

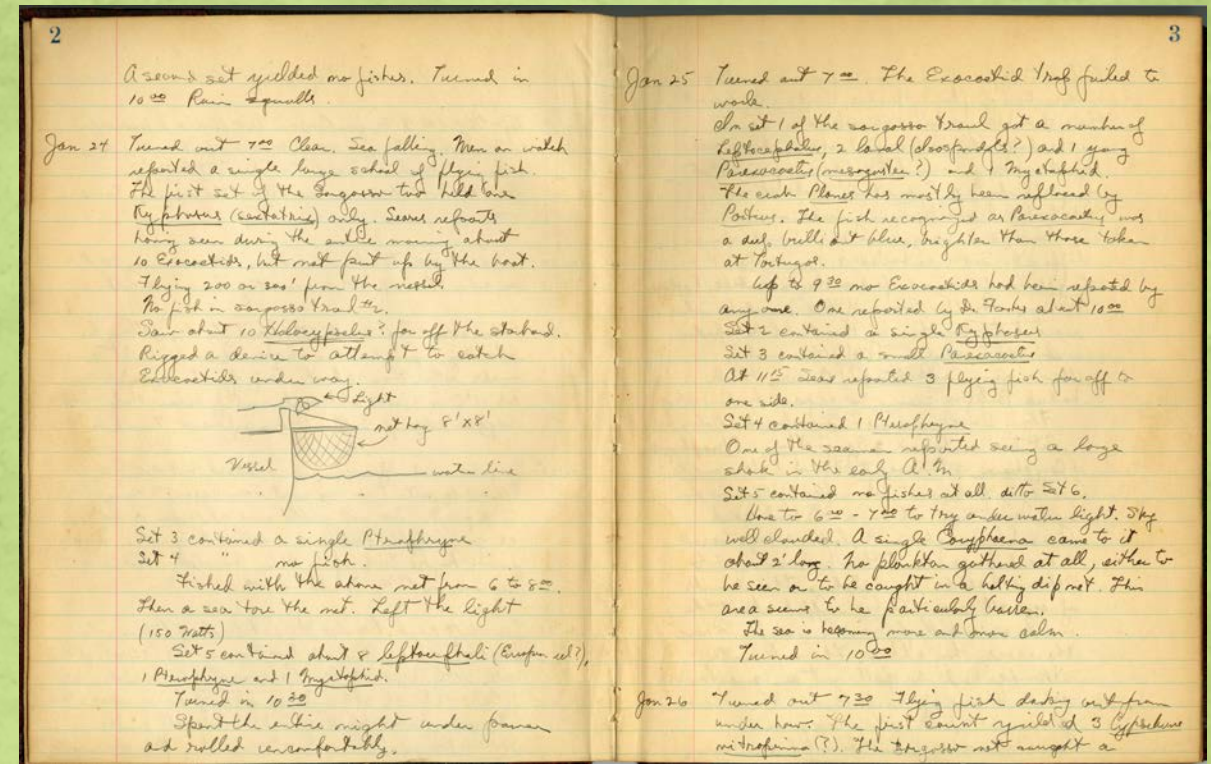
Consolidating the Record

A Brief History of Environmentalism in Florida

By Gail Donovan, Erin Mahaney, and Susan Stover
Friday, May 10, 2013
Society of Florida Archivists 30th Annual Meeting
“Viva SFA at 30: An Archival Celebration”

Disclaimers and Lessons

- This is a huge topic.
- Not trying to reinvent the wheel
- This project is ongoing
 - time constraints
 - volume of material
- History of and Collections about Environmentalism
- Popular and well-researched area of study going in many, many different directions



Pages from field journal of Charles M. Breder Jr., the Charles M. Breder Jr. Collection, held at Mote Marine Laboratory.

Goals

- Consolidate the record.
- Mainly geared towards students, but may be helpful for researchers, scientists, and historians.
- Help uncover hidden collections.
- Solicit input from repositories throughout the state.
- Produce Collections Guide or similar to help facilitate environmental research thereby . . .
- Saving the planet! (or at least Florida).

