Franco American Digital Archives (FADA/PFA)

A case study in collaborative post-custodial stewardship in North America

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The term "Franco-American" refers specifically to people of Québécois and Acadian heritage living in the United States.

- Composed of rural francophone settlements in northern Maine that date back to the eighteenth century and communities of French Canadians who started immigrating to industrial New England towns in the late nineteenth century, Franco Americans constitute the largest concentration of French speakers in the United States. In New England, Franco Americans account for up to 26% of state populations.

- According to the US census, respondents claiming Canadian/French/French Canadian ancestry constituted 24% of Vermont, 26% of New Hampshire, 25% of Maine, 16% of Rhode Island, 8% of Massachusetts, and 11% of Connecticut populations.
"When at the French consulate in Boston, I had applied for a visa to study in France, I wrote in the space on the form where ‘nationality’ was asked for, ‘French,’ for that is what I thought my nationality was" (78).
Chronicling America Non-English Language Coverage (Map)

Visualization shows locations where non-English language newspaper pages published between 1890-1963 are available in Chronicling America.

Coverage as of September 2019

Tips: Use the map's zoom and pan controls to explore titles available in Chronicling America. Click dots to see more information and links.

About: Data in this visualization is from https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov as of 9/4/2019. Map locations are based on system generated longitude and latitude values. Color shows details about language (also labeled in legend) (optical character recognition) files that represent the text printed on individual newspaper pages. More info at: https://www.loc.gov/digimg/
Examples of Disparate In-Scope Items & Collections

- [A. Poulin Papers and BOA Editions Records](#)
  Yale Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
- [American Life Histories: Manuscripts from the Federal Writers' Project, 1936 to 1940](#)
  Library of Congress
- [Edouard Du Buron Papers, 1937-1993](#)
  Archives of American Art
- [Jack Kerouac Collection, 1948-1880](#)
  Harry Ransom Center, University of Texas at Austin
- ["Le français dans le Connecticut"](#)
  CIHM Monograph Collection, University of Alberta Libraries
- [Alida Perreault Papers](#)
  UMass Amherst Libraries Special Collections and University Archives
- [Adélard Lambert et ses collectes](#)
  Répertoire du patrimoine culturel du Québec, Gouv. du Québec
Welcome to the Latin American Digital Initiatives Repository

The Latin American Digital Initiatives (LADI) repository is a collaborative project that preserves and provides digital access to unique archival documents from a network of Latin American partners with an emphasis on collections documenting human rights issues and underrepresented communities.

Read more about our work.
Sustainability
Sustainability

- **Post-custodialism** - stewardship & expertise
- **Consortium** - [https://facconsortium.org](https://facconsortium.org)
- **Fundraising** - $1.9 million in grants
  - collaborative solicitation
- **Curriculum** - 2 courses & 4-8 interns / year
- **Cataloging** - improving descriptive access
Purpose
Franco American Collections Consortium is a collaboration of universities, archives, and centers that maintain vital collections of books, documents, photos, oral histories, art, maps and artifacts related to French-Canadian and Acadian heritage communities. We collaborate to unite resources, create educational materials, provide leadership, and promote Franco American literacy among researchers, academics, the general public, and Franco Americans themselves.

Mission & Vision
Franco American Collections Consortium works together to make accessible the history and
Growth & Evolution
Growth & Evolution

- Remote labor - distance connections
- Teacher guides - curriculum integration
- Exhibits - creative outlets
- Digitization - access & preservation
- Accession - 2-3 inquiries per month
- Support - small institution hosting
- Contributors - 2-3 institutions per month
- Outreach - regional promotion
Florida?
German-American Lumber Company Records

Collection – Multiple Containers  Identifier: MSS 1886-27

FSU Special Collections & Archives  German-American Lumber Company Records

Scope and Contents

The German-American Lumber Company Records cover the years 1887-1922, and consist of correspondence, accounting records, ledgers, journals, cash books, time books, contracts and deeds, and other company records. In 1896, Henry Boyds and his partners built the St. Andrews Lumber Company sawmill on the St. Andrews Bay in Florida. He sold the mill in 1901 to a German organization which renamed the business the German-American Lumber Company. Following a period during World War I in which the mill was seized and held by the federal government, Minor C. Keith and Walter C. Sherman bought the company and renamed it the St. Andrews Bay Lumber Company. This organization operated until 1930 when it was forced to close because of timber depletion in the forests. The company records are organized into the following series: Correspondence; Financial Records; Legal Records; and Personnel Records.

