

HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY

STATE ARCHIVES SURVEY

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY



STATE DIRECTOR - SUE A. MAHORNER

SEMI-MONTHLY REPORT FROM THE STATE OFFICE COMPILED FROM

THE DISTRICT SUPERVISOR'S REPORTS

Period beginning February 1, - ending February 15, 1938.

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In Florida, the Historical Records Survey and the State Archives Survey are administered by the same director. The workers on both surveys use the Historical Records Survey Forms. The Historical Records Survey, a Federal Project, has 30 workers on the payroll; the State Archives Survey, a State Project within Florida has 120 workers on the payroll. The Survey supervises the activities of 27 NYA workers. Florida has 67 counties. These are distributed in 3 WPA zones and 11 WPA areas. The Survey maintains one district office to every three areas. The State Office has an editorial staff and typing force. Various files are carried for forms filled out by the workers on the Surveys; these files will be distributed to University Libraries within the State. The Surveys distribute a mimeographed semi-monthly report and a progress report to Washington once a month. Compiled reports of the Surveys will be deposited in the State Library and the University Libraries of the State.

NEWS ITEMS:

Dr. Luther H. Evans, National Director of the Historical Records Survey, was a guest speaker at the 36th annual meeting of the Florida Historical Society in Tampa. He stated that the inventory of city, county, and state records throughout the nation, and church, private, and business archives, as well, would be of untold value to historians of the present and future. He stated, "a wealth of new and valuable material has been uncovered in out of the way places; for example, material concerning the Coronada Expedition recently was uncovered in a county courthouse in New Mexico".

A letter received by survey workers from the clerk of the circuit court of Suwannee County compliments the workers on the rearrangement of records in his office. He states that old records previously piled in corners are now as accessible for reference as the current records. He expresses the wish that other county offices will profit by the work of the survey as much as the clerk's office has.

Dr. Douglas C. McMurtrie has written for a photostat copy of the Tallahassee broadside of 1842; he states that this is a very gratifying discovery. The Survey has deposited this Early American Imprint in the State Library.

Through the activity of the Survey a complete file of the Panama City Pilot has been promised to the State Library.

Mr. Nathan Mayo, Commissioner of Agriculture, expressed pleasure in receiving a copy of his father's diary prepared by the Survey. Copies of the diary have been placed in the University Libraries of the State. The diary is interesting because it gives information on conditions in one of the prison camps during the War between the States.

A report on the inventory of privately owned manuscripts made by the Survey to date was submitted to the chairman of the manuscript committee of the

NEWS ITEMS (Cont'd)

Florida Historical Society and read at the annual meeting of the Society at St. Petersburg, January 25. This report will appear in the April number of the Florida Historical Quarterly.

1. UNUSUAL DISCOVERIES of Historical Records in each District.

* Asterisks denote Early American Imprints.

- * In Bay County, Asa Shinn, An Essay on the Plan of Salvation (Baltimore, Maryland, Neal, Wills & Cole, 1813).

The following are listed from Duval County:

- * Author - indeterminate, The Literary Visitor, (Baltimore, Maryland, E. J. Coale, 1815).
- * Plutarch (Trans. John Langhorne, D. D., and William Langhorne, A.M.) Plutarch's Lives, (New York, N. Y., David Huntington, 1816).
- * Virgil (Trans. John Dryden) The Works of Virgil, (Baltimore, Md., F. Lucas and W. G. Maxwell, 1818).
- * S. Converse, A Journal of Travels, (New Haven, Conn., S. Converse, 1820).
- * Rev. J. Goldsmith, A General View of Manners, Customs and Curiosities of Nations, (Philadelphia, Pa., Benjamin Warner, 1817).
- * Benjamin Franklin, Works of the Late Benjamin Franklin, (Easton, Henry W. Gibbs, 1810).
- * Rev. Thomas Clarkson, M. A., An Essay on the Slavery and Commerce of the Human Species (Philadelphia, Pa., Nathaniel Wiley, 1804).

An account book kept by John D. Eccles of Fayetteville, Cumberland County, N. C., in 1819-1820.

