Egmont Key: A Seminole Story

High School Curricula Guide 2019
Egmont Key Report Curriculum Guide

In 2019, the Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) of the Seminole Tribe of Florida (STOF) published a report “Egmont Key: A Seminole Story.” This curricula is designed to accompany the report, a copy of which can be found here: https://www.semtribe.com/STOF/full-events/2019/11/06/default-calendar/egmont-key-seminole-history-digital-book

All curricula is geared for high school students. If you have one day to include Egmont Key in your classroom schedule, the first lesson is designed for you. If you have more days to dig deeper into the story, combine the remaining lesson plans to suit your classroom needs.

Who are the Seminoles?

The Seminole people are the Native Americans of Florida. Their ancestors were the original people of Florida. This includes Tribes like the Miccosukee and Creek who lived in North Florida and Georgia, The Apalachee, the Calusa, and others. They fought hard to remain in their homelands during the Seminole War and continually found new ways to adapt to changing situations. Today, the Seminole Tribe of Florida has several reservations throughout southern Florida. Tribal members elect officials to a Council and Board which oversee Tribal government and businesses such as the Hard Rock franchise and Seminole Pride Beef. Seminoles continue their traditions today. They walk in the two worlds of Seminole and western culture.

Egmont Key: An Overview

Located in the mouth of Tampa Bay, Egmont Key is many things. Tourists enjoy its sandy beaches, history buffs explore the ruins of Spanish War era Fort Dade, and wildlife finds refuge on the island.

To members of the Seminole Tribe of Florida, it is the “dark place.” This is because the United States government imprisoned Seminoles in a concentration camp on Egmont Key during the Seminole War. Although often refereed to as three separate Seminole Wars, Seminoles consider it to be one long war. During the Seminole War (1817-1858), the U.S. wanted to remove all Native peoples from Florida. Before transporting Seminoles west, the U.S. Army held Seminoles on the island. Those who were removed west became the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma. Those who remained in Florida are today known as members of the Seminole Tribe of Florida, the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida, and the independent Seminoles.

Today Egmont Key and its history are threatened by rising sea levels. The Seminole Tribe of Florida’s Tribal Historic Preservation Office and Tribal members are investigating the Seminole story on the island. The goal of the Egmont Key report and this curricula is to share that story.
# Egmont Key (One Day Plan)

## Description
During this program, students will delve into the Egmont Key Report. They will gain a deeper understanding of the island’s history and in particular the importance of the island to Seminole people. To demonstrate their new understandings, students will write a historic marker for the site.

## Audience
High school juniors or seniors

## Group Size
This activity is ideal for 20 participants. However, it can easily be adjusted for smaller or larger groups.

## Time
45 Minutes

## Materials Needed
- Paper
- Pencils
- Computer with Internet access
- Projector/Smart board

## Florida Standards
- LAFS.910.SL.2.4: Present information, findings, and supporting evidence clearly, concisely, and logically such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning and the organization, development, substance, and style are appropriate to purpose, audience, and task.
- SS.912.A.2.7: Review the Native American experience.
- SS.912.A.4.11 Examine key events and peoples in Florida history as they relate to United States history.
- LAFS.1112.RH.1.2 Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary that makes clear the relationships among the key details and ideas.
Egmont Key (One Day Plan)

Activity

5 minutes: Have students watch an introductory film here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SsfJR2bEVw&t=80s.

15 minutes: Have students split into groups and read different articles from the Egmont Key Report. What happened on Egmont Key? What does their article tell them about the Seminole experience of Egmont Key? Hand out the worksheet on pg. 5 of this packet for students to write their findings.

- Group 1: “Carrying the Torch” (pg. 2-3)
- Group 2: “The Sands of Florida” (pg. 4-7)
- Group 3: “Egmont Key” (pg. 8–9), “Egmont Key” (pg. 20-21), and pg. 31
- Group 4: “A Timeline of Egmont Key” (pg. 10-11) and “The Seminole Removal Trail 1858” (pg. 12-13)
- Group 6: “Polly Parker” (pg. 16-17)
- Group 7: “The Removed” (pg. 18-19)
- Group 8: “Why Do you Save an Island” (pg. 34-37)

10 minutes: Have students share what their articles were about.

15 minutes: As a class, develop a historical marker to be placed on Egmont Key about the Seminole experience on the island and its role in Seminole history. Where would you place a marker? What type of information should be on a marker? What makes this place important? Markers must be between 175-200 words long. Share your final product with the Museum through Facebook (@ahtahthiki) or Twitter (@ahtahthiki1).
Egmont Key Report Worksheet

What happened on Egmont Key? When did these things happen? To whom?

Why did these things happen? What larger events in United States history affected Egmont Key?

What was the Seminole experience on Egmont Key?
# Egmont Key: Uncovering the Seminole Story

## Description
This activity will lay the foundation for the rest of the activities during the week. Students will explore what Egmont Key is today by using different resources. They will then learn more about the often untold history of Seminole people on the island with a short video and by reading an article in a small group.

## Audience
High school juniors or seniors

## Group Size
This activity is ideal for 20 participants. However, it can easily be adjusted for smaller or larger groups.

## Time
45-60 Minutes

## Materials Needed
- Paper
- Pencils
- Computer with Internet access
- Projector/Smart Board

## Florida Standards
- SS.912.A.2.7: Review the Native American experience.
- SS.912.A.4.11 Examine key events and peoples in Florida history as they relate to United States history.
- LAFS.1112.RH.1.2 Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary that makes clear the relationships among the key details and ideas.
Activity

15 Minutes: Ask students if anyone has been to or heard of Egmont Key. What do they know? Split students into groups and ask them to explore the question: What is Egmont Key?

Group 1: Egmont Key State Park website
(https://www.floridastateparks.org/parks-and-trails/egmont-key-state-park)

Group 2: “A Timeline of Egmont Key” (pg. 10-11)

Group 3: “Preserving Nature” (pg. 28-29)

Group 4: Egmont Key Scrapbook (pg. 8-11 in this packet)

10 Minutes: Have students share what they have found with one another. What is Egmont Key? What would they see if they went there?

5 Minutes: Explain that there is more to the island than meets the eye. Show them a short video you can find here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SSfJR2bEVw&t=80s.

15 Minutes: Have students split into small groups and have some students read “Carrying the Torch” (pg. 2-3), and others read “The Sands of Florida” (pg. 4-7).

15 Minutes: Have students share what they have learned with each other. How have these articles expanded what they know about Egmont Key? What do they know now that they didn’t before?

While the first resources showed what students might have encountered if they visited the island, the second set of articles highlights the Seminole story of Egmont Key—a story that is not visible on the island and a story that is important to understanding Seminole people today.

Note: If you do not have a full hour, shorten the first part of the lesson plan. Instead of splitting into groups and sharing with one another, check out the State Park’s website together along with the Timeline of Egmont Key. As a group, answer the question: What is Egmont Key? Then proceed with the lesson as planned.
THE SECOND EGMONT KEY LIGHT TOWER BUILT IN 1858

$16,000 was appropriated for a new Egmont Key light tower in 1857. The new tower was to be 81 feet when measured from the ground to the center of the lens. A 55 inch tall 3rd order Fresnel Lens once provided the light from the top of the tower. The tower was completed in 1858.

In 1944 the copula and additional footage was removed from this tower to replace the Fresnel Lens with the 36 inch double beacon located inside a small picket fence. The rotating light now positioned at the top of the tower has a candle power of 1,000 candle power. It can be seen for a distance of 24 miles.

