

1966

## Historical News

Florida Historical Society  
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## HISTORICAL NEWS

### *Florida Historical Markers Program*

To facilitate the proper marking of important historical sites and places in Florida, N. E. Bill Miller, director of the Florida Board of Parks and Historical Memorials, has appointed a three-man committee to receive and transmit recommendations for markers submitted by local communities and local and county historical societies and commissions. The committee includes William M. Goza of Clearwater, president of the Florida Historical Society; Judge James R. Knott of West Palm Beach, immediate past president of the Florida Historical Society; and Dr. Samuel Proctor of Gainesville, editor of the *Florida Historical Quarterly*. The state will pay one-half the cost of markers approved by the director of the park board and will supervise their installation. Any group interested in having markers placed in its locality, should communicate directly with the office of the Florida Board of Parks and Historical Memorials, 101 West Games Street, Tallahassee, or with any member of the Historical Markers Committee.

### *San Marcos de Apalache Museum*

The Florida Board of Parks and Historic Memorials dedicated the new museum at San Marcos de Apalache, the old Spanish fort site at St. Marks, on Wednesday, July 27, 1966. Director N. E. Bill Miller of the park board was in charge of the afternoon reception and program.

### *Historical Symposium*

The Library of the Mission of Nombre de Dios of St. Augustine and the St. Augustine Foundation are sponsoring an historical and religious symposium on October 29, 1966, in the Gold Ballroom of the Ponce de Leon Hotel in St. Augustine. The theme of the symposium will be "Explorations and Settlements in the Spanish Borderlands: Their Religious Motivations."

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Archbishop Joseph P. Hurley is presiding and the Rev. Dr. Robert Trisco, editor of *The Catholic Review*, is chairman of the first session. Dr. Lewis Hanke, professor of history at Columbia University will speak on "Religious Principles Behind the Exploration and Settlement of Spanish America." Dr. John K. Mahon, head of the Department of History at the University of Florida, will chair the second session. Father Michael V. Gannon, director of the Mission of Nombre de Dios, will speak on "The Conquistadors of Florida;" "The Florida Missions" is the subject of a talk to be given by Father Matthew J. Connolly, pastor of St. Joseph's Church, Winter Haven. Dr. John A. Harrison, Dean of the Graduate School, University of Miami, will serve as chairman of the third and final session. The Rev. Dr. John Francis Bannon, S.J., St. Louis University, will speak on "The Spaniards in the Southwest: With An Appreciation of Herbert E. Bolton." The Rev. Dr. Maynard Geiger, archivist of the Old Mission, Santa Barbara, California, will discuss "The Spaniards in California." The sessions are open to the public and the proceedings of the symposium will be published.

The Great Cross "The Beacon of Faith," that has been erected on the grounds of the Mission of Nombre de Dios in St. Augustine to commemorate the establishment on September 8, 1565, of Christianity in North America, will be formally dedicated on Sunday afternoon, October 30, 1966, at 2 p.m.

#### *Henry S. Sanford Grant*

The Henry Shelton Sanford Memorial Library and Museum Association, 520 East First St., Sanford, Florida, is offering an annual research grant of \$100 to a graduate student of any accredited Florida college or university who uses the life of General H. S. Sanford or the early history of Sanford, Florida as the subject of his thesis. The Association has catalogued and placed on microfilm the Sanford Papers covering the period from 1823 to 1891. The original papers are available at the Florida State Bank and the Sanford Memorial Library in Sanford. Communications concerning the grant or the use of the papers or the microfilm should be directed to the office of the Association.

*St. David's Mission*

When the Episcopal mission St. David's is built in the near future, it will be located adjacent to Fort Caroline and St. Johns Bluff on the St. Johns River. It was here in 1563 that the first Protestant worship service in what is now the United States was held. In July 1565, in ships anchored off Fort Caroline, the Anglican Book of Common Prayer was used for the first time in North America. In clearing for the mission site, traces of old roads and a footpath down to the spring at the head of Shipyard Creek were uncovered. This spring is known to have been used by the Indians and the early settlers in the area.

