



I Love You —  
ALWAYS DEAR

GEO.

FROM \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

MESSAGE CONTINUED HERE

To-

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**A TOUR OF THE  
NEW ORLEANS  
FRENCH QUARTER**



**FOR  
SERVICE MEN**

FEDERAL WORKS AGENCY

PHILIP B. FLEMING, *Administrator*

WORK PROJECTS  
ADMINISTRATION

Philip B. Fleming, *Acting Commissioner*

Florence Kerr, *Assistant Commissioner*

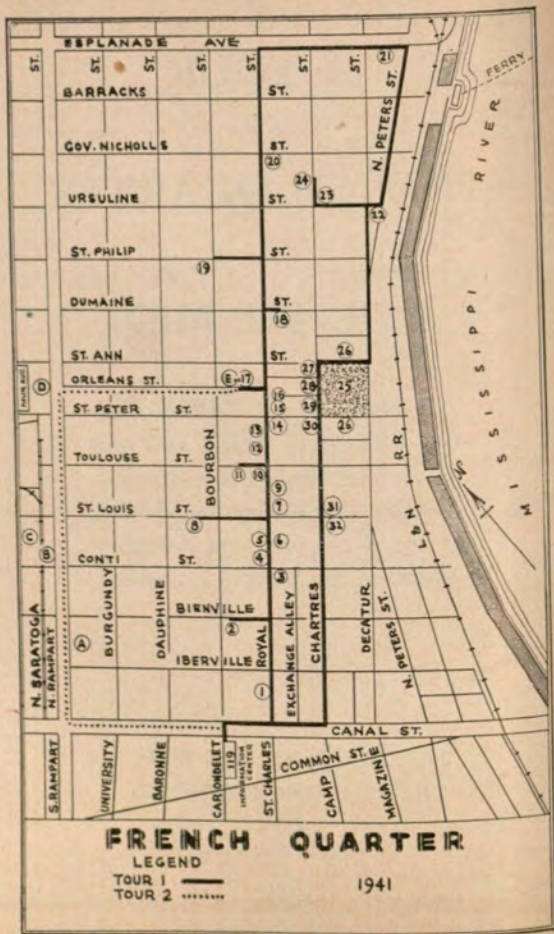
James H. Crutcher, *State Administrator*

A TOUR  
of the  
FRENCH QUARTER  
for  
SERVICE MEN

Compiled by the Writers' Project,  
with cover design and map  
by the Art Project, for distribu-  
tion by the Recreation Project  
of the Work Projects Adminis-  
tration in the State of Louisiana.

● ●

SPONSORED BY THE W. P. A.  
RECREATIONAL COUNCIL  
FOR  
NEW ORLEANS  
1942



## TWO FRENCH QUARTER TOURS

The Vieux Carré (pronounced Vee-yuh Car-ray) was the original fortified city of New Orleans. Literally, Vieux Carré means Old Square, but since the original inhabitants were mostly French-speaking people, the section has long been popularly known as the French Quarter.

New Orleans was founded in 1718. Soon after, the settlement was divided into city blocks, bounded on the south by what is now Canal Street, on the north by Esplanade Avenue, on the east by the Mississippi River, and on the west by North Rampart Street. First, this area was surrounded by a rude palisade, later by a wall and moat with forts at the four corners.

The French Quarter has retained much of the Old World flavor which had little in common with the Anglo-Saxon tradition of the Atlantic seaboard. The architecture, a fusion of Spanish and French influences, achieved a blended charm decidedly its own. Nearly all the buildings

open upon courtyards or patios planted with tropical palms, banana trees and flowering shrubs.

Among the intricate designs used on the wrought-iron and cast-iron balconies the initials of the original owners of the houses were woven, and may still be seen. Windows and doors are frequently fan-shaped, and many of the slave quarters still stand in the rear of the courtyards. Most of the courtyards are open to the public and may be freely entered through the tunnel-like entrances paved with flagstones or bricks. The French Quarter has attracted numerous writers and artists, but there is every type of person residing here.

