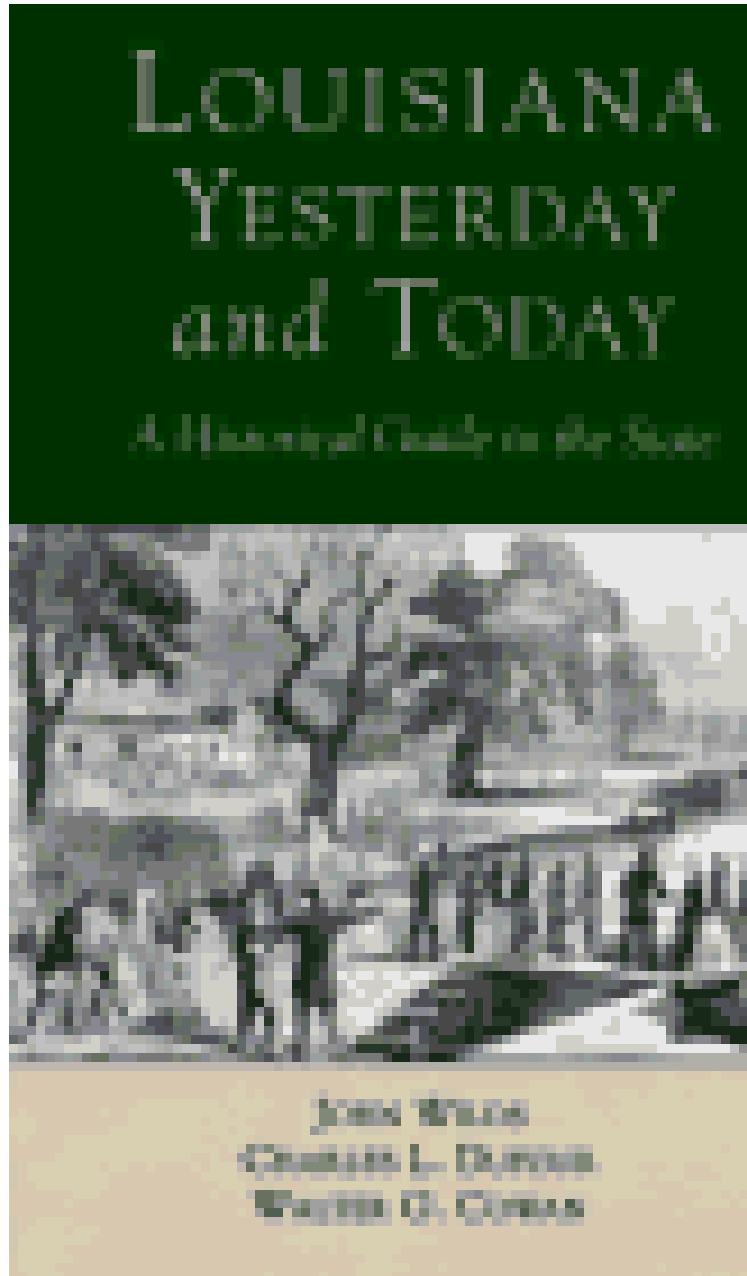


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Louisiana, Yesterday and Today: A Historical Guide to the State

John Wilds, Charles L. Dufour, Walter G. Cowan
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John Wilds, Charles L. Dufour, Walter G. Cowan : Louisiana, Yesterday and Today: A Historical Guide to the State before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Louisiana, Yesterday and Today: A Historical Guide to the State:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Short and Easy to Read HistoryBy apoemThis book is a short, easy to read, to the point book about Louisiana. It is basically written in two sections. The first chapters cover the history of Louisiana in general. The second section covers the various areas of Louisiana. I particularly liked the suggested places to see and lists of fairs at the end of each area chapter. There were two things I didn't like about this book- There were very few pictures. However, the pictures this book did have added to the text of the book. Secondly, I didn't like the fact that at times the book seemed to get bogged down in dates and names and places. However, history is just that at times- dates and names and places. If you are interested in Louisiana history, but don't want to slog through a huge book of history, this is a very good book. I think the authors state it best when they say that if this book was for a college course, the course would be Louisiana 101.

In Louisiana, Yesterday and Today, three veteran newspapermen examine the history and character of one of America's most remarkable states. This comprehensive, entertaining work will inform natives of their rich heritage and familiarize others with the many sources of Louisiana's special charm. In concise, thematic chapters, the authors discuss practically every aspect of Louisiana's history. They explore in depth many specific events and eras, including the Louisiana Purchase, the Battle of New Orleans, the Civil War and Reconstruction, and the rise of Huey P. Long. Illuminating Louisiana's wonderfully polyglot character, they trace the cultural milieu from earliest Indian days through the French and Spanish regimes into statehood. They tell of the pirate Jean Lafitte and the voodoo queen Marie Laveau, of the state's unique Cajun and Creole heritages, of the legendary red-light district of Storyville, and of the excitement and debauchery of Mardi Gras. As a bonus, the book provides an incisive look at the state's 64 parishes as it portrays Louisiana's history, population, economy, culture, and outstanding tourist attractions, evincing the diversity -- most notably between north and south -- that characterizes the state. An excellent guide for visitors who wish to learn about Louisiana's past as well as its present attractions, Louisiana, Yesterday and Today will also beckon natives to rediscover their heritage and the cultural wonderland that exists in their own backyard.

About the AuthorJohn Wilds, former city editor of the New Orleans States-Item, has published several books, including Afternoon Story: A Century of the States-Item and Alton Ochsner: Surgeon of the South. Charles L. Dufour, former columnist for the New Orleans States-Item and the New Orleans Times-Picayune, is the author of many other books, including The Night the War Was Lost; Gentle Tiger: The Gallant Life of Roberdeau Wheat; and Nine Men in Gray. Before his retirement, Walter G. Cowan spent more than forty years as a reporter, city editor, managing editor, and editor of New Orleans newspapers.