*Local and Area Societies and Commissions*

*Alachua County Historical Commission:* The History of Gainesville, the new book by Jess Davis, chairman of the Alachua County Historical Commission, has been published and is available for sale. The Commission is continuing its efforts to collect documents, pictures, and letters relating to the history of the area. These, together with taped interviews, are being deposited at the Gainesville Public Library.

*Pinellas County Historical Commission:* The Half-Century Club for persons who have lived in Pinellas County for fifty years or more was set up recently under the auspices of the Historical Commission. At the June meeting a membership card for the club was approved. At the July 20, 1966 meeting, a resolution memorializing George Ward McMullen was adopted. Mrs. R. R. Meador reported on the Commission's continuing efforts to secure the James McMullen log cabin on the Coachman property so that it can be properly preserved. It was also noted that the 1830 census book being prepared by Harvey Wells is nearing completion.

*Safety Harbor Area Historical Society:* In cooperation with *The Searchers, Inc.*, members of the recently organized Safety Harbor Area Historical Society helped to excavate the Bayview Indian burial mound at Clearwater. Artifacts were displayed at the Safety Harbor Festival in the spring and afterwards at the Pinellas Coun-

ty Historical Museum. There was also a display of these artifacts, arranged by George Donatello of *The Searchers*, at the annual meeting of the Florida Historical Society in Clearwater in May 1966. At a joint meeting of the Safety Harbor Area Historical Society and the United Daughters of the Confederacy, Mrs. R. R. Meador, a member of the Pinellas County Historical Commission, gave the history of Bayview and the Bayview Mound.

*St. Augustine Historical Society:* The Society held its regular quarterly membership meeting in the Art Association Building on Marine Street on the evening of July 12. After a short business session, Frederick E. Williams who owns the Pedro Fornells House in St. Augustine spoke on the history of gunmaking in Spain from 1530 until the middle of the eighteenth century. Displaying guns from his collection, Mr. Williams described the kind of firearms employed by the Spaniards in early Florida history.

To fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Albert Manucy, Dr. Luis Arana, chairman of the committee on research, was elected to the board of directors. It was announced that the annual meeting of the St. Augustine Historical Society would be held October 11, 1966.

The Society is continuing its active publications program. It aided in the publication of Frederick deCoste's *True Tales of Old St. Augustine*, and has contracted for the publication of E. P. Panagopoulos' *The Story of New Smyrna*.

*St. Petersburg Historical Society:* To mark the forty-sixth anniversary of the founding of the St. Petersburg Historical Society, the Historical Museum, 335 Second Avenue N.E., held an open house on July 20, 1966. An exhibit of maps, water colors, post cards, and pictures showing the history of St. Petersburg and Pinellas County was displayed in the Mary E. Apple Room of the museum. At the evening program, Walter P. Fuller, president of the St. Petersburg Historical Society and former member of the board of directors of the Florida Historical Society, described the eighteenth-century map of the Tampa Bay area that he recently acquired. Frank J. Laumer of Dade City, member of the board of directors of the Florida Historical Society, was the other speaker, and he used the history of Fort Dade as the subject for his talk.

According to the July 1966 issue of "The Sea Breeze," the St. Petersburg Historical Society's publication, the Haas Museum, under the supervision of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph F. Miller, and the Grace S. Turner House have received 2,000 teachers and students as visitors this past year. Short articles by Dr. Lyman O. Warren, second vice president of the Society, Milton D. Jones, member of the board of directors of the Florida Historical Society, Walter P. Fuller, and William M. Goza, president of the Florida Historical Society, are published in this number of the "Sea Breeze." Mr. Goza's article deals with the history of the Florida Historical Society since its organization in 1856.

Officers of the St. Petersburg Historical Society are Walter P. Fuller, president; Paul Mowrer, first vice president; Lyman O. Warren, second vice president; Mrs. Charles Locklin, recording secretary; Mrs. Robert Massey, corresponding secretary; Ruth Leatherman, treasurer; and Page S. Jackson, historical research secretary. Directors are Harold Anderson, T. David Anderson, A. Franklin Green, Arthur D. Miller, Jr., Lorin B. Smith, Mrs. J. B. Starkey, Harold Steele, and Larry Welke. Mrs. Oma M. Cross, Mrs. Alma S. Jones, and Joseph F. Miller are curators..

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