



St. Augustine Institute of Science  
and  
Historical Society

St. Augustine  
Florida  
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280 St. George St.  
St. Augustine, Florida  
March 24, 1927

Harrah Ayres  
OST Managing Director  
San Antonio, Texas.

My dear Mr. Ayres,

Thank you for your letter and booklet. We are having made, by The Record Company, a plate of the Oldest House, and one of Fort Marion for your booklet. Our Curator Mr. Harris took your booklet to the Record Company with an etching of the Oldest House to have the cut made suitable for the booklet and they have at the Record Company cuts of the Fort. I suggested to Mr. Harris that the watch tower would be the best picture of the Fort for the booklet.

We have lately received from Spain the inventory of the missions of St. Augustine, Florida made in 1764 when Florida was transferred to the English Crown. From this we learn that there were six or seven cofradia in St. Augustine at that date. ~~Two~~ of these were canonically instituted and approved August 31, 1688 and established as follows  
Cofradia of the Most Holy Christ of the Holy True Cross or the Solitary  
(Santissimo Christo de la Veracruz de la Soledad)  
founded at the time of the Presidio, in the convent of St. Francis, by the soldiers of the garrison.

Cofradia of Our Lady of the Concepcion founded at the same time, of the same convent, by the residents and garrison.

Cofradia of Our Lady of the Hermitage that serves "La Soledad" of the Parish, 156 years ago, by the children sons of the soldiers (1605)

Cofradia of Our Lady of the Milk of the first institution by the native  
(De la Leche) Indians and soldiers.

(a map we have of 1764 says this was on the spot where Menendez had the first mass held, a chapel is on the same place now or near it.)

Cofradia of the brotherhood of the Most Holy Sacrament of the Parish  
(Cervantes and literary men in Spain belonged to this order) 1655

Cofradia of Our Lady of the Rosary 156 years ago (1628) by devotion general of the soldiers and residents.

Cofradia of Los Animas 158 years ago (1606)

Cofradia of our Lady of Guadalupe in 1722 by the same devotion.

I cannot translate all the document, about 38 pages.