Vicente Sebastián Pintado Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress

Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2013

Contact information: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact

Catalog Record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mm78051045

Additional search options available at: https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms008036

Prepared by Kenneth Fones-Wolf
Revised and expanded by Karen Linn Femia and Julie Miller

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2008
Revised 2021 December
Collection Summary

Title: Vicente Sebastián Pintado Papers
Inclusive Dates: 1781-1842
Bulk Dates: 1799-1817
ID No.: MSS51045
Creator: Pintado, Vicente Sebastián, 1774-1829
Extent: 1,500 items
Extent: 7 containers
Extent: 3 linear feet
Extent: 6 microfilm reels
Language: Collection material in French and Spanish.
Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
LC Catalog record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mmc78051045
Summary: Surveyor general of Spanish West Florida. Correspondence, bills of sale, court transcripts, testimonies, surveys, notebooks, plats, land grants, maps, petitions, and other papers relating principally to Pintado's duties as alcalde, commandant, and surveyor general.
Online Content: An image of map 12 is online at "The Luso-Hispanic World in Maps." Maps 33, 36, and 38 are described there. The maps in the Pintado Papers, now in the Geography and Map Division, are available online where they are described as part of these papers.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People
Armas, Christoval de--Correspondence.
Bolling, Christopher--Correspondence.
Collins, José--Correspondence.
Cruza, Antonio--Correspondence.
Folch, Vicente--Correspondence.
Kneeland, Ira Cook, -1812?--Correspondence.
Lynd, Juan.
López, Manuel, 1780-1860--Correspondence.
Morales, Juan Ventura, 1756-1819--Correspondence.
Pintado, Vicente Sebastián, 1774-1829.
Reggio, Pedro--Correspondence.
Rivas, Francisco, Captain--Correspondence.
Tegart, Patrick--Correspondence
Trudeau, Charles Laveau, approximately 1750-1816--Correspondence.

Organizations
Vicente Sebastián Pintado Collection (Library of Congress)

Subjects
Deeds--Alabama.
Deeds--Florida.
Deeds--Louisiana.
Deeds--Mississippi.
Land grants--Alabama.
Land grants--Florida.
Land grants--Louisiana.
Land grants--Mississippi.
Land tenure--Alabama.
Acquisition Information

The papers of Vicente Sebastián Pintado, surveyor general of Spanish West Florida, were donated to the Library of Congress in 1974 by Cherrill W. Adams via Mrs. Janet Schroeder of the Duluth Public Library, Duluth, Minnesota. An addition to the papers was purchased in 1985.

Processing History

The papers of Vicente Sebastián Pintado were arranged and described in 1978. The collection was expanded and revised in 1998. The finding aid was revised in 2008, 2012, and 2013.

Additional Guides


Transfers

The Maps and Plats (Oversize) series was transferred to the Geography and Map Division in 2012, where it is identified as part of these papers.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Vicente Sebastián Pintado is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).
Access and Restrictions

The papers of Vicente Sebastián Pintado are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Microfilm

A microfilm edition of part of these papers is available on six reels. Consult reference staff in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan. To promote preservation of the originals, researchers are required to consult the microfilm edition as available.

Online Content

An image of map 12 is online at "The Luso-Hispanic World in Maps." Maps 33, 36, and 38 are described there. The maps in the Pintado Papers, now in the Geography and Map Division, are available online where they are described as part of these papers.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container or reel number, Vicente Sebastián Pintado Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1774, Feb.</td>
<td>Born, Santa Cruz de la Palma, Canary Islands; later educated as an engineer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1794-1795</td>
<td>Commanded sloop on the lakes Borgne and Pontchartrain for Governor Luis Héctor Carondelet of Louisiana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1796-1803</td>
<td>Assistant surveyor, province of Louisiana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1798</td>
<td>Captain, Caballeria de Milicias de Nueva Feliciana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1799</td>
<td>Appears in the records of West Florida as property owner in Baton Rouge District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1799-1805</td>
<td>Alcalde, New Feliciana District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1803-1805</td>
<td>Assistant surveyor, Spanish West Florida</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1804-1805</td>
<td>Assisted in defeat of the Kemper brothers' raids in Spanish West Florida</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1805-1817</td>
<td>Surveyor general of Spanish West Florida, Pensacola</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1816</td>
<td>Married Maria Teresa Eulalia Balderas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1817</td>
<td>Transferred to Havana, Cuba; served as military engineer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1829</td>
<td>Died, Havana, Cuba</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Vicente Sebastián Pintado (1774-1829) span the years 1781-1842, with the bulk of material dating from 1799 to 1817. The papers consist of correspondence, bills of sale, court transcripts, testimonies, surveys, notebooks, plats, land grants, manuscript maps, petitions, and papers relating to Pintado's official duties as alcalde, commandant, and surveyor general of Spanish West Florida from 1799 to 1817. An undated Spanish/Talapuche Indian vocabulary is also in the papers. The papers include no record of his official duties in Havana. The collection contains four series: General Correspondence, Official Papers, Maps and Plats (Oversize), and an Addition. Sixty-two maps and plats, originally part of this collection,
were transferred to the Geography and Map Division in August 2012. They are included on the microfilm, and they are listed in this finding aid.

Spanish West Florida encompassed Louisiana from the Mississippi River to the Pearl River north of Lake Pontchartrain, the Gulf coasts of the present day states of Mississippi, Alabama (Mobile and vicinity), and western Florida (Pensacola and St. Mark's vicinity). The papers offer information on the critical transition in this region from the time of the Louisiana Purchase in 1803 through the seizure and occupation of West Florida by the United States in 1813-1814 to the ultimate cession of East and West Florida by Spain to the United States by terms of the Adams-Onis Treaty of 1819. They provide insight into the multicultural relationships which developed in the area.

