

STARS

Florida Historical Quarterly


Volume 49
Number 4 *Florida Historical Quarterly, Vol 49,*
Number 4

Article 7

1970

Sources for the History of the Spanish Borderlands

William S. Coker

 Part of the [American Studies Commons](#), and the [United States History Commons](#)

Find similar works at: <https://stars.library.ucf.edu/fhq>

University of Central Florida Libraries <http://library.ucf.edu>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by STARS. It has been accepted for inclusion in Florida Historical Quarterly by an authorized editor of STARS. For more information, please contact STARS@ucf.edu.

Recommended Citation

Coker, William S. (1970) "Sources for the History of the Spanish Borderlands," *Florida Historical Quarterly*. Vol. 49 : No. 4 , Article 7.

Available at: <https://stars.library.ucf.edu/fhq/vol49/iss4/7>

SOURCES FOR THE HISTORY OF THE SPANISH BORDERLANDS

by WILLIAM S. COKER* AND JACK D. L. HOLMES**

THE RECENT FLURRY of scholarly endeavors on Spanish Louisiana and the Spanish Floridas has revealed some new sources for the study of those areas. In addition to a number of new books and articles and some valuable reprints, several recent meetings have been devoted in whole or in part to resources and research opportunities for the Spanish era. The interest stimulated by this burst of activity led to the compilation of this note which reviews new sources available, indicates well-known collections and archival holdings that have been microfilmed and can now be purchased or borrowed on inter-library loan, and mentions other items which it is hoped may prove useful to investigators.

One of the most ambitious undertakings of recent years was the microfilming of approximately 140,000 pages of material for Spanish Louisiana. The project has been described by one of its directors, Father Charles Edwards O'Neill, S.J., "Catalogues and Microfilm: The Louisiana Project of Loyola University (New Orleans) in the Archivo General de Indias," in *Homenaje a Don Jose' Maria de la Peña y Cámara* (Madrid: Ediciones José Porrúa Turanzas, 1969), 83-91. The documents on microfilm at Loyola University are identified and indexed in José de la Peña y Cámara, Ernest J. Burrus, S.J., Charles Edwards O'Neill, S.J., and Maria Teresa Garcia Fernandez, *Catalogo de Documentos del Archivo General de Indias, Seccidn V, Gobierno. Audiencia de Santo Domingo sobre la Época Española de Luisiana*, 2 vols. (Madrid and New Orleans: Administracdn General de Archivos y Bibliotecas de España and Loyola University of New Orleans, 1968). This work is sold only in sets of both volumes. The prices are \$20.00 for the

* Mr. Coker is associate professor, faculty of history, at the University of West Florida.

** Mr. Holmes is professor of history at the University of Alabama in Birmingham.

paperback set and \$27.00 for the hardback, and they are available from the Spanish Documents Project, Loyola University, New Orleans, Louisiana 70118. Father O'Neill emphasizes the importance of the collection: "Works written on Spanish colonial Louisiana have tended to rely on the Papeles procedentes de Cuba—naturally, for since 1916 research in that archival section has been facilitated by Roscoe R. Hill's *Descriptive Catalogue of the Documents Relating to the History of the United States in the Papeles procedentes de Cuba, Deposited in the Archivo General de Indias at Seville* (Washington, 1916; reprint edition, New York, 1965). These Papeles are the documents removed from New Orleans and from West Florida to Cuba, and from there, almost a century later, to Seville. In the *Seccidn Quinta* [*Gobierno*], *Audiencia de Santo Domingo*] are the documents which originated in the mother country or arrived from the colony during the colonial period itself."

The publication of Thomas T. McAvoy and Lawrence J. Bradley (comps.), *Guide to the Microfilm Edition of the Records of the Diocese of Louisiana and the Floridas, 1576-1803* (Notre Dame: University of Notre Dame Archives, 1967), \$1.50, makes the twelve rolls of microfilm on that subject of even greater value than previously. The film is available at a cost of about \$120.00 including delivery charges, and it may be ordered from the Microfilm Publication Project, Notre Dame Archives, Memorial Library, Notre Dame, Indiana 46556.

