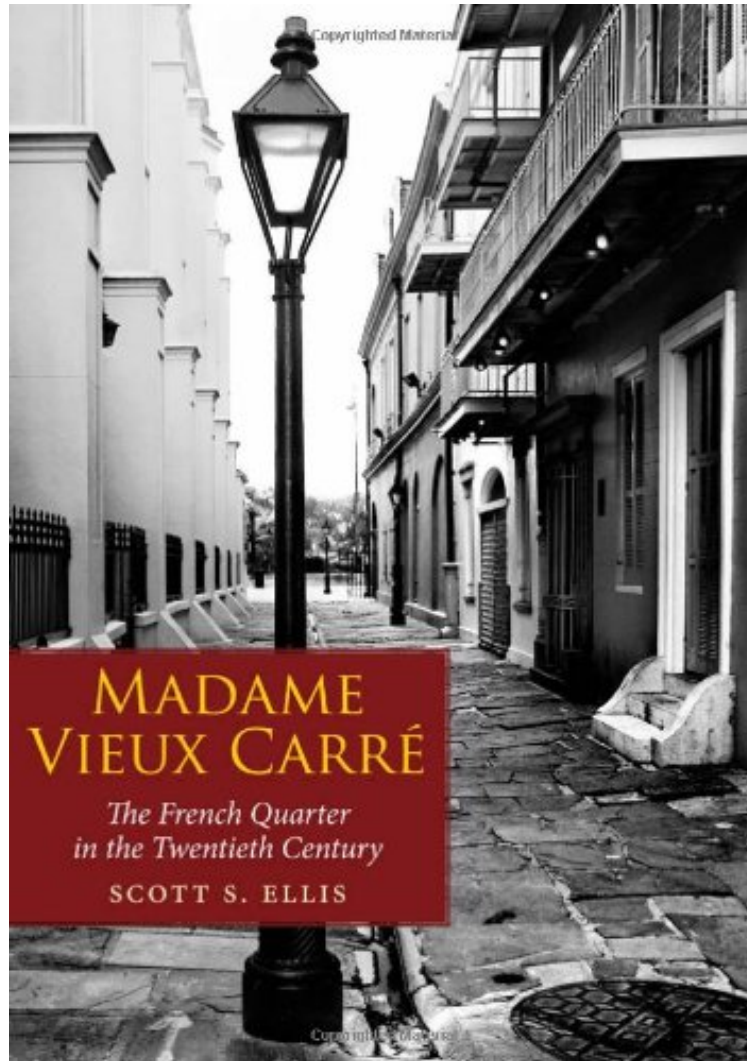


(Download pdf) Madame Vieux Carr: The French Quarter in the Twentieth Century

# Madame Vieux Carr: The French Quarter in the Twentieth Century

Scott S. Ellis

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**Scott S. Ellis : Madame Vieux Carr: The French Quarter in the Twentieth Century** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Madame Vieux Carr: The French Quarter in the Twentieth Century:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Detailed Description from Cover to CoverBy Karen RevekantMadame Vieux Carre is a great book and a rich history of the French Quarter. The author gives wonderful details about a city that never should have been; location, poverty, and politics all work against New Orleans and yet the city thrives. The first part of the book introduces the reader to a Vieux Carre that is almost fully formed into the idea many people have of it today, but gives the history and meaning as to why the people of the Quarter and New Orleans as a whole reacted to events in the way that they did. It informs of a time and of a culture that nurtured

Falkner and Tennessee Williams later. It removes some of the mystery behind the Quarter, but reveals that the truth is so much more interesting. The second part pulls a little bit away from the people and focuses more on the politics; which is why I'm giving this book 4 stars. I was so enthralled with the history and the people that I was disappointed the author shifted gears to the dirty politics that engulf the Quarter because there was nothing new to learn, states that have only one big city always suffers greed and corruption to keep everyone else afloat. For people just visiting New Orleans today the politics do help answer questions one might have about the "way of things", I also never knew anyone would seriously consider putting an expressway and exit ramp right up against the Vieux Carre, score one for local politics. All in all a good read, but be warned lay-man history buffs, a third of the book is bibliography so you're not getting full a history as you might think. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent taste of a place often misrepresented By Jim Kellogg With the advent of the excellent HBO series Treme (which you should check out), there is a renewed interest in the Vieux Carre. The Katrina Disaster was ( and remains) outrageous, but this book wisely focuses on the prior history of everyone's favorite unique city. This book isn't exactly a tour book, but instead captures the flavor of the Quarter as only a frequent visitor or resident can. I lived in New Orleans for over twenty years and still love to visit as often as possible. This is the type book you would want to read if you were considering a long visit or trying to remember a vacation. Some may quibble about a minor fact or two (were there automobiles in the Quarter in the first decades of the last century?) Yes, and Ellis' book doesn't say otherwise as far as I can tell), but this book remains a wonderful and memorable read. I should note that Ellis used me as a source on a couple of points, but that doesn't prejudice my view. This is a well researched, atmospheric read that all should enjoy. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Interesting history of the French Quarter By Kevin This book gives an interesting history of the French Quarter for both locals and visitors--particularly relating to some of the early preservationists whose names I had heard but didn't know anything about. New Orleans politics as it relates to the Quarter is also covered extensively, which is always interesting. I'm giving it three stars instead of five because the writing is frequently repetitive and there were some minor inaccuracies that should have been easily spotted during proofreading or editing.

Celebrated in media and myth, New Orleans's French Quarter (Vieux Carr) was the original settlement of what became the city of New Orleans. In *Madame Vieux Carr*, Scott S. Ellis presents the social and political history of this famous district as it evolved from 1900 through the beginning of the twenty-first century. From the immigrants of the 1910s, to the preservationists of the 1930s, to the nightclub workers and owners of the 1950s and the urban revivalists of the 1990s, *Madame Vieux Carr* examines the many different people who have called the Quarter home, who have defined its character, and who have fought to keep it from being overwhelmed by tourism's neon and kitsch. The old French village took on different roles--bastion of the French Creoles, Italian immigrant slum, honky-tonk enclave, literary incubator, working-class community, and tourist playground. The Quarter has been a place of refuge for various groups before they became mainstream Americans. Although the Vieux Carr has been marketed as a free-wheeling, boozy tourist concept, it exists on many levels for many groups, some with competing agendas. *Madame Vieux Carr* looks, with unromanticized frankness, at these groups, their intentions, and the future of the South's most historic and famous neighborhood. The author, a former Quarter resident, combines five years of research, personal experience, and unique interviews to weave an eminently readable history of one of America's favorite neighborhoods.

From the Inside Flap From dicey red light district to historic tourist destination, the story of the Quarter's transformative century About the Author Scott S. Ellis is an independent researcher in Panama City, Florida.