WEDDING REENACTMENT — When the celebrated Durand Wedding is reenacted in St. Martinville on May 1, even the participants will be authentic, the wedding will be part of the Acadian Pilgrimage of the Mother Church of the Acadians, one of the series of events planned during the year-long, statewide observance of the Acadian Bicentennial. The ceremonies are designed to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the migration from Nova Scotia to Louisiana and are expected to draw thousands of visitors to the area during the year.

Durand Wedding To Be Reenacted In St. Martinville On May 1

ST. MARTINVILLE, La. — The wedding which supposedly never occurred will have a new outing when the reenacted Durand Wedding is reenacted in St. Martinville on May 1. The principal participants in the drama which has been anticipated will be two of old Charles Durand's great-grandchildren, Marie Kauoma and Harry Durand, and the performances of which they will be a part will be closely patterned after the legendary original.

The wedding will be one of the highlights of the Acadian Pilgrimage of the Mother Church of the Acadians which St. Martinville is staging as part of its Acadian Bicentennial Year observance.

This has occurred many of the details of the Durand wedding, but it was without a doubt one of the most splendid marriage ceremonies ever performed in Louisiana. Charles Durand was wealthy and aristocratic and he had a full family living in the grand manner. For the marriage of two of his nieces, his court was magnificent, the maid of honor in all his court.

The most striking feature of his plantation was the magnificent double row of pine and oak trees and it was around this that he planned the decorations for the occasion. He is said to have imported giant visitors from China and released them during the time when they sprang clouds of silver and gold drapes and gold and silver drapes and gold leaves as a thrilling ceremony for the bridal procession.

Thousands are expected to attend for the reenactment of the Durand Wedding to be held on the grounds of the plantation. The bridal party will be greeted with cheers.

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