WITH CALCASIEU PARISH WILDCAT

First Oil Venture In State Of Louisiana Recorded In 1865

The year 1865 marks the 100th anniversary of the first recorded effort to find oil in Louisiana. According to state records, the first oil well was drilled in 1865 by the Louisiana Petroleum and Coal Company. The 1865 date is given by the Department of Conservation, other publications list it as "about 1869," some 15 miles west of Lake Charles.

Probably the first report on the presence of oil in Louisiana was published in 1864 in the American Journal of Science, by William S. Carpenter, who wrote: "In the low lands bordering on the Cacasieu River there are several oil springs which were visited by several persons, who reported the discovery of oil."

The Louisiana Geological Survey in its "Report for 1869" states that the first well was drilled in the Cacasieu area by the Louisiana Petroleum Company, and was located on the Jules and Egan district. The well was completed in 1869, and was of particular interest because it was the first well drilled in the state of Louisiana.

Six Years Later

This was only six years after the first well was drilled in the Cacasieu area. The well was later sold to the Atchafalaya River Oil Company, which drilled a well in 1872 and had much success. The well was located near Jennings, and was the first well to yield a substantial amount of oil in Louisiana.

Breaux Bridge

Breaux Bridge, which was named after Judge Breaux, was the site of the first well drilled in 1872. The well was drilled by the Louisiana Petroleum Company, and was located on the Jules and Egan district. The well was completed in 1872, and was of particular interest because it was the first well drilled in the state of Louisiana.

The six-inch line of the well was laid out, and the well was put in service on the same day. The well was operated by a "25 horse" and "8 horse" engine, and was the first well to yield a substantial amount of oil in Louisiana.

North Louisiana

North Louisiana was the center of interest, and was not until the late 1920s that South Louisiana moved back into the spotlight. South Louisiana became a major producer, and the industry flourished.

Building B

Building B, located at 616 Calcasieu Business Park, is the home of the LAGCOE Visitors Center. It is open daily from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, and is free to the public.

Welcome

Welcome to the LAGCOE Visitors Center! We are located at 616 Calcasieu Business Park, and are open daily from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Our center is free to the public, and is proud to serve as the gateway to Louisiana."