



Why Hoo Shoo Too?

We get the question all of the time - Who shoo what?!?!? No, it's not a typo. Our Hoo Shoo Too Redfish is a dish named after the cross street next to us. But how did Who Shoo Too Rd get that name? Who in the world came up with it?

To get a clue, you have to go all the way back to when Baton Rouge was becoming a bustling town. In the 1840s, Louisiana lawmakers were nervous the rich and powerful in New Orleans were getting a little too powerful. So, they voted to move the state capital to Baton Rouge. She started as a small town on the Mississippi mainly populated by farmers and surrounded by plantations. Once the

lawmakers moved in, Baton Rouge quickly grew to double in size. The Civil War halted things a bit while the capital city and its lawmakers bounced around Louisiana, but by 1882 Baton Rouge was once again home to the movers and shakers of the state.

This is where our Hoo Shoo Too history starts. A group of these movers and shakers decided they needed a little R&R, so they headed out of the city for a bit of fishing and "fun". They headed towards the Amite River on a path initially called Clarks Ferry Rd because there was a ferry along the way that would take people across the river.

These excursions became a regular thing, and the group eventually built a fishing camp which grew to include a clubhouse and a dining hall. In 1915 they officially became a club with a formal charter and the name Hoo Shoo Too Club. They hosted annual summer outings, welcomed visiting legislators and other well-to-do characters, and even had the wives out on occasions for dinner parties.

The club's name has a bit of lore surrounding it. One theory is it is a line from a minstrel show one of the members had seen a few years earlier that overemphasized the Cajun accent. Another is that the French

caretaker of the property asked, "who she to?" upon seeing a woman at the club that he didn't recognize. No matter how they came up with it, their choice added to Baton Rouge's uniqueness.

The little path on the Amite River with the fishing camp and clubhouse got gravel in 1938 and was renamed Hoo Shoo Too Rd at some point. In 1968 developers added the first subdivision, Audubon Estates, and the outward expansion and growth of Baton Rouge grew to what we see on Hoo Shoo Too Rd today.

Next time you stop into Just Wingin It to devour our Hoo Shoo Too Redfish, remember you are not only tasting an authentic Louisiana recipe, but you are speaking some truly unique Louisiana words.