

University of Florida

George A. Smathers Libraries

SPRING 2021

VOL 3, ISSUE 2

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PO Box 117000, Gainesville, FL 32611
 352/273.2635

<http://librarypress.domains.uflib.ufl.edu>

ISSN (PRINT): 2576-5817

ISSN (ONLINE): 2576-5825

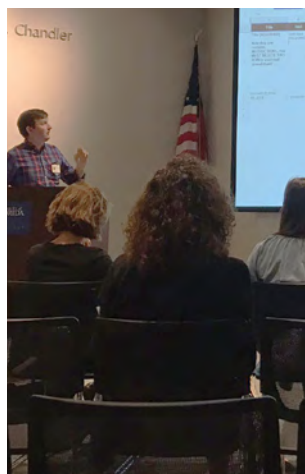
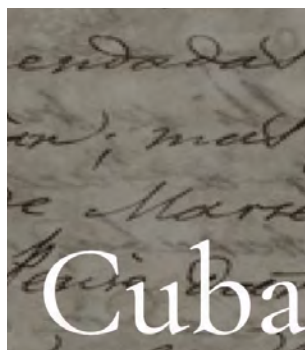
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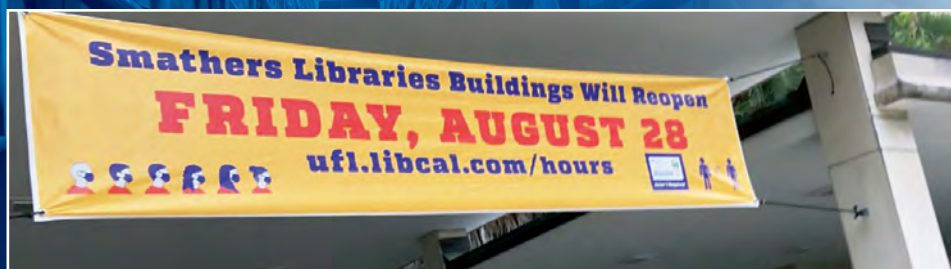
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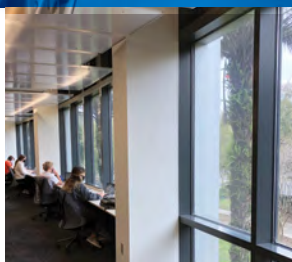
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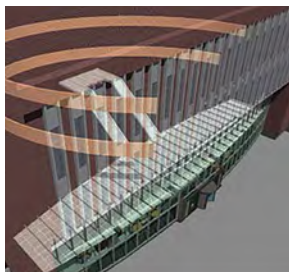


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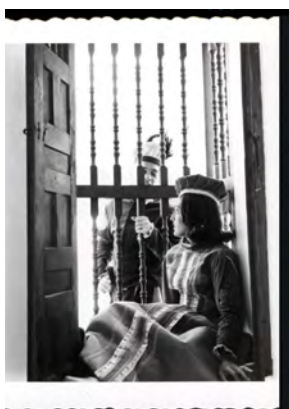


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If you haven't seen *SOURCE Magazine's* sister digital publication, *News from the SOURCE*, you can read it here:

<https://communications.uflib.ufl.edu/at-a-glance/publications/>

This newsletter publishes biannually in December and May.

MESSAGE FROM **DEAN OF THE LIBRARIES**



I am pleased to welcome you to our fifth issue of *SOURCE: the Magazine of the University of Florida George A. Smathers Libraries*, published by the LibraryPress@UF. This is an open access journal, distributed primarily in electronic format. *SOURCE* offers the reader an opportunity to view remarkable materials from our collections, learn about our innovative research and collaborations conducted both in the Libraries and with other colleagues throughout the University and beyond, and explore highlights of exceptional faculty and student services provided by the Smathers Libraries.

Our cover for this issue features images of the Libraries' spaces from past, present, and future for our series on spaces, which we will cover in several issues. In this issue, we share stories of our spaces and their changes over time, including on-campus spaces like the Grand Reading Room, University Colonnade, and Library West, locations for several offsite storage facilities, and Governor's House in St. Augustine. We look forward to exploring more spaces with you in future issues.

This issue also includes an article on the collaborative Digital Humanities Working Group and a graduate student intern's work on the Cuba collections. Photographs in this issue showcase fantastic locations in the Libraries. Please note that all photographs are historical—some near and some long ago—and that is why the people in them are not wearing masks.

We welcome your feedback and ideas. Please let us know what you think and we hope you enjoy reading this very special issue of *SOURCE*.


Judith C. Russell
Dean of University Libraries



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S  **URCE**



THE DIGITAL HUMANITIES WORKING GROUP AT THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

The humanities in and for the digital age.

Alexandra Cenatus

Assistant Director for Programming & Public Engagement

Authors:

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Librarian of Classics, Philosophy, and Religion

Tiffany Esteban

ARCS Digital Humanities Specialist

In its current form, the UF Digital Humanities Working Group (DHWG) supports a national membership with librarians, researchers, students, and technologists sharing project ideas and professional development opportunities across the United States. Through its email list and local UF lightning rounds, the DHWG forms a digital humanities (DH) community that holds space for brainstorming new ideas, sharing current projects, and developing skill sets.

According to Laurie Taylor, the Chair of the Libraries' Digital Partnerships and Strategies department, the DHWG was founded around 2010 and composed of two main groups with a shared interest in digital humanities at UF. One involved researchers who used digital tools to complement their humanities research; the other, the Digital Humanities Library Group (DHLG),



Members of the DHWG helped found the statewide Florida Digital Humanities Consortium, with early representatives seen here.



involved librarians who focused on improving local professional development in digital humanities. But more importantly, as Sophia Acord, one of the co-founders and a former co-convener of DHWG, states, the groups aimed to build capacity and raise awareness to support large-scale digital humanities.

In 2014, the DHLG piloted a Developing Librarians program, which trained a cohort of digital humanities librarians and created the Library West Scott Nygren Scholars Studio as a workspace for digital humanities projects. These librarians gained technical proficiency in digital humanities resources such as Text Encoding Initiative tools and Omeka digital archive software. They

then used these skills to create a digital Grimms exhibit for the Baldwin Library of Historical Children's Literature. Their efforts sparked a broader recognition of



Little Brother & Little Sister and Other Tales, illustrated by Arthur Rackham (1917)

digital humanities work within the libraries and more active collaborations between researchers and librarians, which led to the merging of the DHLG with the rest of the DHWG in the mid-2010s.

Over the years, the DHWG has been fortunate to have strong co-convener from the Libraries, the Center for the Humanities and the Public Sphere, and other units across campus. They have worked to invite diverse speakers to campus, organize THATCamp meetings (one of DHWG's most significant events), and reach out to and collaborate with DH groups at other schools across Florida and the nation. Member and former co-convener Hélène Huet recalls that one of her more memorable experiences with DHWG was helping to plan the HASTAC conference that took place in Orlando in 2017. She also notes that the DHWG connected her to the Florida Digital Humanities Consortium, a group she currently serves as chair, by helping her bring her DH experience

When asked about the impact of the DHWG on campus -
“it’s a pathway to getting to know what’s going on in DH at UF, getting support,
getting to know people, creating collaborations, and building community.”

- H el ene Huet



Digital Collaborations on Black History

Stephanie Birch - 2019

and leadership to the state level. This legacy of cross-departmental knowledge sharing and research collaboration continues with the current DHWG co-conveners’ involvement in a wide range of activities, such as public workshops and lectures hosted by the Center for the Humanities and the Public Sphere, individual consultations with humanities researchers, and considerations for artificial intelligence ethics in UF’s new AI Initiative.

2019 - 2020 ACTIVITIES

In 2019 and 2020, before the COVID-19 pandemic, the DHWG co-conveners hosted semi-monthly in-person lightning rounds in the Library West Scott Nygren Scholars Studio, where digital humanities practitioners conversed with other colleagues about their latest projects and ongoing research questions. Much of this work centered on research about race, gender, or technology in digital, socio-cultural, and historical contexts. Some notable presentations included George Topalidis’ “The Ottoman Greeks of the United States Project” from the Samuel Proctor Oral History Program, Stephanie Birch’s “Digital Collaborations on Black History in Florida” from the UF Libraries, Elizabeth Dale’s “Injustice and the Chicago 1919 Race Riots” from UF History,

Anastasia Pantazopoulou's "Digital Storytelling with Euripides' Tragic Heroines" from UF Classics, and David Schwieder's "Simulations for the Digital Humanities" from the Libraries. These research efforts remind us that digital technologies act as mediums for a reinterpretation of traditional narratives and connections between diverse human societies and cultures across space and time.

After the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the DHWG resumed meetings and lightning rounds online with presentations by Brian Jose about AI and the performing arts, Casey Wooster and Laura Marion on their project "The Making of Historic St. Augustine," and Erik Deumens on the UF AI Initiative, \HiPerGator 3.0, and HiPerGator AI.



2021 ACTIVITIES

The DHWG plans to continue meetings and lightning rounds online in the spring of 2021.

On January 22nd H  l  ne Huet discussed the activities of the Florida Digital Humanities Consortium (FLDH), and on March 19th Erik Deumens provided an update on the AI Initiative.

Check out the DHWG calendar for upcoming events.

<https://digitalhumanities.group.ufl.edu/>

Would you like to participate or make a presentation?

Contact the co-conveners
Alexandra Cenatus (acenatus@ufl.edu),
Megan Daly (mmdaly@ufl.edu), or
Tiffany Esteban (tcesteban@ufl.edu).

Subscribe to DHWG!

