ORIGINS OF PLACE NAMES IN ACADIA PARISH
By Donald A. Gill

EGAN. The town was named for Michael H. Egan and his three sons - Dan, W.M., and John.
EGAN OIL FIELD. The field was named for its location near the town of Egan.
ELLIS OIL AND GAS FIELD. The field was named for its location near the community of Ellis.
ESTHERWOOD. First known as Coulee Trief, after Jean Baptiste Trief, an ex-pirate, the town was renamed for two people. A railroad section foreman wanted the town renamed for his wife Esther, and Dr. Wood wanted it renamed for himself; so the name is a blend of the two proposed names.
RUNICE OIL FIELD. The field was named for its location to the nearby town of Runice in St. Landry Parish.
EVANGELINE. The town was named for the heroine of Longfellow’s poem.
FABACHER (now RITCHIE). This community originally bore the name of the Fabacher family, who were well-known in the parish.
FREY. This community was originally named Gassler, for a Catholic priest, Monsignor F. Gassler, who built a church and founded the Catholic parish there. Later the community became known as Frey for the many families by that name living there.
GRAND COULEE OIL AND GAS FIELD. The field was named for its proximity to Grand Coulee, north of Iota.
QUEYDAW OIL AND GAS FIELD. The field was named for its location near the town of Queydin in Vermilion Parish.
LONG POINT GULLY. The gully was named for a long point of timber growing along the gully and jutting into Prairie Hayes.
LYONS POINT. This town was named for John Lyons, who received a Spanish land grant of four thousand acres on either side of Bayou Queue de Tortue.
LYONS POINT GULLY. The gully was also named for John Lyons.
MAXIE. This town was named for Maxie Buson, a young son of W.W. Buson.
MAXIE OIL FIELD. The field was named for its proximity to the town of Maxie.
MERMENTAU. The town was named for its proximity to the Mermentau River.

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