- * William Guthrie, Universal Geography (Philadelphia, Pa., Benjamin Warner, 1820).

The following are listed from Gadsden County:

William Falconer, The Shipwreck (Place of publication, unknown, 1804).

The original address, dated July 4, 1823, of A. D. Brevard on the occasion of the 47th anniversary of the freedom of America from England.

An issue, dated October 1, 1881, of the Monroe Advertiser published at Forsyth, Georgia.

The following are listed from Hillsborough County:

UNUSUAL DISCOVERIES: (Cont'd)

- Author - not indicated, The Political Works of Thomas Campbell (Philadelphia, Pa., Edwin Earle, 1815).
- * R. H. Cromeck, Reliques of Robert Burns (Philadelphia, Pa., Bradford, Inskeep; Baltimore, Inskeep, Bradford; Boston, Coale & Thomas; Oliver C. Greenleaf, 1809).
- * Author - not indicated, The New and Complete Encyclopedia or Universal Dictionary (New York, N. Y., John Low, 1806).
- * Isaac Watts, D. D., Horae Lyricae, (New York, N. Y., Gould, Banks & Gould, W. B. Gilley, & D. Huntington, 1814).
- * Author - indeterminate, The Books of Common Prayer (Philadelphia, Pa., S. Potter & Co., 1818).
- * Author - indeterminate, The Constitution of the United States (Gettysburg, Pa., Robert Harper, 1811).
- * Henry A. S. Dearborn, A Memoir of the Commerce and Navigation of the Black Sea and the Trade and Maritime Geography of Turkey and Egypt (Boston, Mass., Wells & Lilly, 1819).

The following are listed from Leon County:

Account book of John Landaman dated 1828-1831 containing daily accounts of plantation and store, expenditures for hired help, groceries and supplies.

A survey worker discovered in the attic of the Leon County Courthouse a handwritten, bound volume containing a certification of an election held in Leon County May 4, 1829 to elect a delegate to represent the territory in Congress. An effort is being made to secure this donation for the State Library.

In Palm Beach County, an original manuscript containing a narrative account by years of pioneering in the upper glades section. Names of settlers, establishment of towns and churches and progress of reclamation of swamp lands is described, together with the author's and his friend's experiences in farming, and in the disastrous floods which followed hurricanes before the new dams and locks were completed around Lake Okeechobee. The earliest and latest dates covered are 1866 to 1936.

In Putnam County, a letter dated May 26, 1862 from Major H. R. Teasdale to Captain George Allen, issuing an order for Captain Allen to proceed to Volusia County and transport to Orange Creek two eight-inch Columbiads that were said to be buried at or near Volusia; two eight-inch Howitzers reported to be about four miles from Volusia, enroute to Smyrna; to take with him the necessary force to handle the guns, the cost of transportation to be paid by the Quartermaster's Department.

UNUSUAL DISCOVERIES: (Cont'd)

In St. Johns County, Mortgage dated October 4, 1826, between Francis J. Fatio, attorney for Fernando de la M. Arredondo, Sr., and Pablo Sabate, for a tract of 721 acres on the St. Johns River, 45 miles northwest of St. Augustine. This is an original grant by the Spanish Government to F. P. Fatio, March 9, 1793.

2. COMPILED INVENTORIES OF PUBLIC RECORDS:

(a) Counties:

The Duval County manuscript has been mimeographed. Copies have been distributed to -

Franklin D. Roosevelt, President,
Washington, D. C.

Harry L. Hopkins, Administrator,
Works Progress Administration
Washington, D. C.

Ellen S. Woodward, Asst., Administrator,
Work Progress Administration
Washington, D. C.

Luther H. Evans, National Supervisor
Historical Records Survey of WPA,
Washington, D. C.

and to 75 libraries throughout the country.

Final revision of the Collier County inventory is being made to send to Washington for approval.

Number of counties in which compilation of draft inventories is in progress - - - - - 12

(b) Cities:

Number of incorporated towns which the compiling staff of editors have compiled and found acceptable - - - - - 13

Number of incorporated towns in which compilation of draft inventories is in progress - - - - - 28

Compilation of town records is only undertaken when county inventories are temporarily delayed for further field work.