The Mississippi Provincial Archives, Spanish Dominion, 9 volumes (1759-1820) in the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, have been microfilmed and may be purchased from the Micro Photo Division, Bell and Howell, Drawer "E," Wooster, Ohio 44691. The price is \$72.80. Although dated, a list of the archival holdings in Seville, Madrid, and Simancas, Spain relating to Mississippi, as prepared by W. R. Shepherd and published in Dunbar Rowland, *Fifth Annual Report of the Director of the Department of Archives and History of the State of Mississippi* (Nashville, 1907), 50-55, is on the first reel. The Mississippi Provincial Archives, French Dominion, 34 volumes, (1678-1763), are available for \$135.20, and the English Dominion, 10 volumes, (1763-1783), for \$52.00, from Bell and Howell.

The forty volumes of the Natchez chancery court records for

the years 1781-1797 have been microfilmed (twenty-four reels), and the Mississippi Department of Archives and History has a negative copy. This microfilm edition is even more valuable since several of the original volumes in Natchez have disappeared since the records were filmed. In 1817-1818, David Harper translated these records and others from the Spanish period in seven volumes, lettered A through G, and they are included in the microfilm edition. May Wilson McBee compiled an index or abstract of the Harper translations in *The Natchez Court Records, 1767-1805: Abstracts of Early Records* (Greenwood, Miss., 1953), which can be ordered from the Genealogical Book Company, 521-23 St. Paul Place, Baltimore, Maryland 21202; the price is \$22.50. (*The Natchez Court Records* is cited as volume II of the May Wilson McBee Collection. Volume I, however, does not pertain to the Natchez records; it is *Anson County, North Carolina Abstracts of Early Records* [Greenwood, Miss., 1950]). Inquiries about the microfilm of the Natchez Court Records should be directed to the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, P. O. BOX 571, Jackson, Mississippi 39205.

In 1966 Dr. Jack D. L. Holmes began examining the sources in Spanish archives pertaining to Spanish Alabama, and he had approximately 20,000 pages of documents relating to the period (1780-1813) copied onto twenty-nine microfilm reels. Copies are available at the Universities of Alabama in Birmingham and Tuscaloosa; the University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg; the University of West Florida, Pensacola; and the P. K. Yonge Library of Florida History, University of Florida, Gainesville. A guide which identifies groups of correspondence between various officials as well as a variety of other documents is available on the microfilm.

The Holmes collection deals primarily with the Pascagoula, Biloxi, Bay St. Louis, Pass Christian, Dauphin Island, Mobile, Tensaw, Fort San Esteban de Tombecht and Fort Confederation posts; there are also documents relating to the Natchez district and other Gulf coast and West Florida areas. The court-martial of Captain Cayetano Perez for his role in surrendering the fort at Mobile to the American forces led by General James Wilkinson in 1813 is a lengthy *expediente* comprising hundreds of documents and continuing for approximately 3,000 pages.

Other documents include letterbooks and dispatches between the various commandants of the Mobile District and their superiors in New Orleans and Pensacola. The wide-range of subject materials include: Indian affairs, religious reports, laws and regulations, contracts, criminal and civil suits, Negro slavery and run-aways, fortifications and other buildings, petitions, census reports, militia lists, quartermaster reports, inventories of official documents of the various posts, and a variety of minor matters.

The collection is divided into three sections: Section one (reels 66-1 through 66-6) contains a description of Spanish Louisiana by the Baron de Pontalba from the Archives Nationales of Paris, documents concerning the capture of Mobile and Pensacola in 1780-1781 by Gálvez taken from the *Sección de Guerra, Archivo General de Simancas, legajo* 6912 (for a guide to these holdings see Angel de la Plaza, *Archivo General de Simancas, Guía del investigador* (Valladolid, 1962), an account of the 1719 capture of Pensacola by French forces from Mobile copied from the *Archivo del Ministerio de Asuntos Exteriores* in Madrid, and the rest of this section is derived from the *Archivo General de Indias, Papeles Procedentes de la Isla de Cuba, (AGI, PC)*, Seville. The second and third sections (consisting of reels 67-1 through 67-18 and 68-1 through 68-5) are from a series of Zegajos from the *AGI, PC*. The documents in the *AGZ, PC* are described in Hill, *Descriptive Catalogue*.

