



FLORIDA STATE
UNIVERSITY

*Mythology & Evidence: Further
Exploration*

Sandra A. Varry, MEA, MLIS, CA
Heritage & University Archivist

Heritage & University Archives

Official repository for university records and related historical resources

Acquires, preserves, and provides access to archives and collections

Coordinates with Records Management Liaison Officer

Manages the Heritage Museum at Dodd Hall



Where

University Libraries

Special Collections & Archives, Research Center

Heritage & University Archives, Norwood Reading Room

Heritage Museum at Dodd Hall

Diginole: Digital Library & Repository



Timeline

- 
- 1851 General Assembly legislation to create the Seminaries
East & West of the Suwannee
- 1853 East Seminary - Ocala
- 1854 City creates the Florida Institute (male)
- 1856 The City's second offer to the Legislature is accepted
- 1857 – 1863 The West Florida Seminary
- 1858 Absorbed the Leon Female Academy (est. 1843)
- 1861 Military curriculum added
- 1863 – 1865 Florida Military & Collegiate Institute (unratified)
- 1865 – 1901 West Florida Seminary
- 1883 – 1885 Florida University – WFS is “Literary College & Medical”
- 1884 First diplomas
- 1901 – 1905 Florida State College (coeducational)
- 1905 – 1909 Florida Female College (Buckman Act)
- 1905 – 1947 Florida State College for Women
- 1947 – present Florida State University

Panel & Task Force

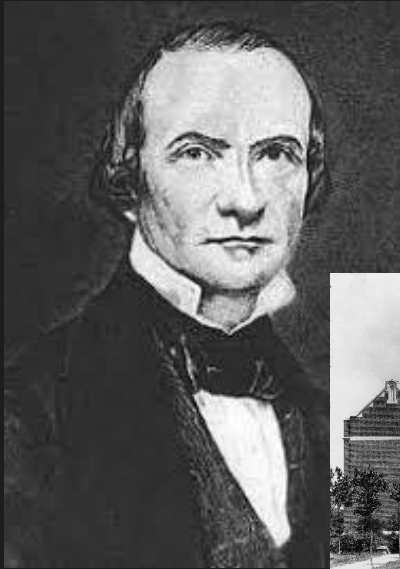
2017-18 President's Advisory Panel on Namings & Recognitions

2020-21 President's Anti-Racism Task Force

Parallel Research



*Francis W. Eppes/Eppes Hall
1918/1997*



*B.K. Roberts Hall – College of Law
1971*



Research

16 YEARS A FOUNDER

Documenting How One Of Thomas Jefferson's Grandsons Was Misidentified As The Founder Of Florida State University (2002) – And How That Error Was Corrected (2018)

With A Postscript - June, 2020

Mike Rashotte,
Emeritus Professor of Psychology, FSU Faculty 1968-2003.
Contact: rashotte@gmail.com

May, 2019

A Note of Explanation About This Paper

This paper summarizes the main results of archival research I conducted between 2015 and 2018 to help me understand why FSU had not identified its "founder" until almost 150 years after the founding was said to have been done. As a retired FSU faculty member (Psychology: 1968-2003) I had free time in part of each year and I undertook the research out of sheer curiosity. I had no agenda other than to make sense of what seemed to me an historical oddity. My research efforts were certainly sporadic when I was in town, and came to a stop when I was out of town for a few months in 2017 and 2018. Before each step, I summarized my findings up to that point which resulted in two papers: mainly written for my own files. One was completed in June 2017, the other in May 2018. The major goal of the present paper is to provide interested parties with an integrated and somewhat streamlined rendition of the findings reported in my two earlier papers.



In the end, the Advisory Panel recommended to current FSU President Thrasher that the "founder's" statue and its inscribed stone marker be removed from the main gate, and that the "founder's" name be removed from a nearby building. President Thrasher accepted the first recommendation, but not the second. In July 2018, after 16 years in place, the "founder's" statue and its marker were replaced by an attractive arrangement of potted foliage. Needless to say, this decision was not well received by all.



The "Founder's" Statue
at FSU's Main Gate
2002 – 2018



March 2019

Current Status of the Former "Founder" (May, 2019)

As I was putting the finishing touches on this document on May 13, 2019, an announcement appeared in the local newspaper that Eppe's statue had re-appeared on campus after being in an undisclosed location for several months. The statue is now close to Eppe's Hall, and

- Rashotte, M. (June 2017). *FSU's Origin in the 1850s: Appreciating the roles of Tallahassee's City Council, Prominent Citizens, and Enslaved People.*
• <https://president.fsu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/2018-04-16-Minutes-Naming.pdf>
• <https://www.tallahassee.com/story/news/2019/05/13/francis-eppe-statue-finds-news-home-north-westcott-building/1187335001/>

*President Doak S.
Campbell
1941-1957*



State of Florida

SUBPOENA
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THE FLORIDA STATE LEGISLATURE,
By the
FLORIDA LEGISLATIVE INVESTIGATION
COMMITTEE

To all and singular, the Sheriffs and Constables of the State of Florida and the Investigators of this Committee:

You are hereby required to summon
Dr. Doak S. Campbell, President
Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida

personally to appear before the said Committee, at its offices, The Capitol, Tallahassee, Florida, or at its temporary meeting place


on the 30th day of January, 1957, at the hour of _____



there to testify and speak the truth in an investigation presently being conducted by the said Committee pursuant to the Laws of the State of Florida, Chapter 31468, Special Session of 1956, and to instruct him, the said witness to bring with him the following books and records:

All records or photostats thereof in regard to students
Joseph Spagna, John Boardman, and Jon Folsom.

and the said witness shall appear and produce the said books and records and fail not under penalty of law.

