

8-1-2011

Poynter Library's History [An Exhibit from August 2011 through November 2011]

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Schnur,, James Anthony, "Poynter Library's History [An Exhibit from August 2011 through November 2011]" (2011). *Library and Community-based Exhibits*. 28.
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The First Campus Library at USF St. Petersburg (1968-May 1981)



The Second Campus Library:
Nelson Poynter Memorial
Library (now Bayboro Hall,
May 1981 – July 1996)



The Third Campus Library: Nelson Poynter Memorial Library (since August 1996)





View of present-day Davis Hall (then called Bayboro Hall) and the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library (now called Bayboro Hall) in 1981 as both buildings are almost ready for occupancy. The present library would be in the parking lot.



A view of the original Nelson Poynter Memorial Library, now Bayboro Hall, during construction in 1980.



View of the card catalog in the 1981 Poynter Library. This image from March 1986 was taken a few months before USF introduced its first online library catalog. Soon thereafter, the card catalog disappeared entirely.

“Card Catalog” sign and drawers
from the 1981 Poynter Library.

Before students had access to an endless variety of electronic databases, they often spent hours searching for sources in indexes such as this. What can be accomplished with a few clicks today used to take hours.