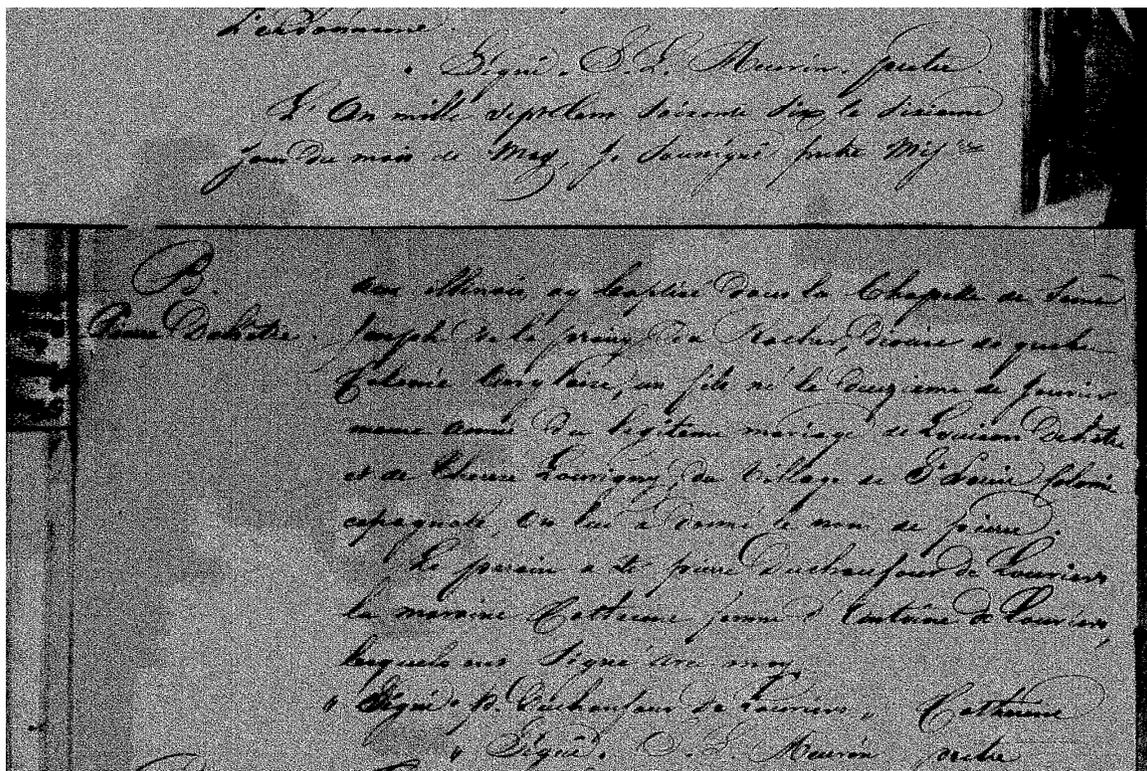


Additional Information about Louis Deshêtres Labrosse

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In a previous article I wrote for *Michigan's Habitant Heritage* (Vol. 28, #1, January 2007, pp. 37-44, "The Rest of the Story – Louis [Antoine] Deshêtres and Marie Thérèse Damours de Louvières"), I brought to light the existence of another child born to Louis Deshêtres and Marie-Thérèse Damours de Louvière. This child, also named Louis, was supposedly born in Illinois Territory about 1767.¹ Although he was listed as present in Missouri in a reconstructed census by Robert Parkin, the only actual documentation indicating he was the son of Louis Dehêtre [sic] was an 1813 procuration by Louis Dehêtre (the younger) to François Jourdain *dit* Labrosse concerning a land transaction of heritage from his deceased father.²

Recently, additional documentation has surfaced to solidify the notion that Louis Deshêtres Labrosse is indeed the son of Louis Deshêtres and Marie Thérèse Damours de Louvière. The first document to confirm the relationship is a birth record for a Pierre Deshêtres, found at St. Joseph, Prairie du Rocher, in Illinois Territory:³



This child was named Pierre, not Louis, and he was born 12 January 1766, not 1767, however, they are one and the same. He was baptized on 10 May 1766, and born of legitimate marriage to parents Louison Dehêtre and Thérèse Louvigny [sic] of the Village of St. Louis colony. He was obviously named after his godfather, Pierre Ducharfour De Louvier, and his godmother was Catherine, wife of Antoine De Louvier [sic]. Due to the

¹ <http://www.stlgs.org/DBgovernmentCensus1776.htm> 1776 St. Louis Census; reconstructed by Robert Parkin 1986 *St. Louis Genealogical Society Quarterly*, volume 9, number 1, pages 13–20.

² Missouri Historical Society; French & Spanish Archives 1763-1841, Microfilm Reel #21, Folder 2826B.

³ FHL Microfilm # 1026607, p103-104.

tradition of the godparents naming the child, it is possible that even though the child's given name was Pierre after his godfather, he may have been called Louis to keep with the naming traditions of the Deshêtres family, or due to personal preference.

