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The following field descriptions are for those fields that hold the content and sourcing of the historical documents I studied. Though I have included the first instance of ID fields to show that there is some sort of method to the madness, I have eliminated those fields that were included solely for the design of the database and the ease of running queries and analysis. Be rest assured that relationships between the records exist, and I would be happy to explain in more detail if necessary. But the fields below serve to show that the database has been designed with the historical context of the source material in mind and that I did have a standardized method for collecting the data. And though the length of this document may seem absurd, the majority of these fields are empty in the current database and serve merely as conceptual placeholders for certain research questions or as a proof-of-concept for future databases.

Field Descriptions:

1. Slave Fields
   1. **recordID**

Primary key of the database. Each refers to an individual mention of a slave and is therefore unique. The 9 character id is of the form Ryyyy####, where yyyy refers to the year of the published document and #### refers to a unique assigned number within that year. Including the year assists in browsing the data and the newspaper does not contain more than 9,999 slaves within a single year.

For example: R17660045 or R17850874.

* 1. **sDupID**

Field marking which records refer to the same slave. At this time, they are being noted by G#####, where each unique identifier is attached to several records. A better and more accurate system for this probably exists, but this method is sufficient for purposes here.

For example: Jean-Pierre who entered the prison on 10 Oct 1790 in Saint-Marc (R17901240) and Jean-Pierre who will be sold as unclaimed after entering the Saint-Marc prison on 10 Oct 1790 (R17901555) both receive the sDupID of G00120 to indicate they are the same person.

* 1. **sInterest**

Field for indicating the document holds special interest for the researcher. Allows for notes about translation issues, interesting narratives, or relevance to historical context. Helps quickly locate the documents with great stories and serves as a memory aid for when doing write-ups several months after entering the data.

For example: noting an unknown phrase about rum, a slave *en marronage* for 21 years, an exciting arrest narrative, or 14 slaves from the same plantation being captured as maroons.

* 1. **sType**

Field noting what status the slave has in the document. Choices are *runaway* (for runaway ads), *prisoner* (for prison lists), and *unclaimed prisoner* (for unclaimed prisoner lists). Two slaves are also noted to have been *kidnapped* and one as *unknown*. One five-year-old is also noted as being *lost*, as the notice indicated she wandered off the plantation.

* 1. **sName**

Field for the name of the slave. Holds first and last, or second, name. Originally had a surname field but it was too difficult to determine which was a surname and which was just a second or alternate name. Nearly all slaves are listed as having one name unless they claim to be free.

* 1. **sAlias**

Field for aliases, alternate names, or nicknames. Only entered here instead of sName if the document precedes the other name with *ou*, *dit*, *baptisé*, *surnommé*, or other similar terminology.

* 1. **sNew**

Field for those slaves indicated as *nouveau* (or *nouvelle*). Enter “Yes” into the field if the document so noted it and left blank if not.

* 1. **sGender**

Field to note the gender of the slave. Most clearly indicated by the verb and adjective endings in the document. Those unidentified from the French language can almost always be determined from the name. If still unclear, the field should be left blank – but the pattern in the documents indicates that every slave in the prison lists not specified to be a *Négresse* (or *Mulâtresse*, etc.) is a male.

* 1. **sRace**

Field to note the actual, written identification of race in the document. Entered as is and not inferred here. More common in the 1760’s lists, but to save space explicit mention of race is largely eliminated in the 1780’s lists. Race is always included for new slaves, however, as the phrase used for them is *Nègre(sse) nouveau/elle*.

* 1. **sRace2**

Field for imputing race. Similar to gender, the pattern of the documents indicates that every slave not specified as a Mulâtre, Griffe, Quarteron, or Indien is Nègre. The title of the section for prison lists in *Les Affiches Américaines* is “Nègres Marrons,” which also implies the race is Nègre unless otherwise noted. Also, slaves who are described by an African ethonym can be identified as a Nègre in this field. Because uncertainty still exists here, it is a separate field from the actual terms used in the source text.

The codes used for this field are:

1. Nègre (Negro)
2. Mulâtre (Mulatto)
3. Quarteron (Quadroon)
4. Griffe (Griffe)
5. Indien (Indian)
6. Nègre Indien (likely a person with a parent of each race)
7. Mulâtre Indien (likely a person with a parent of each race)
   1. **sENO**

Field for noting the slave “nation” in the document. Usually the word directly after the name or the race. Enter as written, even if spelling is unusual.

