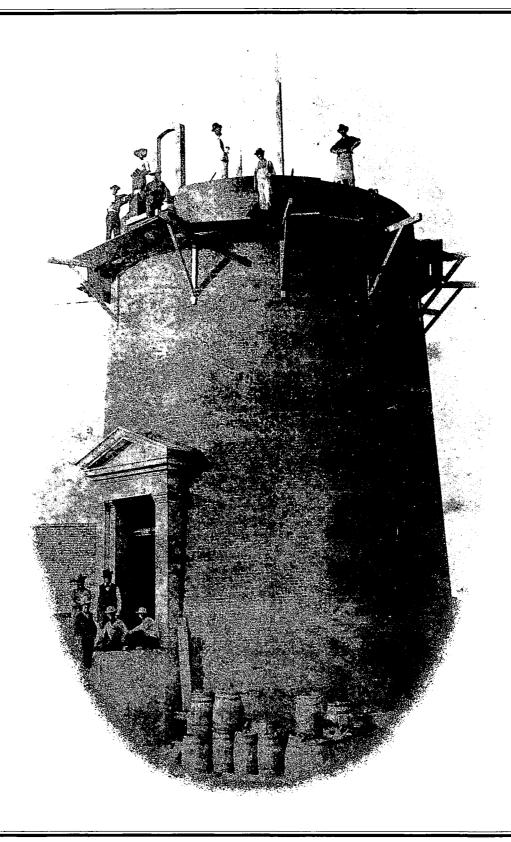


OVER 60 RARE PHOTOGRAPHS AND MAPS



his never-before-published photo shows construction of the Ponce de Leon lighthouse in late 1886. In the foreground are a few of the 1,000 barrels of cement necessary for its completion. Today the lighthouse is open 365 days a year. In addition to a panoramic view from the top, attractions include a gift store, lighthouse history museum, sea museum, restored and furnished lighthouse keeper's quarters, the Woodshed Video Theatre, lighthouses-around-the-world display, and the *F. D. Russell*, a 48-foot tug boat. For hours and further information, call (904) 761-1821 or write: Ponce de Leon Lighthouse Preservation Association, Inc., 4931 South Peninsula Drive, Ponce Inlet, FL 32127.



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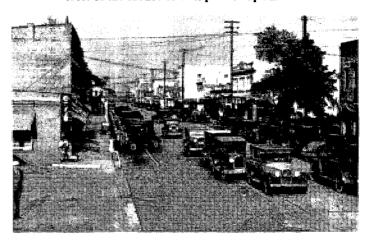
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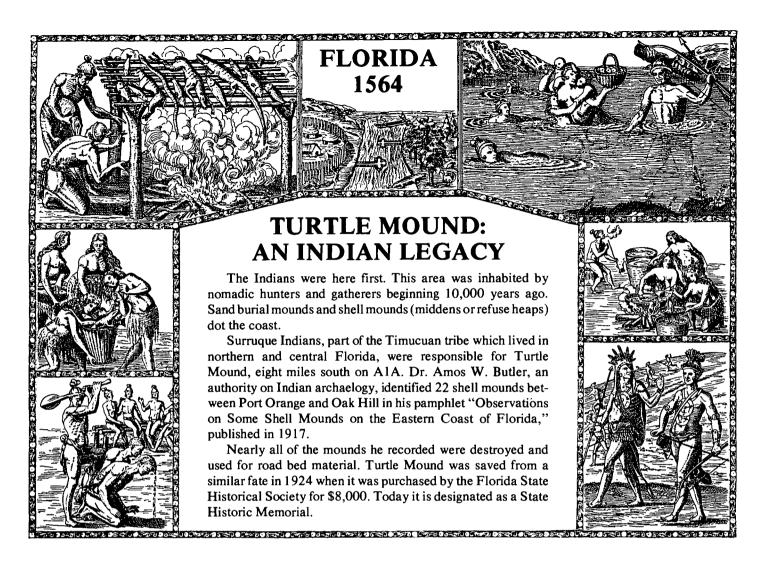
"Pieces of Eight" – These two-ounce coins are 99.3% silver, .7% gold or platinum. One side bears the Cross of Jerusalem; the other is the crest of the House of Philip IV of Spain.



Busy Canal Street looking east from North Orange in 1931



View of the Florida East Coast from a Landsat satellite. Cape of Canaveral is featured on bottom right. To the top is Ponce de Leon Inlet. To the west (clockwise) are Lake Geneva, Lake Jessup, Lake Monroe and Lake Ashby. (Photo courtesy of NASA)



However, the shell mound builders were not as fortunate. Within 200 years of Ponce de Leon's landing in 1513, the Timucuan population had disappeared — many taken as slaves or succumbed to European infections.

Several books have been written concerning this "Columbian Exchange" of diseases and the consequences of isolated cultures meeting. Europeans brought measles, malaria and smallpox to the New World; the Indians gave the explorers the "Great Pox" — syphillis — in this pathogenic exchange.

Turtle Mound contains an estimated 33,000 cubic yards of oyster shell, extends 600 feet along the eastern shore of the Indian River, covers two acres and is 50 feet high. It has been used as a navigational aid from the days of the earliest Spanish explorers.

Such mounds served the Indians in many ways: refuse disposal, lookouts and signal posts, objects of veneration, and elevated campsites that offered some relief from the ubiquitous sand fleas and mosquitoes. Strata of shell mounds show habitation at intervals over hundreds of years, with progressive layers of food remains, charcoal and broken pottery. From these remains archaelogists know the Indian diet consisted of mostly shellfish, but included mullet, snook, shark, deer, racoon, opossum and rabbit.

Indian remains and relics are not usually found in the shell mounds. Neighboring sand burial mounds served that purpose.

Turtle Mound is shown on Jacques Le Moyne's map, printed

in 1591. Artist Le Moyne accompanied the ill-fated French Huguenot expedition in 1564. "Sorrochos" (a variant of "Surruque") corresponds to Turtle Mound; "F. Sorrochos" designates our present Ponce de Leon Inlet.

In 1605 Alvaro Mexia was sent to explore the East Florida waterways and to make contact with its different tribes.

"The river pursues its way to the southeast, all through mangrove islands and sand mounds and palmetto groves and hillocks of low evergreen, oaks on its east bank. It makes many turns and twists, and passes the foot of the mound which they call the 'Mound of Surruque.' This is a hill of oyster shell and short grass, and at the foot of the said hill the Indians of Surruque launch their canoes and go to sea," Mexia reported to Spanish Governor Ybarra in St. Augustine.

Mexia's map is a unique view of our waterways. The site of Turtle Mound is marked with a cross and the notation "Baradero de Suroc." This translates to a shipyard or place where the Surruque kept their canoes — hollowed oak and cypress stumps.

Turtle Mound has had other names: La Roque, 1763; Mount Belvedere, 1766; Mount Turtle, 1774; Mount Velvidere and Mount Tucker, 1796; and Turtle Mound in 1823.

Today, visitors to this State Historic Memorial can enjoy a memorable prospect of both the ocean and river. Unique foliage abounds, including wild coffee shrubs, sour orange, passion flower, French mulberry, sea grape, wild cucumber, ground cherry, and other species for the astute observer to discover.



View south from Turtle Mound



Jud Guest, 900 South Riverside Drive, displays 2,000-year-old Indian bones discovered in his backyard in January 1974.



Turtle Mound is "Mount Belvedere" on this 1766 survey map of William De Brahm, Surveyor General to King George III.

UP CLOSE: MEET THE INDIANS

Father Francisco Pareja lived among the Timucuan Indians for 33 years. He arrived in Florida on September 23, 1595, to teach them a new religion — Christianity. Over 500 were converted. Pareja's *Confessionario*, published in 1613, gives us a unique opportunity to view tribal customs.

- A singing woodpecker meant to keep quiet or risk a nosebleed. A blue jay's song meant someone was coming or something important was about to happen. And an owl was plainly an evil portent.
- Whistling at sandbars or obstacles in choppy waters would ensure that the canoe would not turn over. Whistling against a storm could make it stop.
- Dreams were believed to be true as was what possessed people said.
- Lightning and popping of coals in a fire were certainly signs of war.
- Competitive games were exceedingly popular. However, some Indians lied, scored improperly (in their favor), while others took herbs to improve their athletic abilities.
- The sorcerer always got his due. Sorcerers were employed to bless and share in any first fruits of the harvest. Before fishing the chief arranged for prayers to the waters. The first fish was caught, smoked over the fire, and half was given to the sorcerer who had conducted the ritual.
- Only the chief could have more than one wife. At marriage ceremonies, a sorcerer prayed over the couple, and if not paid, he would threaten them with various marital unhappinesses. Sometimes the sorcerer would threaten the debtor with death or in less severe cases, with rupture, wounded legs or feet. In any event, he could kill anyone with a concoction of posionous snake, blake snake skins, black Spanish moss and other unspecified herbs.
- Love magic existed. A sorcerer could attract a woman with special herbs or entice her from a house by singing a spell.
 - Suicides occurred, usually herbs or by hanging.
- Women believed that herbal perfumes on their skimpy Spanish moss garments would attract men or prevent their husbands from straying. Other herbs would return husbands who had already gone.
- Abortions especially in extramarital affairs were common and accomplished by drinking herbs, a sharp blow or strong pressure to "choke" the fetus.
- Eating pottery, charcoal, dirt, lice and fleas was commonly practiced.
- Acorn cakes were more popular than the above entry. The Indian recipe was simple: Remove hull from acorn meats. Grind well; bury in warm-to-hot sand. Remove; sprinkle with boiling water until the dough is cooked into a loaf.
- After a meal of oysters and acorn cakes, belching might be expected. Belching foretold either plenty to eat or death.
- Finally, most accounts describe the Timucuans as tall, handsome, athletic and well formed. The most prominent were tattooed and most were fond of dyed fish bladders as ornaments. Men wore their hair pulled into top-knots, often decorated with reeds and plumes. But the secret ingredient in all their coiffures was simply bear grease.

PONCE DE LEON BATTLES INDIANS HERE IN 1513

Juan Ponce de Leon was an experienced trans-Atlantic explorer; he had accompanied Columbus on his second voyage in 1493.

After "pacifying" Puerto Rico — using greyhounds to hunt Indians who did not submit to his authority — he was rewarded with governorship of the island. His technique of hunting Indians with dogs led to a new Spanish word, aperrear, meaning "to cast to the dogs."

But all his land, gold and slaves paled beside the rumored "Fountain of Youth." Commanding three vessels, he first passed the Bahamas, sailed northwest where he sighted an unknown land which he believed to be an island. He named this land "Florida," as a chronicler of the event wrote, "because it appeared delightful, having many pleasant groves" and because it was *Pasqua de Flores* (Feast of the Resurrection or Flowers) at Easter season. They remained offshore for six days during the first week of April 1513. Ponce went ashore to gain information and take possession of the land.

Sailing south, his ships met a strong current — the Gulf Stream — which swept one vessel (a brigantine) out of sight. The other two ships anchored. The Indians on shore hailed Ponce de Leon.

What happened next is described by Antonio de Herrera in *Decada Segunda*, a history of Spanish colonization published in 1726: "Here Juan Ponce went on shore, called by the Indians, who immediately tried to take the boat, the oars and arms. And not to break with them they suffered them, and in order not to



This engraving is the title page from Antonio de Herrera's comprehensive history of Spanish exploration in the New World, Decada Segunda, published in 1726. It features Juan Ponce watching his men battle 60 Indians near New Smyrna. Juan Ponce's three ships can be seen sailing south, with his men engaged in a battle south of an inlet which he called "La Cruz" (the Cross) — our present day Ponce de Leon Inlet. The land jutting out into the Atlantic, occupied by Indians with bows and arrows, is Cape Canaveral.

alarm the land. But because they struck a seaman in the head with a stick, from which he remained unconscious, they had a fight with them who with their arrows and armed staves, the points of sharpened bones and fish spines, wounded two Spaniards, and the Indians received little harm. The night separated them, Juan Ponce regathered the Spaniards after hard work. He departed there to a river where he took water and firewood, and was awaiting the brigantine. Sixty Indians ran there to hinder him. He took one of them for a pilot, so that he might learn the language. He gave this river the name La Cruz (the Cross) and he left, in it, one of hewn stone with an inscription; they did not finish taking water because it was brackish."

"Rio de la Cruz" translates to "River of the Cross," and gains its name not only from the stone cross left by Juan Ponce, but also describes the intersection of our Inlet, Spruce Creek, and the north and south branches of the Intracoastal Waterway which roughly form a cross.

PIRATE ACTIVITY HEADQUARTERED HERE

Before Ponce de Leon Inlet was frequented by drug smugglers, Prohibition rum boats, or Civil War blockade running, it was a haven for pirates.

Spanish Governor Don Juan Marquez Cabrera in St. Augustine reported that the English had landed a force at Mosquito Inlet in 1682 and killed 10 Indians. Fifteen others were taken as slaves and sold in the Barbados. Such slaving activity was common; some Indians were used by the English as divers, recovering treasure from sunken Spanish galleons.

In March 1683, the English landed 230 men at the Inlet and raided St. Augustine. Not surprisingly, the next Governor, Diego de Quiroga y Losada suggested, "It is necessary to increase a lookout of five men 10 leagues from here [St. Augustine] at Mosquito Inlet, to the south of this port, where the enemy entered with his vessels and landed men in the year of 1683 and where he ordinarily goes to kidnap Indians for diving."

Records show his suggestion was followed; a Spanish lookout was maintained at the Inlet for several years.

One hundred years later Johann David Schoepf described similar activities in his Travels in the Confederation, describing our area as "Safe port for the English privateers to slip into; here they could with all ease lurk for the rich Spanish ships coming from Havana through the Gulf of Florida. In peace time many little vessels are busy looking out for stranded ships along this dangerous coast, as is the custom also of the inhabitants of the Bahama Islands. They have on board skillful divers, through whose efforts considerable treasure in silver and other commercial wares is fetched up not seldom from sunken vessels. Of what is saved in this way from wrecks, 1/10 must be given in to the Governor. If one living soul is found on board the unlucky vessel, all that is saved falls to the actual owner, and only a certain portion, called 'salvage,' is paid these people. Should there be none alive, the finders appropriate everything, less the Governor's tithe, which is estimated by them on the total value in no very definite fashion."

THIS IS A QUESTION YOU WELL MIGHT ASK: WHERE IS THE TREASURE OF NEW SMYRNA?

As any old timer will tell you, the first historical question most newcomers ask is where the treasure of New Smyrna is hidden. Our mysterious coquina ruins and the whispered history of the original colonists' suffering in the 1770's add to the effect.

If you listen long enough you'll hear stories of old maps and buried treasure, payments by residents made in gold and Spanish coins, deer hunters in the hammocks who discovered silver ingots, and sunken treasure in Turnbull Bay.

What has been discovered includes Indian pottery with its distinctive "waffle" pattern, bones, bronze ship nails and bottles from the 1770's, ballast stones, buttons from every settlement era, musketballs, and cannonballs from the 1862 bombardment of New Smyrna by Union ships.

However, the "real" treasure is scattered around on the ocean floor. The Spanish began annual treasure fleets in 1552 and continued for almost 250 years, attempting to bolster the Spanish economy. Their usual course was from Cartagena, Colombia; to Vera Cruz, Mexico; to Havana, Cuba; along the Florida coast to Turtle Mound [eight miles south of New Smyrna on A1A]; northeast to Bermuda; due east to the Azores; then following the coast home to Cadiz, Spain.

There was a decline in treasure fleet activity after 1648, coinciding with a decrease in New World silver production and increased pirate attacks. Between 1570-1599 there were 110 ships involved. By 1670-90 only 17 sailed in the fleet.

Nearly 98% of the wrecks before 1825 sank in shallow water, due to treacherous reefs and shallows as well as sudden tropical storms. Early salvage workers were efficient; they recovered 90% of the treasure lost in depths of less than 50 feet.

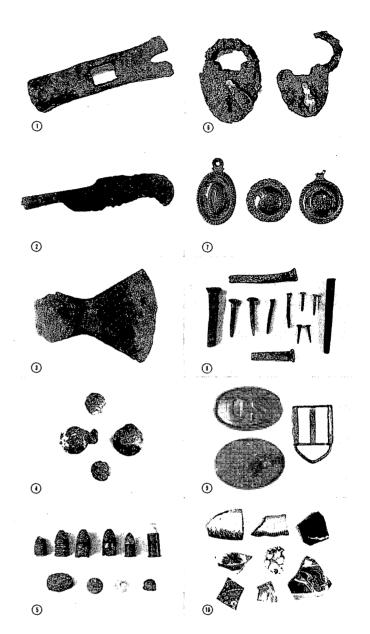
The 1715 hurricane sank 11 of 12 galleons along the Florida East Coast. The treasure fleet officially carried 6,486,066 pesos in gold and silver bullion and coin. There was an unrecorded amount of amethyst and jewelry as well. By 1719 when the Spanish stopped salvage work, more than 8.5 million pesos had been recovered, suggesting the crew was carrying a great deal of contraband treasure for themselves. To date, seven of these 11 wrecks have been discovered by using high-technology proton magnetometers.

Other treasure fleets were similarly doomed. Seventeen of 22 galleons were lost in a hurricane from the 1733 fleet.

Desperate crews often tried for land and the safety of St. Augustine. But landing near Cape Canaveral would have been worse than the ravages of the sea. Fierce cannibals — Ais Indians — inhabited the region.

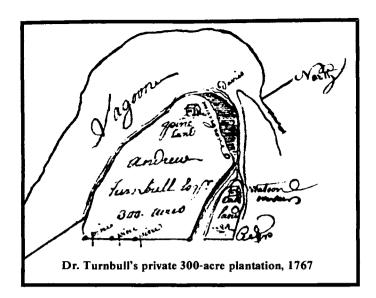
Occasionally a few coins or a small cache is discovered along the beach. These are the castoffs of some shipwrecked soul who jettisoned his burden in a long and dangerous march to St. Augustine.

