



Martin Digital History

»»» NEWSLETTER «««

Thank you for your interest in Martin Digital History! This newsletter will attempt to keep all informed about the project, including new participants and accessions, plans, events, etc. If you would like me to include links to relevant events, please let me know.

Recent uploads to the website:

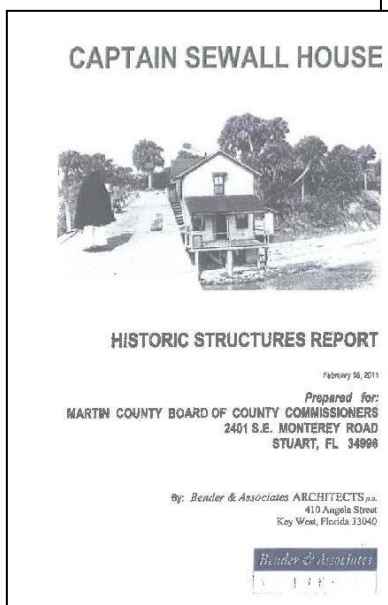
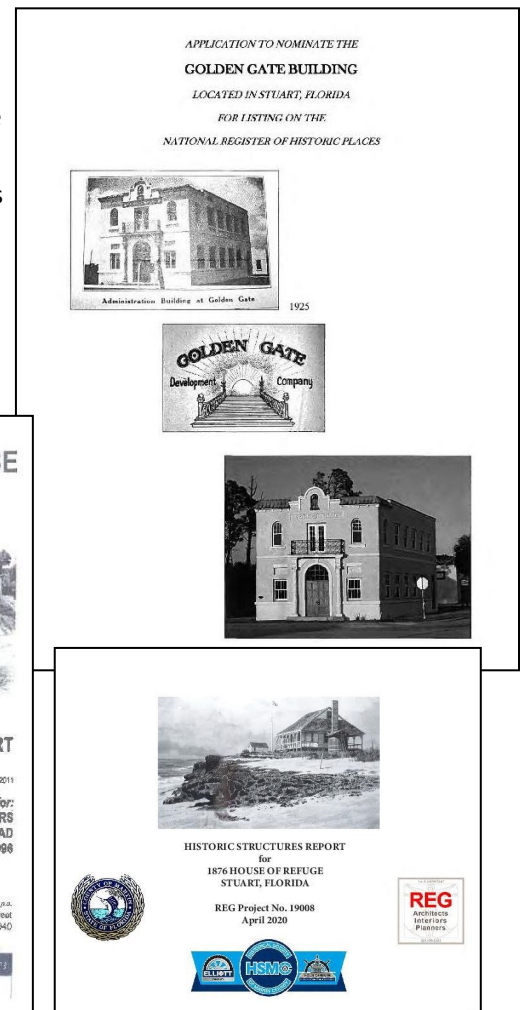
»»» **Historic Preservation Board of Martin County Collection**

I was recently contacted by Martin County's Records Liaison Sean Eck concerning digitized material from the Martin County Historic Preservation Board, concerning historic sites on local or national registers. Now available on martindigitalhistory.org, these documents include surveys, structural reports, applications to the National Register of Historic Places, applications for Martin County for Certificate of Historic Designation, and other supporting documents. Also included here are the 1991 report *Historic Properties Survey of the City of Stuart, Florida* by Historic Property Associates and the 1995 *Historical/Architectural Survey of Martin County: Final Report*, by Stevenson Architects.

Sites include:

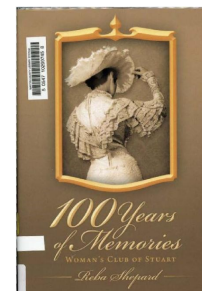
- The Mansion at Tuckahoe
- The Stuart Welcome Arch
- Mount Elizabeth Arch
- Log Cabin
- House of Refuge at Gilbert's Bar
- Golden Gate building
- Martin County Courthouse
- Captain Sewall House

[Click here to see the collection.](#)

