<u>history</u>

he area in this tour starts at Lee Circle, where the Lower Garden District or Coliseum Square area meets the Lafayette Square District. It extends through the Lafayette Square District to Poydras Street and then through the Historic Office Core of the Central Business District to Canal Street.

The Lafayette Square District is New Orleans second oldest residential neighborhood with many row houses dating to the early 1830's. It is made up predominantly of the upper part of Faubourg St. Marie (1788) and a small part of the lower portion of Faubourg Duplantier (1807). It was the residential

section of the old Second Municipality, an area dominated by a then recent influx of "Americans" at a time when a culturally fractured New Orleans was divided into three separate cities, or municipalities, with three city councils, but only one mayor.

The Historic Office Core is the oldest part of the twentieth-century business district with many older skyscrapers including bank

Vieux Carre.

skyscrapers including bank
buildings and early corporate headquarters.
In addition to some late twentieth-century skyscrapers, it also has a large collection of nineteenth-century buildings throughout, which gives it a very eclectic feeling. It is comprised of the lower part of Faubourg St. Marie and the original City Commons that was adjacent to the

Both these areas first appear on Carlos Trudeau's 1788 subdivision map of the Gravier Plantation, previously known as Bienville's Plantation.

WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO USE GOOD JUDGEMENT AND COMMON SENSE IN TAKING THIS TOUR AS IT IS IN AN URBAN AREA.

In 1987 the United States Congress, through Concurrent Resolution 57, designated Jazz "a rare and valuable national American treasure to which we should devote our attention, support and resources to make certain it is preserved, understood and promulgated."

This historic site tour is a program of the New Orleans Jazz Commission, a 17 member National Park Service public commission appointed by the Secretary of the Interior. The Commission was authorized on October 31, 1994 through Public Law 103-433 which established the New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park - a new

The New Orleans Jazz Commission's concurrent mission with New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park includes the evaluation of historic sites associated with the origins and early history of jazz, as well as preservation and interpretation of jazz history.

National Park focused on the early

culture of traditional jazz.

Further information on the historic jazz sites contained in this tour can be accessed at:

New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park. 916 N. Peters. 589-4841 www.nps.gov/neor

Hogan Jazz Archives at Tulane University. 6801 Freret St. Jones Hall. 865-5688

Special Collections - Tulane University. Jones Hall. 6801 Freret St. 865-5685

New Orleans Jazz Museum Collection, LA State Museum. The Mint. 400 Esplanade 568-8215

Historic New Orleans Collection. 533 Royal St. 523-4662 Williams Research Center. 598-7171

New Orleans Public Library - Louisiana Division. 219 Loyola. 596-2610

Preservation Resource Center. 923 Tchoupitoulas. 581-7032

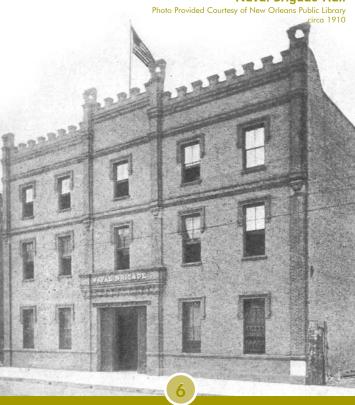
Visit our website www.nojazzcommission.com

# Jazz history

**WALKING TOURS** 

LAFAYETTE SQUARE DISTRICT AND BUSINESS DISTRICT

Naval Brigade Hall



NUMBER SIX OF THE JAZZ HISTORY WALKING AND MOTOR TOUR SERIES  ${f N}$ 

Sponsored by the New Orleans Jazz Commission

# 1. JERUSALEM TEMPLE 1137 St. Charles Ave.

Constructed in 1917 from plans by architects Emile Weil and Sam Stone, Jr., this Shriners Temple featured a triple ballroom, a half arena with a proscenium, and middle-eastern oriental detailing. The Mexican Band played in 1920 for the Armistice Celebration followed by a succession of balls, reviews, and parties under the long-time management of trumpeter Mike Caplan. It was a mecca for music for three quarters of a century.

# 2. BIENVILLE HOTEL ROOF 1040 St. Charles Ave. Built in 1920-22 by the Grunewald family and designed by Toledano, Wogan, & Bernard, this hotel featured a popular roof garden. Monk Hazel's Bienville Roof Orchestra was the house band in the late 1920's. Bandleader and cornetist Hazel hired Sharkey Bonano as cornetist for the famous recordings. The roof garden is still visible.

# 3. WTPS RADIO STUDIO 615 Howard Ave. (now Andrew Higgins Blvd.) This Richardsonian Romanesque building was constructed in 1888. Built as the Howard Library, during the 1940's and 50's it was home to WTPS, the broadcast arm of the Times-Picayune and States newspapers. Their "Music of New Orleans" program was sometimes recorded, an example being the George Lewis Jazz Band circa 1949.

# 4. DRUIDS HOME 843 Camp St.

Built in 1916, this was the headquarters for the local grove of Druids, part of the United Ancient Order of Druids. The Barocco brothers, Dominick and Joe, who played in Jack Laine's bands, were among the many who played here. The Druids, who had their own carnival parade following Rex, stopped parading in the early 1930's, and disbanded several years later.

