Vicente Sebastián Pintado Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress

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Manuscript Division, Library of Congress

Washington, D.C.

2008

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

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Finding aid URL: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms008036

Latest revision: 2011 August

Collection Summary

Title: Vicente Sebastián Pintado Papers
Span Dates: 1781-1842
Bulk Dates: (bulk 1799-1817)
ID No.: MSS51045
Creator: Pintado, Vicente Sebastián, 1774-1829
Extent: 1,500 items; 7 containers plus 22 oversize; 12 linear feet; 6 microfilm reels
Language: Collection material in French and Spanish.
Repository: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
Abstract: 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.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

People
Armas, Christoval de--Correspondence.
Bolling, Christopher--Correspondence.
Collins, José--Correspondence.
Cruzat, Antonio--Correspondence.
Folch, Vicente--Correspondence.
Kneeland, Ira Cook, d. 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, ca. 1750-1816--Correspondence.

Subjects
Deeds--Alabama.
Deeds--Florida.
Deeds--Louisiana.
Deeds--Mississippi.
Land grants--Alabama.
Land grants--Florida.
Land grants--Louisiana.
Land grants--Mississippi.
Land tenure--Alabama.
Land tenure--Florida.
Land tenure--Louisiana.
Land tenure--Mississippi.
Real property--Alabama.
Real property--Florida.
Real property--Louisiana.
Real property--Mississippi.

Places

Alabama--Maps, Manuscript.
Alabama--Surveys.
Florida--History--Spanish colony, 1784-1821.
Florida--Maps, Manuscript.
Florida--Surveys.
Louisiana--Maps, Manuscript.
Louisiana--Surveys.
Mississippi--Maps, Manuscript.
Mississippi--Surveys.
Spain--Colonies--America.

Occupations
Surveyors.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of Vicente Sebastián Pintado, surveyor general of Spanish West Florida, were donated to the Library of Congress in 1974 by Mrs. Robert M. 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 register was revised in 2008.

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.

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

Date	*Event*
1774, Feb.	Born, Santa Cruz de la Palma, Canary Islands; later educated as an engineer
1794-1795	Commanded sloop on the lakes Borgne and Pontchartrain for Governor Luis Héctor Carondelet of Louisiana

1796-1803	Assistant surveyor, province of Louisiana
1798	Captain, Caballería de Milicias de Nueva Feliciana
1799	Appears in the records of West Florida as property owner in Baton Rouge District
1799-1805	Alcalde, New Feliciana District
1803-1805	Assistant surveyor, Spanish West Florida
1804-1805	Assisted in defeat of the Kemper brothers' raids in Spanish West Florida
1805-1817	Surveyor general of Spanish West Florida, Pensacola
1816	Married Maria Teresa Eulalia Balderas
1817	Transferred to Havana, Cuba; served as military engineer
1829	Died, Havana, Cuba

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. 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). 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 military engineer. The papers include no record of his official duties in Havana. The collection contains four series: General Correspondence, Official Papers, Maps and Plats, and an Addition.

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 (intendent 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 includes part of the land records of Spanish West Florida. Maps, charts, plats, and land surveys, 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. The Pintado Papers offer information on the critical transitional period 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. A Spanish/Talapuche Indian vocabulary is also in the papers.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in four series:

- General Correspondence, 1785-1829
- Official Papers, 1781-1842
- Maps and Plates, 1783-circa 1830
- Addition, 1806

Description of Series

Container	*Series*
BOX 1-4 REEL 1-3	General Correspondence, 1785-1829

Letters sent and received.
Arranged chronologically.

BOX 5-6 REEL 4-5	Official Papers, 1781-1842

Court transcripts, testimonies, wills, bills of sale, surveys, notebooks, land grants, petitions, deeds, and other papers.
Arranged chronologically.

BOX 7-28 REEL 6	Maps and Plats (Oversize), 1783-circa 1830

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.
Unarranged.

BOX 29 not filmed	Addition, 1806

Bound volume of maps and text re properties of Juan Lynd near Baton Rouge.

Container List

Container	*Contents*
BOX 1-4 REEL 1-3	General Correspondence, 1785-1829
	Letters sent and received. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 1 REEL 1	1785-1802
	(5 folders)
BOX 2 REEL 2	1803-1805
	(4 folders)
BOX 3 REEL 3	1806-1812
	(6 folders)
BOX 4 REEL 3	1813-1829, circa
	(7 folders)
BOX 5-6 REEL 4-5	Official Papers, 1781-1842
	Court transcripts, testimonies, wills, bills of sale, surveys, notebooks, land grants, petitions, deeds, and other papers. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 5 REEL 4	1781-1808
	(7 folders)
BOX 6 REEL 5	1809-1842, circa
	(5 folders)
BOX 7-28 REEL 6	Maps and Plats (Oversize), 1783-circa 1830
	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. Unarranged.
BOX 7 REEL 6	Feliciana District, circa 1800-1810
BOX 7 REEL 6	Tickfaw, Amite, and San Bernardo rivers, undated
BOX 7 REEL 6	Baton Rouge, 1809
BOX 8	Mississippi River: Rio Iberville to Thompson's Creek, circa 1810 (3 parts)

