



Administration or *asiento* in building works in Spanish Louisiana

A controversy between the Commander of Engineers and the Intendant (1800-1801)

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Abstract: During the final years of Spanish rule in Louisiana, there was an extensive correspondence between the director-engineer and the intendant from 1800 to 1801: among the references to drafters of treaties, topics of discussion included technical details and power struggles, the modalities of execution of public works by the administration or *asiento*. This controversy illustrates the clash between artistic ideals and the commercial networks of the English, French, and North Americans.

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