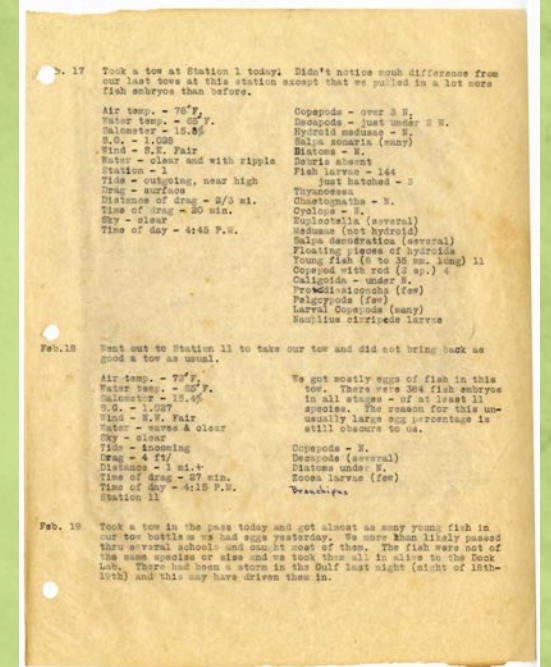


Environmental History

- History of the environment itself
- History of environmentalism
- USFSP's John C. Briggs Ichthyology Collection
- Archbold Laboratory
- History of the Environment
 - Natural history collections: species, herbaria
 - Datasets
 - Field notes and research data
 - Technical reports

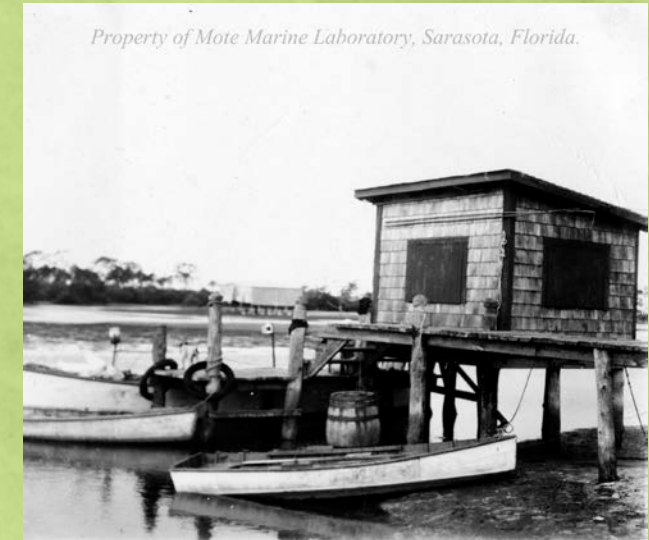


Page from collection log (below), c.1930s, Bass Biological Laboratory Collection, MML. Species identification card by Stewart Springer (bottom left), 1935, Bass Biological Laboratory Collection, MML. Mote Technical Report (left), MML.

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Mote Marine Laboratory's Environmental Collections

- Bass Biological Laboratory
- Charles M. Breder Jr.
- Perry W. Gilbert
- Mina Walther
- Mote Technical Reports
- Herbarium



Photo, c.1930s, Bass Biological Laboratory Collection, MML

Dr. Charles M. Breder Jr. (L) with flying fish, AMNH photograph from Charles M. Breder Jr. Collection, held at Mote Marine Laboratory.

Trends in the History of Environmentalism

- Naturalists/Early Conservationists
 - William Bartram (1739-1823)
 - John Kunkel Small (1869-1938)
 - Charles Torrey Simpson (1846-1932)
 - Thomas Barbour (1884-1946)
- Utilitarian Conservationists/Preservationists
 - Gifford Pinchot (1865-1946)/John Muir(1838-1914)
 - Theodore Roosevelt (1859-1919)
 - May Mann Jennings (1872-1963)
- Environmentalists
 - Marjory Stoneman Douglas (1890-1998)
 - Marjorie Harris Carr (1915-1998)
 - Ernest F. Coe (1866-1951)
 - John D. Pennekamp (1897-1978)
 - Nathaniel Reed (1933-)



Marjorie Harris Carr (left). Photo courtesy of State Archives of Florida, *Florida Memory*, <http://floridamemory.com/items/show/144623>

Charles Torrey Simpson, John Soar and Paul Matthaues (below, L-R), collecting saw cabbage palm. Photo by John Kunkel Small, courtesy of State Archives of Florida, *Florida Memory*, <http://floridamemory.com/items/show/24203>



