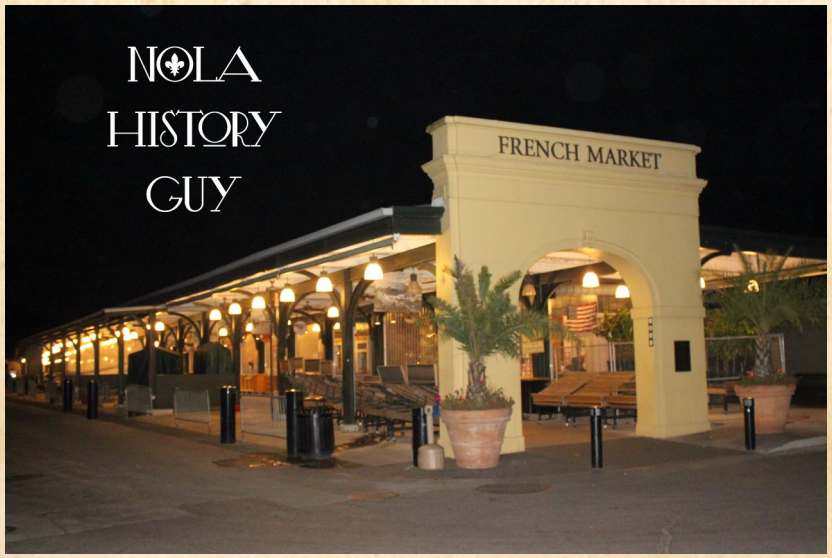
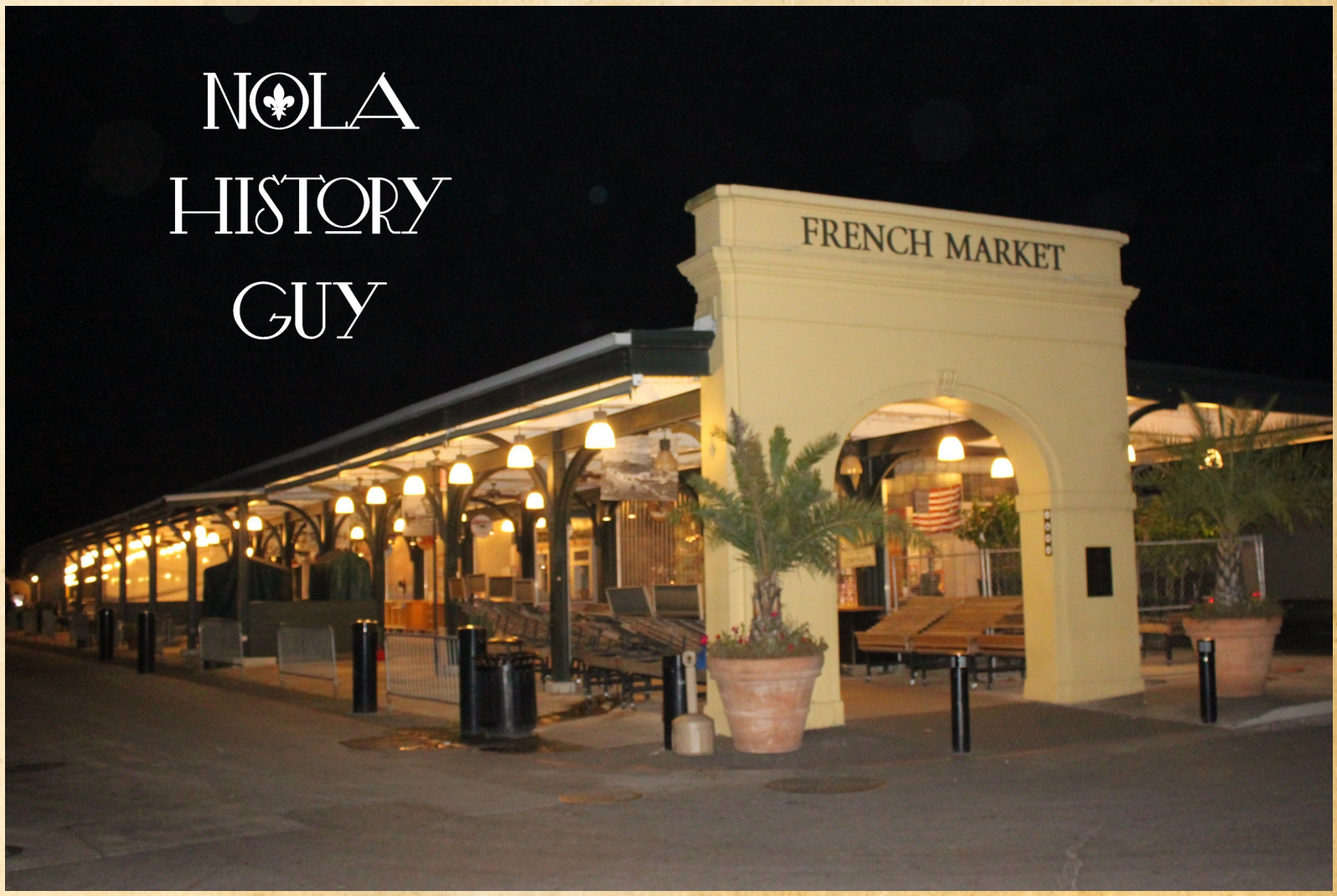