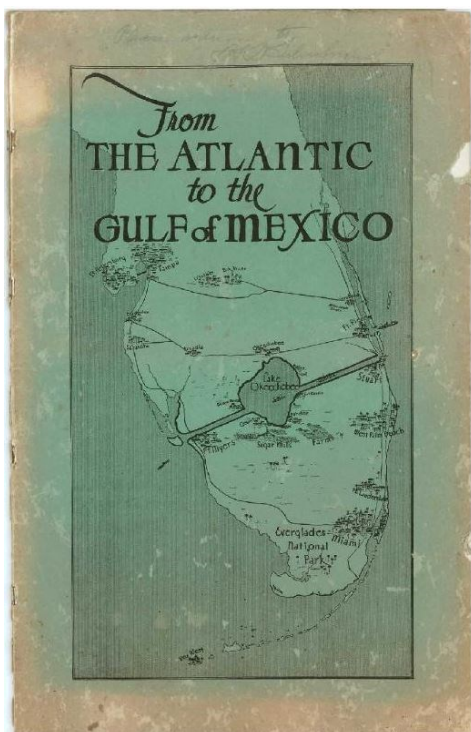


100 years of memories: Woman's Club of Stuart by Reba Shepard

We were given permission by the Woman's Club of Stuart to make this excellent history of the Club available online. The Woman's Club was formed in 1913, a year before the city of Stuart was incorporated. This book contains information about many women in the community and club activities.



From the Atlantic to the Gulf of Mexico, 1937



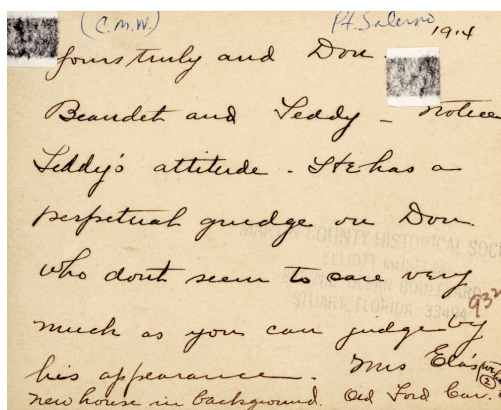
The souvenir edition program for the Cross-State Canal Celebration, published by *The Stuart Daily News*, February 27, 1937 includes photos and descriptions of attractions in Jupiter, Ft. Pierce, Stuart, Sewall's Point, Port Mayaca, Ft. Myers, and other Florida

towns. It also includes business advertisements, and article, "Opening of Florida's One-and-Only Cross-State Canal Foreshadows Improvement of Stuart-Ft. Meyers Harbors" by Edwin A. Menninger. An excellent source of information on canal history.

[Click here to view.](#)

Historical Society of Martin County Local Historical Photo Collection

We have made great inroads on making this collection available. Completed this month were binders 2, 3, & 4, which contain scrapbook pages. Binder 2 featured Jensen Beach, binder 3 featured Port Salerno, and Binder 4, Sewall's Point and other places. Many of the images in binder 3 & 4 may have been taken by Clinton Mangam Ward (1886-1979) in 1914. He worked as chief clerk for B.W. Mulford's St. Lucie Inlet Farms Company in Salerno and was instrumental in establishing the "Salerno Commerce Club" (a precursor to the Chamber of Commerce), and I think many of his photos were taken in conjunction with the Commerce Club. He



later moved to Stuart in 1919 and then to Jacksonville in about 1925, working as an auto mechanic.

From 1915 to 1919, Ward was part of the Aeolian Quartet, a prominent vocal group.

[Click here to view the Local Historical Photograph Collection.](#)

[Click here to view C.M. Ward's photos.](#)