This light tower remains in service and is maintained by the U.S. Coast Guard, St. Petersburg, Florida.
Civil War Burials
Egmont Key Lighthouse Cemetery

Angelo, R., Landsman, 22 yrs., New York, died 8/15/1864 - Yellow Fever
Bradford, William H., Acting Master's Mate, died 7/29/1864 - Yellow Fever
Coven, (aka Collins), James, 1st Class Boy, 10 yrs., died 8/1/1864 - Yellow Fever
Crosby, James E., Acting Master's Mate, 21 yrs., Massachusetts, died 7/9/1864 - Yellow Fever
Englert, George P., Landsman, 21 yrs., died 8/13/1864 - Yellow Fever
Field, Ebenso, Seaman, died 8/19/1864 - Yellow Fever
Fitzgerald, Richard, 2nd Class Boy promoted Ordinary Seaman, 15 yrs., died 7/21/1864 - Yellow Fever
McConnel, John, Seaman, Additional Information unknown
McKee, Richard, Landsman, 24 yrs., Ireland, died 8/14/1864 - Yellow Fever
McLachlen, John W., Paymaster's Steward, 22 yrs., New York, died 8/4/1864 - Yellow Fever
Post A. G., Hospital Steward, died 7/22/1864 - Yellow Fever
Reynolds, John C., Landsman, 22 yrs., died 7/15/1864 - Yellow Fever
Stone, Daniel, Acting Master's Mate, 35 yrs., Massachusetts, died 8/30/1864 - Yellow Fever
Sullences, Michael J., Landsman promoted to Carpenter, 29 yrs., died 2/26/1865, Gunshot Wounds
Sutherland, James, Landsman, Scotland, died 9/17/1864 - Typhus Fever
Tread, Charles, 1st Class Boy, 10 yrs., Rock Hill, New York, died 8/6/1864 - Yellow Fever
Twining, T.W., Acting Assistant Paymaster, 30 yrs., died 8/14/1864 - Yellow Fever
Tyson, John, U.S. Vol. Refuse Corps, 19 yrs., Georgia, died 7/17/1864
Watts, E. H., Acting Ensign, 33 yrs., New York, died 7/13/1864 - Yellow Fever

Civilian and Union Sympathizer
Whitehurst, John E., September 1862 - Gunshot Wounds

EGMONT KEY LIGHTHOUSE CEMETERY

Spanish American War - Quarantine Camp 1898

O'Hear, John, Pvt. 1 Vol., Calvary
Shannon, Jos. I., 7th Infantry
Mitchell, Harry, U.S. Infantry
Williams, Charles, "Colored" soldier

U.S. Lighthouse Tender "Laurel"
Baxton, Robert, Seaman

U.S. Marine Hospital Service
Brauer, Jr., A. C. A., 26th Mich. Inf., died 7/15/1867
Rull, William, Colored Hospital Attendent, died 1867
A Chinese Man, Ch. Chow, died 7/30/1867

Seminole People - Detainment on Egmont Key
Chief Tommy - died 9/5/1857
Seminole Child, 12 mos. - died 4/24/1857
Seminole Child, 6 mos. - died 4/12/1857
Seminole Boy - died 7/27/1852
Seminole Girl - died 1857

Lighthouse Keeper Family
Moore, Infant boy
Moore, Infant boy
Moore Relife, Infant girl
Moeo, Alice, Mother
Moeo, Mars, Infant girl
Moeo, Carlie, Infant girl

Coal Tender for Lighthouse
Unknown Italian Laborer, 1891 (drowned)
The train wheels inside the picket fence area are the remains of one of the locomotives used to transport materials for the Engineering Department and the Quartermaster Department on Fort Dade. Many flat and dump cars were used.

Before locomotives, mules were used to transport materials; however, pulling heavy loads through the fine sand was too heavy a burden and the mules suffered greatly. After much loss and expense, steam locomotives proved to be a better solution.

CABLE TANK AND MINE STOREHOUSE The minefields that protected both shipping channels would be planted only during drills or wartime. Most of the time, the mining equipment would be stored in these two buildings. Both buildings were equipped with an overhead crane to handle heavy loads. These storage buildings were connected with the mine wharf by the railway.

BUILDING IN FRONT: Because the electrical cables were used in salt water, they would quickly corrode when exposed to air. To preserve the many miles of cable, they were stored on reels in a fresh water tank.

BUILDING BEHIND: This building would store all of the mine cases, buoys, anchors and other spare parts. Using the buoys and the anchors, the mines were positioned below the water surface so the enemy ship would not see them when they entered the channel.
Battery Charles Mellon - 1898

This structure was built in response to the Spanish American War. It had two mounted 8-inch guns. The structure was completely rebuilt in 1901 to mount two 3-inch rapid fire guns. These light weight guns would protect the mine fields in the north channel. The guns were declared obsolete in 1920 and removed. The US Navy built a wooden “Harbor Entrance Post” tower over the center gun emplacement in 1943. The concrete columns on the right were part of the Primary Mine Control Station. This was a two-story frame building built in 1908. The small concrete building on the left was built in 1911 and housed the gas engines and generators which powered all the north end combat structures.
# Who tells the story? (Parts 1-2)

## Description
During this 2-day activity students will explore different resources and what they tell us about the past. In Part 1, students will examine how different resources reveal different parts of history. They will look at primary documents and archaeological artifacts and reflect on what these methodologies reveal about the past. In Part 2, they will examine resources that share the Seminole perspectives on Egmont Key. They will reflect on this information and explore why these perspectives are important.

## Audience
High school juniors or seniors

## Group Size
This activity is ideal for 20 participants. However, it can easily be adjusted for smaller or larger groups.

## Time
45 Minutes

## Materials Needed
- Paper
- Pencils

## Florida Standards
- LAFS.910.SL.2.4: Present information, findings, and supporting evidence clearly, concisely, and logically such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning and the organization, development, substance, and style are appropriate to purpose, audience, and task.
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Who Tells the Story? (Part 1)

Activity

15 minutes: Ask students, “If someone was trying to research you using different resources, what would they find? What would they see if someone only saw your Instagram/Snap/Facebook/Twitter/etc.? What would someone find out if they could only access your school yearbook? What would they see if they had access to government records (birth certificates, census records, etc.)? Newspapers? Would any source paint a complete picture? What type of information does each resource reveal?”

15 minutes: Have students split into smaller groups and explore their resource. Have them complete the chart on pg. 14 of this packet for their source.

- Group 1: “The Story Beneath Our Feet” (pg. 23-27) and “Egmont Artifacts” (pg. 26-27)
- Group 2: Historic Letter (pg. 15-17 of this packet)
- Group 3: Historic Newspapers (pg. 18-30 of this packet).

You may wish to split this between 2 or even 3 different groups.

- Group 4: Historic Newspapers (pg. 23 of this packet)

15 minutes: As a class reflect on what these different resources can tell you about Egmont Key. Have each group share about their source. Chart out the type of information each source reveals, the advantages, and limitations. Have students fill in their charts as they go along. You will need to print several charts for this activity. Have students keep their chart for the next day.
## Resource Evaluation Tool

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<th>Type of Information</th>
<th>Advantages</th>
<th>Limitations</th>
<th>Does it paint a complete picture?</th>
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On Board Steamer Seneca at
Carymont, May 25th, 1838

Sir,

I left St. Marys on the 1st inst. with the
Steamer Grey Cloud, which was turned over
to me for the purpose of transporting the
Seminoles and Creek Delegations, and the
hostile Florida Seminoles, who have consented
to emigrate to their Oceans, on their way
to their Country West of Arkansas. I have
been on board the Steamer with me 125 Hostiles or
Seminoles, consisting of 111 Adults and 14 Children,
and 20 women and children, who have consented to emigrate
voluntarily. I had 120 Hostiles who have been
Captured by the Volunteers, making in all
with the woman Polly 165 Indians who leave Florida for their new homes west.
Of these left in Florida are the parties of Sam
Jones, containing 17 men, 12 active warriors, and 5
very old men, the Boat Party containing 12 men
and a boy, capable of bearing arms, and the
Tallahases, of whom little is known, but from
the best information this is supposed to number
50 warriors. Bigley says that if the Boat
Party can be formed they will undoubtedly
desire to emigrate. The Tallahasses, he says
will also go west as soon as Commissioners can be had with them, as many of the relations
of both the Tallahasses and Seminoles are with
we are confident that all the two bands last mentioned will voluntarily leave Florida upon having an opportunity. The "Jim Jones" Peary may not wish to go yet, as "Jim" (who is very old) is living. I have been particularly requested by "Birdseye" and several of the Old Men with me that hostilities may not be renewed until the Fall. If I can have an opportunity to convey that information to you, I would represent their wishes to you and suggest that hostilities may for a reasonable time remain suspended in the interest of their views in reference to the removal of the remaining Florida Indians. Your official duties permit me to avoid any further discussion. I am informed by the Department of the Interior and the Secretary of War that peaceable measures will be continued for the removal of these Indians, and that arrangements will be made for the removal of the Indians to a new place of residence immediately after the closing of the Indians at that place.

Col. R. Simms

Very Respectfully,

S. Hickson

Capt. T. Brown, A.A.G.
On board steamer Grey Cloud, Egmont key, Florida, May 6, 1858.

