## A Family for Suzanne©

#### Presented by Ruth Randall, CG

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A case study based on the award-winning essay that appeared in the December 2007 issue of the *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*. Historical documents will be used to reconstruct the life of a woman of African descent who in 1801 when she was about three and a half years old was the object of a trade in Colonial Louisiana.

- I. A Trade Takes Place
  - a. The date and place of the trade
  - b. The traders
- II. Terms of the Trade
- III. Source of the Bartered Human Chattel
  - a. Beau-pere Clarence Dial and Alexander Baillie
  - b. Legal Aspects of the trade (Le Code Noir)

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- iv. The Randol Household Pre-Suzanne
  - a. Samuel and Mary Randol
  - b. Four Biological Children
  - c. An Enslaved Boy named Ralph
- v. Suzanne's Quality of Life
- vi. A Dramatic Turn of Events
  - a. Wednesday, 14 October 1801
  - b. Thursday, 22 October 1801
- vii. Samuel Randol's Will & Suzanne's Fate
- viii. Mary Randol's Death
- ix. Jeremiah Randol a Minor and an Orphan
  - a. Guardian Appointed
  - b. Documents Created Regarding Suzanne

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- X. Jeremiah Reaches His Majority
  - a. Guardianship Terminated
  - b. 1830 U.S. Cape Girardeau County, Missouri
  - c. Four Enslaved People Owned by Jeremiah
- xi. Jeremiah's Will Identities Revealed
- xii. Freedom
- xiii. Suzanne's Children Identified
- xiv. Suzanne's Descendants
- xv. Suzanne's Family Legacy
- xvi. Epilogue: A Compelling Tale

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## A Selected Bibliography

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Kenneth M. Stampp, *The Peculiar Institution: Slavery in the Ante-Bellum South* (New York: Vintage Books, 1956)

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Gary R. Kremer, *James Milton Turner and the Promise of America* (Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 1991)

History of Southeast Missouri: (Greenville, S.C., Southern Historical Press Inc., 1888)

Howard Dodson et al. [The Shomburg Center for Research in Black Culture], "Sacred Legacies" in Jubilee: The Emergence of African America Culture (Washington, D. C.: National Geographic, 2002)

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"Article XLI, XLII, XIX," in "Louisiana's Code Noir (1724)," *BlackPast.org:*RememberedandReclaimed (http://www.blackpast.ort/?=primry/loisiana-code-noir-1724.

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### Repositories

Western Historical Manuscript Collection Manuscript Collection-Columbia

Missouri State Archives

Cape Girardeau County Archive Center

Cape Girardeau Genealogical Society

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