The Mobile probate court contains two volumes of translated Spanish records (the originals are apparently lost) dealing with land grants and sales. Volume I, translated by Joseph E. Caro of Pensacola in 1840, covers the years from 1715 to 1812. There are duplicates of many of the documents in Volume II. For information on this collection see Jack D. L. Holmes, "Genealogical and Historical Sources for Spanish Alabama, 1780-1813," *Deep South Genealogical Quarterly*, V (February 1968), 130-38, and Mrs. John H. Mallon, Jr., "Mobile Translated Records, 1781-1795," *ibid.*, 144-59.

The baptismal, marriage, death, and confirmation records of the Parish of the Purest Conception, Mobile, contain information concerning Catholic and Protestant settlers. They cover the Spanish period beginning March 12, 1780. These may be consulted in the Chancellor's Office of the Mobile Diocese, 400 Government Street.

The Forbes collection in the Mobile Public Library complements the collections on William Panton and the Panton-Leslie Company in the Florida Historical Society Library, University of South Florida Library, Tampa. The Florida Historical Society holdings consists of two important collections: the Marie Taylor Greenslade Papers (1764-1900) , and the Heloise H. Cruzat Papers (1788-1859) . Of importance on this subject also are the Elizabeth Howard West Papers at the P. K. Yonge Library of Florida History. Contracts, correspondence, and other original documents concern William Panton, John Savage, John Forbes, Vicente Folch, Enrique White, the Baron de Carondelet, Samuel Mitchell, William Simpson, James Martin, Pierre François Roze, John McQueen, Jean de la Villebeuvre, and others.

The Washington County probate court office, Chatom, Alabama, contains a volume (A) of deed records, land grants and sales, matrimonial banns, and wills covering the years 1798-1816.

A collection of documents concerning Tennessee and the Old Southwest is located in the McClung Collection, Lawson McGhee Library, Knoxville, Tennessee. Assembled in Spain during the 1920s by Professor Arthur P. Whitaker, this collection consists of eighteen boxes of photostats and typescripts from the *Archivo General de Indias* and the *Archivo Histórico Nacional* in Madrid. An excellent guide to this collection is Miguel Gómez del Campillo, *Relaciones diplomáticas entre España y los Estados Unidos según los documentos del Archivo Histórico Nacional*, 2 vols. (Madrid, 1944-1945). Duvon C. Corbitt, with aid in translation from his wife, Roberta, has been editing and publishing these materials in "Papers from the Spanish Archives Relating to Tennessee and the Old Southwest," *Publications* of the East Tennessee Historical Society, No. 9 (1937) to date, continuing on an annual basis. They constitute a valuable, but little-known, source of translated materials on the Old Southwest, and the Mobile and Natchez districts.

The Mississippi Valley Collection is an important source for research at the John Brister Library, Memphis State University. Through arrangements with the University of California a total of 265 reels of microfilm from the *Archivo General de la Nación*, Mexico City have been acquired. Among the approxi-

mately 250,000 exposures are copies of materials relating to French, Spanish, English and early Anglo-American interests in the Louisiana area, as well as a considerable body of documents on Texas, Florida, and other frontier regions of New Spain. The documents are from three record groups in the Mexican archives: *Correspondencia de los Virreyes*, *Historia*, and *Provincias Internas*. For a general description of the contents of the *Correspondencia de los Virreyes*, and a volume-by-volume listing of the contents of the other two record groups, see Herbert E. Bolton, *Guide to Materials for the History of the United States in the Principal Archives of Mexico* (Washington, 1913; reprint edition, New York, 1965).¹

The Mississippi Valley Collection also includes: 277 reels of microfilm from the *Archivo General de Indias, Seville: Papeles procedentes de Cuba*; four reels of documents from the *Archivo Histórico Nacional, Madrid: Consejo de Indias* concerning official investigations into the activities of Governors Unzaga, Carondelet, and Miró of Louisiana; sixteen reels of documents from the *Archivo General de Simancas: Secretaria de Guerra* ("Guerra Moderna"), concerning Spanish military activities in the "borderlands" area and the West Indies from 1781 to 1802;² and eight reels of microfilm from Simancas containing documents from the *files* of the *Secretaria de Marina* concerning Spanish naval operations in the West Indies, 1780-1783.³

