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*ProQuest will continue to load titles into the State Collections until they are complete in 2024.

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- Understanding the Evolving Information Needs of Researchers, ProQuest, 2017

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Florida newspapers reveal a range of perspectives demonstrating the specific ways communities are impacted by national and global events, and cover local issues, people, events, and industries not found elsewhere. Unearth Florida’s past through local and national news with Florida’s state newspapers, including The Daily News, The Orlando Sentinel, the Tallahassee Democrat, and many others. Readers will find coverage on state politics and legislation, school board meetings, local businesses and culture, zoning board meetings, as well as historical events like the 1920s land boom, the 1968 Miami protest, and more.

Note: Newspaper titles, including the ones listed here, undergo name changes throughout the years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>TOTAL YEARS OF COVERAGE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Florida Today (Brevard County) (Coming in 2023!)</td>
<td>1968–Present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian River Press Journal (Vero Beach) (Coming in 2023!)</td>
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<td>Orlando Sentinel †</td>
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<td>Pensacola News Journal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stuart News ( Coming in 2023!)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tallahassee Democrat</td>
<td>1913–Present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Tampa Tribune</td>
<td>1895–2016</td>
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† This title is also available for Perpetual Archive License purchase.

Note: There are known gaps in some titles which ProQuest will make an effort to fill.

Yellow Fever (May 1888): There were severe outbreaks of Yellow Fever in Tampa in 1873, and from 1887-1888. The disease was poorly understood at the time and the articles reflect different attempts to fight it.

The Great Freeze (Apr 1894): The Great Freeze refers to record low temperatures that occurred from 1894-1895. The freezes destroyed much of the citrus crop, affecting large communities of citrus farmers.

Spanish-American War (Aug 1898): Tampa was used as an embarkation center for American forces heading to Cuba during the Spanish-American War. 30,000 troops, including lieutenant Colonel Teddy Roosevelt and his Rough Riders, waited in Tampa to ship out in 1898.
Everglades, Canals, and Land Development (Jul 1917): In the early 1900s, there was a large influx of people moving to Florida. To create more land to build on, the Florida government approved a bill to create canals to remove some of the water from land in the Everglades for development purposes.


Gambling and Prohibition (Jan 1923): In the early 1920s, police authorities in the Miami area were very lax on gambling and prohibition laws, which brought in visitors that helped spur the Florida land boom.

Florida Land Boom of the 1920s/Coral Gables (May 1923): The Florida land boom of the 1920s was Florida's first real estate bubble, which burst in 1925. Part of the land boom involved the creation of several of planned communities—several of which failed. Coral Gables was one of the first planned communities, and was more successful. The city was developed by George Merrick.

Rum runners (May 1925): Part of what made the Florida land boom successful was its ability to draw in people during prohibition. Miami, in particular, was a bit more lax regarding prohibition laws. Illegal bootlegging of alcohol, also called rum running, started up between the Florida coast and the Caribbean islands.

Binder Boys (Mar 1926): “Binder Boys” were a name given to opportunists who came to Miami during the Land Boom. They rapidly bought property with a 10 percent deposit (the “binder”), and would just as rapidly sell the property with an inflated price. Usually, these sellers never visited the properties they were trading. Sometimes these properties would be underwater or otherwise inaccessible.

Miami Hurricane (Sep 1926): The 1926 Miami hurricane was a large and intense tropical cyclone equivalent in strength to a Category 4 hurricane. The storm resulted in $100 million in damage and was the beginning of the decline of the 1920s Florida land boom as it drove many developers into bankruptcy.

Thomas Edison’s illness and death (Aug 1931): Thomas Edison spent over 40 winters at his home in Fort Myers where he had a botany research laboratory. Newspapers demonstrate concern over his declining health before he died in October of 1931.

The Buckman Act (Sep 1936): In 1905, Florida passed the Buckman Act, which reorganized the state’s universities and created a Florida Board of Control to govern the system. The act consolidated the state’s six institutions of higher education into three: one for white men, one for white women, and one for African Americans. The act was discontinued after WWII.

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Gulf Sea Frontier (Jun 1945): During World War II, Miami played an important role in fighting German U-Boats. U-Boats had started attacking ships near Miami, and in 1942 the Gulf Sea Frontier was established to guard the waters. Several military bases sprung up in the Miami area to confront the German U-Boats.

Florida State University (Oct 1947): In 1947, the legislature returned Florida State College for Women to coeducational status, founding the Florida State University.

The Tallahassee Bus Boycott (Jun 1956): The Tallahassee bus boycott was a citywide boycott that began on May 26th, 1956 that sought to end racial segregation on public transport. The boycott ended on December 22nd, 1956.

Demonstrations during the civil rights movement (Feb 1960): In the 1950s and 1960s, Black Americans participated in a number of civil rights protests and demonstrations around the country. In February of 1960, 11 Black demonstrators were arrested during a sit-in demonstration to protest segregation in eating facilities in Tallahassee, Florida.

John F. Kennedy assassination attempt (Dec 1960): In 1960, the Palm Beach police prevented an assassination attempt on the president. Richard Paul Pavlick pleaded guilty to planning to kill the president.

1968 Miami Protest (Aug 1968): On August 7, black organizations (Vote Power League, Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Congress of Racial Equity, the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, and other smaller orgs) organized a protest against the nation's unfair political, social, and economic systems. Police became involved and escalated the conflict with tear gas. The National Guard was eventually called out and a curfew was imposed.

1970s Runaways (Jun 1970): In the 1970s, a large number of teenage runaways fled to the Ft. Lauderdale beach, forming a group of approximately 60-150 teenagers. The group was referred to as “The Family.”

The Walt Disney World Resort (1972): In 1965, it was announced that Walt Disney World would be built in Orlando, Florida. It officially opened in 1971.

Cuban Refugees in the US (Nov 1975): Many Cubans came to the US in the years following the Cuban Revolution, which ended in 1959.

Racial violence and protests at Escambia High School (Feb 1976): Escambia High School was forcibly desegregated in 1969. From 1972-1977, there were several protests and fights that broke out as a result of racial tensions. In 1976, a protest regarding the election of renewing the use of a racially insensitive mascot was held and turned violent. Four students were shot and 26 students were injured by rocks, debris, and fighting.


Learn more about ProQuest Historical Newspapers State Collections