

The Mossville Story

1790 – 1800

SETTLERS

Freed slaves build homes near an estuary west of Lake Charles, La.

1855

FIRST WAVE

Sawmills are built on the Calcasieu River, establishing an industry that thrived into the 1920s.

1905

SECOND WAVE

Herman Frasch discovers a sulfur extraction process and begins mining in what is now Sulphur, La., the town just west of what is now Mossville.

1912

MOSSVILLE

Choate's Prairie, named for the wild boars native to the estuary, is renamed Mossville when the Moss family donates land for a post office.

1926

BIG DIG

The ship channel is completed, linking the Port of Lake Charles to Sabine Lake and the Gulf of Mexico.

1939

FIRST IN

Mathieson Alkali Works build a large chemical facility.

1940 – 1950

THIRD WAVE

To support the war effort, large refineries are built by Conoco and Cities Service followed by a series of large chemical facilities.

1995

EXODUS I

Condea Vista confirms groundwater contamination in Mossville, leading to a class-action lawsuit and voluntary buyout in 1998.

Unit 3: Power



1998

HEALTH RISK

U.S. Agency for Toxic Substances & Disease Registry samples blood from Mossville residents, finding a high level of dioxin, a chemical associated with cancer and diabetes.

2012

EXODUS II

Sasol announces it will build an ethylene plant and a gas-to-liquids fuel facility. It offers Mossville residents a voluntary buyout.

Source

Mullin, R. (2016, March 21). Mossville's End. Retrieved from Chemical & Engineering News: <https://cen.acs.org/articles/94/i12/Mossvilles-end.html>