

# **Vicente Sebastián Pintado**

## **A Register of His Papers in the Library of Congress**

**Prepared by Kenneth Fones-Wolf  
Revised and expanded by Karen Linn Femia**



**Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**

**Washington, D.C.**

**2008**

Contact information: <http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/mss/address.html>

**Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress  
Manuscript Division, 2008**

Finding aid URL: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms008036>

## Collection Summary

**Title:** Vicente Sebastián Pintado Papers

**Span Dates:** 1781-1842

**Bulk Dates:** (bulk 1799-1817)

**ID No.:** MSS51045

**Creator:** Pintado, Vicente Sebastián, 1774-1829

**Extent:** 1,500 items; 7 containers plus 22 oversize; 12 linear feet; 6 microfilm reels

**Language:** Collection material in French and Spanish.

**Repository:** Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

**Abstract:** Surveyor general of Spanish West Florida. Correspondence, bills of sale, court transcripts, testimonies, surveys, notebooks, plats, land grants, maps, petitions, and other papers relating principally to Pintado's duties as alcalde, commandant, and surveyor general.

## Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### Personal Names

Armas, Christoval de--Correspondence.

Bolling, Christopher--Correspondence.

Collins, José--Correspondence.

Cruzat, Antonio--Correspondence.

Folch, Vicente--Correspondence.

Gayoso de Lemos, Manuel, 1747-1799--Correspondence.

Grand-Pré, Charles Boucher de, 1754-1809--Correspondence.

Kneeland, Ira Cook, d. 1812?--Correspondence.

López, Manuel, 1780-1860--Correspondence.

Lynd, Juan.

Morales, Juan Ventura, 1756-1819--Correspondence.

Pintado, Vicente Sebastián, 1774-1829.

Reggio, Pedro--Correspondence.

Rivas, Francisco, Captain--Correspondence.

Tegart, Patrick--Correspondence

Trudeau, Charles Laveau, ca. 1750-1816--Correspondence.

### Subjects

Deeds--Alabama.

Deeds--Florida.

Deeds--Louisiana.

Deeds--Mississippi.

Land grants--Alabama.

Land grants--Florida.

Land grants--Louisiana.

Land grants--Mississippi.

Land tenure--Alabama.

Land tenure--Florida.

Land tenure--Louisiana.

Land tenure--Mississippi.

Real property--Alabama.

Real property--Florida.

Real property--Louisiana.

Real property--Mississippi.

**Locations**

Alabama--Maps, Manuscript.  
Alabama--Surveys.  
Florida--History--Spanish colony, 1784-1821.  
Florida--Maps, Manuscript.  
Florida--Surveys.  
Louisiana--Maps, Manuscript.  
Louisiana--Surveys.  
Mississippi--Maps, Manuscript.  
Mississippi--Surveys.  
Spain--Colonies--America.

**Occupations**

Surveyors.

## Administrative Information

**Provenance:**

The papers of Vicente Sebastián Pintado, surveyor general of Spanish West Florida, were donated to the Library of Congress in 1974 by Mrs. Robert M. Adams via Mrs. Janet Schroeder of the Duluth Public Library, Duluth, Minnesota. An addition to the papers was purchased in 1985.

**Processing History:**

The papers of Vicente Sebastián Pintado were arranged and described in 1978. The collection was expanded and revised in 1998. The register was revised in 2008.

**Copyright Status:**

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Vicente Sebastián Pintado is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

**Microfilm:**

A microfilm edition of part of these papers is available on six reels. Consult a reference librarian in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan.

**Preferred Citation:**

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Vicente Sebastián Pintado Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1774, Feb.	Born, Santa Cruz de la Palma, Canary Islands; later educated as an engineer
1794-1795	Commanded sloop on the lakes Borgne and Pontchartrain for Governor Luis Héctor Carondelet of Louisiana
1796-1803	Assistant surveyor, province of Louisiana
1798	Captain, Caballería de Milicias de Nueva Feliciana
1799	Appears in the records of West Florida as property owner in Baton Rouge District

1799-1805	Alcalde, New Feliciana District
1803-1805	Assistant surveyor, Spanish West Florida
1804-1805	Assisted in defeat of the Kemper brothers' raids in Spanish West Florida
1805-1817	Surveyor general of Spanish West Florida, Pensacola
1816	Married Maria Teresa Eulalia Balderas
1817	Transferred to Havana, Cuba; served as military engineer
1829	Died, Havana, Cuba

## Scope and Content Note

The papers of Vicente Sebastián Pintado (1774-1829) span the years 1781-1842, with the bulk of material dating from 1799 to 1817. The papers consist of correspondence, bills of sale, court transcripts, testimonies, surveys, notebooks, plats, land grants, manuscript maps, petitions, and papers relating to Pintado's official duties as alcalde, commandant, and surveyor general of Spanish West Florida from 1799 to 1817. Spanish West Florida encompassed Louisiana from the Mississippi River to the Pearl River north of Lake Pontchartrain, the Gulf coasts of the present day states of Mississippi, Alabama (Mobile and vicinity), and western Florida (Pensacola and St. Mark's vicinity). Place names that appear in this register are from this geographic area unless otherwise specified. Although some of the papers predate Pintado's appointment as alcalde in 1799, most of the material relates to land surveys, land purchases, and deeds from his appointment as alcalde until his departure for Cuba in 1817. After moving to Cuba, Pintado served as military engineer. The papers include no record of his official duties in Havana. The collection contains four series: [General Correspondence](#), [Official Papers](#), [Maps and Plats](#), and an [Addition](#).