<https://digitalhumanities.group.ufl.edu/dh-uf/dhwg-email-list/>

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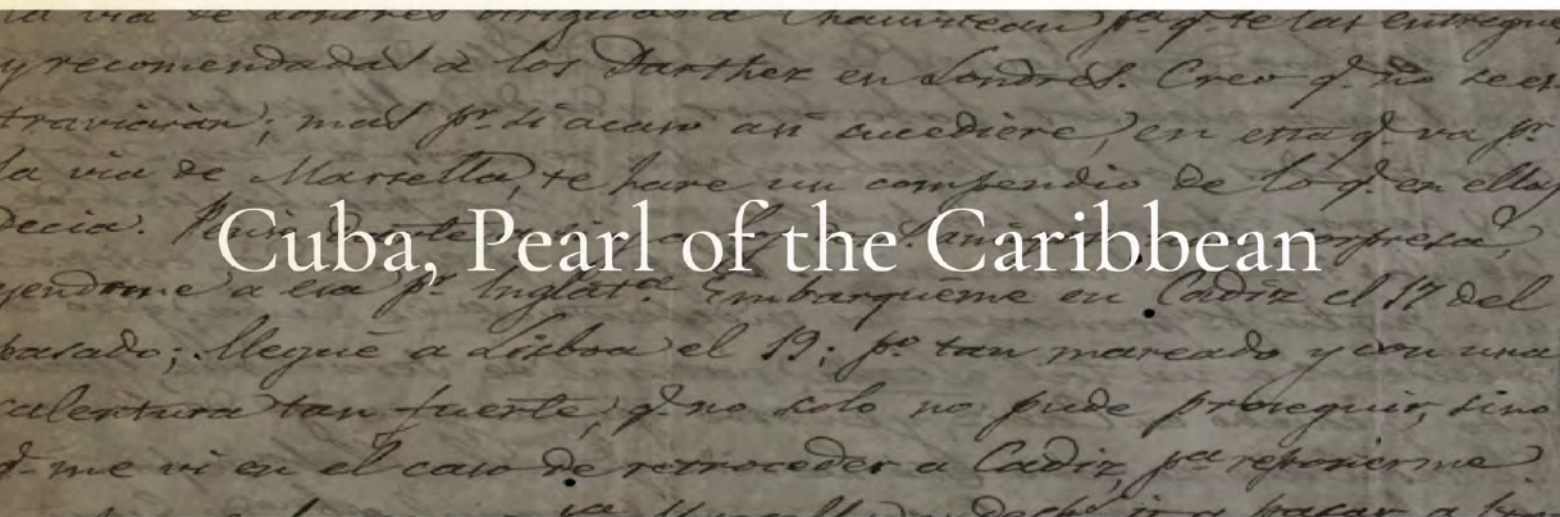
Finding Historical Photographs of the Transcontinental Railway...
A brainstorming session to create this project
THURSDAY, MARCH 14 | 11:00 a.m. - NOON | LIBRARY WEST, ROOM 212
Refreshments will be served



Soon the country will celebrate the sesquicentennial of the completion of the first transcontinental railroad, a feat that would have been remembered as simply an engineering triumph were it not for the extensive photographs that documented the process. Glenn Williamson, an art historian and director of the graduate program in Visual Studies, has proposed for a library mini-grant that will, for the years immediately after the Civil War, focusing on a single photographer and his large-plate photographs, we propose to create an interactive pictorial database of the photographs of the Union Pacific Railroad.

We are inviting you to a brainstorming session to help us create the best possible...

GRADUATE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



Cuba, Pearl of the Caribbean

Fig. 1

Exploring the Works and Times of Cuban Intellectuals in the Nineteenth Century

Authors:

Paula de la Cruz-Fernández, Ph.D.

Internship Director, Digital Support Services

Ivette Rodriguez

Graduate Student Intern, Department of English Doctoral Candidate

The project *Exploring the Works and Times of Cuban Intellectuals in the Nineteenth Century* is a yearlong internship to create a digital resource (a website, <http://cubanthinkers.domains.uflib.ufl.edu/>) that promotes the use of the holdings in the Cuban Thinkers collection, a repository of mostly nineteenth century monographs published in Cuba or authored by Cubans in the University of Florida Digital Collections' Cuban Collections (<https://ufdc.ufl.edu/cuba>).

Fig. 1 View of home page of the Cuba, Pearl of the Caribbean

The origins of the Cuban Collections go back to 2012 when the University of Florida George A. Smathers Libraries and the Biblioteca Nacional de Cuba José Martí signed an agreement to partner in the digitization of Cuban patrimony materials available on either side of the Caribbean. Since then, both institutions in Florida and Cuba, along with partners in the United States such as Harvard University and the University of Miami, have invested significant effort to make Cuban heritage material accessible through the University of Florida Digital Collections (UFDC) portal.

Likewise, this internship project sought to enhance both the technical and digital skills of a graduate student. In January of 2020, doctoral student Ivette Rodriguez started researching to create digital content about three renowned Cuban thinkers: José Martí, José Antonio Saco, and Félix Varela, three pillars of Cuban modern intellectual thinking and nation-building process. The goal was to know more about the life and historical context of these three Cuban intellectuals and also to create content about their work and contributions to Cuban thought in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Ivette ended up working on four thinkers by the end of her third semester as an intern. Her process included three phases. First, she researched the life and the public experience of each intellectual and created a comprehensive timeline for each. For this task, Ivette studied masterworks by Professor Eduardo Torres-Cuevas, former director of the Biblioteca Nacional de Cuba José Martí, like *Obras: biblioteca de clásicos cubanos* (<http://ufdc.ufl.edu/AA00048554/00001>) and other resources available in UFDC like *Iconografía del apóstol José Martí* (<https://ufdc.ufl.edu/UF00078332/00001>). To present the timeline information interactively, Ivette learned how to use the digital tool TimelineJS. Each Cuban author has its page on the website and their timeline (see, for example, José Antonio Saco's: <http://cubanthinkers.domains.uflib.ufl.edu/jose-antonio-saco/>) is included in their individual pages.



UFDC

1845

CROWNED BY THE LYCEUM OF MADRID

Crowned with two golden laurel leaves, the highest honor bestowed by the Lyceum of Madrid, Gertrudis reached the top of Spanish society, second only to queen Isabel II.



Iconografía del apóstol José Martí

NACIMIENTO

José Julián Martí Pérez nace en La Habana, Cuba, hijo de padres españoles, Mariano Martí y Leonor Pérez.

Fig. 2 Timeline section in the Gertrudis González de Avellaneda page

Fig. 3 First slide of the Spanish timeline of José Martí

The second phase in the work process corresponded with the another key component within the website, the abstracts of two books from each of the Cuban intellectuals. The Libraries' catalog and WorldCat's catalog (<https://www.worldcat.org/>) were the main resources where Ivette looked to compile a bibliography of all authored books by José Martí, José Antonio Saco, Félix Varela, and Gertrudis González de Avellaneda. She entered the selected list of titles founded in a Zotero Group Library, which is available for everyone to join (<http://cubanthinkers.domains.uflib.ufl.edu/zotero-group-bibliography/>).

Thirdly, Ivette selected two titles for each author and wrote an abstract for the page "Works by Cuban Thinkers" located in the main site of the project. Eight books now have scholarly abstracts on the project's website.

Obras de pensadores cubanos

<p><u>La Edad de Oro</u> (1889), by <u>José Martí</u></p>	<p><u>Versos Sencillos</u> (1891), by <u>José Martí</u></p>	<p><u>Ideas sobre la incorporación de Cuba en los Estados Unidos,</u> (1848), by José Antonio Saco</p>
<p><u>Historia de la esclavitud</u> (1879), by José Antonio Saco</p>	<p><u>Lecciones de Filosofía</u> (1818) by Félix Varela</p>	<p><u>Cartas a Elpidio</u> (1835, 1838) by Félix Varela</p>
<p><u>Sab.</u> (1841) by Gertrudis Gómez de Avellaneda</p>	<p><u>Alfonso Munio</u> (1844) de Gertrudis Gómez de Avellaneda</p>	

Fig. 4 View of the 'Works by Cuban Thinkers' page on the Cuba, Pearl of the Caribbean website (<http://cubanthinkers.domains.uflib.ufl.edu/works/>)

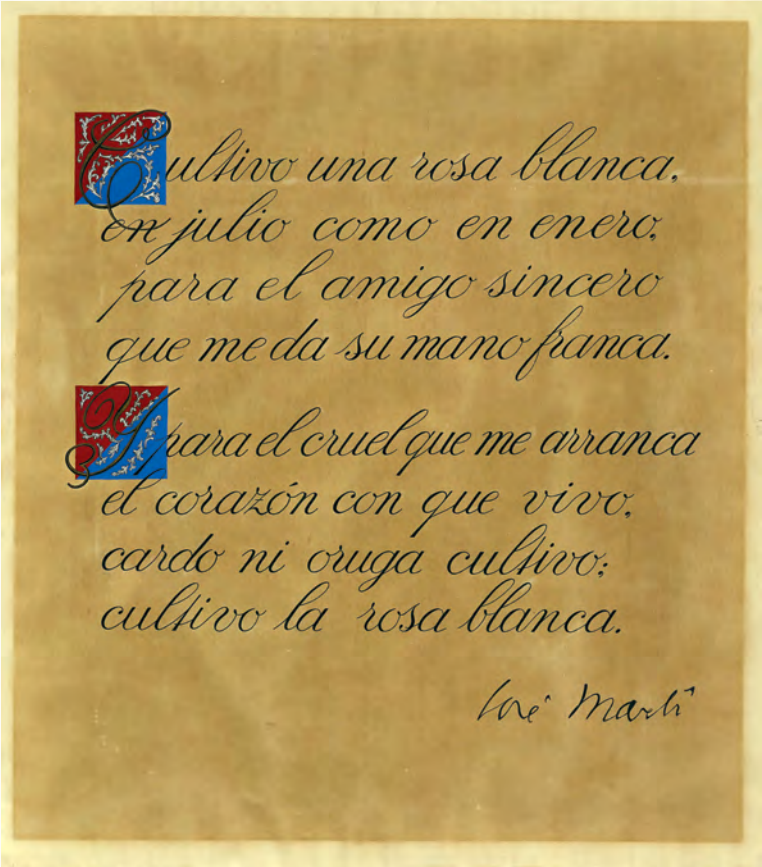


Fig 5. View of “Rosa Blanca,” a poem from Martí’s *Versos sencillos*, (<https://ufdc.ufl.edu/AA00054732/00001>)



Fig 6. Profile of Ivette Rodriguez, PhD student and graduate teaching assistant at the University of Florida’s English Department and George A. Smathers Libraries 2020 intern.