No wonder the beaches are dotted with treasure hunters and their expensive equipment after a northeaster or unusually high tides. The hope against hope of effortless gain is truly historical.



History abounds in the ground in New Smyrna. These artifacts were found by Ray Goodrich, an avid metal detector hunter and owner of Ray's Bottle Shop in Edgewater. Ray is a charter member and past president of the Southeast Volusia Historical Society, Inc. His collection is extensive; these few items illustrate what can be found today in our area. Unless otherwise noted, these artifacts date to the Turnbull Colony (1768-1777).

(1) Hammer head. (2) Cane cutter — sugar cane was a cash crop and became more popular among planters into the 1830's. (3) Broad ax — a necessity for taming the wilderness found by the colonists upon their arrival. (4) Musket balls were cast in a mold four at a time. The ball at left center has not been trimmed. The smaller balls top and bottom are pistol balls, pre-Civil War and Civil War. (5) Civil War ammunition (left to right): pistol ball, three .58 caliber rounds used by Union troops here during the skirmish at the Old Stone Wharf (1862); pistol round, and a Confederate Enfield rifle cartridge. Bottom row shows a fired musket ball, unfired musket ball, pistol ball, and a fired pistol ball. (6) House locks with key covers from the Turnbull era. (7) Brass and pewter medallions, two to three inches in size, from the Turnbull era. (8) Various bronze ship spikes and wrought iron nails. (9) Civil War Union buckle and scabbard buckle. Bottom: an militia buckle made about 1810 and found at a Seminole War (1835-42) site. (10) Assorted fragments of English china, dating from the Turnbull Colony to the 1830's.



FIRST AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION?

Every time you've driven north past Art Center Avenue along U.S. #1 toward the three bridges crossing Spruce Creek, you've passed the first piece of real estate Dr. Andrew Turnbull acquired in New Smyrna.

Atlantic Center for the Arts is located on the southern portion of this 300-acre parcel that stretches to Spruce Creek. Turnbull's private plantation was possibly the first agricultural experiment station in the region.

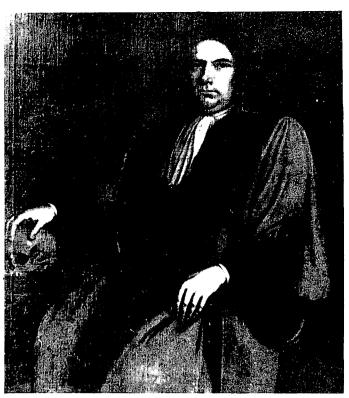
Before the founding of the New Smyrna colony in 1768, Turnbull was impressed with the area: "I found everywhere the evidence of the healthiness of the climate and Strength of the Soil which is particularly favourable for the Cultivation of Cochineal Indigo Madder Rice Hemp and many other useful articles of commerce Especially Cotton which is produced in East Florida of such Excellent Quality that it induced me to Establish a Considerable Cotton plantation before I left the Province."

The wealthy physician purchased black slaves, ordered a number of cattle to be driven to New Smyrna from Carolina and Georgia, and left an overseer in charge. Turnbull returned to England on February 5, 1767. By March he had presented his petition to form the New Smyrna colony.

The January 17, 1767, survey (above) shows "Lagoon" (Turnbull Bay) and a small house labeled "Davis" at the northern tip, surrounded by "Mangroves." The Davis structure is located near the late attorney Bob Matthews' home, recently used as a retreat by Stetson University, and now a private residence.

Continuing clockwise, another house with the notation "Watson, Overseer" is located to the east of U.S. #1 where Murray Creek passes under the highway. A portion of old U.S.#1 can still be seen to the east, winding through a settlement once called "Sleepy Hollow" or Lourcey Point. "Pine" three times marks the southern boundary of the tract, slightly south of Art Center Avenue.

Evidences of a man-made dam and sluice gates for rice cultivation as well as indigo vats cut into the coquina ridge along Murray Creek can be found today in the vicinity south of the Cardinal Homes' development of "Creekside."



Founder of New Smyrna, Dr. Andrew Turnbull (1718-1792)

DR. TURNBULL'S GREATEST EXPERIMENT

The Spanish ceded Florida to the British in 1763 to recover the captured city of Havana. To encourage colonization of their fertile new province, the British Government offered large land grants and bounties for the production of cotton, hemp, indigo and silk.

Dr. Andrew Turnbull, a wealthy physician of Dundee, Scotland residing in London, was a man of great energy and ambition. Depending upon whose history you read, his partners failed to keep their promises — or Turnbull was a true tyrant. In either case, he was responsible for the settlement of New Smyrna, which became the largest British attempt at colonization in the New World — nearly three times larger than Jamestown.

While traveling in Smyrna, Asia Minor, he married Gracia Dura Bin, the daughter of a wealthy Smyrna merchant. New Smyrna was named in honor of her birthplace.

Having traveled throughout the Mediterranean world, Turnbull was impressed with the Egyptian's irrigation practices. He reasoned a colony could be established in Florida, using these techniques and Mediterranean people accustomed to working in warm climates.

A partnership agreement was signed by Turnbull, Sir William Duncan, and Sir Richard Temple, Commander of the British Navy, on April 2, 1767. The three secured royal land grants of 20,000 acres each in June. Subsequent grants and an additional partner, Lord George Grenville, head of the British Ministry, brought their combined holdings to 101,400 acres at New Smyrna. The grants were to be worked for seven years at joint expense and then divided.

Later that year, Turnbull sailed to Greece in one ship and



Gracia Dura Bin (Mrs. Andrew Turnbull)

recruited 200 mountain tribesmen. Next, he put in at the islands of Corsica, finding 110 Italian, Greek and Corsican settlers. On February 1, 1768, Turnbull entered the port of Mahon, Minorca, in the Baleric Islands (east of Spain in the Mediterranean). The Minorcans had suffered three years of famine and 1,190 were thankful for the promise of new opportunities in Florida. Plans were revised and seven more ships were acquired to accommodate the additional recruits.

There is great disagreement among historians concerning Turnbull's agreement with the prospective settlers. Some claim the colonists came to Florida as "tenants" while others assert the colonists were "indented servants." Turnbull explained many years later that he had offered a 99-year lease to the colonists. The period of labor at New Smyrna was between seven to 10 years. In return, each head of family would receive 50 acres, five acres for each child, and good provisions and clothing. If any were dissatisfied, Turnbull agreed to send them back after six months.

On March 31, 1768, Turnbull's fleet set sail from Mahon. They were escorted as far as the Rock of Gibraltar by the British frigate *Carysfort* to protect them from the Barbary pirates.

All eight ships reached open sea on April 17, 1768. There were 1,403 colonists: 150 were aboard American Soldier; Betsy, 120; Charming Betsy, 232; Elizabeth, 190; Friendship, 198; Henry and Carolina, 142; Hope, 150; and New Fortune carried 226.

The journey to Florida took more than three months. During the voyage 148 were buried at sea. The first four ships arrived at St. Augustine June 26. When all were gathered safely, some continued the trip to New Smyrna by sea. Others, having suffered the ocean's torments long enough, chose to walk the last 70 miles down the King's Highway to the colony.

Preparations at New Smyrna had been made for 500 colonists — not 1,255. From the beginning, shortages, hard labor and mosquitoes took their toll. In nine years, the colonists' number had dwindled to 600.

Financial reversals, political intrigues, and termination of the indentures led to the fall of the New Smyrna colony. In May 1777, ninety men appeared in St. Augustine, requesting Governor Patrick Tonyn to release them from their indentures. Court was held; accusations of cruelty, ill-treatment by overseers, and murder were made against Turnbull. Many colonists released from their obligation chose to accept the Governor's offer of land grants in the northern portion of St. Augustine, where many of their descendants live today.

SHOWDOWN AT TURNBULL'S COW PEN

New Smyrna's fear of the Indians began with the birth of the colony in 1768. At that time James Grant, English Governor of Florida, assured the Indians that the Minorcan settlers were not Spanish — even if they did look similar and speak the same language. Grant's explanation seemed to suffice for a few years.

However, in May 1771 the Upper Creek Indian Chief Cowkeeper, Chief Long Warrior, an unnamed third head man and 72 braves arrived in New Smyrna. They had heard rumors the colony included Spaniards and the equally hated Yemasee Indians.

The Indians severely beat a Minorcan boat crew on Spruce Creek near Dr. Turnbull's Cow Pen. Shown on the above 1766 survey map, the Cow Pen would be located in the vicinity of Robinson Road along the high banks.

Alarm spread through the colony; Turnbull, who was in St. Augustine, was summoned home. He invited the head men and 20 braves into his house, treating them generously with food and drink. Describing the incident later, Turnbull described Chief Cowkeeper as "A Sober manly Indian. . .very watchful over the others for fear they should do anything wrong."

This was not an unfounded concern. Some of the braves got drunk, but Cowkeeper had them beaten "very severely" when they offered to kill a calf in Turnbull's Cow Pen.

After two days the Indians broke camp; one party returned home to the St. Johns. The other group was escorted to the southern limits of the plantations by Turnbull's overseer Langley Bryant and a slave, Black Sandy. The Indians sought proof of Turnbull's claim that no Yemasee were in the area. They found none and were satisfied.

A few days later Chief Long Warrior asked Turnbull for one calf for his hungry people. Turnbull promptly obliged, and the Indians left peaceably.



Spruce Creek, near Robinson Road, was the site of Dr. Turnbull's cow pen. Called "Spruce Pine Creek" on this map, it was previously known as "Mosquito River." The Spanish named the creek "Rio Amazura" and believed it ran west into Tampa Bay. As any fisherman or boater along Spruce Creek could tell you, it ends in many several small tributaries near in the Spruce Creek Airport development in Samsula.



In some beginnings the end is foretold. The Turnbull colonists' three-month voyage from the Mediterranean took its toll: 28 died in one ship alone. Of the 1,403 who had set out, only 1,255 arrived in New Smyrna. Little did they know when they arrived in June 1768 that by year's end 300 adults and 150 children would be dead.

After arriving in St. Augustine, some of the colonists marched down the King's Highway to New Smyrna while the rest arrived by sea. Because the colony had been stocked for a settlement of 500, everything was in short supply. Communal huts and kitchens were established. Food was scarce. Although the waters were filled with fish, the colonists were forbidden to spend time away from the fields. A cargo of 500 slaves bound to New Smyrna had been wrecked along the Florida coast and all aboard were lost. The hard work of clearing fields and digging irrigation and drainage canals fell to the settlers.

Four different languages were spoken in the colony — a veritable Tower of Babel story. Some of the English overseers were used to working slaves and treated the settlers as such. Instead of the luxury and quietude of sleep there were swarms of relentless mosquitoes. This certainly wasn't the Eden promised by Turnbull.

Two months after the last colonist had been settled in New Smyrna, rebellion erupted. Turnbull had gone to St. Augustine, stopping at Mt. Oswald, a sugar cane plantation on the Halifax River near today's Ormond Beach.

At 11 o'clock on August 18, 1767, the settlers abandoned their work and gathered at the center of town. They were angry, trapped and desperate. . .finally agreeing to flee the colony for the safety of Havana.

A supply ship had just arrived from St. Augustine; it was immediately captured. An Italian overseer, Carlo Forni, proclaimed himself "Captain General and Commander in Chief." In the excitement, store houses were broken into — blankets, linen, fishing tackle, flour, firearms and ammunition were loaded on the commandeered ship. A cow was killed (then a British capital offense) for meat during their voyage. Rum and oil barrels that couldn't be loaded were staved in the streets. Clear thinking and planning was further befuddled when a store of rum was opened and consumed.

The mutineers included nearly all the Greeks and Italians in the colony. The Minorcans, to a man, refused to join in the rioting. Although Forni had threatened death to anyone who attempted to warn authorities, two Italians "faithful to their master" slipped into the swamps at dusk and headed for Turnbull's plantation, four miles north of New Smyrna (immediately before the three bridges over Spruce Creek along U.S. #1).

The overseer in charge sent a rider to inform Turnbull. At midnight Turnbull received the news, drafted a hasty letter to

Governor Grant in St. Augustine, and in the early hours of August 20th an express rider was racing toward St. Augustine.

Meanwhile, Guiseppe Massiadoli had mutilated one of the most notorious and hated overseers, an Englishman named Cutter. There are two different stories: 1) Cutter had his ears and nose chopped off; or 2) he had an ear and two fingers chopped off. He was then locked in a storeroom.

Turnbull arrived in New Smyrna the morning of August 20th and rescued his wounded overseer. Cutter's continued bleeding had left him in serious condition, raving deliriously about his assailants.

There were about 300 mutineers on board. They hadn't finished loading the ship because they had been feasting and drinking most of the night. The plan was to sail on the 11 a.m. tide on the 22nd.

Governor Grant had received Turnbull's plea for help; he dispatched the provincial frigate *East Florida* and another vessel under sail "with Troops, Provisions, Ammunition and everything necessary to pursue the Greeks." He also sent a detachment under Major Whitmore by land, following the King's Highway to New Smyrna.

The East Florida found the mutineers' vessel at the Inlet, waiting to sail with the 11 o'clock tide. One cannon volley was enough to pursuade them to surrender. However, 35 mutineers jumped into a smaller boat and headed south. They were pursued by the smaller vessel which had accompanied the East Florida. Several weeks later the ringleaders were captured in the Florida Keys, barely 100 miles from their destination, Havana.

Governor Grant's next problem was what to do with 20 rebels he held in prison. Of five, he had no doubt: "The proof against them is said to be clear in that case they probably be made Examples of."

The trial was held in January 1769. Sentenced to death were Carlo Forni, the leader; Guiseppe Massiadoli, for stabbing the overseer, Cutter; and Elia Medici, for killing the cow — then a capital offense.

However, Medici was given a choice; he would be spared if he would execute the other two. A Dutch surveyor, Bernard Romans, witnessed the execution.

"On this occasion I saw one of the most moving scenes I ever experienced; long and obstinate was the struggle of this man's mind, who repeatedly called out, that he chose to die rather than to be executioner of his friends in distress; this not a little perplexed Mr. Woodridge, the sheriff, till at last the entreaties of the victims themselves, put an end to the conflict in his breast, by encouraging him to act. Now we beheld a man thus compelled to mount the ladder, take leave of his friends in the most moving manner, kissing them the moment before he committed them to an ignominious death," Romans wrote.

Because manpower was precious, a full pardon was granted two of the other ringleaders: Georgi Stephanopoli, for commandeering the supply vessel which belonged to Sir Charles Burdett, Baronet; and Clatha Corona, for breaking into the warehouse.

Initially, Turnbull had estimated the losses during the revolt at "four or five hundred pounds at most." Later he placed the value as £2,000 loaded on the commandeered vessel with £1,300 thrown into the water when the mutineers found the schooner too heavy to clear the Inlet.

As a result of the rebellion, a small guard detachment was stationed at New Smyrna until the dissolution of the colony.



TURNBULL CANAL COVERED IN 1924

Turnbull Canal was covered in 1924. The main canal ran under the north sidewalk along Canal Street. This famous Van de Sande photo shows the bridge to the Ocean House, just east of today's Chamber of Commerce building at 115 Canal Street.

Agriculture was the base of the New Smyrna colony. Turnbull had traveled widely throughout the Mediterranean and was impressed with the Egyptian practice of irrigation. Smaller canals can be seen throughout the western portion of New Smyrna, one running parallel to Myrtle Avenue.

By March 1769 the colonists had cleared seven miles along the Hillsborough River (now North Indian River or Intracoastal Waterway). Each house was set 210 feet from the next, with its alotted acreage running to the west. Turnbull wrote that they reminded him of Egyptian farms along the Nile.

The colonists brought cuttings of grapes, olives and mulberries (to feed silkworms) from their Mediterranean homes. Corn, cotton, figs, hemp, indigo, rice and sugar were planted. Cochineal insects were introduced for making scarlet dye; their cocoons can still be seen on prickly pear cacti west of the city. Glasswort from the marshes was collected and burned to make barilla, an impure form of sodium carbonate used in soap and glass manufacture.

While this irrigation/drainage was a new practice in Florida, nearly 3,000 acres of improved land were claimed in the early 1770's. Its success was apparent: in the first year, 5,000 bushels of corn were exported. By 1772, the indigo export provided Turnbull with 3,000£ sterling for barter in the British market-places.

MOSQUITO INLET IS RENAMED PONCE DE LEON INLET IN 1927

Mosquito Inlet (or variations Mukoso, Moskitos, Rio de Mosquitos) was known to every explorer who sailed the Florida East Coast. Its name was both an epithet and a warning for all who visited the area. The earliest Spanish accounts complain of mosquitoes and invisible biting gnats, which we would call "no-seeums" today.

Mosquitoes nearly decimated the New Smyrna settlement in the 1770's. Founding father Dr. Andrew Turnbull, a physician, must have been disheartened to watch his colonists succumb to some invisible contagion. The mosquito link to yellow fever and malaria wouldn't be discovered for another 100 years.

A name is everything, and in 1927 the name of "Mosquito Inlet" was changed to "Ponce de Leon Inlet." Why?

Real estate was booming in Florida during the 1920's — mosquitoes were nobody's friend. Remembering more ancient history, not too many settlers moved to Iceland after its discovery. Perhaps for that reason Eric the Red named his new land "Greenland" in 982.A.D. Its weather was worse than Iceland. So much for truth in advertising; it was simply better for business.

A resolution presented to the Florida State Historical Society by New Smyrna's Washington E. Connor on February 20, 1926, requested the War Department of the United States for this name change.

Historically, the name change commemorates Juan Ponce de Leon's battle with the Indians in 1513, treated in a separate story in this issue.

