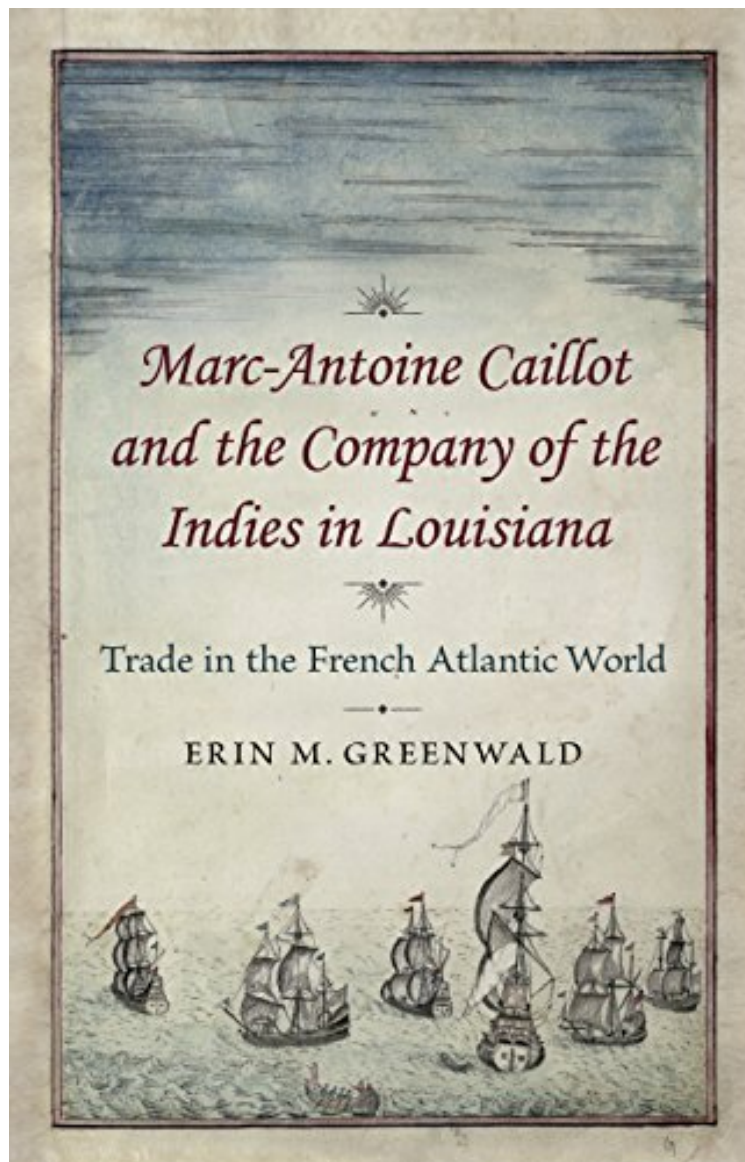


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## Marc-Antoine Caillot and the Company of the Indies in Louisiana: Trade in the French Atlantic World

*Erin M. Greenwald*

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**Erin M. Greenwald : Marc-Antoine Caillot and the Company of the Indies in Louisiana: Trade in the French Atlantic World** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Marc-Antoine Caillot and the Company of the Indies in Louisiana: Trade in the French Atlantic World:

Between 1717 and 1731, the French Company of the Indies (Compagnie des Indes) held a virtual monopoly over Louisiana culture and trade. Among numerous controls, its administrators oversaw the slave trade, the immigration of free and indentured whites, negotiations with Native American peoples, and the purchase and exportation of Louisiana-grown tobacco. In *Marc-Antoine Caillot and the Company of the Indies in Louisiana*, Erin M. Greenwald situates the colony within a French Atlantic circuit that stretched from Paris and the Brittany coast to Africa's Senegambian region to the West Indies to Louisiana and back. Focusing on the travels and travails of Marc-Antoine Caillot, a company clerk who set sail for Louisiana in 1729, Greenwald deftly examines the company's role as colonizer, developer, slaveholder, commercial entity, and deal maker. As the company's focus shifted away from agriculture with the reversion of Louisiana to the French crown in 1731, so too did the lives of the individuals whose fortunes were bound up in the company's trade, colonization, and agricultural mission in the Americas. Greenwald's focus on Caillot provides an engaging microhistory for readers interested in the culture and society of early Louisiana and its place in the larger French Atlantic world.

"Erin Greenwald breathes life into the sprawling enterprise that set thousands of people in motion across the globe, enslaving many, enriching a few, and sending others to their doom at the hands of the pathogens and people whose territories the Company of the Indies was determined to exploit in the name of profit. An illuminating and sobering portrait of the place of Louisiana in the wider early modern world."--Emily Clark, author of *The Strange History of the American Quadroon: Free Women of Color in the Revolutionary Atlantic World*"Erin Greenwald's new book affords readers exceptionally rich insights into both French Louisiana under the Company of the Indies and the place of the colony in the global scheme of things. Viewing French imperial policy through the lived experience of Marc-Antoine Caillot, a long-time employee of the Company of the Indies in both Louisiana and India, Greenwald makes clear the links between Atlantic history and global history during the early modern period. A wonderful addition to the literature on the Company of the Indies and on France's evolving role in the world."--Peter A. Coclanis, Director, Global Research Institute, UNC-Chapel Hill"With Erin Greenwald's latest book, the French Company of the Indies takes its place alongside the better known Virginia Company, Massachusetts Bay Company, Hudson's Bay Company, and the Dutch West India Company--all European mercantile ventures that shaped colonial America. Working from the remarkable memoirs of a lowly company clerk, Greenwald deftly unravels French efforts to impose a new social and economic order on the North American midcontinent in the early eighteenth century." --Gregory A. Waselkov, author of *A Conquering Spirit: Fort Mims and the Redstick War of 1813-1814*About the AuthorErin M. Greenwald is curator and historian at the Historic New Orleans Collection and the editor of *A Company Man: The Remarkable French-Atlantic Voyage of a Clerk for the Company of the Indies*.