

Château-Joyeux: A succession of artists in a single house on Rue Delort!

The influx of artists to Bourron-Marlotte from the second half of the 19th century onwards has been the subject of numerous publications.¹ We continue, however, to deepen our knowledge of certain houses in the village and have thus been able to add a painter to the lineage of owners of *Château-Joyeux*, a residence located at 27 rue Delort.

1852-1856: Louis Coignard

On June 27, 1852, the painter Louis Coignard purchased *a house and outbuildings located in Marlotte, in the commune of Bourron, on rue de la Cheminée Blanche. The house consisted of a single building with a ground floor comprising a dining room, anteroom, kitchen, and three other rooms used for various purposes; an upper floor divided into master bedrooms and a painting studio; and a second floor divided into a servant's room and an attic. A garden of approximately two ares (two ares) lay to the south of the main building, along with several small structures and the right to a communal well located on the edge of the street to the east of the aforementioned property. The entire property bordered rue de la Cheminée Blanche to the north, via the main building and a portion of the garden.*² This house had previously belonged to Jean Baptiste Frot and his wife, Virginie Tholimet.

It is surprising to read in the house description that a painting studio already existed there in 1852! Could another painter have lived there before? A question begging for further research...

Louis Coignard (1812-1884) studied in Paris in the studio of François Édouard Picot. He explored several genres of painting but specialized in landscape and gained some renown in the field of animal painting, particularly of cattle. He made his debut at the Salon of 1838 and exhibited regularly thereafter. He won a third-place medal in 1846, a first-place medal in 1848, and an honorable mention in 1855.

During his stay in Marlotte, he painted a picture entitled "*Stable of an Animal Painter in Marlotte*," which was sold at auction at Drouot in May 1858. Other titles of his works also reflect the painter's inspiration in our village: "*Village of Marlotte - Autumn Morning*," "*Herd of Cows at Long Rocher*," and "*Herd of the Hamlet of Marlotte*."

¹ *Bourron-Marlotte – Si les maisons racontaient ...* by M.C. Roesch-Lalance, 3rd edition, 2023.

² Seine-et-Marne department archives– Notary registers from Montigny-sur-Loing.



Paysage de vaches au pré by Louis Coignard

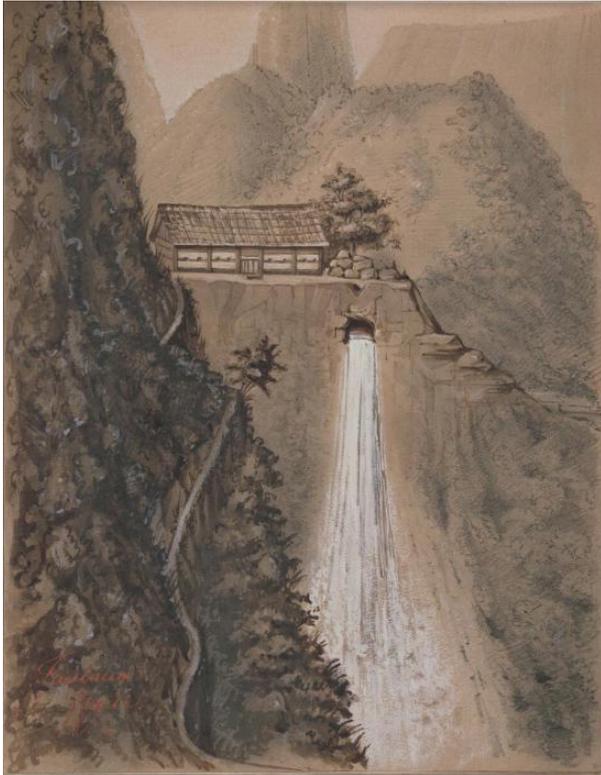
On November 29, 1856, Coignard sold the house to Pierre Henri Lachèze,³ a lawyer and writer from Marlotte, who was then involved in numerous real estate transactions.