Also available in the Mississippi Valley Collection is the twenty-two reel microfilm edition of the *New Mexico State Records Center and Archives, Santa Fe: Spanish Archives of New Mexico, 1621-1681*, a significant collection of Spanish borderlands materials. The New Mexico State Records Center and Archives, 404 Montezuma Avenue, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501, can supply a guide to the collection without charge. A

-
1. *MVC Bulletin*, No. 1 (Summer 1968), 29, an occasional publication of the Mississippi Valley Collection, Memphis State University. A brief summary of the holdings from the three record groups are contained in *ibid.* 29-30.
 2. The curator of the Mississippi Valley Collection can furnish a brief description of the contents of the various *legajos* in the two preceding items above.
 3. The acquisitions in this paragraph were secured from the Library of Congress holdings.

calendar is also available from the same source for \$1.00.⁴

Memphis State University is also adding the microfilm edition of the Bexar Archives of Texas, now being published by the University of Texas Archives and consisting of about 220 reels. The Bexar Archives, one of the important collections of documentary sources on Spanish and Mexican Texas, are described in three pamphlets (1717-1803, 1804-1821, 1822-1836) published by the University of Texas Archives, Library, Austin, Texas 78712 (fifty cents each). Material from Memphis State University is available on interlibrary loan, but it cannot be duplicated.

Memphis State University has joined in a consortium with the University of Southwestern Louisiana, Loyola University at New Orleans, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and the Library of Congress to microfilm and/or purchase microfilm copies of records in the Archives Nationales in Paris.⁵ The records are from *the Archives des Colonies, Series C, Correspondance* generate. Subseries C^{13A}, *Louisiane I*, 54 volumes (1678-1804). Most American items from this group (as well as many from other series and archives) are listed in Nancy Maria Miller Surrey (ed.), **Calendar of Manuscripts in Paris Archives and Libraries Relating to the History of the Mississippi Valley to 1803**, 2 vols. (Washington, 1926). Two other sub-series are involved: C^{13B}, *Louisiane II*, 1 vol. (1699-1800), and C^{13C}, *Louisiane, divers.*, 4 vols. (1692-1790). News from *the Center*, No. 6 (Fall 1969), Center for the Coordination of Foreign Manuscript Copying, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, details information on French archives, copying projects, and the location of microfilm copies of French archival holdings bearing on United States history, etc.⁶

4. *MVC Bulletin*, No. 2 (Spring 1969), 56-57.

5. For its part, the University of Southwestern Louisiana has published a pamphlet, *Louisiana Colonial Records Project*, which describes the origin and scope of this endeavor. The USL project encompasses not only the French records for Louisiana but its third phase calls for the reproduction of all Spanish colonial records pertaining to Louisiana as well. One of the ultimate objectives of the project for the University of Southwestern Louisiana is to establish an Institute of French Studies at Lafayette.

6. This issue is in the Library of Congress, *Information Bulletin*, XXVI, (February 16, 1967), 127-34. News from *the Center* has been published each spring and fall since 1967. Early editions were appended to the *Information Bulletin*. No. 1 (Spring 1967) contains notes on major

The University of Southwestern Louisiana is publishing a history series devoted to monographs on French and Spanish colonial history in North America. Glenn R. Conrad, director, Southwestern Archives and Manuscripts Collection, USL University Libraries, Lafayette, Louisiana 70501, indicates that suitable manuscripts would be welcomed for publication.

Two new bibliographies are available: James A. Servies (comp.), *Pensacola and West Florida: A Chronological Checklist of Printed Works, 1542-1969* (Pensacola: John C. Pace Library, University of West Florida, 1970), and Jack D. L. Holmes, *A Guide to Spanish Louisiana, 1762-1806*, Vol. II of the *Louisiana Collection Series of Books and Documents on Colonial Louisiana* (New Orleans, 1970). Servies describes his compilation as "A trial bibliography, incorporating: contemporary accounts, secondary works, Pensacola imprints, and items written by Pensacola authors." Holmes's *Guide* includes an outline of Spanish Louisiana history, 1762-1806, and a bibliography of published and unpublished materials for the period.

