Praise for Richard Campanella’s Books

“The smartest book I’ve read this year about American cities is “Bourbon Street: A History,” by Richard Campanella.”
-- John King, SFGATE, 2014

“Absorbing…persuasive…. gleefully subversive…. Bourbon Street: A History is at its heart a history of how New Orleans has seen itself, and how it has been seen by the rest of the world. There may be no one better qualified to write such a history than Campanella, the author of seven books about New Orleans…. Campanella writes in a straightforward, unadorned style, combining a historian’s scrupulousness, a sociologist’s attention to demotic sources, and a geographer’s fascination with the influence of terrestrial conditions on culture, politics, and development…. A distinctive mark of Campanella’s work is his obsessive recording of statistics… Part of the delight of the various charts and maps included in the book is to imagine Campanella, clicker and stopwatch in hand, standing motionless amid the drunk, swelling mobs as he soberly records his data.”

“A detailed and chronological narrative…. Campanella provides a rich look into one of America’s famous street’s using a wealth of primary sources and quantitative analysis. His multidiscipline approach is comprehensive.”
—Southern Register, 2014

“…vividly told, fact-packed, Bourbon Street: A History] should be required reading for anyone who wants to discuss New Orleans … Campanella’s book is full of surprises, casting scholarly light on everything from death of burlesque to the rise of the daiquiri… Campanella… has marshaled his arguments, done the research and turned in one of the most important books ever written about New Orleans.”
--New Orleans Times-Picayune / nola.com (Chris Waddington), July 2014

“Bienville’s Dilemma (2008)….is the single best history of the city….masterful.”

“Future scholars interested in the analysis of urban and cultural geography in New Orleans will be…indebted to the work of Richard Campanella…. Geographies of New Orleans…. is a richly researched and extensively documented study that…will appeal to both a general and scholarly audience. [It] is a book to be studied over time…."
--Journal of Urban History

“…stunning in its analytical precision…filled with photographs, maps, timelines and beautifully written essays…. it is, indeed, difficult to imagine just how much painstaking research went into this book…. Geographies of New Orleans is a powerful [and] dazzling book, unparalleled in its scope, precision, clarity and detail.…."
--Prof. Michael A. Ross, Loyola University / Times-Picayune

“[Bienville’s Dilemma is] lucid and straightforward…. an immensely readable treasure trove of history, one a reader could open to any page for a source of enlightenment…. Campanella is such a riveting writer that he can make anything fascinating.”
--Susan Larson, New Orleans Times-Picayune

“…detailed and analytical…as the most extensive geographical description of the city to date, Campanella’s book [Time and Place in New Orleans] fills a great need…. [A]nyone who has an interest in the distinctive city of New Orleans must have this book.”
--Journal of Southern History

“It is a testament to Campanella’s storytelling ability that you’ll be utterly engrossed in every detail [of Lincoln in New Orleans]…. Campanella illuminates both Lincoln’s pilgrimage and its destination in this fascinating book.”
--Susan Larson, “A Reading Life”

“Geographies of New Orleans [is] a bit like Edward Tufte’s classics on envisioning information – massive amounts of research expressed in statistically elegant graphs showing, for example, not only how many Jews or Creoles lived here – but the likelihood of that information being correct. Meticulously honest, respectful, thorough, and non-partisan, Campanella might be the most authoritative voice of all regarding New Orleans history.”
--Rebecca Firestone / Mark English, AIA, “The Architects’ Take”

“Richard Campanella’s detailed books on New Orleans geography have been instant classics…. There are lessons for all deltaic cities in this must-read [Delta Urbanism: New Orleans].”
--James Carville, political consultant and Professor of Practice at Tulane University

“…fascinating and exhaustively researched, [with a] compelling narrative and accessible writing style. [Lincoln in New Orleans] offers a great deal of illumination on Lincoln’s river life and on 1828 New Orleans.
And [Campanella] does it in such an absorbing and accessible way that *Lincoln in New Orleans* is bound to strike a chord with readers, both in the Crescent City and beyond.”

--Mike Scott, *New Orleans Times-Picayune*

“The overall best New Orleans book of the year is *Geographies of New Orleans*… this beautifully designed, information-filled volume will stand the test of time; it should be required reading for all urban planners involved in our recovery.”