Sir: I left Fort Myers on the 4th instant with the steamer Grey Cloud, which was turned over to me for the purpose of transporting the Seminole and Creek delegations and the hostile Florida Seminoles (who have consented to emigrate) to New Orleans, on their way to their country west of Arkansas. I have on board the steamer with me one hundred and twenty-three hostile or Florida Seminoles, of which number thirty-eight are warriors (men and youths capable of bearing arms) and eighty-five women and children, who have consented to emigrate voluntarily; and forty-one hostiles who have been captured; making in all, with the woman “Polly,” one hundred and sixty-five Indians who leave Florida for their new homes west. Of those left in Florida are the parties of Sam Jones, containing seventeen men, (twelve active warriors and nine very old men,) the Boat party, containing twelve men and one boy capable of bearing arms, and the Tallahassee, of whom little is known, but from the best information had is supposed to number eight warriors. ‘Bowlegs’ says that if the boat party can be found they will undoubtedly desire to emigrate. The Tallahassee he says will also go west as soon as communication can be had with them, as many of the relatives of both the Tallahassee and Boatmen are with me, and are confident that the two bands last mentioned will voluntarily leave Florida upon having an opportunity. The ‘Sam Jones’ party may not wish to go west so long as Jones (who is very old) lives. I have been particularly requested by ‘Bowlegs’ and several of the Seminole men with me that hostilities may not be resumed until the Tallahassee and Boatmen can have an opportunity to emigrate. I informed them that I would represent their wishes to you, and suggest that hostilities may for a reasonable time remain suspended for their benefit. Their views in relation to the removal of the remaining Florida Indians (above expressed) I believe to be correct, and would respectfully suggest that hostilities may not be resumed until I can communicate with the Department of the Interior, and determine whether peaceful measures for their removal will be continued or not. The steamer Grey Cloud, as requested by Assistant Quartermaster McKinstry, will be returned from New Orleans immediately after the delivery of the Indians at the place.

Col Loomis
Cmdg, Defn Florida
Fort Brooke, Fla

Very Respectfully Your Obt Svt
E Rector
Supt Ind Affairs

The Grey Cloud was a sidewheel steamship owned by the US Navy. Originally used on the Mississippi, it was used to run supply trips during the Seminole War and also to transport Seminoles being exiled west.

This was term used in the 1800’s for dates. It means “On the 4th day of this month”.

The Seminole people were split into different camps and war parties, often by their language or original culture. Sam Jones was the leader of the Miccosukee group whose descendants live on the Big Cypress Reservation today. Sam Jones was a strong opponent of removal who never agreed to leave.

The Tallahassee were the Creek group who were originally from what we call Georgia. Today, their descendants live on the Brighton Reservation.

It’s not known for sure who the Boatmen were, but they likely joined back later with Sam Jones.

This is an abbreviation for your obedient servant which was a standard way to end a letter.

This means Commander of Defense.

Elias Rector writes that Bowlegs told him others will wish to go. This however was not the case. This voyage of the Grey Cloud was to be the final voyage of Indian Removal east of the Mississippi, and the last portion of the Trail of Tears.
OUR SPECIAL TAMPA CORRESPONDENCE.

TAMPA, Florida, May 15, 1858.


The agonizing struggle, extending through a period of twenty-three years, has at last terminated in the ruin and destruction of the gallant Seminoles.

General Billy Bowlegs (Holatier Micco) and the saidden remnant of his army of warriors have emigrated. They have crumbled before the persevering advance of our troops, who during the past two years and a half have penetrated and explored the everglades and swamps of the peninsula.

It is idle to seek to correct the errors and injustice of a past generation. To us is left the enjoyment of the Christian duties of mercy and sympathy; and in this, their last hour of tribulation and sorrow, we can, whilst remembering their sufferings and extenuating their cruelties, shed a tear over their departed hopes, and point our children to the example of what a united people can do in defence of their homes. Patience, heroism and fidelity such as the world may admire have been exhibited to us, inculcating a lesson not to be lost upon us, now that our national councils are torn by intestine strife. The Seminoles as a nation have been destroyed. But what an array of glory, faith, horrors and anguish does their retrospect present! Conquered, they yet leave us proud and defiant.

In the summer of 1857 the officer commanding the department of Florida reported the condition of the Indians in the everglades, and his opinion that they were so distressed that they would readily yield to the overtures of the government. The following correspondence then passed between the Departments of War and Interior:

WAR DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON, Sept. 11, 1857.

Sir—The act of March 3, 1857, page 175, (Stautes at Large,) appropriates the sum of fifty thousand dollars for compensation and travelling expenses of a delegation of the Seminoles and Creeks from their country to Florida, whilst there and returning, according to the 10th article of the treaty of 7th of August, 1858, which provides for the sending a delegation of Seminoles and Creeks to Florida, under the direction of an agent of the government, for the purpose of inducing the Florida Indians to emigrate to the West.

The officer commanding in the Department of Florida, after having exhausted the means within his control to open communications with the hostile Seminoles, states in a letter of the 28th of July, that he is satisfied, that we must rely on the intervention of a large delegation of Western
we hunt the intervention of a large delegation of Western Indians, in sufficient force to threaten the Seminoles, all efforts to communicate with them will prove fruitless.

Under these circumstances, I beg leave to invite your attention to the importance of adopting measures to send to Florida, as early as possible, a delegation of Western Seminoles and Creeks in sufficient numbers to open the communication with the Seminoles in Florida, and to protect themselves against any violence to which they may be exposed while engaged in this service.

Should you deem it advisable that an officer of the army should conduct the delegation to Florida, one will be supplied for that purpose. Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. B. FLOYD, Secretary of War.

To Hon. J. THOMSON, Secretary of the Interior.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

NORRISVILLE, 1837.

Sir,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of September 11, which I referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. He is of opinion that, as the expedition is designed to be a peaceful one, the presence of an officer of the army might create erroneous impressions among the Seminoles of Florida, and so embarrass the action of the Commissioner.

I do not, therefore, deem it necessary at this time to avail myself of your offer, the organization of the delegation of Western Seminoles and Creeks is progressing under the superintendence of Superintendent Rector, who will accompany it to Florida; and I am induced to hope, from present indications, that the object will be successfully and speedily accomplished. Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. B. FLOYD, Secretary.

To Hon. J. THOMSON, Secretary of War.

The delegation, composed of forty-six Indians—Creeks and Seminoles—arrived at Tampa on the 19th of January, under charge of Colonel Rutherford, the agent of the Seminole Indians residing in Arkansas. On the 25th of that month they embarked for Fort Myers, taking with them a niece of Billy Bowlegs, who had some months previously been captured by the troops. On the arrival of the delegation at Fort Myers, this woman was immediately despatched to the everglades with a message to King Billy, notifying him of the presence of the delegation, and their desire for an interview with him. Billy promptly accepted the invitation, and met them by appointment at Fort Loomis, on the edge of the Cypress, and without hesitation accepted the terms offered him in behalf of the government, and entered into an agreement to embark with the people for Arkansas on the 4th of May. To the astonishment of all who had any acquaintance with this noted chief, Billy has kept his word.

Florida is rid of a wily and dangerous foe, who has successfully defied the State for twenty-three years, and a pest has been driven into the largest limit the United States Treasury has ever experienced. All honor to those who have succeeded in doing this.

Since the commencement of the Florida war in 1835, one hundred millions of Uncle Sam's money has found its way out of the Treasury, and much of this into the hands of the people of this State—enough to construct and equip Senator Gwin's railroad to the Pacific! Now that this leak has been stopped, you may expect a howl of rage and disappointment to burst forth from the frontier—the echo of which will be heard in the halls of Congress. There are but few natives of this frontier who have not been connected in one way or another with the war, either as active participants in the field, or sharing in the spoils that government has so lavishly distributed in this peninsula. Their only profession is now destroyed. Such of our people as from distance or position have regarded the war with impartiality will not fail, to view General Bowlegs in the light of a hero and a patriot worthy of remembrance—one who has revealed his life to the government, itself—to be remembered in a spirit of anxiety or exultation, according as it is looked upon by a good or bad citizen of the republic.

EMERGERON OF GENERAL BOWLEGS AND BUNKER AT FORT MYERS.

The one hundred and twenty-five homeless, being encamped near Fort Myers, were notified that they must move back on the steamer Gray Cloud, at 9 o'clock on the morning of the 4th of May. At that hour the troops of the post, under the command of Captain Brannan, First Artillery, were judiciously posted, without the knowledge of the Indians, at points selected to meet and prevent any treachery that might be contemplated. As the appointed hour drew nigh the excitement on the part of the whites was intense, but all fears were at an end. The head of the procession was seen to emerge from the hammock and slowly wind its way to the wharf. Elegantly they took leave of their much loved Florida. Warriors that had defended their country to the last shed tears, and Indian hearts passed on to the deck of the steamer. The scene was one to be remembered, and calculated to excite the sympathies of the most inerrate Indian heart.

LIST OF EMIGRATING INDIANS.

