

Guide to Special Collections and Archives,
Nelson Poynter Memorial Library,
University of South Florida St. Petersburg



Reading Room

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The content within this
document:

**GUIDE TO SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES,
NELSON POYNTER MEMORIAL LIBRARY, UNIVERSITY
OF SOUTH FLORIDA ST. PETERSBURG
by James Anthony Schnur**

has been superseded.

This document has been kept in the USFSP Digital
Archive for its historical value to reflect the
collection as it had existed at an earlier time and
to show evidence of the work of the creator.

Introduction to Special Collections and Archives

Formally established as the campus library in 1968, the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library anchors scholarship and research at the University of South Florida St. Petersburg. From a handful of books in the director's office and the Papers of Nelson Poynter, Special Collections and Archives (SCA) has grown dramatically over the last twenty-five years. Most of this growth has taken place since 1996, when the present library building opened with an expanded area for SCA.

SCA operates as a distinct unit within the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library at USF St. Petersburg, a public institution chartered by the State of Florida. The Poynter Library serves the teaching, research, and educational mission of USF St. Petersburg by accommodating the scholarly needs of graduate and undergraduate students and the teaching faculty at USF. The library's secondary mission is to provide access to academic resources for staff, postgraduate students and alumni of USF, as well as to outside researchers, lifelong learners, and the general public.

The collections fall under a number of distinct areas of provenance. Rare and unique items, as well as most monographs in Floridiana, reside in the **General Collection**. Manuscript, archival, and book collections may also appear in collections based in the fields of **Humanities, Journalism and Media Studies, Local and Regional History, Marine Science and Ichthyology, Maritime Base History, Oral History of Modern America**, and the **USF St. Petersburg Archives** (with subcollections in Faculty Papers and Faculty Publications). SCA operates under the parameters of a Collection Development and Management Policy that was approved in December 2005 and is available for public inspection.

SCA is open to members of the University community and outside researchers. At this time, individual appointments are required to access the collections. Regular hours of operation vary weekly, due to reference duties and other staff assignments. To arrange an appointment, please contact **Jim Schnur**, assistant librarian, at (727) 873-4094 or schnur@nelson.usf.edu.

Acknowledgements

The editor wishes to acknowledge the many graduate students of Florida Studies and Library and Information Science that have assisted with the development of finding aids. Editorial guidance for the second edition was provided by **Keri Dhondup** and **Justin Whitney**. Students who have assisted with the development of finding aids for the materials in SCA include: **Keri Dhondup, Robert Fernandez, Susan Hickok, Monica Luoto, Barbara Maratos, Albert Vogt III, Candace Whitaker, Justin Whitney, Laura Woodruff, and Edward Woodward**.

Researchers may examine materials in Special Collections after completing a registration form and agreeing to abide by the following regulations, which serve to protect and to ensure the integrity of our materials for future scholars.

1. Complete the registration form and provide appropriate identification (such as a driver's license, USF identification card, etc.). While staff reserve the right to use data from this form for statistical purposes, all personal information--including materials loaned--will remain confidential in accordance with Florida statutes and university guidelines.

2. Leave all briefcases, bags, and other personal property at the entrance to the reading room. Only pencils, papers, and laptop computers are permitted. Special Collections staff forbid the use of any type of ink pen or permanent pencil, and reserve the right to inspect all articles used at the table.

3. Please complete a clearly written calls slip for all materials you wish to use. Materials in Special Collections cannot be removed from the reading room. The researcher is responsible for safeguarding all materials borrowed for use, and may not transfer items to another researcher. When finished with archival items, please return all materials to the staff. Mutilation, destruction, or theft of materials will subject the parties involved to prosecution.

4. The use of certain items may be restricted by statute, by office of origin, or by other restrictions. The researcher assumes full responsibility for fulfilling the terms connected with any restricted material. For the protection of the collections, staff members reserve the right to restrict access to records that require further arrangement, description, processing, or conservation, or additional security due to exceptional value. In some cases, copies may be substituted for originals.

5. Handle materials with the utmost care. Refrain from adding or erasing any marks. Avoid making any tracings, rubbings, or other drawings that will damage the integrity of the original. Keep manuscripts, photographs, and other items flat on the table--and handle brittle books with additional care--to prevent tears, creases, or damage to the spine. In certain cases, researchers may be required to wear gloves or to examine copies to protect the original materials.

6. Maintain the exact order of materials in folders, and of folders in boxes. Do not remove materials from more than one folder at a time. If you discover a mistake in the arrangement of items, please notify a staff member. Never attempt to rearrange materials or to change the order of items in a collection.

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8. Researchers who plan eventual publication of their work should inquire about restrictions on publication before beginning research. The patron must obtain all applicable copyright permissions for publication, as well as written permission from the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library, as owner of the materials. The Poynter Library does not surrender any rights to the material when it grants permission to cite and publish items. Exclusive rights to examine or publish material will not be granted under any circumstance. Special Collections assumes no responsibility for copyright infringement in the materials held by others. In the event that this project becomes a source for publication, Special Collections requests a copy of the publication along with appropriate acknowledgement in the publication.

Amity House Collection of Ruth Adlard MacLennan Uphaus

Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 25.0 linear ft.

Acquired: July 2004 (original accession); subsequent accessions in 2005, 2006

Finding Aids Available: In process

Availability/Restrictions: In process; limited access



Ruth Adlard MacLennan moved to St. Petersburg in the late 1950s with her husband, Charles MacLennan. Since the 1930s, the MacLennans had championed social justice causes. They immediately became involved with the Greater St. Petersburg Council on Human Relations and challenged laws requiring segregated facilities. After Charles MacLennan passed away, Ruth married Willard Uphaus, a leader of the World Fellowship of Faiths, champion of American-Soviet friendship during the Cold War, and a

progressive who served prison time for refusing to name names during Joe McCarthy's witch hunts. Ruth and Willard renamed the residence "Amity House" in honor of Amity, Arkansas, the hometown of Willard's first wife, Ola. This collection documents a variety of progressive organizations and social movements along the west coast of Florida. Please consult with special collections librarian for assistance.

Kathleen Hardee Arsenault Literature Research Collection

Provenance: Humanities

Secondary Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 0.42 linear ft.

Acquired: 2002

Finding Aids Available: Paper (December 2002)/HTML

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

During the mid-1990s, Kathleen Hardee Arsenault conducted research on two notable authors, Francis Robert Goulding and Lois Lenski. A member of the library faculty since 1981 and a graduate of Wellesley College and Simmons College, she has written articles and scholarly reviews on a variety of Florida topics, including the historical development of children's literature in Florida. She presently serves as dean of the Poynter Library.



Raymond O. Arsenault Collection

Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 4.50 linear ft.

Acquired: Summer 1998 (original accession); additions in 2001, 2005-2006

Finding Aids Available: Paper (March 2002)/HTML

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

Raymond O. Arsenault serves as the John Hope Franklin Professor of Southern History at the University of South Florida St. Petersburg. A member of the USF faculty since 1980, he specializes in the social, political, and environmental history and historiography of the American South and Florida Studies, though his teaching and research interests cover nearly all areas of American history, culture, and civilization. In the summer of 1998, Arsenault donated some of his research files to the library. Subsequent accessions of galley sheets, photographs, and additional materials received since 2001 will be available in the future.

Audio/Visual Services Administrative Files of Robert M. Thrush

Provenance: Archives RG677

Scope and Contents: 0.15 linear ft.

Acquired from A/V Services: January 2006

Finding Aids Available: Paper (March 2006)

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

Robert McIntyre Thrush received an appointment as a halftime clerk at the Extension Library on the Bay Campus (now USF St. Petersburg) in April 1968. Working under the supervision of Extension Librarian Osborne Gomez, Thrush coordinated audio/visual services for the young campus. By the late 1980s, "Bob" Thrush oversaw a very active area of campus. Under the supervision of Gerald Notaro, Media Services Librarian, he became a senior audio/visual equipment operator. He and wife Dorothy "Dot" Thrush—a longtime employee in the campus bookstore—retired from the University in 1991. These materials offer a portrait of instructional media activities at USF St. Petersburg from the late 1960s through the early 1980s.

John Barger Framed Newspapers

Provenance: Journalism

Scope and Contents: 6 items (0.55 linear ft.)

Acquired: November 1999

Finding Aids Available: Index from Appraisal Report (November 1999)

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

Framed newspapers of historical significance donated to the Poynter Library.

Herman J. Brames Administrative Files

Provenance: Archives RG501

Secondary Provenance: Maritime Base History

Scope and Contents: 1.09 linear ft.

