

# INDIAN RIVER COUNTY LOCAL HISTORY RESOURCES

Indian River County Main Library, Florida History & Genealogy Department  
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 Hours: M-Thurs 10-8; Fri 10-5; Sat 10-4; Sun 1-6; Website: <http://www.irclibrary.org>  
 Librarian: Pamela J. Cooper

## EVOLUTION OF INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

18 Jul 1821	St. Johns
29 Dec 1824	Mosquito (Renamed Orange in 1845)
8 Mar 1844	St. Lucie
6 Jan 1855	Brevard
1 Jul 1905	St. Lucie
30 Jun 1925	Indian River

### A SELECTED LIST

Items below are only a few of the materials we have in our collection. The most important resource is our index to all of our county histories. This is usually located on the table in the Florida & Local History room. If not found, please ask for it at the genealogy reference desk.

#### AFRICAN-AMERICANS

- Hayes, Leon. *Strength of Our ancestors*. Wabasso, FL: 1992.
- *Treasure Coast Black Heritage: A Pictorial History*. Virginia Beach, VA: Donning Publishers, 1996.

#### CEMETERY / OBITUARY RECORDS

- *Burial Records: Indian River County*. Vero Beach, FL: American Legion Post 39. (Photocopy) WPA Graves Registration Project. No Index.
- Indian River Genealogical Society. *Cemeteries of Indian River County, Florida*. Decorah, IA: Anundsen Publishing Co., 1987. Indexed.
- Indian River Genealogical Society, Inc. *Obituary Index From Microfilms of the Vero Beach Press Journal, 1919-1969*. Vol. 1. Vero Beach, FL. 1996
- *Obituary Index from Microfilm of the Vero Press Journal 1919-Present* is now located on the Local Histories Database

**CENSUS:** Items listed below are on microfilm and on Internet subscriptions, with the exception of some of the indexes. Use our guide to the location of indexes.

<u>FEDERAL CENSUS</u>	<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>INDEXED</u>
1830-40	St. Lucie	Book, Ancestry and Heritage Quest
1850-1870	Brevard	Book, Ancestry and Heritage Quest
1880	Brevard	Soundex and FamilySearch.org
1885	Brevard	Book and on Brevard GenWeb
1890	DOES NOT EXIST	
1900	Brevard	Soundex and Book
1910	St. Lucie	Soundex, Book, Heritage Quest
1920	St. Lucie	Soundex, Book, Ancestry, Heritage Quest
1930	Indian River	Soundex, Ancestry

#### STATE CENSUS

1935	Only Indian River is indexed.
1945	Only Indian River is indexed.

#### CHURCH RECORDS

- *A Journey of Faith 1924-1999, A History of Community Church, United Church of Christ*. Vero Beach, FL: Published by The Church. 1998.

- Kieffer, Lydia. *Record of Baptisms, June 1919 thru 1935; and Record of marriages 1921 thru 1934; and A brief history of the Fellsmere United Methodist Church in Indian River County...* Sebastian FL: St. Sebastian Chapter, NSDAR, 1995.
- *Ours, A Goodly Heritage: A History of the First Methodist Church, Vero Beach, Florida, 1914-1954.* Vero Beach, FL: n.d. No Index
- Vickers, Ramona K. *Earliest Times of Sebastian United Methodist Church.* Sebastian, FL. Treasure Coast Chapter of the NSDAR. 1974.
- Warner, Ruth. *Record of Infant Baptisms, June 4, 1890 thru October 25, 1985; and A brief history of the oldest church in Indian River County, FL: Sebastian United Methodist Church.* Vero Beach, FL. Treasure Coast Chapters NSDAR. 1989.

**COURTHOUSE RECORDS** (All on microfilm.)

- |  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| 1. Grantor Indexes 1871-1936               | Brevard                            |
| 2. Grantee Indexes 1871-1936               | Brevard                            |
| 3. Deed Books 1871-1884                    | Brevard                            |
| 4. Marriage Records Pre 1887-1931          | Brevard                            |
| 5. Marriage Licenses 1868-1927             | Brevard                            |
| 6. Probate & Guardianship 1886-1975        | Brevard                            |
| 7. Wills 1886-1926                         | Brevard                            |
| 8. Orders at Chambers 1889-1902            | Brevard                            |
| 9. Administrators Records 1886-1923        | Brevard                            |
| 10. Probate Docket 1918-1928, 1944         | Brevard                            |
| 11. Delayed Birth Certificates 1943-1975   | Brevard                            |
| 12. Tax Rolls 1846-1879                    | Orange, Brevard, St. Lucie         |
| 13. Marriage Records 1905-1929             | St. Lucie                          |
| 14. Will Book 1905-1922                    | St. Lucie                          |
| 15. Grantor/Grantee Deed Indexes 1905-1953 | St. Lucie                          |
| 16. Marriage Records 1925-1927             | Indian River                       |
| 17. Probate Records Index 1925-1974        | Indian River                       |
| 18. City of Vero Beach Council Minutes     | Indian River (12 June 1919 -1978?) |
| 19. Plat Book of I/R County 1845 +         | Indian River                       |
| 20. Florida Election Returns Pre 1865      | Orange, St. Lucie, Brevard         |