November 2023

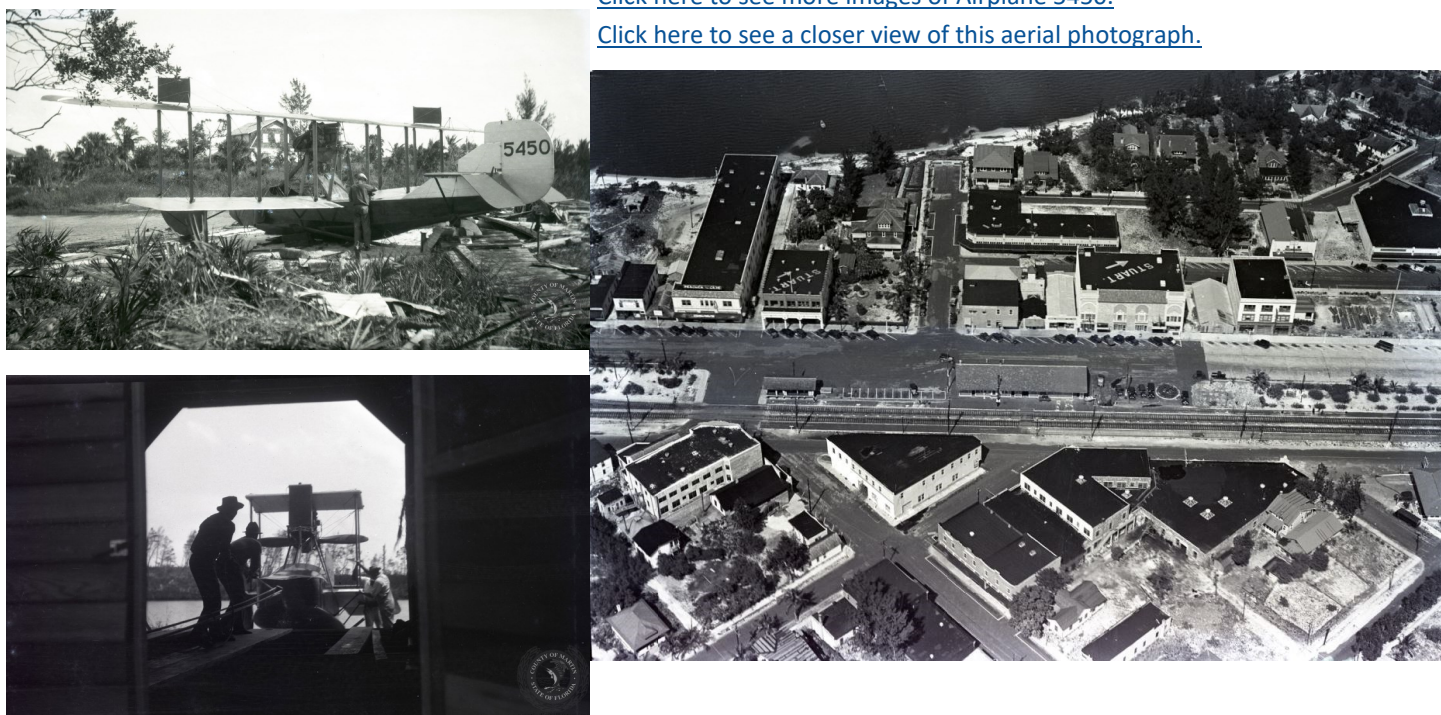
The HSMC Local Historical Photo collection also includes several sets of negatives. Among a set of glass plate negatives are better copies of some images that we have in print format, including this image of flags on a line across Flagler Avenue. Included there is a "men-in-service" flag with 40 stars, for the fallen soldiers of the town. Probably taken for Armistice Day, 11 November 1918. I wonder if that flag still exists. [Click here to view this image online.](#)



Another set of negatives include images of airplanes in 1930. One amphibious biplane in several photos bore the number 5450. I was able to use an online database to track back to the owner. It was a Curtiss MF-Boat, manufactured by Curtiss Airplane & Motor Corporation, registered to Morris T. Walton of Stuart on 16 December 1930. There's also two 1930 aerial views of downtown Stuart that are very interesting to look at.

[Click here to see more images of Airplane 5450.](#)

[Click here to see a closer view of this aerial photograph.](#)



>>> Detectivework update

In the September newsletter, I mentioned that we had received a series of photographs from David Murray featuring some men on a surveying crew, and I mentioned that I didn't have much information about them. Well, our intrepid scholar Sandra Thurlow recognized one of the images and was able to direct me to Lawrence E. Will's book, *A Cracker History of Okeechobee*, which included a caption identifying three of the men. From there, cross referencing "Henderson brothers" with everglades surveyor teams, I was able to piece together that these men were very probably part of the 1913 southern everglades survey team. The Everglades Drainage District was established in 1913 (Ch. 6456, 1913 Laws) for the purpose of draining and reclaiming lands located near the Everglades. To carry out this mandate, Florida Everglades Engineering Commission was established and the everglades was surveyed from 12 May 1913 to about 25 July 1913 in preparation for a drainage system being imposed. The Northern Survey group, led by George B. Hills, went from the Atlantic to Lake Okeechobee via the Loxahatchee Slough, also

surveying Lake Okeechobee. The second group, the Southern Survey, was led by J.B. Phinney, assisted by J.A. Moore. Their intent was to establish the southern limit of the Everglades; this group was split into two parties. This series of images is probably the auxiliary group, because article in the *Miami News* (1913-07-28) mentions the Henderson brothers being part of the group.



The Henderson brothers photo in the digital collections, scan gift of David Murray. [Click here to view.](#)

[Click here to view the 18 photographs of the surveying team.](#)



The Henderson Brothers, Rand, Bill and Bud, while on the George B. Hills Survey Party through the Everglades from West Palm Beach to Canal Point in 1913. Bill was one of the Possemen killed by the Rice Gang at Jewfish Bridge in 1916.

Illustration from Will, Lawrence E. *Okeechobee catfishing*. Belle Glade : Glade Historical Society, 1965, p. 141.



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