Archibald (Richland Parish) was settled during and immediately following the Civil War. Among the first settlers were the Chapmans, Lynns, Hills and Archibalds. Most of the first settlers came from Alabama and eastern Mississippi when Federal forces occupied their homelands.

Archibald received its name from J. Burton Archibald who deeded right-of-way when the railroad came through in the 1880s. Before that time, since there were no roads or railroads, goods and supplies were received by steamboat on the Boeuf River at Alto during high water in spring and winter months.

This community and surrounding area has six churches, one of which is over one hundred years old. In 1968 the school was consolidated; the children now attend school in Mangham, three miles south of Archibald.

The primary industry is still agriculture — cotton, soybeans and cattle. However, many residents are engaged in construction work and drive to nearby towns to work. Archibald is the home of Bayou Fisheries, one of the largest commercial fish hatcheries, which has over 700 acres of minnow ponds. They ship fish bait all over the United States. Archibald has three general stores and a construction company. The town is not incorporated. There are probably 400 or 500 people living within a one mile radius.

Source: Leonard Archibald
—Clare D’Artois Leeper