

BLUE HAWAII

Hawaii Speaks Out

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What a wonderful site! The irony of this site is - that it makes me very aware of African, European, and Native American contributions - which contradicts many who feel that African contributions are overlooked (quite the contrary!). Due to this I've looked up other sites - actually familiarized myself with the Guinea Coast and Senegambia region (mainly for architecture - which is my profession). I, like many, believe the mix of these cultures is what created such uniqueness (Hawaii runs a close second with hapa Asian Pacific/Euro cultures - even with a little criollo Puerto Rican!)

Also wanted to locate relatives linked to the Swiss-French planter Guillaume Tell and only know that my grandfather kept in touch with a few cousins - as there are many throughout state (Avoyelles, Lafayette, East Feliciana, Cado, Bienville - to name a few).

For many obvious reasons and funny enough, it is much easier to trace my mother's side as they are second/third generation Scotch/Irish/Swedish (with a great full blooded Cherokee grandfather). They all settled in Northern Minnesota and Arkansas (typical, huh?)

I wish I knew more about the paternal side as the history seems so rich. I'm currently getting a grad degree in green interior architecture - and Louisiana is fascinating (paternal & late grandfather built houses throughout this area during the 20s - I wish I could ask him as it was somewhat a family tradition of carpenters/builders). Unfortunately, in the past - my father was reluctant at times to talk about his history as there seemed to be tension - in his family - between light/dark or privileged/non privileged (not to mention shame around a Chinese great grandfather . . .). However, I think times are changing towards creole/hapa cultures- considering positive attitudes towards my immediate heritage and extended family on both sides. Without mixing - I feel the world would be a dullllllll place. (no evolution . . . in any capacity - physical, mental, emotional)