In working on creating digital content, Ivette expanded her skills to present research on the web and eventually to succeed in the job market. Ivette Rodriguez is a third year PhD student and graduate teaching assistant at the University of Florida concentrating on Caribbean Literature. In her dissertation research, she focuses on the influences of Yoruba mythology in Caribbean women's fiction. The opportunity to work with the Libraries and to explore the digital collections more in depth were an ideal opportunity for advancing both her intellectual and career goals as a student, a researcher in the humanities, and an instructor. After a year co-creating *Cuba, Pearl of the Caribbean*, she mentions, “I am grateful for the ways the work has indeed expanded my understanding of Cuban and Caribbean history. I hope it will similarly impact its users.”

Additionally, Ivette translated all content of the *Cuba, Pearl of the Caribbean* website into Spanish. This feature helped her develop her formal writing skills in Spanish at the same time it amplified the reach of the content of the website to both Spanish and English speakers. In future months, the project will seek contributions from scholars in Cuba and all around the world. All entries will be translated keeping the main and original goal of the project to facilitate open access to the works and worlds of Cuban thinkers.



Fig. 1 This photo is from 1925 to 1931 - the period when the white wooden entrance in the background served as the sole entrance to the Grand Reading Room. The 1931 South Tower addition replaced this with another single entrypoint.

Special Series

SIBRARIES

INTRODUCTION

Brian W. Keith - *SERIES EDITOR*

Associate Dean for Administrative Services and Faculty Affairs

It is my great pleasure to introduce a new multi-issue SOURCE series on Library spaces.

The majority of these spaces will be familiar: branches offering rows and rows of materials, public service points, study and collaboration spaces, technology and computer labs, and some of the most familiar architecture on campus. There are many spaces less familiar, though, including closed rare collections, collection processing and conservation areas, and expansive offsite storage buildings. The 11 facilities comprising the physical George A. Smathers Libraries represent the care and work of innumerable past and present library and university personnel.

IN THIS SERIES, WE HAVE ASKED PEOPLE WHO KNOW A SPACE TO TELL ITS STORY FROM THEIR PERSPECTIVE.



*Fig. 2 Over 4,000 fans gathered outside Library West, homecoming weekend 2019 at Plaza of the Americas for ESPN's College GameDay, where Florida Gators legend, Emmitt Smith was the guest picker.
(Photo: Courtney Culbreath/UAA Communications)*

Fig. 3 Main entrance to University Library in 1957 and walkway between West and Smathers Library prior to the construction of the University Colonnade.



In this SOURCE issue we hear about Library West, which was completely renovated and expanded to reopen in 2006. At that point it had been nearly 20 years since a new Library was built at UF (Marston Science Library in 1987) and times had changed substantially. What the planners for West got right in understanding and anticipating user needs and behaviors and what they did not have shaped that branch and informed subsequent renovations at every branch, including West. The University Colonnade, to those who do not recognize the name, is the concrete and brick covered walkway between West and Smathers Library (previously known as Library East). This is a utilitarian structure, having served generations of students and Hare Krishna lunch patrons seeking refuge from rain, and affording much needed shade from the Florida sun. As you will learn, the Libraries envision a more attractive, welcoming, and accommodating Colonnade connecting Library West with the Plaza of the Americas - and are seeking donor funding to realize this vision.



Fig. 4

We will also hear the story of the Grand Reading Room (Fig 4.), in the Smathers Library. This terrific space literally connects us with the land boom-funded birth of the modern UF campus of the 1920's. The room was most significantly altered decades ago by the expansion of Smathers Library, due to the post-World War II explosive growth of Florida and the University, but the Grand Reading Room remains a space in transition. We will also hear the roaming story of the storage of library materials. A growing university, shifting patron needs, the blossoming of technology, the shift to electronic media and the limits of existing library branch footprints have required a continuous assessment and rebalancing of the space dedicated to collections versus other uses. Every major renovation in the history of the UF Libraries began with considerations of where to move materials, either temporarily or permanently, so the long history of storage facilities, some more makeshift than others, fits well here. We will also hear from the newest and very much the oldest UF Library space: the Governor's House Cultural Center and Museum is located in St. Augustine. The space and its unique collection take the Smathers Libraries, always steeped in Florida history, to the beginning of the European presence in that history.



Fig 5. Iconic view of the 2006 north wing of Library West.

IN THIS SERIES, ALL OF THE SPACES AND THE TELLING OF THEIR STORIES BY MY GENEROUS COLLEAGUES WILL REFLECT A NUMBER OF THEMES THAT COMBINE TO REVEAL A STORY OF LIBRARIES AT UF. TO NAME A FEW, THESE INCLUDE:

- The increasing demands of a growing university.
- The shifting demands in terms of space to support changing instruction, learning and research models.
- The introduction and adoption of new technologies.
- Limits in the amount of space and ongoing repurposing.
- An appreciation for aesthetics in enhancing visitor experience.
- The importance of restoring and maintaining historic spaces as entrusted legacies.
- Commitments to expanding equity and inclusion for the University of Florida community, and explorations of the roles of Library spaces in that.



Fig. 6 Library West's New Books Area



Fig. 7 West's Movable Shelving



Fig. 8 Study Space with a View

I hope you enjoy the series. The idea for it formed before the pandemic, and planning continued as its impact on the use, access and occupancy of library spaces were realized. Perhaps these stories will be even more compelling, and both the familiar and less familiar information they contain will be of more interest to readers, now. Please know, we are very much looking forward to a point in the future when our Library spaces are again more accessible.

With all well wishes to you and yours, thank you for reading.

Brian W. Keith



THE GRAND READING ROOM
AT SMATHERS LIBRARY



Author:

Carl Van Ness

University Historian & Curator

The Grand Reading Room on the second floor of Smathers Library is one of the most recognizable rooms at the University of Florida. Yet students encountering the room for the first time often stare in open-mouthed wonderment that such a place exists on campus.

Alumni returning to their alma mater have been heard to ask, **“Was this here when I was a student?” Unless they were here before 1925, the answer is YES.**

Smathers Library was constructed in three phases in 1925, 1931 and 1949. The Grand Reading Room is located in the library’s oldest section designed by architect William Edwards. Oddly, the University of Florida’s first dedicated library space was designed primarily for studiers, not books. The books were largely confined to a stack area on the first floor. Above it was a cavernous reading room with 28 banquet hall tables and seating for 336 users, more than one fifth of the student body in 1925. Its towering arched ceiling extends upward three stories. The

1940



Fig. 1 This image depicts the southern end of the room prior to the construction of the south tower in 1931. Behind the circulation desk is where the entrance to the second reading room, now the Judaica Suite, was constructed. Notice, too, the card catalog to the right.

Fig. 3



room is braced by what appear to be eleven massive wooden beams, but are actually steel I-beams sheathed in wood (Fig 2.). At first glance, the room seems like an incredible waste of space. The empty space, however, served practical purposes in addition to being aesthetically pleasing. On sunnier days, the eighteen cathedral windows along the east and west walls allowed ample light

for readers. Before air-conditioning, the windows provided good ventilation as did banks of windows on the north and south walls. The high ceilings allowed the Florida heat to escape up into the rafters.



Fig. 2 Image of one of the steel beams supporting the Grand Reading Room provided by BBI Construction Management, Inc. during the 2020-21 restoration of the south facing exterior of Smathers Library.

A second reading room was added when the south tower was constructed in 1931. Before World War II, it served as the reading room for juniors and seniors while the lower classes were restricted to the Grand Reading Room. This was not a library regulation, but one of many “rules” imposed and enforced by the student body. Since the war, the south tower room has served a number of purposes and is now the headquarters for the Price Library of Judaica (Fig 3.). The 1931 south tower also included suites of offices on the second and third floors. The second floor suite juts out into the Grand Reading Room and above it are three pairs of ornate windows which give the appearance of a balcony. Above the windows, are the seals of Oxford, Sorbonne and Salamanca, Europe’s oldest universities.



The last major transformation of the Grand Reading Room took place when the north wing of the Library, including the new lobby and main entry, was finished in 1949. This addition eliminated the bank of windows in the north gable, but provided a much needed doorway. Prior to 1949, the only entry and exit was on the south end, a problem duly noted by the county fire marshal in his annual inspections. To provide nocturnal studiers better lighting, the original overhead lights were replaced by very unattractive, but functional, dropdown fluorescent lights.

The blank wall where these windows once were allowed for the other defining feature of the Grand Reading Room: the mural (Fig. 3) on the north gable entitled, "History of Learning in Florida." It was painted over the course of several

months in 1953 and 1954 by art professor Hollis Holbrook in conjunction with the University's centennial celebrations. With its emphasis on orange and blue hues, it provides the room with a much-needed Gator Nation ambience. The mural and its recent restoration will be featured in a future piece in this series.

