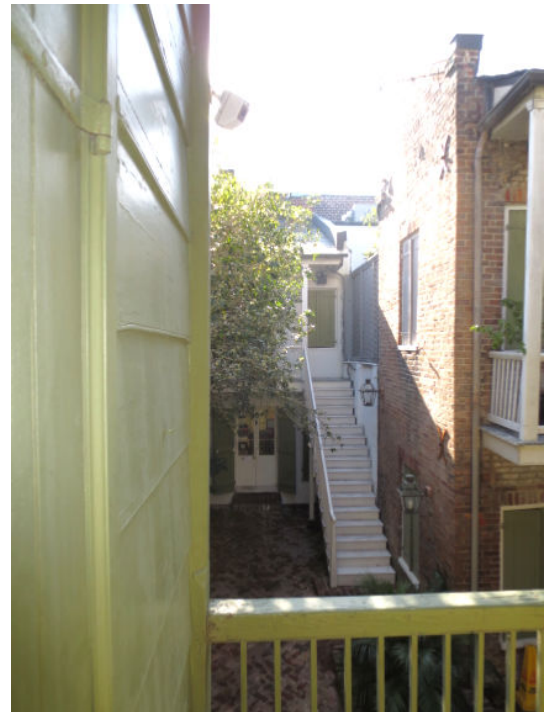
*Picture shows joined rooms*



**LEFT: Foundation much as the original, except for obvious repairs. Basement was basis for Lanzos rebuilding after fire of 1888. BELOW: Back building later added was for servant quarters then rental space.**



**House said to be the only remaining example of Creole Colonial design the city had prior to fire the fire of 1788.**



**ABOVE LEFT**

**The story board panel inside the house recites its history. Purchased by Lanzos in 1783 a few years after his Louisiana Assignment. A city wide fire in 1788 included the Captain's house. The basement was spared. After the fire it was rebuilt by the Spanish Officer in 6 mos. Another fire in 1794 may have done damage again, but no detail is given. He lived in the house with family until his death in 1813. Wife Gertrudis died a year later. Inherited by his 6 daughters, they sold it. There were several other owners after that. The last one gifted it to the Louisiana State Museum operation. That government arm also owns the Cabildo, and the Presbytery, each on opposite sides of the St. Louis Cathedral. The city continues to revel in the history of these spaces along with Jackson Square in front of the Cathedral. The house is said to be the only remaining example of Creole-colonial design remaining in the City. The Spanish history is seldom revealed.**

**Effort is made here to advance some of it. The motive: The recording of the history for family and others.**



Front of 632 Dumaine Street.  
Taken at different times, and  
angles. Note all green upstairs.

One of Lanzos 6 daughters. Louisa is said to have married a Miguel, (Michael) Eslava. The Eslava name was well known in that city then, as now. Today there are Eslava medical doctors in Foley, Michael, and in Gulf Shores – Leo. Whether these are blood line connected is not known. Attempts at communication on subject have not been successful.

One notation found was she was unstable, and talk of asylum commitment. There may not have been children from that marriage. None the less it is an interesting relationship possibility.

Mobile Daily Register  
31 January 1895  
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#### “MAYORS” OF MOBILE.

##### A TABLE OF THE MEN WHO HAVE RULED THE GULF CITY FOR NEARY TWO CENTURIES.

As will be noted in our brief historicite of early Mobile, her governors changed title from time to time; either from state enactment of home government or from the shifting nationality of the holders of provincial soil.

Therefore, as a curious relic of the past, we append a table of all the civic heads of the camp, village, town and city which preceded the present Queen of the Gulf.

#### GOVERNORS OF MOBILE.

Jean Baptiste le Moynes, Sieur de Bienville- 102-1707.

Demuys died on the way over.

Lamotte Cadillac-1713-1717.

Bienville-1717-1720.

(The seat of government was then transferred to point somewhere near Biloxi of today.)

#### COMMANDANTS.

1722- Marigny de Madeville.

1726- Drumand de Valdeteries.

1731- Beauchamp.

1733- Diron d' Artagetts.

1741- Beauchamp.

1757- Pierre Annibal de Ville.

1762- De Grandpre.

1763- Pierre Annibal de Ville.

