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Press release : 2002 : 05 : 06 : Film of 1920s' St.
Petersburg to be shown at USF St. Petersburg May
22-23

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Film of 1920s' St. Petersburg to be shown at USF St. Petersburg May 22-23

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (May 6, 2002) – Steamboats sailing past the Vinoy Park Hotel. Boys in knickers. The alligator farm on Coquina Key, the "Million Dollar Pier," and of course, the ubiquitous green benches. These scenes long-vanished from local vistas are resurrected in a 70-year-old film to be shown in two public presentations on May 22 - 23 at the University of South Florida St. Petersburg.

The film will be shown 7 p.m. on May 22 and at noon May 23. Both showings will be held in Davis Hall 130 and are free and open to the public.

The film was made in 1929 by a visiting New York City engineer, John P. Jordan, and depicts St. Petersburg during its bustling youth in the 1920s. Originally on 16mm film with one of the first Kodak movie cameras sold for public use, the film has been restored and duplicated onto videotape. The film was donated to the university by Jordan's daughter-in-law, Phyllis Jordan.

Each showing will include opening remarks about St. Petersburg during the 1920s, as well as narration describing the images and locations appearing in the film by Jim Schnur, the special collections librarian at USF St. Petersburg.

The program is sponsored by the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library and the Society for Advancement of Poynter Library (SAPL).

For more information, contact the special collections office of the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library at (727) 553-1094.