* 1. **sENO2**

Imputed field for slave ethnicity/nation/origin. Standardizes spellings for easier searches and analysis. Those sENO entries not included below should be written out at this time without a numeric code.

Codes used for this field are:

1. Wolof, Sénégalaise, Yolof (Senegambia)
2. Ibo, Igbo (Bight of Biafra)
3. Nago, Yoruba, Lucumí (Slave Coast/Bight of Benin)
4. Arada, Aja, Juda (Slave Coast/Bight of Benin)
5. Congo, Kongo, Franc-Congo (West Central Africa)
6. Thiamba, Tiamba, Chamba, Quiamba (Bight of Benin)
7. Mina, Mine, Amina, Amine (Slave Coast/Bight of Benin)
8. Mondongo, Mondongue (West Central Africa)
9. Mandingue, Mandingo (Senegambia)
10. Bibi (Bight of Biafra)
11. Mozambique (Southeastern Africa)
12. Canga, Kanga (Windward Coast)
13. Poulard, Fulbe, Foule, Poule (Senegambia)
14. Hausa, Aoussa (Slave Coast/Bight of Benin)
15. Bambara (Senegambia)
16. Créole (Americas)
17. Misérable, Misera (Liberia)
18. Caplaou, Cap Lao, Capolaza, Caprao (Upper Guinea)
19. Meuserade (Windward Coast)
20. Adia (Slave Coast/Bight of Benin)
21. Soso, Sosso (Sierra Leone, Upper Guinea)
22. Timbou, Thimbou, Thimbo (Sierra Leone, Upper Guinea)
23. Cotocoli, Cotocoly (Slave Coast/Bight of Benin)
24. Taqua, Tapa, Taquoua, Tapaye (Slave Coast/Bight of Benin)
25. Barba (Slave Coast/Bight of Benin)
26. Kissi, Quissi (Upper Guinea; Gold Coast)
27. Cramenty, Caramenty (Gold Coast)
28. Bandia, Banguia (Gold Coast)
29. Côte d’Or (Gold Coast)
30. Fond (Slave Coast/Bight of Benin)
31. Moco (Bight of Biafra)
32. Moussondy, Mossondi, Mousombé (West Central Africa)
33. Aguia, Yaguia (Bight of Benin)
34. Anglais, English (English Colonies)
35. Espagnol, Spanish (Spanish Colonies)
36. Hollandais, Dutch (Dutch Colonies)
37. Portugais, Portuguese (Portuguese Colonies)
38. Mayombé (West Central Africa)
39. Damba (Bight of Benin)
40. Gambery, Gamberi (Slave Coast/Bight of Benin)
41. Choupiti (???)
42. Témenin, Thémenin, Teminé (???)
43. Indien (Americas)
44. Madagascar (Madagascar)
45. Aya (???)
46. Macoua, Maquoua (Southeastern Africa)
47. Loco (Upper Guinea)
48. Baliba, Bariba (Bight of Benin)
    1. **sCreoleOrigin**

Field noting the origin or birthplace of a creole slave. Usually in the form of *creole de [place]*. Enter as written.

* 1. **sCreoleOrigin2**

Imputed field for sCreoleOrigin. Any sENO that is from the Americas can be entered as a creole origin. Standardizes spellings. Uses location codes.

* 1. **sAge**

Field for numeric ages. Enter as single number or with hyphen in between two numbers.

* 1. **sAgeDescription**

Field for text descriptions of age. Enter as written.

For example, slaves described as *jeune* or *vieux*/*vieille*, with a race of *Négritte* or *Négrillon*, or as an *enfant à la mamelle*.

* 1. **sCondition**

Field for recording medical conditions or illnesses of the slave. Enter phrase as written with semicolons between each descriptor.Examples include smallpox scars, venereal disease, broken bones, sores, or wounds. Should collapse this field into sDescription because the difference between them is unclear. Can create coded fields for specific illnesses to make up for it.

