

The STORY
BEHIND *the*
STONE

The STORY
BEHIND *the*
STONE

By Robert Jeanfreau



PELICAN PUBLISHING COMPANY
Gretna 2012

*This book is dedicated to the memory of my sister, Louise Kuhn.
She showed me the meaning of courage.*

Copyright © 2012
By Robert Jeanfreau
All rights reserved

*The word "Pelican" and the depiction of a pelican are
trademarks of Pelican Publishing Company, Inc., and are
registered in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.*

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Jeanfreau, Robert.

The story behind the stone / Robert Jeanfreau.

p. cm.

ISBN 978-1-4556-1519-3 (pbk. : alk. paper) — ISBN 978-1-4556-1520-9 (e-book) 1. Monuments—Louisiana—New Orleans. 2. Public sculpture—Louisiana—New Orleans. 3. Statues—Louisiana—New Orleans. 4. New Orleans (La.)—Buildings, structures, etc. I. Title.

F379.N565A25 2012

976.3'35—dc23

2011045845

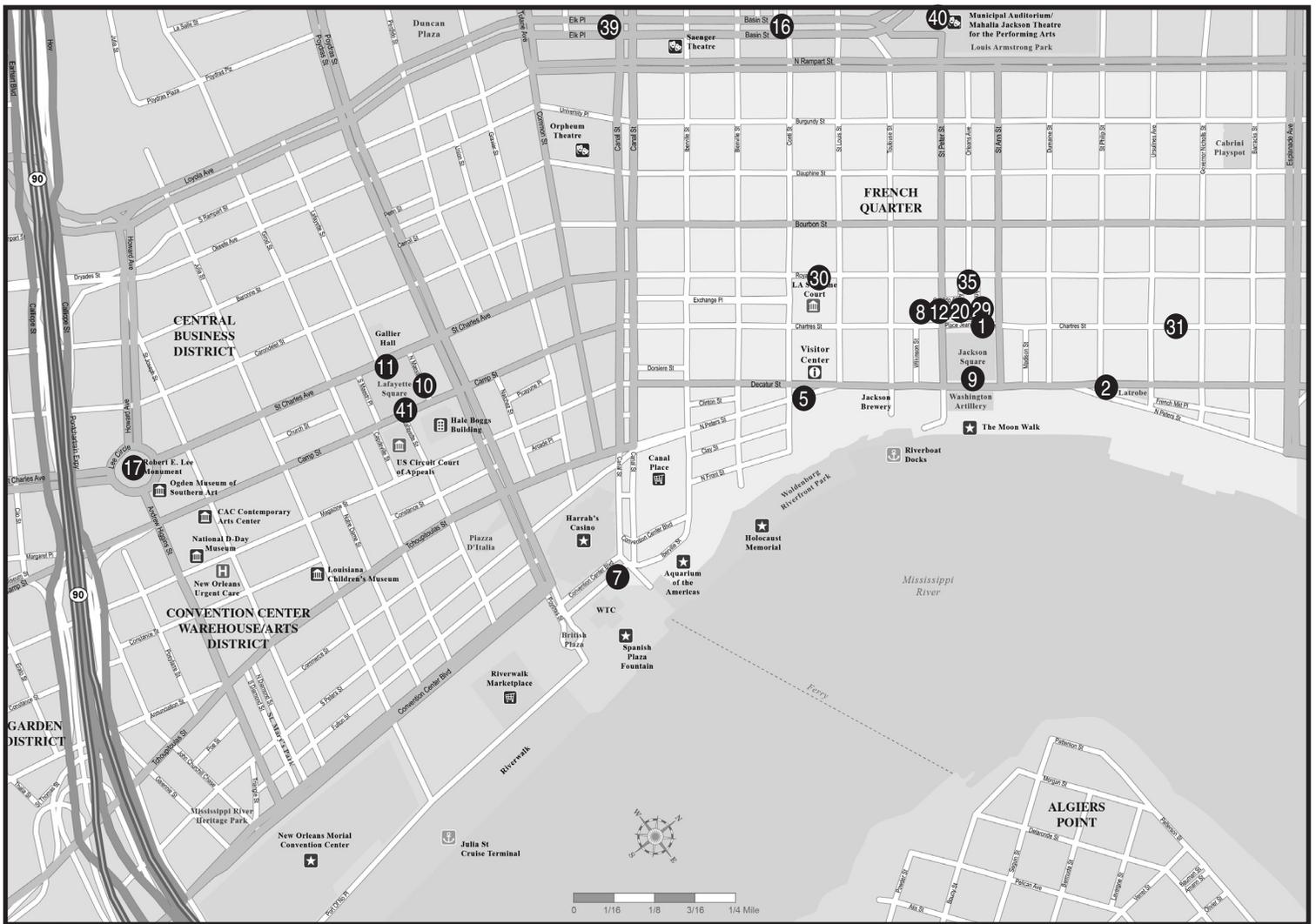


Printed in the United States of America

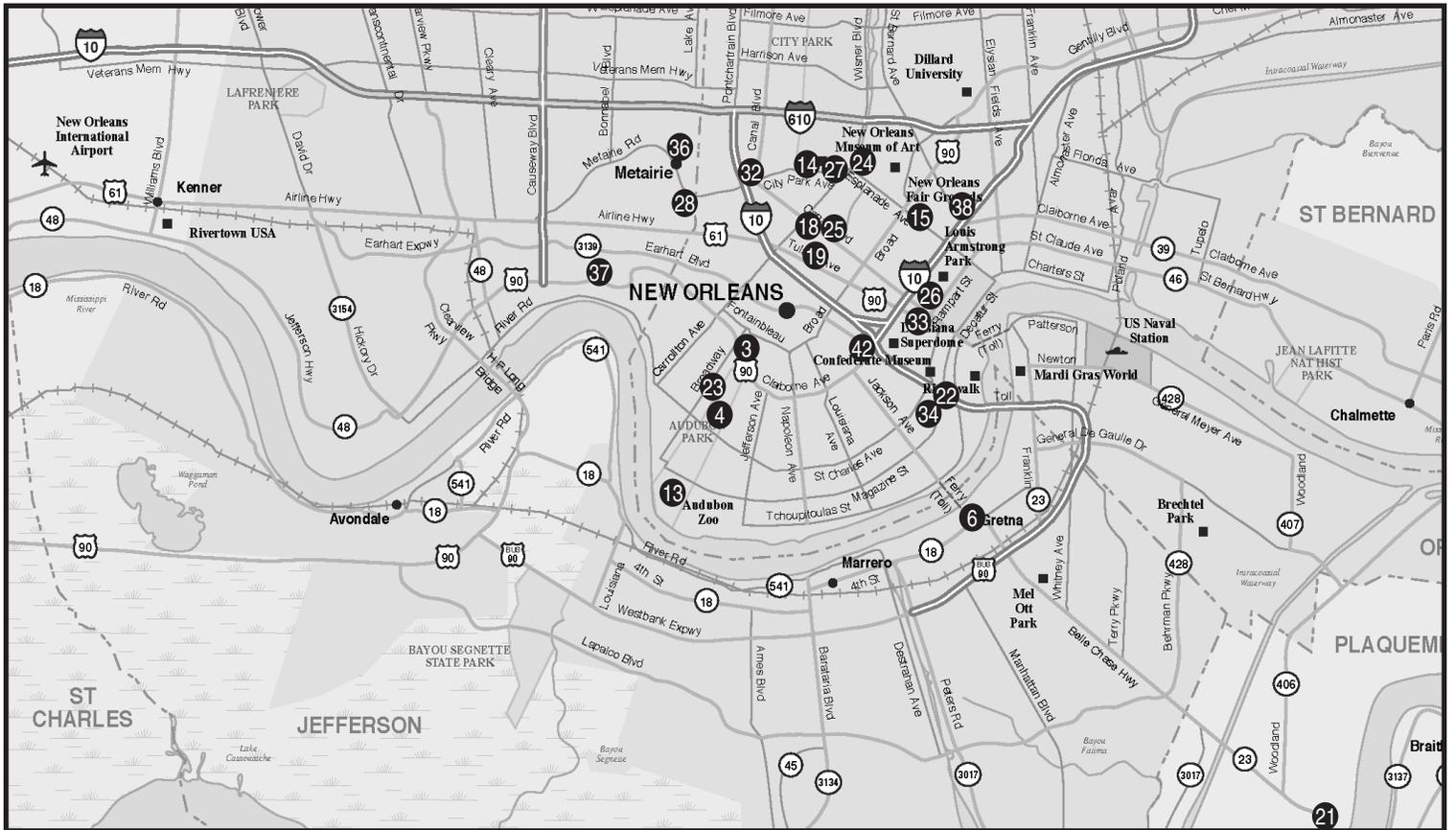
Published by Pelican Publishing Company, Inc.
1000 Burmaster Street, Gretna, Louisiana 70053

