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NEW NUMBERS FOR THE STETSON COLLECTION

by PAUL E. HOFFMAN*

EVER SINCE THE Archivo General de Indias (Archive of the Indies or AGI) was renumbered in 1929, users of the John B. Stetson, Jr. Collection of photostats in the P. K. Yonge Library of Florida History, University of Florida, Gainesville, and of other pre-1929 collections of copies from the AGI have been at a disadvantage in citing those copies. Prior to 1929, the bundles (legajos) of the AGI were numbered according to a system of stack, shelf, bundle (estante, cajón, legajo) whose typical form was "54-2-1." These numbers were replaced with serial numbers within each ramo (literally "branch") of the various sections of the archive. The citation 54-2-1 became Santo Domingo 123, for the ramo of the Audiencia of Santo Domingo (in whose district Florida nominally fell) within Section V, Government.¹ The normal form of citation became a name and a serial number, the first usually abbreviated to the first letters of the name(s).

Until 1968, no table existed for converting the old, three-part numbers of the documents in the Stetson Collection to the new numbers. In that year the author obtained a copy of the legajo list in the James A. Robinson Calendar of the Stetson

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1. Roscoe R. Hill, "Reforms in Shelving and Numbering in the Archivo General de Indias," *Hispanic American Historical Review*, X (November 1930), 520-24. See also E. J. Burrus, "An Introduction to Bibliographical Tools in Spanish Archives and Manuscript Collections Relating to Hispanic America," *Hispanic American Historical Review*, XXXV (November 1955), 443-83. Burrus incorrectly states that one can call legajos by either set of numbers. The Guide to the AGI is Spain, Dirección General de Archivos y Bibliotecas, *Archivo General de Indias de Sevilla, Guía del Visitante*, por José María de la Peña y Cámara (Madrid, 1958). See also Spain, Dirección General de Archivos y Bibliotecas, *Guía de Fuentes Para la Historia de Ibero-América Conservadas en España*, 2 vols. (Madrid, 1966-1969), I, 28-61, which gives a summary of the contents of the AGI and selected bibliography of guides.

Collection from the P. K. Yonge Library. Working from the inventories in Seville, which contain both old and new numbers (the latter written in red ink), a conversion table was compiled, a copy of which is in the P. K. Yonge Library.

Recent publications indicate that the conversion table remains little known to scholars working in the field, with the result that communication is impeded somewhat because the old numbers continue to appear and cannot be compared with the new. In effect, there are two schools of historians working on Spanish Florida, those who have been to the AGI and use the new numbers (or know about the conversion table and use it) and those who use the Stetson Collection in its original form.

Publication costs prevent the presentation of the full table at this time. Instead, the headings of each section and the first few numbers are reproduced so that authors will know what the new Spanish forms of citation are. Those who wish to make use of the full table can copy the one in the P. K. Yonge Library. The standard form of citation from the Stetson Collection should be: *AGI: (or / or,) Santo Dominga (or the abbreviation given in the table) 123 (Stetson) . . .*²

Table for Converting Pre-1929 to Post-1929 Numbers Archivo General de Indias

Note: This table is based on the listing in the James A. Robinson Calendar of the John B. Stetson, Jr. Collection. Some numbers recorded by Robinson do not correspond to those in the inventories of the AGI, and are indicated by ?. The listing is done on the basis of the old number in ascending order for each of its three parts. Numbers following the “/” are usually document numbers within a legajo.

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2. Archivists are now assigning document numbers to every item in each legajo or subdivision. When this is completed, those numbers, like the legajo serial numbers, will need to be collated with the Stetson Collection documents and a new calendar prepared, along with new labels for the photostats, so that researchers using the collection will be able to employ the same form of citation as they would at Seville. At present, all of the sixteenth century documents have been given numbers. To the author's knowledge only Santo Domingo 99 has been collated (Griffin Calendar vis the legajo), and that remains in manuscript in his notes.

Old Number	Number of Cards	New Number
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Patronato (usually abbreviated PAT)

1-1-1/19	(1)	Patronato 19.
1-1-1/20	(1)	Patronato 20.

2-6-4	(?)	Patronato 278.
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Contaduría (usually abbreviated CD)

Also appearing in the Robinson Index, but not convertible into new legajo numbers due to errors in recording:

2-2-245/2	(34)	Would be Contaduría 245??
8-2-2	(1)	" " Contaduría ???

Contratación (usually abbreviated CT)

20-1-1/284	(1)	Contratación 1462.
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*Error. Should read 20-1-384/28

32-4-29/35	(37)	Contratación 3309.
40-1-1/28	(4)	Contratación 4738 (A & B)

45-2-1/4	(17)	Contratación 5544.
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Additional Contratación Documents listed on card 12 of the microfilm calendar, and cited by both old and new legajo numbers.

32-3-11/30	(1)	Contratación 3259.
32-4-29/35	(1)	Contratación 3309.

45-5-2813	(1)	Contratación 5036.
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Note: I did not check these equivalences. P.E.H.

Justicia (no abbreviation known, suggest JUST or J)

47-2-23/18	(1)	Justicia 64.
50-2-55/10	(1)	Justicia 750. (A & B)
51-6-10/27	(1)	Justicia 1013.
51-5-2/12	(1)	Justicia 972.
51-6-16/12	(1)	Justicia 998.
51- -16/14	(1)	Justicia 1000.

Santo Domingo (usually abbreviated SD)

53-1-6	(86)	Santo Domingo 6.
53-1-11	(1)	Santa Domingo 11.
58-2-17	(37)	Santo Domingo 866.

Mexico (usually abbreviated MEX)

58-3-8	(1)	Mexico 19.
58-6-1	(1)	Mexico 87.

60-6-22	(62)	Mexico 618.
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Santa Fe (usually abbreviated SF or StaF)

72-5-11	(1)	Santa Fe 82.
72-5-13	(1)	Santa Fe 84.
72-5-18	(2)	Santa Fe 89.

Santo Domingo (usually abbreviated SD)

79-42/V	(1)	Santo Domingo 1122.
79-42 /VI	(1)	Santo Domingo 1122.

87-3-22	(7)	Santo Domingo 2668.
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Mexico

87-62/V	(1)	Mexico 1089.
87-7-6	(2)	Mexico 1117.
97-2-21	(1)	Mexico 2705.

Guadalajara (no common abbreviation)

104-6-13	(2)	Guadalajara 511.
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Indiferente General (usually abbreviated IG)

139-1-5	(4)	Indiff. Gen. 419.
139-1-6	(1)	Indiff. Gen. 420.

154-7-20	(1)	Indiff. Gen. 2985.
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Escribanía de Cámara (usually abbreviated EC)

Legajo	155	(2)
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Hoffman: New Numbers for the Stetson Collection

NEW NUMBERS FOR STETSON COLLECTION

351

156 (6)

157 (1)

658 (1)

Papeles de Cuba (usually abbreviated PC)

Legajo 56 (16)

85 (6)