

# UPDATE ON THE ORIGINS OF JOSEPH REBOUCHÉ - SPOUSE OF MARIE LOUISE NORMAND

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I'd like to share a few facts about Joseph Rebouché since most of the available info regarding his origins is, unfortunately, incorrect.

In a number of the family trees that I found when I first started my research on him, he was identified as Joseph Léopold Rebouché, born 8 December 1810 at St-Die in France, and his parents are identified as Jean Nicolas Rebouché and Marguerite Louise Rebouché.

According to Joseph's immigration records (available on Ancestry), his DOB was 8 December 1817.

U.S., Naturalization Record Indexes, 1791-1992 (Indexed in World Archives Project) for Joseph Rebouché  
Louisiana > Card Index to Naturalizations in Louisiana (P2087) > Petinello, Candelora - Rospeck, Thomas

Family name	Civil name or names
Rebouché	Joseph
Address	
Marksville-Avoyelles Parish, Louisiana	
Certificate no. (or vol. and page)	File and location of card
Minute Book C, Pg. 361	15th Dist. Ct., Marksville, Avoyelles Parish, La.
Country of birth or allegiance	When born (or age)
France	Dec. 8, 1817
Date and port of arrival in U. S.	Date of naturalization
May 13, 1840- New Orleans, La.	F/O- Feb. 10, 1845
Names and addresses of witnesses	
William Edwards	
John P. Waddell	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, Immigration and Naturalization Service. Form N-35 (Old 1-IP) 16-17202	

However, his 1845 Application for Citizenship is mentioned in Jeraldine Lacour Dufour's book "Avoyelleans of Yesteryear" as follows: "*Joseph Rebouche born Die, Lorraine?, on December 8, 1810?; Landed in New Orleans, La. on May 30, 1840. Filed February 19, 1845. File #70*". You'll notice that there's a question mark after the birth year of 1810.

I figured that 'Die, Lorraine' was likely Saint-Dié-des-Vosges (Vosges) (Grand-Est Region), France. After searching there for his birth record in the civil indexes that are available on-line and determining there was no such record on the 8th of December in 1810 or 1817, I continued looking through Louisiana records for additional information.

*[Note that civil birth records were recorded by each French commune after the French Revolution although churches, of course, maintained their own baptismal records. However, occasionally, the baptismal records are not available on-line post French-Revolution for various reasons and that was the case for Saint-Dié-des-Vosges. Although the civil records often contain much more information than baptismal records normally do, the only civil birth records available on-line via Ancestry, Family Search, or the archives of France for Saint-Dié-des-Vosges were indexes rather than the full records. This does create a problem in that the indexes I needed in this case did not contain the names of the child's parents. The full records do appear to be available via the various LDS libraries but I have not had an opportunity to go there and look for this baptismal record or civil birth record.]*

Further research determined that Joseph and Marie Louise Normand signed a civil marriage bond on 16 February 1841 in Avoyelles. However, it didn't state the names of Joseph's parents nor does it appear that any of the baptismal records of his children provided the names of their grandparents either. Interestingly, this marriage bond was signed about 3 weeks after their Catholic religious marriage ceremony which is unusual. (Thanks to Ellen Dauzat for getting a copy of that for me! It is provided at the end of this document.)

Although I knew that his New Orleans death record would not provide any clues about his parents, it did provide me with an important clue. He was identified as 27 years of age at the time of his death in March 1848 which would put his year of birth at 1820 or 1821.

The next very important clue was the religious marriage record of Joseph and Marie Louise Normand. The couple married at St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church in Mansura (Avoyelles Parish) on 23 January 1841. This date can be found on an index that we maintain at <http://louisianalineage.com/researchavoyelles.htm> titled "St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church, Mansura, LA 1830-1871". The index will provide the religious marriage date as well as a page number and sheet number of a couple.

*The sheet number is a reference to the page on which this record appears on a more complete index that is maintained by St. Paul's Catholic Church. It contains a few pieces of vital information including names of parents on most records (except for the time period of 1859 thru late 1865). The full index may also contain the name of a previous spouse for the bride or groom, whether or not the bride or groom was a 'free woman of color' or 'free man of color', witnesses (after 1858), declared children, whether the bride/groom was a minor, and the Priest who performed the marriage.*

*The page number is the page on which the marriage record was recorded in the original marriage sacramental record book although this book is not in the possession of St. Paul's but is, instead, held by the Diocese of Alexandria (and not available to the public at this time). If you'd like to obtain the info from the full index, you'll need to contact the St. Paul's Church.*

It was via this full index that the actual names of Joseph Rebouché's parents were found. On his religious marriage record, he identified his parents as Jean Baptiste Rebouché and Françoise Coulay. It also stated that he was a 'native of Vosque, FR'.

With this new information, I returned to the birth indexes of Saint-Dié-des-Vosges. There, on 8 December 1820, the birth of Joseph Rebouché was recorded. There was no middle name on this record and, to my knowledge, there are no other records in which his middle name is listed as Léopold. I believe that this middle name came from a record dated 17 November 1810 found in Rambervillers (Vosges), France, for a child born to Nicolas Rebouché and Marie Louise Rebouché - the parents often recorded as those of our Joseph Rebouché.

Noufflet Marie Agnès	22. Janvier 1820
Noufflet Marie Anne	25. Janvier
Noufflet Marguerite	21. Avril
Noufflet Marie Marguerite Jeanne	28. Avril
Noufflet Jean Pierre	6. Mai
Noufflet Marie Anne Adèle	16. Mai
Noufflet Nicolas	3. Juillet
Noufflet Jean Baptiste	11. Septembre
Noufflet Louis	20. Septembre
Noufflet Marie	1. Novembre
Noufflet Joseph	8. Novembre
Noufflet Marguerite	24. Novembre

Unfortunately, as I mentioned a few paragraphs above, the names of the parents were not mentioned on this index.