Contents

Introduction	9	Margaret Haughery	53
St. Louis, King of France	11	Josephine Newcomb	55
Joan of Arc	13	G. T. Beauregard	57
St. Angela de Merici	15	Charles Didier Dreux	59
St. Ignatius of Loyola	17	Carlos Finlay	61
Jean Baptiste Le Moyne, Sieur de Bienville	19	Edgar Degas	63
Thomas Jefferson	21	Isaac Delgado	65
Bernardo de Gálvez	23	Adelina Patti	67
General Lafayette	25	E. D. White	69
Andrew Jackson	27	Mother Cabrini	71
Henry Clay	29	Albert Weiblen	73
John McDonogh	31	Rudolph Matas	75
Zachary Taylor	33	Sophie B. Wright	77
John James Audubon	35	André Lafargue	79
John Slidell	37	Teodoro Bottinelli	81
Charles Gayarré	39	Alton Ochsner	83
Benito Juárez	41	A. P. Tureaud	85
Robert E. Lee	43	Enrique Alferez	87
Jefferson Davis	45	Louis Armstrong	89
Albert Pike	47	John Minor Wisdom	91
Thomy Lafon	49	Martin Luther King	93
Judah P. Benjamin	51	Bibliography	95



- | | | |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 St. Louis, King of France | 15 Charles Gayarré | 30 E. D. White |
| 2 Joan of Arc | 16 Benito Juárez | 31 Mother Cabrini |
| 3 St. Angela de Merici | 17 Robert E. Lee | 32 Albert Weiblen |
| 4 St. Ignatius of Loyola | 18 Jefferson Davis | 33 Rudolph Matas |
| 5 Jean Baptiste Le Moyne, Sieur de Bienville | 19 Albert Pike | 34 Sophie B. Wright |
| 6 Thomas Jefferson | 20 Thomy Lafon | 35 André Lafargue |
| 7 Bernardo de Gálvez | 21 Judah P. Benjamin | 36 Teodoro Bottinelli |
| 8 General Lafayette | 22 Margaret Haughery | 37 Alton Ochsner |
| 9 Andrew Jackson | 23 Josephine Newcomb | 38 A. P. Tureaud |
| 10 Henry Clay | 24 G. T. Beauregard | 39 Enrique Alferez |
| 11 John McDonogh | 25 Charles Didier Dreux | 40 Louis Armstrong |
| 12 Zachary Taylor | 26 Carlos Finlay | 41 John Minor Wisdom |
| 13 John James Audubon | 27 Edgar Degas | 42 Martin Luther King |
| 14 John Slidell | 28 Isaac Delgado | |
| | 29 Adelina Patti | |



Introduction

This book is about statues, both of stone and of metal, scattered throughout the city of New Orleans. They are incomparable works of art immortalizing extraordinary individuals who have triumphed in some great epic struggle. This work strives to provide historical background for appreciating this statuary.

It should be made clear at the outset that this book is not intended to be a historical treatise. It does remain faithful to established historical facts and indicates wherever there is conjecture. Many items of local interest are included and perhaps emphasized to the point where the actual historical significance would be considered grossly distorted if this work served a strictly academic function. Additionally, the topics were selected with a certain arbitrariness that would be lacking in any worthy historical treatise. It has been written solely for the pleasure and fascination of those who love New Orleans.

There are many monuments and statues throughout our city. Some of the facts surrounding these magnificent works of art have slipped away from collective memory. Hopefully, this work, along with other recently published books of local interest, will restore appreciation for the rich cultural heritage that imbues the city of New Orleans.

Historical artifacts are not to be found solely in the silent halls of our museums and libraries. The French Quarter and surrounding faubourgs

are themselves living museums. One needs only to embark upon a leisurely stroll down any number of avenues and observe the ancient buildings that will speak of earlier times and adventures. One will, of course, encounter monuments along the journey.

This book primarily addresses statues of historical figures who have either lived in or visited New Orleans. The text includes brief biographical sketches emphasizing the subjects' lives in New Orleans, how the subjects' lives may have intersected with each other, and information about the dedication of the monuments.

The statues are presented in chronological order based upon the birthdates of the individuals. As one progresses through the book, a shimmering outline of the city's history unfolds as a backdrop.

In any society in which abysmal despair is allowed to displace hope in the heart of its people, there is neither a future nor a past. The people of New Orleans have always tenaciously clung to both. We would do well to remember the indomitable spirit of "the City That Care Forgot" that has been forged in a crucible of 300 years of adversity—war, pestilence, and catastrophes of nature. May these monuments serve not only as reminders of New Orleans' past but also as beacons of hope that its citizens will surmount, even transcend, whatever challenges they encounter.