Antique and curio stores now line Royal and Chartres Streets and the Quarter is a favorite hunting ground for collectors. There are many restaurants, night clubs, bars and tearooms. New Orleans is famous for its food and drink and with the exception of a few exclusive places, delicious Creole cooking may be obtained in the Vieux Carré at very moderate prices. The cafes, night clubs and bars are frequently inexpensive. In various places, patrons eat and drink outdoors, at tables set in open courtyards.

Among the famous restaurants are Antoine's, Arnaud's, Galatoire's, Broussard's, La Louisiane, Turci's and Tujagues. There are also many small French restaurants where lunches and dinners are served for less than a dollar a person. Reasonably priced but well prepared local foods may also be obtained at Gluck's, St. Regis, the Monteleone Lunch Counter, and Solari's, all on Royal Street near Canal. Among the famous dishes are gumbo, crayfish bisque, court-bouillon, bouillabaisse, jambalaya, and pompano en papillote. Hard and soft shell crabs, lake and river shrimp, crayfish, oysters and many kinds of fish are popular. New Orleans drinks include the Sazerac, the Ramos Gin Fizz and the Roffignac. Coffee is usually very strong and coffee with chicory is preferred. A favorite New Orleans custom is coffee at the French Market.

Among the unfamiliar words encountered by the visitor are:

*Banquette*—A sidewalk, so called because the early wooden sidewalks were elevated above the muddy streets.

*Bayou*—A sluggish stream or natural canal, having its rise in the overflow of a river, or draining of a marsh.

*Cajun*—Popular name for a descendant of the Acadian settlers of Louisiana. Loosely, any ~~country~~ person speaking the Acadian dialect.

*Creole*—A white descendant of the French or Spanish settlers of Louisiana. As an adjective it is applied to various local items, such as Creole lilies, Creole ponies, and Creole mustard.

*Gumbo*—1. Thick soup prepared with okra or filé and crabs, shrimp, oysters, chicken, ham or veal. 2. Negro-French patois.

*Lagniappe*—A trifling present given to customers by merchants; anything thrown in for good measure.

*Mardi Gras*—Shrove Tuesday, the last day of Carnival.

*Praline*—A confection made of pecans browned in sugar.

*Voodoo*—An African cult brought to Louisiana by Negro slaves; one who practices Voodoo sorcery.

If there is anything you do not understand, do not hesitate to ask someone. New Orleans is a friendly city.

*Note:* Admission Free at all Art Galleries and Museums listed in the

Tours. Prices for food and drinks vary considerably. It is always wise to establish the price before ordering.

From the INFORMATION CENTER at 119 Carondelet Street there are at least two ways of touring the Vieux Carré. Tour 1 will lead in Canal Street to Royal and down that thoroughfare, probably the most important street in the section. Tour 2 will lead out Canal Street and down N. Rampart Street. Both are mapped out here, the former first.

## TOUR 1

CANAL STREET. This is New Orleans' principal business street today, one of the widest thoroughfares in the United States, and one of the best lighted in the world. Originally, it was a shallow canal, from which its name was derived, and along it ran some of the ramparts of the Vieux Carré. Later it divided the French and American sections of the city, and still serves to split "uptown" from "downtown" — terms Orleanians use constantly. Visitors are usually surprised to learn that "downtown" is north of Canal Street, and that "uptown" lies south. With the exception of North and South Rampart Streets, Vieux Carré thoroughfares change their names when crossing Canal Street.

Canal Street is still a curious blend of old and new. Though many of their façades are remodeled, some of the buildings date from ante-bellum days. The wide sidewalks (called *banquettes* in New Orleans) are now paved with red and white terrazzo marble. There are spacious roadways and a wide central parkway, called "neutral ground" in

New Orleans, holding lamp posts ornamented with plaques illustrative of the French, Spanish, Confederate and American dominations. Most of the principal department stores and theatres line Canal Street.

