SEMINOLE WAR VENUES IN ST. AUGUSTINE

1. [Image of a building]

2. [Image of a landscape with a monument]

3. [Image of a smaller building]

4. [Image of a historical fort]

St. Augustine, Florida • August, 2017
ABOUT THE COVER

St. Augustine, the nation's oldest city, is a most appropriate venue for the inaugural Convocation of Seminole War Historians. In 1835, as the war started, it was the vital eastern gateway to the remote battlefields of what became the long, costly Second Seminole War. And, in 1842, it was the site of the moving, melancholy parade and a somber ceremony (in the then gardens of St. Francis Barracks) that signaled the dénouement of that war. That "sacred ground" became the final resting place of Major Francis Dade and his men, slain in the war's opening battle. Depicted on this program's cover are significant venues in the city connected with that war, two of which are sites for this Convocation.

1. **St. Francis Barracks, circa 1835.** Built by the British on the site of a 16th Century Spanish mission structure, the U.S. Army retained it as a garrison when the Florida territory passed into American possession. During the Second Seminole War, it housed and supported a variety of regular and militia troop units. Today it is the headquarters of the Florida National Guard. (National Archives)

2. This 1848 sketch depicts the **three pyramids** under which Major Dade's men, along with 200 to 300 others, lie interred and the monument erected in their memory. They are in the southern end of a four-plus acre space just south of the St. Francis Barracks that today is the St. Augustine National Cemetery, and on the National Register of Historic Places. (Florida National Guard Archives)

3. The **"king's bakery"** serviced the Barracks during the British period, and was pressed into service as a hospital during the Seminole War era. It can be seen today on the waterfront just south of the Barracks. (Library of Congress)

4. A hallmark of the city, the Spanish built the **Castillo de San Marcos**, during the late 17th century, and it served its defensive purpose in 1740 as British forces besieged the city. Called Fort Marion during the Seminole War years, it served as a major internment camp for captured Seminole chiefs, warriors, women, and children. (USGenWeb archives)

Of course, the city was abuzz with military activity and personnel during the war years, with military quarters scattered throughout the town. Today's **Ximenez-Fatio House Museum**, the site of Saturday's Living Historian breakout session, offers an impression of such "off-post" quarters.
**WELCOME** all to the first ever Convocation of Seminole War Historians! This is truly an exciting new beginning, expanding on the annual commemoration started in 2008 by the West Point Society of North Florida as a simple, but poignant, remembrance of the re-interment ceremony for those who perished in the Second Seminole War. The growing support and increasing number of participants since then has encouraged us to broaden our scope. Thus, we have planned a multi-day event around the National Cemetery ceremony (see accompanying program). The weekend is custom-designed for all those who have interest in the Seminole War era, one that is so important for both Florida and the nation as a whole.

Just who is a Seminole War historian? The fact that you are now reading these lines means that **you** are! Regardless of background or vocation, of books read or sites visited, anyone caring enough to attend parts or all of this event is by definition a Seminole War historian. And make no mistake: Your participation is a significant act in supporting our primary goal of advancing public awareness of this critical period in American history.

A glance at the schedules on pages 6 and 7 illustrates that this gathering holds something of interest for everyone. I am sure that all of us will be enriched by the many interactive experiences that are in store. Finally, there are plans in the works to extend these opportunities into the future, with the convocation becoming a biennial event held at varying times and locations such as Ocala, Jupiter, and Okeechobee.

**THANK YOU** for being a part of this unique occasion! I look forward to speaking with each of you during the weekend.

**Steven F. Rinck,**  
**President,**  
**Seminole Wars Foundation, Inc.**
ABOUT THE ORGANIZERS

THE SEMINOLE WARS FOUNDATION

was established in 1992 as a not-for-profit corporation. The Foundation’s purpose is to preserve significant sites connected to the Seminole Wars, to establish educational programs about their important place in our common heritage, and to publish pertinent materials relating to the wars.

Our 127 members come from all walks of life and include scholars, educators, authors, archaeologists, living historians and medical professionals, all of whom seek to better understand the present by remembering the past. Our website, seminolewars.org, provides links to more than three dozen excellent publications—books and pamphlets like the one depicted here—most of which were written by our members.

The Foundation is proud to sponsor this first ever Convocation of Seminole War Historians, a gathering of individuals and organizations who share an interest in this era. We look forward to continuing to be a part of future convocations as they are held in a variety of locations throughout Florida and beyond. Steven Rinck, President.

