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Editor
Paul S. George, Ph.D.
Managing Editor
Rebecca A. Smith

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Cover—Trumbo Point railroad yard, Key West, from the stern of a ferry. 1934.
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Editor's Foreword

This issue of *Tequesta* appears at a propitious time for HistoryMiami. Dynamic new leadership, an impending expansion of our physical plant, a popular exhibition drawing onlookers from many places and backgrounds, and new outreach initiatives to persons and institutions in our community are the most promising examples of recent developments for our institution.

Tequesta, 2013, fits nicely with the upbeat tenor of the times. Jesus Mendez, an associate professor of History at Barry University, examines in "Beyond the Railroad that Went to Sea: Henry Flagler and the Florida East Coast Car Ferry Company" the great industrialist and developer's railroad car ferry service that operated from Key West to Cuba in the early 1900s. While Flagler and his projects have been the subject of many books and articles, little scholarship has been directed toward this important element of Flagler's broad transportation system, which was directly related to the Key West Extension. In the role of historian as detective, Dr. Mendez has explained, in this deeply researched study, the many facets of that unprecedented project, which created the world's first ocean-going rail car ferry operation.

With "Appropriation or Acculturation? Spanish Influence on Calusa Culture," Carmen Lopez, a history professor at Miami-Dade College, Wolfson Campus, provides us with an intimate look at the interaction between the Calusa Indians of southwest Florida and the Spaniards whose contact with them often entailed gift-giving in the hopes of ingratiating themselves with these Native Floridians. Employing methodologies of both the historian and archaeologist, Dr. Lopez provides a convincing argument that the Calusa Indians appropriated elements of European material culture, which then became emblematic of a heightened status for the wearer or user of these goods, while ignoring the entreaties of the Spanish to embrace Christianity and other parts of their culture.

Gina Wouters, Curator, Vizcaya Museum and Gardens, in "Commissioning Contemporaries, Modern American Artists at Vizcaya," examines the selection of the great furnishings, art, and sculptures that would decorate and celebrate the singularity of Vizcaya. Key to the palazzo's décor was the trained eye of Paul Chalfin, who accompanied James

Deering on his shopping expeditions to Europe. Author Wouters has drawn on the rich archives at the great palazzo to show the interplay of personalities in determining its furnishings and art.

In “A Force for Women and Journalism in South Florida,” Dr. Kimberly Wilmot Voss, an associate professor in the Nicholson School of Communication at the University of Central Florida, examines the eventful life of Edith “Edee” Greene, a pathbreaking journalist for the *Fort Lauderdale News*, who refused to be confined to the “Women’s pages” of her newspaper, which were almost the lone area for women in that field. Edee Greene wrote on other topics, but, even more important, she was an ardent activist for women’s issues and concerns leading to the creation of several organizations in Broward County attending to the needs of women. Edee Green’s journalistic achievements helped pave the way for the elevated voice of women journalist today.

HistoryMiami wishes the best to our new leaders, Ramiro Ortiz, President and CEO, and Stuart Chase, Museum Director and COO, who have already brought great energy and a strengthened focus to the institution. Additionally, we are thankful to Dr. Michael Rosenberg, past chairman of the Board of Trustees, who led with vigor and decisiveness the search committee that brought Ramiro and Stuart to us. We extend a special thanks to Faith Mesnekoff, our present Chairman of the Board of Trustees, for her enthusiastic leadership. Faith and the entire HistoryMiami family encourage our members to join us for exhibitions, tours, and other special events, visit our Archives and Research Center or even let us know of your reaction to an article in *Tequesta* or *HM*. We like hearing from you. Thank you.

Paul S. George, Ph.D.
Editor, *Tequesta*