ROYAL STREET. In early days *Rue Royale* was the main street of the French city. Today its *banquettes* are still almost entirely covered with overhanging balconies and it is lined with antique, curio, book and perfume shops, restaurants, tearooms and bars. The intersection of Royal and Canal Streets is known as "Monkeywrench Corner" by seamen throughout the world, for whom it is a favorite meeting place when in New Orleans. As soon as the visitor steps from Canal Street into the *Rue Royale* he enters the *Vieux Carré*, and steps from the new world into the old.

*From here on, throughout Tour 1 the principal sights to be viewed are marked numerically.*

1. OLD COSMOPOLITAN HOTEL, 121 ROYAL STREET. Now occupied by the St. Regis Restaurant, this was a favorite meeting place of the city half a century ago. Three memorial windows commemorate John James Audubon, famous

ornithologist, Paul Morphy, the chess king, and the musician Louis Moreau Gottschalk. Dr. Francisco Antommarchi, personal physician to Napoleon, had his home and office in a previous building on this site during the 1830's. The famous death mask was exhibited here, a copy of which may now be seen at the Cabildo.

2. THE ABSINTHE HOUSE, 238 BOURBON STREET. From this corner of Royal and Bienville Streets it is suggested that the tour proceed one block to the left (or toward the "lake") to the corner of Bienville and Bourbon. Here on the "uptown" side is the Absinthe House, probably one of the best known and most interesting buildings in the Vieux Carré. Erected early in the 19th century, the property is still in the possession of descendants of the original owners. A secret chamber on the second floor may be visited. The original stairway, made with wooden pegs instead of nails, is still in use.

3. MORTGAGE OFFICE (AMERICAN LEGION HOME), 344 ROYAL STREET. Returning to Royal Street and going one block further into the Vieux Carré, on the corner of Conti Street, is a building

erected in 1826. It was for a time the Bank of Louisiana and the financial center of the city. In 1871 it became "the Royal Street Auction Exchange," later the Mortgage Office. Following the World War, it became the home of the local American Legion.

4. THE OLD BANK OF LOUISIANA, 401 ROYAL STREET. This is across the street from the Mortgage Office, on the downtown lake corner. The building, designed by Benjamin H. B. Latrobe, was erected in 1821 and served as *La Banque de l'Etat de la Louisiane* prior to the use of the building which is now the American Legion Home. It is popularly known as the Antique Dome and was so named by a furniture dealer because of its domed ceiling.

5. THE PATIO ROYAL, 417 ROYAL STREET. The date of the construction of this building has been established as 1801. Many notable people have occupied the place as a residence, among them Paul Morphy, the chess king. Previously it was the home of the socially prominent Gordon family and General Jackson visited here in 1828. It is now operated as a restaurant, with meals and drinks being served both in-

side and in the patio. This patio, or courtyard, is open to visitors.

6. NEW ORLEANS COURT BUILDING, 400 ROYAL STREET. This building across the street from the Old Bank of Louisiana and the Patio Royal stands in contrast to the old buildings surrounding it. It was built in 1908-09, and many buildings dating to the Spanish regime were razed to make way for it. It houses the State Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, Attorney-General's office, and many other State departments.

7. ST. LOUIS HOTEL SITE. On the "downtown" river corner of Royal and St. Louis streets, just across from the court house, is a vacant lot where the St. Louis Hotel once stood. It was completed in 1838, and demolished in 1915, after a long life of elegance and an old age of misfortune. In its day it was nationally famous, but later failed and was abandoned. Once slaves were sold in a portion of its lobby.

8. THE GRIMA HOUSE, 820 ST. LOUIS STREET, was erected in the 1820's as a residence for Samuel Hermann, a wealthy commission merchant, but in 1844 it became the property of Felix Grima. In

1921 it passed into the possession of the Christian Women's Exchange. Here is one of the most beautiful courtyards in the French Quarter. There is a courtyard kitchen where refreshments may be purchased.

