

**Manuscripts Guide to Collections  
at the University of Illinois  
at Urbana-Champaign**

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## SPANISH AND LATIN AMERICAN ARCHIVES.

The Illinois Historical Survey's collection of copies of manuscripts in Spanish and Latin American Archives was selected with reference mainly to the study of the Spanish in Louisiana and the Mississippi River Valley and their relationship with the French, British and Americans. Unlike the manuscript copies from other nations which are grouped by depository, this collection is divided into two parts: The Cunningham Transcripts and a set of papers referred to as Spanish and Latin American Archives, Translations. The bulk of the Spanish material is contained in the former group and all copies are handwritten or typewritten transcripts.

### Guides and Other Finding Aids

To aid in locating material in various Spanish and Latin American Archives several useful guides exist. Many of these are appropriately in Spanish, but some of the important ones in English are as follows:

1. Herbert E. Bolton, Guide to Materials for the History of the United States in the Principal Archives of Mexico. Carnegie Institution of Washington, 1913. (Description of archival institutions, and descriptive listings of notable groups of documents.)
2. Charles E. Chapman, Catalogue of Materials in the Archivo General de Indias for the History of the Pacific Coast and the American Southwest. University of California Publications, VIII, Berkeley, 1919. (This volume has an introduction describing the archives of the Archivo General de Indias and the author's procedure in selecting and calendaring 6257 items relating to the Pacific coastal region and the history of the American Southwest.)
3. Roscoe Hill, American Missions in European Archives Publication No. 108 of the Instituto Panamericano de Geografia e Historia, Comision de Historia. Mexico, 1951. (Contains a good history of the acquisition of Spanish materials for American libraries, including the activities of Charles Cunningham. However, the holdings of the Illinois Historical Survey are not mentioned.)
4. Roscoe Hill, Descriptive Catalogue of the Documents relating to the History of the United States in the Papeles Procedentes de Cuba deposited in the Archivo General de Indias at Seville. Carnegie Institution of Washington, 1916. (The Papeles de Cuba were moved from Cuba to the Archivo General de Indias in Seville 1888-89. From this collection which is rich in materials for the study of Spain in America, Mr. Hill has selected certain legajos to describe. Indexed.)
5. Ronald Hilton (ed.), Handbook of Hispanic Source Materials and Research Organizations in the United States. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1956.
6. Luis Manico Perez, Guide to the Materials for American History in Cuban Archives. Carnegie Institution of Washington, 1907.
7. J. A. Robertson, List of Documents in Spanish Archives relating to the History of the United States which have been printed, or of which transcripts are preserved in American Libraries. Carnegie Institution of Washington, 1910. (A chronological listing, giving location or original documents and published copy of transcript.)
8. W. R. Shepherd, Guide to the Materials for the History of the United States in Spanish Archives (Simancas, Archivo Historica Nacional, and Seville). Carnegie Institution of Washington, 1907. (A general description.)

In addition to these published guides, the Illinois Historical Survey contains several other aids. These are of use in working with the material in the Survey Library and also in other libraries as well. They are as follows:

The Chronological Index. This is a generally complete card index of the Cunningham Transcripts. Where one document is attached to, or grouped with another, the chronological card refers to the date of the file where it may be found. Further processing, in the form of cataloging and indexing of the transcripts, is necessary and remains to be done. However, the Survey catalog may be used to advantage in connection with the Library of Congress Lists issued in 1928. These lists follow.

Library of Congress Lists of Transcripts and Facsimiles. The Survey has these four lists compiled by Dr. Thomas R. Martin in 1928:

1. Archival List of Library of Congress Transcripts and Facsimiles from Archivo General de Indias, Seville, 1454-1835. Photocopies 70 double folio pages.

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2. Chronological List of Library of Congress Transcripts and Facsimiles from Archivo General de Indias, Seville.

1454-1699.	Photocopies.	33	double	folio	pages.
1700-1759.	" .	26	"	"	" .
1760-1779.	" .	25	"	"	" .
1780-1800.	" .	33	"	"	" .
1801-1835.	" .	13	"	"	" .

3. Chronological List of Library of Congress Transcripts and Facsimiles from Papeles... de...Cuba in Archivo General de Indias, Seville. 1751-1822. Photocopies. 21 double folio pages.

4. Archival list of Transcripts and Facsimiles from Papeles...de...Cuba Archivo General de Indias, Seville. 1751-1822. Seccion 11. Series 1-23. Legajos 1-2375. Photocopies. 22 double folio pages.

Calendar. Sparks Collection, Harvard College Library. This is a four page, handwritten calendar of Spanish papers in that library for the years 1776-1781. The main correspondents listed are Grimaldi, Vergennes, Aranda, Floridablanca, and Galvez.

Manuscripts

CUNNINGHAM TRANSCRIPTS. PAPERS AND CORRESPONDENCE, 1600-1830. Approximately 40 feet and five bound volumes, transcripts. 61-2187.

