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## In Old Paris: An Anthology of Source Descriptions, 1323-1790

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**From Brand: Italica Press : In Old Paris: An Anthology of Source Descriptions, 1323-1790** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised In Old Paris: An Anthology of Source Descriptions, 1323-1790:

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. In Old Paris Review By the\_night\_writer I will give it a high rating because the price suited the conditions of the book. The price was low and the book was readable and usable for a college use. Even though some of the pages were highlighted, they did not mean great trouble to when I read the book.

I used this book for my French class in college and it was the same book I needed to keep up with the homework readings. I liked this book because it revealed different aspects about Paris and France overall. The book deepens a person's understanding about Paris and France. I would recommend this type of book to other college students who are studying French history, art, etc. Overall, this purchase was an excellent one.

"In Old Paris" presents five descriptions of the city from 1323 to 1790. These include A Treatise of the Praises of Paris by Jean de Jandun (1323), The Description of the City of Paris by Guillebert de Mets (1407-34), A Description of Paris by the Venetian Ambassador's Secretary (1577-79), Giovanni Paolo Marana's Pleasant Critique of Paris (1692) and Letters from Paris by the Russian traveller Nikolai Mikhailovich Karamzin (1790). Paris was changed forever by the upheaval of the French Revolution during the last decade of the eighteenth century and by the physical transformation of the city in the mid-nineteenth. Old Paris does survive, however, in many of its architectural monuments and also in these fascinating urban descriptions by residents of, and visitors to, the city. This volume includes a select bibliography on Parisian history, urbanism and architecture; an architectural gazetteer; an appendix on the size and population of Paris from the fourteenth to the eighteenth century; a glossary, and an index. History, urban description, travel literature.

useful teaching volume. introductions to each text bring out the vividness of the detail well. a job done well. -- H-France, August 2003  
About the Author Robert W. Berger is the author of Antoine Le Pautre: A French Architect of the Era of Louis XIV (1969), Versailles: The Chateau of Louis XIV (Penn State Press, 1985), In the Garden of the Sun King: Studies on the Park of Versailles Under Louis XIV (1985), The Palace of the Sun: The Louvre of Louis XIV (Penn State, 1993) and A Royal Passion: Louis XIV as Patron of Architecture (1994). Excerpt. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved.  
Old Paris, the Paris that was changed forever by the political upheaval of the French Revolution during the last decade of the eighteenth century and by the physical transformation of the city under Baron Haussmann in the mid-nineteenth, survives in many architectural monuments. Some, despite all vicissitudes, are well preserved, like Notre-Dame Cathedral, the Place des Vosges, and the Invalides. Yet no matter how intact they may be, the buildings, public squares, and streets that survive from Old Paris lack the human beings who formerly inhabited and animated them. The old architecture remains mute testimony to vanished times.