9. BRULATOUR HOUSE, 520 ROYAL STREET. This fine old building was erected in 1816 by François Seignouret, a wine merchant and furniture maker. For several years it housed the Arts and Crafts Club, which has since moved to another location. At present the Gresham Gallery may be found just beyond the patio. This courtyard is open to the public, and is one of the most typical in the French Quarter. The ironwork on the upper stories is particularly worth noting, as is the *entresol*, or mezzanine, a half-story just above the ground floor where Seignouret stored his wines. On the balcony of the third floor may be seen a quaint, fan-shaped *garde-de-frise* (guard screen). In its design may be detected the letter S. Seignouret was succeeded as a wine merchant by Brulatour, whose name the house retains.

10. COURT OF THE LIONS, 708 TOULOUSE STREET (CORNER OF ROYAL). Built in 1798 by Don Juan Francisco

Mericult, this house was purchased later by Vincent Nolte, a German merchant and author of *Fifty Years in Both Hemispheres*. Nolte was in recent years used as a semi-fictional character by Hervey Allen in *Anthony Adverse*. The small courtyard with its gate guarded by two crouching lions has long attracted the attention of writers and artists. The house was the birthplace of Robert Edeson, American actor, and received publicity as the residence of Winston Churchill's heroine in *The Crossing*. It has passed through a long succession of owners and has had an unusually colorful career.

11. THE EXHIBITION GALLERY OF THE LOUISIANA ART PROJECT OF THE WPA, 718 TOULOUSE STREET, houses local and national exhibits.

12. COURT OF THE TWO SISTERS, 613 ROYAL STREET. This is one of the largest and best-known courtyards in the French Quarter. It is now occupied by a restaurant and bar, meals and drinks being served both inside and in the patio. Originally the home of Governor Perier, ruler of the French Colony in the early 18th century, stood on this spot. The present building was erected

in 1832, and received its name after being occupied by two sisters, Emma and Bertha Camors, who for twenty years maintained a "fancy and variety store" here.

13. PATTI'S COURT, 631 ROYAL STREET. Famous as the home of the celebrated prima donna, Adelina Patti, it is considered to be the second oldest building on Royal Street, though its exact age is a matter of conjecture. However it was being operated as a mercantile establishment as early as 1809. The courtyard is open to the public.

14. THE "FIRST SKYSCRAPER," 640 ROYAL STREET. This four-storied building is on the "uptown" river corner of Royal and St. Peter Streets. It is believed to have been the first structure in the Vieux Carré to be more than two stories in height. The plaque on the building giving the date of its construction as 1774 is erroneous. The present building dates to 1811. It is also known as "Sieur George's House," because of its use by George W. Cable, noted author of Creole stories, for fictional purposes, and as "Dr. Le Monnier's Residence" after the original owner. "Y L M" may still be found woven into

the wrought-iron balconies. The upper stories are converted into apartments. Downstairs there are shops and a bar.

15. LABRANCHE HOUSE, 700 ROYAL STREET. On the opposite side of the street, at the "downtown" corner. Its cast-iron decorations, of the acorn pattern, are among the most beautiful in the French Quarter.

16. ARTS AND CRAFTS CLUB, 712 ROYAL STREET. This building stands at the corner of Royal and Orleans Alley, recently nicknamed "Pirates' Alley," on the river side of Royal Street. The house was erected in 1823 by Dr. Pierre Thomas. The club conducts a school and also holds many exhibitions open to the public.

17. ORLEANS BALLROOM, 717 ORLEANS STREET. See "E" Tour 2.

18. MADAME JOHN'S LEGACY, 632 DUMAINE STREET. Two blocks down Royal Street and turn to the left. This building is said to be one of the oldest in the Mississippi Valley. It has a long colorful history dating to 1726, when it was built by Jean Pascal, a sea captain from Provence, France. In the 1770's the house was occupied by René Beluche,

a smuggler in the days of Jean Lafitte. Later, the house received its name from the story by George W. Cable.