Acquired: Summer 2003

Finding Aids Available: Paper (September 2003)

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

The materials in this series of the Administration and Finance Administrative Files reflect the work of Herman J. Brames, former Vice President of Administration and Finance at the University of South Florida St. Petersburg. Mr. Brames joined USF in 1964 as a resident instructor in Beta Hall on the Tampa campus. He also taught behavioral science courses in the College of Basic Studies. By 1965, USF applied to the federal government to take over the former site of the United States Maritime Service Training Station along Bayboro Harbor. Mr. Brames came to the campus as center administrator in August 1966. Over the years, he held many leadership positions on campus, retiring in the spring of 2003 as vice president of Administration and Finance. This position included oversight of campus site acquisitions and improvements, physical plant, and auxiliary services.

The bulk of the collection (dates: 1963 to 1984) is composed of property information related to the original campus site along Bayboro Harbor and annual reports submitted to the United States Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW) to comply with terms for acquiring this site. The overall collection (inclusive dates: 1913 to 1999) also contains various correspondence, reports, site files, and other documents related to the growth of the USF St. Petersburg campus through the 1990s.

Winston T. Bridges, Jr., Collection of Historic Newspapers

Provenance: Journalism

Secondary Provenance: Archives

Scope and Contents: 0.30 linear ft.

Acquired: May 2006

Finding Aids Available: None

Availability/Restrictions: Not available at this time

Assorted notable newspapers from 1940 through the early 1980s related to John F. Kennedy's assassination, other notable national events, and the expansion of USF St. Petersburg. *See also:* *Kennedy Assassination Newspaper Collection* and *Rae O. Weimer PM Newspaper Collection*.

John C. Briggs Collection of Ichthyology and Natural History

Provenance: Marine Science

Scope and Contents: Approximately 190 linear ft.

Acquired: September 1989

Finding Aids Available: Library catalog

Availability/Restrictions: Some books are brittle; serials (21 in. ft.) not cataloged

John C. "Jack" Briggs earned his Ph.D. in biology and natural science from Stanford University in 1952. He joined the faculty at the University of South Florida in 1964, teaching in the zoology, biology and marine science departments. After entering phased retirement, he negotiated a purchase/donation of his extensive collection of works on ichthyology, natural science, botany, and biology to the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library.

The Briggs Collection offers a valuable research tool. This substantial body of publications represented the second major addition to the special collections room at USF St. Petersburg. General titles were added to the circulating collection. Nearly all monographic titles in Special Collections and Archives possess full bibliographic records searchable through the USF Libraries online catalog. Some serials are unavailable at this time.

Papers of Gabriel Cazares

Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 6.50 linear ft.

Acquired: September 2003 (original accession); November 2004 (second accession)

Finding Aids Available: Paper (November 2004)

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

Gabriel Cazares—former mayor of Clearwater (1975-1978) and member of the Pinellas County commission (1980-1984)—donated personal archives related to his service as a member of the Florida State Commission on Hispanic Affairs and his general leadership on Hispanic issues. This collection documents Cazares's lifelong struggles on behalf of civil rights, human rights, and social justice (including his support of migrant farm workers). His work with community and political organizations includes service as a member of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), president of the Clearwater Free Clinic, chair of the Pinellas County Democratic Executive Committee, a Golden Heritage life member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and charter president of the Northern Pinellas Democratic Club. The collection represents the diverse voices of Florida's Hispanic community, as well as Cazares's many creative labors. He passed away in September 2006.

Central Plaza Merchants Association

See: *Winifred S. Foster Research File*

“Civil Rights Movement in Florida” Conference Oral Histories

Provenance: Oral History

Secondary Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: Approximately 1 linear ft.

Acquired: June 2004

Finding Aids Available: Transcripts in editing process

Availability/Restrictions: Partial access

The Florida Studies Program and University Honors Program at USF St. Petersburg sponsored a symposium devoted to the history and legacies of the civil rights movement in communities across the Sunshine State. Most lectures were recorded on S-VHS and/or DVD. These materials represent a distinctive subset of the Oral History of Modern America Collection.

Committee on Issues of Sexual Orientation Papers

Provenance: Archives RG151

Scope and Contents: 0.42 linear ft.

Acquired: Ongoing in mid-1990s

Finding Aids Available: Paper (December 2002)

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

The Committee on Issues of Sexual Orientation (CISO), an Advisory Committee to the President of the University of South Florida, first convened in September 1993. Later renamed the Committee on Issues of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (CISOGI), this advisory body regularly meets with USF executive staff, human resources personnel, and representatives from the diversity and equal opportunity offices. This university-wide body has consulted with groups about adding non-discriminatory clauses and partner benefits for all employees, regardless of sexual orientation. In addition, this committee supports leadership initiatives and opportunities for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered students at the University of South Florida.

Complete Register, Clear Water Circuit, Tampa District . . .

Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 1 volume (0.20 linear ft.)

Acquired: March 2006

Finding Aids Available: Paper (March 2006)

Availability/Restrictions: Full access, with gloves required (brittle material)

The library acquired by purchase *The Complete Register, Clear Water Circuit, Tampa District, Florida Conference, for the Methodist Episcopal Church, South*. This single bound volume contains directories of many congregations served by the circuit riding Methodist ministers who traveled along the Pinellas Peninsula from the late 1870s through the 1890s. This volume is one of the earliest written records from the lower Pinellas Peninsula.

The book includes records of members, baptisms, and other information about pioneer families since 1873, a time when the sparsely populated Pinellas Peninsula fell under the administration of Hillsborough County. A handful of isolated farming communities and small settlements dotted the rural peninsula often known as “Western Hillsborough.” Found within this book are membership lists from small Methodist and Methodist Episcopal churches at Clear Water Harbor (present-day Clearwater), Indian Pass (Anona and Largo areas), Sylvan Abbey (near present-day Safety Harbor and Clearwater), and Bay View (an early

settlement near the northern end of the Bayside Bridge). These congregations, served by itinerant ministers who “rode the circuit” to serve the spiritual needs of those along the peninsula, flourished at a time when only a few residents lived in southern Pinellas and the city of St. Petersburg did not even exist. Indeed, most of the Pinellas Peninsula remained isolated until the arrival of the Orange Belt Railway in 1888.

Corral, Wodiska y Ca. Cigar Factory Records (donated by Glenn Westfall)

Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 1.50 linear ft.

Acquired: Summer 2005

Finding Aids Available: Paper (March 2006)

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

This collection comprises a variety of materials that document the history of the Corral family as well as the Corral, Wodiska y Ca’s rise in Tampa in the early 1900s. While many clippings and photographs document personal achievements and events in the Corral family, stockholder records, and meeting minutes (dating to 1911) paint a picture of business activities that span across much of the twentieth century. Family newspaper clippings focus on the life of Manuel (“Manny”) Corral, Jr., offering a portrait of his accomplishments in varsity football, his graduation, and his marriage. A high-quality Cuban cigar box holds a plethora of clippings surrounding Manny’s football successes and his varsity letters. He appears in a variety of photographs that include—but are not limited to—varsity football images, family portraits, candid shots, and passport photographs.



Corral, Wodiska y Ca. began to manufacture high-quality Havana cigars in 1905. Over time, a sign stood above the entry door to the factory and storage areas that proclaimed, “Only the Finest Shall Enter Here.” The family maintained its involvement with this business until the mid-1980s. Overall, this collection will appeal to historians and researchers who have an interest in the cigar industry of Tampa, immigration history along the west coast of Florida, or family histories in the region.

Glen Dill Collection

Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 6.50 linear ft.

Acquired: May 2005

Finding Aids Available: In process

Availability/Restrictions: In process; unavailable at this time

Nearly a dozen scrapbooks document the life of Glen Dill, a popular radio personality, local historian, and newspaper columnist. Dill (1910-1993) was the first voice many radio listeners heard in the morning when they tuned into WTSP-AM, a St. Petersburg radio station, from 1942 until 1957. Dill later was a disc-jockey and general manager at other local radio stations, including WGUL. He also wrote more than one thousand newspaper columns for the *Suncoast News* and other papers, most with a focus on local history that later became the basis for his 1986 book, *The Suncoast Past*. The bulk of this collection focuses on Dill's radio days in St. Petersburg during the postwar years, and includes letters, photographs, postcards, and clippings.

Niela M. Eliason “City in Transition” Collection

Provenance: Journalism

Secondary Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 0.25 linear ft.

Acquired: November 1993

Finding Aids Available: Paper (December 1993)/HTML

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

Niela Eliason's *City in Transition* series documents the social and cultural history of St. Petersburg, Florida, through the voices of civic leaders and common citizens alike. As stated in her first column, these essays examined “a changing community--the people, the buildings, the activities, the attitudes and reactions, the progress and deterioration.” This collection contains photocopies of the 123 *City in Transition* articles, as well as photographs from the St. Petersburg area. Her writings first appeared in the [St. Petersburg] *Evening Independent*, and later moved to the *St. Petersburg Times* after the afternoon *Independent* folded in November 1986.