This collection of transcripts is so named because it was made under the supervision of Dr. Charles H. Cunningham over a period of years for the Illinois Historical Survey and other libraries. During that span of time, he successively was a member of several college faculties, and filled various assignments for the United States government in Mexico, Spain, Portugal, Cuba, Peru, and Ecuador. Typing and collating of the transcripts began in 1917 but was suspended in 1931 due to various circumstances. There are several aids to the use of this collection and they include the Chronological Index, the Library of Congress lists, and the published guides described above.

These transcripts were made in four archival depositories as follows:

1. Archivo Historica Nacional, Madrid. Transcripts from this collection number 1768 pages. Subjects of the documents are the affairs of the residencia of Santo Domingo, the legal investigation of the insurrection in Louisiana in 1783-1800, relations between Florida and Louisiana and the United States 1790-1803, and the insurrection of Bowles.

2. Archivo General de Simancas. The transcripts, over 30,000 pages, from this collection include a great body of diplomatic correspondence between the Spanish minister of state and Spanish ambassadors in London, St. Petersburg, Paris, on various subjects: Spain's interest in and attitude toward the American Revolutionary War, and the interests of European powers in Louisiana and Florida during that period; the progress of the American republic; the Nootka Sound controversy, 1791-94; and the attitude of the United States on the South American wars of independence. Transcripts also cover materials on military and administrative affairs in Louisiana and Florida and various Indian insurrections.

3. Archivo General de Indias. The greatest bulk of the transcripts, about two-thirds of the collection, come from this depository and cover every phase of Spain's activity and interests in North America. Subjects include: Administration and commerce in the West Indies, Florida, Louisiana, and the Philippines; Relations between Colonial Mexico and the United States during the Revolutionary War and the first part of the 19th century; Attitude of England and the United States toward the revolt of the Spanish-American colonies; Correspondence of the Governor of Cuba with reference to the secret mission of Rendon and Miralles in the United States; History of Louisiana, Florida, and Mississippi Valley, 1730-1800; Spanish rivalry with France in the Mississippi Valley and with the English in the Southeast; History of the Caribbean area and the naval struggle between England, Holland, and Spain in the 17th century; Spanish commerce and trade relations with the United States, 1780-85.

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4. Archivo General de la Nacion de Mexico. Transcripts from this collection numbering 5811 pages concern the American Revolution and the war between England and Spain, beginning in 1780; relations between Colonial Mexico and the American colonies during that period; England's efforts against the Philippines as part of the struggle; commercial relations of Spanish America, during 18th-early 19th century.

SPANISH AND LATIN AMERICAN ARCHIVES. CORRESPONDENCE AND TRANSLATIONS, 1777-1804. 36 items, transcripts. 61-1744.

The documents, relating to the Spanish regime in Louisiana, fall into the following three groups:

Archivo Nacional, Republica de Cuba, 19 items, 1777-1785. Transcripts and translations. These are letters of Bernardo de Galvez, governor of Louisiana, chiefly to Joseph de Galvez, Secretary of the Indies, describing assistance of Spaniards to American colonists and military events. See Louis Marino Perez, Guide to the Materials for American History in Cuban Archives. Pp. 87, 90, and 92.

Clark Manuscripts, Draper Collection, Wisconsin Historical Society, 9 items, 1779-1795. These are mainly translations of documents in the Archivo General Central in Alcala de Henares, Spain. Chiefly letters of Carondelet, governor of Louisiana, they relate to fortifications, projected settlements, relations with Americans, the Genet affair, and other topics.

Spanish Depositories, 8 items, 1784-1804. Archivo General de Indias (1 item); Department of War, Archivo General de Simancas (1 item); and documents from the Papeles de Cuba in the Archivo General de Indias, Seville (6 items). These concern the restriction of navigation on the Mississippi, Tardiveau's proposal to establish a colony of Illinois French in Spanish Louisiana, the new settlements, external dangers at St. Louis and its defenses, reinforcements of the posts, Indian affairs, and threats from the Americans.

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SPARKS MANUSCRIPTS. LETTERS, 1765-1770. 4 items, transcripts. Chronological card file.

The letters in this collection are from Joseph Galloway and Thomas Wharton to Benjamin Franklin; and from General Thomas Gage to the Earl of Hillsborough. Topics include George Croghan's departure for the Illinois country, the plans of the Ohio Company and Gage's ideas on western settlement. [These transcripts were copied by the Illinois Historical Survey from the originals in the Sparks Collection of Harvard College Library.]

STANNARD, ELIJAH. LEDGER, 1841-1858. 1 volume.

Called a "Ledger and Day Book" by its owner, this journal records sales of a blacksmith and general merchandise shop in Tennessee. The shop dealt in hardware, dry goods and notions, as well as in some groceries and tobacco. Also Stannard apparently bought cotton and resold it, acting as a middle man.

[STEAMBOAT]LEANDER. RECORDS, 1843-1845, 1854-1855. 1 volume. 69-1618.

This record book lists the passengers, fares, crew names and wages, freight, and other accounts for various trips between St. Louis, Cincinnati, and New Orleans, 1843-1844. The journal also contains an inventory and accounts of a St. Louis merchant for the years 1844-1845 and 1854-1855.