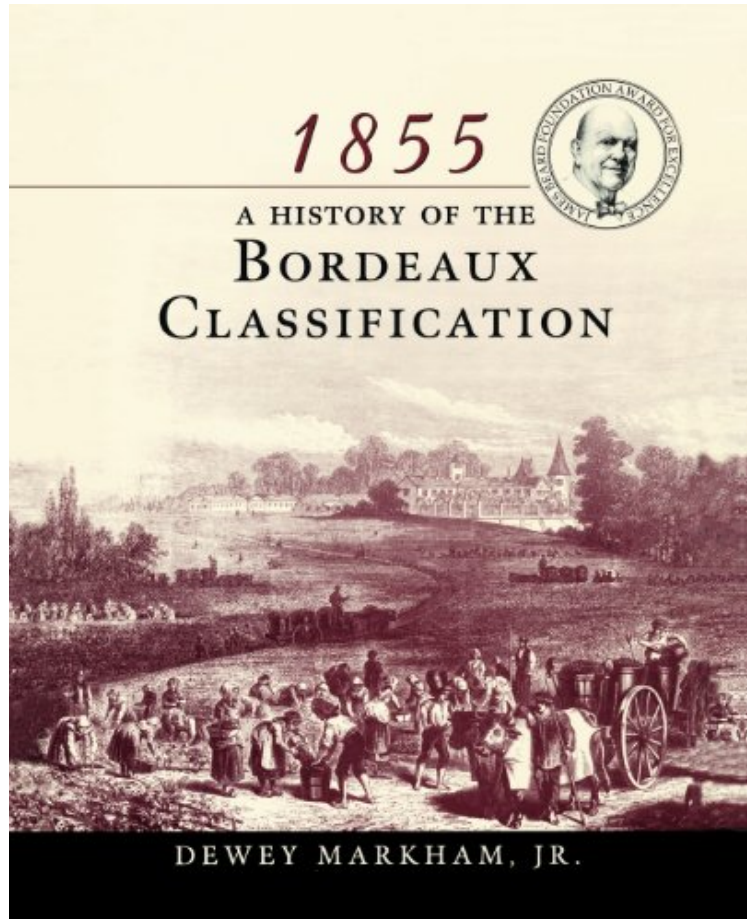


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1855: A History of the Bordeaux Classification

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The First Complete Guide to the 1855 Bordeaux Classification--A Fascinating Account for Wine Lovers and an Authoritative Reference for Wine Industry Professionals The 1855 Bordeaux Classification has been a fixture of the wine world for almost 150 years, yet the origin of the system and the thinking behind it have never been thoroughly researched and presented in detail--until now. How was the 1855 classification drafted? Who was responsible? What was the rationale for the cru classe rating, and what criteria were used to determine inclusion and ranking? 1855: A History of the Bordeaux Classification answers these central questions and more. Drawing on primary source material gleaned through professional organizations, municipal archives, and author visits to each Medoc, Graves, and Sauternes property listed in the 1855 classification, this immaculately researched book demystifies every key aspect of the subject. Appendices give readers direct access to documents from the archives of the Bordeaux Chamber of Commerce, selected Bordeaux wine price quotations, and other valuable information. With thoughtful conclusions on the continued viability of the 1855 classification today, this book is essential reading for informed wine industry professionals and wine lovers alike.

From the Publisher This is the first book to reveal the actual story behind one of the cornerstones of the Bordeaux wine world--the 140-year-old classification that remains the arbiter of quality in this great wine region. The author not only presents an interesting and highly-readable account that encompasses the rise of the great classed-growth chateaux, but also offers detailed tables on each of the properties which will make this a standard reference in the literature of Bordeaux wine.

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About the Author DEWEY MARKHAM, JR., has sold, taught, and written about wine in both the United States and France. He lives and works in Bordeaux, and is the author of Wine Basics.