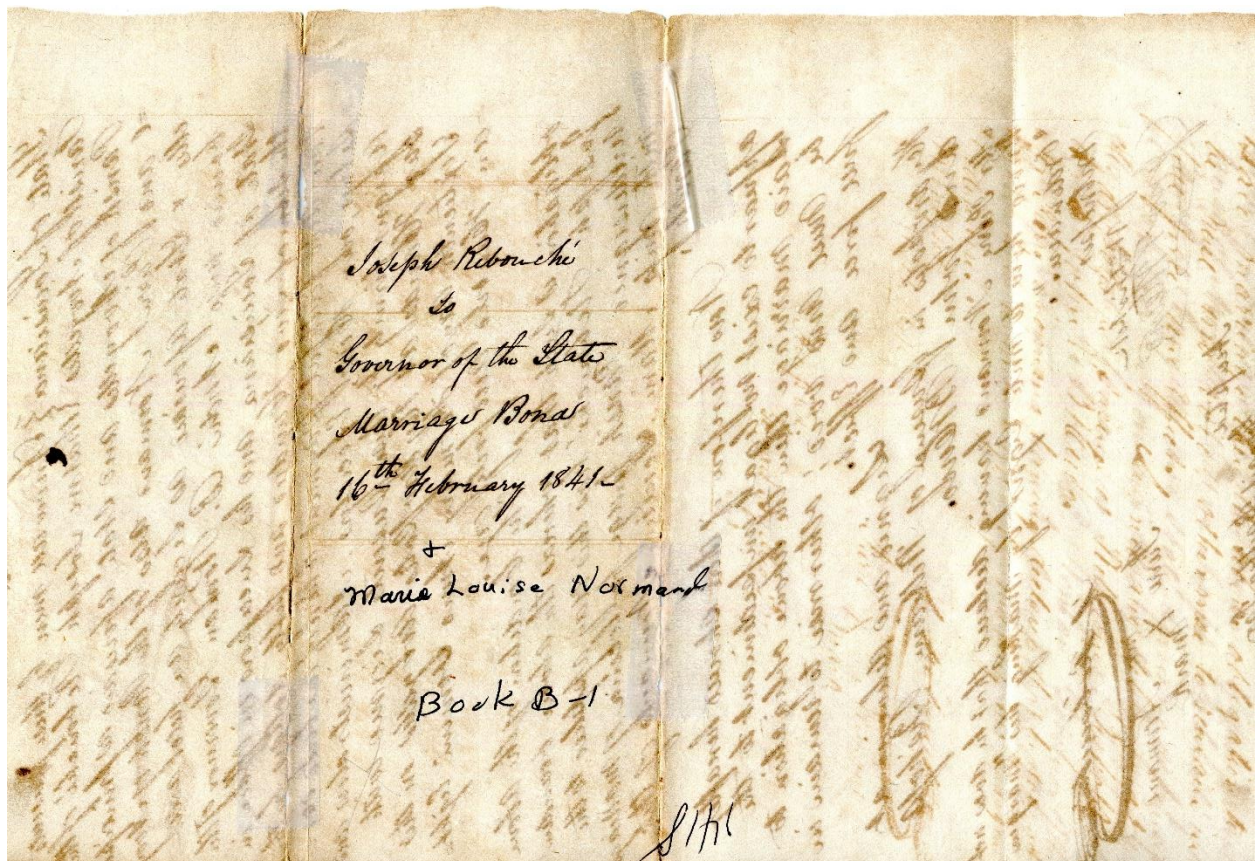
So, I made one final attempt to see if anyone else had recorded part of this lineage somewhere and I got very lucky. I found a 'Joseph Rebouche' recorded on a lineage with the same birthdate/birthplace. His father was identified as Jean Baptiste Rebouché (as the 1841 marriage record at St. Paul the Apostle states) and his mother's name was listed as Françoise Boulay rather than Coulay. The genealogist recorded

the name/birthdates of each of his siblings along with much more. I've had the opportunity to verify a portion of this lineage, obtain copies of sacramental records, and have no doubt that this is his family. I will share when I'm finished and will likely add up to six generations on this line.

More to come.....

## MARRIAGE BOND OF JOSEPH REBOUCHÉ AND MARIE LOUISE NORMAND

2 Pages





State of Louisiana } Know all men by these presents  
Parish of Avoyelles } that we Joseph Rebouche of the  
Parish of Avoyelles and State aforesaid as principal  
= and Pierre Normand also of the Parish of Avoy-  
= elles & State aforesaid as security are held and  
bound unto Andre B. Roman Governor of the  
State of Louisiana and his Successors in office in  
the sum of Two Hundred and fifty dollars for the  
true and faithful payment whereof we bind our-  
= selves, our Heirs, Executors, Administrators and  
 assigns firmly by these presents Signed with  
our Hands at Noyelles Avoyelles on this  
Sixteenth day of February Anno Domini Eight-  
= een Hundred and forty one.

The condition of the above  
obligation is such that whereas the above bounden  
Joseph Rebouche has this day applied to the  
undersigned Parish Judge for license of marriage  
with Miss Marie Louise Normand of this  
Parish.

Now therefore if there should hereafter  
appear to exist no legal impediment to the  
said marriage then the above obligation to  
be null and void; otherwise to remain in  
full force and effect.

Signed and delivered at  
Noyelles in presence of William Bishop  
and John McLeod.

Mr Pierre Normand having declared that he does not  
know how to write Signs by making his "marque  
ordinaire".

Witnesses

Wm Bishop  
John McLeod

J. Rebouche  
Pierre X Normand  
mark

Accepted

Andre B. Roman