Given under our hand and seal
the 30th day of JANUARY, 1957


Chairman, Legislative Investigation Committee

 A true copy
Attest:

Chief Investigator or Deputy Sheriff

FSU Head Is In Quandary Over How To Ban Student Support Of Integration

Enforcement Of Board's Edict Poses Problems

By MARTIN WALDRON
Tribune Staff Writer

TALLAHASSEE, Jan. 25.—"If they were holding these mass meetings in a juke joint, it certainly would simplify matters," said Dr. Doak S. Campbell, president of Florida State University.

"I would just put it off limits." But "they"—Tallahassee Negroes—aren't holding their meetings in a juke joint. They are holding them in churches.

And Dr. Campbell is facing a decision on whether to ban attendance by white college students at these meetings of Negroes who are trying to end segregation.

Pose Difficulties
Several factors—including the constitutionally guaranteed rights of free assemblage and free speech—are making the decision rather hard to arrive at.

How far can a college student go in such activity before crossing the line drawn by the State Board of Control in a statement issued Tuesday?

"Participation by students in

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 7)



Labor, Integration, & Indigenous History



FLORIDA'S FIRST COLLEGIATE DAILY

THE FLORIDA FLAMBEAU

Published Daily By The Students Of Florida State University. Teacher, October 13, 1962.

Picketing Begins At Off-Campus Diners

Picketing of off-campus restaurants adjacent to the University began at 10:30 a.m. yesterday. The picketers had won the first night of the demonstration.

University Can't Protect Picketers

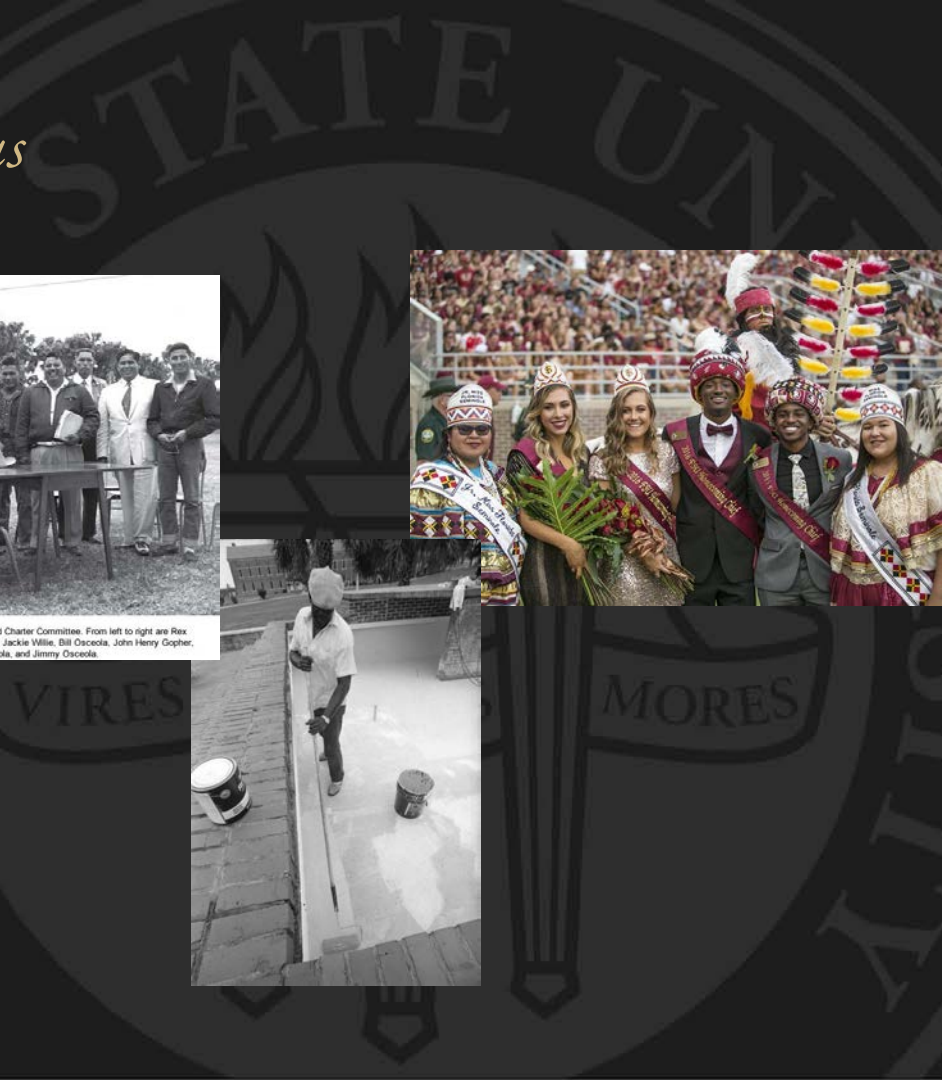
According to the director of the center, Walter Taylor, the picketing is not a violation of the law. He said that the university cannot protect the picketers because they are not on campus.

To Hold Open House

Floyd's 'Susannah' To Open Thursday

The stage of Oppenheimer Music Hall is to be the scene of the first production of the new play, "Susannah," by Tennessee Williams. The play is to be produced by the Florida State University Dramatic Society.

and Charter Committee. From left to right are Rex Willie, Jackie Willie, Bill Osceola, John Henry Gopher, Osceola, and Jimmy Osceola





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svarry@fsu.edu

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