

Honoring our Past Inspiring our Future

Honorary Committee

Co-chairs

*Hon. Kristin Gisleson Palmer
& Hon. Troy A. Carter*

Hon. Billy Nungesser
Hon. Teena Anderson Trahan

Hon. Gary Carter,
Jacquelyn B. Clarkson,
Tyrone Casby Sr.,
Hon. Leslie Ellison
Freddi Evans,
Hon. Marlin Gusman
Hon. Darren Lombard
Malik Rahim
George Rainey
Eric Songy
Alyson Ward



Purpose

Because the Algiers story is often left out of the New Orleans historical narrative, Algiers will celebrate its founding in 1719. We want to tell the story of Algiers - from the early 1700s when it was the King's Plantation, to the Battle of New Orleans in 1814 to the jazz music of the early 1900s, to the diverse communities that comprise Algiers today. The celebration is designed to create positive awareness of Algiers, educate and entertain locals and visitors through cultural activities, and create legacy projects that will remain for posterity.

As we honor our past, we will inspire our future through economic, educational and cultural programs and advocate for appropriate development and opportunities for economic security in communities throughout Algiers.



1719

The settlement of Algiers was founded by Bienville after he was granted the land on the west bank of the Mississippi River by French King Louis XIV. It served as the King's Plantation, which provided food and supplies to Nouvelle Orleans



1815

BATTLE OF NEW ORLEANS/WAR OF 1812

Andrew Jackson's troops and a rag-tag local militia fought the British to save the City of New Orleans. The West Bank troops were not successful; however, the East Bank contingent were victorious.





1827

Commercial ferry service
began between Algiers and New
Orleans.

John McDonogh

John McDonogh, one of the wealthiest men in America, lived on Mt. Plaisir plantation in Old Algiers. The home disappeared into the Mississippi River in the days before levees protected the area.

Even before his death in 1850, he established Freetown for his freed slaves, many of whom remained on the land. Today, the area is known as McDonoghville, which straddles Orleans and Jefferson parishes.

McDonogh's fortune endowed public schools in Baltimore and New Orleans.



1850s-1970s

The railroad was a primary employer in Algiers beginning in 1852. It employed many people who lived in the area and raised their families nearby.

When Southern Pacific Railroad left Algiers in the 1970s, it led to the further decline of the community.



B. M. NORMAN, PUBLISHER.

Eng. by Shickel & Hornum, 157 Camp St. N.Y.

1870

Algiers was annexed to the City of New Orleans.



1900-1960s

Algiers was home to many early jazz musicians, including band leader Henry “Red” Allen, drummer Bill Matthews, Peter Bocage, physician and band leader L.B. Landry and clarinetist George Lewis. Later, bluesman Eddie Bo (Bocage) and R&B artist Clarence “Frogman” Henry gained fame. Henry still resides in Old Algiers.



1890s....

Since the U.S. Naval Station opened at the end of the 19th century, Algiers has enjoyed a military presence. The “Navy Base” closed in 2004, and the land was donated to the Algiers Development District for redevelopment as Federal City.

The Marine Reserves Headquarters and the U.S. Coast Guard are housed on the Federal City site.

Also notable in the 1890s was the Fire of 1895 that destroyed many of the homes in what is now Algiers Point.



1950s-1980s

Old Algiers began a slow decline after suburban Algiers developed as residential and commercial activities expanded along Gen. Meyer and Gen de Gaulle.

The oil industry provided many jobs and sustained the growth of commerce.

Algiers Point National Historic District was established in 1975, creating opportunities for renovation within those boundaries

With the decline of the oil industry, retail and restaurants left Algiers for more sustainable locations.



Algiers Today

Historic properties are being renovated and blight is being cleared.

Two libraries, including one of only two remaining Carnegie-funded libraries are in Algiers.

The ferry terminal will be revitalized, and new ferry boats are coming

New retail, restaurants and services, such as health care, are growing.

Arts and culture remain important components of lifestyle and the creative industries are vital to the economy.



Tricentennial Year

Zulu Flag-Raising in Old Algiers with King George
Rainey

Slave Marker Dedication on Riverfront at Old Algiers

Revitalization of the Jazz Walk of Fame (Algiers Point
Association)

Refreshing the mural at the levee steps to the levee
(Friends of the Ferry)

Historic exhibits/lectures at the New Orleans Jazz
Museum and other locations

Research tours for amateur historians

Walking tours/virtual tours

New Orleans Historical App (Old Algiers Main Street
Corporation with UNO's Midlo Center)

Our Story, Your Story Oral History Project (Old Algiers
Main Street Corporation with UNO's Midlo Center)

University of New Orleans



Partners

Algiers Council of Neighborhood Presidents
Algiers Development District
Algiers Economic Development
Foundation
Algiers Historical Society
Algiers Point Association
Algiers Riverview Association
Friends of the Ferry
JUGS Social Aid Club/NOMTOC
Office of Lt. Governor's Office
New Orleans Tourism Marketing
Corporation
New Orleans Jazz Museum
Old Algiers Main Street Corporation
Pride of Algiers Masonic Lodge
University of New Orleans, Midlo Center

