

1953

Regional and Local Historical Societies

Florida Historical Society
membership@myfloridahistory.org



Part of the [American Studies Commons](#), and the [United States History Commons](#)

Find similar works at: <https://stars.library.ucf.edu/fhq>

University of Central Florida Libraries <http://library.ucf.edu>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by STARS. It has been accepted for inclusion in Florida Historical Quarterly by an authorized editor of STARS. For more information, please contact STARS@ucf.edu.

Recommended Citation

Society, Florida Historical (1953) "Regional and Local Historical Societies," *Florida Historical Quarterly*.
Vol. 32 : No. 1 , Article 9.

Available at: <https://stars.library.ucf.edu/fhq/vol32/iss1/9>

REGIONAL AND LOCAL HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

THE JACKSONVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Annual Meeting of the Jacksonville Historical Society on May 13 was a program meeting with Mr. C. R. Vinten, Superintendent of the Southeastern Areas of the National Park Service, as guest speaker. This area includes Dry Tortugas Islands with Fort Jefferson National Monument. Mr. Vinten told of the unusual and interesting history of the fort and its occupants, and included the natural history of the islands with color motion pictures.

The officers, elected and reelected, are: President, James A. Austin; First vice-president, Dr. Raymond H. King; Second vice-president, H. H. Buckman III; Recording secretary, Miss Martha Lee Segui; Corresponding secretary, Miss Florence Morrish; Treasurer, Miss Dena Snodgrass; Archivist, Miss Audrey Broward; Historian, Herbert Lamson. Directors are: Mrs. Karl Bardin, Mrs. Inman Crutchfield; Hodson Drew; Mrs. Frances Ewell; Theodore Hartridge; Mal Houghton Jr.; Mrs. Linwood Jeffreys; Rhydon Call Latham; Mrs. W. S. Manning; Mrs. W. E. Mott; Warren Wattles; Howard P. Wright.

HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN FLORIDA

The past year has been an active one for the Historical Association of Southern Florida. The usual four Program Meetings were held, each with a principal address or paper written for the occasion. These were mentioned at the time in the current issue of this *Quarterly*.

Two large highway-type markers were placed with ceremonies; one at Miami International Airport (formerly Pan American Field) commemorating the founding of that pioneer airport; the other in Dallas Park, Miami, marking the home-site of Mrs. Julia D. Tuttle, a founder of Miami.

The Building Fund, for the Association's headquarters and museum, was increased by a substantial amount.

Accessions were the early tax rolls of the City of Miami,

a large working model of a coontie starch mill (a principal industry of the region in the early days), the rescue of the gravestone of Capt. Jacob Housman (the region's fabulous pioneer), a wire recorder for preservation of the narratives of reminiscences of the older settlers, and a large number of historical volumes, maps, and photographs donated to the collection for the museum.

Membership reached about 750. Radio and television devoted much time and film to historical Miami and the area prepared by the Association.

In addition there was continuous minor activity. An equally active program is planned for the coming year.

Our readers are familiar with the periodical of the Association *Tequesta*, edited by Dr. Charlton W. Tebeau, reviewed here in a late issue.

TALLAHASSEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Three program meetings have been held during the season (to April) by the Tallahassee Historical Society. As mentioned in the last issue of this *Quarterly*, one program featured a paper on William Augustus Bowles. At the other meetings Dr. Charles S. Davis read a paper on "Stephen R. Mallory, Leader of Confederate Sea-power," and Dr. James T. Campbell one on "The Hutchinson Letters from Tallahassee, 1839-1843."

PENSACOLA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The principal interest of the Pensacola Historical Society recently has been in the life of General Andrew Jackson and his contacts with Florida and especially Pensacola, where he resided when Provisional Governor of the Floridas; as well as his seizing of the town twice during the Spanish period. The "Fiesta of the Five Flags," held annually in Pensacola, has Jackson as its theme this year, and the Society is advising and assisting the production.

At a recent meeting of the Society Mr. T. T. Wentworth

gave a talk on Gen. Jackson and showed two original letters of the General relating to Florida.

Many members of the Society have become members of the Florida Historical Society through the interest of Mr. Wentworth one of our directors.

At the last meeting a charter and bylaws were adopted.

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Included in a recent issue of this Quarterly was a brief description of the museum opened by the Hillsborough County Historical Commission in the new court house in Tampa.

Additions to this collection are continually being made, including many of the official county records discarded and left in the old building and rescued by the Commission.

Mrs. John Branch, Chairman of the Commission, in a report to the Annual Meeting of the Florida Historical Society says:

“The first project of the Commission has been to gather this county’s pioneer records, including pictures of old-timers, cooking utensils and similar articles of pioneer life. We sponsor the ‘Old-timers’ picnic held at Plant City each October. We register them with the place of their nativity and that of their parents. We are giving some attention to a genealogical shelf in the museum.

“We are expecting to build on land given us by the city within three years. We want, among other things, to have an old-time Florida home with breeze-way, furnished with pioneer cooking utensils.

“We suggest and urge the establishment of a State Historical Commission and an act forbidding any county official to dispose of county records without approval of that Commission. This to be similar to a North Carolina act. Also a similar act applying to the State Road Department in unearthing artifacts etc.”