Hazel Talley Evans Papers

Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 21 linear ft.

Acquired: December 2001

Finding Aids Available: Paper (April 2006)

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

A local activist in the Democratic Party, Evans did a lot of the “behind-the-scenes” work for political campaigns in Pinellas County and statewide during the 1960s and 1970s. Evans was a dynamic leader both in local and national politics from the late 1950s through the 1990s. This collection includes correspondence, campaign literature, and political ephemera. A small monographic collection (including autographed titles) accompanies the manuscript materials.

A native of Georgia, Hazel Atkinson was born on 16 August 1931 into a family that owned a textile machinery company in Atlanta. Despite her old-school southern upbringing, Hazel hardly fit the mold of traditional domesticity. Her contributions to the Democratic Party and Florida politics and government hardly went unnoticed. In addition to her significant role in local and national Democratic Party politics, Evans also maintained influential positions that supported the growth of women and young adults in the Democratic Party organization. Hazel's August 1965 registration card issued to her by the Pinellas County supervisor of elections may have referred to her as a “homemaker,” but her involvement in politics soared during the late 1960s and early 1970s. She became State Democratic Committeewoman for Pinellas County in 1966, a post she held into the 1980s. Hazel's continuous service to the Democratic cause brought her recognition. She received the 1981 Hubert H. Humphrey Award for outstanding service to the Democratic Party. Two years later, the Upper Pinellas Democratic Woman's Club named her the recipient of that organization's Woman of the Year Award.

Though she rarely occupied the foreground of political endeavors, she consistently played important, significant, and pivotal background roles in the Democratic Party. From arranging substantial Democratic National Committee (of Florida) fundraising dinners to serving as chair of the 1981 State Democratic Convention Site Selection Committee, Hazel Talley Evans frequently took on a leadership role in political affairs. She passed away on 10 December 1997.

Regis A. Factor Papers

Provenance: Archives RG363

Scope and Contents: 3.50 linear ft.

Acquired: 1999
Finding Aids Available: None
Availability/Restrictions: Unprocessed at this time

Factor (1937-1999) served as a professor of political science, politics, and government at USF St. Petersburg. These materials include syllabi, lecture notes, and papers written by Factor.

Florida History Research Collection

Provenance: Local and Regional History
Scope and Contents: 4.50 linear ft.
Acquired: 1993-present
Finding Aids Available: Paper précis (1994-forward); Database (in-house)
Availability/Restrictions: Limited access

A collection of research and seminar papers on topics related to Florida history. Some papers are unavailable at this time. Please consult with the special collections librarian for assistance.

Florida Report Collection

Provenance: Journalism
Secondary Provenance: Local and Regional History
Scope and Contents: 3 linear ft.
Acquired: Spring/summer 1993
Finding Aids Available: Arranged by date
Availability/Restrictions: Full access

Special Collections and Archives entered into an agreement with WUSF radio to preserve representative samples of the audiocassette recordings of *The Florida Report*. During the early 1990s, this program aired on WUSF, 89.7FM, every Monday through Friday from 4:30 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. The recordings include local news segments as well as in-depth stories of regional interest. These programs provide an audio primary source for students of history, journalism, and mass communications. Recordings cover the period of early 1993. This program no longer airs on the radio station.

Winifred S. "Winnie" Foster Research File

Provenance: Local and Regional History
Scope and Contents: 0.85 linear ft.
Acquired: June 2003
Finding Aids Available: Paper (November 2005)
Availability/Restrictions: Full access

In June 2003, Winifred S. "Winnie" Foster donated a collection of clippings, photographs, and archival materials that document her involvement in local civil liberties activities and the development of commercial activities at the Central Plaza Shopping Center. Born in 1927, Winnie grew up in a Quaker home environment. She and other farm girls in rural Ohio often made clothes from feed sacks. As she came of age, she embraced the Quaker tradition of pacifism and commitment for equality. She and her husband, also a Quaker, moved to Rhode Island and supported liberal causes. Like many of her generation, she was deeply affected by the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and brought her commitment to civil rights and social justice to St. Petersburg when she moved to the area with her husband in 1969. Winnie immediately became involved with the League of Women Voters of the St. Petersburg area, civil rights issues, and the local Unitarian church. She soon organized People for Peace as a local antiwar organization that hoped to end American involvement in the Vietnamese conflict. She rose through the ranks of the local and state chapters of the American Civil Liberties Union, ultimately serving as president of the state board.



Children in Methodist Town during the 1970s, from Winnie Foster's Research File

Harrison W. Fox Collection

Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 2.50 linear ft.

Acquired: 1996

Finding Aids Available: Paper (June 1997)/HTML

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

In 1996, Dr. Raymond O. Arsenault donated the Harrison W. Fox Real Estate Collection to the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library. The collection contains the personal papers of Harrison W. Fox, a prominent and successful third-generation real estate developer in post-World War II St. Petersburg. Mr. Fox was a very active member of the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB), and an officer in both the Homebuilder's Association of Greater St. Petersburg (of which he was a charter member and the Association's first secretary) and the St. Petersburg Builder's and Contractor's Association.

The bulk of the collection consists of documents of these professional associations and includes correspondence, membership information, telegrams, board meeting notes, and bylaws covering the period from 1946 through 1987, with the majority covering the period from 1946 through 1960. The collection also contains numerous photographs and floor plans of homes constructed by Fox and Fox Builders and Contractors during the 1940s and 1950s in St. Petersburg. Corporate information consisting of ledger books, payroll records, and accounts for the period from 1946 to 1956 also resides in the collection, as well as some early records (circa 1925) regarding the Empire Realty Company of William G. Fox (Harrison W. Fox's grandfather).

George S. Gandy Title Abstract

Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 0.10 linear ft.

Acquired: November 2004

Finding Aids Available: Paper (November 2004)

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

The bound contents include typewritten copies of deeds, contracts, mortgages, liens, judgments, and other such items compiled from the public records of the Clerk of the Circuit Court in Pinellas and Hillsborough counties through 12 July 1957. (Prior to 1912, Pinellas was part of Hillsborough County.) Early records include real estate agreements transferring land from the State of Florida to Hamilton Disston, a Philadelphia capitalist who acquired four million acres of Florida land in the early 1880s for \$1,000,000. A substantial portion of the Pinellas Peninsula was included in this transaction. Many of the documents pertain to a lawsuit involving Jacob S. Disston—Hamilton’s brother—and the St. Petersburg Investment Company.

George S. Gandy (1851-1946), once an “office boy” for Hamilton Disston and later a building contractor in Philadelphia, arrived in St. Petersburg in 1903. He came at the urging of F. A. Davis, a Philadelphia publisher who came to St. Petersburg to establish a streetcar railway and electric plant. Davis had also served as president of the St. Petersburg Investment Company. Gandy quickly diversified his interests in the small but growing city of St. Petersburg. His La Plaza theatre, once located at Fifth Street and Central Avenue, opened as a public venue in 1913. In November 1924, “Dad” Gandy’s namesake bridge connected St. Petersburg and Tampa at the height of the Florida land boom.

General Monographs and Serials

Provenance: Various

Scope and Contents: Approx. 100 linear ft.

Finding Aids Available: Library catalog

Availability/Restrictions: Varies

General publications, including rare and brittle books, can be located using the library catalog.

Commander David S. Goddard Maritime Service Photo Collection

Provenance: Maritime Base

Secondary Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 0.25 linear ft.

Acquired: June 2005

Finding Aids Available: Paper (July 2005)

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

Commander David S. Goddard arrived at the United States Maritime Training School at Government Island, near Alameda, California, in 1940. He enrolled in one of the first classes at that facility to train licensed officers for the Merchant Marine. He then served aboard the *USMSTS American Sailor* when that vessel was commissioned as a training ship in the summer of 1941. After receiving a promotion to the rank of Lieutenant, Goddard also spent time at the Maritime Service Training Station at Port Hueneme, California, during the summer of 1942. This facility, dedicated in August 1941, was modeled on the recently opened maritime campus at Bayboro Harbor. After serving as leading officer on the ship *American Engineer*, he came to St. Petersburg and took on high-level responsibilities at the Bayboro Harbor facility. Goddard returned to Alameda in February 1946 to serve as Executive Officer at Government Island.



Hapgood/Berry Photographic Collection

Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 0.05 linear ft.