No kosa Ematha,  Sah mah kothee
Say to Hooyee,  Sah ki-te
Kinh-Laga,  Anagoe
Mobah-Thuho,  Thomas
Paltah Hako,  Moses
Senat,  Jack
Tusnan Coschukane,  Ahfah kooeg
Alahaf mogo,  Pachanees
Yahachee,  Ok-te ah-chee
Dee,  Sah-sok-kos
Chatee,  Sah-sok-kos
to mother,
Chatee,  see hoghoe-kos
Tus nan cua,  Howe-te
Hoppeye,  Tia-cho wah-wo
Hathie,  Shuekels kooog
Kowah hoko,  Cu-sah hoh-chee-chee
Essnot-kos,  GahOOHHTEE
Asook Bajeekee,  Fo-kah-te
Sahnoo-kahtee,  Ah hah luh-om-ah-lah
Tus com ne hochuch,  Hou-te
Thumkale,  Sah tah lees
Nokafa hajo,  Mat kooog
No-wahlee Tussemgee,  Echup hoko
Nathum hajo,  Waho-hajo
So-wahlee,  Mah koyagees
Michee,  Mesh-sah-lees
Kimah nee,  Kinal-kee
Kirth hooees,  Welock kee,
General Bowlegs

General Bowlegs, or Billy Bowlegs, is fifty years of age, five feet eight inches in height, well built, with a handsome countenance, expressive of intellect. His speech is fluent, being a nephew of Miccos; old Bowlegs and King Faine, he is of true royal descent, and anxious to receive implicit obedience from his followers. He mounted the throne in March, 1843, at which time the Indians renounced the influence and authority of Apalache, or Sam Jones, and broke the spell of the Prophet (Okunka-Thockey). He steps behind him in the everglades twelve warriors, and asserts positively that had they been granted more time to communicate with them they would have obeyed his orders and emigrated with him. In conversation he frankly stated that he left the country because he was freely satisfied that it was death to his people to remain, the troops having discovered his hiding places and destroyed his crops; that he had been anxious for a long time to surrender the regular troops, but that he would have died he and his people, to a man—before they would have disarmed themselves by a surrender to the volunteers, any number of which he could whip in the everglades. During this interview, he recognized and embraced Capt. McKay, of Tampa, as an old friend and acquaintance. Their future friendship was cemented by a glass of iced champagne, and the kindly face of the worthy Chief beamed with pleasure at the prospect of his friend's departure.

General Bowlegs' Family

Miss Belissa Bowlegs is a young lady of seventeen, of rather pretty features, and a widow. Her husband perished in the battle of Ochlockee Creek. Miss Patty Bowlegs is thirty years of age, fine figure and exquisite eyes, hands and feet. She is destined to make a sensation in her new home in Arkansas. At present she is quite thin, owing to her having been on low diet during the war; alligator and snake flesh. She is in the market for a matron, but her royal blood precludes her from matching with the common stock of the tribe.

Arrival of the Prisoners at Egmont Key with their Relatives: The Engraving Indians

About 7 P. M. two small boats arrived from the Key with the Indian captives. As they neared the steamer the utmost anxiety was depicted on the countenances of the women. The bell of the vessel was rung forth as they drew themselves into the arms of their friends, from whom they had long been separated, would have melted his heart of stone. The children, so soon as released from the small boats, ran to their King Billy, and clung to his knees. After caressing them for a moment the warfor gave way; and that man shed tears, to the honor of the whites, he said that their kindly feelings of the better of their cruelty, and they retired to the upper deck. While rowing, when a part of the steamer would announce that some poor woman had learned the fate of a husband or a father, who had perished during her captivity, in battle with the whites, they would follow the last, distinctive cry of anguish uttered by relatives of the parties. It was a scene never to be remembered.
The chief of Gen. Scott’s staff, Col. Thomas, is here in duty inspecting the troops, being very anxious to make the acquaintance of Billy’s young wife, and requested an introduction. Billy politely acceded to the Colonel’s wishes and formally presented her and her little son. During the interview Billy opened his trunk and extracted an empty bottle, remarking that he was very glad to meet one of Gen. Scott’s officers; that not being accustomed to the sea or its water disagreed with him, and that to enable him to counteract its bad effects, and drink the Colonel’s health on the voyage, he would be obliged to him to recind the order prohibiting liquor, and fill his bottle with good brandy. It is needless to add that Billy’s wish was granted. Some there were who watched the General as he lightly and gracefully sipped his liquor, and they asserted at the merry twinkle of his eye betrayed the fact that he prided himself on coming it over Gen. Scott’s chief of staff. As the Colonel turned to walk away, the youngsters asserted that they could see Billy manipulating his extended fingers at the end of his nose.

**Final Adieu to Florida.**

At 11 o’clock A.M. the 7th, both steamers left under my command in company with the Gray Cloud to the outer entrance of the bay, which pointistes were exchanged; and as we bore up for Tampa the Indians gave a war whoop that echoed and re-echoed over the waters, merrily to start our steamer into an increase of speed.

**Confidence.**

Captain John G. Casey, of the army, and a man beloved and admired by all his associates, died at this place in December, 1855. Capt. Casey had been the hero of the Florida Indians, and so honorable and truthful had his career been with them, that they, as a man, revered him. On one occasion during the past year an Indian knew in battle on the Manatee, cried out, “Take me to Capt. Casey.” The remains of the gallant Captain were shipped on the Gray Cloud, destined for interment at Philadelphia, the wreck of a gallant people, a gallant man; his going is their agent; have passed from our lives on the same vessel.” Billy apparently said to the others, “Casey was a good man—never tell Indian lie.”

A sentiment—coming from such a man—the recognized head of a people, bitterly deceived and betrayed by the white men who have had charge of them—it is worthy of being inscribed on the Captain’s tombstone. One man yet living, who exercised his influence for Secretary Corral on the temporary injury of the Indian nation, will read it with feelings not to be expressed. It awakens no remorse of conscience in his bosom, it is gratifying to him to know that Billy announces the intention of visiting the President at Washington—tends to denounce him in good English to the President, and expose his rascality in attempting to get Billy to sign a receipt for double the amount of money he offered to pay him. Billy says that he will never use an interpreter in speaking with the President, and I can assure you that the President will understand every word of his English.
BILLY BOWLEGS AND THE SEMINOLLS IN NEW ORLEANS.
[From the New Orleans Crescent, May 17.]
The Seminoles have been somewhat of a new sensation since their arrival in the city. The renowned Billy Bowlegs, as before his dignity, refuses to circulate about town for the benefit of the idle crowds. At his quarters, at the Barracks, however, he has politely received the crowds who have benefited him with a visit, and forced Indian and white men to reduce to the satisfaction of all. He accommodates the popular notion of him, by saying that white men are his chiefest game—that he has slain hundreds of them—and that no white man that ever walked was only a chicken for him. He speaks very fair English, and as many of his followers.

Crowds of Billy's men, with their squaws and papooses, were around shopping on Saturday—marching into the dry goods and fancy stores as calmly and unconcernedly as if they had been accustomed to them all their life, and spending their money (Uncle Sam's bonus) as indifferently as if money was one of the natural products of Florida. They were headed by a scraping six-footer, smoking a cigar through a natty monocle, his head otherwise most approved amorous gingersnail style. The rest of the crowd were hands off in proportion. The clerks evidently were scared—not by the Indians, but by the rabble crowd that followed them into the store, where so many things were being done. The Indians ceased their pleasant chaffering and got out of the way, and altogether, it was hard to tell whether the view of the "red varmints" of the Everglades were considered as an honor or a nuisance.

The Seminole are an ugly set, but cleaner and more human beings than the vagrant Cherokees to whom we are so much accustomed. The whole crowd—Billy Bowlegs and all—are to take their departure this evening for their future home, back of Arkansas.
The Florida War Concluded
The Final Departure of Billy Bowlegs and his Tribe to Arkansas
Our Washington Correspondence
Washington Navy Yard, Fla, May 12, 1858

The United States transport steamer, Captain Duke, arrived here on yesterday, having on board Billy Bowlegs and his band of Florida Indians. The whole was under the command of Colonel Rector, to whom no little praise is due for the manner in which he has conducted his mission. You will remember that the Colonel went down into Florida, accompanied by a delegation of Western Seminoles and Creeks, in January last. The Seminoles with their chief, John Jumper, were under the charge of Colonel Rutherford, this agent; and the Creeks with the chief, Halleck Tustenugga, in charge of Colonel Garrett. They numbered forty six warriors – two having died since they left Arkansas.

Billy Bowlegs’ party, or the hostile Indians, consisted of himself, as principal chief; Assoonwah, second chief. Nokus Harjo, Inspector General of the Florida Indians; Nokose Emathlah and Foss Harjs, sub chiefs; Foos Hatcher Emathler, Lieutenant; Oh bewahlee and other warriors.

Nokus Harjo is “what we read about” as to Indians – a fit subject for Cooper or Longfellow – tall, lithe, agile and straight. Standing 5 feet 7 inches in his moccasins, he is indeed a noble specimen of the Indian race. He is a brother in law of Billy, but stands subservient and in awe of him.