1763- Robert Farmer.

1781- Henrique Grimarest.

1785- Pedro Favrot.

1787- Vincente Folch.

1792- Manuel de Lanzos.

1795- Pedro Olivier.

1798- Manuel de Lanzos.

1800- Jaaquin d'Orsona.

1805- Francisco Max de St. Maxent.

The completion of all the needed Certificates was made possible through the Merida Yucatan Cathedral archives. They were not difficult to find, just more so because the able assistance of Augusto (Cuxo) Peon who had to be enlisted for the task.

That completed the things needed for establishment of Captain Manuel Lanzos as a SAR Patriot. For the DAR the process has to be repeated as their rigors are somewhat different though the process is the same. All the needed records are on hand. I do intend to make them available in “pdf” file for those who might need it.

Another resource that yielded a little useful information is the Mobile Museum and their historical archivist Charles Torre III. Probate records summary sheet carries the dates from July 1792 to August 1804 When Lanzos was Commandante there. It appears he was highly visible in Mobile for as many as 12 years. It began with his presence in the: “siege, and capture of Mobile”. See timeline synopsis above.

# Manuel Lanzos Military Record

## Zoomed in: Lanzos Record

...louisiana Infantry (3 yrs. 5 mos.).  
 Campaigns: none given.  
 Notes: good for his rank; supposed valor; average application, and capacity; good conduct.

155. LACOSTE, Pedro  
 Service sheet: June 30, 1793, AGI, PC, leg. 161-a; 1814-b.  
 Country: New Orleans Age: 21 (1790)  
 Health: robust Marital status: married (1803)  
 Ranks: distinguished soldier (Apr. 11, 1791); cadet (Feb. 17, 1792); attached lieutenant (May 24, 1794); adjutant major adjutant (Mar. 14, 1795).  
 Regiments: Carabiniers of Louisiana (3 yrs. 3 mos.); Louisiana Infantry (3 yrs. 20 days); Mississippi Volunteers (6 yrs. 4 mos. 22 days).  
 Campaigns: St. Marks of Apalache expedition to capture William & Bowles (1792).  
 Notes: supposed valor; enough application; average capacity; good conduct.

156. LADIEVESSE, Francois  
 Service sheet: Dec. 31, 1815, AGI, PC, leg. 161-b.  
 Country: France Age: 25  
 Health: good Marital status: single  
 Ranks: sublieutenant (July 29, 1790); lieutenant (Apr. 23, 1803).  
 Regiments: Louisiana Infantry (19 yrs. 5 mos. 1 day).  
 Campaigns: none given.  
 Notes: supposed valor; average application & capacity; good conduct.

157. LALANDA, Luis  
 Service sheet: Dec. 31, 1792, ACS, GM, leg. 7202, VIII, 59.  
 Country: New Orleans Age: 23  
 Health: robust Marital status: single  
 Ranks: distinguished soldier (May 1, 1773); cadet (July 1, 1781); sublieutenant (Sept. 20, 1789); none of precedence (Jan. 21, 1793).  
 Regiments: Louisiana Infantry (13 yrs. 8 mos.).  
 Campaigns: Pt. Bate of Manchak & Baton Rouge (1779); Pensacola (1781); expedition to capture the runaway Negro Slaves (1784).  
 Notes: good for promotion; known valor; average application & capacity; good conduct.

158. LANZOS, Manuel de  
 Service sheet: June 30, 1793, AGI, PC, leg. 161-a; June 30, 1797, AGS, GM, leg. 7292, X, 28.  
 Country: Galicia (Padrón) Age: 52 [53]  
 Health: robust Marital status: married  
 Ranks: soldier & corporal (June 1, 1756); sergeant second-

class (Feb. 23, 1763); sergeant first-class (May 1, 1768); lieutenant (Oct. 29, 1778); adjutant major (Sept. 20, 1786); captain (Oct. 18, 1787).  
 Regiments: Cantabrian Infantry (6 yrs. 11 mos.); Panama Infantry (3 yrs. 10 mos. 14 days); Victoria Infantry (11 yrs. 7 mos. 14 days); Louisiana Infantry (14 yrs. 8 mos. 2 days to 1793).  
 Campaigns: station at Castillo de San Lorenzo de Chagres near Porto Bello (Panama); expeditions against marauding Indians; siege & capture of Mobile (1780); [Natchez revolt of 1797].  
 Notes: good for his rank and excellent to command; known valor; good application, capacity & conduct.

