

THE RYANS OF MARGAREE, excerpt from the Book of Geneaology for the Parish of Margaree, contents compiled by the Margaree New Horizon Club

"When Rev. Father Le Jamtel visited Margaree and Cheticamp in 1809, he found between Cheticamp Parish and Margaree Parish, a family of Ryans, living in a small house by the sea shore on what later became Jim White's property. (The old cellar can still be found).

This man was Joseph Ryan, a disbanded British Army soldier who had been rewarded for his services to the crown by a large tract (640 acres) of land. To this day, the place where he built his house has always been known as "Betsy's Shore" or "La Cote a Betsy". Later the whole community became known as Terre Noire.

Joseph Ryan and his wife Elizabeth Derabois, came to Margaree in the year 1790. In 1809, they had the following children: Basil, Joseph, Brigette, Marie, Jean, Catherine, Thomas, Louise, all born before 1809. Charles born 1813 and Helen born 1814."