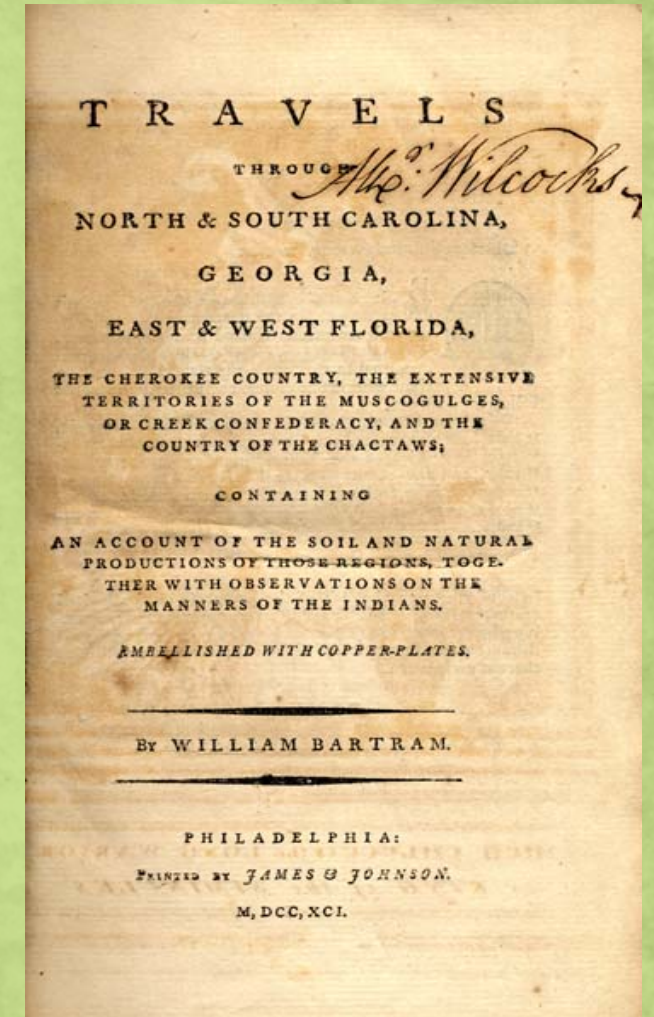
Naturalists

- William Bartram's *Travels*
- Charles Torrey Simpson (1846-1932)
- David Fairchild (1869-1954)
- Thomas Barbour (1884-1946), *That Vanishing Eden*
- Foundation for future views, policies, and changes made to Florida's environment
- Prevailing view at the time held that nature existed to benefit humans (man)
- Collecting and documenting the environment for work or pleasure

William Bartram (1739-1823)

Travels Through North & South Carolina, Georgia, East & West Florida, the Cherokee Country, the Extensive Territories of the Muscogulges, or Creek Confederacy, and the Country of the Chactaws; Containing An Account of the Soil and Natural Productions of Those Regions, Together with Observations on the Manners of the Indians. Embellished with Copper-Plates.

Philadelphia: Printed by James & Johnson, 1791.



(Utilitarian) Conservationists

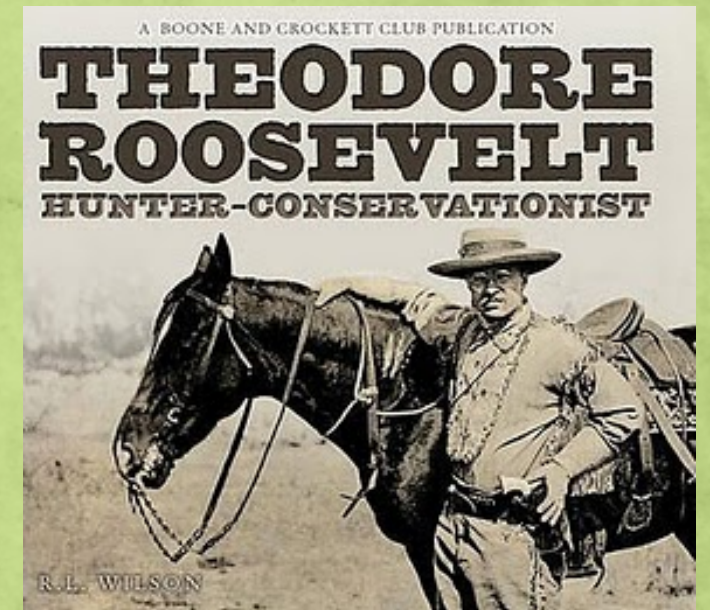
- Use the interest, not the principal
- “Rational Exploitation”
- Gifford Pinchot (1865-1946)
- Theodore Roosevelt (1859-1919)
- May Mann Jennings (1872-1963)
- Sportsmen/women
- Forestry Boards
- Civilian Conservation Corps

