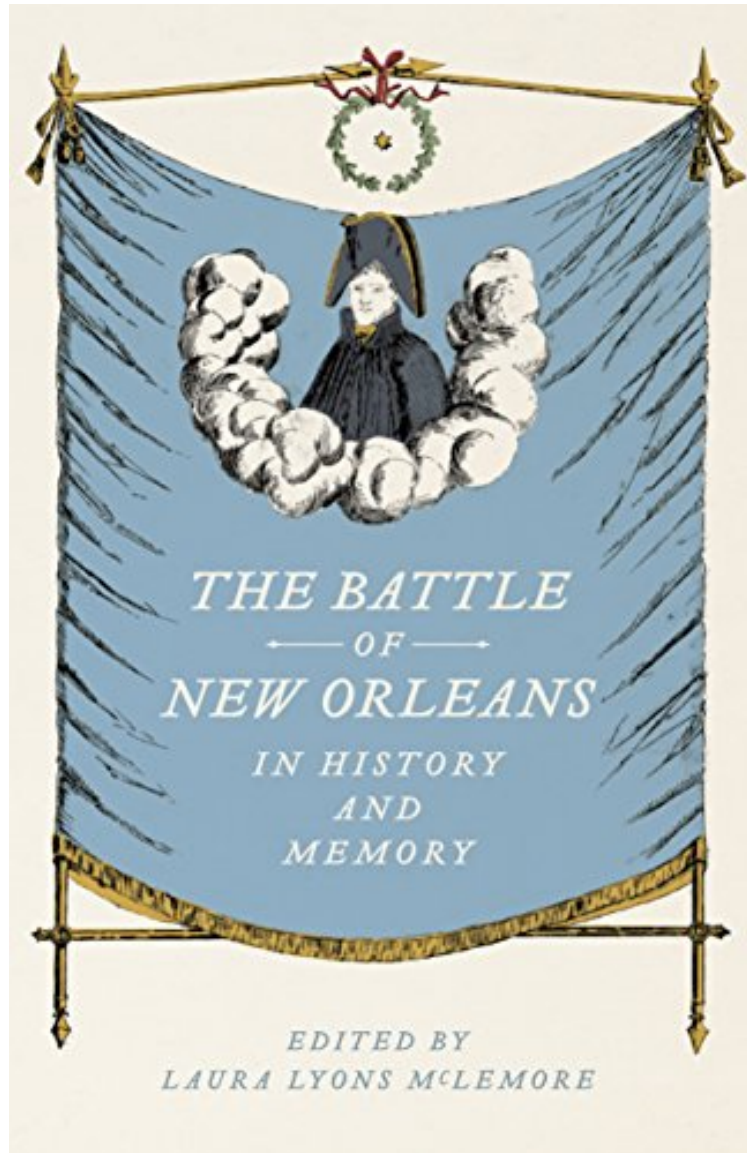


[Download] The Battle of New Orleans in History and Memory: Stories

## The Battle of New Orleans in History and Memory: Stories

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the review on StrategyPage.Com'Prof. McElmore (LSU-Shreveport), has put together essays by nine scholars on various aspects of what is among the most mythologized events in U.S. history, the Battle of New Orleans on Jan. 8, 1815. Opening with an overview of the myths about the war itself (was it really about sailors rights and freedom of the seas?, etc.), there are papers covering just how much Andrew Jackson did -- or didn't -- hate the British, the war in an international context, African-Americans and Creoles in the battle, the battle in popular culture across two centuries, and more, including the bicentennial observances and lessons from the war for the Twenty-first century. These are all excellent, and although the book would have benefited from essays on the battle's baneful influence on American military policy and on the two actual decisive battles of the war, Plattsburgh/Lake Champlain and Baltimore, it's an important read for anyone interested in the War of 1812, American history, and history, memory, and myth.'For the full review, see StrategyPage.Com

The Battle of New Orleans proved a critical victory for the United States, a young nation defending its nascent borders, but over the past two hundred years, myths have obscured the facts about the conflict. In *The Battle of New Orleans in History and Memory*, distinguished experts in military, social, art, and music history sift the real from the remembered, illuminating the battle's lasting significance across multiple disciplines. Laura Lyons McElmore sets the stage by reviewing the origins of the War of 1812, followed by essays that explore how history and memory intermingle. Donald R. Hickey examines leading myths found in the collective memory, some embellishments originating with actual participants, and others invented out of whole cloth. Other essayists focus on specific figures: Mark R. Cheatham explores how Andrew Jackson's sensational reputation derived from contemporary anecdotes and was perpetuated by respected historians, and Leslie Gregory Gruesbeck considers the role visual imagery played in popular perception and public memory of battle hero Jackson. Other contributors unpack the broad social and historical significance of the battle, from Gene Allen Smith's analysis of black participation in the War of 1812 and the subsequent worsening of American racial relations, to Blake Dunnavent's examination of leadership lessons from the war that can benefit the U.S. military today. Paul Gelpi makes the case that the Creole Battalion of New Orleans became protectors of American liberty in the course of defending New Orleans from the British. Examining the European context, Alexander Mikaberidze shows that America's second conflict with Britain was more complex than many realize or remember. Joseph F. Stoltz III illustrates how commemorations of the battle, from memorials to schoolbooks, were employed over the years to promote various civic and social goals. Finally, Tracey E. W. Laird analyzes variations of the tune *The Battle of New Orleans*, revealing how it has come to epitomize the battle in the collective memory.

About the Author LAURA LYONS MCLEMORE is the author of *Inventing Texas: Early Historians of the Lone Star State* and other works on history and memory. She is William B. Wiener, Jr., Professor of Archives and Historic Preservation at Louisiana State University, Shreveport.