19. LAFITTE'S BLACKSMITH SHOP, 941 BOURBON STREET. Proceeding down Royal one block and turning one block left to Bourbon and St. Philip Streets, the small, one-storied structure known as Lafitte's Blacksmith Shop will be found. It probably dates to 1772. It is now a café and bar, with tables outdoors, as well as inside.

20. THE HAUNTED HOUSE, 1140 ROYAL STREET. This is at the uptown river corner of Royal and Governor Nicholls Street. This old French mansion has been the subject of more fantastic tales than any in the Vieux Carré. Constructed in 1832, it was the home of Dr. and Madame Lalaurie. Madame Lalaurie had been accused of torturing her slaves. One day fire broke out in the residence and when neighbors rushed in to extinguish the flames, seven slaves were found chained in the attic, in various states of agony and mutilation. Madame Lalaurie and her husband escaped the enraged mobs which attacked the house only by the narrowest margin and fled to Mandeville, later to Paris.

During the War between the States, the house was used as Union headquarters. In the 1870's it became a gambling resort. Many stories of ghosts, with all the usual groans and dragging chains, are told regarding the place. Lately it has been a refuge for homeless and destitute men.

21. OLD U. S. MINT, ESPLANADE AND DECATUR STREETS. Situated at the edge of the Vieux Carré, it was erected in 1836, and was operated as a mint from 1838 to 1862, when New Orleans was captured during the War between the States. Operations were resumed in 1879 and continued until 1910. Several years ago it was converted into a Federal prison.

22. FRENCH MARKET, DECATUR AND N. PETERS STREETS. Three blocks "up-town" on Decatur and N. Peters Street is the Old French Market, one of the oldest places of business in New Orleans and for a century and a half one of the chief attractions of the French Quarter. Recently modernized to some extent, it includes five buildings. The present buildings were begun in 1813, though the first market on the site was erected by the Spanish in 1791. Even before

that, tradition claims the location was a Choctaw trading-post. The coffee stands at opposite ends are favorite spots for Orleanians and visitors.

23. URSULINE CONVENT, 1114 CHARTRES STREET. One block toward the lake, to Chartres Street, at the above address, is the Ursuline Convent, which is claimed by some authorities to be the oldest building in the Mississippi Valley. The Ursuline Nuns reached New Orleans in 1727, but their quarters were not opened until 1734. This was a day of great celebration in the city, with Bien-ville, its founder, in attendance. The building was occupied by the nuns for ninety years. In 1831 the State Legislature held sessions in the building. Later it became the home of the New Orleans Archbishop. In 1899, after the purchase of a new archbishopric, it became a presbytere, and was joined to the St. Mary's Italian Church next door. The courtyard may be entered through a brick and plaster *conciergerie*, one of the few remaining gateways of this type in the United States.

24. BEAUREGARD HOUSE, 1113 CHARTRES STREET. Just across the street from the Ursuline Convent, this is the birth-

place of Paul Morphy, world's champion chess-player. It is better known, however, as the home of General Beauregard, who occupied it for a time. There is a ghost story regarding it, which claims that on certain nights the General appears. It was erected in 1826. The house is open to visitors.

25. JACKSON SQUARE (PLACE D' ARMES). This is the heart of the Vieux Carrè. The best view is from Decatur Street, the river side of the old square. The square was originally known as the *Place d'Armes* by the French settlers. Later, under Spanish rule, as the *Plaza de Armas*, the flag of Spain waved there. On November 30, 1803, this was replaced by the tricolor of France. Twenty days later, at the transfer to the United States, the Stars and Stripes were raised. The bronze equestrian statue of General Jackson has been referred to as "the centerpiece of one of the finest architectural settings in the world." Enclosed by an iron fence and gates, Jackson Square is open to visitors until 11 o'clock at night.

