

James M. Denham



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James M. Denham is Professor of History and Director of the Lawton M. Chiles Jr. Center for Florida History at Florida Southern College. Before coming to Lakeland in 1991, Denham held teaching appointments at Florida State University, Georgia Southern University, and Limestone College in South Carolina.

A specialist in Southern, Florida, and Criminal Justice and Legal history, Denham received his Ph.D degree from FSU. He is the

author of Florida Founder William P. DuVal: Frontier Bon Vivant (University of South Carolina Press, 2015), Fifty Years of Justice: A History of the U. S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida (University Press of Florida, 2015), and "A Rogue's Paradise": Crime and Punishment in Antebellum Florida, 1821-1861 (University of Alabama Press, 1997).

Denham is also the author of three other books including Florida Sheriffs: A History, 1821-1945 (Sentry Press, 2001), with William W. Rogers; Cracker Times and Pioneer Lives, the Florida Reminiscences of George Gillette Keen and Sarah Pamela Williams (University of South Carolina Press, 2000), with Canter Brown, Jr. and Echoes from a Distant Frontier: the Brown Sisters' Correspondence in Antebellum Florida (University of South Carolina Press, 2004), with Keith Huneycutt.

Denham has lectured widely throughout the state for the Florida Humanities Council and other organizations. He is a frequent contributor to Florida Public Radio. Denham has also served fellowships at the U. S. Military Academy at West Point, the University of South Carolina, the University of Wisconsin, Harvard University, Columbia University, the National Humanities Center, Research Triangle Park, NC, and the Virginia Historical Society.

He currently serves as President of the Florida Historical Society.

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