Acquired: May 2002

Finding Aids Available: Paper (August 2002)/HTML

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

During the 1930s, William Hapgood and Sylvia Hazel Smith Berry spent their winters in St. Petersburg to get away from the snow and cold weather of New England. While wintering in Florida, they lived in a home in the 13th Street Heights neighborhood and participated in the many social and cultural activities available for seasonal residents. This collection of twenty photographs and four photographic postcards displays images of St. Petersburg taken during the winter and spring of 1933. Many popular sites are represented, including the "Million Dollar" Pier, Williams Park, and the 1933 Festival of States parade. These photographs were donated in May 2002 by Charlotte Barbour, granddaughter of Hapgood and Berry and a staff member at the Poynter Library. *See also: Earl R. Jacobs III Collection of the Photographs of Francis Wagner.*

Donald A. and Jessamine E. Haney Monographs

Provenance: Archives RG 701

Scope and Contents: 3.0 linear ft.

Acquired: May 2006

Finding Aids Available: None

Availability/Restrictions: Not available at this time

Small sample of books from the library of Donald A. Haney (an early Director of Student Affairs at USF St. Petersburg) and his wife, Jessamine. Most items were either books from their college years in Colorado or publications consulted by Mr. Haney during his tenure at USF St. Petersburg.

Suzanne Davis Hardee Collection of Floridiana

Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 2.15 linear ft.

Acquired: 2004

Finding Aids Available: Library catalog

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

Suzanne Davis Hardee (1922-2004), a longtime resident of Fernandina Beach in Nassau County, collected a variety of titles related to Florida history, literature, and culture. Kathleen Hardee Arsenault, her daughter and dean of the Poynter Library, donated these monographs in 2004. All titles are searchable through the USF Libraries catalog.

Historical Letters Collection

Provenance: Humanities

Scope and Contents: 2 framed letters (0.20 linear ft.)

Acquired: 1980s

Finding Aids Available: None

Availability/Restrictions: Full access, with gloves required

Two original letters acquired by the Poynter Library in the early 1980s: a framed letter written by George Washington in 1786 and a framed letter written by Benjamin Franklin in 1782. *See also: Presidential Signatures and Ephemera Collection of Parker and Joane Miller.*

Historical Newspapers Collection

Provenance: Journalism

Secondary Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 1.50 linear ft. (some photocopies)

Acquired: 1980s-1990s

Finding Aids Available: List of papers (July 2001)

Availability/Restrictions: Full access, with gloves required

A variety of original and photocopies issues, including notable selections from the *St. Petersburg Times* and the [St. Petersburg] *Evening Independent*

David S. Hubbell Collection of Mark Twain and Twainiana

Provenance: Humanities

Scope and Contents: 33.50 linear ft.

Acquired: May 1998

Finding Aids Available: Library catalog

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

A retired physician and professor at USF, David S. Hubbell has always enjoyed American Literature, especially the writings of Mark Twain. This collection of Mark Twain and Twainiana comprises a representative array of Twain's early to later works, including select novels, short stories, letters, notebooks, journals, speeches, and autobiographies. Additionally, this collection includes monographic studies of Twain that contextualize him within his literary tradition through literary criticism and within his location, place, and period through biographical narratives and historical accounts.

Donald J. Ivey Research File on Florida Politicians

Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 5.60 linear ft.

Acquired: Summer 2003

Finding Aids Available: Paper (October 2003)

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

Donald J. Ivey donated research files he compiled and chronological biographies he created during his tenure as curator of collections at Heritage Village in Largo. These materials reflect his interest in Florida's political history and include chronological biographies, clippings, photographs, and other research materials on notable Florida political leaders. Items fall within three distinct series: Chronological Biographies, Biographical Research Files on Individuals, and a Prosopographical File on the Office of the Lieutenant Governor. Most of the research and photocopies date from the mid-1980s through the late 1990s, though the collection does include a substantial number of microfilm copies of newspaper articles and documents from the nineteenth century.

Earl R. Jacobs III Collection of the Photographs of Francis Wagner

Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 0.75 linear ft.

Acquired: 1980s

Finding Aids Available: Digital Guide

Availability/Restrictions: Negatives in storage; full digitized images available online

A digitized collection of 945 photographs of St. Petersburg and the Tampa Bay region taken by Francis G. Wagner and others at a local camera shop.

Papers of Norman E. Jones

Provenance: Local and Regional History

Secondary Provenance: Journalism

Scope and Contents: 3.25 linear ft.

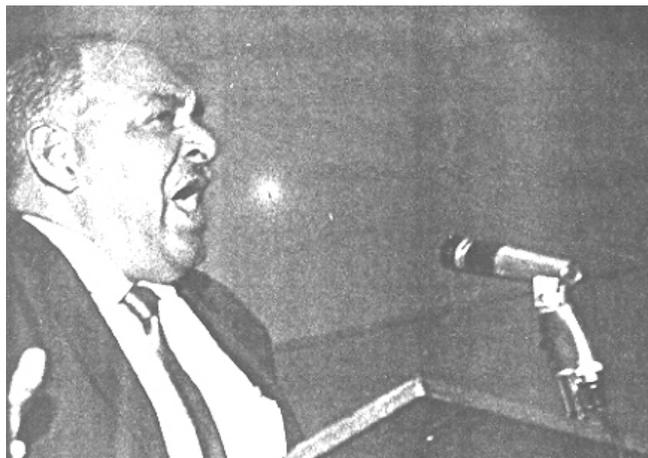
Acquired: November 2000

Finding Aids Available: Paper/HTML (February 2007)

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

A native of Lawrence, Kansas, Jones (1909-1990) moved to Kansas City, Missouri, as a young child, where he attended Lincoln High School and Lincoln Junior College. He also studied photography with Warren B. Harrison. He later attended Henderson Business College in Memphis, Tennessee. After living in nearly forty different U.S. cities, he moved to Tampa in 1950. He later settled in St. Petersburg in 1955, where he lived until his death. A photographer, publicist, and journalist, Mr. Jones worked as Florida editor for the *Pittsburgh Courier* and edited the African American pages of the *St. Petersburg Times* and *St. Petersburg Evening Independent*. For almost twenty years, beginning in 1956, he contributed a column entitled "Let's Talk Politics" to various black newspapers throughout Florida. He also produced his own radio program on two Tampa stations, and WTOG, Channel 44, televised the "Norman E. Jones Show." Until his health failed in the 1970s, he ran an advertising and public relations business in St. Petersburg. Active in politics for over fifty years, Jones became a supporter of George Wallace's presidential campaign.

Jones's writings and broadcasts offered him an opportunity to share his contrarian and conservative



political views. Many of his statements, considered heretical or at least unorthodox by other members of the black community, certainly added some interesting dimensions to the critical debates of his times. To him, the only color that mattered was the color "green." He praised the accommodationism of Booker T. Washington and preached economic self-sufficiency and self-determination rather than racial integration. In one of his more notable comments, he once proclaimed that "slavery . . . was a 250-year on-the-job training program . . . [followed by] another 100 years to serve his apprenticeship." Jones' correspondence reveals him to be a complex political pragmatist. Like a chess player, he often would think two or three

moves ahead, unexpectedly aligning himself with parties and issues that would seem to run counter to his agenda.

Norman E. Jones, Jr., Black Heritage Collection

Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 3.75 linear ft.

Acquired: 2005

Finding Aids Available: Paper (October 2005)

Availability/Restrictions: Full access



Mr. Norman E. Jones, Jr., donated a variety of museum brochures, directories, and ephemera related to African American historic sites throughout the United States and Canada. These materials, collected during his many travels, provide illustrative examples of how historic museums and other public history venues commemorate the legacies of African Americans. The library received a subsequent accession of materials in the summer of 2005. Staff merged these accessions into a single collection.

Jordan Family Film Collection

Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 2 films (16mm)

Acquired: September 2001

Finding Aids Available: None

Availability/Restrictions: Limited access

This collection contains two films donated by Phyllis Jordan of Colorado. One film offers images of St. Petersburg, Tarpon Springs, Pass-a-Grille, and other locations in the Tampa Bay region from 1929. The second film includes Florida scenes from the late 1940s or early 1950s.

Aurora "Lel" Kellman Collection of Political Ephemera

Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 0.10 linear ft.

Acquired: September 2004

Finding Aids Available: Paper (September 2004)

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

This collection of campaign pins and bumper stickers, donated by Aurora "Lel" Kellman, includes items from many political campaigns. Most of these materials support candidates or platforms sponsored by the Democratic Party, although some do support third-party candidates (such as Ralph Nader of the Green Party in the 2000 presidential election).

Kennedy Assassination Newspaper Collection

Provenance: Journalism

Scope and Contents: 27.08 linear ft.