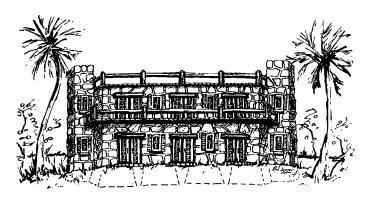


The South Canal — also called Garbordy or Garbardy's Canal — represents the city limits of Edgewater and New Smyrna Beach. The canal runs west under South Riverside Drive, under U.S. #1 and along 10th Street toward the New Smyrna Beach Middle School. Make note of this history, students!

A 1766 survey shows a creek in this vicinity. For those who enjoy Turnbull colony legends (according to Tina Warren): Men were enlisted to dig the main canal along Canal Street, cutting through layers of coquina with pick and ax. Easier work was assigned to the women. They were to widen the exisiting creek, removing sand, to make the South Canal. Both canals were necessary for the drainage and irrigation of the rich hammock lands west of New Smyrna.

"Garbordy's Canal" first appears on an 1835 survey map of the area. Just who Garbordy was is unknown; the name does not appear

on the census of that era.



Artist Rick Dreyer's conception of Dr. Ambrose Hull's two-story stone house built on the Turnbull Ruins/Old Fort site in 1805.

A FORMIDABLE MYSTERY: OLD FORT OR MANSION?

The most puzzling centerpiece in New Smyrna's rich heritage is found on the doorstep of City Hall — the Turnbull Ruins or Old Fort. Was this a Spanish fortess built in the 1500's or the foundation of a "Palace" or "Castle" built by Turnbull in the late 1770's?

From prehistoric times, a large Indian mound occupied this site. It was shown as the Ais Indian village of "Caparaca" on the Albero Mexia map of 1605.

Two years before Turnbull arrived with his 1,255 colonists, William Bartram described the mound in 1766: "I observed then, near where New Smyrna now stands, a spacious Indian mount and avenue, which stood near the banks of the river..." If the fort existed, it was under this shell mound.

The ruins we view today represent an extensive excavation and restoration accomplished under a \$30,229 WPA grant in 1936-37. The entire portion of the original shell mound toward Washington Avenue and North Riverside Drive has been removed, exposing the foundation.

State archaeologists believe the ruins to be a 40 x 80-foot foundation for a mansion...which could have supported several stories. In 1776 a group of Englishmen from St. Augustine visited New Smryna "to see the improvements, especially a very large stone building that was commenced for a mansion house." Work was never completed because nearly all of the colonists, freed from their indentures, fled to St. Augustine in 1777.

Turnbull and his family eventually moved to Charleston, South Carolina in 1778 after the fall of the colony.

The Spanish regained control of Florida in 1783, ceding the Bahamas to the British for Florida. During its second occupation of Florida, Spain encouraged colonization. Dr. Ambrose Hull, an Episcopal minister from Wallingford, Connecticut, answered the call.

Hull obtained grants of 2,600 acres at New Smyrna in 1801 — a 1,120-acre grant stretched along the riverfront from Yacht Club Island to the Municipal Airport. He established a cotton and sugar plantation.

His work was interrupted by an Indian attack; Hull suffered losses of \$3,000. Settlers from the Bahamas sought to join his enterprise and a new, combined settlement began in 1803 until 1809. Hull noted approximately 500-600 people within a four-mile radius in 1805.

Hull's wife, Stella, described the area to her sister in New York: "Our place is call'd Mount Olive — which from its height and the number of trees of that name describes the title — here we can make our own oil, wine, sugar and cotton — raise our own Coffee, corn, rice, ginger, etc. — with every kind of Vegetable and all tropical fruits.

A year later, in June 1805, Ambrose Hull wrote to his brother-in-law: "I have however, a number of Masons now employed, in building a small airy stone house of two stories — which will probably be completed in the course of the next month."

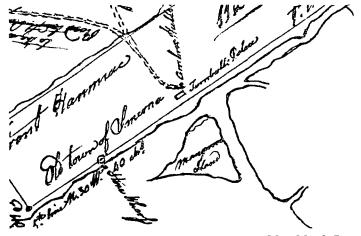
The house was completed within the month. He related: "Our house is built of hewn stone two stories — In the main body of the house are two large rooms one above the other — three double doors and six windows in each — in each two handsome bedrooms with three windows. The roofs are flat & terraced on which I spend some hours every fair day in walking and reading — and from which we have a charming prospect of the bar & Ocean. . . ."

Hull's "wing — turret or tower," jutting out about four feet from the original foundation, can be seen on the north and south ends of the ruins. The cut and color of the coquina, as well as mortar, are noticeably different from the rest of the ruins. Six window indentations can be seen on the east and west sides, as Hull described. His house and holdings were destroyed during the "Patriot's" War of 1812. The Hulls fled to St. Augustine, later moving to St. Mary's, Georgia.

Hull died in November 1821, the same year Florida became a U.S. territory. His heirs sought damages from the United States' troops in 1812 when Hull was a Spanish subject.

Among the damages incurred, they listed a "Large Stone dwelling house nearly destroyed, damage at a reasonable calculation \$2000." Other property destroyed included: 45 acres of Sea-Island cotton, 20 acres of common cotton, 2 acres of sweet potatoes, four horses, 4 hogsheads of Jamaican rum, smaller buildings and furniture which brought the total claim to \$12,534.

The accompanying survey map of George F. Clarke, dated May 25, 1817, shows two separate buildings — a large one marked "Turnbull's Palace" and a smaller one to the northwest marked "Ambrose Hull's House." This survey was made five years after Hull had moved from New Smyrna. Did he recycle the previous foundations to build his two-story house? If so, why is the smaller building marked "Ambrose Hull's House?"



George F. Clarke's survey of New Smyrna on May 25, 1817

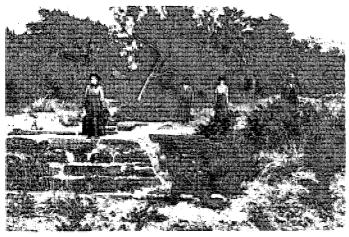
Thomas Stamps, a South Carolina sugar planter, secured 100-acres including the ruins in 1830. His plantation was burned during the Seminole War in 1835.

John D. Sheldon, who had managed the Cruger and DePeyster sugar mill, purchased 50 acres including the Stamps' home built on the Old Fort Mound in 1854. Sheldon built an elegant, two-story 40-room hotel/home over the Turnbull foundations, completed in 1859. It was one of the largest hotels south of St. Augustine.

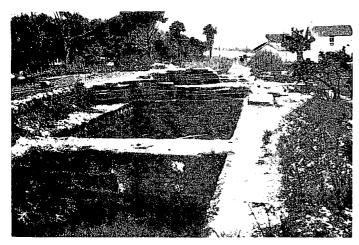
During the Civil War, blockading Union ships lobbed three shots across the peninsula from the ocean on July 9th and 11th, 1863. On July 26, the U.S. Steamer *Oleander*, a side wheeler, and with the schooner *Beauregard* in tow, came up the river and swung broadside to the Sheldon home.

What followed was described by one Union commander as "a good shelling." The Sheldons fled west of town to the Glencoe settlement — from which Glencoe Road gets its name.

"The shelling resumed the next day, woods, swamps, everywhere. Long house gutted; 280 shells, wastefully, set the house on fire after shelling to cover the advance. Twenty sailors got parts of the piano, mirrors, tables, hens, pictures. They were fired upon by two or three Rebels. . The sailors threw down almost everything and ran. No man was hurt on the expedition,"



1915 prospect of New Smyrna's puzzling ruins



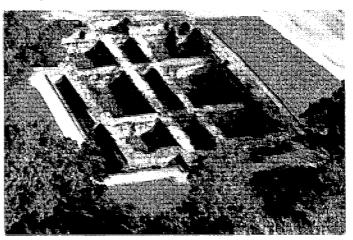
Looking northwest toward Washington Avenue, this view shows the ragged nature of the ruins which were neatly squared and partially restored during a \$30,229 WPA project in 1936-37. Originally covered by a shell mound, the north and east sides were excavated, revealing the extensive foundation.

reported the ship's surgeon, Walter Scofield. In his opinion the greatest punishment for any blockade runner would be to confiscate his vessel and put him ashore in the State of Florida.

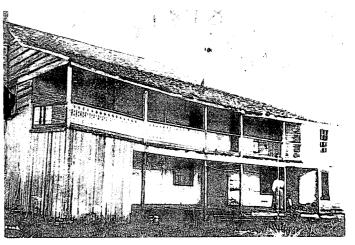
In 1867 the Sheldons built another hotel, this time largely constructed of driftwood collected along the beach. It served as a "pioneer shopping center" until 1896, when it was torn down.

Looking at the thick foundations, you might easily assume this structure was seriously over-engineered unless it was intended to be a fortress. The President of the Florida Engineering Society, W.W. Fineren, shared this view in 1924: "It was supposed that the foundations were those of 'Turnbull's Castle,' although it had not been known that any such foundations had ever existed. Further excavations disclosed the salients which were found to be similar in every respect to other Spanish forts along the Florida coast, the walls being three feet thick and having the same batter or slope as other forts. The overall dimensions are about 40' x 80'."

As with so many other New Smyrna relics, serious research remains to be done. Perhaps the 10-million volume British Museum Library in London contains further information on our city's founding. To date, no street map has been discovered of Turnbull's colony. What king would commit his treasury to such a costly attempt at colonization without a definitive plan?



Helicopter view of Turnbull Ruins from 500 feet



Welcome to John Sheldon's second "House on the Hill," built on the Turnbull Ruins. Sheldon and Childs' general store, post office, port collector's office, newspaper, shoe shop as well as dwelling rooms and a dining room in the "Lean To" (right) were accommodated here. The structure was torn down about 1896.

THE KING'S HIGHWAY ENDS IN NEW SMYRNA

Following portions of Indian trails, the Spanish laid the King's Highway in 1632 — the first land route along Florida's East Coast. In 1768, the British enlarged upon earlier work, cutting a road 30 feet wide through dense foliage. The highway began at the St. Mary's River, to St. Augustine, and south to New Smyrna. The King's Highway passed near the Sugar Mill and ended at the Old Stone Wharf at Clinch Street.

Sections of this road can still be seen along Enterprise, Williams and Robinson Roads. There are remains of a shell causeway on the north side of Spruce Creek near Robinson Road; the bridge has long since disintegrated. The colonists followed the King's Highway through Turnbull's Cow Pen and across Spruce Creek at this point on their long march to St. Augustine in the final days of the New Smyrna colony.

For a definitive work on the King's Highway, the reader is referred to Charles W. Bockelman's *The King's Road to Florida*, published in 1975.



CURIOUS HISTORY OF THE ROCK HOUSE

It was no accident that the Rock House stood exactly opposite Ponce de Leon Inlet, built on a high shell mound, and commanded an excellent view of the egress and ingress of any vessel. Today, on the east side of U.S. #1 across from the Skyline Restaurant, you'll find a depression where the shell mound and Rock House once stood.

The FEC Railway acquired the site in 1901, built a track to the site, destroyed the two-story coquina structure and loaded the shell onto flatbeds to be used as ballast for railroad tracks. By 1907 all evidence of the site had disappeared. Unfortunately, the shell was so ancient that it crumbled and was unsuitable for railroad fill. Celts, arrowheads, bone implements and plummets were recovered from the site at that time.

The earliest recorded occupation of the Rock House was an 1803 Spanish land grant of 400 acres made to Henry Martin, who continued in possession until 1808 when the house was burned and his plantation destroyed by Indians. Since the Spanish offered no protection, he was forced to abandon his holding. Later, his father-in-law occupied the property "with

uncommon patience and suffering" until 1812. He left a tenant living in the Rock House in 1821. This was the last inhabited house south of St. Augustine at that time.

In 1887 John Detwiler, the first editor of the New Smyrna Breeze newspaper, discovered a stone platform just north of the Rock House. He supposed it to be a gun traverse, describing a "circular mound about four feet high and approximately 12 or more feet across, with an opening in the center just 12-inches square. This contained the remains of a stick of live oak, evidently built in the masonry, but then decomposed until only a piece six feet long flattened diagonally, with a large tenon or pivot on the upper end remained." He removed this oak timber and donated it to the Florida Historical Society.

Investigating further, he discovered that Bertola Pacetti, who lived near the lighthouse in Ponce Inlet, had "removed the circular stones for the purpose of building a cistern and found that the structure was a low circular tower with a stone platform around it and a post in the center."

Other accounts before its demolition indicate the Rock House was approximately 20 x 36 feet, containing a huge fireplace with niches located in the walls near the fireplace, evidently intended for images of Romanist worship.

INDIANS SET NEW SMYRNA ABLAZE

While there should have been joy, there was sad news on Christmas Day 1835. Mrs. John D. Sheldon's black maid told her she had seen nine Indians with painted faces while attending a party the night before at the Hunter plantation. Painted faces meant trouble.

There are two homes prominently featured on this 1835 survey map. John Sheldon managed the Stamps plantation; their house was built on the site of the Turnbull Ruins (Washington Street and North Riverside Drive — "Old Fort Park"). The Hunter plantation was two miles north of the Sheldon home, today the site of the New Smyrna Beach Municipal Airport. Judge David R. Dunham's mansion stood on the corner of Lytle Avenue and South Riverside Drive — site of today's (1987) Riverside Apartments.

Fearing the worst, the Sheldons and the Hunters gathered a few belongings and crossed the river to Colonel Douglas Dummett's place on Mt. Pleasant (north of Marker 33 Condominium on South Peninsular Avenue).

Their move was none too soon. At 1 a.m. on December 28, Judge Dunham's mansion was ablaze. A large group of Indians under Chief Philip, together with a small party of Uchees, and 100-120 blacks (probably Indian slaves) were dancing around the fire. Imagine their surprise when a keg of gunpowder, hidden in Dunham's cellar, exploded!

The refugees at Colonel Dummett's watched New Smyrna's fiery skyline. Fearing the Indians would cross the river, they fled to Bulow plantation (Ormond Beach), where they waited for a military escort to St. Augustine.

Their departure was well timed; 11 Indians crossed the river about noon on December 28th. Unsuccessfully they tried to burn the house on Mt. Pleasant, but destroyed all personal belongings except two tables. When Dummett and his troops

returned later, he found the Indians had removed all the lead—needed for molding bullets—from the sugar boilers. Two kegs of rum were also missing.

During their rampage, the Indians systematically destroyed New Smyrna. They set fire to nearly all of the buildings, Sugar Mill and neighboring plantations, and spared only the corn houses for their own use.

THE LOST PILLARS OF NEW SMYRNA

Residents of the first block of South Riverside Drive will be suprised to learn their properties were once the site of stately mansion with pillars, built about 1830.

An 1830 abstract describes 575 acres purchased from the estate of Ambrose Hull in December 1830 for \$5,000 by Mary and Caroline Dunham. The acreage extended west of U.S. #1, then called "Turnbull's Back Swamp." On 100 acres fronting along the river, a "large stone dwelling house" was built.

David R. Dunham was an influential planter and appointed Judge of Mosquito County Court (later to become Volusia) on February 1833. Known as "Judge Dunham's Place," the mansion was destroyed by Indians during the Seminole War in 1835. Jacob Motte, an army surgeon, accompanied a naval landing sent to New Smyrna during that war. He kept a diary — later called *Journey Into Wilderness*, covering the years 1836-38. Here is his account:

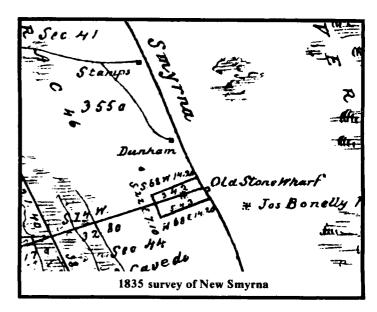
"At daylight next morning we hauled up the river to a spot more favorable for landing, and immediately in front of Judge Dunham's place known as New Smyrna.

"In the midst of orange, lemon, fig, and other blossoming trees, with a sprinkling of the slender and stately palmetto rising lightly and gracefully above the dense mass of foliage, there appeared the ruined columns, towering upwards, like gigantic sentries of the place, of Judge Dunham's once princely mansion; all that remained visible; the walls having been blown down as 'twas said by the explosion of a keg of powder, which unknown to the Indians who fired the building was concealed in the cellar. This was the spot where Turnbull first established his Minorcan colony, and the ruins of the original occupant's dwellings are still visible in the distance, adding a melancholy feature to the landscape, from a retrospective association of the sufferings there endured. An untamed forest filled up the background; its dark shades impressing the mind with the mysteries of the extensive and gloomy labyrinths, only traversed by the wild beast, and the wily savage, more blood-thirsty than the beast of prey. . .

"We pitched our tents amid the ruins, under the protecting shade of wide spreading live oaks, and other umbrageous trees. I selected a spot for my tent near the base of a gigantic column; and towering over it grew an orange tree, in solitary and stately grandeur. Captain Drane, who was in command, immediately commenced the necessary improvements for rendering the ruins useful as places for storage of provisions.

"At leisure moments we amused ourselves in fishing, and revelled most extensively upon the wholesome and excellent produce of these waters, abounding with fine oysters and sheephead; the latter too plentiful to be long regarded as a luxury."

This was the beginning of "Fort New Smyrna." Motte's party was joined by General Hernandez and mounted forces.



YOU'RE IN THE ARMY NOW: FORT NEW SMYRNA, 1839

Many books have been written concerning the Seminole War (1835-42). When Spain ceded Florida to the United States for \$5,000,000 in 1819, the United States promised to recognize the rights of all Spanish subjects — but forgot that Spain had officially accorded that status to the Indians as well. An edict in 1830 ordered all Indians to be deported from their homelands to west of the Mississippi River. Not surprisingly, the Indians rebelled in 1835.