Visit us at: seminolewars.org;
Follow us on Facebook: Seminole-Wars

The organizers thank the St. Augustine and Ponte Vedra Tourist Development Council for a grant which has helped make this convocation possible.
The Resurrection of Historic Fort King

Original sketch of Fort King
Drawn by Lt. John Sprague, circa 1837

Now taking place on its original site on the Fort King Road, Ocala, FL.

FORT KING
NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK

3925 East Fort King Street, Ocala, FL 34470 • 352-368-5533 • www.fkha.org
Located one block east of 36th Avenue on Fort King Street.
## SCHEDULE

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 11

**St. Augustine Officers Club, 82 Marine Street**

**5-7:00 PM** Registration opens. Informal social, hors d'oeuvres, cash bar. Florida National Guard Museum open, curator on site for tours.

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 12

**St. Augustine Officers Club, 82 Marine Street**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>Registration continues, coffee, danish.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30</td>
<td>Official welcome, orientation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:45</td>
<td>Background to parade and ceremony; new research about pyramids.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Alison Simpson, Florida National Guard Historian.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30</td>
<td>10th Living-History Commemoration of the 1842 Parade and Ceremony, St. Francis Barracks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Organized by the West Point Society of N. Florida.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>See accompanying program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30</td>
<td>Ceremony concludes. Registrants move to:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Trinity Hall at Trinity Episcopal Parish, 215 St. George Street.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 PM</td>
<td>BBQ Lunch. Coin presentation.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Steven Rinck, President, Seminole Wars Foundation.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Remarks. George Godfrey, President, West Point Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00</td>
<td>&quot;The Enduring Seminoles: Hard Times to Hard Rock.&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Address by author Patsy West.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:15 - 4:30</td>
<td>Breakout Sessions.  See page 11.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**7:00 PM**

**Ringhaver Student Union Theater, Flagler College, 50 Seville St.**

"St. Augustine is Healthy and Delightful: Capt. John Rogers Vinton in the Second Seminole War."

Address by authors John and Mary Lou Missall.
**CONVOCATION SCHEDULE, con't.**

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 13**
Marc Lance National Guard Armory, 190 San Marco Ave.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00AM</td>
<td>Buffet breakfast.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00</td>
<td>Breakout session <strong>reports</strong>, commentary, discussion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:15</td>
<td><strong>The St. Augustine Historical Society.</strong> Remarks by Magen Wilson, Executive Director.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30</td>
<td>Award presentation honoring Frank Laumer. Retrospective of efforts to promote interest in Florida’s Seminole Wars.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30PM</td>
<td>Conference chairman’s concluding remarks, comments on future convocations. Steven Rinck with Fort King, Loxahatchee, and Okeechobee representatives.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**THE ST. AUGUSTINE OFFICERS CLUB IS PROUD TO BE A HOST AND SPONSOR OF THIS CONVOCATION.**
*We meet Friday evenings, 4-6:30, in the St. Francis Barracks. More information at: staugustineofficersclub@earthlink.net*

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**JOIN US!**

**ST. AUGUSTINE HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**CALL 904-824-2872**
**OR GO TO**
**WWW.SAINTAUGUSTINEHISTORICALSOCIETY.ORG**
THE 2017 RE-ENACTOR CHALLENGE COIN

This is the fourth in the series of challenge coins awarded to those living historians who participate in the annual remembrance of the 1842 parade and ceremony that closed the Second Seminole War. The obverse of each coin depicts the pyramids and Dade monument in the St. Augustine National Cemetery. The reverse this year remembers 1837, 180 years ago, when there appeared to be hope for a conclusion to the war, and when Osceola, Coacoochee and other Seminole resistance leaders were captured under a flag of truce just outside St. Augustine. They were brought to Fort Marion (Castillo de San Marcos) and imprisoned with Micanopy, Alligator, Cloud, and others already held there. During the night of 29 November, Coacoochee and John Cavallo escaped from the fort. In late December, over 200 remaining captives were transferred to Fort Moultrie in Charleston Harbor, where Osceola would die in January, 1838. But Coacoochee, Cavallo, and others would carry on the fight.

We are grateful to the following for supporting living historians by underwriting this year's coin.

Steven Rinck  Richard Tombrink
Okeechobee Battlefield Friends
George and Peggy Linardos

Coin Design: Greg Moore and Ted Pappas
Text: Jerry Casale
FRANK LAUMER and the Frank Laumer Legacy Award for:
Excellence in Seminole War Research

Most of Frank Laumer’s childhood was spent as part of a family of five during the Great Depression—when one of the few distractions available was reading. Overcoming a severe vision problem and inspired by his brothers, Frank became a voracious reader despite experiencing years of frustration in school before his eyesight was corrected.