The Civilian Conservation Corps in front of supply house - Sebring, Florida, 1938. State Archives of Florida, *Florida Memory*,

<http://floridamemory.com/items/show/30442>



Cover from Wilson, R. L. *Theodore Roosevelt, Hunter-Conservationist*. Missoula, MT : Boone and Crockett Club, 2009.



Preservationists

- Nature is worth preserving for its own sake
- John Muir (1838-1914)
- Mary Barr Munroe (d.1922)
- Frank Chapman (1864-1945)
- George Perkins Marsh (1801-1882), *Man and Nature*, 1864
- Royal Palm State Park (1916)
- Nascent environmentalists, as we think of them today

Postcard courtesy of State Archives of Florida, *Florida Memory*, <http://floridamemory.com/items/show/158995>



Environmentalists

- Modern environmental movement
- Marjory Stoneman Douglas (1890-1998)
- Arthur Marshall (1919-1985)
- Ruth Bryan Owen (1885-1954)
- Marjorie Harris Carr (1915-1998)
- Broad coalition of sometimes disparate groups
- Essential to preserve and restore the environment for its own sake but also for humanity
- Necessity v. Option

Marjory Stoneman Douglas, State Archives of Florida, *Florida Memory*, <http://floridamemory.com/items/show/5621>



Modern Environmental Movement

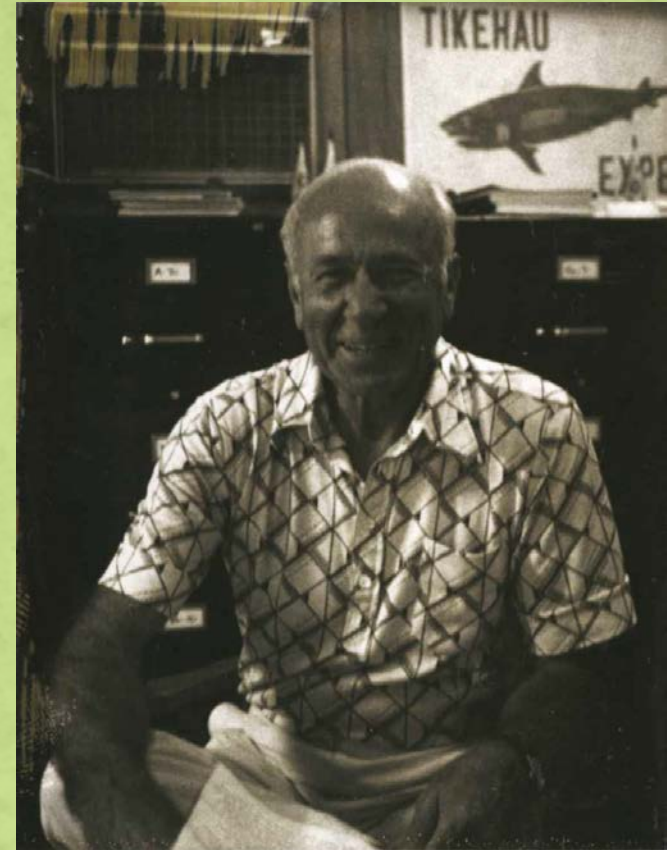
- What changed?
- Characteristics of the new movement: grassroots, lobbying
- Activists and professional environmentalists (paid to protect/lobby/research, etc)
- Silent Spring (1962), River of Grass (1947)
- 20th century, 1960s counterculture, New Left
- Florida's unique resources

Ernest F. Coe (R), 1947. Photo courtesy of
State Archives of Florida, *Florida Memory*,
<http://floridamemory.com/items/show/679>



Sportsmen and Environmentalism

- William R. Mote (1906-1991)
- Johnny Jones (1932-2010)
- Theodore Roosevelt (1859-1919)
- Everglades coalition
- Role of lobbying
- Catch and Release, Tag and Release
- 1873 shift to conservation among sportsmen



William R. Mote (R), businessman, avid sportsman, conservationist.