Acquired: December 1993

Finding Aids Available: Paper (May 1994)/HTML

Availability/Restrictions: Full access, with gloves required

Dr. Hugh W. Cunningham, a former professor of journalism at the University of Florida, donated 418 single issues of newspapers describing the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. These papers represent a broad geographic diversity of newspapers from 45 states and serve as an excellent primary source for a "slice-of-life" analysis. Newspapers fall into distinct series, based upon their date of publication. The first series includes titles from Friday, 22 November 1963, the second from Saturday, 23 November 1963, the third from Sunday, 24 November 1963, and the fourth from Monday, 25 November 1963.

League of Women Voters of the St. Petersburg Area Pamphlet Coll.

Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 2.25 linear ft.

Acquired: July 2004 (original accession); subsequent accessions in 2005, 2006

Finding Aids Available: Paper (March 2006)/Library catalog

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

Jean Herzig, former president of the League of Women Voters of the St. Petersburg Area, donated these materials to the Poynter Library. This collection includes booklets, government documents, subject files, and pamphlets. Some items reside in folders, while most booklets and government documents possess full bibliographic records searchable through the library catalog.

Local and Regional History/Biography Vertical Files

Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 17 linear ft.

Acquired: Ongoing acquisitions

Finding Aids Available: Partial database developed in 2004-2005

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

Files of clippings, brochures, photographs, and other materials are arranged alphabetically by name or subject. Gary R. Mormino, professor of History and Florida studies, provided the bulk of clippings and materials received after 2003. Further development of subject headings and sub-collections may occur as the library receives new materials. Please consult with staff for assistance and access to this collection.

Gary Ross Mormino Collection of Floridiana

Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 1.70 linear ft.

Acquired: January 2003 and ongoing

Finding Aids Available: Library catalog

Availability/Restrictions: Full access



Mormino, a professor of history and Florida studies at USF St. Petersburg, donated these pamphlets, booklets, and monographs to the library for the benefit of researchers. All items possess full bibliographic records in the USF Libraries catalog.

Gary Ross Mormino Collection of Political Ephemera

Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 0.42 linear ft.

Acquired: August 2004

Finding Aids Available: None

Availability/Restrictions: In process; limited access

Gary R. Mormino donated a variety of political buttons, bumper stickers, and similar materials during the summer of 2004. Most of these materials focus on political campaigns in Florida.

Betty Morris Scrapbook and Materials

Provenance: Humanities

Scope and Contents: 0.75 linear ft.

Acquired: 2002

Finding Aids Available: Paper (February 2007)

Availability/Restrictions: Unprocessed

A former resident of the Fountain Inn—a retirement facility once adjacent to the Poynter Library that was demolished in February 2004—Morris acquired a small scrapbook of clippings from a World's Fair in the 1890s and various materials describing transportation issues in central Florida in the mid-twentieth century. The scrapbook contains clippings and hand-copied poetry, prayers, and letters collected by Ms. Morris's mother, Gussie Palmer Morris (nee Colcock), who was the granddaughter of Benjamin Morgan Palmer, a well-known Louisiana preacher from the Civil War and Reconstruction years.

Nixon Resignation Newspaper Collection

Provenance: Journalism

Scope and Contents: 6.25 linear ft.

Acquired: December 1993

Finding Aids Available: Paper (April 1994)/HTML

Availability/Restrictions: Full access, with gloves required

Hugh W. Cunningham, a former professor of journalism at the University of Florida, donated 49 individual newspaper issues. They represent a broad geographic diversity of newspapers from 22 states and the District of Columbia on Friday, 9 August 1974. This collection serves as an excellent primary source for a "slice-of-life" analysis of how journalists reported Nixon's resignation.

Edward T. O'Brien, Jr., Olympic Monographs

Provenance: Humanities

Scope and Contents: 0.55 linear ft.

Acquired: October 1998

Finding Aids Available: None

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

Most materials relate to the 1936 summer Olympic Games in Berlin, Germany.

Oral History of Modern America

Provenance: Oral History

Secondary Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 16 linear ft.

Acquired: 1993 and ongoing

Finding Aids Available: Provisional

Availability/Restrictions: Limited access

Oral history interviews, mostly conducted by students enrolled in classes at USF St. Petersburg. Please consult with special collections librarian regarding access policies for this collection.

Pinellas County American Civil Liberties Union Collection

Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 6.25 linear ft.

Acquired: 1995, with subsequent accessions

Finding Aids Available: Paper/HTML

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

The Pinellas County American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) Collection consists of the personal archives and research files of Raymond and Margaret Yazell. These materials were donated to the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library in 1995 by Dr. Raymond O. Arsenault, professor at USF St. Petersburg and onetime president of the Pinellas County ACLU chapter. Subsequent accessions were provided by Arsenault. Some materials (post-2002) require additional processing. *See also: Raymond and Margo Yazell Papers.*

Pinellas County National Organization for Women Papers

Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 8 linear ft.

Acquired: February 2003, with subsequent accessions

Finding Aids Available: Paper

Availability/Restrictions: Full access



Sandy Oestreich and May Hainisch, two longstanding members of the Pinellas County Chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW), donated a variety of research and subject files from their leadership of the Pinellas NOW chapter. The general organizational records, advocacy files, and program files illustrate the local NOW chapter's involvement in a variety of issues, including advocacy for reproductive rights and criminal justice reform, preventing sexual harassment and violence towards women, and supporting the passage of the proposed Equal Rights Amendment between 1973 and 2004. This collection represents the records collected by Oestreich and Hainisch during their service to the Pinellas Chapter of the National Organization for Women, but these materials cannot be considered the complete institutional record of the Pinellas NOW chapter.

Miscellaneous Pinellas County Newspapers

Provenance: Journalism

Secondary Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: Approximately 12.75 linear ft.

Acquired: 2002 and ongoing

Finding Aids Available: Library catalog

Availability/Restrictions: Full access, with gloves required

Holdings include issues of the *Pinellas County Review* (bound, mostly complete from 1980 to 1994), the *Pinellas News* (occasional issues, early 2000s), and the *Weekly Challenger* (a newspaper for St. Petersburg's African-American community, mostly complete since June 2002).

Papers of Ernest Ayer Ponder

Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 1.75 linear ft.

Acquired: August 2000

Finding Aids Available: Paper précis/HTML

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

Mr. Ernest A. Ponder was born on 3 April 1918 and came to St. Petersburg in 1924 with his parents, James Maxie Ponder and Fannye Ayer Ponder. His father was the city's first black physician, and his mother was a school teacher. He attended local schools until St. Petersburg's segregated black schools were closed during the Depression. He completed his degree at a high school affiliated with Bethune-Cookman College in Daytona Beach, Florida, where he became a protégé of his mother's good friend, Mary McLeod Bethune. After two years of college at Bethune-Cookman, Ponder completed his junior and senior years at Morehouse College in Atlanta. He graduated from Morehouse in 1938, and soon thereafter took a job in the Adjutant General's Office of the War Department, serving there until the end of World War II. He married Clara Meshaw on 3 February 1942.

In 1945, the Ponders returned to St. Petersburg. He began teaching at Gibbs High School, then an all-black school. He took over his mother's courses and classroom after she was forced to retire due to ill health. He continued to teach at Gibbs for the next twenty-five years, becoming the chair of the social studies department. He also directed the school's noted St. Cecilia Choir and later the chancel choir of Bethel Community Baptist Church. While a teacher, he enrolled in postgraduate courses at Fisk University, Stetson College, New York University, and the University of South Florida. In 1969, he transferred to Lakewood High School and served there during the tumultuous first years of school integration until his retirement in 1979. Among his accomplishments at Lakewood was his work with others to help develop a resource guide on African American history for the Pinellas County Public Schools. He also taught an innovative black history course for Lakewood students, although the course was listed under the non-controversial title of "Humanities."

Following his retirement, Ponder continued his interests in African American history, working on a revised curriculum guide for eighth and eleventh graders and writing "A Panoramic Glimpse of Black History in St. Petersburg," a narrative that traces the black community's history back to John Donaldson in 1868, the first black landholder on the southern Pinellas peninsula. He often spoke on black history topics to community groups and gave several interviews to reporters. In his later years, he also became active in aging issues, serving on various local and state committees and advisory groups. Ponder's lifetime of community service and legendary devotion to his students led to 15 October 1994 being declared "Ernest Ayer Ponder Day" throughout the State of Florida. He passed away on 18 January 1998, at the age of seventy-nine. The Ernest Ayer Ponder Collection consists of two document boxes, a scrapbook, and one folder containing oversized material donated by Clara M. Ponder.

Jean Chance Research File on Henrietta Poynter

Provenance: Journalism

Secondary Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 1 linear ft.