3. FIELD WORK OF PUBLIC RECORDS:

(a) Counties:

Number of counties in which recheck with discrepancy list is actually in progress for period beginning February 1 - ending February 15 - - - - - 12

FIELD WORK OF PUBLIC RECORDS: (Cont'd)

The original county inventory has been completed in sixty-two counties in Florida. Recheck work has been completed in 21 counties. Discrepancy lists will be furnished on each of these rechecked counties. No file of forms is accepted as complete until the file of forms has been checked against the check list of records required by law and the missing records are accounted for on the discrepancy list. Now that the check lists are available, discrepancy lists are being made up on all completed original inventories, thus the discrepancy list work will be a part of the regular recheck work hereafter. The use of the available check list by the district editors should eliminate the necessity of rechecking any county inventory now in progress.

(a) Counties:

Total number of discrepancy lists prepared to date in the State Office on county files and submitted to the Area Supervisors - - - - - 33

(b) Incorporated Towns:

Files on incorporated towns are held in the district office until completed and edited. It is sometimes necessary to return forms on incorporated towns for additional information before compiling of entries can be completed.

(c) State Agencies:

Number of files on state agencies submitted to the State Office - - - - - 11

Number of new forms submitted to the Supervisors from workers for the period beginning February 1, ending February 15 - - - 417

Total number of new forms forwarded to the State Office by Supervisors for period beginning February 1, ending February 15 - - - - - 204

Total number of church forms submitted to the State Office for the period beginning February 1, ending February 15 - - - 32

Number of Early American Imprints, listed by title and submitted to Dr. McMurtrie for period beginning February 1, and ending February 15 - - - - - 16

Number of Historical Records Survey forms on newspapers submitted to Congressional Library for period beginning February 1, ending February 15 - - - - - 8

Number of Historical Records Survey forms on newspapers submitted to Congressional Library since December 1936 - - - - - 485

Cumulative Work of Bibliographer:

FIELD WORK OF PUBLIC RECORDS: (Cont'd)

Total number of forms classified to date - - - - - 6,230
Total number of forms typed to date - - - - - 47,061
Total number of cards filed to date - - - - - 40,217
Total number of manuscript pages typed for binding - - - - - 696

Number of manuscripts distributed for the period beginning
February 1, ending February 15 - - - - - 4

Title : "Weekly State Report", Vol. III
Copy to: Dr. Luther H. Evans, National Supervisor,
Historical Records Survey,
Washington, D. C.

Title: "Autograph Book of Soldiers Captured
at Gettysburg".
Copy to: Florida State Library,
Tallahassee, Florida.

Title: "Patriot War Papers"
Copy to: Florida State Library,
Tallahassee, Florida.
University of Florida Library,
Gainesville, Florida.
Rollins College Library,
Winter Park, Florida.

Title: "First Book of White Marriages"
Copy to: University of Florida Library,
Gainesville, Florida.
Rollins College Library,
Winter Park, Florida.
Stetson University Library,
DeLand, Florida.

4. UNUSUAL SERVICES rendered by the Surveys within the State in
addition to routine of records:

In Broward County, a survey worker is arranging, labeling, and
sorting records in the office of the Superintendent of Public
Instruction.

In Charlotte County, a survey worker continues to index the Tax
Books in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court.

UNUSUAL SERVICES: (Cont'd)

In Escambia County, NYA workers under the supervision of a survey worker arranged records in the attic of the City Hall, Pensacola.

The following are listed from Leon County:

Survey workers are arranging records in the Inspection Bureau and Mail Order Division of the Department of Agriculture.

Survey workers are re-arranging records in the Treasury Department.

In Levy County, a survey worker is assorting and arranging records in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court.

In Nassau County, a survey worker continues to assort and arrange records in the attic of the County Courthouse.

In St. Johns County, survey workers continue to assort and arrange records in the city vault, St. Augustine.

In Volusia County, survey workers sorted and arranged records in the city warehouse, Daytona Beach.