**EARLY HISTORY**

- Davidsson, Robert I. *Indian River: A History of the AIS Indians in Spanish Florida.* West Palm Beach, FL. An AIS Indian Project publication. 2001.
- Dickel, David N. *An Archaeological Survey of Indian River County, FL.* Archaeological and Historical Conservancy, Inc. 1992.
- Lyon, Eugene. *More Light on the Indians of the Ays Coast.* 1967. No Index.
- Rouse, Irving. *A Survey of Indian River Archeology, Florida.* Yale University Press, 1951. No Index.

**FAMILY FILES (Manuscripts)**

- Homer Lewis – Photographs
- Tippin Family – Documents, pictures, ephemera
- Vandiveer Family – Photographs, documents, and written history.

**GENERAL HISTORY**

- Hellier, Walter R. *Indian River Florida's Treasure Coast.* Coconut Grove, FL: Hurricane House Publishers, Inc., 1965. Indexed by Morrison.
- Johnston, Sidney P. *A History of Indian River County: A Sense of Place.* Vero Beach, FL: Indian River County Historical Society. 2000.
- Lockwood, Charlotte. *Florida's Historic Indian River County.* Vero Beach, FL: Media Tronics, Inc., 1975.
- Richards, J. Noble. *Florida's Hibiscus City: Vero Beach.* Melbourne, FL: Brevard Graphics, 1968. Indexed.
- Thompson, W. C. and Henry C. Thompson. *Pioneer Chit Chat.* Assembled by G. Keyes and R. Cointepoix. Sebastian Area County Library, 1987. Originally published as a serial. Indexed.

## LAND RECORDS

- Homestead Land Patents 1872-1918

## MANUSCRIPTS

- Vero Beach Naval Air Station – Extensive collection of photographs, historic records and ephemera that document the history of the Navy base from 1942-1946.
- Indian River County Library system – Records from 1892 to the present documenting the complete history of any libraries that existed in the county.
- Pelican Island ephemera and history
- Jonathan Dickinson – Research papers, family records and documents on the historic shipwreck of 1696. It also includes information about the people who sailed with the Dickinson family.
- Indian River Colony 1842-1849 – Although not in I/R County, this colony began the slow migration of people into central Florida. Includes research papers on all of the families and the records of the Armed Occupation Act and maps.
- Fort Vinton or Post #2 – Research papers, documents, military post returns, and maps.
- Capron-Hernandez Trail – Research papers and maps regarding the trail that began in 1825 by Gadsden and was completed by Joseph Hernandez in 1837.
- George Nelson photographs – well-known ornithologist and photographer who took many pictures of Pelican Island and Paul Kroegel, the first game warden.
- Farmers Bank – Two inventory reports of the Farmers Bank that closed January 1935. It lists all of the depositors and the dollar amount.
- Special newspapers and posters are located in the archival (gray) boxes.
- Los Angeles Dodgers programs and yearbooks.
- Spanish Shipwreck of 1715 – Newspaper articles.

## MAPS / GAZETTEERS

- *Atlas & Plat Book, Indian River County, Florida.* Rockford, IL: Rockford Map Pub., 1978.
- *Indian River County 1991 Plat Directory.* Clermont, FL: Indian River Co. Farm Bureau. 1991.
- Simons, George W. *Comprehensive Master Plan of City of Vero Beach, Florida.* Jacksonville, FL: 1953.
- Sims, Colin B. *Colin's Gazetteer of the Indian River.* Vero Beach, FL: 19??. Alphabetical.
- Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps
- Geodetic Survey Topographical Maps
- Early Florida History & Indian River County Maps - ca. 1600-1900

## MILITARY / VETERANS

- *Commemorative Program Booklet for the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual 1944 USO Canteen Re-creation: February 26, 2000.* Vero Beach, FL. Vero Heritage, Inc. 2000.
- Keyes, George S. *Civil War Veterans in the Sebastian/Roseland Area.* 1998.
- Lohman, Edgar. *Casualties Incurred by Navy Personnel During Wartime Training at Naval Air Station, Vero Beach.* Vero Beach, FL. 1997.
- Rahn, Claude J. *Fort Vinton: An Old and Memorable Fort During the Days of the Seminoles in Florida.* Vero Beach, FL: Claude J. Rahn, December, 1955. Indexed.
- *Register of Deceased Veterans.* St. Augustine, FL: Veterans Graves Registration Project, 1940-41. No Index.
- U. S. Naval Air Station, Vero Beach – Extensive records.
- World War I Draft Registrations – Microfilm and indexed on our web site.