The Levee at New Orleans, 1865

Edward Branley is the NOLA History Guy (edward@nolahistoryguy.com)



The Levee at New Orleans, 1865
by Boyd Cruise

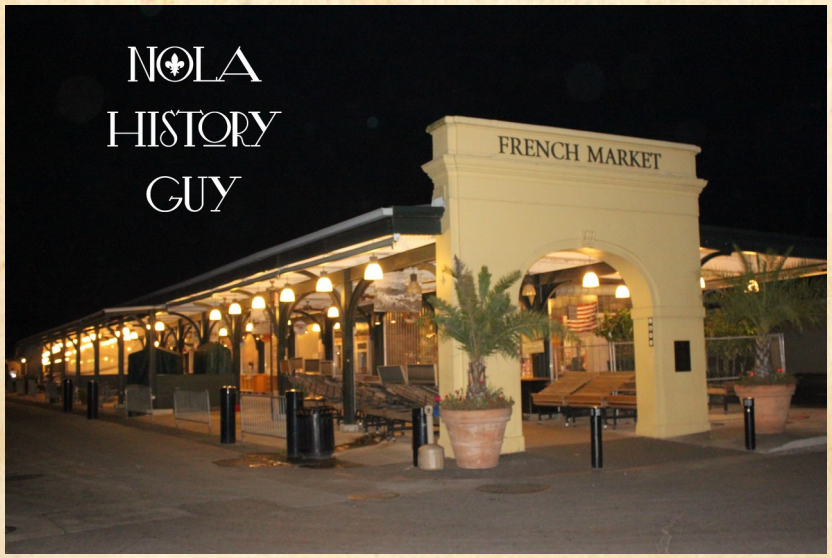
Tour Guide Talking Points

- New Orleans was the second largest port in the US, antebellum
- This Boyd Cruise painting reflects how busy the waterfront was
- “King Cotton” – Cotton was the primary item at the port
- Sugar was secondary, shipped out as molasses
- Riverboat “Fashion” regularly ran from Vicksburg to New Orleans
- “Fashion” burned in 1866
- Painting by Boyd Cruise, 1959

FRIENDS OF THE CABILDO

Alvik Boyd Cruise

- Born 20-October-1909, Cairns Mississippi
- Family moved to Lake Charles in 1918
- New Orleans School of Art, 1928
- Numerous commissions for HABS and WPA projects
- Taught at several schools, including Newcomb College
- Final painting, of B-K House, 1962
- Died 4-December-1988