The other document to confirm the parents of Louis Deshêtres Labrosse is his marriage record to Marguerite LaPlomb:⁴

Cette nuit bey le deux quatorz vingt six de Juin de l'année
 après la publication des trois Banns du futur mariage entre Louis
 les héritiers fils majeur de Louis des Héritiers et de Marie Thérèse Couvreur
 natif de la paroisse de St Louis des Illinois Vicaire de la paroisse
 Évangélique de Marguerite LaPlomb fille majeure de LaPlomb et
 marié au dit lieu de Québec Diocèse de Québec par le Vicaire
 Canonic de l'autorité par son épil de Sole l'année aucun empê
 ou opposition je soussigné prêtre Joseph Bédier Religieux prêtre

Bénédiction avec de St Louis ay reçu en cette Eglise le contrat
 canoniquement des parties d'heur ay donné la Bénédiction nuptiale
 suivant les cérémonies prescrites par la St Eglise present et
 acceptant Louis des Héritiers et la dite Marguerite LaPlomb. et encore
 en présence du Sr François Moreau Jean Baptiste de LaPlomb
 son Héritier Joseph Moreau Vicaire de l'Église et Louis Colin lesquels
 ont solennellement juré dessus sur le domicile la liberté et la qualité
 des dites parties d'heur signés avec nous après lecture des jours et
 au que dessus.

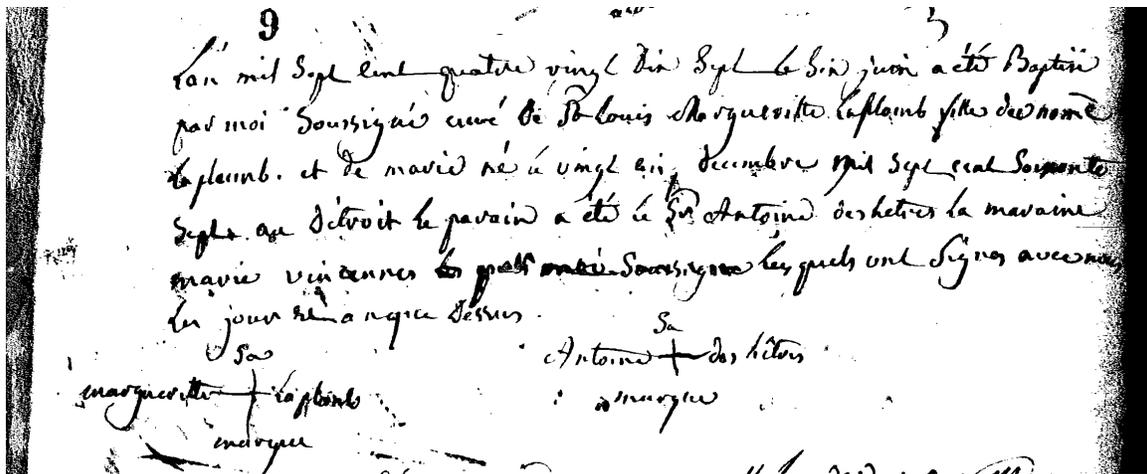
Louis des Héritiers
 Marguerite LaPlomb.
 François Moreau
 Jean Baptiste de LaPlomb
 Joseph Moreau
 Louis Châteaux
 Vicaire de l'Église

J. B. Bédier
 Religieux prêtre

⁴ St. Ferdinand Church Records, FHL #1902788

In this record dated 10 June 1797, Louis is listed as the “fils majeur” or son of legal age of Louis Des Hêtres and Marie Thérèse Louviere. Louis is also listed as a “natif de la paroisse de St. Louis des Illinois”. Louis married Marguerite LaPlomb, also of legal age. Her parent’s names were only listed as LaPlomb and Marie, but it does indicate they were from Détroit. Witnesses to their wedding were Jean Baptiste Delisle, François Moreau, Hyacinthe DesHêtres (Louis’ cousin), Joseph Moreau, Louis Chateaux, René Kiercereaux, Didaire and others.

In another related document of interest in this series, is one that indicates on the same day, just prior to the wedding of Louis Deshêtres and Marguerite LaPlomb, Marguerite was baptized. In this document, her parents were listed as Nomè LaPlomb and Marie. It also indicated she was born 21 December 1767 at Détroit, and her godparents are listed as Antoine Deshetres (Louis’ uncle, the undocumented Deshêtres child, and most likely an undocumented witness at their wedding as well) and Marie Vincennes:⁵



This documentation solidifies the parentage of Louis Deshêtres. He was the only known child of Louis Deshêtres and Marie Thérèse Damour de Louviere to live to adulthood. Unfortunately, he had no known children with Marguerite to continue his lineage, but we continue to see the strength of the familial connections he kept with the other members of the Deshêtres family in the St. Louis area.

⁵ Ibid