159. LeBLANC, Alexander  
 Service sheet: Dec. 31, 1787, AGS, GM, leg. 7291, I, 87.  
 Country: New Orleans Age: 21  
 Health: robust Marital status: single  
 Ranks: cadet (July 1, 1781); sublieutenant (Oct. 16, 1787); Regiments: Louisiana Infantry (8 yrs. 8 mos.).  
 Campaigns: none given.  
 Notes: good for his rank; supposed valor; average application & capacity; good conduct.

160. LeBLANC ST. DENIS, Carlos Luis (see DeBLANC in militia list)  
 Service sheet: not available; pay records, AGI, PC, leg. 538-a.  
 Notes: earned \$18 per month; was lieutenant of infantry; commanded at Attapeu post.

161. LeBLANC, Joseph  
 Service sheet: June 30, 1797, ACS, GM, leg. 7202, X, 5.  
 Country: New Orleans Age: 39  
 Health: robust Marital status: single  
 Ranks: distinguished soldier (Feb. 1, 1777); cadet (Sept. 12, 1778); sublieutenant (Mar. 1, 1781); lieutenant (Oct. 18, 1787); adjutant major (Feb. 12, 1794).  
 Regiments: Louisiana Infantry (30 yrs. 5 mos.); Mobile (1780).  
 Notes: good for his rank; known valor; good application, capacity & conduct.

162. LeBLANC, (Joel) Terence  
 Service sheet: June 30, 1793, AGI, PC, leg. 161-a; relative of the Regiment, Dec. 31, 1805, AGI, PC, leg. 181-b.  
 Country: New Orleans Age: 17 (in 1793)  
 Health: robust Marital status: single  
 Ranks: cadet (Aug. 20, 1787); sublieutenant (Feb. 21, 1794); none of precedence (Apr. 8, 1800); lieutenant (Apr. 22, 1803).  
 Regiments: Louisiana Infantry (5 yrs. 10 mos. 11 days to

& capacity; good conduct.

158. LANZOS, Manuel de  
 Service sheet: June 30, 1793, AGI, PC, leg. 161-a; June 30, 1797, AGS, GM, leg. 7292, X, 28.  
 Country: Galicia [Padrón] Age: 52 [53]  
 Health: robust Marital status: married  
 Ranks: soldier & corporal (June 1, 1756); sergeant second-130  
 class (Feb. 23, 1763); sergeant first-class (May 1, 1768); lieutenant (Oct. 29, 1778); adjutant-major (Sept. 20, 1786); captain (Oct. 18, 1787).  
 Regiments: Cantabrian Infantry (6 yrs. 11 mos.); Panama Infantry (3 yrs. 10 mos. 14 days); Victoria Infantry (11 yrs. 7 mos. 14 days); Louisiana Infantry (14 yrs. 8 mos. 2 days to 1793).  
 Campaigns: garrison at Castillo de San Lorenzo de Chagres near Porto Bello (Panama); expeditions against marauding Indians; siege & capture of Mobile (1780); [Natchez revolt of 1797].  
 Notes: good for his rank and excellent to command; known valor; good application, capacity & conduct.

## INTERESTING

The below document was not further investigated, but it does suggest a practice not uncommon with the distribution of "spoils of war". Land grants in Louisiana distributed property, and it is possible have some legitimate claim to residual property for heirs. That would take a huge amount of energy, and possibly money to explore.

### Some Louisiana Land Claims 1805

by Winston De Ville

Reprinted, with the kind and gracious permission of the author, from Winston De Ville, "Some Louisiana Land Claims 1805," *Louisiana Genealogical Register*, vol. 16, no. 2 (June 1969), pp. 126-7.