The prevailing national attitude toward Indians is revealed soon after the Revolutionary War in *The United States Magazine* (circa 1780): "The whole earth given to man and all the children of Adam have an equal right in it and to equal parts of it ... the revealed law has given earth to man under the fixed condition that he use it in the sweat of his brow. Now Indians do not use their extensive woods in the sweat of their brow but only hunt there. Therefore it is plain as day that they have no right to the land and it is permissible to drive them out at will. ..."

Many forts were established during this period; one was begun in New Smyrna about 1836 — abandoned and rebuilt several times. As late as 1849 a post was still established here, "operations being wholly of a protective character." Fort New Smyrna was finally evacuated on November 10, 1853.

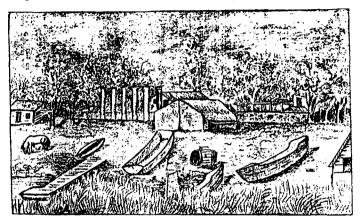
Illness was prevalent among the troops. New Smyrna statistics for Company B, Third Artillery note: "Although the troops were well covered from the sun and rain they suffered greatly in the summer and fall months from intermittent fever. In 1840 the sick list comprised about two-thirds of the command, and the same season in 1841 every individual at the post was attacked sooner or later by the disease. . . Officers as well as men. . . were the victims of the malaria. . . Assistant Surgeon Noyes, who left New Smyrna severely sick, died in St. Augustine shortly after his arrival July 26. Assistant Surgeon Weightman returned to St. Augustine completely broken down by malaria at New Smyrna, dropsy supervened, and he died October 30."

Retired surveyor and local historian Charles W. Bockelman pinpointed the site of Fort New Smyrna. Utilizing the 1884 field

notes of another surveyor, Alfred Howard, the site is described as an "old rebel battery" — located 240 feet south of a street (today Lytle Avenue) and 967 feet north of the Old Stone Wharf (base of Clinch Street and South Riverside Drive).

While no visible trace exists today in the first block of South Riverside Drive between Lytle Avenue and Andrews Street, history was once made here.

For a comprehensive treatment of this era, the reader is referred to the posthumous publication of Six Columns and Fort New Smyrna by Charles W. Bockelman, published by the Halifax Historical Society, Daytona Beach, under the editorship of Harold D. and Priscilla Cardwell, Sr.



During the Seminole War, Captain Harvey Brown was stationed at Fort New Smyrna, which was located in the middle of the block between Andrews Street and Lytle Avenue (South Causeway Bridge) along South Riverside Drive. This 1839 sketch shows the eastern side of Fort Smyrna, facing the river. Six columns of the former Dunham mansion were recycled into the fortifications. Stockade pickets are shown either between or in front of the pillars.

The likely configuration of the stockade was similar to others of the Seminole War era: four log houses built in a hollow square. Two buildings were occupied by the troops of the garrison, one by the officers, and the other served as a hospital and commissary.

This beautiful river frontage captured the real estate interests of two U.S. Army paymasters. On January 7, 1837, Colonel Christopher Andrews and Major John L. Lytle purchased the 100-acre river tract from Judge Dunham for \$1,750. They contemplated subdividing the land after the Seminole War. Today Lytle Avenue and Andrews Street bear their names. (Colonel Brown's sketch courtesy of Halifax Historical Society)

PACKWOOD PLACE MURDERS

The Seminole War began in 1835, presumably ended in 1842, but the countryside wasn't as "pacified" as the military believed. In 1849 there was an Indian raid on Fort Capron, near the mouth of the Indian River south of here.

John Sheldon decided it was unsafe to continue living on the Murray Grant (south of Edgewater, granted to his mother-in-law Jane Murray in 1803). Besides, he had been appointed Deputy Collector of Customs in New Smyrna, and desired to live closer to the Inlet. The Sheldon's purchased the Stamps' house which was built on the foundations in Old Fort Park.

The Murray homestead was rented to Mr. Shive from Philadelphia. The Indians burned the house on December 23, 1856, brutally murdering Shive, his wife and children, and mutilating their bodies.

It was believed the Indians made this raid thinking that Sheldon, who had served as a scout leading troops through the area during the Seminole War, still lived there. Troops from Mellonville (Sanford) tracked 19 Indians for 70 miles but never caught them.

While this was the last Indian raid in the New Smyrna vicinity, there were other reasons. According to local historian C.W. Bockelman, bounty hunters using bloodhounds were employed that same year. A bounty of \$500 was offered for every male Indian, \$250 to \$500 for each female, and \$100 for children.

WHERE IS MASSACRE BLUFF?

Residents of Dune Circle, west of North Peninsular Avenue, will be surprised to know their prominent elevation was once called "Massacre Bluff."

A French schooner wrecked on the beach half way between Cape Canaveral and New Smyrna in 1835. As shipwrecked sailors had done for centuries, the eight to ten survivors began the long walk to the safety of St. Augustine.

Mosquito Inlet (now Ponce de Leon Inlet) barred their way. They searched for logs and driftwood along the river to make a raft. Since the tide was on the ebb, they camped on a bluff and waited for morning and a more favorable tide to make the crossing. Morning never came.

Their camp fire attracted neighboring Indians who crossed the river and massacred the entire party. The site was described in 1840 by a diarist stationed at Fort New Smyrna during the Seminole War: "Our eyes were attracted by a little wooded bluff at our left, on the summit of which was a small paling, enclosing graves, as we were told, of some murdered seamen who had been found there and buried by our troops. . . ."



MT. PLEASANT AND A GRAVE IN THE STREET

Graves in the middle of a street are hardly commonplace, but the story of young Charles Dummett's final resting place could go unnoticed by most beachside residents and visitors.

Family history always begins with preceding generations. Whether his grandfather, Thomas Henry Dummett, a British Marines officer and planter in the West Indies was a "remittance man" — a blacksheep of the family who was paid to leave his native British Isles — may never be known. However, he fled the Caribbean island of Barbados in 1807 during a rebellion and secured land grants on the Tomoka River for what became a prosperous sugar plantation.

Charles' father, Douglas Dummett, was also in the sugar business. He rose to fame by commanding the volunteer "Mosquito Roarers" during the Seminole War (1835-42). Later he became Peace Justice for the county, first Collector of Customs for the Port of New Smyrna, and budded sweet oranges found in Turnbull Hammock (south of New Smyrna) to establish the famous Dummett citrus grove on Merritt Island.

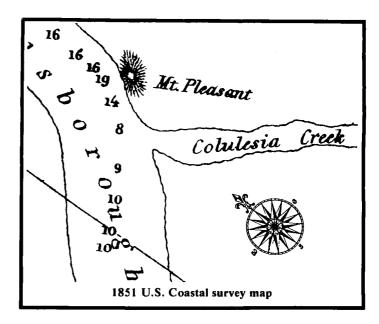
Douglas Dummett had married the daughter of a socially prominent family, but she promptly deserted him for another Army officer. Dummett moved to New Smyrna and built a home on an Indian mound which he called Mt. Pleasant. The mound was northeast of the confluence of Callalisa Creek and the Intracoastal Waterway (in the area of South Indian River Road on the beachside).

Dummett took a young, black slave girl, Anna, as his second wife. They had three daughters and a son, Charles, who was born in 1844. The boy was sent to a Northern school for his education.

Charles was home from school in April 1860. He and a friend were hunting near Mt. Pleasant, when Charles tripped and his gun discharged. He was killed instantly.



Charles Dummett's grave in the middle of Canova Drive



Dummett buried his son where he fell. The marble slab on the sarcophagus reads simply, "Sacred to the Memory of Charles Dummett, Born August 18, 1844 – Died April 23, 1860."

As with so many other New Smyrna relics, Mt. Pleasant was bulldozed for development during the 1960's. Rather than dabble in the legal technicalities of removing Charles Dummett's grave, developers chose to leave the sarcophagus. Thus the pavement on Canova Drive (named for entertainer Judy Canova's brother, who was a property owner here) is split — leaving a grave in the middle of the street.

SKIRMISH AT THE OLD STONE WHARF

The Old Stone Wharf was the center of town in the 1770's. Two piers, made of two-foot blocks of coquina, are set into the shelly bank along South Riverside Drive at Clinch Street. This was one of Dr. Andrew Turnbull's first public works when establishing the New Smyrna colony in 1768.

Ballast stones, old bottles, bronze ship nails and a cannonball have been recovered at the site through the years. The remaining wharf is best seen at low tide.

The Old Stone Wharf also marked the southern end of the King's Highway blazed by the Spanish in 1632 from St. Augustine. Numerous early surveys of New Smyrna begin from this point.

During the Civil War it was the site for an engagement between Confederate forces and seamen from the Union steamers *Penguin* and *Henry Andrew*. After all, New Smyrna was one of the busiest blockade running ports in the South. Goods were brought from Europe to Nassau, landed at New Smyrna and transported by wagon to the St. Johns River.

Union gunboats were dispatched to curtail blockade running activities, to capture vessels carrying contraband, and to guard a large quantity of live oak and cedar timber which had been stockpiled on the north peninsula of the Inlet.

Two companies of the Confederate Third Florida Infantry under the command of Captain Daniel Bird, Company "E," and

Captain Mathew Strain of Company "H" were to take charge of an expected shipment of arms and supplies brought from the Bahamas. They also guarded stores of cotton, hidden in sheds west of the wharf, awaiting export. This is how Cottonshed Avenue (today Inwood Avenue) got its name.

Early on Saturday morning, March 22, 1862, nine small boats with approximately 43 Union troops headed south along the Intracoastal Waterway toward Mosquito Lagoon. They had received information concerning the *Katie*, a small sailing craft, which was attempting to evade the blockade. They found the *Katie* abandoned and left 12 men aboard. Returning late that afternoon, they relaxed their vigilance; they were within sight of the *Henry Andrew*.

But their passage had not gone unnoticed by the Confederate forces hidden along the banks near the Old Stone Wharf. As two boats headed close to shore, Captain Strain and his men opened fire. Captain Mather and Lt. Budd, who were in the lead boat, were killed along with six crewmen. Six others were wounded and two taken prisoner. The rest of the boats scattered toward the safety of the mangroves on the eastern shore, throwing a hastily mounted howitzer into the river during their flight. They swam and waded back to the *Henry Andrew*.

The Confederate troops suffered no casualties; two men received minor wounds.

The next day the Union commander sent a boat ashore under a flag of truce. Captain Bird greeted them and returned the bodies of the two officers killed along with their personal effects.

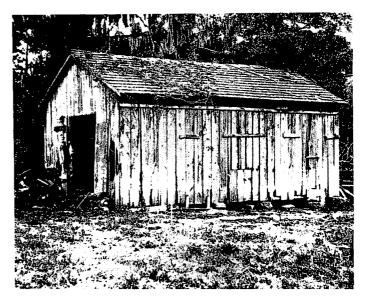
FIRST TRAIN ARRIVES IN 1887

Contrary to what you might expect, New Smyrna's first railway connection did not come from the north, but from the west. W.W. West, an Orange City merchant, carried oranges and an occasional passenger on the first railroad in Volusia County. It ran from Orange City to Blue Springs Landing.

In 1887 track was laid to New Smyrna, and the Blue Springs, Orange City and Atlantic Railway (BSOCA) was born. Facetiously called "Built Strictly On Credit and Air," its tracks ran down Lytle Avenue to a station at the base of our present South Causeway Bridge.

Helen DeLand, for whom the town of Lake Helen was named, recalled the event in West Volusia: "When the train pulled in — such hustling! All scurried aboard the flat cars on which were planks or boards supported by wooden blocks for seats, then toward New Smyrna. Streams of smoke and sparks settled on 'we uns' and kept us busy putting out the fires that started on our clothes. Cattle and hogs disputed the right of way and the engine kept tooting to frighten them off. One long-horn refused to leave the track and at last the train slowed to a snail's pace and at that pushed the critter off into the ditch, heels up. . .At New Smyrna there was a grand feast and orations."

Meanwhile, New Smyrna's Mrs. R.S. Sheldon described the arrival of the first train: "The countryside was covered with people who had walked, ridden horseback, in carts buggies and wagons for miles and miles to see that first train. Bands were playing and people were shouting as the train came in, pulling a string of cars behind it. People shouted in joy."



Welcome to school in 1872

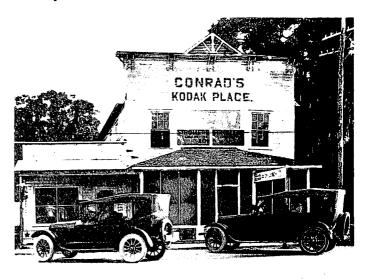
VOLUSIA COUNTY'S FIRST SCHOOL

No fancy buildings, air conditioning or bond issues were necessary for the first school in Volusia County. Located on the site of today's New Smyrna Beach Utilities Commission building at 120 Sams Avenue, it cost \$42, plus donated labor and materials in 1872.

F.W. Sams, owner of the Ocean House hotel, brought Miss Delia Stowe of Massachusetts to New Smyrna as a governess for his children. She became Volusia County's first school teacher.

The school year was three to six months, and a school day was approximately six hours. Curriculum included the usual reading, writing, arithmetic, spelling, history and geography. Two days each week were spent on needlework or farming.

This building was replaced in 1885 with a two-story frame structure on the corner of Canal Street and Live Oak — the site of today's "Christmas Tree Park."



New school opened in 1885

NEW SMYRNA'S UNLIGHTED LIGHTHOUSE

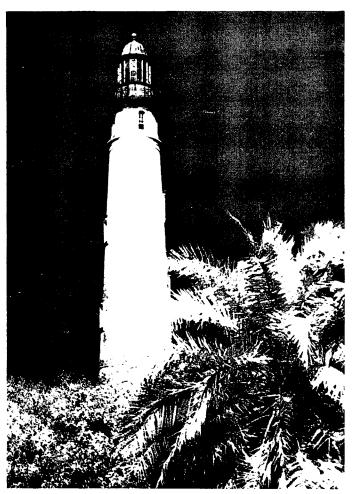
New Smyrna's first lighthouse was located on the south side of the Inlet. The contract to build a 45-foot tower and a keeper's brick dwelling was awarded to Winslow Lewis of Boston.

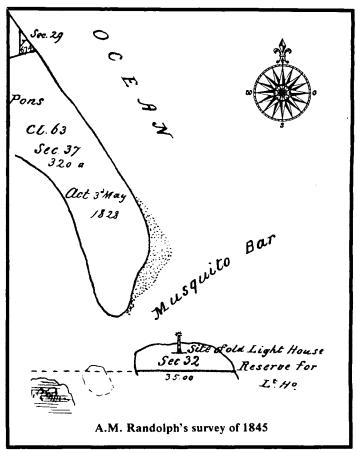
Featuring eleven 14-inch reflectors, each reflector contained six ounces of pure silver. A copper dome enclosed the lamp assembly. But it was never lighted; no oil had been delivered before the high gale of October 1835 destroyed the keeper's house and so undermined the lighhouse that it collapsed the next year.

Lighthouse keeper William H. Williams, whose annual salary was \$450, explained: "The reflectors of the lamps were also lost; they were placed in a trunk in the dwelling house to prevent them from tarnishing as they were not in use — the dampness of the lighthouse damaging them very much."

The outbreak of the Seminole War in 1835 curtailed any further work, although \$7,000 was appropriated in 1837 for rebuilding and changing the lighthouse location to the north side of the Inlet. The funds were never spent and New Smyrna waited until 1879 when work was begun on the current lighthouse.

Apparently reflectors were found by Indians. During the Battle of Dunlawton (Port Orange), the Seminole chief Coacoochee (Wildcat) reportedly wore a reflector as a helmet or breastplate. Several concave, silvered pieces and copper ornaments have been found in Indian burial mounds, suggesting yet another instance of recycling of New Smyrna history.





PONCE DE LEON LIGHTHOUSE: 1887

Construction of the Ponce de Leon Lighthouse commenced in 1884; its 200,000-candlepower lamp began service on November 1, 1887. The project cost \$500,000.

The brick and granite structure rests securely on a 45-foot wide, 12-foot deep foundation. The lighthouse is 32 feet in diameter at its base and tapers to 15 feet at the top, towering 175 feet. It can be seen for nearly 20 miles out to sea.

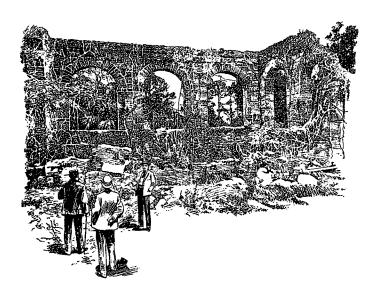
Before the 1920's the lamp burned mineral oil and was a fixed navigational light. After it was converted to electricity and fitted with a revolving lens, the lamp flashed six times every 26 seconds.

According to early accounts, lighthouse tenders never needed to go duck hunting — ducks came to them. During the winter season migrating ducks would fly against the wire screen around the lamp and plummet to the ground. On one occasion 64 ducks were picked up in just four hours.

Due to maintenance expense, the official lighthouse was moved to the U.S. Coast Guard Station on the south peninsula in 1970 — near the site of the original 1835 lighthouse.

Through the efforts of the Ponce de Leon Lighthouse Preservation Association, Inc., restoration was begun on the premises for the establishment of an historic monument and museum in 1972. Today three original keepers' quarters have been restored, housing various historical displays. A gift shop, video theatre and a 48-foot tugboat *F.D. Russell* are also featured.

Admission to this landmark is negligible compared to the view from the top of the lighthouse. Be forewarned: make this 203-step climb early in the morning or in cool weather before the sun has heated the red brick structure.



DID COLUMBUS BUILD OUR SUGAR MILL?