The Correspondence series, 1890-1920, comprises the most significant portion of the records and consists of business correspondence reflecting southern business interests, the economic history of Florida, especially the lumber trade business in Milville and Pensacola. Much of the correspondence relates to the orders of lumber to be shipped, delay of orders, payments of orders, ship construction, and other topics. One of the most prominent correspondents is H.H. Boyer, vice president of the company. This series also includes letters from various businesses and banks such as Donaldson Lumber Company, C.T. Patterson Company, American National Bank, Citizens and Southern Bank, Robert L. Merwin & Company, and others.

The Financial Records series, 1867-1922, includes various accounting records, cash books, invoices, inventory records, shipping records, bank statements, and others. Cash books contain records of money received and paid out, showing dates of transactions, names of clients, descriptions of the transactions, and amounts received and expended. Ledgers contain postings to accounts receivable and accounts payable. Sales ledgers show logs of customer sales. This
French-Canadians--Florida.

Subject

Subject Source: Library of Congress Subject Headings

Found in 2 Collections and/or Records:

**Belandville Papers**

- Collection: M1980-06
- Identifier: M1980-06

Scope and Contents
Belandville, Florida, was situated in northeastern Santa Rosa County, founded by Albert J. Beland, and promoted as a settlement for French-Canadians. Papers include publications, maps, promotional literature, business and personal papers of Beland, and related items.

Dates: Other: Date acquired: 07/00/1980

Found in: UWF University Archives and West Florida History Center / Belandville Papers

**Bussiere Family**

- Digital Record
- Identifier: WF802

Found in: UWF University Archives and West Florida History Center
French-Canadians--Florida.

Subject
Subject Source: Library of Congress Subject Headings

Found in 2 Collections and/or Records:

Belandville Papers
Collection: M1980-06
Scope and Contents
Belandville, Florida, was situated in northeastern Santa Rosa County, founded by Albin Beaudry. The papers include publications, maps, promotional literature, business and personal papers, and a broadside. Dates: Other: Date acquired: 07/03/1980
Found in: UWF University Archives and West Florida History Center / Belandville Papers

Bussiere Family
Digital Record: WF802
Found in: UWF University Archives and West Florida History Center
L.R. DuTremble collection
DuTremble, L. R., 1918-1998

University of South Carolina

Details
84 items (1 document box)
1 photograph album
[1928?]-1998

Papers, photographs, and memorabilia, 1936-1998, documenting the military career of French Canadian Laurien Rosaire "Duke" DuTremble, as well as his youthful achievements as a boxer, his work before World War II at Miami Beach, Fla., and his later employment by the U.S. Postal Service.

DuTremble attended officer candidates training, 22 June-17 Sept. 1942, and was commissioned as a second lieutenant. Included in the collection are documentation of his awards and decorations, 1943-1961, honorable.
"Floribec has been part of the collective imagination of the Quebecois for nearly 50 years. Over time, a movie, a novel, advertisements and news reports played an important part in establishing the greater Miami region as the destination of choice for Quebec tourists....Motels, restaurants, convenience stores, lawyers, and other services for winter residents appeared, creating a Floribecois community, where the lifestyle and economy were largely based on the ever-present Quebecois tourists, visiting for a week or for several months. The result was a French-speaking community outside Quebec, distinct from other French-speaking communities in North America." (from "Floribec: Quebec in the Tropics," by Rémy Tremblay)
Franco American Digital Archives
Portail franco-américain

https://francoportal.org
Thank you

https://francoportal.org

https://facconsortium.org

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Works Cited


Works Cited (cont.)


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Franco American Digital Archives/Portail franco-américain is a subject-based online portal to archival materials from the French-Canadian and Acadian diaspora in the US Northeast. This project was funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and University of Maine, and was developed by a five-university collaborative called the Franco American Collections Consortium. The portal project began in 2018; the portal itself launched in October 2021 (https://francoportal.org). This paper will describe the processes of this collaborative project and lessons learned in its effort to conceptualize a multi-institutional portal, identify and aggregate overlooked collections from over 75 North American institutions, build contributing partnerships, transform and translate metadata with culturally specific markers, fundraise, and build a sustainable, post-custodial, bilingual digital system—all within the context of COVID-19 shutdowns and distancing. This paper will also describe how the portal and consortium are aiming to grow and evolve after the pandemic to raise awareness of this historically underserved cultural and language community, with collaborating institutions and team members spread throughout the United States and Canada both in-office and remotely.