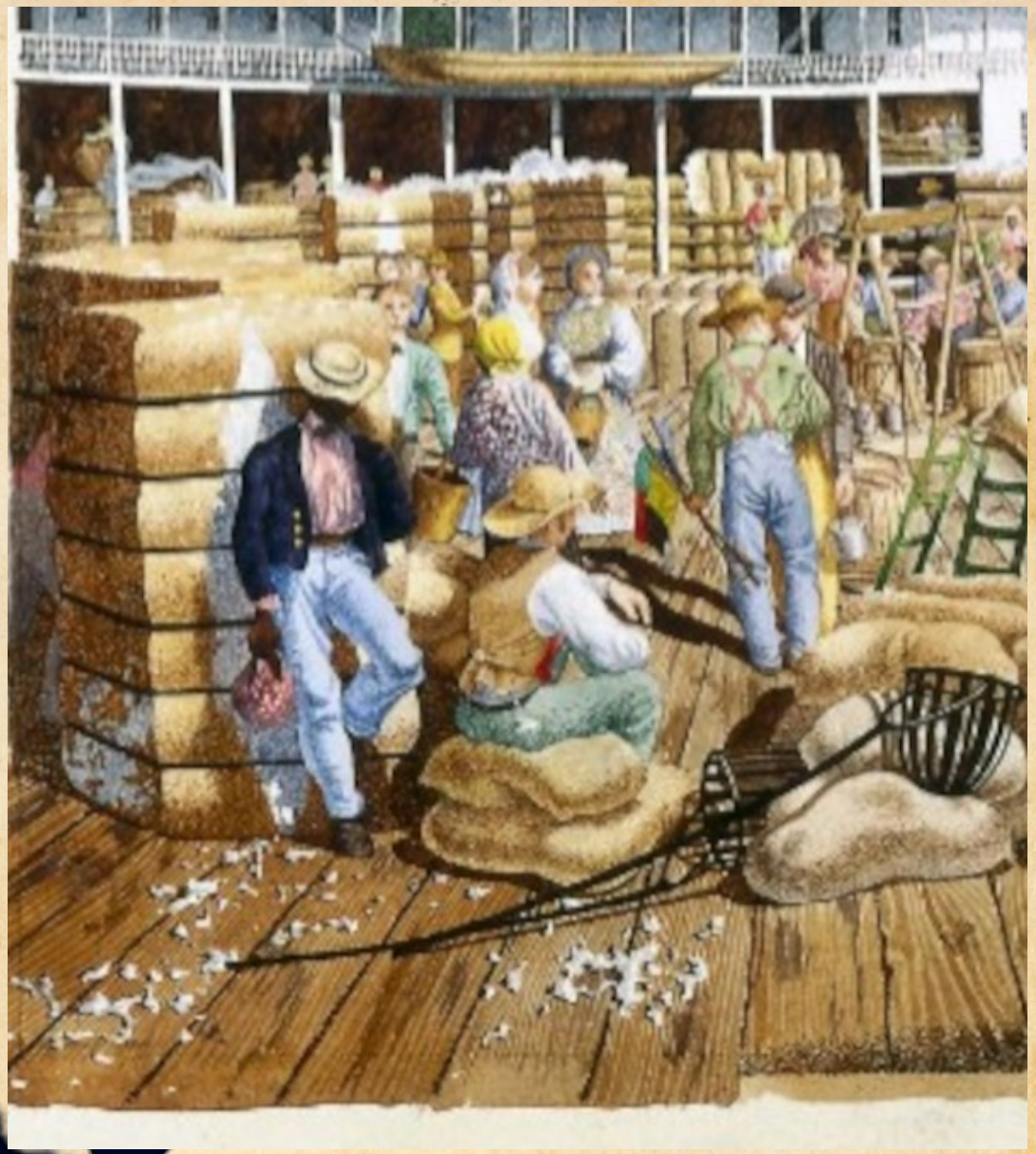


The Levee

Commerce on the Riverfront

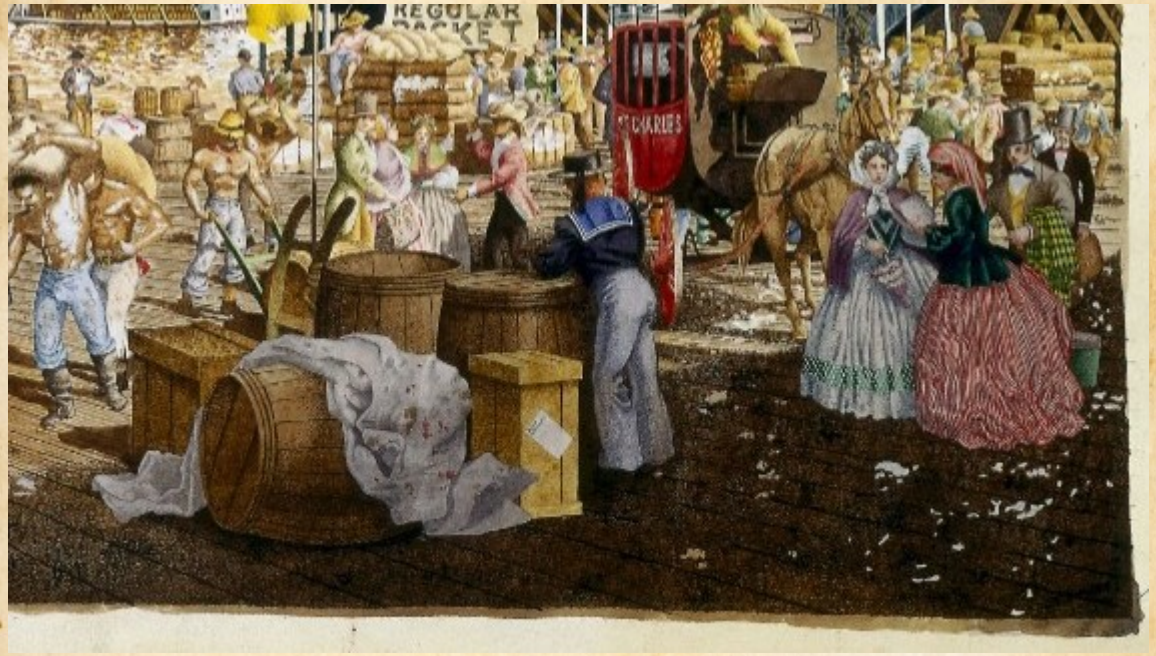
- Steamboats brought raw materials down to the port.
- These included raw cotton and sugar cane.
- Cotton was pressed at plants in the city.
- Pressed cotton bales were then exported.
- Sugar was granulated at the plantations, then shipped to New Orleans
- It was processed into molasses, then barrelled for export
- Passengers rode the steamboats up and down the river.

“King Cotton”



