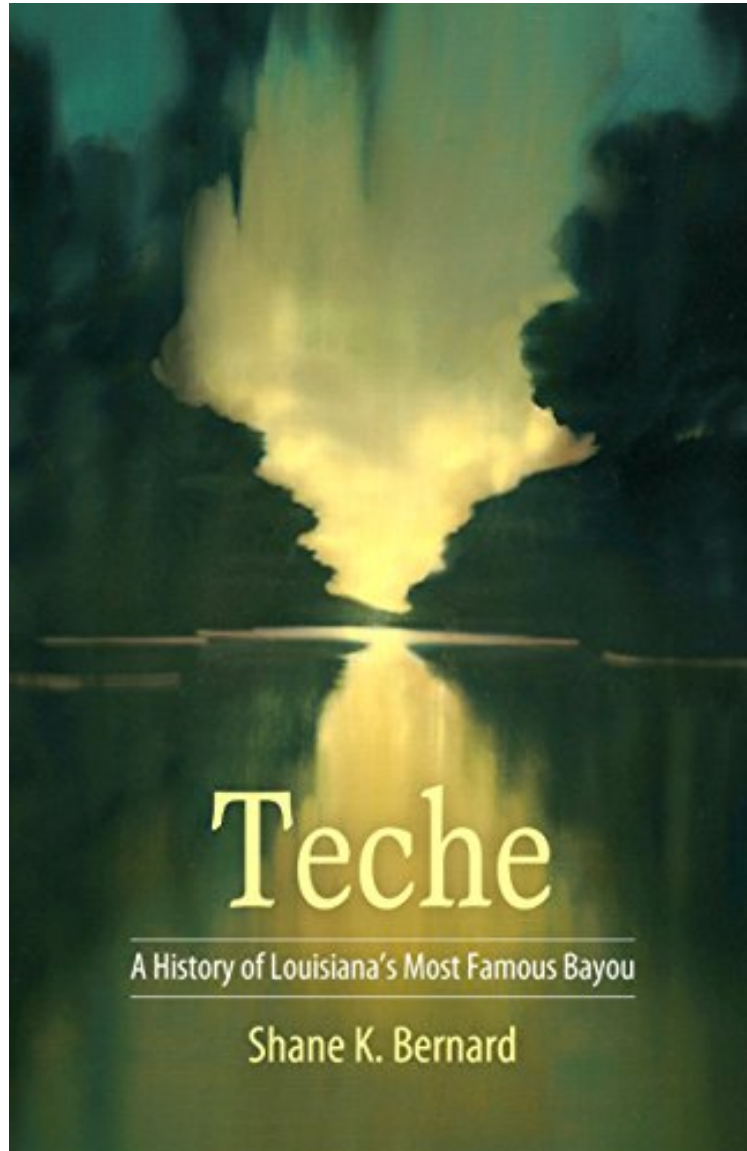


[Free pdf] Teche: A History of Louisiana's Most Famous Bayou (America's Third Coast Series)

Teche: A History of Louisiana's Most Famous Bayou (America's Third Coast Series)

Shane K. Bernard

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Mommie This is an interesting, well written history of the area and also a diary of the author's paddle trip down the Teche. I really enjoyed it and plan to paddle the Tour de Teche race as a result of having read this book. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Teche is a well researched book. By BUTCH FELTERMANTeche is a well researched and well written book going back to the early days of the Indian population on the bayou. The author brings you to the present inhabitants and would be of interest not only to those living in the bayou region, but also to those living far away. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By us027640 Informative and well written

Shane K. Bernards Teche examines this legendary waterway of the American Deep South. Bernard delves into the bayous geologic formation as a vestige of the Mississippi and Red Rivers, its prehistoric Native American occupation, and its colonial settlement by French, Spanish, and, eventually, Anglo-American pioneers. He surveys the coming of indigo, cotton, and sugar; steam-powered sugar mills and riverboats; and the brutal institution of slavery. He also examines the impact of the Civil War on the Teche, depicting the running battles up and down the bayou and the sporadic gunboat duels, when ironclads clashed in the narrow confines of the dark, sluggish river. Describing the misery of the postbellum era, Bernard reveals how epic floods, yellow fever, racial violence, and widespread poverty disrupted the lives of those who resided under the sprawling, moss-draped live oaks lining the Teches banks. Further, he chronicles the slow decline of the bayou, as the coming of the railroad, automobiles, and highways reduced its value as a means of travel. Finally, he considers modern efforts to redesign the Teche using dams, locks, levees, and other water-control measures. He examines the recent push to clean and revitalize the bayou after years of desecration by litter, pollutants, and invasive species. Illustrated with historic images and numerous maps, this book will be required reading for anyone seeking the colorful history of Louisiana and the Gulf Coast. As a bonus, the second part of the book describes Bernards own canoe journey down the Teches 125-mile course. This modern personal account from the field reveals the current state of the bayou and the remarkable people who still live along its banks.

Recipient of 2017 Book of the Year award presented by the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities. About the Author Shane K. Bernard, New Iberia, Louisiana, is the author of several books on south Louisiana history and culture including Cajuns and Their Acadian Ancestors: A Young Readers History; The Cajuns: Americanization of a People; and Swamp Pop: Cajun and Creole Rhythm and Blues, all published by University Press of Mississippi; and TABASCO: An Illustrated History, distributed for the McIlhenny Company by University Press of Mississippi. Bernard lives a short distance from Bayou Teche.