* 1. **sDescription**

Field for recording any physical descriptions of the slave. Enter phrase as written with semicolons between each descriptor. Examples are skin color, facial features, deformities, or body type. Should collapse sCondition and sCharacter field into this one in favor of general description field because of difficulty in determining what is a medical condition or character trait rather than a physical description.

* 1. **sHeight**

Field for recording height of the slave. Enter using two digits to note the height in inches. If the document uses terminology such as *quelque pouces* or *d’une moyenne* *taille*, then enter the phrase in the sDescription field instead.

* 1. **sBrands**

Field for recording brands and stamps on the slave’s body. Enter the phrase as written in the document, including capitalization, with semicolons between each different part of the body. Indicate inverse brands with [renversée] (practice taken from Le Glaunec’s website). At this time, mentions of slaves *sans étampe* should be entered as written, as this is different from not mentioning anything about a brand. Possibly better to have coded field for this later.

For example, enter *sur le sein gauche CAPDEVILLE; sur le sein droit AU CAP*.

* 1. **sScars**

Field for recording scars or marks that do not seem to be deliberately made for identification or culture purposes. Enter the phrase as written in the document as it will be specific. Separate different marks or phrases with semicolons.

* 1. **sCountryMarks**

Field for noting that the slave has *des marques de son pays*. Enter the phrase as written in the document, including the location on the body. Most common for *nouveau* slaves.

* 1. **sOccSkills**

Field for noting any occupations, trades, or skills of the slave. More common for runaway ads. Enter phrase or term as written in document with semicolons between different occupations/skills. Should be coded based on trade at later date.

* 1. **sCharacter**

Field for entering phrases or descriptions of slave’s character. Very rare and will likely eliminate it in favor of general description field with select coding for more common features, as noted in sCondition and sDescription field subsections.

* 1. **sLanguage**

Field for noting the slave’s language skills (or lack of it). Enter the phrase from the document as written.

* 1. **sPossTake**

Field for noting anything that the slave has on his or her person or that he or she took when leaving. Common examples are *billets* or *chevals*. Enter phrase as written with semicolons in between items.

* 1. **sClothing**

Field for noting anything that the slave is wearing. Includes jewelry. Enter phrase as written with semicolons in between items.

* 1. **sIndPunish**

Field for indicating the slave has received identifiable punishment. Any mention of chains, nabots, iron collars, marks of the fleur-de-lis, cut-off ears, hamstrung legs, or cuts/scars of a whip should result in a “Yes” entry in this field. If uncertain about treatment or the meaning of a physical description, enter it in the sInterest or sNoteworthy field. If no indication of punishment, then leave blank.

* 1. **sChains**

Field for noting the types of chains and irons used to restrain the slaves. Enter the phrase about the chains as written. See the website for common terms and types of chains.

* 1. **sEscapeDate**

Field for recording the escape date of the slave. Usually only located in runaway advertisements. Format date as yyyy-mm-dd as best as possible. If a date range is given, enter the earliest day. If only a month is given, then enter yyyy-mm. If the escape date is given in weeks, calculate a day from the publication date. If the time is given in months or years, however, simply calculate the month or year and leave the rest blank. Essentially, calculate a day if the time is under two months but don’t if more than that. And if the time is given as similar to *quelque temps* then leave the field blank.

* 1. **sTimeColony**

Field for noting the time the slave has lived in the colony. Rare and usually only mentioned in runaway ads. Enter date as yyyy-mm-dd as complete as possible following sEscapeDate rules – usually have to determine this form from text.

* 1. **sPrisonEntry**

Field for noting the date the slave entered the prison. Should always be present in the document except before the middle of 1767. Enter date as yyyy-mm-dd.

* 1. **sSaleDate**

Field for noting any sale date for a slave. This could be stated as the projected sale date in an unclaimed prisoners list, or could be mentioned in a runaway ad. Enter date as yyyy-mm-dd following sEscapeDate rules if date is not explicitly given.

* 1. **sArrestDate**

Field for noting the arrest date of the slave. Currently in the database, but is very rare and only appears in unclaimed prisoner lists. Comparison with original prison posting indicates that this date is nearly always the same as the sPrisonEntry date. Will likely eliminate. Until then, enter the arrest date as yyyy-mm-dd.