26. THE PONTALBA BUILDINGS. These two red-brick structures flanking the Square were erected by the Baroness

Pontalba in 1849. The wide galleries are particularly worth noting with their fine cast-iron work into which "AP," the Almonester and Pontalba initials, are worked and are easily discernible. The twin houses are now publicly owned, the upper building by the city, the lower by the State. They now contain apartments which are in great demand as residences. The Baroness Pontalba was the only child of Don Almonester y Roxas, wealthy Spanish philanthropist famous in New Orleans history.

27. THE PRESBYTÈRE. On Chartres Street, opposite Jackson Square, are the St. Louis Cathedral and its two flanking buildings. The lower one, on the "downtown" side of the Cathedral, is the Presbytère, now housing the Natural Science Division of the Louisiana State Museum. It is believed to have been completed in 1813 by the American government, and at this time a portion of the State courts were established there. It contains interesting panoramic displays of Louisiana bird and animal life, and in other rooms are exhibits of all branches of the State's agricultural products and natural resources. It is open to the public from 9 to 5, except Monday, with no charge for admission.

28. THE ST. LOUIS CATHEDRAL. This stately old structure was completed in 1794, having been built at his own expense by Don Almonester y Roxas. It was the third church erected on the site, the first having been a small structure, built by Bienville soon after the founding of New Orleans and called the Parish Church. This was destroyed by a hurricane in 1723. The second, completed in 1727, was razed by the great fire of Good Friday, March 21, 1788, which destroyed nearly all of the city of New Orleans. The present building, which has been remodeled several times, resembles the Spanish churches of Mexico and South America. In 1793 it was raised to the dignity of a cathedral and named the *Catedral de San Luis*. Don Almonester is buried within the church, as are many Roman Catholic church dignitaries.

29. THE CABILDO. This is the Presbytere's twin on the "uptown" side of the St. Louis Cathedral, and probably the more important of the two. Built in 1795, it was the seat of Spanish rule. The formal transfer of Louisiana to the United States took place here in 1803. Now the Louisiana State Museum, there are many fascinating exhibits including

the death mask of Napoleon Bonaparte, made and donated to the city by the Emperor's personal physician. There is a remarkable collection of historical documents, relics, portraits, furniture and mementos. Among notables who were received here in the past were the Marquis de Lafayette, Henry Clay, Sarah Bernhardt, the Grand Duke Alexis of Russia, Mark Twain, Theodore Roosevelt, McKinley and Taft. Hours are the same as those at the Presbytère (9-5, every day except Monday) and admission is free.

30. THE LITTLE THEATRE, 616 ST. PETER STREET. Though this building is new it is one of the most attractive in the Vieux Carré. Built along the lines of the Absinthe House, the broad doors, fan windows and ironwork balconies are typical of Creole architecture, and there is a landscaped courtyard, usually open to the public. The organization it serves was formed in 1916 by a small group of Orleanians known as the "Drawing-Room Players." At first performances were given in drawing-rooms of members. The present theater was erected in 1922. Next door, at 620 St. Peter Street, is *Le Petit Salon*, the clubhouse of an exclusive group of New

Orleans women, now headed by Mrs. Elizabeth Meriwether Gilmer, better known to newspaper readers as "Dorothy Dix."

31. NAPOLEON HOUSE, 500 CHARTRES STREET. This mansion, more than 140 years old, was the original home of Mayor Girod of New Orleans. The popular legend is that a daredevil crew of Orleanians under the leadership of Dominique You, Jean Lafitte's lieutenant, was to rescue Napoleon from St. Helena and bring him to New Orleans, where the mansion was to be his home. There is said to have been the wildest excitement in New Orleans at the prospect, which was dissolved only by the death of the Emperor. Mayor Girod was said to have offered his home to Bonaparte, who was so much admired in this city. The house is still in excellent condition. There is a bar and restaurant downstairs.