The boy who was once advised to drop out of college is now the man who lives in a mansion of his own making north of Dade City where he has amassed a library of thousands of books. Three of the books were written by him, including the groundbreaking *Massacre!* which won the D. B. McKay Award from the Tampa Historical Society.

It is likely that he would never have been inspired to write these books had his curiosity not been piqued by a chance 1962 visit to the Dade Battlefield State Historic Site, barely 15 miles north of his home. Incredulous that only scant information was available about the battle which started the longest Indian war in American history, Frank became determined to write a book about such an important event. Tenaciously grasping at information from any source, he studied diaries, hiked old military trails, and even exhumed and examined a survivor’s bones to confirm contemporary reports about the conflict. Along the way he co-founded the Seminole Wars Historic Foundation, Inc. (AKA Seminole Wars Society) to heighten public awareness of the meaningful events that took place in Florida before it became the nation’s playground.

Laumer’s perseverance paid off. Scholars and researchers now widely acknowledge him as the leading authority on Dade’s Battle and especially on its most noted survivor, Private Ransom Clark of Laumer’s native New York state. The success he has achieved in meeting and overcoming challenges over the course of his 90 years has been aided by the unwavering support of his wife Dale Ann, and by his inherent attributes of:

**CURIOSITY, INSPIRATION, TENACITY, PERSEVERANCE,**
the same attributes that comprise

**FRANK LAUMER LEGACY AWARD,**
of which he is the first recipient on this day, 13 August, 2017.
PLENARY SPEAKERS

Director of the Seminole/Miccosukey Archive, Ethnohistorian **PATSY WEST** is a fifth generation South Floridian. Her family has been close to the Mikasuki-speaking population in South Florida since 1887. Patsy has been formally documenting tribal history for the past 45 years from the full-service Seminole/Miccosukey Archive, which she established in Fort Lauderdale in 1972, and is its Director. Books she has authored include *The Enduring Seminoles: From Alligator Wrestling to Casino Gambling; A Seminole Legend: The Life of Betty Mae Tiger Jumper*; and two photo books from the Archive’s image collection that dates back to 1852. Her sixth book will introduce significant tribal traditions, noted in the literature of the period, that were maintained well into the 20th century.

Award-winning historians and authors **JOHN AND MARY LOU MISSALL** focus on the Seminole Indian Wars. Their publications include *The Seminole Wars: America’s Longest Indian Conflict* (University Press of Florida); *This Torn Land: Poetry of the Second Seminole War* (Seminole Wars Foundation); and *This Miserable Pride of a Soldier: The Letters and Journals of Col. William S. Foster in the Second Seminole War* (Seminole Wars Foundation and University of Tampa Press). Their two fictional books—*Elizabeth's War*, a novel of the First Seminole War, and *Hollow Victory*, a novel of the Second Seminole War, (Florida Historical Society Press)—have both won the prestigious Patrick D. Smith Award for Florida Fiction from the Florida Historical Society. Works in progress include a history of the Third Seminole War (co-authored with Dr. Joe Knetsch), and a book on the life of Major John Rogers Vinton, debuting at the August Convocation.
ARCHAEOLOGY AND RESURRECTION OF FT. KING
2:15 - 3:15. Trinity Hall, David Laffey chair.
"Fort King ...the 1846 to 2017 Journey." David Laffey
"Archaeology and the Seminole War Era." Gary Ellis

SEMINOLE HERITAGE AND HISTORY
3:30 - 4:30. Trinity Hall, Chris Kimball chair.
Much of the Seminole Wars was told by the Americans who left the written record. But what do we have from the Seminole side? How did it change their culture and what are we learning that tells their story? Explanation and discussion of Seminole cultural exhibit.

LIVING HISTORIAN WORKSHOP
2:15 - 3:15. Ximemez- Fatio House, Steven Rinck chair.
Comparing the relative efficacy between first, second, and third person impression while maintaining authenticity.
Participants interact with each other in an historic and inspirational setting.

CURRENT RESEARCH AND RECENT LITERATURE
Exploring the Legacy:
Recent Works About the Seminole Wars
Dr. James M. Denham, Florida Southern College

Exploring the Legacy:
Online Sources and Cartography
Dr. James C. Cusick, University of Florida.

