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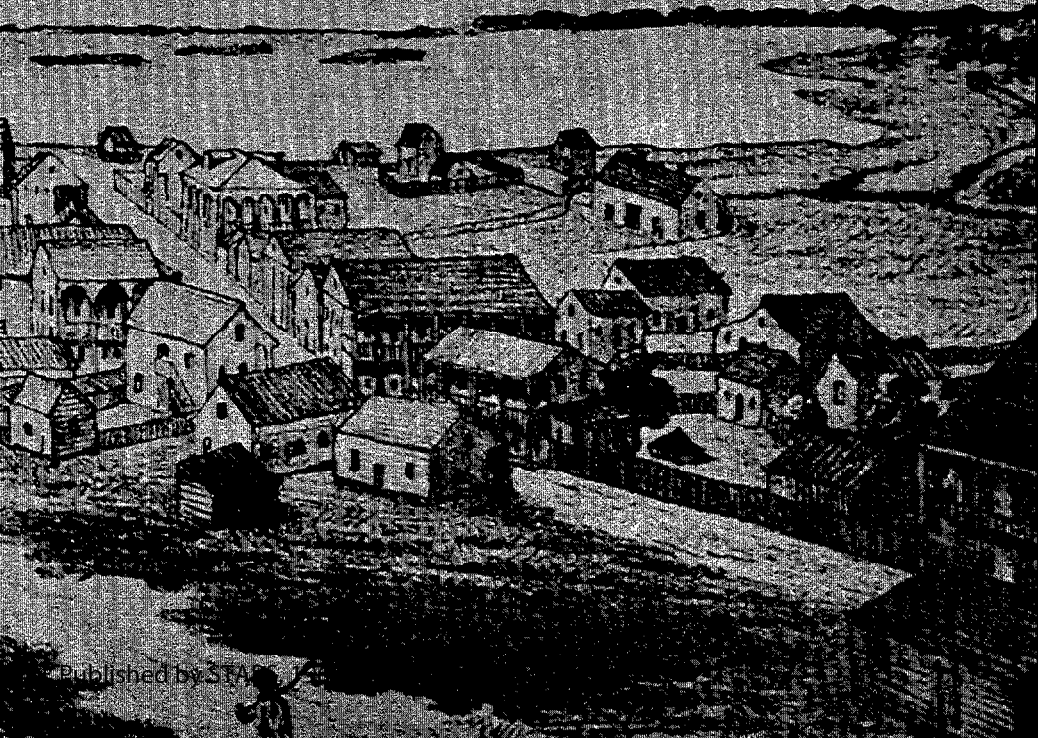
Recommended Citation

Society, Florida Historical (1969) "Title Page," *Florida Historical Quarterly*. Vol. 48 : No. 3 , Article 2.
Available at: <https://stars.library.ucf.edu/fhq/vol48/iss3/2>

*The
Florida
Historical
Quarterly*

January 1970

PUBLISHED BY THE FLORIDA
HISTORICAL SOCIETY



FRONT COVER

Francis de La Porte, Comte de Castelnau, eminent nineteenth century naturalist and traveler, made an extended journey to America (1837-1841), and spent four months—November 1837 to March 1838—in Florida. His “Essai sur La Floride du Milieu,” published in *Nouvelles Annales des Voyages et des Sciences Geographiques* in 1843, describes the Middle Florida area that he visited. Eleven lithographs of Florida scenes appeared in Castelnau’s *Vues et Souvenirs de l’Amerique du Nord* which was published in Paris in 1842. Seven of these important lithographs and the translations of Castelnau’s Florida writings appeared in the *Florida Historical Quarterly*, XXVI (October 1947-January 1948).

There is nothing in Castelnau’s writings to indicate that he was ever in Key West. This lithograph is undoubtedly a copy of a small pencil sketch made by William Adee Whitehead in June 1838. It is looking north toward the business section of Key West. Whitehead, a civil engineer who had made an official survey of the island in 1829, and who had served as collector of customs, made this sketch from the cupola of the A. C. Tift & Co. warehouse. Where Castelnau saw Whitehead’s sketch is not known, but it is likely that it was in New Jersey or New York. Whitehead took the sketch with him when he went North in 1838, and he did not return it to Key West until 1872. It is believed that the sketch was later destroyed in a fire. The 1838 sketch is reproduced in Walter C. Maloney, *Historical Sketch of Key West, Florida* (Newark, 1876).

The
Florida Historical
Quarterly



THE FLORIDA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Volume XLVIII, Number 3

January 1970

THE FLORIDA HISTORICAL QUARTERLY

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