The Grand Reading Room remained a general study area until it was assigned to the Libraries' Special Collections in 1997. At that time, the dropdown fluorescent lights were replaced by replicas of the original lights and supplemented with table lights for researchers. The room was divided into a patron research area and a staff work area by a low partition wall. Nine of the long banquet tables were moved into the work area in 1997, but were

GRAND READING ROOM NAME CHANGE THROUGH THE YEARS -

The earliest known official name was General Reading Room from a 1947 library user guide. In later guides from the 1950s into the 1970s, it was known as the Humanities Reading Room. There was also a Social Science Reading Room (2nd floor north wing), a Science Reading Room (3rd floor north wing), and the University College Reading Room (1st floor north wing). There is no written explanation as to why these names were applied to each room. When I (Carl) started in the 1980s, people called it the Grand Reading Room, yet it was not official until Dean Russell made it so a few years ago.

Fig. 4 South wall in Humanities Reading Room in 1977.



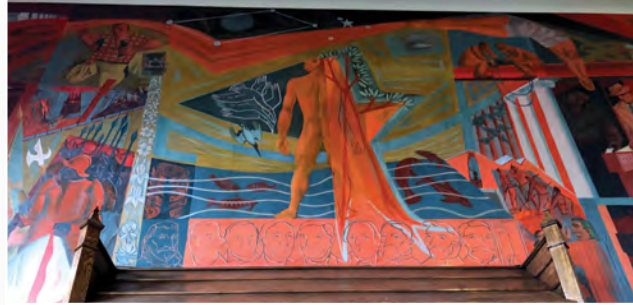


Fig. 3

transferred to the research area after the wall came down. To make them suitable for special collections, the tables were resurfaced and ninety years' worth of chewing gum was removed from underneath.

Today, the Grand Reading Room serves multiple purposes. First and foremost, it is the public service area for researchers using the special collections: rare print, archives, and manuscripts. The partition wall has been removed. The room, though, is far too large for just the handful of researchers who are there on any given day. Studiers are also allowed to use the room, but they are assigned seating away from the researchers and must adhere to the

same rules: no pens, no bags, cellphones on mute, etc. The iconic room is also used for special occasions. Recently, a series of programs co-hosted by the Smathers Libraries, the Bob Graham Center for Public Service, and the Bill Nelson Initiative on Ethics and Leadership (Fig. 5) have been held that included conversations with former Senator Bob Graham and current Senator Marco Rubio and a talk given by historian Jon Meacham. It was also the venue for President Fuchs' inauguration luncheon.



Fig. 5



Fig. 6 This photograph was shot from the south wall balcony during a summer session in the 1930s. Whereas the spring and fall semesters were restricted to men, summer sessions were coeducational. Most of the summer students were teachers seeking advanced degrees or certification in specific fields. Consequently, there were far more women than men in the summer.

THE ROAMING HISTORY OF LIBRARY STORAGE

Author: **Ben Walker**
Associate Dean Discovery,
Digital Services & Shared Collections

Fig. 1 1960, University archives holds this intriguing image of books being stored in the Century Tower though the details of this project have been lost to time.

FROM LOCAL NEEDS TO REGIONAL & NATIONAL SOLUTIONS

INTRODUCTION

The George A. Smathers Libraries has a more than 60-year history of utilizing remote storage for library materials. Throughout that time, there have been drastic changes in how storage has been managed. It has historically been a somewhat opportunistic endeavor, utilizing facilities designed for other purposes and acquiring and renovating spaces as funding allowed.

Originally, remote storage was seen as a way to move low-use materials off campus to make space for high-use materials. However, as physical collections and construction budgets decline, it has become a way to move materials off-campus to allow for the repurposing of limited space for other uses. This has allowed for more student study and collaborative space, new services, and work space for personnel. During the early period, storage was also seen as a local issue. It was primarily viewed as an answer to relieve capacity issues on the UF campus. As the Libraries continue to evolve, storage has shifted from answering these local needs to focusing on larger scale, regional solutions. Of particular importance to the Libraries is ensuring that adequate copies are retained in secure environments. This movement, known as shared print retention, is now the focus of national efforts in the U.S. and around the world, and UF is at the forefront of those conversations.

Official: closes, s

■ MORE BOOK CHECK
WILL BE ALLOWED BE
OF THE CLOSING

By WARREN KAGAR
Alligator Writer
wkagar@alligator.org

A plastic banner (Happi
bazaar near the entrance
West announces in large l
the facility will close on D

In smaller letters, the
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Hood said.

THE LOCAL SOLUTION: 1990s TO 2007

UF began utilizing remote storage in the 1960s. Records of where and what was kept off-site are extremely limited. In 1978, material from the various on- and off-campus locations was consolidated into new compact (moveable) shelving installed in Smathers Library. Movable shelving increases capacity by eliminating the space for dedicated aisles. This added capacity was not enough to meet the demand. Other locations used on campus include Flint Hall (1980-1981) and the Nuclear Science Building for the Engineering Library (1984-1985). In the late 1980s there was even an old sausage plant, the Copeland Sausage Plant in Alachua, Florida, that was available but apparently only used for records (personal correspondence). Around 1995, the Libraries contracted with Hill's Storage to store materials in their warehouses. Hill's was not an air-conditioned space, which presented its own challenges for the preservation of materials due to concerns over deterioration and mold blooms. Further complications included the lack of a comprehensive inventory prior to sending materials to Hill's and the use of forklifts to retrieve materials. Both of these factors contributed to loss and damage of materials. In 1996, the Libraries moved material from Hill's to Yon Hall, a former dormitory for male athletes within the footprint of the UF football stadium. Again, it was not an ideal environment, with inadequate environmental conditioning for the materials. In 1997, the Libraries leased the old Maas Brothers department store on 13th Street and moved materials from Yon Hall to this location. This facility was named the Limited Access Depository (LAD) and would remain in use until 2005. By 1998, there were more than 300,000 items stored at LAD.



Fig. 2 1990, packing books for Hill's storage.

The next major change occurred in 2003, when the University was given a Florida Department of Transportation warehouse on NE 39th Avenue. This would become the Auxiliary Library Facility (ALF). At the time, Library West was preparing to undergo an extensive renovation, with a \$35 million, 60,000 square foot addition (Fig. 3 - *The Independent Florida Alligator*, Tuesday, Nov. 4, 2003). This necessitated closing Library West and finding a temporary home for the approximately 1.5 million volumes housed there. Further complicating this plan was the commitment to make the material requestable by patrons, with four campus deliveries throughout the day (Fig. 4 - *The Independent Florida Alligator*, Tuesday, Jan. 6th, 2004). Staff from Library West were split between the Marston Science Library and the Smathers Library. This was a two-year plan, with the majority of materials returning to campus in 2006.

During this time, the Libraries maintained two storage facilities. In 2005, the lease for LAD was not renewed because of a planned Lowe's in that location. This necessitated a scramble to find a temporary solution. Fortunately, the

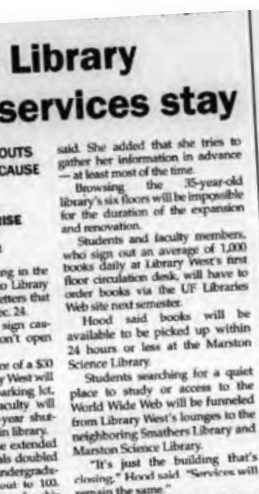


Fig. 4



*Fig. 5
Traditional
shelving.*



Fig. 6 “Lighting” new high density shelves at ALF in 2018. Each shelf has a unique barcode applied which is then scanned into the software. When a book is requested, the software tells staff exactly which shelf the item is on.

UF Legal Information Center renovation was completed during this timeframe, and the old Publix building in Butler Plaza that the law library had used during construction was available. This would be a temporary site, as the goal from the outset was to return the circulating material at ALF to Library West and to consolidate all of the storage collections at ALF. This transition was accomplished in 2006, and Library West once again opened to the public. Library West staff returned to a building that had significantly increased and improved public and office spaces, with compact shelving that maximized the available shelf space. The focus of the storage operations to this point was very much on relieving campus space pressure within the George A. Smathers Libraries.

THE REGION & BEYOND: 2007 TO PRESENT

In 2007, with the arrival of a new Dean of University Libraries, Judith Russell, storage entered a new phase. At this point, materials were still stored on shelves in call number order (Fig. 5) – by subject as they are in libraries and all materials stored at ALF belonged to the UF Libraries. However,

Dean Russell recognized the potential to build a more efficient facility that would serve the collective needs of the state university libraries. The Council of State University Libraries (CSUL), created a task force to begin exploring these ideas. The task force gathered data about storage needs from the other state university libraries. All of this information was used to develop a proposal to the Board of Governors (BOG), which “oversees the operation and management of the Florida public university system’s twelve institutions” and is responsible for presenting a higher education budget to the Florida Legislature each year. This project was particularly interesting to the BOG because it served all of the state universities. Despite the positive feedback, it was not funded in 2007/2008. The proposal was submitted again in 2008/2009, with more supporting documentation. As in the previous year, it was not funded. This process would continue until 2009/2010, when \$2 million in funding was granted for further planning. Also in 2010, the staff at ALF implemented an inventory control system, which allowed books to be stored by size in trays (Fig. 6). The new software facilitated shelving more books in the