Acquired: May 2004

Finding Aids Available: Paper (June 2004)

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

Dr. Jean Chance, a retired professor of journalism, joined the faculty of the University of Florida (UF) in 1969. During the late 1980s, while serving as an associate professor in the UF College of Journalism and Communications, Chance received a sabbatical to research Henrietta Poynter's influence and leadership at the *St. Petersburg Times* and *Congressional Quarterly*. This collection includes research files, notes, and photocopied documents collected by Chance during her sabbatical, as well as a paper delivered at the 1989 meeting of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communications (AEJMC). She retired from her fulltime assignment at the University of Florida in May 2003. The two document boxes of correspondence, public documents, clippings, and other research materials were received from Professor Chance through David Shedden, library director at the Poynter Institute.

Papers of Nelson Poynter

Provenance: Journalism

Secondary Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 58 linear ft.

Finding Aids Available: Paper

Availability/Restrictions: Full access



Poynter (1903-1978) served as a longtime editor and publisher of the *St. Petersburg Times*. These items document Poynter's activities as editor and owner of the *St. Petersburg Times*, his role in community affairs, and in the growth and development of the city and of USF St. Petersburg. He passed away on 15 June 1978, shortly after attending the groundbreaking ceremonies for the old campus library structure (currently Bayboro Hall). The campus library was named in his honor.

Presidential Signatures Collection of Parker and Joane Miller

Provenance: Humanities

Scope and Contents: 1.25 linear ft.

Acquired: Early 1999 (bound notebook); August 2000 (commemorative coins)

Finding Aids Available: Paper (February 2007)

Availability/Restrictions: Full access, with gloves required

Joane Miller, widow of Parker Everard Miller, donated the materials in this collection in two separate accessions. In early 1999, the library received a single bound notebook with individual documents signed by the first thirty-two Presidents of the United States (George Washington through Harry S. Truman). A subsequent accession in August 2000 included a collection of commemorative coins from the Franklin Mint that celebrates notable events in American history.

Parker Everard Miller's family often spent their winter months in St. Petersburg. Parker's mother, Mrs. Helen Miller, had started to collect presidential signatures during the mid-1920s and continued to acquire documents that were placed in this scrapbook as her son completed his studies at the Florida Military Academy and Clemson University. Parker served in the military during the Second World War. He received two purple hearts for wounds acquired during the Battle of the Bulge. Parker married Joane in the early 1950s, and he took possession of his mother's scrapbook and maintained it as a family heirloom. With his interests in numismatics and American history, he began to collect commemorative coins. Parker Miller passed away on 30 March 1997. *See also: Historical Letters Collection.*

George Kell Reid Research File

Provenance: Marine Science
Secondary Provenance: Local and Regional History
Scope and Contents: 1 linear ft.
Acquired: March 2003
Finding Aids Available: Paper (April 2003)
Availability/Restrictions: Full access

Reid, a former professor at Florida Presbyterian (later Eckerd) College, studied the area's biology. Many of the materials in this collection document changes to Lake Maggiore in southern St. Petersburg during the 1960s and early 1970s.

Jan Reiner Research File

Provenance: Humanities
Secondary Provenance: Local and Regional History
Scope and Contents: 0.20 linear ft.
Acquired: February 2002, with subsequent additions
Finding Aids Available: Paper (March 2003)
Availability/Restrictions: Full access

Reiner, an architect and longtime resident of St. Petersburg, emphasized the transformation of the urban landscape in his works. According to Reiner, the urbanist "creates an environment which serves public needs and is in harmony with nature." A 1932 graduate of Prague University in his native Czechoslovakia, Reiner later earned a masters degree in architecture at Harvard. His extensive record of teaching, consulting, and design work brought him acclaim as an architect that emphasized creative solutions to urban settlements. The articles, photocopied clippings, and research materials in the Reiner file illustrate his professional contributions to the study of urban architecture. Nigel Watson donated many of the materials in this file in February 2002, and supplemental items came from library research files.

Religions United in Action for Community (RUAC) Papers

Provenance: Local and Regional History
Scope and Contents: 2.25 linear ft.
Acquired: 1980s/1990s
Finding Aids Available: Paper/HTML précis
Availability/Restrictions: Full access

Religions United in Action for Community (RUAC) was an interfaith ministerial group organized in 1969 to address social issues in St. Petersburg. Topics discussed and evaluated included school desegregation, busing to achieve racial integration, availability of health care, and the community displacement that would result from the construction of Interstate Highway 275 through St. Petersburg. Other concerns included casino gambling, pornography, and the emergence of the Moral Majority movement. The papers were donated by Rabbi David Susskind, the first rabbi of the Congregation of Liberal Judaism in Orlando, and longtime rabbi at Temple Beth-El in St. Petersburg.

Remembering D-Day Collection

Provenance: Journalism
Scope and Contents: 0.25 linear ft.
Acquired: August 1994
Finding Aids Available: Paper (August 1994)/HTML précis
Availability/Restrictions: Full access

In April 1994, the *St. Petersburg Times* asked interested readers to submit their recollections of the Allied invasion of Normandy during World War II. The *Times* compiled the submissions and published a special section in the 25 May 1994 paper to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of D-Day (6 June 1944). The newspaper donated some of the letters, journal entries, and clippings used in the *D-Day Remembered* section to the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library in August 1994. *See also: Remembering Pearl Harbor Collection, Remembering World War II Collection, and Rae O. Weimer PM Newspaper Collection.*

Remembering Pearl Harbor Collection

Provenance: Journalism

Scope and Contents: 0.42 linear ft.

Acquired: 1992

Finding Aids Available: Paper (December 1992)/HTML précis

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

In mid-1991, the *St. Petersburg Times* asked interested readers to submit their reminiscences of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and America's official entry into World War II. On 4 December 1991, the *Times* published a commemorative section that included many of these submissions. Three days later, Americans somberly observed the fiftieth anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. After printing this special section, the newspaper donated some of the letters, journal entries, and clippings to the Poynter Library. *See also: Remembering D-Day Collection, Remembering World War II Collection, and Rae O. Weimer PM Newspaper Collection.*

Remembering World War II Collection

Provenance: Journalism

Scope and Contents: 0.42 linear ft.

Acquired: 2005

Finding Aids Available: Paper (October 2005)

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

Ron Brackett, a news director at the *St. Petersburg Times*, solicited letters to commemorate the sixtieth anniversary of the end of World War II in 2005. This collection includes submissions to the newspaper. Some of the materials in this collection appeared in a commemorative section published by the *St. Petersburg Times*. *See also: Remembering D-Day Collection, Remembering Pearl Harbor Collection, and Rae O. Weimer PM Newspaper Collection.*

Retired Executives Advisory Panel (REAP) Sun Coast Papers

Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 2 linear feet

Acquired: late 1990s

Finding Aids Available: Paper (April 2003)

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

Formed in 1977 and incorporated in 1978, the Retired Executives Advisory Panel (REAP) provided civic leadership on important issues faced by residents of Pinellas County. Members—who joined by invitation only—included retired business executives who sought to “advance the economic, cultural, social, and civic resources of the community.” Monthly meetings included roundtable discussions, project overviews, and guest speakers familiar with issues facing the residents of Pinellas County.

Rural Protective Association, Inc., Papers

Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 0.15 linear ft.

Acquired: Spring 1997

Finding Aids Available: Paper (February 2006)

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

This collection documents how residents of a sparsely developed area fought a last ditch—and ultimately unsuccessful—battle to preserve their rural lifestyle in the frontier range of northeastern Pinellas County. Many of them gathered at Al Boyd's Boot Ranch, a large agricultural ranch once noted for its prize cattle and horses with a seventeen-foot high boot by its entrance. As developers carved new suburbs east of Lake Tarpon, many of the pasturelands disappeared. In 1970, locals worried that plans to develop an airport on a fifty-acre tract one mile east of East Lake Road and one-quarter mile south of Keystone Road would disrupt cattle and dairy production in the region. They came together and established the Rural Protective Association (1970-1973) as a non-profit organization to oppose the airport and prevent suburban encroachment.

Despite their lobbying efforts, members of the Rural Protective Association could not halt the wave of development that spilled along the eastern shores of Lake Tarpon. Al Boyd sold Boot Ranch "on a handshake" to a land development company in 1972 and the Boyd family's landholdings shrunk to under 500 acres by the late 1980s. Developers transformed tracts formerly owned by Boyd into the East Lake Woodlands, Lansbrook, and Boot Ranch subdivisions.

St. Petersburg City Clerk Office Records Collection

Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 3.20 linear ft.

Acquired: 2003

Finding Aids Available: None

Availability/Restrictions: In process



These microfilm records include public documents related to the City Clerk's office in St. Petersburg. Please consult with special collections librarian regarding access to these materials. A finding aid is in process.

St. Petersburg City Comprehensive Plan Working Files (1981-86)

Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 0.90 linear ft.