Billy Bowlegs in a short, thick set, duck legged Indian, more fond of “whick” than anything else. He has two wives with him says it is all he could bring. He is very quarrelsome when drunk and damns the “delegation.”

The party are bound for the Indian Reservation (Seminole), about two hundred miles west of Fort Smith, Ark. These embrace the entire Florida Indians, with the exceptions below. They number 165, which includes chiefs, warriors, squ@ws and pappooses, leaving in Florida about 30 warriors, and probably seventy-five women and children, who will emigrate at a good opportunity.

Sam Jones, who is now about 100 years old, says he will leave his bones in Florida; that; “two wagon loads of money will not induce him to leave”. He is also blind and lame. Twelve warriors and five squ@ws remain with him. In addition, there are still seven Tallahassees, and perhaps twice that number of the “boat’s party” out who will come in and migrate as soon as they know of their friends leaving.

In the successful management of this mission all honor and credit are due to Colonel Rector, Superintendent of Indian Affairs, and Colonels Rutherford and Garrett; agents. And then, in turn, are much indebted to Mr. R. M. Johnson, their disbursing officer and interpreter of various Indian languages. Indeed, for business or pleasure, you may take Mr. J. And Captain Duke and travel with or “lie to” them. The urbanity of the officers in charge of the Indians, Major Paige, of the army, and Captain Duke of the steamer, made most favorable impressions on the minds of our citizens.

The New York Herald – This newspaper was one of the most widely circulated papers of the time.

Billy Bowlegs was the name Americans had for Holatta Micco (Snake Clan), a Leader of the Seminole in the 1950’s. Billy Bowlegs was a veteran of the Seminole War.

Arkansas – The territory the Seminole, and all other Tribes removed during the Trail of Tears, were sent too was originally considered part of the Arkansas Territory. It was later separated as Indian Territory, and eventually became the State of Oklahoma.

Colonel Rector or Elias Rector was the Agent in charge of Seminole Removal, who negotiated terms with Billy Bowlegs.

Seminoles and Creeks – While many people were aware that the Seminole Tribe was composed of people from different Tribes who had joined together, only the Creek and Seminole were well known. Often the Muscogee speaking groups were referred to as Creek, and the Miccosukee were called Seminole.

Nokus Harjo, Inspector General of the Florida Indians – We do not know where journalists were getting the titles they attributed to people. It is possible they were what they best understood their positions as. It’s more likely they made up something they thought sounded good.

Indian Reservation (Seminole) – When the Seminole were first forced to Indian Territory in the 1830’s, they were placed on the Creek reservation. This caused an immense amount of trouble, and the Seminole received their own reservation in 1852. It would be taken from them following the US Civil War.

Sam Jones – Sam Jones was a Seminole leader who never left Florida. Newspaper articles often referred to him as very old which was true, but also blind and lame which was not true. This was done to be dismissive of the strongest holdout of Seminole people.

Squ@w - An offensive and racist term for a Native woman.

Pappooses - A racist term for Native babies.
Our Special Tampa Correspondence

Tampa, Florida, May 13, 1858


The agonizing struggle, extending through a period or twenty-three years, has at last emigrated into the ruin and destruction of the gallant Seminole.

General Billy Bowlegs (Holatter-Micco) and the saddened remnant of his army of warriors have emigrated. They have crumbled before the preserving advance of our troops, who during the past two years and a half have penetrated and explored the everglades and swamps of the peninsula.

It is idle to seek to correct the errors and injustice of a past generation. To us is left the enjoyment of the Christian duties of mercy and sympathy; and in this, their last hour of tribulation and sorrow, we can, whilst remembering their sufferings and extenuating their cruelties, shed a tear over their departed hopes, and point our children to the example of what a united people can do in defense of their homes. Patience, heroism and fidelity such as the world may admire have been exhibited to us, inculcating a lesson not to be lost upon us, now that our national councils are torn by intestine strife.

The Seminoles as a nation have been destroyed. But what an array of glory, faith, horrors and anguish does their retrospect present: Conquered they yet leave us proud and defiant.

In the summer of 1857 the officer commanding the department of Florida reported the condition of the Indians in the everglades, and his opinion that they were so distressed that they would readily yield to the overtures of the government. The following correspondence then passed between the Department of War and interior:-

War Department,
Washington, Sept. 11, 1857
Sir- the act of March 3, 1857, page 175, (Statutes at Large,) appropriates the sum of fifty thousand dollars for compensation and traveling expenses of a delegation of the Seminoles and Creeks from their country to Florida, whilst there and returning, according to the 10th Article of the treaty of the 7th of August, 1856, which provides for the sending a delegation of Seminoles and Creeks to Florida, under the direction of an agent of the government, for the purpose of inducing the Florida Indians to emigrate to the West.

The officer commanding in the Department of Florida, after having exhausted the means within his control to open communications with the hostile Seminoles, states in a letter of the 26th of July, that he is satisfied that without the intervention of a large delegation of Western Indians, insufficient force to threaten the Seminoles, all efforts to communicate with them will prove fruitless.

Under these circumstances, I beg leave to invite your attention to the importance of adopting measures to send to Florida, at an early day, a delegation of Western Seminoles and Creeks insufficient numbers to open communication with the Seminoles in Florida, and to protect themselves against any violence to which they may be exposed while engaged in this service.

Should you deem it advisable that an officer of the army should conduct the delegation to Florida one will be supplied for that purpose. Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J.B.Floyd, Secretary of War.

Ruin and destruction of the gallant Seminole—Whig and Republican Northern papers often referred to Seminoles as virtuous and showed sympathy for their “doomed struggle” although they did not object to their removal. This was often a commentary against Andrew Jackson, leader of the Democratic party, who supported the War. It is important to note that political parties have changed positions, often significantly, from this time period.

10th Article of the treaty of the 7th of August, 1856—

This treaty was between the United States government and the Creek and Seminole Tribes in Oklahoma. Originally Florida Seminoles were placed on the Creek Reservation. This treaty created a separate reservation for Seminoles. After the U.S. Civil War, this treaty was violated and both Seminoles and Creeks lost their reservations.
To Hon. J. Thompson, Secretary of the Interior
Department of the Interior
November 5, 1857
Sir- I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of September 11, which I referred to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. He is of opinion that, as the expedition is designed to be a peaceful one, the presence of an officer of the army might create erroneous impressions among the Seminoles of Florida, and so embarrass the action of the Commissioner.

I do not, therefore, deem it necessary at this time to avail myself of your offer. The organization of the delegation of Western Seminoles and Creeks is progressing under the supervision of Superintendent Rector, who will accompany it to Florida; and I am induced to hope, from present indications, that the objects will be successfully and speedily accomplished.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant, J. Thompson, Secretary

To Hon. John. B Floyd, Secretary of War.
The delegation composed of forty-six Indians- Creeks and Seminoles-arrived at Tampa on the 19th of January under charge of Colonel Rutherford, the agent of the Seminole Indians residing in Arkansas. On the 23rd of that month they embarked for Fort Myers, taking with them a niece of Billy Bowlegs, who had some months previously been captured by the troops. On the arrival of the delegation at Fort Myers, this woman was immediately dispatched to the everglades with a message to King Billy, notifying him of the presence of the delegation, and their desires for an interview with him. Billy promptly accepted the invitation, and met them by appointment at Fort Loomis, on the edge of the Cypress, and without hesitation accepted the terms offered him behalf of the government; and entered into an agreement to embark with the people for Arkansas on the 4th of May. To the astonishment of all who had an acquaintance, with this noted chief, Billy has kept his word. Florida is rid of a wily and dangerous foe, who has successfully defied the State for twenty-three years, and a plug has been driven into the largest leak of the United States Treasury has ever experienced. All honor to those who have succeeded in doing this.

Since the commencement of the Florida war in 1835, one hundred millions of Uncle Sam’s money has found its way out of the Treasury, and much of this into the hands of the people of this State – Enough to construct and equip Senator Gwin’s railway to the Pacific. Now that this leak has been stopped you may expected a howl of rage and disappointment to burst forth from this frontier- the echo of which will be heard in the halls of Congress. There are but few natives of this frontier who have not been connected in one way or another with the war, either as active participants in the field, or sharing the spoils that government has so lavishly distributed in this peninsula. Their only profession is now destroyed. Such of our people as from distance of position have regarded the war with impartiality will not fail to view General Bowlegs in the light of a hero and a patriot worthy of remembrance- one who has reared to his memory a monument on the books of our Treasury, costing the neat sum of the one hundred millions of dollars, and, as imperishable as the government itself- to be remembered in a spirit of animety or exultation, according as it is, looked upon by a good or bad citizen of the republic.

