

HISTORY OF TREMÉ

In 1720, a land grant to Charles de Morand defined what is now known as Historic Faubourg Tremé. The land was sold and subdivided before the turn of the 19th century and Tremé's namesake, Claude Tremé, married into the land's ownership. By 1812, the City of New Orleans formally annexed the area, making Faubourg Tremé the city's third oldest Faubourg (French for suburb). During this time, Tremé was populated by Creoles (people of mixed French, Spanish, and African heritage) and Free People of Color, making it the oldest African American neighborhood in the country. These original land owners brought along with them fine craftsmanship, music, architecture and a culinary heritage that emerged as a singular amalgam, establishing Tremé as New Orleans' cultural cradle.

Whether grand mansions on Esplanade Avenue, authentic Creole Cottages dating to the 18th century, or charming shotgun houses throughout the area, Tremé is an architectural wonderland with such gems as St. Augustine Church. Built in 1842 so that free people of color and slaves could have a place of their own to worship, St. Augustine is where notable people of color were baptized, married and/or worshiped such as civil rights activist Homer Plessy and A.P. Tureaud. Tremé is also home to one of the most significant landmarks in the City, the Meilleur-Goldthwaite House, the first location to manufacture and provide bricks for the city of New Orleans. This Creole Style building dates back to 1829 and now houses the New Orleans African American Museum of Art, Culture and History.

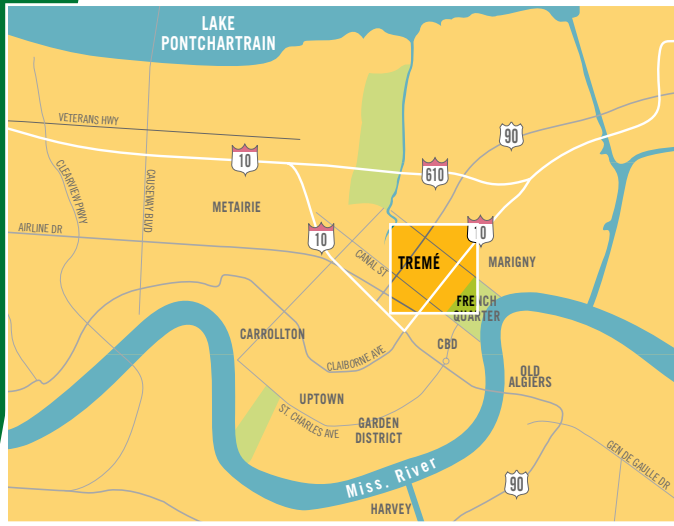
Beyond the boundaries of what is now known as Historic Faubourg Tremé is the Greater Tremé community which includes neighborhoods from North Claiborne Avenue to Broad Street. This area is home to a major economic corridor, Bayou Road, which is also the oldest street in the city. Bayou Road was a portage route for Native Americans that was shared with the city's founders as a shorter route from the Mississippi River to the city, crossing Lake Pontchartrain to the Bayou. One of the legendary Native American markets sat at the corner of Dorgenois and Bayou Road, where a public market building built in the 1930s is now surrounded by a small renaissance of stores and cultural programming.

In recent years, an emergence of notable venues has re-anchored the neighborhood's cultural identity and economy. To further enhance Tremé's cultural identity, the State's official *Louisiana African American Heritage Trail* begins here and the entire area is designated as a City and State cultural district that offers tax free shopping for original works of art. Congo Square, the location where slaves and free people of color were allowed to congregate for African drumming and dancing, remains a cultural heritage site within Tremé's Louis Armstrong Park. The U.S. National Park Service's New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park is also located here. Fresh farmers' markets in Tremé have emerged as a must-do monthly cultural event. Other notable venues in Tremé, like the Mahalia Jackson Theater for the Performing Arts, the Municipal Auditorium, historic Joseph A. Craig School and the Tremé Community Center, have all undergone or are in the process of undergoing multi-million dollar upgrades.

Indeed, with its architectural gems, proud residents, a thriving musical culture and adjacency to the Vieux Carré and Faubourg Marigny, Faubourg Tremé has resurrected itself as the cradle for all things authentic to New Orleans. Truly, it's the people of this neighborhood that built New Orleans as we see it, hear it and taste it today.



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Design by Creative Zumo, LLC. Printing by Mpress.

Distribution assistance by *New Orleans Magazine*, a publication of Renaissance Publishing.

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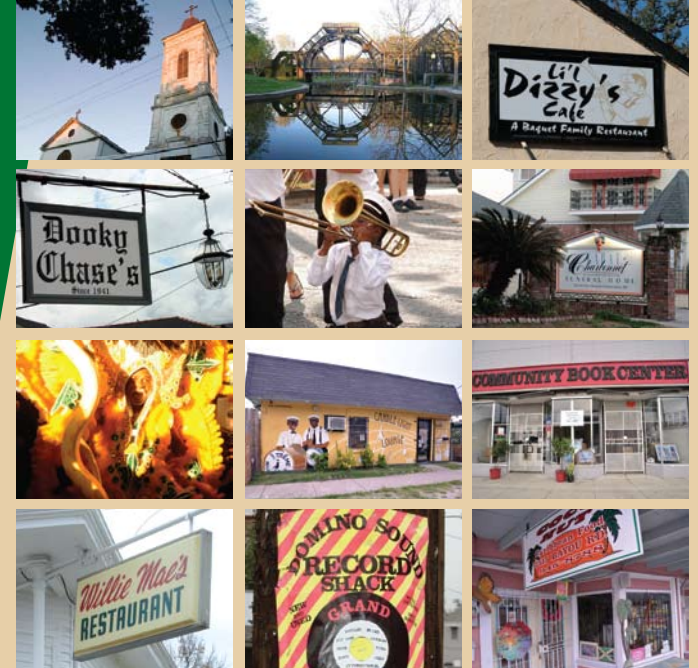
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STAYLOCAL.ORG

TREMÉ

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NEIGHBORHOOD GUIDE & MAP

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The Tremé area is served by the following RTA lines:

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62	Morrison	91	Jackson-Esplanade
64	Lake Forest Express	94	Broad
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