Women and Environmentalism

- Feminization of Nature
- 'Civic motherhood'
- Ruth Bryan Owen, Marjory Stoneman Douglas, Marjorie Harris Carr, May Mann Jennings, Mary Barr Munroe, Edith Gifford, Mary Kenan Flagler
- Rise of women's clubs in Florida, progressive movement
- Differing views of conservation, preservation, and environmentalism



May Mann Jennings, 1901. Courtesy of State Archives of Florida, *Florida Memory*,
<http://floridamemory.com/items/show/136896>



Ruth Bryan Owen, Courtesy of State Archives of Florida, *Florida Memory*,
<http://floridamemory.com/items/show/42800>

Key Events in Florida's Environmental History

- The Swamp and Overflowed Lands Act of 1850
- The Great Giveaway, Reclamation Act of 1902, and Railroads
- The Plume Craze (i.e. the great slaughter)
- The Everglades: jetports, draining, national and state parks, poaching, invasive exotics, water conservation and flooding . . .
- Air Pollution: paper mills and phosphate plants/mines in Jacksonville, environmental justice issues
- The Cross Florida Barge Canal
- Boca Ciega Bay
- The Gulf of Mexico oil spill

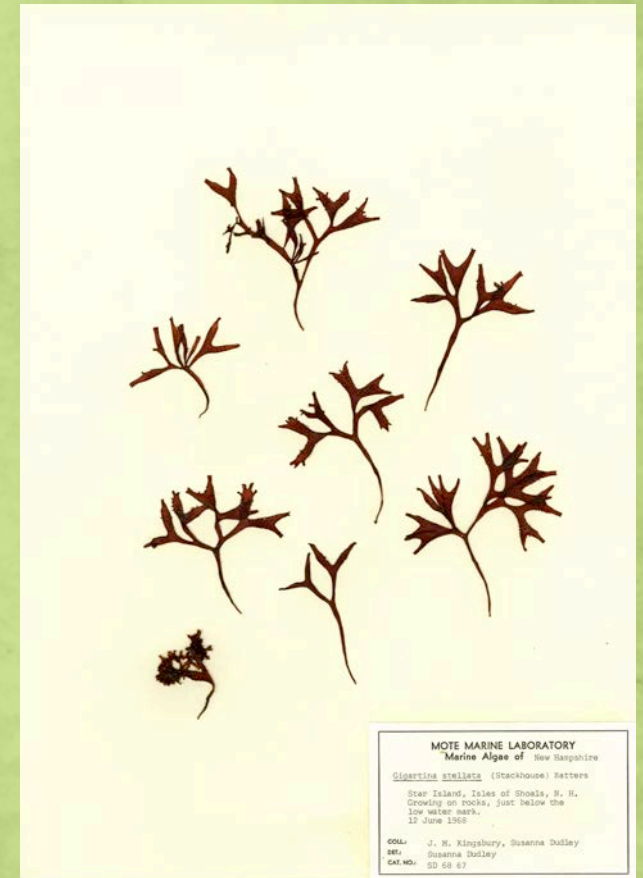


Image (R) taken from "Digging ourselves into a hole" by Craig Pittman in the St. Petersburg Times, published October 31, 1999. FPG/Hulton Archive, Getty Images (above) illustrating fashions fueling plume craze.

Places to Start for Students

- Environmental Collection Guides (like this one!)
- Bibliographies and Acknowledgements of key works
- Florida State Archives
- Florida's universities and colleges, public and private
- Florida Memory Project
- PALMM (<http://palmm.fcla.edu/>), which includes
 - Reclaiming the Everglades
 - Everglades Digital Library
 - Florida Environments Online
 - Linking Florida's Natural Heritage
 - Big Cypress National Preserve Collection
 - Southwest Florida Environmental Documents
 - University of Florida Herbarium Collection

Specimen from Herbarium, Mote Marine Laboratory, Sarasota, FL.