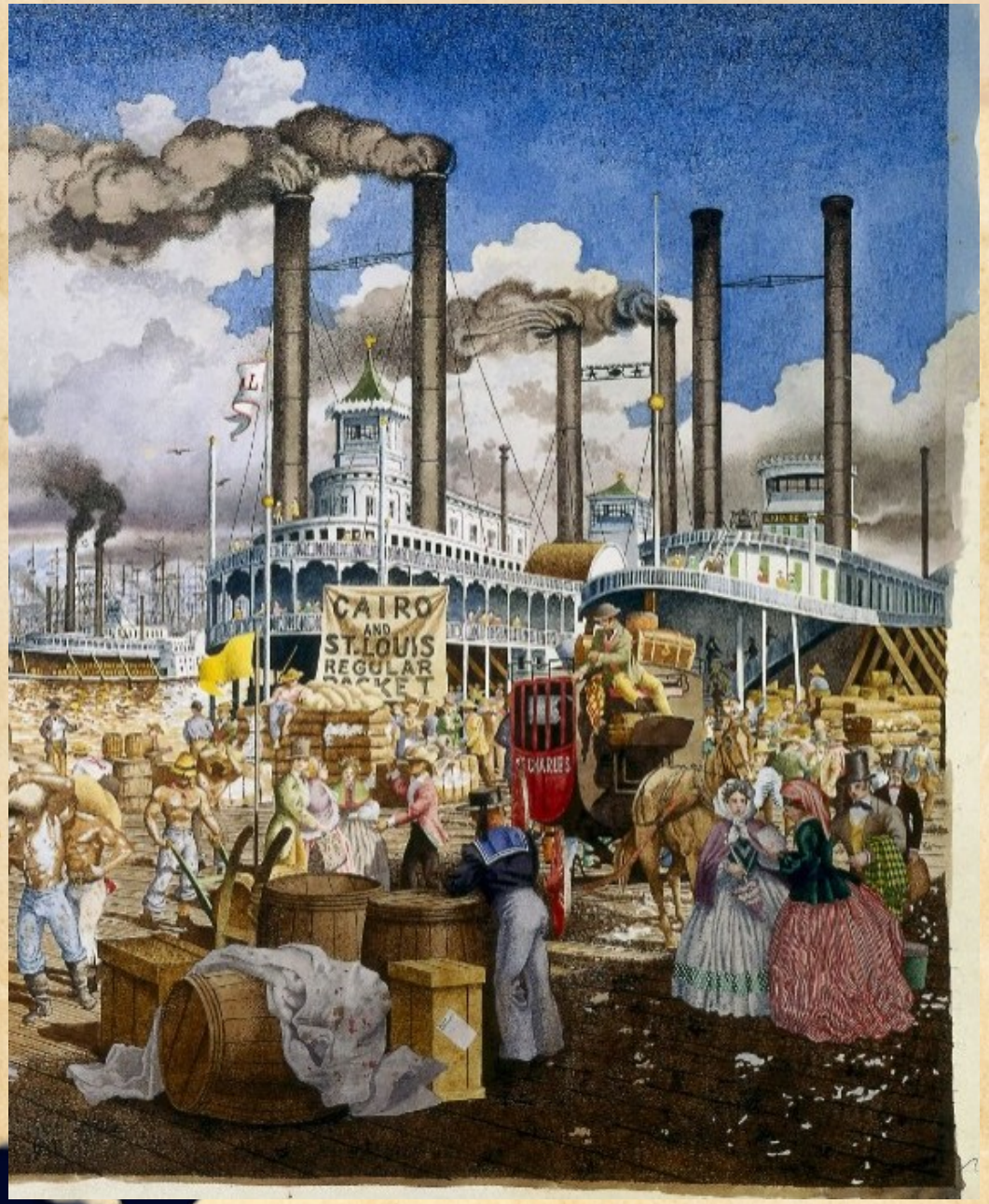
- Pressed bales of cotton await loading on ocean-going ships
- These bales were destined for textile factories on the Atlantic coast and in Europe

Sugar and Passengers

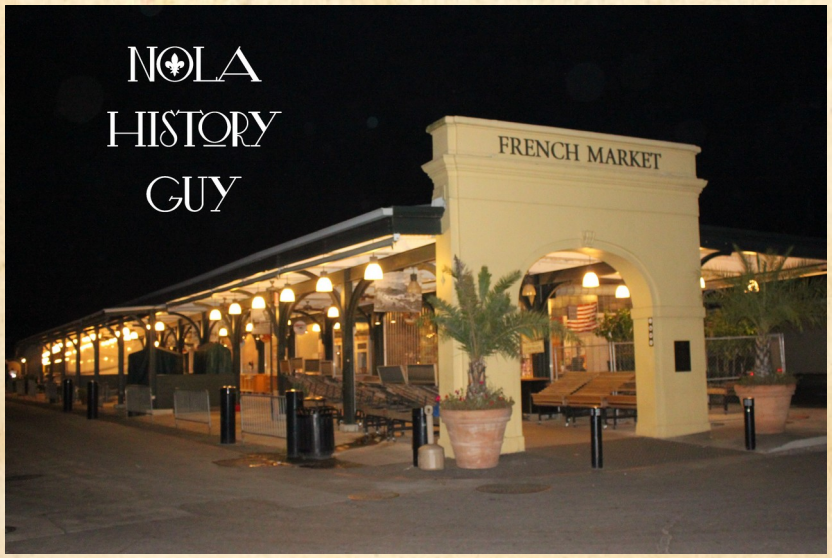


- Molasses barrels await loading
- A coach arrives, bringing steamboat passengers to the levee