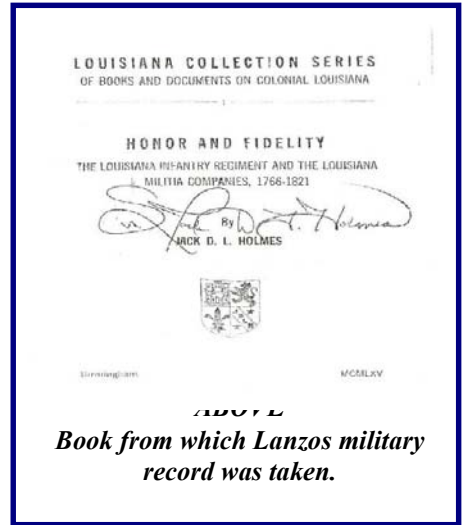
When William Charles Cole Claiborne was appointed governor of Louisiana just after the Louisiana Purchase in 1803, he faced problems which might have devastated a less naive man. Of well-bred Virginia stock, he could hardly have been prepared for the explosive Frenchmen and the wily Spaniards of Louisiana. These Latins were used to poor military and social discipline, inadequate roads, virtually no schools, one church, a loose policy regarding the importation of slaves - generally a laissez-faire attitude that permeated colonial Louisiana history. But most of all, Louisianans were past masters at political graft and intrigue. This manifested itself to Claiborne when the new executive tried to reconcile one of his most complex problems - land titles.

At the first rumor of the secret Treaty of San Ildefonso (which retroceded Louisiana to France from Spain in 1800) reached the colonials, there was a flurry of land granting and buying activity. Men prominent in Louisiana were quick to take advantage of friends in high government offices and land was granted pell-mell fashion.

So it was on the 15<sup>th</sup> of August, 1805, that Claiborne wrote to James Madison, then Secretary of State, that "a short time previous to the transfer of Louisiana to the United States, Governor (Commandant) Folch, having doubted the authority of Morales (a high Spanish official) to sell lands in West Florida without his (Folch's) assent, would not permit the surveyors to proceed." Consequently many titles for vast tracts of land were left under tenuous ownership. Such well known figures as Daniel Clark, however, and "other early adventurers", not being late-comers to the ways of Louisiana politics, had managed to secure complete titles to their lands according to the governor.

To apprise Washington of the seriousness of the situation, Claiborne attached the following list to his letter. It shows the names of grantees in question and the amount of land. Many of the tracts remained in litigation for years.

- |                               |                               |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Thomas Urquath - 50,000 acres | Joachim de Olomo - 4 acres    |
| James Jorda - 40,000          | Gerono. Lachiappella - 35,000 |
| Manuel Lanzos - 35,000        | Gilberto Andry - 30,000       |
| Isaac Johnston - 141          | Carlos Ramos - 20,000         |
| Francisco Miranda - 800       | David Lejune - 400            |
| Juan Tala - 800               | Cornelio Seely - 155          |
| Juan Ba. Labattu - 16,000     | Armand Duplantier - 10,000    |
| Joseph Raynes - 40,000        | Robin Delogny - 2,547         |
| Antonio Gras - 3,000          | Victoria Anzla. Leroy - 1,000 |
| Christoval Miller - 600       | Juan de Lassize - 10,000      |
| Fro. Xzvr. Hoas - 200         | Santo. McElroy - 800          |
| Juan Higgins - 400            | Guillo. Gardiner - 200        |
| Santo. Brenen - 1,000         |                               |
- Antonio or Ventura's  
Baton Rouge*
- |                              |                              |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Without Papers:              | Manuel Garcia - 30,000 acres |
| Juan Lind - 40,000 acres     | Brounler Declouet - 50,000   |
| Christoval de Armas - 10,000 |                              |
| Thomas Power - 30,000        |                              |
- East Bank of Amite River
- |                                     |                              |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Gerono Lachiappello - 120,000 acres | Chew and Nelf - 20,000 acres |
| George Morgan - 30,000              | George Pallock - 40,000      |



## REFERENCES:

- New Orleans Historic Collection
- Mobile Chapter SAR historian: Michael Glass
- Louisiana State Museum archives: Greg Lombousy, Director of Collectons
- University of West Florida Library, Special Collections: Dean DeBolt, Archivist
- Mobile Museum: Charles Torre III, History Archivist
- Mobile Probate Records: Jessica Hill, Archivist Manager