Papers of Individuals

- Marjory Stoneman Douglas
- Arthur R. Marshall
- Napoleon Bonaparte Broward
- LeRoy Collins
- Ruth Bryan Owens
- Archie Fairly Carr Jr.
- Perry W. Gilbert (right)
- Charles M. Breder Jr.



Perry W. Gilbert, from the Perry W. Gilbert Collection held at Mote Marine Laboratory.



Papers of Organizations

- Florida Defenders of the Environment
- Friends of the Everglades
- Sierra Club
- Audubon Society
- Wilderness Society
- Florida Wildlife Federation
- 1000 Friends of Florida
- Arthur R. Marshall Foundation
- Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation



John Nolen's plan for Venice, FL.
Image courtesy of Venice Archives
and Area Historical Collection. (left)

National Audubon Society and roseate
spoonbills, c.1956. State Archives of
Florida, *Florida Memory*,
<http://floridamemory.com/items/show/73490> (below)

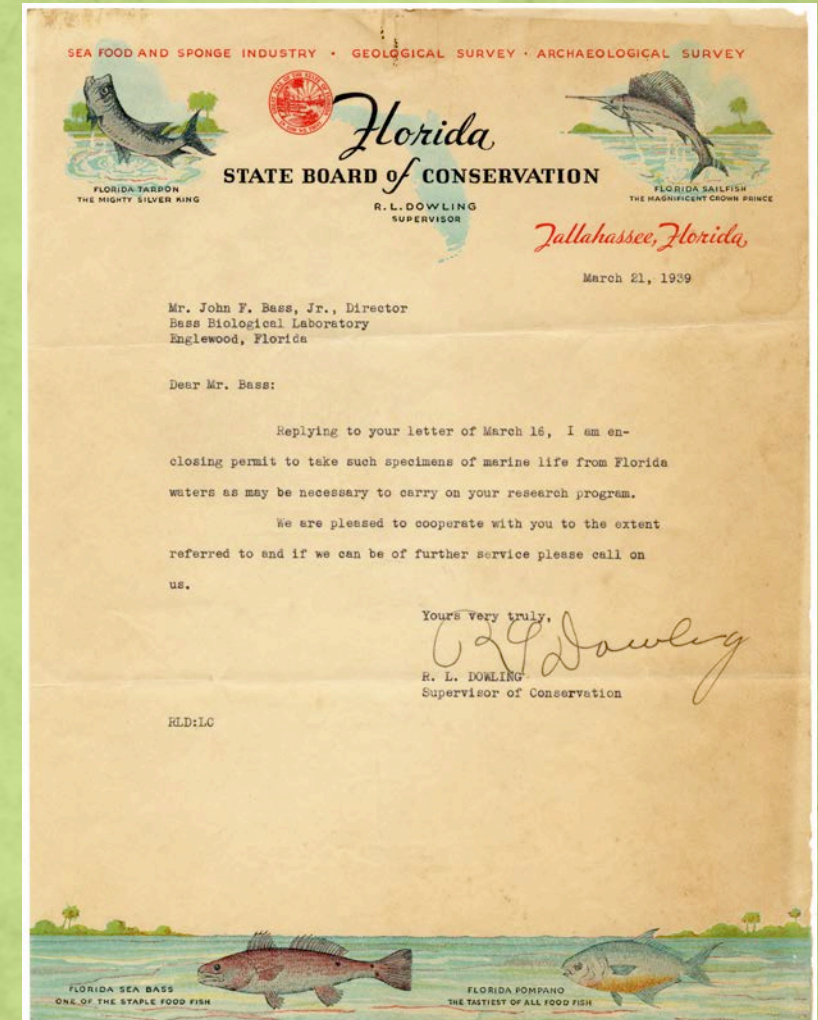


Papers of Government Entities, Past and Present

- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC, FWRI)
- United States Geological Survey
- National Park Service
- Civilian Conservation Corps
- Florida Department of Natural Resources
- Florida State Board of Conservation (right)

Correspondence from R. L. Dowling to John F. Bass Jr., March 21, 1939 from the Bass Biological Laboratory Collection, MML.

<https://dspace.mote.org/dspace/handle/2075/2429>





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Mangrove tunnel, photo by Bonefish and Tarpon Trust