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History News

Florida Historical Society
membership@myfloridahistory.org

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HISTORY NEWS

Spanish Florida Borderlands Project

The P. K. Yonge Library of Florida History, University of Florida, has received a two-year, \$92,532 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to continue preparing calendars and finding guides to Spanish Florida documents. The Library received an award in 1977 from the National Endowment which allowed preparation of calendars and finding guides to the Stetson Collection and the East Florida Papers. The Stetson Collection includes more than 100,000 photostats of documents copied during the 1920s in the Archivo General de las Indias in Sevilla by Irene A. Wright. The East Florida Papers constitute the governmental records of the province of East Florida during the Second Spanish Period (1783-1821). The new grant will enable the preparation of a calendar and finding guide to the legajos relating to Florida from the Papeles Procedentes de Cuba in the Archivo General de las Indias. Dr. Michael V. Gannon, assistant dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, is principal investigator for the project. The P. K. Yonge Library of Florida History now holds more Spanish Colonial documents than any other Spanish borderlands archive in the United States.

Papers of Vicente Sebastian Pintado

The Library of Congress Photoduplication Service announces the availability of the microfilm edition of the Pintado Papers. The Papers (1774-1829), numbering approximately 1,500 items, consist of correspondence, bills of sale, court transcripts, testimonies, surveys, notebooks, plats, land grants, maps, petitions, and papers relating to Pintado's official duties as alcalde, assistant surveyor, and, from 1805-1817, surveyor general of Spanish West Florida. The correspondence includes manuscript copies of many of Pintado's outgoing letters as well as communications to him from government officials and leading citizens in Louisiana and West Florida. There is also documentation on the Nicolls raid in the Apalachicola River area during the War of 1812. In addition to personal and professional correspondence, the collection

includes land records of Spanish West Florida, the Gulf coast area from Pensacola to St. Marks. The sixty-two maps, charts, plats, and land surveys, many of which are cadastre, relate also to this coastal area. There is information on the period from the Louisiana Purchase (1803), through the seizure and release of West Florida (1813-1814), to the cession of the Floridas to the United States in 1819. The collection is contained on six reels which are available for \$96.00. A guide to the collection appears on reel one. For information write Photoduplication Service, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540.

Preservation and Survey Grants

A number of Florida communities have received grants which will enable them to conduct historical surveys and carry on related work. These include the city of Bradenton for a survey to locate historical, architectural, and archeological properties; the Historic Boca Raton Preservation Board to conduct a survey of that community; Historic Lakeland, Inc., to develop a survey of the Lake Mirror area; and the Historic Broward County Preservation Board to conduct a historical and architectural survey of Hollywood and an archeological survey of the South Fork River. The Riverside/Avondale Preservation Society of Jacksonville plans to survey a six-square mile area. The Historic Pensacola Preservation Board will complete the third phase of a historical and architectural survey of Escambia County. The Historic St. Augustine Preservation Board will also complete the third phase of a comprehensive survey of their community. The Metropolitan Dade County Park and Recreation Department will develop the final phase of a comprehensive survey of Dade County. Dr. Barbara Purdy, University of Florida, will supervise an archeological survey of portions of central and north Florida to search for prehistoric artifacts and organic cultural materials in dry land areas that are believed to have once been submerged. Monroe County has been awarded a grant to continue restoration of the West Martello Tower in Key West.

Announcements and Activities

The Southern Genealogist's Exchange Society will hold its annual seminar/workshop at the Holiday Inn, South I-95 at

Emerson Street, Jacksonville, Florida, on October 17-18, 1980. Speakers are Dr. A. Fredric Blakey, University of Florida; Dr. John I. Coddington, Bordertown, New Jersey; and Brent H. Holcomb, Columbia, South Carolina. For information write to the Society, Box 2801, Jacksonville, Florida 32203.

The Fort Lauderdale Historical Society is currently engaged in an oral history project relating to the 1926 hurricane. Recollections of those who survived the storm are being taped and will be deposited in the Society's archives. Dan Hobby, assistant director of the Society, is in charge of the project. For information or suggestions, contact him at Box 14043, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33302.

Paul A. Gore is seeking information for a biography of his grandfather, R. H. Gore, Sr. Individuals who have personal information, anecdotes, or stories about the governor, are asked to contact Paul Gore, Suite 528, Bayview Building, 1040 Bayview Drive, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33304.

There are four National Forests in Florida—Apalachicola, Ocala, Osceola, and Choctawhatchee. Photographs, news clippings, letters, diaries, and oral histories concerning the seventy-two year history of the United States Forest Service in Florida are being collected by National Forests in Florida. Anyone having items or information, or anyone wanting more details of the program, should contact Sandi Forney, National Forests in Florida, 2586 Seagate Drive, Box 13549, Tallahassee, Florida 32308.

The Black Archives, History and Research Foundation of South Florida, has prepared a traveling photographic exhibit of the life of blacks in Miami. The Foundation operates a history and research center at the Joseph Caleb Center in Miami. It includes letters, organizational records, manuscripts, photographs, and oral history tape recordings. There is also an ethnic heritage collection with materials on Haitians and Spanish speaking people living in south Florida. For information on the Foundation or the availability of the photographic exhibit, contact the Center, 5400 N.W. 22nd Avenue, Miami, Florida 33142.

Lieutenant General James (Jimmy) Doolittle, USAF (ret.) was the guest of the Beaches Area Historical Society when a historical marker was dedicated at 425 Beach Boulevard on Sep-

tember 4, 1980. The marker commemorates Doolittle's 1922 record-setting transcontinental flight which began at Jacksonville (then Pablo) Beach. The members of the Society are restoring the Florida East Coast Railroad House, and will operate it as a house museum.

The Historical Society of Okaloosa and Walton Counties has received from the Okaloosa County Commission a collection of newspapers - bound volumes and loose issues - which were published in Okaloosa County since 1915. The runs are not complete, and the Society would like additional copies of the papers. Write the Society, Box 488, Valparaiso, Florida 32580.

The *Florida Genealogical Journal* (Vol. XVI, No. 1) contains historical and genealogical data, including excerpts from Hillsborough County commission and marriage records. There is also a history of the Brooksville Baptist Church by Annie Jo Law, based upon records which date back to March 2, 1856. The *Journal* is published by the Florida Genealogical Society, Box 18624, Tampa, Florida 33679. H. Royall Brown serves as editor.

The Citadel's Third Conference on the South will be held on April 23-25, 1981. Persons interested in presenting papers should submit titles, an outline of their proposals, and their vita by November 1, 1980 to Dr. Walter J. Fraser, Jr., The Citadel Conference on the South, The Citadel, Department of History, Charleston, South Carolina 29409. The theme for the conference is the paradox of the southern experience, but all aspects of southern history from the colonial period to the present will be included.

The 1979 Richard H. Collins Award for the best article in the *Register of the Kentucky Historical Society* has been given to Dale Royalty of East Tennessee State University.

The Fort Lauderdale Historical Society received a large collection of 75,000 negatives from photographer Gene Hyde. These are added to the 70,000 negatives previously donated by Mr. Hyde. The Society now has 160,000 negatives in its collection, about 12,000 of which have been indexed and printed. When the Hyde collection is indexed it will constitute a major source of information on the history of Fort Lauderdale.