## NEWSPAPERS & DIRECTORIES

1. City Directories – 1885-1920 (scattered), 1927/28, 1953, 1955, 1956, 1958-1965, 1967-1978, 1980-Present
2. Fellsmere Farmer – 1912-1913
3. Fellsmere Tribune - 1916-1921
4. Hill-Donnelly - 1982, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1988 – Present
5. Indian River Star Advocate - Aug 1890 – 1925
6. Mimeo News 1953-1956 (Wabasso) Indexed

7. Niles Register - 1811-1849
8. Press Journal - 1919-Present (Microfilm) Only obituaries are indexed.
9. Sebastian Sun – 2000-Present (Microfilm – originals are at the Sebastian Library)

### **PERIODICALS and NEWSPAPERS**

1. Gifford Middle School Yearbook – 1986-1987
2. Indian River Genealogical Society Newsletter/Quarterly - 1983-Present
3. Indian River Culture: An Arts Newsletter – 1998-Present
4. Indian River Farmer – July, 1913
5. Indian River Info - 1980
6. Indian River Life - 1973-83 (Changed to Indian River Pictorial)
7. Indian River Pictorial - 1985-1991 (Changed to Treasure Coast Pictorial with Vol. 9, #2)
8. Los Angeles Dodgers Spring Training Yearbook: Dodgers: New Faces. New Attitude - 1999
9. Los Angeles Dodgers Spring Training Yearbook: The Tradition of Excellence Continues – 1999
10. Rosewood Elementary School Yearbook – 1982-83, 1986
11. Sebastian Middle/Jr High Yearbook – 1991
12. Sebastian River High School – 1995, 1997-2003
13. St. Edward's School Yearbook - 1990
14. Treasure Coast Pictorial - 1992 (V. 10, #2, 4)
15. Treasure Coast Scotsman – 1995-1996
16. Vero Beach High School Football Program – 1993
17. Vero Beach High School Graduates, VBPI – 1931-1935
18. Vero Beach High School Yearbooks: 1944, 1954, 1964, 1967, 1969, 1972, 1974-1986, 1989-1990, 1992-2002
19. Vero Beach Junior High Yearbook – 1987, 1991, 1995
20. Vero Beach Magazine - 1998 +
21. Vero Home and Design - 2001
22. Vero Life – 1998+

### **SCHOOLS**

- *The History of Education in Indian River County.* Vero Beach, FL. 1998.
- *85-year Index of Vero Beach High School Graduates 1919-2003.*

### **TOWN HISTORIES**

- Baisden, Katherine. *A History of Roseland and Vicinity.* Roseland, FL: Roseland Research Library [1995?]
- Sebastian River Area Historical Society, Inc., *Tales of Sebastian.* Sebastian, FL: 1990. Indexed.
- Sebastian River Area Historical Society, Inc., *More Tales of Sebastian.* Sebastian, FL: 1992. Indexed.

### **VOTERS**

- Graham, Kathleen. *Registered Voters in Indian River County, Florida. (list from the Vero Beach Press Journal).* October, 18, 1940. Vero Beach, FL: 2000.
- Vickers, Ramona K. *The Registered Voters of Indian River County, Florida, 1925-1948.* Vero Beach, FL: 1992. Alphabetical Order.

### **VERTICAL FILE**

Includes over 300 family files of early Indian River County prior to 1925. In addition, there are numerous files on buildings, businesses, churches, government, history, post offices, and much more. Check our online catalog.

### **VITAL RECORDS**

- Florida DAR Genealogical Records Committee. *Indian River County Probated Records: Wills 1925-1958.* Vero Beach, FL: Treasure Coast Chapter NSDAR.
- Genealogical Society of North Brevard. *Marriage Applications: Brevard County, Florida 1868-1885.* Titusville, FL: 1992. Alphabetical Order.
- *Indian River County Probate Records Index.* Vero Beach, FL: Indian River Genealogical Society, 1988.