Northern newspapers have always had a flair for the fantastic when relating events in the South. The above engraving comes from the Sunday, March 4, 1894, issue of the New York Herald. The accompanying headline is worthy of those weekly tabloids you might see at any supermarket check-out line.

MAY BE AMERICA'S OLDEST BUILDING.

Picturesque Ruins of a Venerable and Mysterious Structure in South Florida.

WAS IT ERECTED BY COLUMBUS?

Mrs. F.W. Sams gave the author of this unsigned article a tour of New Smyrna's antiquities. Reverend J.A. Ball is quoted concerning the evident religious nature of the architecture. He surmised that during Columbus' extended second expedition "certainly the 17 vessels in this flotilla did not keep together during the three years' voyaging, and it is but reasonable to presume that some of them sailed north as well as others south, and that Florida, so near to the West Indies, and most likely concluded to be an island, was sighted during this expedition."

The writer proceeds to suggest perhaps one of Columbus' voyagers told Ponce de Leon of the Fountain of Youth, or perhaps Ponce himself was one of these voyagers.

While facts are sparse, the rest of the article does describe other New Smyrna sights in more accurate detail. As historian Woodbury Lowery commented on this bit of journalism: "The article chiefly consists of purely gratuitous assumptions concerning questions which have never even been in dispute."

THE SPANISH MISSION SUGAR MILL CONTROVERSY

In May 1893 New York stock broker Washington E. Connor purchased a 10-acre site including the Spanish Mission/Sugar Mill from Isadora Matthews for \$400. It was a birthday present for his wife, historian Jeanette Thurber Connor.

Mrs. Connor had become an authority on early Spanish history of Florida, and with John B. Stetson, Jr., United States minster to Poland, founded the Florida Historical Society. She made extensive studies and translations from documents in the Archive of the Indies at Seville, Spain. Of her many works and facsimile reprints is the 10-volume set of Colonial Records of Florida, covering the Spanish occupation from 1570 to 1700.

Mrs. Connor's research indicated three missions built of coquina were constructed south of St. Augustine by Franciscan monks and Indians. They were located along the coast, nine leagues from each other. The missions were St. Josef, Tissimi and Atocuimi. Atocuimi was the mission at New Smyrna.

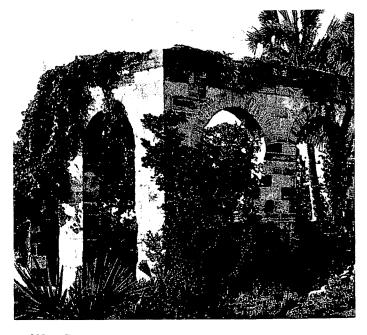
These missions were founded to serve the Jororo Indians (pronounced Ho-ro-ro) and were first mentioned in Spanish documents in 1690. In addition to ministering to the Jororos spiritual needs, the Franciscans taught the Indians construction techniques and how to clear and cultivate the land.

In 1693 the Franciscans appealed to the King of Spain for funds. Their petition was granted in 1696; they received 200 large hoes, six large saws and six small ones, 50 machettes, four large augurs, four medium sized and four gimlets. The three missions were apparently built with these tools. Eight monks supervised construction.

Dedicated as San Joseph de Jororo, the mission was constructed about 1696, according to Mrs. Connor.

The Jororo Indians and their missions were burned in 1706 during the second invasion of Florida by Governor James Moore of South Carolina, aided by Creek Indians. An epidemic in 1727 decimated the surviving Jororos.

One story often leads to another. Captain Charles H. Coe,



author and founder of the Florida Star (first newspaper south of St. Augustine), wrote a 32-page booklet Debunking the So-Called Spanish Mission Near New Smyrna in 1941. Once the location of a small community, Glencoe Road still bears his name.

Spanish Mission? "This fanciful idea was first advanced by Washington E. Connor. . .The reason for his belief was centered in the arches used in the walls in place of regular doors and windows. He thought that such masonry was too elaborate for a sugar-mill," Coe began his debunking treatise.

Coquina was used because it was the best and cheapest material at hand. The Sugar-Mill engine room is of "identical character and material in general as the other construction. Perhaps it is a little more finished, as this building, with its costly machinery, was the most valuable part of the Sugar-Mill, and probably was the first to be built. . .Its measurements, too, indicate an English origin."

Coe first saw the ruins in 1874: "The coquina of which the ruins were built was quite fresh and clean. Moss or other accumulations due to the passage of time were scarcely visible. It did not require an expert builder or stonemason to realize that the entire building was of comparatively recent construction. . .Compared to the ancient and weather-worn fort at St. Augustine, this masonry was of yesterday."

Furthermore, if Indians had ever inhabited the site, artifacts would have been uncovered. None have been found. Coe's final advice was: "A large growing live oak tree, 11 feet in circumference [in 1941 and still growing], is in the Sugar-Drying Room. This silent but significant witness undoubtedly approximates the true age of the ruins."

Construction of the Sugar Mill was begun in 1830 by William Kemble for William DePeyster and Eliza and Henry Cruger of New York. The land was purchased from the estate of Ambrose Hull. Henry Cruger was empowered to manage, lease, mortgage, sell or otherwise dispose of the plantation. It was operated by Thomas Stamps, a South Carolina sugar planter. Shortly after its completion, the seven-year Seminole War broke out and the Sugar Mill was burned in December 1835.

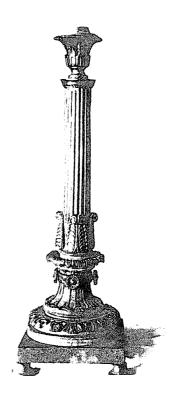
The ruins were conveyed by the Connors to the Florida State Park Service in 1928. Today it is a State Historic Site, open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. year round.

BRONZE CANDLESTICKS FOUND AT SUGAR MILL

Captain Emanuel J. Matthews' 77-acre tract received from the U.S. Government in 1878 included the site of the Sugar Mill ruins.

While clearing an area near the foundations for a patch of turnips, he unearthed a number of metal objects in 1880. The remains of three bronze candlesticks — such as those used in Roman Catholic services — were uncovered. This suggested a more ancient history than merely a sugar mill known to have been built on the site in 1830.

During his 1925 journey to Spain, John Y. Detwiler searched cathedrals for replicas of the New Smyrna candlesticks. He carried an enlargement of the above photograph. No replicas were found.



The main difference was in the square base of the candlestick. Those Detwiler viewed in Spain were triangular, emblematic of the Holy Trinity.

"The parts of three Bronze Candlesticks, found in the Old Mission near New Smyrna, have been proved to be of Moorish origin, having square bases, emblematic of the materialist elements of earth, air, fire and water — words which would indicate an antiquity even greater than the discovery of America, or the conquest of Moorish possessions by Spain," Detwiler claimed.

"Later researches revealed that in repairing the cathedral at Seville shortly after the Moorish conquest, every effort was made to eradicate the materialistic emblems embodied in the square, typifying earth, air, fire, water. In the case of the candlesticks it was only necessary to loosen the rod, remove the base, supply it with another of triangular form, and the work was done.

"Is not the conclusion evident that at that early day the candlesticks captured in the Moorish mosques had not yet come under the censure of the ecclesiastical authorities? Such candlesticks for altar service as were available at the time — and who can determine the age and antiquity of those we have discovered in New Smyrna?"

Later authorities were not as enthusiastic as Detwiler. They claimed the candlesticks were of American Colonial origin.

The candlesticks were donated to the Florida Historical Society. In a 1908 "Catalog of Collections" they are listed as "Fragments of bronze candlesticks found at ruins of old Spanish mission near New Smyrna. One restored." This same catalog lists another New Smyrna contribution: "Section of live oak taken from center of masonry near Old Rock House, supposed to be the foundation of the traverse of a gun to command the entrance to New Smyrna inlet."

Typical of so many New Smyrna artifacts, neither can be found in the Florida Historical Society collection today.



John Y. Detwiler

WAS NEW SMYRNA SITE OF THE ORIGINAL ST. AUGUSTINE?

Was New Smyrna the site of the first St. Augustine? Many local residents still subscribe to this theory, but in 1925 John Y. Detwiler spent \$3,000 to visit Spain, researching the archives of Toledo, Madrid, Seville and Valencia.

Detwiler and his wife, Ella Aarons, and their two children arrived in New Smyrna from Ohio in the 1880's. They built a house on South Indian River Road, part of Colonel Dummett's Mt. Pleasant property (see associated article). Like many New Smyrnans, they rented some of the six rooms in their imposing three-story house to tourists. Boarders included Stephen Crane, author of *The Red Badge of Courage* and William Somerset Maugham, British novelist and playwright.

Detwiler's interests were extensive: first editor of the *New Smyrna Breeze* newspaper, experimental horticulturalist, first commissioner of the Fish and Game Commission, bee keeper (he claimed bee stings prevented arthritis), and honorary member of the Florida Historical Society.

Detwiler's premise was that all the antiquities in New Smyrna — Spanish Mission, Old Fort and the Rock House — were the construction of Menendez de Aviles in 1565. The Rock House commanded an excellent view of the Inlet, and was the lookout. The Old Fort protected the settlement and the Mission located to the southwest.

"Would not the crown of Spain endeavor to protect and preserve the only and original Mission by locating it in such a position that it would be impossible to destroy it by an invading enemy, comprising both French and English?" he asked.

Famed historian Woodbury Lowery described the original location of St. Augustine: "Its site can no longer be determined, but it is known it did not command the harbor, could not be seen from the ocean and was subject to attacks from the Indians."

This first Spanish settlement was abandoned within a year because of Indian hostilities.

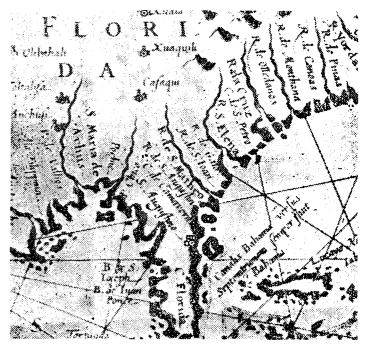
Detwiler hypothesized the first St. Augustine settlement was made at 29' north latitude (our Inlet is 29'04" today) and abandoned in 1566 for a more advantageous location — the current site of St. Augustine at 30' north latitude. Old maps showing St. Augustine at 29' confirmed his theory.

When William Bartram described the site of New Smyrna in 1766 — two years before the Turnbull colonists arrived — he described the site of the Old Fort as a huge shell mound "with no habitation or cleared field except a wide avenue extending to the savanna" to the west. Detwiler believed the Indians had covered the foundations during the 200 years before Bartram's arrival and the "wide avenue" was "evidently the parade ground and gave communication to the Mission edifice which fronts to the west apparently on the banks of an open lagoon extending from Spruce Creek to the Indian River."

Regarding the Spanish Mission: "The absurdity of the claim that the mission building was erected by the Franciscan Fathers in 1696 is equalled only by the statement. . .that the mission was built by Dr. Turnbull in 1767 as a sugar house. It is not denied that an Indian Mission occupied the locality in the year 1696. It was there, evidently covered with tropical vegetation, as Dr. Turnbull neither gave evidence of the existence of the fort or of the mission.

"The coquina rock being easily wrought, and everlasting in its nature, permitted the most perfect workmanship which would not be called for in the erection of a sugar house located in the wilderness."

Since coquina was not available in the immediate vicinity, Detwiler supposed it was transported by boats from quarries located near the entrance of Turnbull Bay and the junction of Spruce Creek. Transport was possible because of "an open lagoon extending from Spruce Creek to the Indian River."



During his extensive historical investigation, John Y. Detwiler discovered "a replica of an old map published in 1601. A casual study of it will show that the original St. Augustine was located much farther south than the present day city of that name."



Few things are slower than a traffic jam on the North Causeway Bridge, but 100 years ago the only access to the beachside community of Coronado Beach was by ferry. The Connor Bridge was opened on March 4, 1894. Palmetto logs were jetted down for pilings by Ballough Bros., Daytona Beach contractors. The causeway was laid by wheelbarrow. The bridge was almost 15 feet wide, barely allowing two teams to pass. Various accounts indicate the bridge was destroyed by storms twice and rebuilt.

Incorporated by Washington E. Connor, the New Smyrna Bridge and Investment Company was formed with \$15,000 capital. Officers included F.W. Sams, president; E.T. King, vice-president; R.S. Nelson, secretary and treasurer. Directors included G.H. Count, J.L. McCrary, E.T. King, J.B. Conrad, A.W. Cockrell, E. Dillingham, M. Bryan and C.L. Dohn. Eighteen days after its opening, receipts showed a 10% return on the investment. The Connor Bridge was purchased by the county in 1925.

THE FORGOTTEN BEACHSIDE COMMUNITY OF CORONADO BEACH

In the name "New Smyrna Beach," only the "Beach" remains of Coronado Beach which was annexed by New Smyrna on April 1, 1946. The community was founded on our beachside as early as 1885 and was incorporated in 1925.

Coronado Beach covered the North Beach, south to 2nd Avenue, and east of Hill Street (which was called "Old Coronado"). West of Hill Street was the county.

A 1974 interview with the last Mayor of Coronado Beach, J.G. Schauwecker, was journey into the life and history of this bygone community. He had spent six years on the Coronado Council, and two years as Mayor and Municipal Judge. Here's his story told as he sat in his favorite rocking chair and handrolled a cigarette:

- Annexation passed by 36 votes. "There were probably 1,000 people over here; maybe 500 were registered voters."
- "This little town developed tremendously. Beach crowds, even then, were tremendous. We budgeted \$500 one summer for life guards half a dozen of them. We had two drownings; I remember one of them: his name was Ivory Brown."
- "Councilmen never got a nickel. At one time, they gave free water over here at the council meetings but they quit that. Cost too much. We didn't have a fire department and we had some big fires over here, too. We had our own police force: two or three men and a part-time officer. Water and electric for Coronado came from New Smyrna. Actually, we gave the town

away to get New Smyrna water over here."

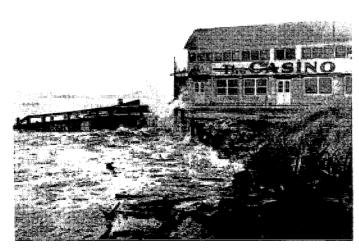
- Coronado Elementary School was located behind today's Coronado Beach Club House on Flagler Avenue.
- "The original method of crossing the river was by boat. Then there was a toll bridge the Connor Bridge. It was named after Washington E. Connor, who lived out by the Municipal Golf Course. Did you know the #7 green out there was once a rattlesnake hole?"
- "There was one year when I made only one arrest. It was two speeding cars. There were five boys in each car. I was municipal judge then, too. I fined them \$15 in each car. Their lawyer came late; but they got off easy. That's how well the town was managed."
- After annexation, Coronado Beach turned its records over to New Smyrna: "We had a debt service of \$32,000-34,000. That's all we owed. The town had a break-even budget."
- Many folks on the beachside talked of secession of Coronado Beach from New Smyrna Beach. I asked how he felt. "We were so far ahead of the other side going by leaps and bounds. They tried for 20 years (Coronado was incorporated in 1925) to take the town over and unsuccessfully. Well, we didn't have water; there was danger of contagion and disease. It was the struggle of a small community trying to live. New Smyrna has taken taxes out and put very little back in."
- What about the new skyline the beach is developing with its many condominiums, I wondered. "Condominiums are a disgrace to the beach, but progress is bound to come. You'll never hold it up. It's not right or proper to stand in the way of progress. Like it or not, these towns are going to grow. It's always been that way: people want to get bigger and wealthier all the time."



Welcome to Coronado Beach. In 1893 the village boasted of 31 cottages, two stores, two livery stables and a 40-room hotel. Cottages cost between \$400 to \$1,600. This photo was taken in 1944, showing the quaint archway and bridge tender's house at the west end of Flagler Avenue. The Riverview Hotel is to the right. Our modern North Bridge was completed in May 1953.



"Bicycle racing is another favorite sport. The sand is so hard that a buggy makes no track on it, and parties have skated upon it with roller-skates. It makes a splendid bicycle track — no dust or dirt, and a refreshing breeze all the time," says a *Florida Times-Union* article on 'Beautiful New Smyrna' printed on April 4, 1894.



More relentiess than hurricanes, northeasters visit New Smyrna every year. According to old timers, the northeasters run in 15-year cycles: 1932, 1947 and 1962. Possibly the worst northeaster in memory was October 3, 1947, causing \$500,000 damage in New Smyrna. The Casino, a popular eating, drinking and dancing establishment, was destroyed during this storm. It occupied the location of the city's Flagler Street parking lot at the beach ramp.



Have another fish sandwich? This resident proudly displays a 386-pound jew fish caught in the 1890's — fishing was better than good!

Where, When and How to Catch Fish on the East Coast of

Florida by William H. Gregg, 1902, lists these fish caught in the New Smyrna area: Besougas, Black Bass, Sea Bass, Bladder-fish, Bluefish, Bream, Catfish, Cavalle, Channel Bass, Croaker, Drum, Flounder, Grouper, Gulf-fish, Jewfish, Ladyfish, Mullet, Moonfish, Needle-fish, Mutton-fish (not the Pargo variety), Pigfish, Pilotfish, Pompano, Porcupine-fish, Sawfish, Sharks, Sheepshead, Sailor's Choice, Sea Robin, Sargeant-fish, Snappers (Mangrove, Gray and Rabirubia), Sand Conger, Skate, Spadefish, Spanish Mackerel, Tarpon, Spotted Sea Trout, Tripple Tail, Whiting and Yellow Tail.



According to Phyllis Austin, publisher of *The Pelican* newspaper (1951-1979), the Atlantic House was a popular social center for Coronado Beach and New Smyrna. Dancing to the music of Holly's orchestra was popular on Saturday nights. The house with an octagonal tower, in the background, was demoished in 1955 to make room the present-day Sea Horse Motel at 421 Flagier Avenue. The Atlantic House was situated on the present Flagler Avenue parking lot, south of the beach ramp. The hotel burned to the ground during World War I.