Place names that appear in this register are from this geographic area unless otherwise specified. Although some of the papers predate Pintado's appointment as alcalde in 1799, most of the material relates to land surveys, land purchases, and deeds from his appointment as alcalde until his departure for Cuba in 1817. After moving to Cuba, Pintado served as a military engineer. The papers include no record of his official duties in Havana.

The General Correspondence includes manuscript copies of many outgoing letters as well as communications from Christoval de Armas, Christopher Bolling, Antonio Cruzat, Vincent Folch (United States Governor of West Florida), Manuel Gayoso de Lemos (Governor of Baton Rouge), Charles Boucher de Grand-Pré (Governor of Baton Rouge), Ira Cook Kneeland (Pintado's deputy surveyor), Manuel López, Juan Ventura Morales (intendant of West Florida), Captain Francisco Rivas, and Charles Laveau Trudeau (Spanish surveyor in Louisiana). There is also documentation on the Nicolls raid in the Apalachicola River area and the Kemper brothers' raids in Louisiana, 1804-1805.

In addition to Pintado's personal and professional correspondence, the collection originally included part of the land records of Spanish West Florida. Maps, charts, plats, and land surveys now in the Geography and Map Division, many cadastral, relate to the coastal area from West Florida to the Mississippi River, with special attention to the Baton Rouge, Feliciana, Mobile, and Pensacola districts. This material is supplemented by correspondence between Pintado and his corps of surveyors including José Collins, Ira Cook Kneeland, Pedro Reggio (who became assistant surveyor after the death of Kneeland in 1812), and Patrick Tegart. Legal documents such as court transcripts, testimonies, surveys, land grants, deeds, and petitions are in the Official Papers.

The Addition to the papers consists of a bound volume dated 1806 containing five maps and written text concerning various properties of Juan Lynd located in the vicinity of Baton Rouge.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in four series:

- General Correspondence, 1785-1829
- Official Papers, 1781-1842
- Maps and Plats (Oversize), 1783-circa 1830
- Addition, 1806
Description of Series

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<th>Series</th>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 1-4 REEL 1-3</td>
<td><strong>General Correspondence, 1785-1829</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Letters sent and received.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Arranged chronologically.</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 5-6 REEL 4-5</td>
<td><strong>Official Papers, 1781-1842</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Court transcripts, testimonies, wills, bills of sale, surveys, notebooks, land grants, petitions, deeds, and other papers.</td>
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<td>Arranged chronologically.</td>
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<tr>
<td>REEL 6</td>
<td><strong>Maps and Plats (Oversize), 1783-circa 1830</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Maps of the entire region of West Florida and of Baton Rouge and other cities and regions, plats of towns, plantations, and land ownership divisions. Available on microfilm only in the Manuscript Division; originals housed in the Geography and Map Division.</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 7 not filmed</td>
<td><strong>Addition, 1806</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bound volume of maps and text re properties of Juan Lynd near Baton Rouge.</td>
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<td><strong>General Correspondence, 1785-1829</strong>&lt;br&gt;Letters sent and received.&lt;br&gt;Arranged chronologically.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BOX 1 REEL 1</strong></td>
<td>1785-1802&lt;br&gt;(5 folders)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>BOX 2 REEL 2</strong></td>
<td>1803-1805&lt;br&gt;(4 folders)</td>
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<td><strong>BOX 3 REEL 3</strong></td>
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<td><strong>BOX 6 REEL 5</strong></td>
<td>1809-1842, circa&lt;br&gt;(5 folders)</td>
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<td><strong>Maps and Plats (Oversize), 1783-circa 1830</strong>&lt;br&gt;Maps of the entire region of West Florida and of Baton Rouge and other cities and regions, plats of towns, plantations, and land ownership divisions. Available on microfilm only in the Manuscript Division; originals housed in the Geography and Map Division.&lt;br&gt;Arranged as numbered and described by John R. Hébert in &quot;Vicente Sebastián Pintado, Surveyor General of Spanish West Florida, 1805-1817, the Man and His Maps,&quot; <em>Imago Mundi</em> 39 (1987): 50-72.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>REEL 6</strong></td>
<td>[Feliciano District, Spanish West Florida], Pintado, [1] circa 1805</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>REEL 6</strong></td>
<td>[Map of area of the rivers Tickfaw, Amite, and San Bernardo, Spanish West Florida], circa 1805 [2]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>REEL 6</strong></td>
<td>[Map of Baton Rouge, Spanish West Florida], Ira C. Kneeland, 1809-3-6 [3]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>REEL 6</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>REEL 6</strong></td>
<td>[Map of an area along the eastern shore of Lake Pontchartrain, Louisiana, including New Orleans and Bayou Bogue Chitto], circa 1815 [5]</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>REEL 6</strong></td>
<td>[Map of Manchac and Baton Rouge District, Spanish West Florida], circa 1805 [6]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>REEL 6</strong></td>
<td>[Map of an area of Spanish West Florida bounded by Rios Comite on the west and Amite on the east], circa 1805 [7]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>REEL 6</strong></td>
<td>[Map of Spanish West Florida bounded by Rios Comite and Amite], circa 1805 [8]</td>
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BOX 7 not filmed  Addition, 1806
Bound volume of maps and text re properties of Juan Lynd near Baton Rouge.