* 1. **sReward**

Field for noting whether a reward is being offered for the runaway slave. Many ads do not mention a reward because it is understood that those who return runaways to a prison automatically receive a reward per head. Only those masters who want to add extra incentive will include a reward in the ad itself. Enter “Yes” if the ad indicates some sort of reward and leave blank if not.

* 1. **sRewardVal**

Field for recording the actual monetary value of the reward offered. Enter as written in the document.

* 1. **sClaimFree**

Field noting whether the slave identifies him/herself as free. The phrase will usually be *se disant libre*. Enter “Yes” in this field if this is stated, and leave blank if not.

* 1. **sCNNMaster**

Field for noting that the slave could not name his or her master. Common for *nouveau* slaves because of a lack of language skills. Wording is usually *n'a pu dire le nom de son maître* or *n'a sçu dire le nom de son maître*. Enter “Yes” in the field if the document includes this phrasing and leave blank if not.

* 1. **sCNNSelf**

Field for noting that the slave could not give his or her name. Common for *nouveau* slaves because of a lack of language skills. Wording is usually *n'a pu dire son nom* or *n'a sçu dire son nom*. Enter “Yes” in the field if the document includes this phrasing and leave blank if not.

* 1. **sCNNNation**

Field for noting that the slave could not name his nation. This is less common than name or master, as other slaves in the prison may be able to identify the African “nation” of the new slave based on language or body markings. Wording is usually *n'a pu dire sa nation* or *n'a sçu dire sa nation*. Enter “Yes” in the field if the document includes this phrasing and leave blank if not.

* 1. **sWNNMaster**

Field for noting that the slave would not name his or her master. Wording is usually *n'a voulu dire le nom de son maître*. Enter “Yes” in the field if the document includes this phrasing and leave blank if not.

* 1. **sWNNSelf**

Field for noting that the slave would not name his or her master. Wording is usually *n'a voulu dire son nom*. Enter “Yes” in the field if the document includes this phrasing and leave blank if not.

* 1. **sWNNNation**

Field for noting that the slave would not name his or her master. Wording is usually *n'a voulu dire sa nation*. Enter “Yes” in the field if the document includes this phrasing and leave blank if not.

* 1. **sNoteworthy**

Field for anything extra that is interesting that does not fit in other fields. More often useful for runaway ads and usually is a transcription of the phrasing of what was noted in the sInterest field.

* 1. **sPrisonLoc**

Field for entering the location where the slave is imprisoned. The name of the town is at the head of the prison list. If slave has been transferred, enter both town names with a semicolon in between.

* 1. **sArrestLoc**

Field for entering the location where the slave was arrested or captured. Not common in 1760’s prison lists but often specified in the 1780’s lists. Enter as is without correcting for spelling. Usually the name of a town or canton, but sometimes the name of a region, such as *les hauteurs de Saint-Marc* or *Espagnol* (to indicate Spanish Santo-Domingo).

* 1. **sEscapeLoc**

Field for entering the location from where the slave ran away. Usually only mentioned in runaway ads. Enter as written because the locations are often very specific.

* 1. **sSuspectLoc**

Field for entering the location where the slave is suspected to be. For runaway ads only. Enter as written because the locations are often very specific.

* 1. **sSaleLoc**

Field for entering the location where the slave has been sold or will be sold. Sometimes in runaway ads but more often for unclaimed prisoner lists. Enter as written for the ads or the name of the town for unclaimed prisoner lists.

* 1. **sOtherLoc**

Field for entering any other location that doesn’t fit elsewhere. Examples are residence locations for prisoners claiming to be free or where the slave was raised. Enter as written because the locations are often very specific.

1. Non-Slave Fields
   1. **nsID**

Identifier for non-slaves. Each refers to an individual mention of a non-slave and is therefore unique. The 9 character id is of the form Nyyyy####, where yyyy refers to the year of the published document and #### refers to a unique assigned number within that year.

* 1. **nsDupID**

Field marking which records refer to the same non-slave. At this time, they are being noted by P####, where each unique identifier is attached to several records. A better and more accurate system for this probably exists, but this method is sufficient for purposes here. See sDupID for example.

* 1. **nsRelationship**

Field for recording the relationship the non-slave has with the slave.