With no sense of history, we tend to forget our humble origins. The Riverview Hotel began as a two-story hunting and fishing lodge built by Captain S.H. Barber in 1885. Barber was the Coronado bridge tender (seen in background) and a part-time carpenter. In 1910 he and John Vrooman jacked up the building to serve as the second and third stories, building a new lobby and dining room underneath. The name was changed from "Barber Hotel" to the "Riverview Hotel."

In 1936 Fred Tyron purchased the hotel, built the west wing, and added individual bathrooms and steam heat. The 38-room hotel was open in the winter and closed in the summer, until World War II, when local Coast Guardsmen patroling the beach stayed there.

Tyron died in 1954; his daughters, Mrs. Richard Paxton and Mrs. Dorothy "Do" Miller, and son in law, Richard Paxton, ran the hotel. Declining hotel occupancy led to its use in the 1970's as a youth hostel. The building suffered neglect; its unpainted condition earned it the nickname "The Gray Ghost." Some called for its condemnation while others began bumpersticker campaign: "Quaint — Not Paint," followed by "Paint — Don't Feign." Finally, fire code violations brought its closing in 1980.

John Spang, Winter Park, bought the Riverview properties in March 1984 for \$520,000. His extensive renovation — and addition of a swimming pool and restaurant — has created a show place with a new lease on life a century later.



You're crossing the the Coronado drawbridge, looking east down Flagler Avenue. The toll tender's quarters are shown in front of the Riverview Hotel. Correct change, please: it costs a nickel to cross.



Some photographic foolery in E.G. Harris' darkroom provides this unlikely gator tale from 1906.



Shades of Moby Dick! Nine whales (35-43 feet long) washed ashore on June 13, 1908, near the lighthouse. New Smyrna residents Frank Sams, Albert Moeller, Elmer Oliver and Jerome Naley formed a company with John Pettigrew and Captain S. Bennett (a one-time New England whaler) of Daytona Beach for the purpose of extracting whale oil. Using giant kettles from the historic Sugar Mill—and any other iron caldron available—they set about boiling the

whale blubber. Perhaps they should have studied Melville's novel on whaling more closely. Each whale should have yielded about 45 barrels of valuable oil. Something went wrong: the final result was minimal and valueless. What they did accomplish was creating a whale of a mess and a city-wide stench. Smaller pieces of whale were hauled out to the Inlet, but dynamite was used on the remaining carcasses before disposal. Alas, the way of all easy-money schemes!

SYMBOLISM IN THE CITY FLAG

New Smyrna's pre-eminent historian, Mrs. Zelia Wilson Sweett (1897-1980) is featured in the photo below with the official city flag which she helped make in a Works Project Administration (WPA) Sewing Center in 1939.

This photo was taken in 1973 for the original, free weekly newspaper *The Observer*, of which I was co-founder and first editor. No newspaperman could have hoped for a better teacher than Zelia Sweett. A lifetime resident of New Smyrna (a great granddaughter of Jane Murray who received a Spanish land grant here in 1803), she was generous with her time and extensive historical resources. In some small measure, this publication is dedicated to her great love for New Smyrna's rich heritage.

We borrowed the flag from City Hall and hung it on the clothesline in her backyard at 128 North Riverside Drive. She was self conscious: "My arms are so thin. . .you should never grow old," she said. Newspapers are about people, I convinced her, and why not have one of the flag's originators featured as well. Perhaps to her chagrin, the photo appeared on the front page of the May 31, 1973 issue of *The Observer*, commemorating New Smyrna Beach's 86th anniversary since incorporation.

She explained the meaning of the city flag: the field is purple (symbolizing New Smyrna as a Royal Colony and exporter of indigo) and is trimmed with gold (representing sunshine and wealth.) A green (year-round growing season), white (purity, truth and justice), and gold seal are centered in this field. A gap of water separates a dead tree on the left from a living tree on the right. The date "1768" is beneath the dead tree and "1887" is beneath the living one.

Of course, 1768 is the birth of the ill-fated Dr. Andrew Turnbull colony, the largest British attempt at colonization in the New World. The dying tree echoes these words from a letter written on February 19, 1778: "The desertion of the Smyrna Settlement by the People is an unfortunate circumstance for the province and must occasion a severe loss to the Proprietors. If it be in your power to lessen that loss or to give them any assistance



Mrs. Zelia Wilson Sweett displaying the city's official flag.

in retrieving their Affairs, I must desire you will exert your Endeavors on their behalf," Lord George Germain wrote to Florida's Royal Governor Patrick Tonyn.

The flourishing tree represents later settlements and the incorporation of the city on June 6, 1887. A gold key spanning the water means, "The past is the key to the future," Mrs. Sweett suggested with a smile.

Adoption of the official city flag was recommended by a committee headed by John S. Duss, Jr. Committee members included: Mrs. S.J. Sweett, Mrs. Cora Wilson, Norman Osborne and Victor Hardy. The City Commission adopted the flag on January 9, 1939, and received the first of two city flags on May 17, 1939, from Mrs. Wilson, who headed the WPA Sewing Center.

OUR NAMESAKE: SMYRNA, ASIA MINOR

"And unto the angel of the church of Smyrna, write: These things saith the first and the last, which was dead, and is alive; I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty (but thou art rich), and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan. Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you in prison, and ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death."

The above quotation comes from The Bible, Book of Revelation, 2:8-11. "Old" Smyrna is located in western Turkey, about 210 miles south-southeast of Istanbul. It is called Izmir today

New Smyrna was named in honor of Dr. Turnbull's wife, Gracia Dura Bin, who was a resident of Smyrna. Our namesake was also a seaport, where orange groves flourished, and readers of Mark Twain's *Innocents Abroad* will remember his description of a shell mound found there. Those seeking similarities between the two Smyrnas will find many.

For over 5,000 years Smyrna has held historical importance in the Mediterranean world. This sea-faring community was the reputed birthplace of the Greek epic poet Homer (8th century B.C.). Homer was born by the banks of the Meles, a stream worshipped for its magical healing powers which ran through Smyrna. He wrote his epic poems *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey* in a cave at the source of this stream.

Ancient Smyrna was reknown for its architectural beauty: paved streets laid out in a rectilinear pattern. Rev. Walter Colton complained in 1851 about the narrow streets and warned of "encountering loaded camels that come along in strings of one hundred or two hundred, fastened together, and led by a little jackass, who appears not more foolish and sulky than you feel, in being obliged to squat down upon the first stone, to escape a worse fate from the sweeping range of their enormous sacks."

The city was celebrated for its library, a school of medicine where Galen (the "Father of Medicine") studied, as well as thermal springs where Agamemnon stopped to treat his wounded soldiers. During the days of the Roman Empire, Smyrna was a favorite exile for condemned governors who had fallen out of favor with Rome. After Caesar's murder in 44 B.C., Brutus and Cassius convened their council of war here.

NEW SMYRNA VIEW: 1888

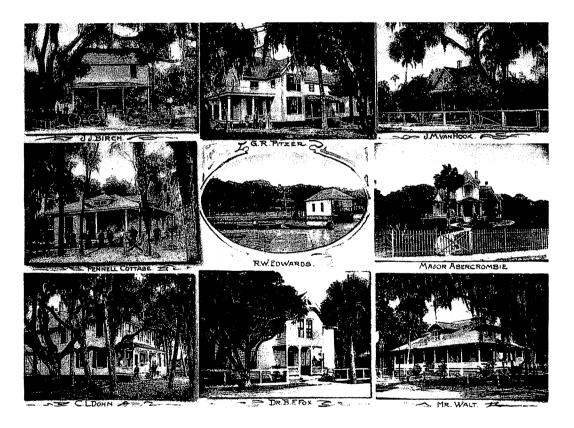
From "A Pamphlet: Historical and Descriptive of Volusia County – Prepared and Published by Order of the County Commissioners"

"Reader, if you never have visited that part of the 'East Coast' of Florida...you have failed to see one of the most interesting parts of the State; and if New Smyrna has not been included in your travels, you have missed seeing one of the most charming localities of the entire reach of the Atlantic shore from St. Mary's to Bay Biscayne.

* * * * * *

"New Smyrna is rich in relics of the past. On the river front is a high shell mound piled up by a former race in the dim past, and containing evidences of the work of the mound-builders. On the summit of this Turnbull had his castle, the ruins of the foundations still remaining; and in the cellar of the building now stand-

ing on its site was the dungeon in which refractory laborers were confined. At the foot of the mound is an ancient well. A few rods to the south is a canal of the Turnbull time extending westward into the low pine lands. A little further to the southeast is an old burying ground in the midst of the wood. Still southward, just across the railroad track [Blue Springs, Orange City, and Atlantic Railroad followed the course of Lytle Avenue to the river], is a portion of the wall of a former stately mansion [Dunham]; and in front, by the riverside, was the earthwork from which the marines were fired upon [during the Civil War], now leveled down for street purposes. The old stone wharf is some distance beyond, and at the southern extremity of the corporation is another Turnbull canal. Two miles in a southwesterly direction are the broken walls of an old sugar-house, and four miles to the northward overlooking the inlet are the four walls of an ancient building [Rock House] standing entire. Wells curbed with coquina, dilapidated stone chimneys, fragments of former habitations, depressions in the ground marking the location of indigo vats, are scattered up and down the shore. In the river is an island where vessels arrived for cargoes of sugar, indigo and live



Ancient and Modern New Smyrna, Florida, and Vicinity was published by Royal Hubbell of Hawk's Park (renamed Edgewater) in 1906. This montage of residences and the following page of New Smyrna business houses are reprinted from his book. "This location has always been popular as a home for humanity," Hubbell prefaced his photographic essay. "The great shell mounds prove that it was inhabited for hundreds of years by prehistoric races. Then very soon after Columbus' discovery the Spanish settled here. . . As a health resort, hunting ground, fishing place, and winter home New Smyrna is unexcelled. The finest oranges in the world are grown here. . . the finest beach for riding, driving, fishing and bathing is only one mile from New Smyrna at Coronado. Good roads, good boating, comfortable hotels, beautiful scenery, healthful ocean air, and genial, sunny winter weather, make this an ideal place for

tourists. Let the camera tell the rest of the story."

J.J. Birch, printer and publisher, lived at 537 Ball Street. G.R. Pitzer owned the New Smyrna Cash Store, featuring "Staple and Fancy Groceries, Confectionary and Stationary [sic]." His newspaper ads pledged "Quick Sales and Small Profit is My Motto." Pitzers lived on North Riverside Drive on the site of the present Redemptorist Fathers villa. J.M. Van Hook's house was at 519 Faulkner Street. Major Abercrombie's house was situated on the site of today's Masonic Temple, corner of Washington Street and North Riverside Drive. C.L. Dohn ran the livery on Canal Street and lived at 506 North Riverside Drive. Dr. Benjamin Franklin Fox, first physician in New Smyrna, lived at 608 South Riverside. Mr. Walt lived opposite of the Garden Club at Faulkner and Washington Streets.

oak, and discharged their ballast; and opposite on the peninsula is an Indian burial mound that has furnished to relic hunters rich trophies in the line of aboriginal bones.

"Since Turnbull's day, New Smyrna has had no development in the direction of becoming a town until 1882. Then its growth began and has continued slowly until now. The hindrances that have stood in the way of rapid advancement are gradually being removed, and there is every appearance that the place has reached the dawn of an era of great prosperity. In the year last named there were within the limits of the present corporation, eleven dwellings, a store, hotel, church, and a small, dilapidated school-house. Now there are forty-one dwellings, a two-story school-house, a church building, a hotel, a railroad depot, warehouses, a restaurant, two millinery and ladies' furnishing stores, three grocery stores, two general merchandise stores, a drug store, a wholesale grocery and feed store, two fish packing establishments, a livery stable, a newspaper printing office, telegraph, express and freight office, two religious societies - Union and Methodist Episcopal; a boot and shoe shop, three physicians, a lawyer, mechanics, a dentist, and between seventy and eighty buildings of all kinds. . . .

"Here are prosperous orange groves, lovely in enameled foliage and laden with clusters of golden fruit, whose juices ripen, into exquisite deliciousness, unsurpassed elsewhere in the world. Lemons, grapefruit, citrons, limes, pears, peaches, pomegranates, figs, mulberries, Japan persimmons and plums, scuppernong grapes and guavas are raised in limited quantities. Sour and bitter-sweet oranges grow wild. . . In the waters are great varieties and inexhaustible abundance of fish, with oysters, clams, shrimps, stone-crabs, green turtles and salt water delicacies. . . A few years to come will witness great changes here. A hard sanded and gently sloping sea beach in front; a peninsula three-quarters of a mile wide designed by Nature for summer villas. . .the only available inlet south of St. Augustine; geographically situated for the natural entry port on the Atlantic of the whole of South Florida; what shall hinder the tide of commerce from flowing in and out of this port? The hand of destiny has been laid upon New Smyrna, and the development of the interior will force the result. . . Come to New Smyrna and see for yourself."



The Post Office and Bank Block is now the Southern Bell Telephone facility in the first block of Canal Street. Silvers & Tanner, featuring dry goods and notions, established their business across the street from today's Sun Discount Pharmacy on Canal Street. R.J. Skipper's drug store had the only soda water stand in town, located on the site of the present Karrer Apartments at the corner of Lytle Avenue and South Riverside Drive. His neighbor to the north was L.C. Chisholm's Barber Shop. J.R. Berry's waterfront grocery was south of Washington Avenue near the Municipal Yacht Basin. Russell Galbreath recalled one Halloween about 1925 Berry's delivery wagon and a live cow were discovered the next morning atop the Faulkner Street School. Small boats blocked the entrances; school was closed that day. W.P. Shryock specialized in "General Merchandise, Staple and Fancy Groceries, Hardware, Stoves, Ranges,

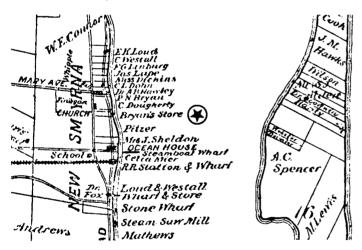
Etc." This structure was converted into the Riverview Apartments at the corner of Lytle Avenue and South Riverside Drive. When Shryock built his store in 1893, he noted: "When we dug the cellar we found many relics, axes and household utensils, some of which were intact, others partially burned. The old coffee grinder bears and English coat of arms. . .another interesting relic is a pestle mortar." His store was built on the site of the 1830's Dunham mansion (see associated story "The Lost Pillars of New Smyrna" on page 13). An extensive dock stretched into the river in front of his store. S. Ross' grocery store market in the Turner Block was near the Southeast Bank on Canal Street today. M.A. Galbreath & Co., 500 Canal Street, was the number one merchantile in men's wear south of Jacksonville. Later Hobbs' women's store, it has been remodeled by attorney Michael Brewer into a professional office complex.

BIRTH OF OUR CITY: UNEXPURGED EXCERPTS FROM THE 1893-1903 CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

It was a long first day when New Smyrna incorporated on June 6, 1887. The meeting began at 10:00 a.m. and didn't adjourn until 7:30 p.m. Twenty-seven registered voters met at Bryan's Hall [located at the base of Washington Street and North Riverside Drive — see star on survey map below].

Philemon N. Bryan was the unanimous choice for New Smyrna's first mayor. A.B. Hawley was elected President of the Council; other members included Christopher Westall, Frank W. Sams, John A. Ball and George R. Pitzer. C.L. Dohn became Town Clerk; Milton Bryan, Town Treasurer; C.R. Dilzer, Town Collector; and J.R. Finegan, Town Assessor.

However, the first six years of Council minutes are missing. Perhaps misplaced — or lost — the first record of New Smyrna City Council meetings doesn't begin until October 17, 1893. At this meeting, Councilman J.L. Rush motioned "to procure a minute or record book" which is the source for the following stories. Two 11" x 15" bound volumes are still preserved at City Hall today. These earliest recorded meetings were held at Dohn's Hall above Dohn's Livery; the hall was rented for \$3.00 per month. The livery was located on the corner of Canal and Faulkner Streets, in the 200 block of Canal Street.



Alfred Howard's 1886 survey showing mainland and beachside

• TOWN MARSHAL IS BUSTED: At the first recorded meeting, Town Marshal C.H. Root was charged with "Malconduct and mal-administration. Intoxication in one or more instances when on duty. (2) Failed to make arrests as instructed by the Mayor. (3) Allowing arrested persons to escape. (4) Arresting, imprisoning and releasing persons without reporting to the Mayor. (5) Unlawful seizure and retaining the effects of prisoners." That would make any lawman blush.

The marshal acknowledged "having been remiss in the performance of his duties." The charges were "in the main true" and he asked for the lienency of the Council and "would endeavor in the future to comply with his lawful duties." He was reinstated by unanimous vote.

However, another complaint surfaced a year later in Decem-



"Let's go to Daytona," is easily said and done today. Lest we forget our humble origins, here is the way U.S. #1 looked at the turn of the century.

The first automobile driven over the sand road between New Smyrna and Daytona was a Union car, owned by John C. Pettepher. The date was December 22, 1904. Another driver, E.L. Bond, followed in his Union automobile.

Passengers in the two cars included B.F. Hough, H.L. Williamson, George F. Crouch, G.H. Glenn and John Hollahan.

The trip each way took a little over an hour.

