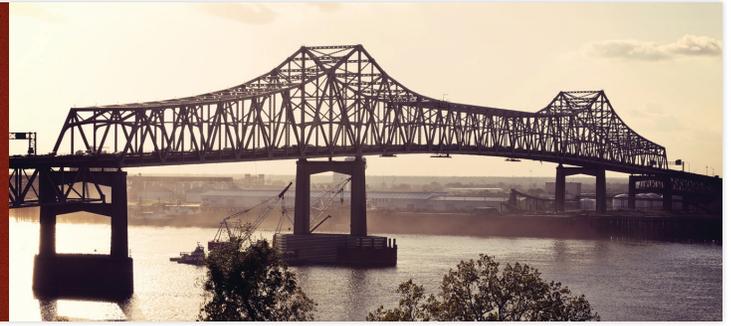


# Baton Rouge Advocate (1845-1985)

*An Archive of Americana Collection*



## Quick Facts

*The Advocate* is the “independent voice of South Louisiana”

Explore 140 years of local, regional, and national history

Ideal for a broad range of users, including researchers, students and genealogists

## Overview

*The Advocate* and its journalistic ancestors have been a vital force in Louisiana’s capital city and surrounding communities for more than 140 years. One of the few major independent newspapers in the United States today, *The Advocate* provides nearly a century and half of unique insight into the people, places and events of South Louisiana. This searchable historical archive features the *Morning Advocate* (1925-1985), the afternoon *State Times Advocate* (1913-1985) and several predecessors.

### Life in the 19th-century South

The journalistic ancestors of *The Advocate* are a rich source about life along the Mississippi River from the Antebellum Period to the turn of the century. In 1846, after the state legislature moved the government from New Orleans, Baton Rouge began a phase of steady growth driven by steamboat trade and new transportation routes. First-hand reporting covers the occupation of the city by Union troops in 1862, the migration of freedmen from rural areas during Reconstruction, and the imposition of racial segregation on African Americans.

### America in modern times

In the early 20th century, the Louisville, New Orleans and Texas Railway arrived, and local officials sought greater economic activity. New owners revitalized *The Advocate*, publishing this principle in a page-one editorial: “It is our intention to print a newspaper whose editorials are not for sale, and whose news items cannot be suppressed, a newspaper commensurate with hopes and plans of Baton Rouge.” As the century progressed, *The Advocate* also reported on significant national issues and events—including the Great Depression, during which Governor Huey Long directed construction of a modern Capitol building. Local news reports describe the first bus boycott of the civil rights movement in 1953 and the rapid growth, beginning in the 1970s, of the petrochemical industry.

### An American Newspaper Archive

One of the major titles in *American Newspaper Archives*, this digital edition enables users to easily search and browse *The Advocate*. Digital editions of dozens of other vital American newspapers, from every region of the United States, are also available individually. Each is cross-searchable via an integrated interface that allows users to easily view, magnify, print and save digital page images.



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