DON'T LOSE ANYTHING

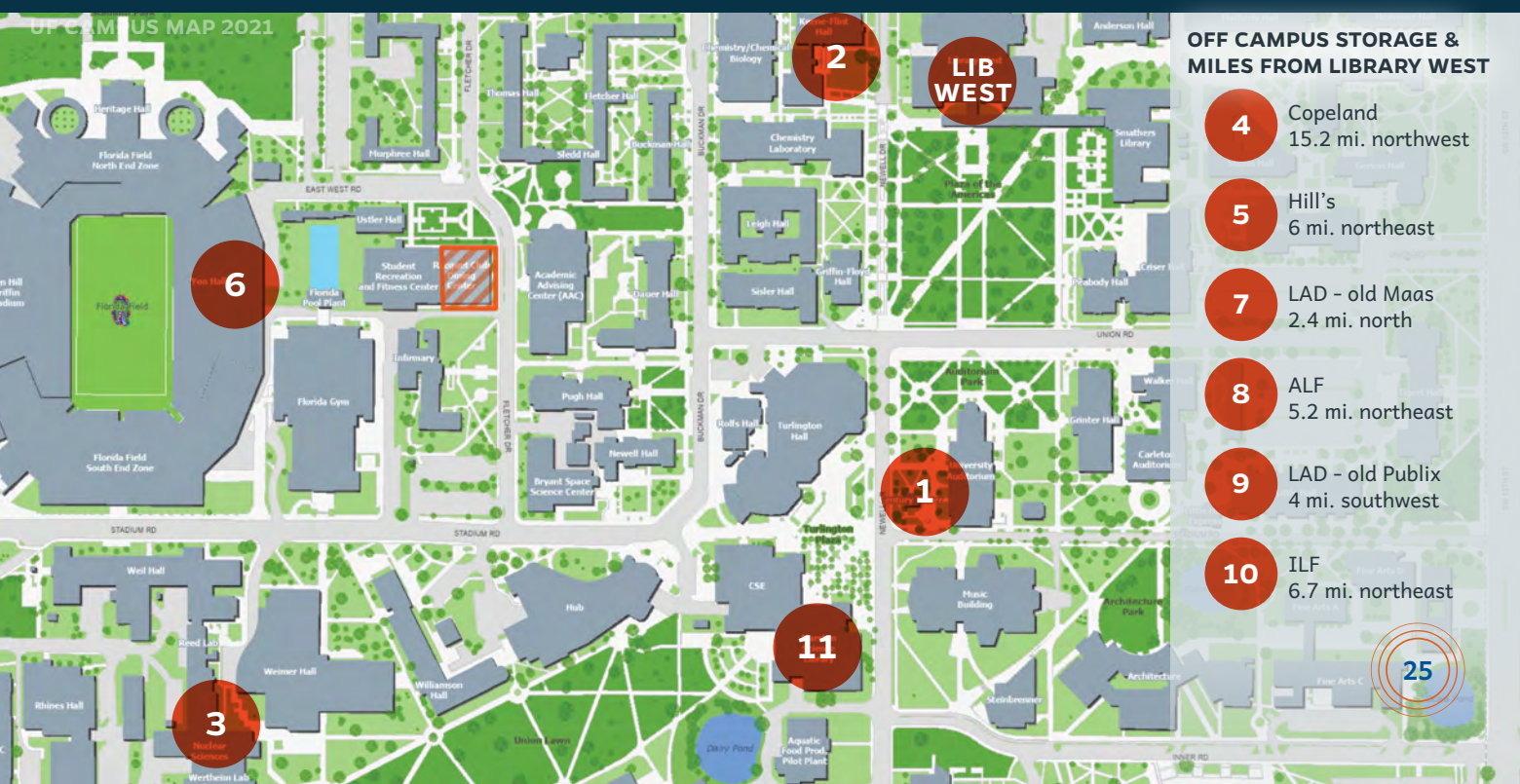
It has historically been a somewhat opportunistic endeavor, utilizing facilities designed for other purposes and acquiring and renovating spaces as funding allowed.

Copeland Sausage Company
1955

THE LIBRARIES STORAGE TIMELINE & MAP ON AND OFF CAMPUS THROUGH THE YEARS.

- 1960** - Century Tower (1)
- 1980-81** - Flint Hall (2)
- 1984-85** - Nuclear Science Bldg., Engineering Library (3)
- Late 1980s** - Copeland Sausage Plant, Alachua, Florida (4)
- 1995** - Hill's Gainesville-storage Facility (5)
- 1996** - Yon Hall in Football Stadium (6)
- 1997** - Limited Access Depository (LAD) in old Maas Brothers Department Store (7)
- 2003** - UF Auxiliary Library Facility (ALF) building (Florida Dept of Transportation warehouse) donated to UF & renovation begins (8)
- 2004** - Library West closed
 - Books transferred to ALF
- 2005** - Limited Access Depository (LAD) closes
 - Books moved to old Publix building, Butler Plaza (9)
- 2006** - Library West reopens
 - Publix books moved to ALF
- 2007** - Planning begins west for statewide storage facility

- 2010** - UF receives state funding
 - ALF establish inventory control software & sizer
- 2012** - Interim Library Facility (ILF) established, houses Digital Support Services & Conservation/Preservation (10)
 - Statewide shared collection named FLorida Academic REpository (FLARE)
- 2014** - Major renovation of ILF
 - Marston Science Library renovation (11), transfers Government Documents to ALF
- 2015** - FLARE begins lending nationally
- 2016** - Over 1 million FLARE items processed
- 2017** - UF/FLARE commit 100,000 monographs to HathiTrust
- 2018** - Major renovation of ALF including HDF shelving
- 2019** - FLARE joins EAST (Eastern Academic Scholars' Trust, shared print collections)
 - Commits 251,000 monographs to HathiTrust
- 2020** - FLARE 30,000 sq. ft. structure
 - Over 5.2 million items in FLARE & room for expansion
 - Materials from over 10 Libraries



OFF CAMPUS STORAGE & MILES FROM LIBRARY WEST

- 4** Copeland
15.2 mi. northwest
- 5** Hill's
6 mi. northeast
- 7** LAD - old Maas
2.4 mi. north
- 8** ALF
5.2 mi. northeast
- 9** LAD - old Publix
4 mi. southwest
- 10** ILF
6.7 mi. northeast

25



three-dimensional shelf space by grouping like-sized items together. Since books were assigned to a cardboard tray with a specific number and location rather than being in call number order, material could be added in any order. At this point, ALF was moving away from a browsable arrangement and focusing on maximum efficiency of the building footprint. This transition was a substantial undertaking, meaning each of the many items would have to be pulled, measured, inventoried, and trayed before returning to a shelf.



Fig. 7 A sizer is used to measure books. Books of similar height are stored together, minimizing wasted space between shelves.

As planning for the anticipated new facility continued with the state funding, the Libraries began looking for interim storage so a statewide shared collection could be established. ALF could not meet the current space demands, especially with shipments from other libraries. In 2012, with financial support from the UF Provost, the Libraries leased warehouse and industrial space less than two miles from ALF. This facility was named the Interim Library Facility (ILF). In addition to materials, these two adjacent buildings would even-

tually house the storage operations and the Preservation and Conservation, and Digital Support Services departments. The move of those staff allowed for other shifts in campus Libraries, including the renovation and move of the Latin America and Caribbean Collection (LACC) to a more user-friendly and appropriate space in Smathers Library. During this period, the statewide storage program received a new name, the Florida Academic REpository (FLARE).

By 2013, the final design for the shared facility was completed and showed a 30,000 square foot concrete structure, with ceilings more than 35 feet high (Fig. 8). It would be connected to the existing ALF building, which would be renovated for office space and would house the departments currently placed at ILF. This new facility, with a capacity of 5.2 million volumes and room for future expansion, was designed to serve the needs for all of the state university libraries. Although the proposal would be submitted for final funding in 2014, 2015, and 2016 (a \$26 million proposal designed to be completed in 15 months), it was never funded beyond the initial \$2 million planning money.

In spite of the construction funding setback, FLARE continued to grow. In 2012, the University of Miami (UM) joined bringing additional funding to the program.





Fig. 9
Chiller
room

The preservation of stored materials for future generations requires a special climate:

a temperature range 50° - 65° and relative humidity (RH) from 35% - 55%. By comparison, office areas are typically 71° - 75° with an RH up to 60%. Without the special climate materials are at risk of mold blooms and other forms of deterioration.



Fig. 10
Climate
meter

DICKSON

In exchange, UM began transferring materials for storage at ILF. Also of note, the Association of Southeastern Research Libraries (ASERL) one of the largest regional research library consortia in the United States, launched a multi-institution shared print program for serials. This was one of the first and largest attempts at creating a regional collection. Under this model, the Libraries committed to retain specific titles until 2035, allowing other ASERL libraries to make decisions about discarding local copies based on a formal commitment from another library to make the title available to their users (www.aserl.org/programs/j-retain). The elimination of duplicative content would free vast amounts of space across the membership. UF leadership in establishing this agreement was critical. To facilitate tracking this information, the Smathers Libraries developed a new application, the Journal Retention and Needs Listing (JRNL) program. This would prove to be a bigger step in FLARE's transition on the national stage than some initially realized.

The Libraries recognized that to maximize the storage capacity at ILF, different shelving was needed. Serendipitously, the President of UF was looking for additional student study space on campus. Recognizing the opportunity, the dean provided a scenario that involved renovating the ground floor of Marston as student space. The challenge was that the ground floor contained over 18,000 shelves of science periodicals and government documents, the Government Documents Department staff, and the entire Map and Imagery Library. Other wrinkles included the need to complete the Latin America and Caribbean Collection move to the 3rd floor of Smathers Library, move the Cataloging and Discovery Services and the Acquisitions and Collection Services Departments from the 1st floor of Smathers Library to the former LACC space on the 4th Floor of Smathers Library, and to temporarily relocate storage materials to make room for the renovation at ILF. Multiple departments were involved, with materials, equipment, offices, and staff moving to various locations. This was an extraordinarily complicated project and final approval to proceed was not received until February 2014. This left only six months to accomplish the project, which incredibly, finished on time. At the completion, the Libraries had renovated multiple spaces, added seating for over 700 students at MSL with new services and amenities and



Fig 8. CSD concept study



ufdc.ufl.edu/source



increased capacity and efficiency at FLARE. This project, while hugely important to the on-campus community, also allowed FLARE to begin accepting transfers from other institutions. Without this project, one could argue that FLARE would not have been able to move beyond local storage.