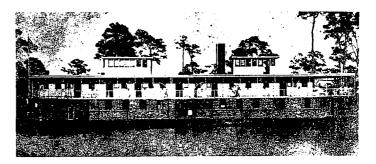


A.B. Nordman, who lived north of the NSB Municipal Airport, measured 23.22" of rainfall over a 24-hour period on October 9-10, 1924. For many years, this was the most severe 24-hour rainfall recorded within the continental United States. Currently that dubious distinction is held by Yankeetown, Florida. Flooding was three feet deep in low places. This view looks east down Canal Street from the Swoope Building — today the Sun Discount Pharmacy at 223 Canal Street.

ber 1894: the Town Marshal "had been in the habit of using intoxicating liquors to excess while on duty." Investigations followed and Root was discharged on December 28, 1895. Lewis Pallicer was elected as new Town Marshal and Collector.

- LET'S BUILD A JAIL: First you incorporate the city, next thing you think about is a jail. Mayor J.A. Ball was concerned with "the urgent need of a jail" and a motion passed to "secure plans and specifications for the proposed jail." At the January 23, 1894 meeting, members heard Councilman J.L. Rush report "The money on hand is entirely too little to justify the town to build" a jail. It wasn't until January 18, 1901, that the city accepted the low bid of C.H. Clark, \$141, to build a 20 x 24-foot jail. "Walls of building to be 12 feet high with four openings, three windows and one door in which grates are to be placed, Council to furnish grates and door."
- WILD IN THE STREETS: Firearms in the street sounds like something out of the Wild West, but it was a problem here. Councilmen approved an ordinance making it unlawful "unless legally authorized to discharge by shooting any firearms within, into or across any street within the city limits of the town." The fine was "not less than two dollars nor more than \$10, or not less than one day nor more than five days imprisonment for each offense, at the discretion of the Mayor."
- MAYOR BALL RESIGNS WITH RELIEF: Mayor J.A. Ball decided to "move to another part of the country." He praised the "pleasant and harmonious nature" of his governmental experience. "I lay down the duties and responsibilities of the office with feelings of regret mingled with feelings of relief experienced in leaving its cares and burdens. . My deep interest in the public welfare and general progress of the town will cease with my absence," he told fellow Councilmen on February 13, 1894.
- PAY-AS-YOU-GO POLICE AND PRINTING: Special policemen appointed at the April 3, 1894 session were expected to "serve without pay except for actual service rendered." At this same cost-cutting meeting, Councilman R.S. Sheldon was instructed to "confer with the printer and secure, if possible, a reduction in rates for the town's printing for the ensuing year."
- TAX MAN COMETH: J.L. Rush was authorized to visit DeLand for the purpose of getting state valuations of property within New Smyrna from the County Assessor's books. On October 4, 1894, "10 mills upon the dollar of valuation was adopted as the amount of tax to be levied upon taxable property within the corporate limits for the year A.D. 1894."
- COUNCIL CHAMBERS BECOME MOBILE: Council meetings moved from above Dohn's Livery to Raulerson Hall on February 5, 1895. On August 6th the Council Hall moved again, this time to "the first and right-hand room on the second floor of the Smith Block on the southeast corner of Canal and Hillsborough [renamed Riverside Drive] Street." This is the site of the Southern Bell Telephone facility today.
- WONDER WHERE THE SHELL MOUNDS WENT? A recurrent entry in these old minutes concerns road repair. Such maintenance required vast quantities of shell, and what easier source than the 22 Indian shell mounds throughout our area. It was hard labor; in 1893 two men for two weeks were authorized to "clear up the streets at a cost not exceeding \$1.25 for each man employed."

In 1896 a subscription list signed by black residents offered



Pierre Lorillard, tobacco millionaire, could have vacationed anywhere in the world, but he chose New Smyrna. Arriving here year after year in his "Cayman," the largest house boat in the world at that time, he docked near the Municipal Yacht Basin from 1890-1904.

The 120-foot houseboat included living quarters arranged with suite, sitting room, bedroom and bath. Extravagant was the word fore to aft. Walls were panelled in brocade. The "Cayman" featured an art gallery, dining hall, salon and game rooms equipped with roulette wheels brought from Monte Carlo.

A second boat accompanied the "Cayman" — filled with horses, hunting dogs, carriages and hunting equipment — as well as the launch "Tarpon," and a smaller fishing launch.

In an age of conspicuous consumption, Lorillard's entourage gave the word "wealthy" a new meaning.

The "Cayman" was powered by twin-screw 200-horsepower triple-compound engines. Top speed was 10 miles per hour. While docked at New Smyrna in the summer of 1904, the famous house-boat burned to the waterline.



Today you would find the U.S. Post Office at 237 Canal Street on this site. Built in 1885 and razed in 1966, this rambling Victorian structure was the home of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Perkins (D.P.) Smith.

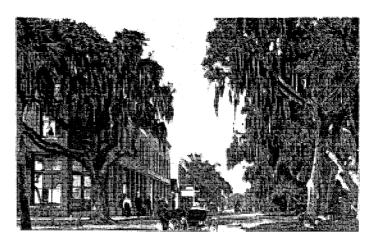
The front entrance featured a church door from an old chapel in Jacksonville. One of their four children, Cornelia Paul, recalled the children were sent out the front door when they spoke disparagingly about anyone. Once outside, they would come in again and not gossip.

D.P. was Volusia County tax collector for almost 50 years. His father had held the same position in Duval County for 20 years. When Smith was elected to office in 1889, Volusia County's taxes totaled \$30,000. During that time he also served as agent for the Blue Springs, Orange City and Atlantic Railway which ran down Lytle Avenue to the river.

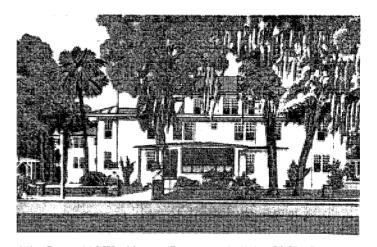
six days labor for the purpose of cleaning and grubbing Dora Avenue from Washington Avenue to Mary Avenue. Council approved \$16 payment. Opening Ball Street cost \$19.30; cleaning and ditiching Mary Avenue to the corporate line was estimated at \$136.70 in 1897. The same year a bid was accepted from S.H. Raulerson to furnish and spread 900 cubic yards of shell on New Smyrna's streets for 60¢ per cubic yard. By 1901 the city's appetite for shell was up to 2,000 cubic yards at the inflated price of 70¢ per cubic yard. With all this shell the city obviously missed one hole. F.P. Zig found it and sought "damages sustained from driving into a hole in the street" on December 3, 1901.

Shell mounds that stood before Christopher Columbus set sail were quickly disappearing. By 1903 the high price of shell was on everyone's mind. C. Murray of the Street Committee reported he was "unable to secure shell for 60¢ per cubic yard as in the past, as the price at the mound was now 35¢ per cubic yard." The city wound up paying 75¢ per cubic yard of shell spread that year.

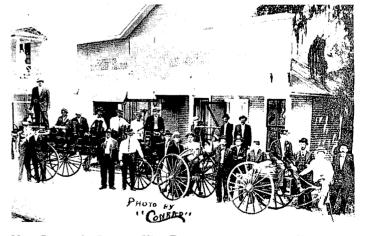
- SPECIAL HOG SESSION CALLED: This strange meeting concerned "certain hogs that had been impounded by the Marshal and had been taken from the pound without the knowledge or consent of the Marshal." If the parties responsible for taking the hogs from the pound on November 25, 1897, didn't appear in the Mayor's Court, he promised to prosecute the culprits before the County Court of Record.
- SPANISH AMERICAN WAR SCARE: A special session was called to confer with Colonel Praskey in procuring arms and ammunition from the Governor of the State of Florida. The weapons were to be used in the protection of New Smyrna and vicinity in the event of invasion by the Spaniards. The city posted a \$2,000 bond for the safe return of 100 weapons.
- IT'S A DIRTY JOB, BUT SOMEONE, ETC.: The Town Marshal was responsible for collecting license fees, dog collar badge fees, and was frequently told to have certain potholes in the street fixed. He was also expected "to make the usual house-to-house sanitary inspection during the months of July, August and September." For a job that paid \$25 per month, his job description kept getting longer and more miscellaneous. On May 12, 1898: "The Marshal was instructed to have the water closets at the school house cleaned up." By the next meeting a new Marshal had been elected.
- END OF THE CENTURY MISCELLANY: House-to-house salesmen were required to have a license. The Town Marshal was instructed to build an animal pound at "a convenient location at a cost not exceeding \$10." Feeding a prisoner for seven days cost \$4.20. Salary for 19 days of street work was \$19. New Smyrna tried its hand at promotional advertising with "a page of descriptive matter of New Smyrna and a page of illustration of such cuts as the town might furnish for four months in Sunny Lands for the sum of \$15."
- NEW STREET LAMPS BROKEN: Yet another duty of the Town Marshal was lighting and extinguishing the gas street lights. New Smyrna's first street lamps were 18 "Sun Vapor Street Lamps" purchased from the City of Jacksonville on May 21, 1895. In November 1899 the Street Lamp Committee was told to order 24 more lamps. Within four months of their installation, Town Marshal W.S. Abbott reported three lamps broken on Hillsborough Street and one on Canal Street. "I cannot say how these lamps have been broken, but if it has been the custom



Canal Street about 1910 looking west from the middle of today's Riverside Drive. The Southern Bell facility occupies this site today. The Turnbull Canal can be seen at the right.



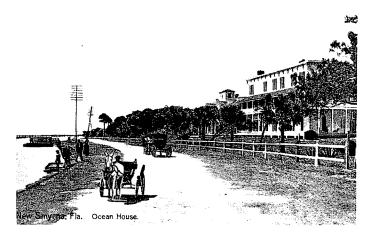
Alba Court, 115 Washington Street, was built in 1906 by James and Clyde Pennell. Twenty-six rooms frame an open three-story lobby, providing cross ventilation. Tables and chairs were set out around the second and third story walkways so guests could enjoy bands playing in the lobby below. Steam heat and a gas generating plant for gas lighting were featured; each room received plumbing in 1917. And they still talk about some of the parties and card games held here during Prohibition.



New Smyrna's finest — Fire Department — shows off its equipment about 1913. The fire station was located at 115 North Orange Avenue, where Troup Tru-Gas and Appliance Corporation is located today. For those off-duty moments, Murray's Bowling Alley was conveniently located next door (to the left).

for the Marshal to pay for lamps that have been broken, I want to pay for these or replace them, as the Council may see fit," Abbott reported on April 3, 1900.

- MARSHAL TURNS IN HIS BADGE AND MORE: With the election of a new Town Marshal, Marshal W.S. Abbott returned city property: "I beg to deliver to you the following property of the town of New Smyrna: 2 shell forks, 2 rakes, 2 hoes, 1 shovel, 22 dog collars and tags, 1 pair handcuffs, 1 oil can and 2 gallons oil, and a harness at Dohn's stable. 22 lamps on the street in very good order except one or two which need two or three panes of glass in them. The lamp that was broken since my last report was broken by Mr. Green's horse which ran against the post which was rotten and broke off."
- YOU BREAK IT, YOU FIX IT: Road repair was a constant expense and an ordinance passed on June 4, 1901, requiring heavy "log cars, timber carts or turpentine carts shall keep the portions of streets used by them in good repair" and "shall repair any damage done without delay." Offenders could face a \$50 fine or 10 days in jail.
- VOTING FRAUD ONE VOTE: After the 1902 election on July 7th, "the name of D.J. Bell was ordered stricken from the registration lists owing to the irregularity of its getting on the list."
- YOU CAN'T WHIP A DROWNED HORSE: J.W. Wilson of Oak Hill claimed \$75 damages for his horse which drowned "while trying to cross a bridge which he supposes belongs to the town." Councilman T.J. Murray decided to examine the records in DeLand to determine if the bridge was within the town limits. He reported at the December 2, 1902, meeting that the bridge "was probably within the town limits." The Council allowed \$25 damages and appointed Councilman Murray as a committee of one to confer with Wilson to settle the claim. At the next meeting, Councilmen learned Wilson had refused the \$25 settlement "saying he would have the \$75 or nothing [these last two words are marked through in the original minute] or bring suit." This tough talk eventually led to a \$25 settlement on February 3, 1903.
- TOWN MARSHAL TROUBLES AGAIN: Mayor C.Y. Hesse told fellow Council members he had "suspended the Town Marshal for neglect of duty in allowing crossing of the street to be blocked from early one morning until afternoon of next day, and also for having failed to report L.C. Chisholm [the town barber] for riding a bicycle without a light; after having caught him in the act." The other Councilmen thought otherwise and reinstated the Marshal with full pay at their February 3, 1903 meeting. On May 11th Town Marshal J.F. Cannova resigned.
- TELEPHONES RING IN NEW SMYRNA: Earliest discussion of a telephone franchise in New Smyrna began in late 1897. Town Clerk J.P. Turner petitioned the City Council for erecting "poles and electrical apparatus necessary to construct and maintain a telephone exhange" in 1902. Finally, the New Smyrna Telephone Company was granted the right to establish a telephone exchange on April 5, 1904. The 30-year franchise included the stipulation that "the rental of said telephones not to exceed \$24 per annum to any customer." Members of the Telephone Company included J.R. Berry, M.A. Galbreath, L.B. Bouchelle, D.P. Smith, M.L. Childs, R.W. Edwards, L. Chisholm, C.L. Dohn, J.J. Birch and H.A. Paxton among others.



The Ocean House was a popular resort for hunters and fishermen, with many wealthy yachtsmen as seasonal visitors. The first part of the hotel was built in 1856-57 by Ora Carpenter and expanded and renovated through the years. Captain F.W. Sams acquired the property, adding a three-story addition. From the second story piazza, "There is a delightful view of the land and water, and the outlook is nearly, if not quite, to the ocean," one guest recalled.

The resort had its own lighting plant, waterworks and ice house to store the ice which arrived by boat. A French chef supervised the kitchen staff where homemade bread and superb food were prepared on a huge wood-burning stove. Minimum rates were \$3 per day, or \$15 per week for room and meals.

The County Courthouse Annex on North Riverside Drive occupies the site of the Ocean House today.



Our first library — the New Smyrna Free Library — was a gift from philanthropist W.E. Connor. Later the home of the Garden Club, it stands at the corner of Faulkner Street and Washington Avenue.



New Smyrna's second railroad connection, the Florida East Coast, arrived in 1891. New Smyrna became a busy railroad town. Trains ran through town every hour, 24 hours per day. In 1926 the FEC built a locomotive repair shop and roundhouse at a cost of nearly \$1 million. The shop was the largest on the line and all locomotives were cut offat New Smyrna after each run for inspection and service. Locomotive #148 (above) was the last steam locomotive commissioned before the conversion to diesels.



RECIPES





Dr. Benjamin Franklin Fox was New Smyrna's first physician. In 1865 he began the medicinal use of the saw palmetto (Serenoa Serrulata) berry. Indians used the berries for food. Dogs, horses and pigs were fattened on the berries; bears were especially fond of them. The Wilkinson family in Eldora gathered, dried and shipped the berries to pharmaceutical companies in St. Louis or New York.

Fall was the best time for the crop, from the first of November until January pickers were busy. The berries were never in the same place two consecutive years. Burning off palmetto scrub produced a heavier crop the next year, but the berries were of lesser quality.

Fox's recipe was a jug half filled with palmetto berries, scantly covered with honey, and topped with rum or brandy. Store in dark place, shaking every so often. Use after a month, when the berries have developed their full strength in the liquor mixture. This diuretic brew was good for numerous ailments.

ORANGE FRITTERS - Mrs. K.L. Chilton

1 egg; 1 C. milk; oranges; 2 tsp. sugar;

2 heaping T. baking powder; 1 C. flour

Peel oranges, cut in quarters, remove seeds. Dip in batter made of other ingredients and fry in deep, hot fat until brown. Sprinkle with sugar.

SOUR ORANGE PRESERVES - Mrs. Cora Wilson

Grate rind; cut in half. Soak over night in crock of water with a little salt. Next morning drain water off. Cover with clear water for two nights. Squeeze carefully and gradually pick seeds out. After three days drain in colander. Boil until tender. Add sugar: make syrup pound for pound. Boil short while and set over night. Next morning boil a short while and put into jars.

SOUR ORANGE WINE – Julia Dilzer

To 1 gallon of juice add 3 gallons of water. To every gallon of mixture add 3 pounds of sugar. Put in jugs and allow to stand until fermentation ceases. Keep covered with thin cloth. After fermentation stops, drain off and cork. To 1 gallon of juice add 1 gallon of water.

COQUINA SOUP (Periwinkle) - Mrs. T.F. Grimsley

Basic recipe: Divide whatever quantity of periwinkles you have into three parts. Wash well. Cover first part with water, steam until shells all open. Drain off liquid and use to cook second portion. Repeat for third portion. Strain liquid through linen or fine cloth to be sure no grit remains. Add to each cup when served (1) 1 T. butter or (2) 1 T. whipped cream or (3) butter and 1 T. cooked rice. Use this broth also to make a delicious cornmeal mush. Let set; slice and fry.

SHRIMP PILAU - Mrs. Amelia Lowd

1 lb. shrimp; 1 medium onion; 1 small can tomatoes; 1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce; 1 C. rice; 1 small red pepper,

1/4 lb. white bacon (salt pork)

Boil shrimp in salt water 20 or 30 minutes. Remove shells and cut in half. Cook rice in salt water until not quite done. Dice white bacon and fry crisp. Add chopped onion and fry when bacon is nearly brown. Pour tomatoes over this. Let simmer with seasoning. Pour all ingredients together over rice; cover and let steam until rice is done.

STEWED CRAB - Mrs. F.W. Sams

1 quart crab meat, cooked; 1 T butter;

6 hardboiled eggs; 2 T. flour

Melt butter and flour together. Add 1 C. water, Tabasco sauce, Worcestershire sauce and walnut catsup to taste, and one small onion grated. Add crab and eggs cut in small pieces. Serve on toast.