The "Records and Deliberations of the Cabildo (New Orleans), 1769-1803" (*Las Actas del Cabildo*), are available on microfilm at \$10.00 per roll from the New Orleans Public Library, 219 Loyola Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana 70140.7 The set consists of four rolls of English translation and three rolls of Spanish typescript. There are references to the Floridas as well as the Province of Louisiana in these records which contain information on political, social, religious, military, and economic history for the Spanish period. Dr. Carmelo Richard Arena used these records extensively in the preparation of his study, "A Social Study of the Spanish Land Tenure System in Spanish Louisiana, 1762-1803" (M.A. thesis, Tulane University, 1954). Arena noted that besides the enumeration of laws the *Actas* also frequently described the circumstances which prompted the laws and the effect which their promulgation had upon the people.

An article by Winston De Ville, "Manuscript Sources in Louisiana for the History of the French in the Mississippi

American microfilm projects in foreign manuscript collections, and a listing of books and articles describing foreign manuscript collections in the United States. Several entries are listed of French and Spanish holdings for the southeastern United States.

7. *American Historical Association Newsletter*, VIII (December 1969), 38.

Valley," in John Francis McDermott (ed.), *The French in the Mississippi Valley* (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1965), describes the New Orleans notarial archives which are important for both the Spanish and French periods.

Other manuscript collections in Louisiana include the papers of Vincente [Vizente] Sebastian Pintado, assistant surveyor-general of Louisiana and, after 1803, chief surveyor of West Florida. The papers consist of seventeen books, four memo booklets, and eighteen bundles of papers reduced to eleven volumes in the WPA Translation and indices. The five reels of microfilm are available from the Louisiana State Archives and Records Commission, P. O. Box 44222 Capitol Station, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804. The Pintado Papers, which contain information on British, French, and Spanish land grants in West Florida, are located in several libraries including Louisiana State University, Tulane University, and the P. K. Yonge Library of Florida History. *The Louisiana Genealogical Register* has been publishing the indices to these papers in installments beginning in 1968.⁸ *The Louisiana Genealogical Register* is also publishing abstracts from the Spanish West Florida Records. These nineteen volumes cover the period from June 3, 1782 to September 22, 1810. The original documents and typescript copy of the WPA Federal Writers Project translation are in the clerk of court's office, East Baton Rouge Parish Courthouse. There is an index available. A microfilm of the typescript is in the Louisiana State Library, Baton Rouge. These translations were microfilmed by the Genealogical Society of the Church of Christ of Latter Day Saints.⁹ There are plans by the Louisiana State Archives and Records Commission to make available microfilm copies of the translations as well as the original documents.

Howard-Tilton Memorial Library, Tulane University, has agreed to permit the microfilming of the translations of the *Despatches of the Spanish Governors of Louisiana* made by the WPA Federal Writers' Project. The *Despatches*, in twenty-five volumes, cover the period from 1766 to 1791. To be filmed also are the eleven volumes of the *Messages of El Baron Carondelet*

8. Louisiana Genealogical Register, XV (September 1968), 87-88; *ibid.*, XVI (March 1969), 3-4.

9. *Ibid.*, XV (December 1968), 148-51; *ibid.*, XVI (December 1969), 309-10.

for the years 1791-1792. The WPA translations were made from photostats of the originals in the *Papeles Procedentes de la Isla de Cuba*, Archives of the Indies, Seville, Spain. Descriptions of both collections are contained in the introductions to the WPA translations.

Basic to any survey of materials on Spanish Louisiana, however, is the twenty-one page compilation made by Pearl Segura, "Sources of Spanish Records in Louisiana," *Proceedings Of the Fourth Annual Genealogical Institute*, (January 21-22, 1961), sponsored by the Department of History, Louisiana State University and the Louisiana Genealogical and Historical Society. This guide includes a description and the location of Spanish judicial, cabildo, notarial, parish courthouse, city, land, military, church, and family records and papers. In addition to a section of miscellaneous documents, it also provides data on some sources outside the state of Louisiana. For information write to the Louisiana Genealogical and Historical Society, P. O. Box 335, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821.