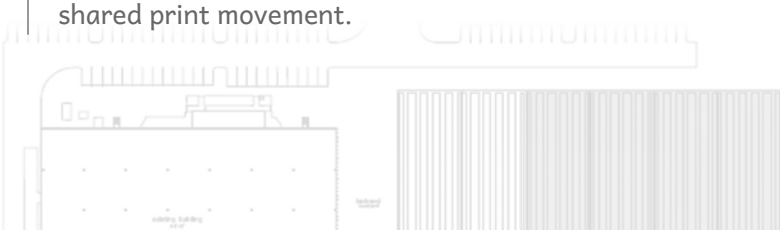
In 2015, over 1 million items were processed and requestable from FLARE. Another notable event was a transfer from the University of Central Florida (UCF), which added over 80,000 volumes to the collection. By this point, UM had transferred several shipments to FLARE, making it the second largest contributor behind UF. Significantly in this year, the Rosemont Shared Print Alliance began. FLARE was invited to participate in this unique collaboration, which included other major programs like ASERL/Scholars Trust, the Western Regional Storage Trust (WEST), and the Big Ten Academic Alliance (BTAA). The goal of this program was to coordinate efforts between these programs to begin building a national collection, thereby ensuring access to materials for the long-term, while potentially allowing members to withdraw items based on these commitments (<https://rosemontsharedprintalliance.org/>).

The next few years saw an increase in these types of activities. FLARE became more and more involved on the national front,

increasing participation in shared print programs and adding partners in JRNL. Each of these shared print initiatives furthered the goal of securing unique titles nationally, with binding and comprehensive documentation. By this point, nine partners were contributing funds annually to maintain the FLARE collection. New shelving in ALF allowed for more efficiency over the existing traditional library shelving that was installed in 2003. As 2020 closed, FLARE had more than 1.6 million items processed and requestable, with contributions from more than 10 libraries in Florida.

CONCLUSION

Looking forward, the need for a larger building still exists. Although physical acquisitions are declining across the country, there are still books that need to be retained for future generations. Over time, FLARE partner financial contributions have declined, leaving UF and UM to shoulder the burden for maintaining these collections. The nationally distributed model of shared print retention continues to accelerate, with Rosemont and other programs continuing to increase print retention agreements. The demand for more public space in campus libraries continues. Without additional construction funding and space to build new buildings on campus, the obvious solution is remote storage. Looking back over the history of storage at UF, the Libraries have invested substantial effort and money in trying to resolve these space issues, most notably with the FLARE legislative proposals. The inability to secure that funding certainly has impeded progress, but FLARE has found other ways to be an important partner in the storage and shared print movement.





THE

UNIVERSITY COLONNADE

Author:

Sara Piety

Director of Development & External Relations

FOR OVER 50 YEARS,

THE UNIVERSITY COLONNADE AT LIBRARY WEST HAS PROVIDED STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF WITH A PLACE TO MEET WITH FRIENDS, SHARE INFORMATION, AND SHELTER FROM SUN OR RAIN.



ufdc.ufl.edu/source

SURCE



When Library West, originally called the Graduate Research Library, opened in 1967 the Colonnade provided a new outdoor space for the campus community. Situated in a prime spot on the Plaza of the Americas, the Colonnade welcomes millions of people each year as they cross campus or come to study in Library West.

The Colonnade is also prominently featured in photos and videos of the UF campus as so many activities take place on the Plaza, including ESPN and SEC Nation Game Day events during football season.



Anyone who has been on campus over the years will remember the Krishna Lunches served under the Colonnade on rainy days or will have participated in special library events like Constitution Day or the Edible Book Contest.

It has also served a very practical purpose of allowing books to be transferred between Library West and the Smathers Library without exposing them to the elements. However, as times change, the needs of our students and visitors change. Several years ago, the Libraries began to reimagine both how the Colonnade looks and how it is used.





KRISHNA LUNCH

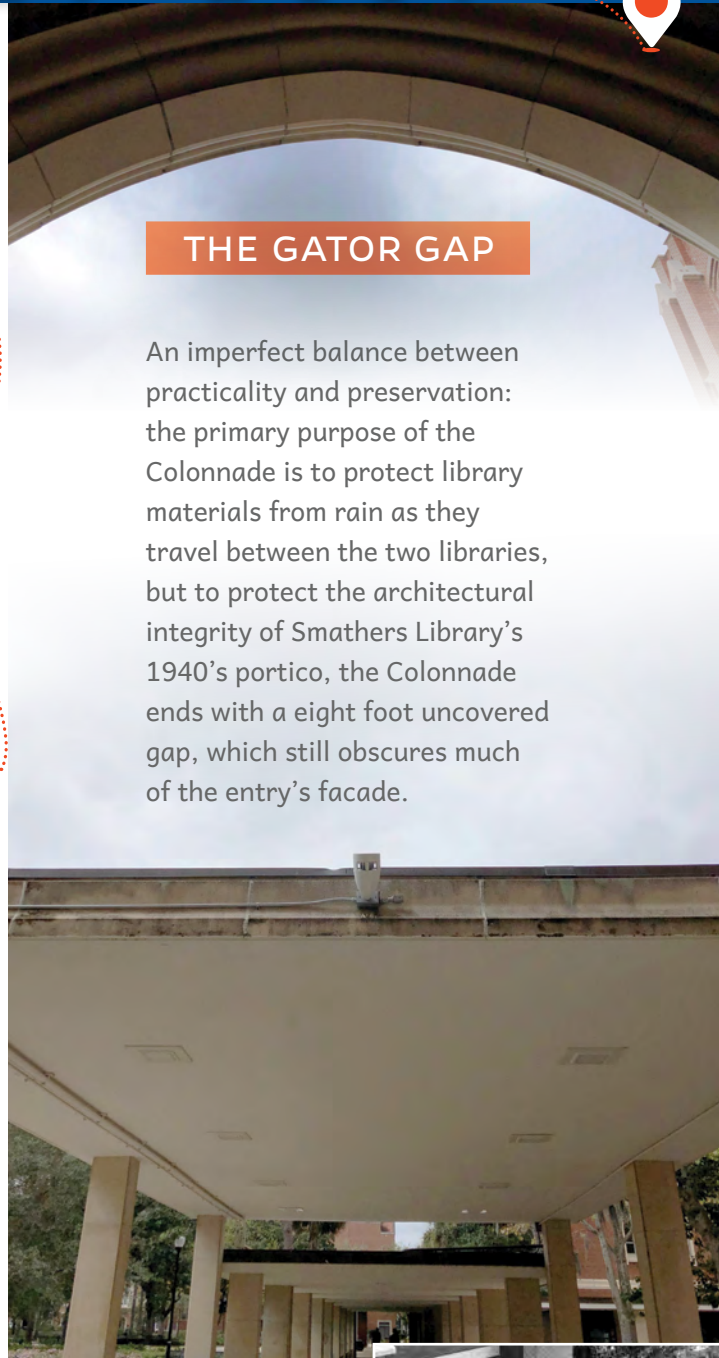


Srila Prabhupada, founder of the Hare Krishna movement also known as the International Society of Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON), speaks at the UF Plaza of the Americas in 1971. Note the Colonnade in the background

The Hare Krishnas first arrived in Gainesville in 1970, and since 1971 have served “karma-free food” at the Plaza of the Americas, while performing musical mantra meditation. They were also key funding contributors to the University’s 2019 beautification of the Plaza.

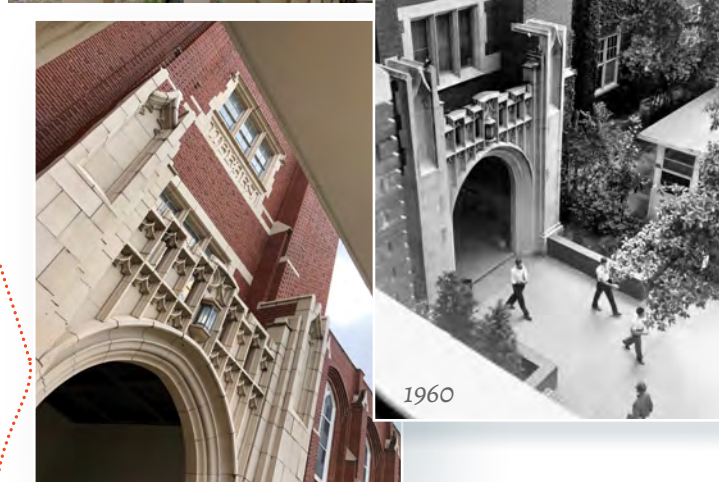


Find out more!
krishnalunch.com



THE GATOR GAP

An imperfect balance between practicality and preservation: the primary purpose of the Colonnade is to protect library materials from rain as they travel between the two libraries, but to protect the architectural integrity of Smathers Library’s 1940’s portico, the Colonnade ends with a eight foot uncovered gap, which still obscures much of the entry’s facade.



1960

ufdc.ufl.edu/source



PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

THE RESULT WAS A PLAN FOR A MORE ATTRACTIVE AND ARCHITECTURALLY COMPATIBLE ENTRANCE TO LIBRARY WEST, WHILE PROVIDING AN ENHANCED OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENT FOR STUDENTS AND OTHER VISITORS.