The [General Correspondence](#) includes manuscript copies of many outgoing letters as well as communications from Christoval de Armas, Christopher Bolling, Antonio Cruzat, Vincent Folch (United States Governor of West Florida), Manuel Gayoso de Lemos (Governor of Baton Rouge), Charles Boucher de Grand-Pré (Governor of Baton Rouge), Ira Cook Kneeland (Pintado's deputy surveyor), Manuel López, Juan Ventura Morales (intendant of West Florida), Captain Francisco Rivas, and Charles Laveau Trudeau (Spanish surveyor in Louisiana). There is also documentation on the Nicolls raid in the Apalachicola River area and the Kemper brothers' raids in Louisiana, 1804-1805.

In addition to Pintado's personal and professional correspondence, the collection includes part of the land records of Spanish West Florida. [Maps](#), charts, plats, and land surveys, many cadastral, relate to the coastal area from West Florida to the Mississippi River, with special attention to the Baton Rouge, Feliciana, Mobile, and Pensacola districts. This material is supplemented by correspondence between Pintado and his corps of surveyors including José Collins, Ira Cook Kneeland, Pedro Reggio (who became assistant surveyor after the death of Kneeland in 1812), and Patrick Tegart. Legal documents such as court transcripts, testimonies, surveys, land grants, deeds, and petitions are in the [Official Papers](#).

The [Addition](#) to the papers consists of a bound volume dated 1806 containing five maps and written text concerning various properties of Juan Lynd located in the vicinity of Baton Rouge. The Pintado Papers offer information on the critical transitional period from the time of the Louisiana Purchase in 1803 through the seizure and occupation of West Florida by the United States in 1813-1814 to the ultimate cession of East and West Florida by Spain to the United States by terms of the Adams-Onís Treaty of 1819. They provide insight into the multicultural relationships which developed in the area. A Spanish/Talapuche Indian vocabulary is also in the papers.

## Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in four series:

- [General Correspondence, 1785-1829](#)

- Official Papers, 1781-1842
- Maps and Plates, 1783-circa 1830
- Addition, 1806

## Description of Series

*Container*

BOX 1-4  
REEL 1-3

*Series*

**General Correspondence, 1785-1829**

Letters sent and received.  
Arranged chronologically.

BOX 5-6  
REEL 4-5

**Official Papers, 1781-1842**

Court transcripts, testimonies, wills, bills of sale, surveys, notebooks, land grants, petitions, deeds,  
and other papers.  
Arranged chronologically.

BOX 7-28  
REEL 6

**Maps and Plats (Oversize), 1783-circa 1830**

Maps of the entire region of West Florida and of Baton Rouge and other cities and regions, plats  
of towns, plantations, and land ownership divisions.  
Unarranged.

BOX 29  
not filmed

**Addition, 1806**

Bound volume of maps and text re properties of Juan Lynd near Baton Rouge.

# Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
<b>BOX 1-4</b> <b>REEL 1-3</b>	<b>General Correspondence, 1785-1829</b>  Letters sent and received. Arranged chronologically.
<b>BOX 1</b> <b>REEL 1</b>	1785-1802  (5 folders)
<b>BOX 2</b> <b>REEL 2</b>	1803-1805  (4 folders)
<b>BOX 3</b> <b>REEL 3</b>	1806-1812  (6 folders)
<b>BOX 4</b> <b>REEL 3</b>	1813-1829, n.d.  (7 folders)
<b>BOX 5-6</b> <b>REEL 4-5</b>	<b>Official Papers, 1781-1842</b>  Court transcripts, testimonies, wills, bills of sale, surveys, notebooks, land grants, petitions, deeds, and other papers. Arranged chronologically.
<b>BOX 5</b> <b>REEL 4</b>	1781-1808  (7 folders)
<b>BOX 6</b> <b>REEL 5</b>	1809-1842, n.d.  (5 folders)
<b>BOX 7-28</b> <b>REEL 6</b>	<b>Maps and Plats (Oversize), 1783-circa 1830</b>  Maps of the entire region of West Florida and of Baton Rouge and other cities and regions, plats of towns, plantations, and land ownership divisions. Unarranged.
<b>BOX 7</b> <b>REEL 6</b>	Feliciana District, circa 1800-1810
<b>BOX 7</b> <b>REEL 6</b>	Tickfaw, Amite, and San Bernardo rivers, undated
<b>BOX 7</b> <b>REEL 6</b>	Baton Rouge, 1809
<b>BOX 8</b> <b>REEL 6</b>	Mississippi River: Rio Iberville to Thompson's Creek, circa 1810

## Maps and Plats (Oversize), 1783-circa 1830

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BOX 10 REEL 6	Manchac and Baton Rouge districts, circa 1810
BOX 11 REEL 6	Land between the rivers Comit and Amite, circa 1810
	(2 charts)
BOX 11 REEL 6	Manchac District, 1799
BOX 12 REEL 6	Baton Rouge[?], circa 1810
BOX 12 REEL 6	Mobile Bay to Apalachicola Bay, circa 1815
BOX 13 REEL 6	Apalachicola River and Bay, 1815
BOX 13 REEL 6	Land between the rivers Comit and Amite, circa 1810
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BOX 15 REEL 6	Forbes and Co. lands, Apalachicola and San Marcos rivers, undated
BOX 15 REEL 6	Apalachicola River, 1815
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## Maps and Plats (Oversize), 1783-circa 1830

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## Maps and Plats (Oversize), 1783-circa 1830

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BOX 29 not filmed	<b>Addition, 1806</b>

Bound volume of maps and text re properties of Juan Lynd near Baton Rouge.