Packet Runs



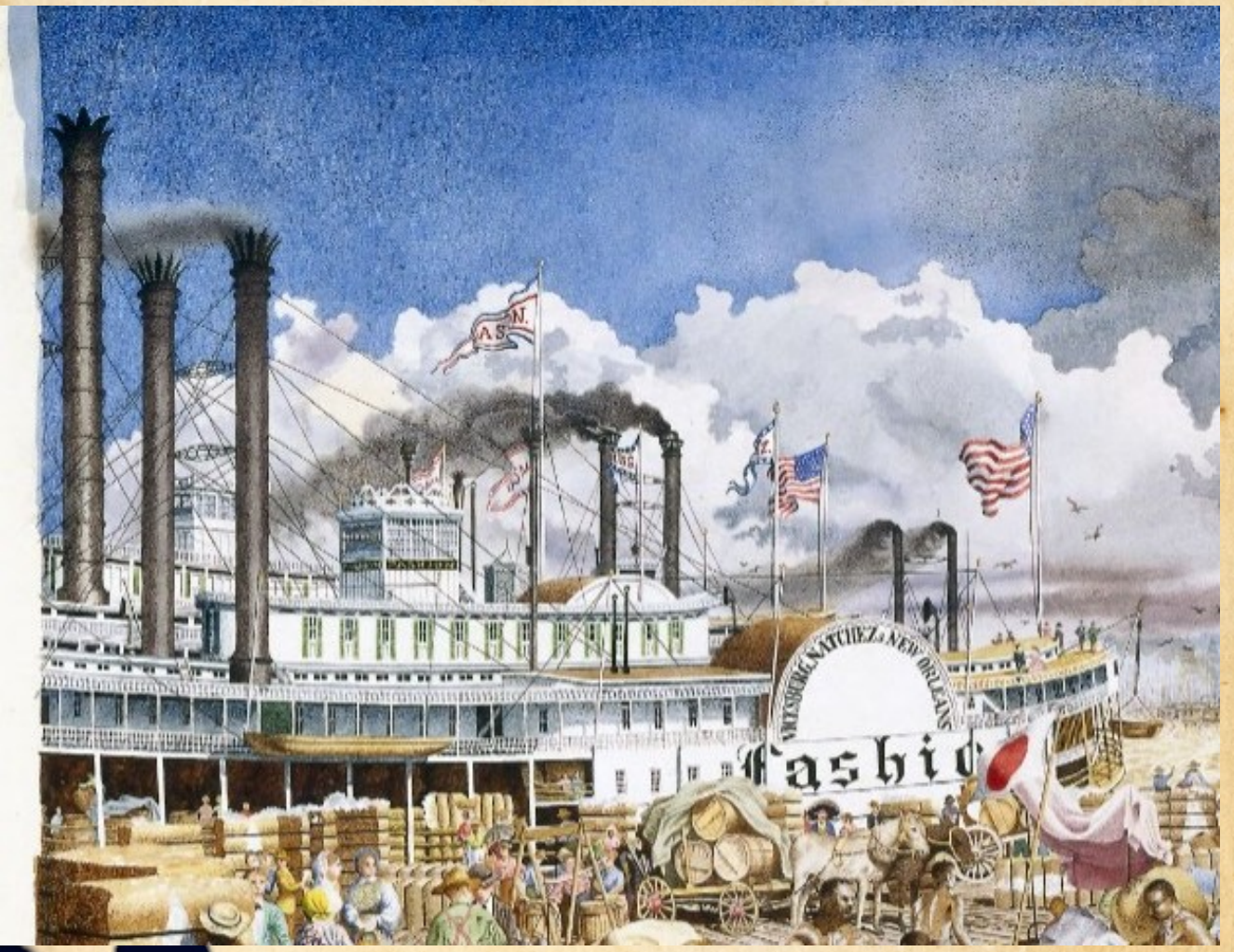
- Steamboats often ran regular “packet routes”
- Sign posted so passengers knew where to queue up for the Cairo, IL, and St. Louis packet trips