Embarkation of General Bowlegs and Tribe at Fort Myers
The one hundred and twenty-five hostiles being encamped near Fort Myers were notified that they must embark on the steamer Gray Cloud at 9 o’clock on the morning of the 4th of May. At that hour the troops of the post, under command of Captain Brannon, Frist artillery, were judiciously posted without the knowledge of the Indians, at points selected to meet and prevent any treachery that might be contemplated. At the appointed hour drew night the excitement on the part of the whites was intense. But soon all fears were at an end. The head of the procession was seen to emerge from the hammock and slowly wend its way to the wharf. Silently the took leave of their much loved Florida. Warriors that had defended their country to the last shed tears, and with aching hearts passed on to the deck of the steamer. The scene was one to be remembered, and calculated to excite the sympathies of the most inveterate Indian hater.

Largest leak—
The Seminole War was the longest and costliest of the Indian Wars.

Since the commencement—
There was an understanding even among Americans that the wars were continuous, and that the breakdown’s into 1st, 2nd, and 3rd were inaccurate.
The following is the list of Emigrating Indians

No Kose emath’a,
Set-to te-Hoyee,
Klouth-Lagee,
Mohtah-Thloka,
Palat Hakee,
Senee,
Tusteanuc Cochukanee,
Alafah moge,
Pedahnee,
Yalyachchee,
Do. Mother,
Echakee,
Tustenuchago,
Hopoyee,
Hahtlee,
Upoh-huk-kee,
Koweehajo,
Assoon Hajuckee,
Sahhoon-kahtee,
Tus com ne hochuchee,
Ehumkah,
Nokefah-hajo,
Fle-wahlee-Tustenuggee
Nathcup hajo,
So-wahlee,
Mohhee,
Kinnah nee,
Kirh hoogee,
Sah nah-kochee,
Sah-ke-nee,
Anoggee,
Thomas,
Moses,
Jack,
Ahfee,
Ok-te ala-chee,
Sah-loahlee,
Sah-koat-kee,
Sac tensh kee,
Folonth-kee,
Ah hah Koch-emathla,
Lowakee,
Tin-cho wah we,
Shuckoni kee,
Cu-ih-sah hah chee-chee,
So ticschee,
Se tensh kee,
Folocht-kee,
Ah hah loch-emathla,

Houg-kee,
Echup-nogee,
Waxa-hajo,
Mah-koyagee,
Meah-sah-kee,
Kinni-hee,
Welock kee,
Marec,
Osha che-hala,
Chee honah,
Mioochee,
Sa-toh Kee,
Pully,
Copec-bige-holah,
Noobah,
Tusekiah-hago,
Ochee-hago,
Hopith lee,
Epockah-luck-tigee,
Jee-che-chee,
Saonash hago,
Sauno kee,
Sah ton kee,
Ah-soon-wah,
Ya fo-lah kee,
Te iah-lathee,
Fi so kee,
Ho kee till,
Cla-lochee,
Mon hoo sage,
Toon-hago,
Zilrey,
Toney,
Louisa,
Tech go chee,
Tie no ah-nee,
Shah fah hak-kee,
Ah chule hago,
Simon,
Sah ho ee,
Beccy,
Sally,
Julian,
Paity,
Young Billy Bowlegs,
Ptty,
Mock sedil,
Lucy,
She-puckile,
Hatupee-chee,
Betsy,
Nancy,
Gen William Bowlegs,
Chocota Harchuckee,
Inneah-hago,
Kuntul kee emathla,
Christe-Emathla,
Okah lah-hago,
Nap po chen no-la,
Nokos-hago,
Hatte mah tee,
Kqatza Fraca,
Ah hah loo kee,
Tah ah kee,
Chin ho-yah,
Fah-ligout,
Sabbie-che-chee,
Eth-ke-koo,
Mah-ul-lo-ee,
Kouth-hego chee,
Epish-ho-yah,
Fux hachee-Emathla,
Konip hago,
Polly,
Surey,
Fanny,
Hoa ki,
Ta so ka,
Cha hola ti-ka,
Kats-ke-kkee,
Hocd le,
Hok-to la-na,
So kan chee,
Ah-fus chee,
Hoch tre chee

List of Emigrating Indians –
These are the names of all Tribal Members taken on the final removal voyage. Polly (not yet Parker) is listed, and 5 or 6 other women who escaped with her at St. Marks during the voyage.
Egmont Key—Was the location of a what the Army called an “Indian Depot” which was a prison where Seminoles were kept under armed watch. The prison lasted a little over a year.

Prisoner of War—The prisoners were not warriors, but their families who had been captured on raids of Seminole camps.

Ranger—The name of another steamship.

Arrival of the Grey Cloud at Egmont Key
On the 6th of May Colonel Loomis, commanding the Department of Florida, accompanied by Colonel LL Thomas, General Scott’s chief of staff, and the department staff—Lieutenant Talbot, Acting Adjutant General; Major McKinstry, chief Quartermaster, and Surgeon McLaram, Medical Director, and a few invited guests (including several ladies), left Tampa in the United States steamer Ranger to meet the Gray Cloud at Egmont Key, and embark the prisoner of war encamped on that island. The party arrived at Egmont t noon, and at 2 o’clock the smoke of the Gray Cloud was visible at sea. Preparations were at once made to meet the redoubtable Chief, Billy. The Ranger left he harbor under a press of steam, and all colors flying. As she neared the Gray Cloud, spyglasses were in requisition, and it was soon ascertained that the Indians were on board. The two steamers approached each other amid the firing of cannon, the ringing of bells, the steam whistle’s shrill voice, and loud cheers from the respective crews. The Ranger rounded to under the stern of the Gray Cloud. Generally Billy presented himself, arrayed in his red leggings, silver crown and feathers, and bowed his acknowledgments. Arrived at Egmont, the steamers were lashed together, and Billy and his principal braves were formally presented to all. He introduced to the Indians his two wives and their children.

General Bowlegs
Holatters-Micco, or Billy Bowlegs, is fifty years of age, five feet eight inches in height, well built, with a handsome countenance, expressive of intellect. He speaks English fluently. Being a nephew of Micanopy, old Bowlegs and King Paine, he is of true royal descent, and exacts and receives implicit obedience from his followers. He mounted the throne in March, 1842, at which time the Indians under the influence and authority of Arpeika, or Sam Jones, and broke the apeil of the Prophet (Osulke Thlock). He leaves behind him in the everglades twelve warriors, and asserts positively that had he been granted more time to communicate with them they would have obeyed his orders and emigrated with him. In conversation he frankly stated that he left the country because he was fully satisfied that it was death to his people to remain, the troops having discovered his hiding places and destroyed his crops; that he had been anxious for a long time to surrender to the regular troops, but that he would have died— he and his people, to a man—before they would have disgraced themselves by a surrender to the volunteers, any number of which he could whip in the everglades. During this interview he recognized and embraced Capt. McKay, of Tampa, as an old friend and acquaintance. Their future friendship was cemented by a glass of iced champagne, and the kindly face of the worthy Captain beamed with pleasure at the prospect of his friend’s departure.

General Bowlegs’ Family
Miss Betsey Bowlegs is a young lady of seventeen, of rather pretty features, and a widow. Her husband perished in the battle of Josh Creek. Miss Patty Bowlegs is thirteen years of age, fine figure and exquisite eyes, hand and feet. She is destined to make a sensation in her new home in Arkansas. At present she is quite thin, owing to her having been on low diet during the war— alligator and snake flesh. She is in the market for matrimony, but her royal blood precludes her from mating with the common stock of the tribe.

General Bowlegs—Most reporters had little understanding of Seminole leadership and likely placed their ideas of European royalty over Seminole people. They thought the Snake Clan had ultimate authority. They did not understand that Seminoles are matrilineal and pass their clans through the mother’s side and matriarchal where women take strong leadership roles. They also did not understand the more democratic nature of Seminole culture where different groups made decisions for themselves.

General Bowlegs’ Family—It was common for papers of the time to discuss women and even girls like this. Reporters assumption that she could not marry within the tribe reflects their ideas about royalty and do not reflect Seminole ideals.
Meeting of the prisoners at Egmont Key with their ex-latives- the **Emigrating Indians**
About 7p two small boats arrived from the Key with the Indian captives. As they neared the steamer the utmost anxiety was depicted on the countenances of the women. The wail of sorrow that burst forth as they threw themselves in the the arms of their hundred, from whom they had long been separated, would have melted the heart of a stone. The children, so soon as released from the small boats, ran to their King Billy, and clung to his knees. After caressing them for a moment the warrior gave way; and that man shed tears, to the honor of the whites, be it said that their kindly feelings got the better of their curiosity, and they retired to the upper deck. Whilst now and then a heart rending shriek would announce that some poor woman had learned the fate of a husband or a father who had perished during her captivity, in battle with the whites, then would follow the low, plaintive cry of anguish uttered by relatives of the parties. It was a scene to be remembered.