Container	*Contents*
REEL 6	
BOX 9	Lake Pontchartrain, eastern shore, circa 1805
REEL 6	
BOX 10	Manchac and Baton Rouge districts, circa 1810
REEL 6	
BOX 11	Land between the rivers Comit and Amite, circa 1810
REEL 6	
	(2 charts)
BOX 11	Manchac District, 1799
REEL 6	
BOX 12	Baton Rouge[?], circa 1810
REEL 6	
BOX 12	West Florida, Baton Rouge District, 1805
REEL 6	
BOX 12	Mobile Bay to Apalachicola Bay, circa 1815
REEL 6	
BOX 13	Apalachicola River and Bay, 1815
REEL 6	
BOX 13	Land between the rivers Comit and Amite, circa 1810
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BOX 14	United States, 1793
REEL 6	
BOX 15	Forbes and Co. lands, Apalachicola and San Marcos rivers, 1817
REEL 6	
BOX 15	Apalachicola River, 1815
REEL 6	
BOX 15	Pantonia, 1815
REEL 6	
BOX 16	Lake Pontchartrain to Comit River, circa 1810
REEL 6	
BOX 16	Pearl River to Bay St. Louis, circa 1810
REEL 6	
BOX 16	Tunica Bend, Feliciana District, circa 1810
REEL 6	
BOX 16	Bogue Chitto Bayou, circa 1810
REEL 6	
BOX 17	Feliciana District, Alexander Creek and Bayou Tasa, circa 1810
REEL 6	
BOX 17	Baton Rouge, Manuel Gayoso de Lemos concessions, circa 1800
REEL 6	
BOX 17	Feliciana District, Bayou Sarah to the James Kavenaugh lands, circa 1810
REEL 6	
BOX 18	Lake Pontchartrain, north shore, 1798
REEL 6	
BOX 18	Baton Rouge District, circa 1799
REEL 6	
BOX 18	Feliciana District, Lac de la Croix to Thompson's Creek, 1799
REEL 6	
BOX 19	Manchac District, circa 1810
REEL 6	

Container	*Contents*
BOX 19 REEL 6	St. Augustine, East Florida, 1783
BOX 19 REEL 6	Feliciana District along Bayou Sarah, circa 1810
BOX 19 REEL 6	Pensacola, undated
BOX 19 REEL 6	Spanish West Florida, Mississippi River to Mobile Bay, 1820
BOX 20 REEL 6	Feliciana District, circa 1810 (2 charts)
BOX 20 REEL 6	Mobile River lands near Bayou Chatauge, circa 1810
BOX 21 REEL 6	Baton Rouge District, 1799
BOX 21 REEL 6	West Florida, Lake Maurepas to Pensacola Bay, circa 1810
BOX 21 REEL 6	Louisiana, southwest quadrant, 1806
BOX 22 REEL 6	Louisiana, circa 1810
BOX 22 REEL 6	New Orleans, Louisiana, Bayou St. John, circa 1795
BOX 22 REEL 6	Florida Peninsula, circa 1810
BOX 22 REEL 6	Pensacola Bay, 1815
BOX 23 REEL 6	Comit and Feliciana river lands, circa 1810
BOX 23 REEL 6	Escambia Bay and Governor river lands, circa 1810
BOX 23 REEL 6	Pensacola Bay to St. Andrews Bay, circa 1815
BOX 24 REEL 6	Pensacola, 1813
BOX 24 REEL 6	Feliciana District, circa 1810
BOX 24 REEL 6	Pensacola Bay and St. Rosa Island, circa 1815
BOX 25 REEL 6	Pensacola, 1813
BOX 25 REEL 6	St. Rosa Bay to Apalachicola Bay, undated
BOX 25 REEL 6	Feliciana District, 1799
BOX 26 REEL 6	Rigolet and Pearl River mouth, circa 1800
BOX 26 REEL 6	Feliciana District, circa 1804
BOX 26	Mississippi River, 1805

Container	*Contents*
REEL 6	
BOX 27 REEL 6	Feliciana District, Mississippi River to Comit River (includes 2 leather covers), circa 1810
BOX 28 REEL 6	Louisiana, Southeastern District, Township 7, Ranges 9E and 14E, circa 1830
BOX 28 REEL 6	Baton Rouge, 1804-1805 (4 plats)
BOX 28 REEL 6	Pensacola, circa 1815
BOX 28 REEL 6	Vegetation near the Bay of the River Perdido, circa 1815
BOX 28 REEL 6	Unidentified, undated
BOX 28 REEL 6	Terrebonne and Assumption parishes, La., circa 1830
BOX 29 not filmed	Addition, 1806 Bound volume of maps and text re properties of Juan Lynd near Baton Rouge.