Steamboat Fashion

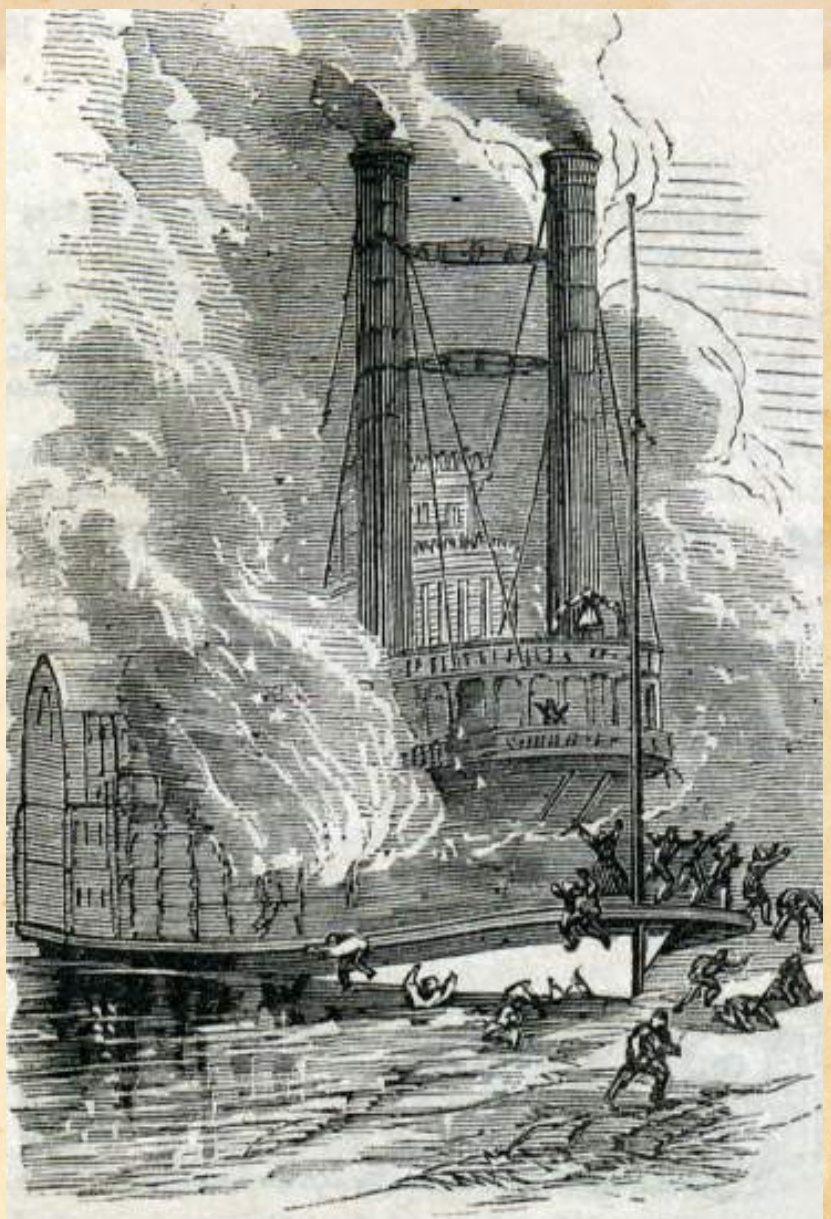
Steamboat Fashion

Steamboat Fashion



- Sidewheel packet steamer
- Built in Cincinnati in 1865
- Regular packet, Vicksburg, Natchez, New Orleans

1866 Disaster



BURNING OF THE STEAMER FASHION ON THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER.

"Downbound with 250 passengers and 2,700 bales of cotton she caught fire seven miles above Baton Rouge and burned, Dec. 27, 1866."

Steamboat Fashion Disaster

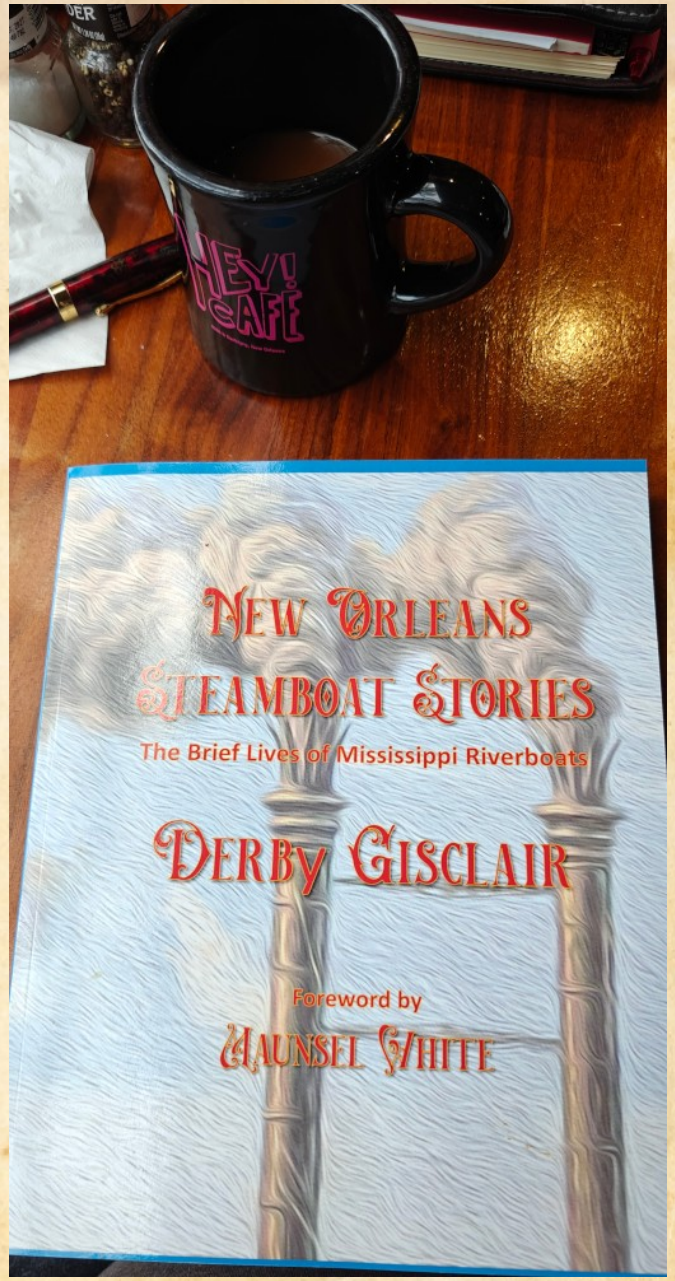
THE CHILDREN THROWN OVERBOARD BY THEIR FRANTIC MOTHERS.

1866 Disaster

BURNING OF THE STEAMER FASHION ON THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER.

Illustrations of the Steamboat Fashion disaster are from Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper, 19-January-1867

More About Steamboats!