A folder of Spanish transcripts in the manuscripts division, Howard-Tilton Library, Tulane University, New Orleans, is referred to as the "Gardoqui Transcripts." (Diego de Gardoqui was Spanish charge d'affaires to the United States in the 1780s-1790s.) This material should not be confused with the six-volume set of "Gardoqui Despatches" in the Reuben Thomas Durrett Collection, Harper Memorial Library, University of Chicago from which the material at Tulane was probably obtained. Materials in the "Gardoqui Despatches" in the Durrett Collection have reference to the Floridas and Louisiana. There are copies or abstracts of some letters to Gardoqui from Spanish officials in St. Augustine. There are also a number of items on the United States-Spanish boundary question which directly concerned Florida. Most documents relate only to the years 1785-1787. The "Gardoqui Despatches" can be obtained on microfilm by libraries from Special Collections, University of Chicago Library, for about five cents per exposure.

Transcripts of some Spanish documents, mainly Carondelet correspondence, 1791-1795, are in the Lyman Draper Collection, vols. 39-42, George Rogers Clark Papers, Series J, at the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. The Draper Collection is available on microfilm, and copies are available in the Florida State

University Library, the P. K. Yonge Library of Florida History, and the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson. The Wisconsin Historical Society, *Guide to Manuscripts*, lists thirty-one portfolios and two boxes of materials identified as item 641, Spanish Archives, 1766-1805. Included are photographic and typewritten copies of despatches from the governors of Louisiana to the captain-general of Cuba, and from the Archives of the Indies, Seville, dealing with the Spanish regime in Florida and Louisiana, 1766-1791. Some of the Louis Houck transcripts, 1767-1805, with translations are also in the collection. Calendars are available. Translations of some of these papers have been published in the Wisconsin Historical Collections, XVIII, 299-468, *passim.*, and microfilm copies can be secured from the Society, 816 State Street, Madison, Wisconsin 53706.

An important study of Spanish-Indian relations in the southeast is Vicenta Cortés Alonso, "Historia de los Indios del Sureste de los Estados Unidos en la Segunda Mitad del Siglo XVIII" (University of Madrid, Facultad de Historia, ca. 1956). This is a three volume dissertation: Vol. I is the text, Vol. II contains the principal documents, and Vol. III is the bibliography.

There is a great abundance of materials on Spanish Florida. Of major importance on the borderlands are the papers of Woodbury. Lowery in the Library of Congress. They include nine volumes of transcripts, extracts, titles, and notes, plus an additional volume listing by archival location documents found by Lowery to be pertinent. The papers are arranged chronologically and are labelled 1551 to 1660, but there are a few of later date. The major archives of Seville and Madrid are represented, as well as Paris and the British Museum. Microfilm copies of the Lower-y Collection are in the P. K. Yonge Library of Florida History. Lower-y's collection and list of maps pertaining to the Spanish settlements within the limits of the United States are *also* in the Library of Congress. In 1912, Phillip Lee Phillips edited and published a description of the map collection (*The Lowery Collection: A Descriptive List of Maps of the Spanish Possessions within the Present Limits of the United States, 1502-1820*).

Since the East Florida Papers at the Library of Congress comprise all of the archives of the Spanish government of East

Florida between 1783 and 1821, they contain many items of importance to the borderlands. Descriptions of the papers can be found in the *Report Of the Libraries of Congress for 1905* (Washington, 1905), pp. 49-50, in the *Handbook of Manuscripts in the Library of Congress* (1918) ; Mabel M. Manning, "The East Florida Papers in the Library of Congress," *Hispanic American Historical Review*, X (August 1930) ; and Irene A. Wright, "The Odyssey of the Spanish Archives of Florida," *Hispanic American Essays* (1942) . An unpublished analytical index of the series in the East Florida Papers is in the Manuscript Division, Library of Congress. The papers have been microfilmed and are available at Florida State University Library and the P. K. Yonge Library of Florida History.

