Yam Country – The sweet potato was a major crop in Acadiana in the 1940s and 50s. Sweet potatoes (yams) were shipped all over the country from here. Louis Conque & Co. was one of the many sweet potato brokers. A copy of the label on his crates is shown above and the boy is his five year old son, District Judge Durwood J. Conque. Finally, a weevil destroyed the sweet potato crop one year. That was the end of the booming sweet potato business.

This photo is part of the permanent collection on display at the Lafayette Parish Clerk of Court Office in the Parish Courthouse. If you have an historic picture you would like to see displayed in the collection, call Clerk of Court O.C. Dan Guilliot. The clerk has compiled 650 photographs from the collection into a hard-bound book, Images de Lafayette. It is on sale at local bookstores. Also, Book II has been completed and is available at stores in Lafayette.