LOUISIANA'S ANTEBELLUM ARCHITECTURE

MONT ST. MICHEL—Brittany, France
A European Precedent

“Louisiana's Antebellum Architecture” is a monograph for John Desmond’s enlargement of many talented Sketches of former Louisiana’s oldest buildings, some of which appear here. These buildings were created by the state’s early architects and are now the pride of the state’s history. Desmond’s text, released last month by Claitor’s Publishing and Distribution of Baton Rouge, is a unique study of the architecture that has developed during a period when Louisiana was rich in architecture reflecting the Spanish and French influence on the state. Desmond sees a “continuing lesson for the world today” in the buildings of the past. These buildings are studied in order to learn principles which can produce true and honest buildings of any age.

These drawings, which began as a series in Louisiana Architect Magazine, portray numerous interpretations, demonstrating the variety of structures described in the text. The images have been produced by an award-winning, thorough, and experienced illustrator. The text on the drawings explains these buildings of a past era, their appearance, and their development. Many of them were constructed in the Gothic style, as a showcase for John Desmond’s skills as an architect, and his series of the Louisiana Architect Magazine.