The West Florida Papers is a relatively meagre collection of land claims, business papers, legislative journals, and diplomatic and general correspondence at the Library of Congress and the National Archives. These were assembled and microfilmed for the Historic Pensacola Preservation Board and copies are available at the University of West Florida Library, and the P. K. Yonge Library of Florida History.

Of importance also to a study of the Spanish borderlands are the Jeannette Thurber Connor Papers at the Library of Congress. They comprise documents, translations, transcriptions, and maps, mainly from the archives at Seville, for the period 1570 to 1706. Microfilm copies are available, and twenty-six letters and reports, covering the period 1570-1580 were published in Mrs. Connor's *Colonial Records of Spanish Florida*, 2 vols. (DeLand, 1925, 1930). Microfilm copies of the Connor collection are in the P. K. Yonge Library of Florida History.

In the 1920s a thorough and systematic program for reproducing pertinent documents from the Spanish archives was financed by John B. Stetson, Jr., under the direction of James Alexander Robertson. It is now part of the P. K. Yonge Library of Florida History. This exceptionally valuable collection, perhaps the most comprehensive of its kind in the United States, consists of 100,000 pages of photostats taken from the Spanish archives, particularly the *Archivo General de Indias*. The great majority of the documents deal with the period 1565-1763. The papers were indexed and calendered by the St. Augustine Historical Society, the P. K. Yonge Library of Florida History, and

the National Park Service. The collection is on microfilm.

Attention is directed to the recently published proceedings and papers from the First Annual Gulf Coast History and Humanities Conference held at Pensacola in December 1969, Ernest F. Dibble and Earle W. Newton (eds.), In *Search of Gulf Coast Colonial History* (DeLand, 1970). The articles by Jack D. L. Holmes, "Resources Outside the United States and Research Opportunities for Spanish Florida, 1781-1821," and Samuel Proctor, "Bibliographical Resources in the United States for Gulf Coast Studies," in *this* volume survey resources currently available on the Spanish period in Florida. They update but do not replace the studies on that subject by Charles Arnade, "Florida History in Spanish Archives. Reproductions at the University of Florida," *Florida Historical Quarterly*, XXXIV (July 1955), and "A Guide to Spanish Florida Source Material," *Florida Historical Quarterly*, XXXV (April 1957). Also included **in** the papers from the Pensacola conference is a compilation of resources for British West Florida history by Robert R. Rea of Auburn University.

A study in social and economic history by Jack D. L. Holmes, *Pensacola Settlers, 1781-1821*, is being published by the Historic Pensacola Preservation Board. The papers from the conference "The Spanish in the Mississippi Valley, 1763-1804," held in St. Louis, Missouri, and Edwardsville, Illinois, April 1970, are being published by the University of Illinois Press. This is the third volume of papers on the French and Spanish in the Mississippi Valley published as a result of meetings sponsored by Southern Illinois University (Edwardsville) under the general chairmanship of Professor John Francis McDermott.

A manuscript on inter-disciplinary research topics and resources for a study of the Spanish southeast by Jack D. L. Holmes (Spanish Alabama and Spanish Louisiana), J. Leitch Wright, Jr. (Spanish West Florida, 1783-1821), and William S. Coker (Spanish Mississippi), will be published by the *Latin American Research Review* in the summer of 1972.

Besides the two guides to manuscripts on the Spanish borderlands by Herbert E. Bolton and Roscoe R. Hill, reprinted by Kraus Reprint Corporation, 16 East 46th Street, New York, New York 10017, others of great value to this region are available from Kraus: Charles Oscar Paullin, *Guide to the Materials*

in London Archives for the History of the United States since 1783 (Washington, 1914; reprinted 1965); Luis Marino Pérez, *Guide to the Materials for American History in the Cuban Archives* (Washington, 1907; reprinted 1967); William R. Shepherd, *Guide to the Materials for the History of the United States in Spanish Archives* (Simancas, the Archivo Histórico Nacional, and Seville, Washington, 1907; reprinted 1965); and James Alexander Robertson, *List of Documents in Spanish Archives Relating to the History of the United States, Which Have Been Printed or of Which Transcripts are Preserved in American Libraries* (Washington, 1910; reprinted 1965) .