32. MASPERO'S EXCHANGE, 440 CHARTRES STREET is just across from the Napoleon House, on the "uptown" corner. For many years it was the gathering place of the city's most picturesque characters. On the second floor, Jean and Pierre Lafitte planned many of their

activities; it is claimed the defense of New Orleans was plotted here by Lafitte and General Andrew Jackson. The building was erected in 1788, and known as the Exchange Coffee House. It was a popular auction mart of the day and one of the best-known places of public entertainment.

*From this point on the tourist may return to Canal Street by way of Chartres or may retrace his steps to point 17 or E and visit the sites covered in Tour 2 by using the alphabetical arrangement backwards—E, D, C, B and A to North Rampart and Canal Streets.*

## TOUR 2

This tour, beginning at the INFORMATION CENTER at 119 Carondelet Street will lead out Canal Street to N. Rampart and continue down that thoroughfare. (See beginning of Tour 1 for account of Canal Street.)

NORTH RAMPART STREET. Here, as the name indicates, was another of the ramparts of the original city. When you cross Canal Street and are on N. Rampart Street you are "downtown," though heading north. Today the street is a jumble of restaurants, bars, night clubs, churches, shops, stores, fruit stands and rooming houses.

*From here on, throughout Tour 2, the principal sights to be viewed are marked alphabetically.*

A. THE NEW ORLEANS ATHLETIC CLUB. This lies to the right hand or "river" side of the street, in the second block, between Iberville and Bienville Streets. The building is modern, but the club dates back sixty-five years.

B. OUR LADY OF GUADELUPE CHURCH is situated on the corner of Conti and

N. Rampart Streets, to the left, or to what Orleanians refer to as the "lake" side, in contrast to the "river" side. Roman Catholic, it was erected in 1827 and was originally the mortuary chapel from which all Catholic funerals were held from 1827 to 1860. For this reason it was constructed in close proximity to the St. Louis Cemetery No. 1.

C. ST. LOUIS CEMETERY No. 1, the oldest in the city, may be reached by leaving N. Rampart Street and walking one block to the left, crossing the railroad tracks. It is on N. Saratoga Street between Conti and St. Louis, the third and fourth blocks from Canal Street. Here are practically all the tombs of the old Creole families, the earliest to be found anywhere in New Orleans. Covering an entire city block, it is walled with whitewashed brick "ovens," a method of burial peculiar to the city. Almost all burials are above ground, since at the time of its establishment, interment beneath the earth was impossible because of the closeness of water to the surface—often two or three feet. In this old graveyard may be found epitaphs of men who fell in duels and many others of equal interest. Not far from the entrance is the tomb believed

to contain the remains of Marie Laveau, most famed of the Voodoo queens. In the rear, partially separated by a brick wall, is the Protestant section.

The modern Federal Housing Project, adjacent to the Cemetery, occupies the site of the old Red Light District, notorious throughout the United States prior to the first World War.

D. CONGO SQUARE AND MUNICIPAL AUDITORIUM. Continuing down N. Rampart Street, to St. Peter, on the left side, is Beauregard Square, formerly known as Congo Square. Just behind the small park is the Municipal Auditorium. A modern building, dedicated to the dead heroes of the first World War on May 30, 1930, it is a striking contrast to the old buildings surrounding it. The entire seating capacity is approximately 12,000, which may be divided into two halls or theatres by means of two sets of proscenium walls. The large stage may be lowered or raised for theatrical use or to provide floor space for balls or sports events. Almost all the Carnival balls are held here during the Mardi Gras season; at other times the entire interior is used for various exhibits or conventions. Road

shows, opera and concerts are also held here.