Connecting the Past to the Future:
New Directions for Seminole War Archaeology
Dr. Michelle Sivilich, Gulf Archaeological Research Inst.
BREAKOUT SESSION PARTICIPANTS

DAVID LAFFEY was born in Ocala, Florida, 1948. He received his Bachelor of Science in Journalism from the U. of Florida in 1971, founded Laffey & Associates Advertising & Public Relations in 1976, and retired in 2014. Taking pride in his hometown, David served on the Marion County Boys’ Club Board of Directors, as Chairman of the Ocala Salvation Army Advisory Board, Public Relations Committee Chairman B.P.O.E. #286, Public Relations Committee Chairman Council #5960 Knights Of Columbus, and with the Marion County St. Jude’s Crippled Children’s Foundation. David was the Greater Ocala Advertising Federation AAF 4th District Founder, and its Charter President. In 2012, he joined the Fort King Heritage Association, a support group to preserve and develop the Fort King National Historic Landmark site. Elected to the Board of Directors, then Treasurer, Vice President, and President, he developed the **Buy A Log, Build A Fort** fundraising Campaign to resurrect Ft. King, meeting its goal of $680,000 in 12 months.
BREAKOUT SESSION PARTICIPANTS, Con't.

**GARY ELLIS** has over 42 years of professional life in archaeology with an undergraduate degree in anthropology from Southern Illinois University (1975) and a Master of Arts from the University of South Florida (1977). He developed the Indiana Historic Preservation and Archaeology Division, serving as its first State Archaeologist (1977-1991), assisted the Department of Anthropology at Indiana University-Purdue University as a faculty member teaching, and served as the archaeologist for the Indiana State Museum. Over the past 10 years, he has contributed to the archaeological study of the Seminole Wars (1817-1858), working with the National Park Service-American Battlefield Protection Program and the State of Florida investigating more than seven period forts and six major battlefields. Gary founded the Gulf Archaeology Research Institute (1995), now in its 23rd year of service. *Connecting the Past to Our Future* drives the institute and services cultural and natural resource research, protection and management across Florida.

**CHRIS KIMBALL**, now living in Tallahassee, grew up in Winter Park, Florida, the son of an anthropologist and aeronautical engineer. He became interested in Seminole culture through his mother's work, and developed a love of the outdoors as an Eagle Scout. After college and a tour in the Army, he became immersed in Seminole War related research, writing numerous articles, and is now a noted living history interpreter of the 2nd Seminole War. His books, *Seminole & Creek War Chronology*, and its sequel, *Seminole & Creek War events – Revised*, contain a complete listing of all battles and skirmishes of the three Seminole Wars. Chris assists the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum with their displays and reproduces items of period Seminole dress, many of which are on display, with some featured at the Convocation.
BREAKOUT SESSION PARTICIPANTS, Con't.

STEVEN RINCK has been the president of the Seminole Wars Foundation since 2015. An avid lifetime student of history, the retired teacher and principal is past president of the Dade Battlefield Society and serves as coordinator of the annual Dade’s Battle Reenactment. He enjoys performing first-person historical impressions for school, military, and civic groups as figures from the Second Seminole and Civil Wars, as well as from both sides of World War II. Steve has been interviewed several times by local television outlets and is a contributing author to the newest literary projects being undertaken by the Foundation.

JAMES M. DENHAM (Ph.D., Florida State University, 1988), is a professor of history and director of the Lawton M. Chiles Center for Florida History at Florida Southern College. He has published widely on various aspects of the Seminole Wars. He is the author of six books of which the three impinge directly on the Seminole Wars: *Cracker Times and Pioneer Lives* (2000), *Echoes from a Distant Frontier*, and *Florida Founder, William P. DuVal, Frontier Bon Vivant* (2015). He also has a book chapter in Belco, ed. *America’s Hundred Years War: U. S. Expansion to the Gulf Coast and the Fate of the Seminole, 1763-1858* (2011). His articles and reviews on the conflict have appeared in the *Florida Historical Quarterly*, the *Journal of Southern History*, and the *American Historical Review*.

"It is hereby announced that hostilities with the Indians within this territory have ceased."
Colonel William J. Worth, Order No. 28, Cedar Keys, August 24, 1842.
JAMES G. CUSICK (Ph. D., U. Florida, 1993) is professor and curator of the P.K. Yonge Library of Florida History at the University of Florida and writes primarily about life in Florida during the late colonial period. Besides his work at the university, he has served as a board member for the Florida Historical Society and the St. Augustine Historical Society, and as a judge for the State of Florida Book Awards. He is the author of The Other War of 1812: The Patriot War and the American Invasion of Spanish East Florida (2006), and co-editor with Sherry Johnson, of The Voyages of Ponce de León: Scholarly Perspectives (2012), and Andrew Jackson in Florida (2016). Yonge Library at: www.uflib.ufl.edu/spec/pkyonge/index.html

MICHELLE SIVILICH (Ph. D., University of South Florida, 2014) is Executive Director and field archaeologist of the Gulf Archaeology Research Institute (GARI) at Crystal River. She is an expert on archaeology of the Seminole Wars, and has over fifteen years of experience in a variety of archaeological settings ranging from 17th century Maryland's first Capital of St. Mary's City, to Revolutionary War sites throughout the Northeast United States, to Thomas Jefferson's home of Monticello.