**Rowsing Act of Billy’s Diplomacy, showing how he outwitted one of Gen. Scott’s officers**
The chief of Gen. Scott’s staff, Col. Thomas, who is here in duty inspecting the troops, being very anxious to make the acquaintance of Billy’s young wife, requested an introduction. Billy politically acceded to the Colonel’s wishes and formally presented her and her little son. During the interview Billy opened his trunk and extracted an empty bottle, remarking that he was very glad to meet one of Gen. Scott’s officers; that not being accustomed to the sea, water disagreed with him, and that to enable him to counteract its bad effects, and drink to the Colonel’s health of the voyage, he would be obliged to him too rescind the order prohibiting liquor, and fill his bottle with good brandy. It is needless to add that Billy’s wish was gratified. Some there were who watched the General as he quietly and gracefully sipped his liquor, and they assert that the merry twinkle of his eye betrayed the fact that he prided himself on coming it over Gen. Scott’s chief of Staff. As the Colonel turned to walk a way, the youngers assert that they could see Billy manipulating his extended fingers at the end of his nose.

**Final Adieu to Florida**
At 11 o’clock A.M. on the 7th both steamers got under way. The Ranger kept company with the Gray Cloud to the outer entrance of the bay, at which point salutes were changed; and as we bore up for Tampa the Indians gave a war whoop that echoed and re-echoed over the waters, seemingly to startle our steamer into an increase of speed.

**Curious Coincide**
**Captain John G. Casey**, of the army, and a many belovedly admired by all his association, died at this place in December, 1856. Capt. Casey had been the agent of the Florida Indians, and so honorable and truthful half his intercourse been with them, that they, to a man, revered him. On one occasion during the past year an Indian, shot his own in battle on the Mantee, cried out, “Take me to Capt. Casey.” The remains of the gallant Captain were shipped to the Gray Cloud, destined for internment at Philadelphia. The wreck of a gallant people, and a gallant man, who, bring life had been their agent, have passed from shores on the same vessel. Billy repeatedly said to the officers, “Casey was a good man- never tell Indian lie.” A sentiment- come from such a man- the recognized head of a people, bitterly deceived and betrayed by the set of the white men who have had charge of them- it is worthy of being inscribed on the Captain’s tomb. One man yet living, who exercised his influence of Secretary Conrad to the temporary injury of the isolated Casey, will read it with feelings not to be envied. It awakens no remorse of conscience in his bosom, it may be gratifying to him to know that Billy announced his intention of visiting the President of Washington- that intends to denounce him in good English to the President, and expose his rascality in attempting to get Billy to sign a receipt for double the amount of money he offered to pay him Billy says that he will not use an interpreter in speaking with the President, and I can assure that the President will understand every word of his English.
Proclamation
The delegation of friendly Indians, under the charge of Colonel Elias Rector, superintendent of Indian Affairs, having succeeded in removing the hostile Chief, Billy Bowlegs, and most of this band, with some of the band of Seminoles - leaving only about thirty warriors, all told, in the ... of Florida, and these being very widely scatter on the islands, in the swamps of the country, and no one of them having been discovered for some months...-no depredations having been committed, and no hostile gun fired by them for some months, except in defense of their lastnesses, and hiding places- I now consider it unnecessary and unwise, in view of the rapid development of the country, to prosecute scouting the camps and everglades, to hunt up the few remaining Indian families. I, therefore, hereby declare the Florida War closed, and the people can now return to their homes and usual avocations without fear of further molestation.

Gustavus Loomis,
Col. Fifth Infantry, commanding Department of Fla.
Fort Brooke, May 8, 1858

General Orders No. 4
Headquarters, Department of Florida,
Fort Brookes may 8, 1853.

Having proclaimed the Florida War closed, and having ...red the entire volunteer force under his command to be mustered out of the service of the United States, the colonel commanding takes this occasion to say to the forces - Regulars, Volunteers and Boatmen - You have, with untiring zeal and energy, penetrated in every direction the swamps and everglades of the country, driving the enemy from their strongholds and hiding spaces; you have engaged them in several skirmishes and actions, killing more than forty of their warriors, as acknowledged bit the Chief, Billy Bowlegs, you have destroyed their magazines of stores and provisions; you have captured more than forty of their men, women and children; you have rendered them hopeless of remaining any longer with safety in the country, m thereby preparing them for and greatly facilitating their peaceful emigration, by the delegation under Colonel Elias Rector, Superintendent of Indian Affairs. For all these services the Colonel commanding gives you his sincere thanks, and would ... state, for your gratifications, that one ... of the captive women and children, upon being restored to their friends on board the steamer Gray Cloud, was deeply affecting and overpowering to many among them, even Billy Bowlegs himself.

Amount Paid Indians for Emigrating—This money was given to the Seminoles who left as payment for leaving their homelands.

Proclamation – The official proclamation ending the Seminole Wars, while acknowledging that there are still Seminole within Florida.
By order of Colonel Loomis Theo Talbot
1st Lt. Art'y, A. A. Adj't general
Special order No 29
Headquarters and Department of Florida
Fort Brook, May 6 1853

1. A detachment of company E, first artillery, counseling of the sergeant, one corporate and 15 privates, will immediately proceed to Fort Kissimmee for temporary duty at that fort. On being relieved by the said detachment that portion of Captain Sned’s company Mounted Florida Volunteers, now at Kissimmee, will rejoin their company at Fort Meade, and the company will then repair without delay to Fort Brooke to be mustered out of service.

2. Captain E f. Kendrick’s company Mounted Florida Volunteers will immediately precede to Fort Books, preparatory to being mustered out of service.

3. The detachment of Captain Seely’s Company Florida Mounted volunteers, now ..., will immediately rejoin their company.

4. Captain F. M. ... company Mounted Florida Volunteers will be mustered out of the services of the United States at Fort Brooke, at one o’clock, on the 10th instant, by Brevet Major J McKinstry.

5. Captain W. B. Hendrick’s company Mounted Florida Volunteers will be mustered out of the service of the United States at Fort Brooke, at nine o’clock AM, on the 11th instant, by 1st lieut. Theo. Talbot, 1st Artillery.

6. Captain R. Mickleu’s company Mounted Florida Volunteers will be mustered out of the service of the United States at Fort Brook, at eleven o’clock AM, on the 11th inst, by Captain C. L. Kilbourn.

By order of Colonel Loomis, Theo Talbot
1st lieut. 1st Artillery, Adj't Gen.

Billy Bowlegs And the Seminoles in New Orleans
(From the New Orleans Crescents, May 17)

The Seminoles have been somewhat of a new sensation since their arrival in the city. The redogable Billy Bowlegs, as befits his dignity, refuses to circulate about town for the benefit of the crowds. At his quarters, at the Barracks, however, he has politely received the crowds who brave ... with a visit, and looked Indian and talked “... Injun” to the satisfaction of all. He accommodates the popular notion of him, by saying that white men are his choicest game- that he has slain hecatombs of them- and that the best white man that ever walked was only a chicken for him. He speaks very fair English, as do many of his followers.

Crowds of Billy’s men, with their squ@ws and papoose, were around shopping on Saturday-marching into the dry goods and fancy stores as coily and unconcernedly as if they had been accustomed to them all their life, and spending their money (Uncle Sam’s bonus) as indifferent as if money was one of the natural products of Florida. They were headed by a strapping six footer, smoking a big segar through a nasty moustache his head wrapped most approved aboriginal ... style. The rest of the crowd were ... to proportion. The cigars evidently were scared- not by the Indians, but by the rabble crowd that followed them into the store, where so many things were lying about loose. The ladies ceased their pleasant chaffering and got out of the way; and altogether, it was hard to tell whether the visits of “red varmints” of the Everglades were considered as an honor or a nuisance.

The Seminoles are an ugly set, but cleaner and more human looking than the vagrant Choctaws to whom we are so much accustomed. The whole crowd-Billy Bowlegs and all- are to take their departure this evening for their future home, back of Arkansas.
The Independent Press—South Charleston–1852

For the just and manly course pursued by them in this affair. Three cheers were given the boat as she passed.

The Seminoles. — The Florida News gives the following information regarding the government of the Seminole Indians: Like that of most of the Indian tribes, the government of the Seminoles is a limited monarchy, being invested in a principal Chief, or King, who is controlled by a council of the Chiefs and principal men of the nation. The nominal ruler now is Hulato-Mike, or the Blue King, familiarly known as Billy Bowlegs, but his authority is very much restricted, the actual head of the nation being Arpikka, or Sam Jones, who, though 103 years old, and blind, still exercises a mighty voice in the Council, and one that, report says, is favorably opposed to Bowlegs. Billy, it is said, is now, and has been for a long time past, in favor of emigration, but Sam Jones is determined to die in Florida, and vote eternal hostility to the whites; and it is supposed upon authority, that the late attack upon the United States troops was at his instigation.