Examples: Slave Owner, Slave Owner Former, Slave Owner Deceased, Slave Lessee, Ad Contact, Plantation Owner (if no direct relation is given but a plantation’s name is listed), Property Owner (if no direct relation is given but indicated the non-slave owns property, as in *chez Mme Chat*)

* 1. **nsComplete**

Field for recording complete name of non-slave, including title or suffix. Don’t use periods. Correct spellings of titles if possible, however. Do not standardize surnames.

Examples: Mrs Robillard, frères ; père Jacques Laporte ; or Habitation de M Brun-Larcherie

* 1. **nsGender**

Field for noting gender of non-slaves. Use title and verb endings to determine. Enter “Male” or “Female.”

* 1. **nsRace**

Field for recording race of non-slaves if mentioned. The phrase is usually *mulâtre(sse) libre* (m.l.) or *nègre(sse) libre* (n.l.). Enter *mulâtre(sse), m, nègre(sse),* or *n* as written.

* 1. **nsEthnicity**

Field noting the ethnicity of the non-slave. Very rare and usually only seen with Spanish colonists from Santo Domingo. Enter as written.

* 1. **nsFree**

Field for recording free status of non-slaves if mentioned. The phrase is usually *mulâtre(sse) libre* (m.l.) or *nègre(sse) libre* (n.l.). Enter *libre* or l as written.

* 1. **nsOcc**

Field noting the occupation of the non-slave. Enter as written in the document, with semicolons between different occupations or positions.

* 1. **nsLoc**

Field for recording location of non-slave. Enter as written in the document, commas and hyphens too.

* 1. **nsNotes**

Field recording any notes about the non-slave. Enter interesting information as written.

1. Family Relation Fields
   1. **familyRel**

Field noting the family relationship between the primary record ID holder and the relative.

Examples: Mother and Infan; Mother and Son; Two Sisters; Mother, Father, and Three Children

* 1. **spouseID**

Field noting the spouse’s slave or non-slave ID. Use recordID or nsID.

* 1. **siblingID**

Field noting the sibling’s slave or non-slave ID. Use recordID or nsID. For now insert semicolons between ID’s of multiple siblings.

* 1. **motherID**

Field noting the mother’s slave or non-slave ID. Use recordID or nsID.

* 1. **fatherID**

Field noting the father’s slave or non-slave ID. Use recordID or nsID.

* 1. **otherID**

Field noting any other family relation’s slave or non-slave ID. Use recordID or nsID. Examples include godparents, aunts, or uncles.

1. Document Fields
   1. **docID**

Field identifying each unique document. In this database, each indented paragraph is a document in the runaway ads and unclaimed prisoner lists. For the prison lists, however, each individual entry about a slave is a document, usually separated by a semicolon. This should probably change to be every indented paragraph, though. Each is unique and has the form Dyyyy####, where the explanation is the same for previous ID fields.

* 1. **docSection**

Field noting the section header in *Les Affiches Américaines* where the relevant document is located. Usually titled *Nègres Marrons*, *Esclaves en Marronage*, or begins with *État des Esclaves Epâves*. Enter as written.

* 1. **docPage**

Field noting the page number of *Les Affiches Américaines* where the document is located*.* Page number is on the top of the page. In the case of a supplementary section of the newspaper with no page number, leave the field blank.

* 1. **docNumber**

Field noting the number of the document in sequence with the other documents on the page. Each indented paragraph in the runaway advertisements and unclaimed prisoner sections have a new number. Each entry in the prison list section is a separate number.

* 1. **docTranscription**

Field for recording the transcription of the document. Enter punctuation and accents as they appear in the document. Use [] brackets for noting inverse brands or other necessary explanations of drawings or word completion.

1. Source Fields
   1. **sourceID**

Field identifying each unique source. In this database, each issue of Les Affiches Américaines that has a different issue number, publication date, or publication location has a different sourceID. Each is unique and has the form Syyyy####, where the explanation is the same for previous ID fields.

* 1. **sourceDate**

Field noting the date of the newspaper issue. Enter in date format of yyyy-mm-dd.

* 1. **sourceIssue**

Field noting the number of the newspaper issue. Located in the title of the newspaper.

* 1. **sourceLoc**

Field noting the location where the newspaper issue was printed. Solely in Cap-Français until 23 March 1768, when the primary printing took place in Port-au-Prince, with an alternate printing in Cap-Français.