

January 28, 1932

Mr. W. C. Weeks,
New Iberia, La.

My dear Mr. Weeks:

Many thanks for your letter about New Iberia Spanish history. The letter serves me nicely. All you state I already knew but I wanted some good local statement so that if there was anything different from the general history I could get it....and also that I might have some correspondent there if further questions arose. Now, in addition, instead of flying thru New Iberia as I have always done, I can stop and cultivate better acquaintance. I have a number of esteemed friends there but had never contacted on the history side. And my failure to check up on that in New Iberia has caused me considerable trouble because considerable research was needed in our library here before I found the lead that enabled me to trace that Spanish history when necessary. I knew New Iberia meant essentially New Spain...and I knew of Spanish Lake (not the house you mention)...so knew a Spanish story was there somewhere. Am glad to get your comment that possible the 499 did not all settle there. Your reasoning sounds good.

Neither Gayarre or Portier (I do not have the books before me) mentions Canary Islanders at Bayou Boeuf, St. Bernard's Parish, at Lake Borgne etc. I am stating this quite generally. Some day I want to inquire more particularly about Spanish settlement, influence or atmosphere in those sections; probably French settlers have obliterated all trace.

I get all kinds of historical inquiries--students, lecturers, travelers, teachers, libraries etc. The enclosed travel bulletin shows a condensed general history; it is considerably sought but it also prompts further inquiries. The coming HOLLAND'S MAGAZINE will have something; I replied to editor's request with a hasty letter. Then concluded I should more carefully prepare a brochure trying to cover the inquiries now besetting me. It is finished; your letter confirms what I wanted. It will first be mimeographed so that I can have constructive criticism before printing it. Will send you copy. You can then see how New Iberian is woven in and write me your reactions, if you will.

Very sincerely,