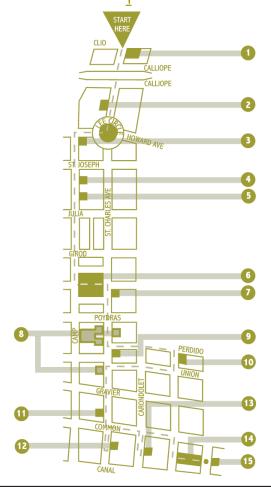
# 5. NAVAL BRIGADE HALL/GRUNEWALD'S SCHOOL OF MUSIC 827 Camp St.

This building, designed by architect/builder Julius Koch, was Naval Brigade Hall from 1903 until the 1940's. The Naval Brigade Band was directed by New Orleans ragtime composer, violinist, and bandleader William Braun. After World War II, Grunewald Music Co. opened their School of Music with black and white students under the G. I. Bill program. Instructors included Otto Finck, Willie Humphrey, and Frank Federico. The School moved when it became part of Educational Gateways Music School business.

## 6. LAFAYETTE SQUARE

First known as Place Gravier, it became Lafayette Square after Lafayette's visit to New Orleans in 1825. In 1864, famed bandleader Patrick S. Gilmore presented his legendary concert with a 500 plus member band, a choir of thousands of school children, and a bell ringer. It has been the site of performances for inaugurations, yearly pilgrimages by school bands, and endless jazz concerts for over 150 years.

# tour map



- **7. GALLIER HALL 545 St. Charles St.** Originally the headquarters for the 2nd Municipality, this hall was constructed in 1845 and designed by James Gallier (Sr.), renowned New Orleans architect. It became City Hall for a century. For a half-century it has been a reception hall, and throughout it all, the site of constant music.
- **8. THE THEATERS 300 & 400 blks. St. Charles and Camp Sts.** In the 19th and half of the 20th century, this was New Orleans' largest theater district. Now vanished, they were the American Theater (Camp St. Theater), the New American Theater, 3 consecutive St. Charles Theaters (3rd aka the Orpheum), Academy of Music (Audubon Theater), Regent (Joy Rio & Avenue), Lyceum, and Liberty.
- **9. MASONIC TEMPLE 333 St. Charles St.** This early skyscraper designed by Sam Stone, Jr. in 1926 was the second major structure built for the Grand Lodge of Louisiana. It was a location for many dances and musical performances.

## 10. WERLEIN'S MUSIC 333 Baronne St.

This was Werlein's first long-term location after the civil war (1867-1877) and closely adjacent to their later Werlein Hall (1881-87) on the site of the current Le Pavillion Hotel. Werlein's has published music for 150 years and is the oldest family-owned-and-operated retail music business in the United States.

# 11. DIXIE'S BAR OF MUSIC 204 St. Charles St. From the late 1930's through the 1940's, clarinetist Dixie Fasnacht was the owner and bandleader at this legendary music spot across from the now-demolished St. Charles Hotel. The club's famous wall mural by Xavier Gonzales is now on view at the Old U. S. Mint.

### 12. KOLB'S RESTAURANT 125 St. Charles St.

This famous German Restaurant was founded in 1898 by Conrad Kolb. Cornetist/bandleader Johnny Dedroit led his band here (1920's), the Kirst Brothers played dinner music, German Bands celebrated Oktoberfest, and others played for dances and parties.

# 13. JUNIUS HART MUSIC STORE

123 Carondelet St. This was Junius Hart's second location (1923-1930) and the site of the Okeh label New Orleans "field" recordings in 1924-25, featuring bands including Johnny Bayersdorffer, Leda Bolden (with Lewis & Piron), Sterling Bose, Norman Brownlee, Papa Celestin, Johnny Dedroit, the Halfway House Orch., Fate Marable, the N. O. Rhythm Kings, Tony Parenti, and John Tobin. It was simultaneously the C. G. Conn Music Co., then in 1931 became the L. Grunewald Co. music house until the late 1930's.

## 14. FAIRMONT HOTEL 123 Baronne St.

Built in 1908 and designed by Toledano and Wogan, the Grunewald Hotel later became the Roosevelt Hotel, then the Fairmont Hotel. A major music policy has prevailed since its inception; the Grunewald Cave showcased Johnny Dedroit's Band dressed as elves; the Roosevelt's Blue Room had major musical acts such as Ted Lewis, the Mills Bros., Sophie Tucker, and Bob Crosby's Band. The WWL radio studios, home of the long-running Dawnbusters and N. O. Jazz Club programs, were also here. The Fairmont prominently features jazz music today.

## 15. ORPHEUM THEATER 129 University Place

The Orpheum Circuit Co. moved to this location in 1921. It was designed by nationally noted architect J. Albert Lansberg, assisted by local architect Sam Stone, Jr. Conductor Emile Tosso's Orpheum Symphony Orchestra featured many jazz musicians, including cornetist Johnny Dedroit. The later house band also had jazz musicians including trumpeter Howard Reed, trombonist Jac Assunto and saxophonist Al Gallodoro.