--Susan Larson, *New Orleans Times-Picayune*

“well-researched… compelling… rich… a strong and fascinating foundation for understanding the city….[I]t is no small achievement that *Bienville’s Dilemma* … succeeds in illuminating the complex trajectory of this most unusual of American cities.”

--Dorothy Ball, *Places Journal*

“[Time and Place in New Orleans] is a thoughtful analysis and brilliantly illustrated display of the city’s physical and cultural landscapes… an abundance of both scholarly detail and superior artistry….”

--*Louisiana History*

“… exhaustively researched and documented… illuminates the Louisiana connection with one of the nation’s greatest presidents and how it shaped his views and actions…. [Campanella has] produc[ed] excellent New Orleans studies in recent years that will be cited for decades to come.”

--The Historic New Orleans Collection Evaluation Panel, in awarding the Williams Prize to *Lincoln in New Orleans*

“[New Orleans Then and Now] is an excellent evocation of the city’s changing landscape, described in lucid intelligent prose, and illustrated by a wonderful range of old and new photographs….”

--Prof. Peirce F. Lewis, Professor Emeritus of Geography, *Pennsylvania State University*

“Richard Campanella… is a brilliant chronicler of our city’s landscape and history[,] he has made readers look at [New Orleans] in a new way.”

--Susan Larson, “A Reading Life”

“… an unprecedented resource—a scholarly, absorbing and often surprising history of how New Orleans grew up…. Campanella unveils a New Orleans that is rich in detail and rooted in a profound knowledge of, and affection for, the quirky old town. What sets [Time and Place in New Orleans] apart from more conventional histories is Campanella’s thorough analytical method. He probes and dissects the city, exposing seams, frameworks and recurring patterns…. Numerous maps, contemporary and historical photographs, drawings, charts and graphs illustrate his interesting narrative.”

--*The Tulanian*

“[New Orleans Then and Now] is a classic example of a photographic resurvey…. a captivating tour of numerous cultures, historical eras, and architectural achievement… a splendidly researched example of the evolution of an American city.”

--*The Bloomsbury Review*

“… magnificently illustrated…. [New Orleans Then and Now] is highly recommended for students of architecture, history, urban development and historic preservation.”

--*The Midwest Book Review, Oregon, Wisconsin*

“[T]he Campanella’s seemed to have turned over every stone, reached into every cranny to turn up historical minutiae on their subject… The logistics of the Campanella’s task are almost mind-blowing….. [New Orleans Then and Now] is a fascinating tour from faubourg to river, from canal to lake.”

--*Hammond Daily Star*

“[New Orleans Then and Now] is so ingenious, it makes you wonder why it was never thought of before.”

--*Baton Rouge Advocate Magazine*

“If there’s a better book of this kind to be had on such a compelling subject, I certainly haven’t found it…. Curl up in front of the fireplace with *New Orleans Then and Now*. You’ll thank me for it later.”

--*The Northside Sun, Jackson, Mississippi*

“… extremely effective… I hope they are planning a second volume…. Please run down to the nearest neighborhood independent bookstore and buy [New Orleans Then and Now].”

--*Preservation in Print (guest column)*
“[New Orleans Then and Now] is a detailed study in architectural contrast and urban change…a thorough history of the city’s development…”
--AB Bookman’s Weekly

“…an important and well-researched book… an excellent introduction… a wealth of informative text and images…
New Orleans Then and Now is a must for local history buffs and preservationists….”
--The Times-Picayune

“[New Orleans Then and Now] is fascinating for those who think they know the city (it’s full of surprises!) and for those who love it.”
--The Times-Picayune

“[New Orleans Then and Now] is a photo album as unique as its subject…a photographic documentation of a century and a half of changes in New Orleans…. painstakingly photographed…”
--Gambit Weekly

“[New Orleans Then and Now] is an almost block-by-block comparison of the city…gives an interesting view of history, urbanism, and preservation (or lack thereof).”
--Society of Architectural Historians

“[New Orleans Then and Now] is the kind of book that the end of a century should produce, and its pages have a narcotic pull to them that New Orleanians can’t resist.”
--Tulanian Magazine