Acquired: 2004

Finding Aids Available: Paper (February 2007)

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

David R. Carr, professor of History at USF St. Petersburg, served as a member of St. Petersburg's comprehensive plan review committee during the early and mid-1980s. He participated in discussions and reviewed drafts of various elements of the city's comprehensive plan. An examination of the comprehensive plan working files allows the researcher to understand the philosophy and practices of the city's government during the late 1970s through the mid-1980s. Members reviewed policies and plans established in the 1970s, proposed amendments, and addressed issues of citywide significance during their deliberations. This collection offers a snapshot of the issues facing St. Petersburg as city officials embarked on major redevelopment programs along the waterfront, downtown, and in targeted areas.

Donald Saxer US Maritime Service Training Station Collection

Provenance: Maritime Base

Secondary Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 1 linear ft.

Acquired: October 2001

Finding Aids Available: Paper (April 2002)/HTML

Availability/Restrictions: Full access



Donald Saxer, a cadet who trained at the United States Maritime Service Training Station along Bayboro Harbor in 1943 and later joined the staff, collected materials documenting the history of the base. Rising to the rank of Chief Petty Officer, Saxer became an important leader at Bayboro Harbor. After the station closed in 1950, Saxer remained as part of the staff that managed the facilities until the City of St. Petersburg took control of the site in the mid-1950s. He donated these materials to the Special Collections and Archives Department of the USF St. Petersburg library in October 2001.

Some items in this collection were originally gathered by H.F. Kuether, another Maritime Service member who later worked closely with Saxer on issues related to the USMS and veterans of the organization. This collection also includes correspondence and clippings documenting attempts by Saxer and Kuether to gain full service recognition for USMS veterans who fought during the Second World War.

Harry J. Schaleman, Jr., File

Provenance: Archives RG361

Scope and Contents: 1 linear ft.

Acquired: 1996

Finding Aids Available: None

Availability/Restrictions: Unprocessed



A popular professor of geography at USF St. Petersburg, Schaleman (1928-1995) visited nearly 200 countries during his lifetime. This collection of research papers, publications, and ephemera celebrates Schaleman's legacy on the campus. Additional materials are kept in secure cases in the Harry Schaleman Research and Study Room on the second floor of the Poynter Library.

C. Perry Snell Papers

Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 0.25 linear ft.

Acquired: 1997

Finding Aids Available: Paper précis

Availability/Restrictions: Limited access

This collection consists of letters and documents related to the Snell/Barnard land transaction in 1913. Snell became a prominent developer of North Shore, the Old Northeast, and Snell Isle. Snell acquired tracts of land between 26th Avenue North and 30th Avenue North, east of First Street North to Coffee Pot Bayou from the Erastus A. Barnard family of Chicago. Although documents in this collection have inclusive dates from 1898 through 1951, most of the materials relate to the 1913 land sale. These materials were acquired by purchase through the Society for Advancement of Poynter Library.

Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Application Files

Provenance: Archives RG302

Scope and Contents: 2.95 linear ft.

Acquired: 2004

Finding Aids Available: Paper (March 2004)

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

The Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS-COC) serves as the regional accrediting body for postsecondary academic institutions in the southeastern United States. Regionally accredited institutions generally recognize course work, academic programs, and transfer credits from other similarly accredited colleges and universities. Since its inception as the first branch campus of the University of South Florida (USF) in July 1965, the University of South Florida St. Petersburg's academic programs have received full recognition under the umbrella of the colleges and academic divisions of the USF Tampa campus. Changes in legislation and a memorandum of delegation between USF and USF St. Petersburg have provided for increased autonomy in academic, curricular, and fiscal matters. After hiring a substantial number of new faculty and creating distinct colleges and programs of distinction at USF St. Petersburg, members of the campus community compiled and submitted an application to SACS-COC seeking separate accreditation of academic programs. The materials in this collection represent an archival copy of the SACS-COC application that campus administrators sent to the SACS office in Atlanta, Georgia.



J. M. "Sudsy" Tschiderer Mushroom Coffeehouse Collection

Provenance: Archives RG730

Scope and Contents: 0.20 linear ft.

Acquired: Summer 2005

Finding Aids Available: Paper (February 2006)

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

Compiled by J. M. "Sudsy" Tschiderer—a longtime director of Student Activities—this collection includes organizational and operational records of a popular campus gathering place, the Mushroom Coffeehouse. Also known as Pot-Pourri, this student-initiated facility provided a venue for music, movies, and entertainment during the early and mid-1970s. Tschiderer donated these materials to the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library during the summer of 2005 for use in the Fortieth Anniversary Exhibit of the campus.

J. M. "Sudsy" Tschiderer Student Activities Photographic Archives

Provenance: Archives RG730

Scope and Contents: 0.80 linear ft.

Acquired: Summer 2005, with a second accession August 2006

Finding Aids Available: Paper (September 2006)

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

The photographs in this collection document campus activities and student life at the University of South Florida St. Petersburg. The initial accession, donated in summer 2005 by J. M. "Sudsy" Tschiderer, covers the period from the early 1970s (circa 1970-1971) through 1988. The images capture notable events; students, faculty, and staff; and general scenes that document the university experience at USF St. Petersburg. Coverage began in the early 1970s, at a time when the campus covered the peninsula presently used by the College of Marine Science. Many photographs show student events and activities at the campus pool, in "A" and "B" Buildings, and along Bayboro Harbor. Photographs from the 1980s document the expansion of campus facilities with the opening of the original Poynter Library (now Bayboro Hall), Davis Hall (formerly Bayboro Hall), and Coquina Hall.

J. M. "Sudsy" Tschiderer Student Publications Collection

Provenance: Archives RG285

Secondary Provenance: Journalism

Scope and Contents: 2.25 linear ft.

Acquired: December 1995

Finding Aids Available: Paper (February 1996)

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

Since 1969, J. M. "Sudsy" Tschiderer has played a paramount role in the development of student leadership on campus. She served as a founding member of the Student Activities office and she worked in the Division of Student Affairs for nearly twenty-six years. With an avid interest in journalism, she established and contributed to a number of campus publications, including *The Crow's Nest*. Donated to the library in December 1995, the Tschiderer Student Publications Collection includes Sudsy Tschiderer's personal archival copies of *The Crow's Nest*, *Bayboro Raconteur*, and affiliated correspondence.

USF St. Petersburg Archives (Audio/Visual Archives)

Provenance: Archives

Scope and Contents: 42 linear ft.

Finding Aids Available: Record Group Lists

Availability/Restrictions: Available as public records, unless covered by exemptions

Audio recordings and videotapes of significant class events, graduations, lectures, and other programs that took place at USF St. Petersburg. Most of the collection covers the period from the mid-1980s through the early 2000s.

USF St. Petersburg Archives (Manuscripts)

Provenance: Archives

Scope and Contents: Approximately 73 linear ft.

Finding Aids Available: Record Group Lists

Availability/Restrictions: Available as public records, unless covered by exemptions

The Poynter Library collects a variety of manuscript, archival, and vertical file collections that preserve the institutional history of USF St. Petersburg. Certain collections are cataloged separately, while others are arranged by Record Group order. For more assistance, please consult with the librarian.

USF St. Petersburg Fortieth Anniversary Display Panels (Exhibit)

Provenance: Archives RG009

Scope and Contents: 0.25 linear ft.

Finding Aids Available: None

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

A display designed by library staff to commemorate USF St. Petersburg's history.

USF St. Petersburg Fortieth Anniversary Steering Committee Records

Provenance: Archives RG009

Scope and Contents: 0.35 linear ft.

Acquired: October 2006

Finding Aids Available: Paper (October 2006)

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

Beginning in the fall 2004 semester, the Fortieth Anniversary Steering Committee held organizational meetings. Under the leadership of Poynter Library Dean Kathleen H. Arsenault, this group of students, faculty, staff, and alumni worked collaboratively with a variety of campus units and constituencies (including University Relations, the Poynter Library, the Pinellas Chapter of the USF Alumni Association, and various colleges) as a campus-wide steering committee that suggested, sponsored, and supported events. The steering committee disbanded in the summer of 2006 after the final event celebrated the opening of Residence Hall One.

USF Fiftieth Anniversary Oral History Project: USFSP Interviews

Provenance: Archives RG030

Scope and Contents: 0.25 linear ft.

Acquired: 2004

Finding Aids Available: Paper (May 2005)

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

The Florida Studies Center, a unit of the USF Library System, conducted interviews of notable students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community friends in 2003 and 2004. These interviews provided a foundation for research and a publication to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the creation of the University of South Florida in 2006. Audio and textual transcripts of these interviews reside in the Special Collections Department of the USF Tampa library. This subset of the collection represents transcripts of interviews for those associated with the history of USF St. Petersburg.

USF St. Petersburg Underground Newspaper Collection

Provenance: Journalism

Scope and Contents: 30 linear ft.

