

THE OLDEST HOUSE.

- Tradition, Hermitage and chapel of the monks who came to St. Augustine with Menendez 1565.
 First shown in printed books as Oldest House in St. Augustine. Geography about 1870, Blossfield Guide Book 1882, City Directory and map 1883 First shown commercially, by Dr. Carver after 1890 for a fee, to protect himself from tourists.
 Shown on detailed city plans.—
 Before 1763 Spanish plan of the city, walled garden also marked.
 About 1765 English plan of the city, walled garden also marked.
 1768 Spanish plan of the city, ground-floor plan given and well in garden.
 Description of this map describes the house as built of coquina, wood, hoston, and in bad condition.
OWNERS. Tradition, Monks—Menendez or Alvarez-family.
 Spanish Archives found to date.—
 1764 Deeded to Jesse Fish to hold it from English Crown, in confidence by Spanish owner, no money paid.
 English Archives found to date.—
 1778 Occupied by Wade Stubbs.

- Spanish Archives found to date.—
 1783 Occupied by Joseph Peavett, claims it as residence.
 1786 Occupied by John Hudson and wife, widow of Peavett.
 1787 Claimed by Hudson and also Don Geronimo Alvarez (son of Michael Alvarez and Theresa Menendez) who came to St. Augustine 1784, from Asturias, Spain, birth place.
 1789 Sold at auction to Alvarez in spite of protests of Hudsons who refuse to give it up.
 1790 Deed to Alvarez by Governor Quesada. Hudsons ejected.
 American Records St. John's County.—
 1839 Deed of Gift by Geronimo to his son Antonio.
 1846 Antonio Alvarez died, house goes to grand-daughter Ella, married George Acosta.
 1832 Sold to Wm. Duke for George Acosta and children St. Elmo and Ella, minor heirs.
 1844 Sold by Wm. Duke to Mary J. Carver.
 Later, by various transfers to Institute of Science and Historical Society of St. Augustine, present owners.

FORT MARION THE ONLY MEDIEVAL CASTLE AND FORT IN THE UNITED STATES, ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA.

- 1574 Before this date, a wooden fort was erected on the site of the present fort. "Close to the first where the fort was at first", letter of Dr. Caceres, November 1574.
 1578 "This fort of San Augustin" inspected, detailed description sent to Spain by Alvaro Flores, visitor for his Majesty.
 1586 Map of Drake calls the fort St. John de Pinos, shows the plan on present site, describes burning the fort.
 1593 Plan of the wooden fort rebuilt (called San Marcos) made for the Spanish Archives.
 1595 Petition of Hernando de Meatas contains a drawing of part of this fort "as it is new" and requests for a stone fort. Marginal notes consent to rebuilding the fort with stone, provide money and slaves for the rebuilding.
 1640 Appalachian Indian slaves employed on the fort.
 1675 Plans of the stone fort, with report of the work finished sent to Spain.
 1690 Governor Don Diego de Quiroga y Losada writes to the king that the castle is completed and slaves idle.
 1696 Jonathan Dickinson shipwrecked on the coast of Florida describes the fort—"At the north end of the town standeth a large fortification—the wall of the fortification is about thirty feet high, built of sandstone."
 1702 Oldmixon 1708 in his history writes of the attack by "Col. Moor and Col. Rob. Daniel" in 1702. "The inhabitants having notice of the Approach of the English had packed up their best Effects, and retired with them to the Castle, which was surrounded by a very deep and broad Moat. They had laid up provisions there for 4 months and resolved to defend themselves to the last Extremities." Without bombs and mortars the attack failed.
 1712 A Boston newspaper (reprinted in River's Hist. of S. C.) describes the fort about as it is now.
 1727 Pauner attacked St. Augustine with troopers and Indians, the residents were saved by retiring to the fort.
 1740 St. Augustine attacked by Governor Oglethorpe of Georgia, residents took refuge in the fort for 38 days, until the siege ended.
 1756 Some minor changes being made, Governor Don Alonzo Fernandez de Herreda put a tablet over the entrance saying "this fort was finished in the year of 1756".
 1763 Florida with the fort transferred to the English Crown.
 1776 Governor Tonyn writes "The outworks of the fort have never been finished", and Captain Campbell of the Engineers was sent to repair the fort.
 1779 August 27, Col. Feuser is employed in forming a Glace to the fort.
 1789 The return of 63 rebel prisoners, from Charleston, included three Signers of the Declaration of Independence Arthur Middleton, Edward Rutledge and Thomas Heyward Jr. also David Ramsay noted historian of the Revolution and Lieut. Gov. Christopher Gadsden who (because he refused to give a second parole) was kept for nearly a year in a dark dungeon.
 1783 Florida and Fort San Marco returned to Spain.
 1821 July 10, The flag of Spain lowered and the Stars and Stripes rise in its place, the fort is named Fort Marion.
 1833 The secret dungeon discovered by Lieutenant Tuttle and Colonel Dancy July 21st.
 1833 The noted Indian Wild Cat and companion escaped, Osceola refused to leave also, because he had been taken prisoner under a flag of truce.
 1842 Water Battery erected by the United States Government.
 1844 Hot Shot Battery built.
 1862 March 11, Confederate forces having left the city, fort was surrendered to Union Troops.
 (1924 ?) Fort Marion made a national monument by proclamation of President Coolidge. Description: Built after plan of Vauban of coquina rock, found on Anastasia Island. The four bastions are called St. Peter, St. Paul, St. Augustine and St. Charles. The walls are 25 ft. high, 12 ft. thick at the base, 9 ft. at the top. The inner court is 100 ft. square with 26 casemates, 5 dungeons, 1 magazine, 1 treplein about 40 ft. wide, outer edge 3 ft. thick, a high called parapet pierced for guns, the Chapel is on the north side, Barbican outside, the entrance formerly had a draw-bridge. The Glacis (artificial hill, surrounds the moat on the three sides away from the River.