DEVILED CLAMS – Mrs. R.S. Sheldon

To 25 clams, chopped fine, add ½ can tomatoes or 3 medium size fresh tomatoes; one chopped onion; a little parsley; 2 tsp. sweet marjoram; salt and pepper to taste. Mix with bread or cracker crumbs until like sausage. Fill clean clam shells and sprinkle cracker meal over top. Put a lump of butter on each and bake 30 minutes.

MINORCAN STEW - Mrs. Cora Wilson

(1)

1½ or 2 lbs. round steak diced; ¼ lb. bacon diced (2)

1 C. onions, chopped fine; 1 large can tomatoes; 2 datil or hot peppers, chopped fine; pinch cloves; pinch allspice;

1/2 lb. raisins; 1 T. Worcestershire

(3)

½ lemon sliced very thin; salt to taste

In an iron or heavy aluminum pot, brown bacon and remove pieces from pot. Roll steak in flour well seasoned with salt and pepper; brown in the bacon fat. Return bacon to pot and add second group of ingredients. Cook slowly, adding extra water if stew gets too dry, until tender. Add lemon and extra salt if needed.

DELICIA – Frances D. Pooser

½ lb. spaghetti; 1 clove garlic; 1 can tomato soup; ½ C. grated cheese (more if you like it); salt, paprika, cayenne, to taste; 2 small onions; 1 green pepper; 1 can corn;

1 lb. hamburger; 1 tsp. Worcestershire

Brown onion, garlic and pepper in oil. Add soup and cheese. Boil spaghetti. Add corn. Mix all together and cook 15 minutes. Put in baking dish, sprinkle cheese on top and cook 20 minutes.

CORN RELISH – Julia Dilzer

12 ears corn; 6 sweet green and 6 sweet red peppers; ¾ quart onions; 1 quart ripe cucumbers, peeled and seeded; 2 quarts ripe tomatoes; small ½ C salt; 1½ quart vinegar; 1 quart sugar (1 pint more); 1 oz. of celery seed; 1 oz. mustard; ½ oz. dry mustard; ½ 1 oz. tumeric put in toward last. Boil 40 minutes. Add more sugar if you like it sweet. Put all through food chopper.

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POLICE RECORD

EDITOR'S NOTE: These excerpts are transcribed from New Smyrna's first police docket. It is a chronology of *fin-de-siècle* and new century crime.

Nothing's new about crime. Since crime increases with population, the problem is passed from one generation to another like a hot potato. So it goes...and grows.

There were more simple times, when New Smyrna really was a hideaway city — when it took 26 votes to elect the first mayor in 1887. Still, there were problems.

Here are the crimes that made the police docket beginning a century ago...the saga of the wild, wild Florida East Coast.

FIRST CRIME IS ASSAULT AND BATTERY

Wiley Jenkins holds the dubious honor of being the first entry in the leather bound docket books. He was arrested by town marshal William Laurcey for assault and battery on February 18, 1889.

Jenkins was "sentenced to pay a fine of \$10 and costs or to hard labor for ten days and be committed to the custody of the marshal until the fine is paid or the labor performed," ruled Mayor B.J. Skipper.

Court costs were \$6.39, with \$1.79 going to the mayor and the rest going to the marshal.

FOUL MOUTH BECOMES DISTURBINGLY POPULAR

Charles King was arrested in September 1889 for "disturbing the peace and using abusive language." King pleaded not guilty, but it didn't do any good. He was fined \$5...big money for bad words.

As time passed, profanity proliferated and the fine for expletives was reduced. By 1901 "swearing in the streets" was reduced to a \$1 fine. Strangely enough, when the price went down, swearing in the streets saw a dramatic rise. Five such incidents are recorded for 1901 alone.

DRUNKS DELUGE THE DOCKET...THEN AS NOW

Probably the most recurrent entry in the dockets concerns drunks. Drinking has always been popular in New Smyrna...possibly due to its salty environment.

Charges of "drunk on the streets" and the more dangerous "drunk and asleep on the streets" brought \$1 fines in 1891.

The passive drunk faded. Alarming increases in "disturbing the peace" and "drunk and disorderly" charges were evidenced. To combat this ever rising drunken tide, fines levied against tipsy townsmen leaped to \$10 per offense in 1905.

Drunks become either docile or violent when they're flying three sheets to the wind. "Shooting in the streets" and "concealed weapons" accompany some of these drunk charges. That was a big \$25 fine in 1891. If you were just fighting, though, it was a dollar a fight.

HAVE YOU STOPPED BEATING YOUR WIFE?

In the days before liberated women — long before they became advertising sex symbols or even had the right to vote — women who ran amuck with their husbands were beaten.

Though this was never offically sanctioned, a man charged with "whipping his wife" was fined \$2.50 in 1902. By 1905 the fine leaped to \$10. However, by 1908 the minimum ante for "beating his wife," "whipping his wife" or "whipping and burning his wife" brought fines of \$25 apiece.

There was a reduced \$10 fine for one incidence of wife beating in 1908; perhaps the wife deserved some punishment?

BICYCLE LAW CREATES INSTANT CRIMINALS

With the sweep of a legal pen, criminals can be created. An ordinance was passed requiring all bicycles to be equipped with lights and bells. Harry Galbreath was the first offender to be apprehended in 1895. He was "reiding bycle with out leight." The Mayor's Court couldn't spell that day, but it certainly knew how to collect a two-dollar fine.

This particular ordinance, being immensely profitable and vigorously enforced, became cheaper as the number of offenders increased. By 1901 the fine had gone down to a dollar.

SEX CRIME POTPOURRI

It may be commonplace today, but a couple "illegally living together" was fined \$10 each in 1905.

Pornography arrived in New Smyrna in 1908, when a man was arrested for "selling and exhibiting nude pictures." The fine was \$25 or 30 days on the street crew.

Adultery cost \$10 in 1912. The man was sent to a "detention camp" for an unspecified length of time.

MEET OUR FIRST RECKLESS DRIVERS

J.C. Turner, Jr. was the first New Smyrnan to be apprehended for "reckless driving of an automobile." This momentous event occurred in August 1912. It was also the first case of recidivism. A year later, Turner was picked up for "failing to sound horn at street corner."

The first recorded incidence of "reckless driving of a motorcycle" was in 1911. Motorcyclist Barry Lopez was fined one dollar.

MISCELLANEOUS CRIMES WORTHY OF MENTION

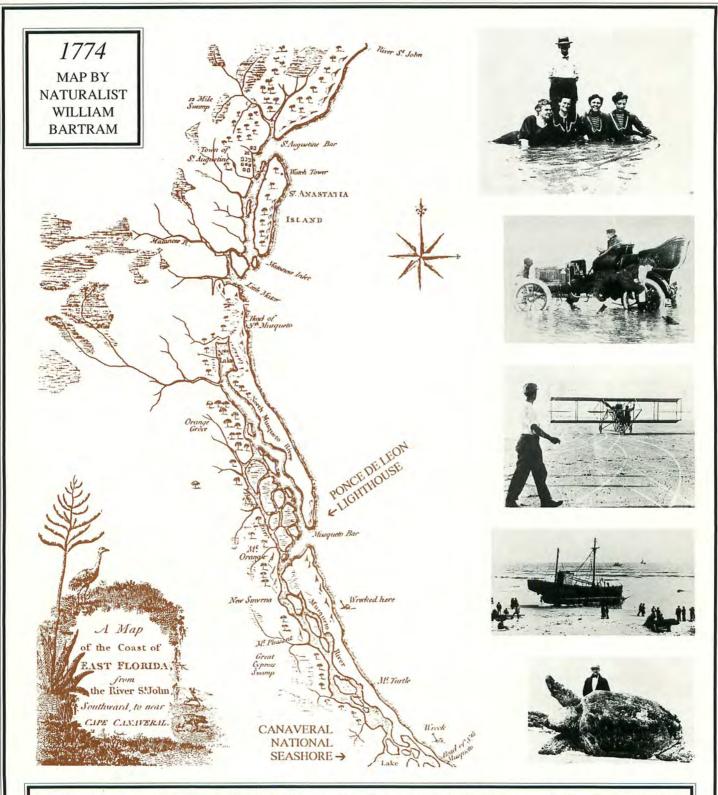
E.J. Moore was found guilty of "setting his dogs on a bunch of hogs that P.J. McCarthy had in his possession and using profane language within the city limits."

The "use of profane and indecent language and making improper proposals" to two young women landed a budding Don Juan a "\$20 fine or 15 days labor on the streets."

"Singing of an indecent song" got Henry Thompson a \$10 fine in 1912, even though he pleaded not guilty.

Finally, the most enigmatic and bizarre charge of them all occurs in the record during 1906. Today it's fashionable to "be bad...super bad." Some folks strive for this reputation...using rough language, carrying knives and guns and generally showing off, trying to convince others that they're really toughies.

Such conduct is nearly as old as this century. In 1906 a man was charged simply with "very bad conduct." Further details don't exist; he was fined a very fashionable \$10.



ANAVERAL NATIONAL SEASHORE occupies more than 56,000 acres between the Atlantic Ocean and Mosquito Lagoon, just north of the Kennedy Space Center. The Information Center is located approximately seven miles south of New Smyrna Beach on Route A1A. All natural, historic and archeological features are protected; metal detectors, airboats, glass containers and pets on the beach are prohibited.

The National Seashore was created in 1975 when the

National Park Service took responsibility for preserving this primitive barrier beach while providing public enjoyment of this unique natural resource.

Hiking trails, fishing, boat ramps, picnic areas, self-guided canoe trails and a limited number of backcountry campsites are available. For more information, contact the Superintendent, Canaveral National Seashore, 2532 Garden Street, Titusville, FL 32796, or the New Smyrna Beach Information Center at (904) 428-3384. (Photo courtesy of Halifax Historical Society)

OLD FORT RUINS

LOCAL HISTORY PROGRAM SOUTHEAST VOLUSIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC. © 1992

OLD FORT MOUND *** "Aboriginal Shell Mound" and Early Man This information is provided by Dr. John W. Griffin and Dana Ste.Clair

The high remaining portion of the aboriginal shell midden into which the foundations of the "Old Fort" were placed forms a ridge on the east part of the block, paralleling the river. Once, it covered the entire eastern side of the site, leaving significant deposits only in the southeast corner of the property. The remnant of the shell mound existing in Old Fort Park is a survivor of what was once an extensive and impressive series of sites in the New Smyrna area. As such, it is archaeologically significant in possessing potential for answering many remaining questions about the prehistory of the area for which the resource base has been greatly diminished. It is numbered as site 8 Vo 105 in the State of Florida Master Site File.

This aboriginal site has been known and listed in various publications for over a century (Le Baron 1884, Butler 1917, Goggin 1952), but while a certain amount of collecting has occurred over the years, the only scientific work on the midden by a professionally trained archaeologist of which information is available was conducted by Dana Ste. Clair of the Division of Archaeological Research of the Museum of Arts and Sciences of Daytona Beach from July 17 to September 24, 1989. The project of the Daytona Museum, conducted at the request of the City of New Smyrna Beach was in anticipation of repair and strengthening of the retaining wall which was built by the WPA at the southeast corner of Old Fort Park in the 1930s. This wall is showing signs of structural weakness; possible remedies include strengthening from the rear, which would involve the excavation of a ditch behind the present wall, further impacting the archaeological resource. The Museum, assisted throughout the 1989 excavation by volunteers, dug two test pits in the midden to the south of the ruin, each one by two meters to a depth of 3.5 meters (ca. 11.5 feet), at which point a solid stratum of coquina stone was encountered. (Note: Only on the south pit, the east test pit encountered river bottom).

"The midden is composed of initially densely packed and at greater depths relatively loosely packed oyster with some clam. There were occasional pockets of murex and razor clam, as well as concentrations of clam (quahog). Faunal materials were abundant throughout . . . <and> were mainly fish, including mullet, stringray, shark, and redfish as identifiable species. Turtle was often seen. Also observed was deer, crab, rabbit, birds and several unidentified small mammals. As a general observation, fish remains increased from lower to higher levels." (Ste.Clair 1990)

The aboriginal ceramics recovered from the test pits were all of the St. Johns series. The long time span of this series is divided into two periods; St. Johns I (500 B.C.—A.B. 800) and St. Johns II (A.D. 800 to ca. 1650). The division is largely recognized by the appearance of the characteristic St. Johns Check Stamped pottery at the beginning of St. Johns II, although the St. Johns Plain pottery of the previous period also continues to be made. In the test pits in question St. Johns Check-Stamped is found from the top down through Level 25 (250 cm.). The midden, therefore, is primarily St. Johns II in time. Below 250 cm. only St. Johns Plain sherds were found, to a depth of 330 cm., suggesting that the midden extends back into the St. Johns I times. The investigators conclude that this midden was occupied and grew over a number of centuries and cannot be considered, as it once was, as late and rapid accumulation around and over the early "fort." Except for two items (perhaps strays), all other historic material was found in the first three levels of Ste. Clair's excavations. These items include "stoneware, ironstone, cut mails, a clay pipestem, a chisel fragment, musket ball (shot), and fragments of green glass." The historic materials would seem basically to come from the nineteenth century, with, of course, even more modern additions.

Influence of early Smyrna settlers remains in St. Augustine

BY RON WORD
Associated Press Writer

ST. AUGUSTINE (AP) — A unique ethnic group not unlike Louisiana's Cajuns, St. Augustine's Minorcans love spicy food, maintain close family ties and have a kinship with the sea.

The group known collectively as Minorcans were settlers from Greece, Italy and the island of Minorca who came to New Smyrna Beach in 1768 to work on the indigo plantation of Dr. Andrew Turnbull.

Most of the Minorcans moved to St. Augustine in 1777, when they tired of the oppressive living conditions imposed by Turnbull, and they thrived in the nation's oldest city.

"We want to keep our traditions alive and they've been very, very successful," says Suzette Chauvin, president of the Minorcan Society, which keeps records and collects the traditions of the 2,000 people of Minorcan descent still living in the St. Augustine area.

"For hundreds of years, Florida was very rough frontier territory. The people that settled it, the Minorcans and others, were tough people. They had a lot of survival instinct and a lot of good cultural characteristics," Ms. Chauvin says. "The Minorcans are like the Cajuns in Louisiana, they just haven't been promoted as much."

Among the traditions Minorcans share with Cajuns is a taste for spicy food. The Minorcans regularly use the

burning hot datil pepper in cooking.

"We grow them and eat them. I eat them on everything but ice cream." says Allen Pacetti, a Minorcan. "The hotter the food is, the spicier it is, the better we like it."

Other favorite Minorcan dishes are chicken pilau and sausage pilau. Gopher stew used to be a favorite dish, but now it is illegal to make the stew using the meat of the endangered gopher tortoises.

"The men are right into cooking, too. That goes back to the Mediterranean," says Patricia Griffin, author of "Mullet on the Beach: The Minorcans of Florida, 17

68-1788."

Mrs. Griffin says the Minorcans have a kinship with the sea.

"Most all of the men fish," she says. "They go the beach with their old wooden dorys when the mullet are running. It used to be a male activity. It was serious business. In later years, women have been going along. It seems to have changed its character from kind of its old world aspect."

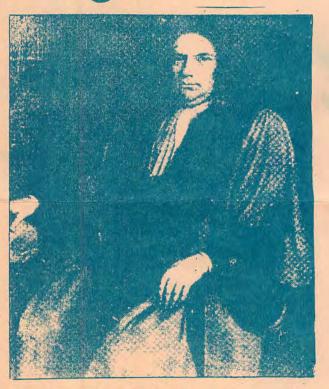
In many ways, however, Minorcan families are mariarchal.

"The women are not the ones that make the rules but they certainly enforce the rules and they are strong anchors in those families," Mrs. Griffin says. "The women all live around here and all associate with each other in kind of an old-fashioned way."

Pacetti says there is a reason for the close-knit fami-

lies.

"We are kind of clannish. The reason for that was self preservation in my opinion. When the British were coming and the Spanish were coming in, it was a way of protecting their lives, their families and their livelihood, their stocks and their fishing boats," Pacetti says.



DR. ANDREW TURNBULL is responsible for bringing the Minorcans to Florida.

"The majority of the Minorcans you will find are more family-oriented ... than most people," he says.

Most Minorcans also still cling to their Catholic

In St. Augustine, the Minorcans are memorialized in the garden of the cathedral by a statue depicting Father Pedro Camps, the native Minorcan priest who shepherded his flock through years of deprivation at New Smyrna Beach and later in St. Augustine.

The statue is accompanied by a tablet listing the names of the original colonists. The cathedral also contains a mural over its main portal showing the Minor-

cans entering the city's gates in 1777.

In the spring of 1768, about 1,400 men, women and children were brought over to the New World to help Turnbull grow indigo, cotton and other crops on his 100,000-acre plantation at New Smyma. Turnbull felt the Mediterranean farmers, used to heat, would be ideally suited for Florida's climate.

Turnbull promised to free the immigrants when they had completed 5 years to 10 years of indentured labor.

About 150 died on the ocean voyage.

The new colony was established near Mosquito Inlet, Settlers had to erect primitive palmetto log buildings with thatched roofs and to virtually live off the land in the early years. Turnbull and his family lived in a comfortable coquina stone house.

During the first winter, more than 300 adults and 150 children died. The death rate continued at alarming lev-

Gradually, the colony became modestly productive, exporting a little cotton, sugar, rice and corn. New

Smyrna shipped 3,000 pounds of the blue dye indigo in

But resentment grew from Turnbull's severe discipline, a growing death toll and rumors that Turnbull might attempt to deny the Minorcans the free land they had been promised at the end of their contracts.

At a court hearing in 1777, the settlers were declared

and the state of the same

free of their work obligations and offered free land outside St. Augustine.

Most of the remaining 600 Minorcans went to St. Augustine. In 1783, Britain ceded Florida back to Spain and the Minorcans moved into housing abandoned by the British residents.