Acquired: 1993

Finding Aids Available: Paper (November 1993)/HTML

Availability/Restrictions: Full access; some pages are brittle and require extra care

Mary Grigsby, former director of the Poynter Library, negotiated the transfer of a substantial collection of underground newspapers. These periodicals were duplicate copies of a comprehensive underground newspaper collection at the Journalism School of the University of Missouri. Frequently used by students in history, journalism, and American studies, the various newspapers in this collection illustrate social movements and popular culture from the mid-1960s through the late 1970s.

USF St. Petersburg Women's Organization Records

Provenance: Archives RG497

Scope and Contents: 0.25 linear ft.

Acquired: 2005

Finding Aids Available: Paper (September 2005)

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

In a January 1979 memorandum to women on the St. Petersburg campus, Lois W. Boren (President of USF Women's Club, Tampa) announced that Anita Kenerson—wife of Interim Dean David Kenerson—planned to have a coffee social for those interested in forming a women's organization at USF St. Petersburg. The first organizational meeting of a USF St. Petersburg Women's Group took place in May 1979. A short time later, the USF St. Petersburg's Women's Organization formally organized and began its tradition of offering book scholarships and fundraisers. Membership included women faculty and staff, as well as the spouses of male faculty and staff. This collection includes organizational records, correspondence, memoranda, membership lists, and publicity materials related to the USF St. Petersburg Women's Organization from 1979 through 1985.

Viking Spacecraft "Mission to Mars" Collection of Lula Agee

Provenance: Humanities

Scope and Contents: 0.42 linear ft.

Acquired: Summer 2006

Finding Aids Available: Paper (September 2006)

Availability/Restrictions: Unavailable at this time

The Poynter Library received a small donation of materials related to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the *Viking* space missions of the mid-1970s. Lula R. Agee, a NASA employee of more than twenty years based at the Langley Research Center in Hampton, Virginia, collected these materials during her tenure as a conference coordinator at that location.

Commander Melville J. Walters, Jr., Antarctic Research Collection

Provenance: Marine Science

Scope and Contents: 2.50 linear ft.

Acquired: June 2005

Finding Aids Available: In process

Availability/Restrictions: Unavailable at this time

Joseph Torres, a professor of biological oceanography in the College of Marine Science, donated a variety of materials collected by Commander Walters during his service as a lieutenant in the United States Navy. Walters participated in Operation Deep Freeze III, an expedition to Antarctica in 1957-1958. In addition to materials from the late 1950s, this collection includes artifacts located by Walters from base camps in Antarctica dating back to the early 1900s. Notable items include a 1901 newspaper from Dunedin, New Zealand, that may have been brought to Antarctica by Sir Robert Falcon Scott (1868-1912), one of the first British explorers who tried to reach the South Pole. A tin of cocoa was located near the site of a hut built by Sir Ernest Henry Shackleton (1874-1922) during his 1908-1909 expedition.

Rae O. Weimer *PM* Newspaper Collection

Provenance: Journalism

Scope and Contents: 3 linear ft.

Acquired: May 1994

Finding Aids Available: Paper précis (Summer 1994)

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

Rae O. Weimer (1903-1996), former dean of the University of Florida's journalism program, worked on the innovative *PM* newspaper that appeared in the New York City market in the 1940s. This newspaper printed stories in a magazine format, with numerous photographs and without advertising. Weimer's bound volumes of *PM* provide researchers a portrait of an innovative experiment in newspaper publishing that existed as America entered the Second World War. *See also: Remembering D-Day Collection, Remembering Pearl Harbor Collection, and Remembering World War II Collection.*

L. Glenn Westfall Cigar Factory Research Files

Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 0.85 linear feet

Acquired: May 2005

Finding Aids Available: Paper (June 2005)

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

This collection illustrates the history of cigar factories in the Tampa Bay region, with a focus on West Tampa and Ybor City. Materials are arranged in archival folders alphabetically by factory.

L. Glenn Westfall Collection of Corral, Wodiska y Ca. Cigar Factory

See: Corral, Wodiska y Ca. Cigar Factory Records

L. Glenn Westfall Collection of F. Garcia & Bros. Cigar Factory

Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 0.20 linear ft.

Acquired: May 2005

Finding Aids Available: Paper (February 2006)

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

During the early and mid-twentieth century, Tampa was known as "Cigar City" due to the numerous cigar factories in both Ybor City and the nearby municipality of West Tampa (now part of Tampa). The L. Glenn Westfall Collection of the F. Garcia and Brothers Cigar Factory contains business records from one of these factories. Originally donated as part of Westfall's research files during the summer of 2005, this small collection contains official documents, stock and shareholders' information, meeting minutes, telegrams, and similar records of a cigar factory established by Francisco Garcia and others in 1919. Most items are from the early 1920s.

L. Glenn Westfall Collection of St. Petersburg Building Research

Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 0.25 linear ft.

Acquired: 2003

Finding Aids Available: Paper (June 2003)

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

Materials in this collection provide background information about two notable buildings in downtown St. Petersburg: the Kress Building and the Snell Arcade. Items generally cover the period from the 1920s through 1982, with the bulk of the materials covering the period from 1977 to 1982. During this period, Westfall taught courses in United States and Florida history at Hillsborough Community College.

L. Glenn Westfall Collection of Theodore Lesley Papers

Provenance: Local and Regional

Scope and Contents: 0.20 linear ft.

Acquired: May 2005

Finding Aids Available: Paper (March 2006)

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

This collection includes a small sampling of personal and family papers from Theodore Lesley (1911-1978), former Hillsborough County historian. A member of a pioneer Hillsborough County family, Lesley embraced the study of local and regional history. He developed an excellent collection of Florida history materials and began service as a member of the Hillsborough County Historical Commission when a legislative act in 1949 led to its creation. In 1966, he became the second Hillsborough County Historian, a post he held for more than a decade. In this capacity, he developed exhibits for the museum and built collections. His work with other cultural organizations included duties as a director of the Florida Historical Society, an active member of Barrio Latino, and leadership posts with the Society of the Territory of Florida and the Florida Genealogical Society.

L. Glenn Westfall Research Files (includes monographs and city directories)

Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 10.50 linear ft.

Acquired: May 2005, with subsequent accessions in spring 2006

Finding Aids Available: Paper (November 2006); library catalog

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

L. Glenn Westfall, a retired professor of history, donated his Research Files during the summer of 2005. Materials in the Westfall Research Files include alphabetically arranged subject files, items in the Sanchez and Haya real estate holdings file, miscellaneous serials and periodicals, cigar art, monographic publications, miscellaneous Tampa city directories from the mid-twentieth century, and the "Register of Prisoners Confined in the County Jail of Hillsborough County, Florida" from 1904 through 1909.

Wilder's [Trailer] Park Collection

Provenance: Local and Regional History

Scope and Contents: 1 linear ft.

Acquired: Circa 2001

Finding Aids Available: Paper (August 2002)/HTML

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

During the late 1990s, Lee Irby—a graduate student in history at USF—wrote his master's thesis on the migration of retirees to St. Petersburg. As part of his research, he interviewed Fred E. Wilder, a veteran of the Second World War who moved to southeastern St. Petersburg in 1953. Wilder had acquired four acres of land at the intersection of Sixth Street and Thirty-second Avenue (formerly Bayou Lake Avenue) South. By 1954, he opened Wilder's Trailer Park, with offices located at 770-32nd Avenue South. During the next few years, Wilder's Park became a magnet for retirees from other areas in search of a second home for the winter season. Senior citizens made up nearly 90% of the park's early population.

By the fall of 1956, residents began to receive *Wilder's Park News*, a newsletter highlighting events at the park. For over twenty-three years, Henry Crossley served as editor of this publication. Issues include news of pot-luck suppers, social events, classified advertisements, and various recreational activities for park members. Publication coincided with the traditional period when seasonal residents stayed at the park, usually from November through April. Irby acquired this collection of newsletters, as well as occasional lists of residents and other notices, from Fred Wilder during his thesis research. Lee donated these materials on Wilder's behalf for use by future researchers.

Raymond and Margo Yazell Papers

Provenance: Local and Regional History

Secondary Provenance: Journalism

Scope and Contents: See below

Finding Aids Available: Paper/HTML

Availability/Restrictions: Full access

Raymond Yazell (1914-1995) and his wife Margaret "Margo" (1917-2001) championed civil liberties in Pinellas County at a time when it was unpopular to support many progressive causes. They also published *Come Unity*, an alternative paper for St. Petersburg and Pinellas County. Most of their manuscript files constitute the early accessions of the Pinellas County American Civil Liberties Union Chapter Papers. The library also owns a nearly complete set of *Come Unity*.