



COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY
Archive Center and Genealogy Department
Indian River County Main Library
1600 21st Street
Vero Beach, Florida 32960

Purpose

The purpose of the Archive Center and Genealogy Department collection is to collect and preserve primary and secondary source materials that document the history of Florida, Indian River County and the United States with emphasis on states east of the Mississippi and to make them available to researchers and the general public. In addition, this department will collect primary and secondary resource materials on Canada and Europe based on the needs of the researchers.

Provenance

The genealogy collection had its beginnings from two sources; 1) Indian River Genealogical Society which was established May 1983 and 2) the estate of Mildred Hallock, (1983) member of the Colonial Dames of the Seventeenth Century. The department continues to receive donations through monetary and volunteer support from both organizations.

Scope – Florida and Indian River County History

The Florida History and Indian River County History collection houses materials in a variety of formats including, but not limited to: books, microfilm, microfiche, CD-ROM's, cassettes, videos, pamphlets, posters, diaries, letters, maps, photographs, manuscripts and scrapbooks. The library will accept oral history interviews on any media of local residents only, but request they be accompanied by a typewritten summary of transcript. In addition, local Indian River County pictures that are documented with names and dates will be accepted with restrictions on size and content to be determined by the librarian.

The major emphasis of the collection is historical and current information about the city of Vero Beach and the surrounding communities of Indian River County and Florida. Subject areas include: early settlers, citrus industry, business, science and technology, education, ethnic groups, culture and arts, railroads and river traffic, politics, newspapers, agriculture, religions, professions, social welfare, work, unions and prominent individuals and events.

The Library is grateful to the Indian River County Historical Society for the donation of their extensive collection of documents and photographs.

Scope – Genealogy Collection

The Genealogy collection houses materials in a variety of formats including, but not limited to: books, CD-ROM's, microfilm, microfiche, cassettes, videos, vertical files and maps. The emphasis of the Genealogy Collection is primary and secondary resources.

In 1986, the purchasing priority focused on manuals or guides on how to research family history. In addition, self-help guides were sought on how to research specific areas and disciplines such as state, military or emigration records. This collection is now extensive and comprehensive. At the same time it was desired to obtain the complete United States Census on microfilm from 1790 to 1920. We currently own 1790-1870 on microfilm. Due to the technological advances of the Internet, this goal is no longer a necessity as the complete census from 1790-1930 is available through Internet subscriptions at the library.

The priority is state and local history materials with emphasis on military and ethnic records and resources.

Development Plan

The collection development varies depending on geographic relevance. Geographically-related materials are collected approximately at the general interest level with the following priorities within the United States:

CATEGORY 1

New York
Pennsylvania
New Jersey
Florida
Virginia
Massachusetts
Canada
Connecticut
Ohio
South Carolina
Georgia

CATEGORY 2

North Carolina
Alabama
Maine
West Virginia
Vermont
Rhode Island
Maryland
Kentucky
Tennessee
Illinois
Mississippi

CATEGORY 3

Delaware
Indiana
Michigan
Arkansas
New Hampshire
District of Columbia
Louisiana
Missouri
Oklahoma
Texas
Wisconsin

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY MAIN LIBRARY MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Indian River County Library System is to provide the means by which people of all ages, interests, and circumstances may avail themselves of the recorded wisdom, experiences, and ideas of others. In support of this mission, library materials are assembled, organized, and made accessible to all. Opportunities for personal, educational, cultural, and recreational enrichment are offered. Collections of library materials, services, and programs are planned and developed to respond to individual and community needs. A trained and skilled staff, and the latest technologies, are employed to facilitate and enhance the use of the resources of the library system. By committing themselves to excellence in all facets of the library system's services and operations, the library administration, staff, and Public Library Advisory Board reaffirm the democratic ideals upon which the American Public Library is founded.