Beauregard Square, in front of the Auditorium, has a colorful past as Congo Square and previous to that as the site of Fort St. Ferdinand. The latter, erected during the Spanish regime, was destroyed about 1803, in an attempt to stamp out yellow fever, which was thought to be caused partially by the stagnant water of the surrounding moat. Congo Square was then used as a park, enclosed with an iron fence, and on Sunday afternoons was the gathering place of the townspeople. Later it became a meeting place for Negro slaves, who danced and sang to the accompaniment of tom-toms and performed their strange Voodoo rites.

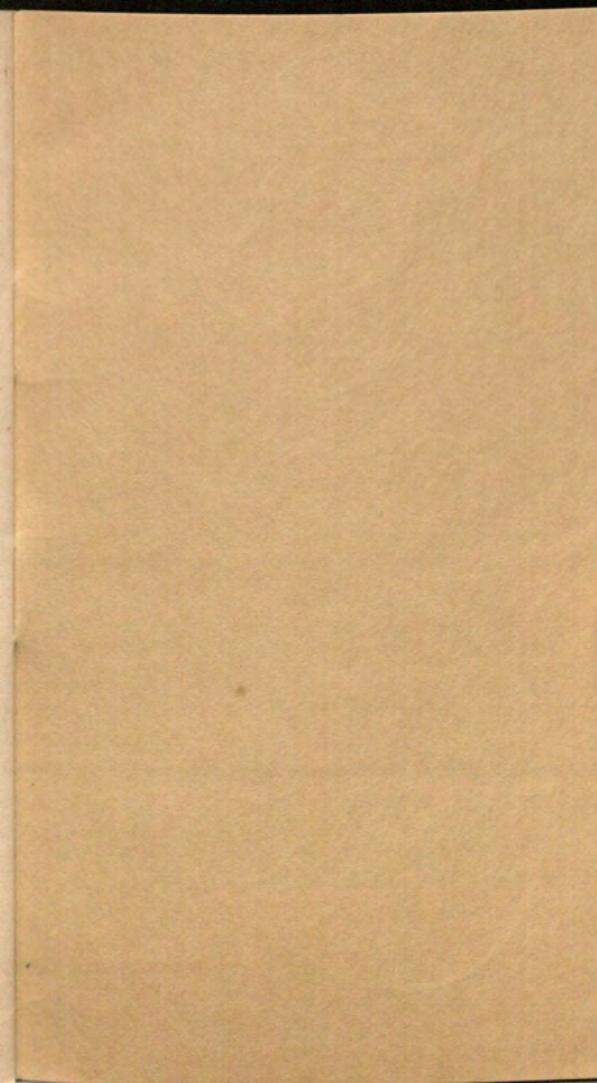
E. ORLEANS BALLROOM, 717 ORLEANS STREET. Orleans Street runs into N. Rampart Street at Beauregard Square. Crossing N. Rampart and walking toward the river you now enter the Vieux Carré proper. On the "downtown" side of the street, in the fourth block from N. Rampart is the old three-story, solid-looking building now converted into the convent of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Family, an order of

colored Catholic nuns. Here, according to most authorities, the famed Quadroon Balls took place prior to the War between the States. Young Creole gentlemen met and danced with beautiful quadroon women at these affairs. The term "quadroon" indicated one-fourth Negro blood; actually the girls were said to have been so white a stranger in the city could not possibly have detected the strain at all. Many duels are said to have begun here.

Point E of Tour 2 corresponds to point 17 of Tour 1 and the two tours meet here. Turn to point 18 in Tour 1 and continue. You have now reached the heart of the old city, Jackson Square, the Cabildo, the French Market lie ahead of you. However, it must be remembered that there are many points of interest on Royal street that you have missed. If, after completing the tour from this point, you wish to see more, you may return to Canal Street via Royal, by using the numbers backwards—that is, in reversed order, from 16 to 1.

## *Notes*

# *Notes*



Ent 6-6070



FROM

Pvt. G. STOFF (42050100)

Co A 5TH BN CAMP PLAUCHE

NEW ORLEANS. LA.



FREE

Mrs. Florence Stoff,

3021 Ave. I

Brooklyn,

New York

