Amesville (Jefferson) was named for Oakes Ames, a New England manufacturer and vice president of the Union Pacific. Ames, who was credited with the success of the first transcontinental railroad, was also one of the promoters in the late 1800s of the newly chartered New Orleans, Mobile and Chattanooga railroad.

Ames’ railroad bought the Millaudon plantation and changed its name to Amesville. The plans were to build the railroad’s terminus there, with docks, wharves and facilities for a railroad ferry. Then, the engineers discovered the riverfront of Amesville was a caving bank, too unstable for the river terminus of a railroad; so the great plans for Amesville ended.

The Ames family bought the land from the railroad and operated it in absentee ownership as a plantation for many years, never with great success. In 1908, the Marrero Land and Improvement Company acquired it.

Today, Amesville is part of Marrero; Ames Boulevard serves as a reminder of the financier who had plans for the development of this area.

Source: John Chase’s “Frenchmen, Desire and Good Children.”

—Clare D’Artois Leeper