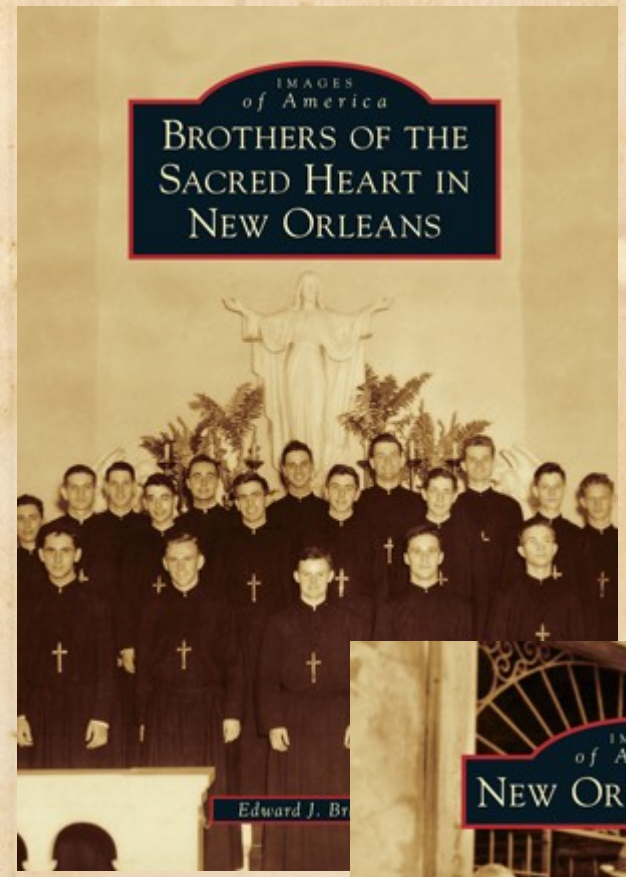


Buy Derby's Book

New Orleans Steamboat Stories

(link on show page)

Greetings from NOLA, 2018
greetingstour.com


IMAGES
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BROTHERS OF THE SACRED HEART IN NEW ORLEANS
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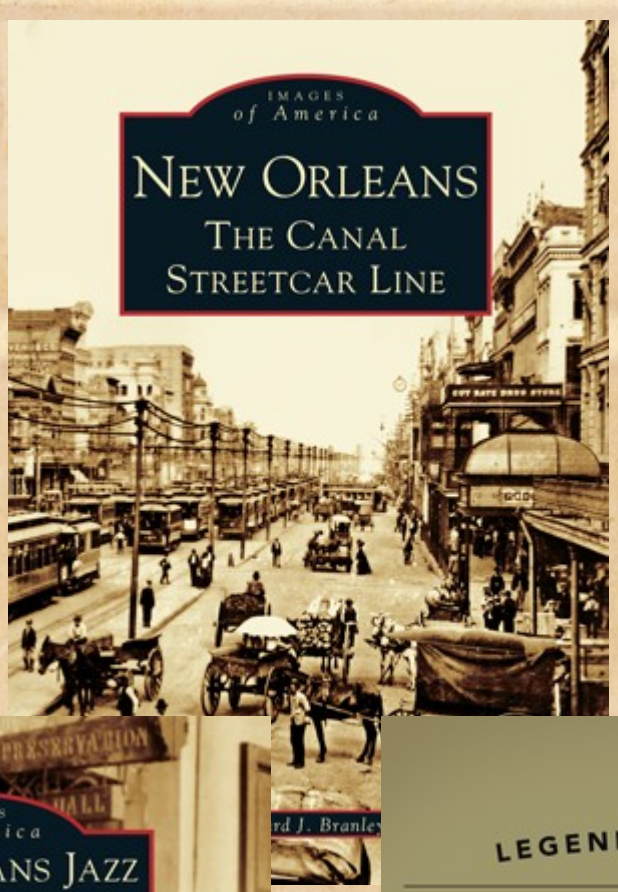
IMAGES
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NEW ORLEANS
THE CANAL STREETCAR LINE
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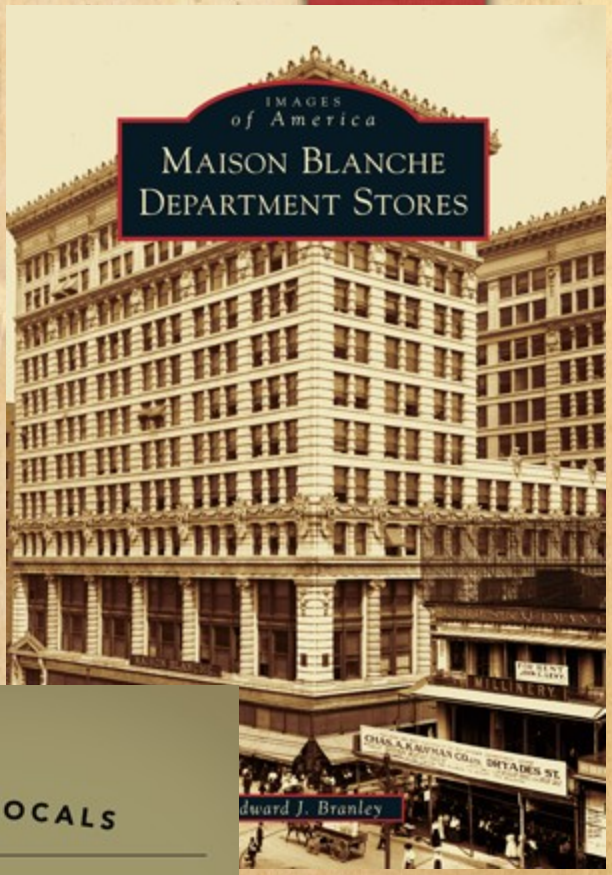
IMAGES
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MAISON BLANCHE DEPARTMENT STORES
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NEW ORLEANS JAZZ
PRESERVATION HALL
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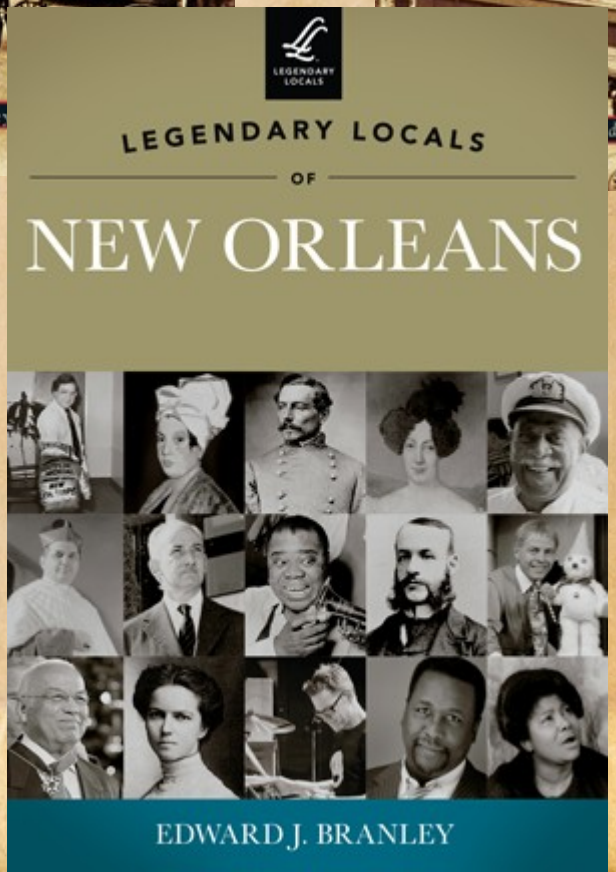
LEGENDARY LOCALS
OF
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KRAUSS