1857 to 1861: Charles Antiq

On April 20, 1857, the house, previously jointly owned by the Tholimet family and Pierre Henri Lachèze, was acquired by the painter and earthenware collector Charles Antiq (1824-1894). The *Amis de Bourron-Marlotte* have dedicated an article to Antiq.⁴ A sailor at the age of 20, he explored the world, particularly the Pacific islands, from which he brought back various depictions. Upon his return, he purchased *Château-Joyeux*, which became his regular residence for much of the last 37 years of his life. Following the onset of blindness, Charles Antiq was forced to abandon painting and devoted himself to earthenware, becoming an avid collector and a recognized expert in the field.

³ *Vauquer, Guillemain et Lachèze, trois générations remarquables au 19^e siècle à Marlotte* by D. Ricoult, *Bulletin des Amis de Bourron-Marlotte*, n°65, 2023.

⁴ *Charles Claude Antiq, peintre paysagiste et grand collectionneur de faïences* by J. Barré, *Bulletin des Amis de Bourron-Marlotte*, n°64, 2022.



Fautaua, Taiti island by Charles-Claude Antiq



Charles Antiq in front of his earthenware collection

In 1861, Charles Antiq left *Château-Joyeux* and settled for a while not far from there, at the *Carrefour de Marlotte*.⁵

1861 to 1865: Eugène Cyrille Brunet

On April 25, 1861, Charles Antiq sold his house to the sculptor Eugène Cyrille Brunet (1828-1906). Brunet had previously lived in Marlotte, renting the house at *39 rue Murger*. Six months later, he married Caroline de Pène, who became famous for her portrait painted by Édouard Manet during this period. It was also around this time that Brunet recommended to his friend Jules Le Cœur, a painter and close friend of Auguste Renoir, that he move to Marlotte. Le Cœur took his advice and rented *Les Glycines*, a property opposite *Château Joyeux* on rue Delort.

Four years later, on December 4, 1865, Brunet sold his house to Judith Charlotte Klotz, daughter of Judith Minah Klotz, partner of Charles Antiq. It is worth noting that the Brunet couple then moved to Loctudy, in Brittany, where their one-year-old daughter died after being struck by lightning. Then, in 1878, Caroline Brunet-de Pène died at the age of 40. Brunet returned to Paris where he remarried Sophie Perlet in 1881. She would become a painter, and the town hall-museum of Bourron-Marlotte owns two of her works. Cyrille Brunet and his second wife returned to our region and bought a house in Sorques / Montigny-sur-Loing in 1890, which they sold in 1898.

⁵ Population census of Bourron-Marlotte, 1861.



Portrait of Mrs Brunet by Edouard Manet, ca 1861-1863 (Getty Museum, Los Angeles)



Photographic portrait of Eugène Cyrille Brunet, ca 1875 (Coll. BNF)

1865 to 1894: Return to Charles Antiq

Following the real estate transaction between Brunet and Judith Klotz in 1865, Antiq returned to *Château-Joyeux* and remained there for nearly thirty years. From 1865 to 1880, he lived in the house with his partner, Judith Klotz, who died in February of that year. Shortly afterward, Marie Bardinet moved into *Château-Joyeux* and shared Charles Antiq's life.

On December 5, 1894, sensing his impending death, Antiq sold the house to his partner, Marie Bardinet. He died there two weeks later, on December 19.

Marlotte le cinq Décembre mil huit cent
quatre vingt quatorze &
Bon pour pouvoir
Ch. Antiq

One of Charles Antiq' last signature on the house sale deed, dated December 5, 1894

1894 to 1926: Marie and Charles Bardinet

Marie Bardinet, the new owner of *Château-Joyeux* in 1894, remained there with her son, Charles Valentin Bardinet (1881-1950), then 13 years old. The young man developed an interest in painting and, a fervent admirer of Puvis de Chavannes, became his student. A painter of flowers, as well as a landscape artist, Bardinet's canvases are full of light.



River side by Charles Bardinet – Private collection

In 1926, Charles Bardinet's half-sister, Marie Alice, acquired *Château-Joyeux* from their mother, Marie Bardinet. Charles, however, decided to remain in Marlotte, where he bought another house, *La Filouse*, on Rue Palizzi.

This subject will be covered in more detail in a future issue of the Bulletin des Amis de Bourron-Marlotte.