The new University Colonnade will have seating for approximately 300 people, replacing low brick wall seating with benches and tables for study or meetings, along with power outlets, improved lighting, and large fans, all supported with solar power from the roof.





UF LIBRARIES' FOCUSED ATTENTION TO DETAILS.

The Libraries' vision for our statue's new Colonnade home: students leaving West rushing off to classes can get a bit of Gator good luck!



Feeling "swamped," give me a GATOR CHOMP &...



...wherever you go, whatever you do, Focused Attention will follow you!

When the new Colonnade is built, the Libraries' own Gator statue, Focused Attention, sculpted by Florida artist David Price, will have the opportunity to move from its temporary quarters on the third floor of Library West to a prominent space outside.

In addition to the Gator, generously donated by the A. H. Burnett Foundation, there are many spaces within the new Colonnade to leave a legacy and honor a student, faculty member, family member or friend through naming opportunities.

Learn more at:
www.giving.uflib.ufl.edu



*All Paths Lead to Library West - University Colonnade
Brame Heck Architects Inc.*

ufdc.ufl.edu/source





THE EVOLUTION OF
LIBRARY WEST

Author:

Stacey R. Ewing
Chair of Library West



These historical images of Library West through the year reflects the design style as what has come to be known as mid-century.

Since its beginnings as a graduate research space, Library West (LibWest) has continually sought to update its spaces and technology in tandem with the changing scholarly and social needs of its faculty and students.

Completed in 1967, Library West became the second library built on the UF Campus and served as the Graduate Research Library until the 1980s, when the Libraries began retooling to serve as centers for subject specialization. At this time, Library West became the official Humanities and Social Sciences Library, with sister libraries like the Marston Science Library, the Architecture and Fine Arts Library, and the Education Library.



Fig. 3 2004, the addition of the north wing of Library West added 55,000 sq. ft., increasing the branches total by about 67%.

In the 1990s, both the university’s academic programs and its student enrollment expanded considerably, and Library West’s collections were likewise extended to support this growth. This change, however, presented the branch with its first major growing pain, as it simply was not built to house a collection of that size while also providing sufficient spaces for students and faculty to study and conduct research. During this period, the branch underwent several



Fig. 1

small but significant renovation projects. Its card catalog cabinets (Fig. 1) were removed and replaced by an Online Public Access Catalog, freeing up a sizeable amount of room for study space. Renovations to staff areas facilitated workflow, and the transfer of materials to offsite storage and the reorganization of onsite collections liberated more room.

Near the end of the 1990s, Library West saw an increase in the number of specialized database computers and networked workstations—eighty computers in all—which became known as the “InfoSwamp.” At this time, increased traffic from UF’s ever expanding student population and the changing service expectations of its research community led to the closing of the branch in 2004 for a two-year, massive renovation that included the construction of a north wing.

This addition expanded LibWest’s existing footprint from 50,000 square feet to 89,000 square feet, allocating even more collection space, which now boasted forty miles of track for movable shelving (Fig. 2), allowing the library to house 1.7 million volumes of print materials.



Fig. 2



Kisling Timeline:

George A. Smathers Libraries’ history was compiled by Vernon N. Kisling, Jr. through 2007. Vernon worked at the Smathers Libraries for more than 25 years, serving as the collection manager for the environmental sciences and the history of science. He also served as the Chair of the Marston Science Library.

1967

The Graduate Research Library opened and the old library was designated the College Library. The names were changed to Library West and Library East in 1970.

1987

Library East was renamed Smathers Library after Senator George A. Smathers provided a significant gift to renovate the building. The renovations were completed in 1996.

Check out the entire Kisling Timeline:
<https://communications.uflib.ufl.edu/at-a-glance/smathers-library-history>.

2013

Neuharth (founded USA Today) Reading Room relocated to Library West, Previously located in Weimer Hall.

The mission is to serve the instructional and research needs of UF’s College of Journalism and Communications.





NORTH FACING CURTAIN WALL 2006 RENOVATION

North facing curtain wall and café curtain wall: the new spaces in Library West afforded sweeping new views that did not exist in the original. Over time since the reopening, the Libraries have been able to create seating that engages studying students with these dramatic architectural elements. Counter seating is especially efficient in terms of added capacity, and also allows for incorporating much sought after electricity for charging ubiquitous mobile devices.



CAFÉ CURTAIN WALL 2006 RENOVATION



CAFÉ CURTAIN WALL 2021

In 2006, Library West reopened and its “InfoCommons” area presented patrons with a brand–new environment focused on furnishing flexible and integrated spaces for collaborative and individual study and research. Seating increased from 400 to over 1,400 and LibWest’s capacity for technological expansion also kept pace, featuring 120 computers, a Digital Media Center, two Media Production Studios equipped for video editing, and a studio equipped with specialized ADA equipment and software. For the first time, Wi-Fi was accessible throughout the building. Other improvements included LibWest’s first ever group study rooms, the largest of which was equipped with video conferencing equipment.

The library also set aside space specifically for its graduate students, dedicating the entire sixth floor as an exclusive access, “graduate students only” area. The fourth floor, the designated “quiet floor” of the building, was outfitted with eighty–four graduate carrels for dissertating graduate students. The 2006 reopening heralded another big first for Library West: snacks and drinks were now allowed in the building, and a Starbucks Café was installed on the first floor near the entrance.

Over the last 15 years, Library West has continued to improve and upgrade its spaces and technologies to meet the learning and research needs befitting its preeminent, R1 institution status. As the library expanded hours to 24/7 access, study space again became a hot commodity. A service desk area on the third floor was removed to increase seating, and fourth floor renovations added more room for quiet study. Other more recent upgrades include renovations to the library’s entrance to make it more welcoming to visitors and a remodeled first floor café has expanded study space.

In the last decade, areas in Library West were carved out to house valuable services for our students. The Scott Nygren Scholars Studio was created as an instruction,

SECOND FLOOR CONCEPT



SECOND FLOOR 2006 RENOVATION



SECOND FLOOR 2021



meeting, and project creation space for researchers in the digital humanities. Through a partnership with the UF Office of Academic Support, and the UF Writing Studio, free tutoring is available in the LibWest Tutoring Center. More recently, West's instruction classroom enjoyed a full renovation, transforming from a cramped classroom space, into the Library Instruction Lab.

Library West also continues to upgrade and improve technology offerings. Since 2009, hundreds of power outlets have been added throughout the building to accommodate mobile device users. Approximately six years ago, UF Academic Technology (AT) became a partner when it assumed management of all computers, software, printing, and study room A/V equipment within all the branches. Library West greatly benefited from this partnership, seeing the number of patron workstations increase to over 200 along with six new iMacs. AT also supports ten online proctoring booths in West, where students can take exams while being monitored remotely. With grant funding obtained by librarians from the UF Student Technology Fee Grants program, Library West has also provided students with upgraded group study room technology, a One Button Video Recording Studio, and high-speed digital scanners.

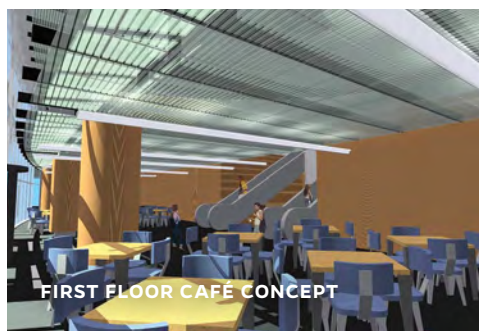


SECOND FLOOR CIRCULATION DESK CONCEPT



SECOND FLOOR CIRCULATION DESK 2021

To maximize first floor space for very heavy compact shelving, the 2006 design located the circulation desk to the second floor, creating a challenge of how to effectively move patrons to the second floor, which has become the entrance level into the library. The solution was escalators to enhance the speed and ease of moving the estimated 1.5 million visitors a year into the facility. Additionally, the first floor entry space was envisioned as a 24-hour open study space and food vending. This vision eventually changed to the first library-based Starbucks.



FIRST FLOOR CAFE CONCEPT



FIRST FLOOR ESCALATORS/ELEVATOR 2021



Study Rooms & Carrels

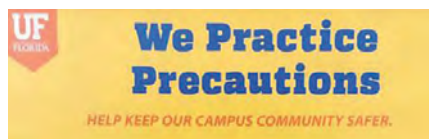


One Button Video Recording Studio



Lactation Room

Library West has also made recent updates to its facilities with an eye towards diversity, equity, and inclusion, and now offers a lactation room – the first on the main campus, a gender-inclusive restroom, and a meditation/prayer room. In partnership with AT and the UF Disability Resource Center (DRC), LibWest supports DRC students through an improved Accessibility Studio with a private study space equipped with more accessible technology and software.



2018 Accessibility Studio

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Library West has been forced to restrict access and availability of some resources. With social distancing, seating capacity has been reduced to 310, group study rooms have temporarily been converted to staff offices, and many of the smaller collaborative spaces are shuttered. Tutoring, digital humanities, and library instruction will be held online for the foreseeable future. For now, West employees continue to support our patrons through online research consultations and library instruction, and the building is still open for research and individual study. Meanwhile, the library is taking advantage of the lower foot-traffic to make repairs and small renovations. When the branch is back to “normal,” there will be newly enhanced spaces and improvements for our UF community to discover and enjoy, and a new chapter of Library West’s history will begin.