Dr. Sivilich is lead archaeologist at the Fort King site in Ocala, Florida, where GARI has worked since 1994, and has been integral in locating, interpreting, and obtaining National Landmark status for the site.
We proudly support this first Convocation of Seminole War Historians, and express our best wishes for its success!

*Our mission: "Assist the FL Dept. of Environmental Protection to preserve natural and cultural heritage, while increasing public awareness of Dade’s battle and its significance."

VISIT Dade’s Battle Reenactment & Trade Fair — the first full weekend each January — at Dade Battlefield Historic State Park, Bushnell. www.DadeBattlefield.com

Congratulations on the First Convocation of Seminole War Historians

John and Mary Lou Missall
Seminole War Historians and Authors www.missall.net

Authors of “The Seminole Wars,” the Award-Winning Novels “Elizabeth’s War” and “Hollow Victory,” and other works

Introducing “The Army Is My Calling: The Life and Writings of Maj. John Rogers Vinton”
Military Officers Association of America (MOAA), Ancient City Chapter, St. Augustine, FL.

MOAA is a dynamic organization of active, retired, and former officers of the uniformed services. The Ancient City Chapter benefits the members of the uniformed services, active or retired, their families and survivors. It advocates for a strong national defense and provides needed support to the St. Augustine and St. Johns County community.

We are a very active chapter, organizing the annual Memorial Day ceremony in St. Augustine's National Cemetery, and the Veterans Day Parade through the city streets, along with the St. Johns County Veterans Council.

CPT (former) George Linardos leads the "Veterans through the ages V," Veterans Day parade, 2016

We are a Commemorative Partner with the United States Vietnam War Commemoration. We also work closely with local JROTC organizations and sponsor events, such as this Convocation, that keep U.S. military tradition and history alive in the public consciousness.

Find out more about us at www.moaa-acc.org!
THE MIDDLEBURG HISTORICAL MUSEUM

is pleased to support this first
Convocation of Seminole War Historians.

FORT HEILEMAN (1836-1841) was established within the first months of the ‘Florida War,’ in what is now Middleburg, FL. Its location at the forks of navigable Black Creek made it a major depot for troops and supplies bound for campaigns into the interior. Its 18 buildings housed soldiers, quartermaster and ordnance supplies, mechanics, horses and teamsters, and a hospital. The Army presence also provided protection and subsistence for displaced settlers awaiting the end of the conflict, destined to be the longest Indian war in U.S. history.

MIDDLEBURG HISTORICAL MUSEUM
at 3912 Section Street, Middleburg, FL 32068, preserves the memory of Fort Heileman and early Clay County history. It welcomes visitors on Sundays at 2 to 4 PM, or by appointment. For more information call (904) 282-5924.
HONOR ROLL of CONTRIBUTORS

The organizers thank the donors below for their generous contributions, so essential to making this event a success.

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St. Augustine Officers Club, Inc.
Ximenez-Fatio House Museum

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John and Mary Lou Missall
Middleburg Historical Museum
St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum
St. Augustine Historical Society

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Mr. and Mrs. Harvard Burney

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Rosa Sophia is a freelance writer and editorial consultant from Jensen Beach, FL. She is an editor of nonfiction books and articles, with a special focus on Florida history. Visit her website to learn more: www.rosasophia.com

Printed by: THE PRINT SHOP. shopforprint@bellsouth.net.
We are a non-profit, 501 (c) 3 organization created to increase public awareness of, and interest in, the military heritage of the greater St. Augustine area. We accomplish this through educational programs, with emphasis on youth, charitable activities, and community involvement.

Our priorities support archaeological and restoration projects that promote the education of the public regarding the many historic and military event that have occurred in Northeast Florida. These projects will be funded through grants, donations and public fundraising.

For information about our organization, and projects, find us at: 4WARDMARCH.ORG, or contact LTC (P) Ron Birchall (USA, ret.) at: ReBirch@4wardmarch.org.