BRANLEY

EDWARD J. BRANLEY

KRAUSS

The New Orleans Value Store

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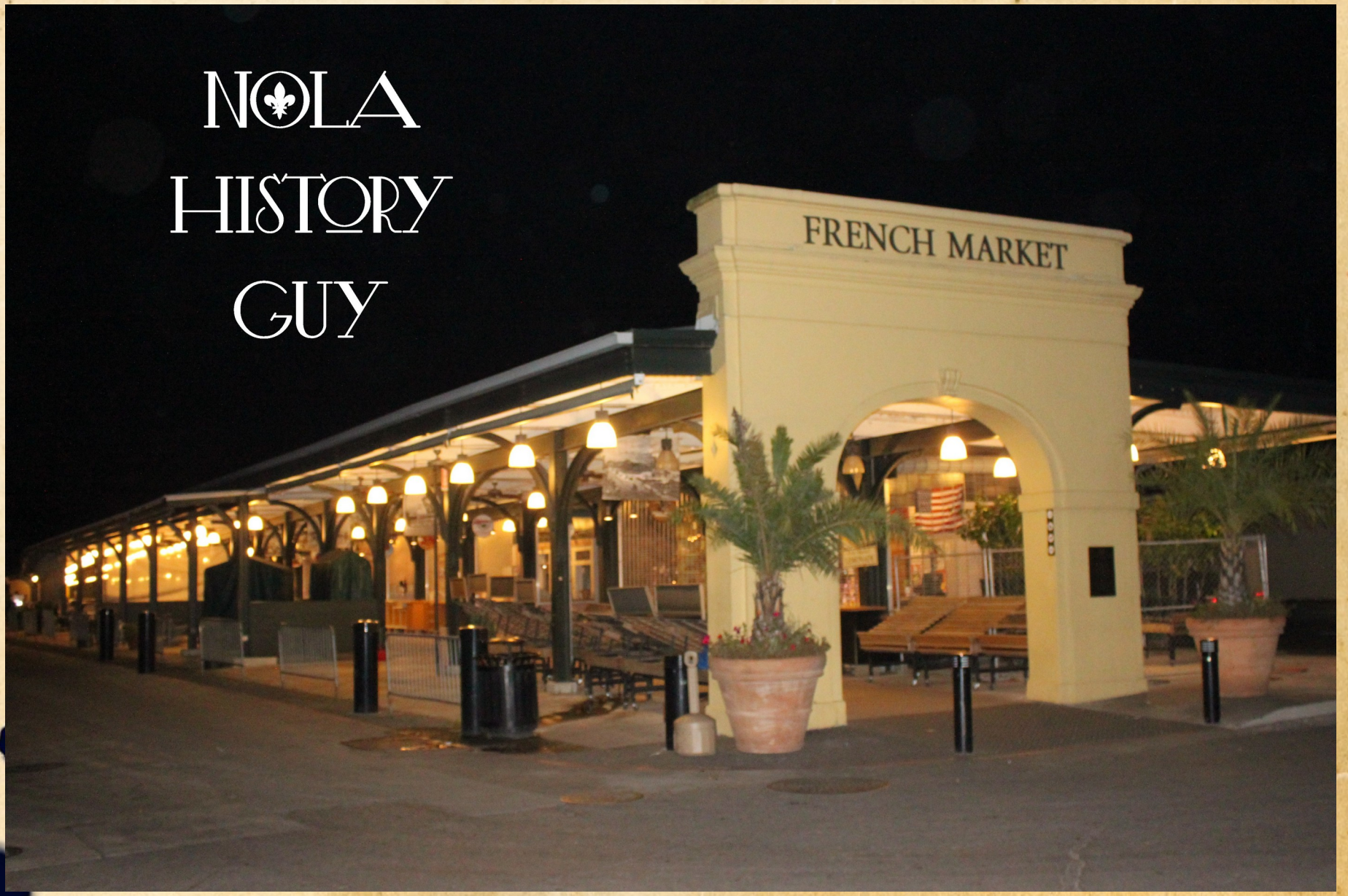

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