A Solution of the Cuba Question.—Col. Baylor, in a recent letter to the New York Tribune, says:

The Republic—DC–1852

in the House of Lords, Privy Council, Courts of Equity and Common Law, and in the Admiralty and Ecclesiastical Courts; including, also, cases in bankruptcy and Crown Cases reserved. The advantages of this edition of the current English reports are too generally known to the profession to require to be stated. It may be found at Mann's and Frank Taylor's, with all the valuable law publications of Messrs. Little & Brown.

Florida Indians.—A friend, just on from Tampa, informs us that Captain Black of the Government schooner Hinder, brought to Egmont Key on last Sunday five Indians on their way to the West; and that the schooner was expected to arrive in a few days from Fort Myers with two more families of Indians, numbering about fifteen. We are told that General Blake, the Indian commissioner, thinks the prospect of the removal of the tribe more favorable than it was a short time since.

[Savannah Georgian, 19th.]

It is reported that the Hon. Horace Mann is about becoming a citizen of our State, as the President of Antioch College, in Greene county. We presume, if the rumor be true, that Mr. M. has abandoned

The Baltimore Daily Exchange —1858

The Keowee Courier—1857
Who Tells the Story? (Part 2)

Activity

5 minutes: Review activity from the day before

15 minutes: Have students split into groups and give each group an article to read.

- Group 1: “Egmont Key” (pg. 8–9), pg. 20-21, pg. 31
- Group 2: “Polly Parker” (pg. 16-17)
- Group 3: “The Removed” (pg. 18-19)
- Group 4: “Why Do you Save an Island” (pg. 34-37)

15 minutes: Have students share their articles with each other. What new perspectives did they gain?

10 minutes: Have students look at their charts from the day before. Complete the chart by adding Seminole perspectives.
# Mapping Egmont Key

| Description | In this activity, students will learn how places are important in understanding history. Students will use maps to gain a better understanding of Egmont Key and the different stories maps can tell. |
| Audience | High school juniors and seniors |
| Group Size | This activity is ideal for 20 students, but can be easily adjusted for larger or smaller groups. |
| Time | 45-60 minutes |
|  | - Paper |
|  | - Pencils |
|  | - Coloring Materials |
|  | - Computer with Internet access |
|  | - Whiteboard/Smartboard/large sheet of paper |
| Florida Standards | - SS.912.G.1.4 Analyze geographic information from a variety of sources including primary sources, atlases, computer, and digital sources, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), and a broad variety of maps. |
|  | - SS.912.G.6.1 Use appropriate maps and other graphic representations to analyze geographic problems and changes over time. |
|  | - SS.912.A.2.7 Review the Native American experience. |
|  | - VA.912.C.2.1: Examine and revise artwork throughout the art-making process to refine work and achieve artistic objective |
|  | - SS.912.A.4.11 Examine key events and peoples in Florida history as they relate to US history. |
|  | - SS.912.A.2.7: Review the Native American experience. |
Mapping Egmont Key

Activity

15 minutes: Ask students to draw a map of their lives. Which places did they include? Why are those places important?

15 minutes: Split your students into groups and have them each examine their own set of maps. What story does their map tell? How does it tell that story?

- Group 1: Map on pg. 6 of the Egmont Key Report
- Group 2: “The Seminole Removal Trail 1858” (pg. 12-13)
- Group 3: Map on pg. 34 of the Egmont Key Report and https://coast.noaa.gov/slr/#/layer/slr/3/-9210375.690646155/3111705.1735576065/7/satellite/none/0.8/2050/interHigh/midAccretion
- Group 4: Fort Dade maps (pg. 35-36 of this packet)
- Group 5: Use Googlemaps to explore the island

15 minutes: Each group should share their findings with the class.

10 minutes: As a class, decide how you will map the story of Egmont Key. Use a large sheet of paper, white board, or smartboard. What places do you want to put on your map? Why or why not? What places are essential to telling the Seminole Story of Egmont Key? Share your final map with the Museum by posting on Facebook (@ahtahthiki) or Twitter (@ahtahthiki1).

Note: If you have only 45 minutes, modify the introduction activity into a thought experiment. What would students include if they were to draw a map of their lives? What makes a place important in their life?
# Historic Markers

**Description**
During this activity students will review what they have learned about the Seminole experience of Egmont Key. They will work together to create a historic marker summarizing what happened to Seminoles on Egmont Key, highlighting Seminole perspectives. In the process, they will develop and hone their writing skills.

**Audience**
High school juniors or seniors

**Time**
45-60 minutes

**Group Size**
This activity is ideal for 20 students, but can be easily adjusted for larger or smaller groups.

**Materials Needed**
- Paper
- Pencils
- Computer with Internet Connection
- Projector/Smart Board

**Florida Standards**
- LAFS.910.SL.2.4: Present information, findings, and supporting evidence clearly, concisely, and logically such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning and the organization, development, substance, and style are appropriate to purpose, audience, and task.
- SS.912.A.2.7: Review the Native American experience.
- SS.912.A.4.11 Examine key events and peoples in Florida history as they relate to United States history.
- LAFS.1112.W.2.5 Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.
- LAFS.1112.W.1.3: Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.
- LAFS.K12.L.1.2: Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.
15 minutes: Review the week’s activities and introduce the activity. What happened to Seminole people on Egmont Key? Why is this important? Why is this story not widely known? What ways could people share the story more?

Explain that today students will be writing a historic marker that could be placed on the island to share the Seminole story there. Review some historic markers together. Find examples from the Seminole Tribe of Florida’s Tribal Register of Historical Places on pages 39-40 of this packet. Find examples from Florida here: https://dos.myflorida.com/historical/preservation/historical-markers/how-to-applymarker-text-tips-examples/

Ask students to read 2-3 markers for everyone. What makes a historic marker interesting? What needs to be on a historic marker?

15 minutes: Split class into groups of 3-5 students each. Each group is tasked with writing a historic marker. Markers must be between 175-200 words.

10 minutes: Groups should share their markers with the class.

20 minutes: What worked the best with the markers? As a class, develop a final marker combining the best elements of the markers that students created. Share your final marker with the Museum by posting on Facebook (@ahtahthiki) or Twitter (@ahtahthiki1).

Note: If you do not have a full hour, you can skip the second step and work on developing a marker as a class.
The Big Cypress Tribal Oak, located on Frank Billie’s historic camp, was a local meeting place for tribal members of the Big Cypress Reservation to discuss community issues and concerns. During the formation period of the Seminole Tribe’s government, each reservation held meetings to explain and discuss the proposed constitution and charter with the Seminole people. Two representatives from the Big Cypress community, Frank Billie (Wind Clan) and Jimmy O’Toole Osceola (Panther Clan), served on the Constitutional Committee, where they organized community meetings and helped write the constitution and by-laws which were adopted in 1957. Frank Billie served as the first President of the Board of Directors from 1957-1958 and Vice President from 1958-1961. Notably, there were several active tribal members on Big Cypress that were involved and they were John Cypress (Panther Clan), Willie Frank (Wind Clan), Jimmy Cypress (Panther Clan), and Johnson Billie (Wind Clan). Willie Frank became the first Big Cypress Representative on the Board of Directors serving 22 years from 1957-1979. The Big Cypress Tribal Oak marks an important location on the Big Cypress Reservation, because it was a place where the community convened to actively contribute to the early formation of their tribal government.

This marker has been financed entirely with Federal Funds from the Historic Preservation Fund, administered through the National Park Service, Department of Interior.

http://seminoletribune.org/marker-ceremony-tribal-oak/
The Josh Camp, a Bird Clan camp, was inhabited by John Josh (Deer Clan), Henley Josh (Bird Clan), and their son Coleman Josh (Bird Clan). John Josh was heavily involved in the founding of the Seminole Tribe’s Cattle Program, the Tribal Government, and the First Seminole Indian Baptist Church. He was elected as one of the three original trustees of the cattle program in 1939, where he served as record keeper and was elected to the first Tribal Council in 1957. Like his father, Coleman played a large role in Christian activities of the Tribe and was also inaugurated into the Tribe’s sports hall of fame. The Josh Camp included two small homes, one for John and Henley Josh and another for Coleman, and two sleeping chickees that encircled a central cooking chickee.

This site has been listed on the Tribal Register of Historic Places since 2012 and is protected under the Tribal Cultural Resource Ordinance (C-01-16) and Federal law.

This marker has been financed entirely with Federal Funds from the Historic Preservation Fund, administered through the National Park Service, Department of Interior.

http://seminoletribune.org/josh-camp-marker-unveiled/