Library Instruction Lab

Further reading: Freund, L., & Seale, C. (2007). *Transforming Library West at the University of Florida: A Fairy Tale Makeover.* (<https://journals.flvc.org/flalib/issue/view/4090>)



BUILDING HERITAGE & THE DIGITAL WORLD:

DOCUMENTING THE
EVOLUTION OF
ST. AUGUSTINE'S
BUILT ENVIRONMENT



Fig. 1

Authors:

Laura Douglass Marion
Collections Coordinator

Casey Wooster
Collections Assistant

**Governor's House Cultural Center and
Museum is located at the head of the
Plaza de la Constitución; at the center
of St. Augustine's historic district.**

Its library preserves and provides access to historical resources that enhance our understanding and appreciation of St. Augustine's built heritage. The library holds papers from the former state agency, Historic St. Augustine Preservation Board (HSAPB). From 1959 to 1997, the HSAPB researched, excavated, restored, reconstructed, and interpreted buildings from the city's Spanish colonial past.



Fig. 2 Sydney B. Raulerson (left) & Linda Dean (right) of the living history museum San Agustín Antiquo present HSAPB's crest, 1970.

Fig. 1 HSAPB employed a wide range of historians, archaeologists, and other humanities professionals in their reimagining of St. Augustine. Pictured on the balcony of the Arrivas House, 1962 (left to right): Robert H. Steinbach, Rita H. O'Brien, Robert Gold, and Marion E. Randolph.

ufdc.ufl.edu/source

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Fig. 3 The De-Burgo Pellicer House – a reconstructed British colonial era home – exemplifies the HSABP’s transformation of St. George St. during the 1960s & 1970s.

Governor’s House Library collections holds:

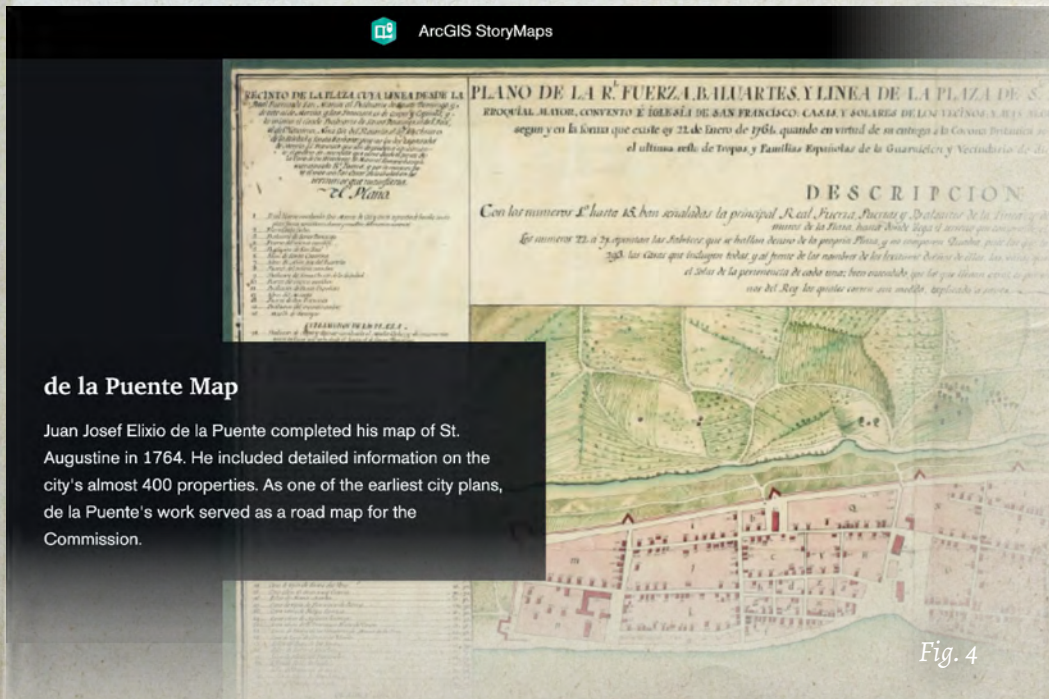
- 104 linear feet of archival material,
- over 800 historic maps,
- nearly 400 design records,
- and 28,000 photographs in print, slide, and negative format.



Their work in archaeology, historic preservation, and public history transformed the city’s streetscapes and laid the foundation for how we see St. Augustine’s past and present. Yet, many do not know the story behind the agency’s reimagining of the colonial presidio.

The University of Florida has held stewardship of the Governor’s House Library collections since 2010, which includes 104 linear feet of archival material, over 800 historic maps, nearly 400 design records, and 28,000 photographs in print, slide, and negative format. To bring this tale out of boxes and to the public, library staff have completed a series of federally funded grants over the past decade to process its collections, digitize a small percentage, and work on some linked data projects. All of this work allowed a shift in our focus to digitization and community outreach.

When COVID-19 hit, developing a digital project that could reach our community safely in their homes became even more of a priority. These efforts culminated in the library’s first digital exhibit, “The Making of Historic St. Augustine,” in October 2020.



de la Puente Map

Juan Jose Elixio de la Puente completed his map of St. Augustine in 1764. He included detailed information on the city’s almost 400 properties. As one of the earliest city plans, de la Puente’s work served as a road map for the Commission.

Fig. 4



Fig. 5

"The Making of Historic St. Augustine" utilizes ArcGIS StoryMaps to reconstruct the HSAPB's narrative through their papers and invites visitors to explore the agency's legacy in an interactive map. The exhibit travels chronologically through St. Augustine's founding in 1565 and its earliest preservation efforts in the 1930's to the over 30 restoration and reconstruction projects completed during the HSAPB's operating years. The exhibit weaves together each of the unique aspects of the Governor's House Library collections. The historical narrative sourced from our research collections is supplemented by images from the library's photograph, map, and architecture collections. It concludes with an interactive map that illustrates the HSAPB's efforts, which remains visible in the landscape of downtown St. Augustine today. Users can select one of the buildings restored or reconstructed and learn more about its history via links to the Governor's House Library blog and Wikipedia articles created or edited by library staff. Through this storytelling, we hope community members, tourists, and students alike learn and think about historic preservation: past, present, and future.

With the completion of Arrivas House, the Commission held a dedication ceremony in 1963 that featured Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson. He gave a speech from the house's restored balcony onto a crowd of onlookers in St. George Street.

Fig. 6



Using a platform that is educational and accessible to anyone, but is cross-functional for our present and future academic partnerships made StoryMaps the natural fit for this digital project and projects we

GOVERNOR'S HOUSE LIBRARY

Governor's House Cultural Center and Museum
48 King St., St. Augustine, FL

Governor's House Library is managed jointly by UF Historic St. Augustine, Inc., & the UF George A. Smathers Libraries.

The Library is open for researchers by appointment Monday - Friday.

will create moving forward. Governor's House Library partners with the College of Design, Construction, and Planning's Historic Preservation program and their Preservation Institute: St. Augustine (PI:SA) field school to aid students' research and on-the-ground efforts to document historic buildings in St. Augustine. Our choice to use StoryMaps as the platform for this exhibit was encouraged by PI:SA staff, as ArcGIS data is frequently consulted in their work.

The online response to this project has been positive and encouraging to us to continue to use our unique collections to provide a different perspective on the modern history of St. Augustine. We will resume digitization efforts this year and hope that this work will allow us to create a series of shorter and more focused StoryMaps that highlight some of the other initiatives of the HSAPB, including their crafts programs, archaeological work, and perhaps specific reconstruction projects in greater detail.

After a year marked by physical distance and isolation, we are excited to continue to create new ways to connect and engage with our community in St. Augustine and beyond.

TO ACCESS "THE MAKING OF HISTORIC ST. AUGUSTINE" AND TO FURTHER EXPLORE OUR COLLECTIONS, VISIT US AT WWW.GOVHOUSE.UFLIB.UFL.EDU.



WHAT'S NEW ON THE BLOG

Rejas: Florida's 16th Century Home Security System

You'll find them on the Hyppo on St. George Street, on homes near the Oldest House, and even on some of the restaurants in the Colonial Quarter. They're called rejas. They're a Spanish architectural feature that serves both a decorative and particularly practical purpose...

[Read more here →](#)



DIGITAL COLLECTIONS

Governor's House Library Digital Collections

Access digitized material from the Governor's House Library collections wherever you are on the Historic St. Augustine collection through University of Florida Digital Collections.

[Explore our collections →](#)



DIGITAL EXHIBITS

The Making of Historic St. Augustine

Explore the history of the Historic St. Augustine Preservation Board through this ArcGIS StoryMap and learn more about their four decade effort to transform St. Augustine's downtown.

[Visit the exhibit →](#)

And, check out our blog: <https://governorshouselibrary.wordpress.com/>

Governor's House Library

Explore St. Augustine's History





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FALL 2021 ISSUE

These stories of the special UF spaces will continue and offer new perspectives on our themes of **legacy, stewardship, inclusion, discovery, & community.**

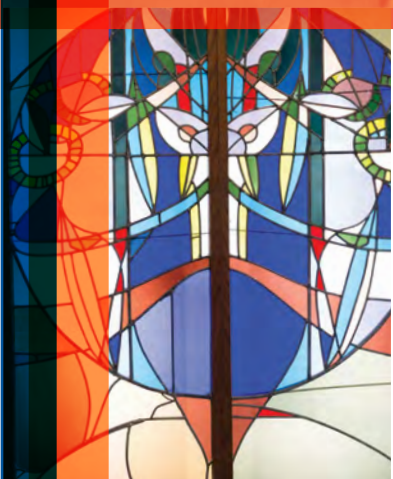
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SIBRARIES

Stacks area in Library East before the renovation, 1960.



University of Florida

George A. Smathers Libraries

SOURCE MAGAZINE

offers an exclusive view into the remarkable materials, exceptional student and faculty outreach, and innovative research that is at the heart of the University of Florida George A. Smathers Libraries.



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