

January 1960

## Timicuan Indians, of Pre-Columbus days, left clan symbols

Hampton Dunn

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/dunn\\_phototouring](https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/dunn_phototouring)

---

### Recommended Citation

Dunn, Hampton, "Timicuan Indians, of Pre-Columbus days, left clan symbols" (1960). *Hampton Dunn Phototouring Florida Collection*. 252.

[https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/dunn\\_phototouring/252](https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/dunn_phototouring/252)

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Floridiana - General at Digital Commons @ University of South Florida. It has been accepted for inclusion in Hampton Dunn Phototouring Florida Collection by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ University of South Florida. For more information, please contact [scholarcommons@usf.edu](mailto:scholarcommons@usf.edu).



# Photouring Florida

By HAMPTON DUNN



## TIMICUAN INDIANS, OF PRE-COLUMBUS DAYS, LEFT CLAN SYMBOLS

GAINESVILLE --- Way back yonder B.C., Florida was occupied by the Indians. And for some time before Columbus discovered America, they were scattered in all sections of the state. From the Tampa Bay northward, the Timucuan Indians resided. They were a more docile people than their neighbors to the south, the Caloosas. The Timucuans offered very little resistance to the conquistadors and, indeed, even welcomed missionaries as friends.

In the Florida State Museum in the Seagle Building in downtown Gainesville are a couple of outstanding mementoes of the Timicuans. Near the entrance is the horned owl totem pole which was made by these tribes about 1350 A.D. It was found and dredged from the St. Johns River near DeLand by Victor Roepke in 1955.

The 10-Foot figure was carved from a single piece of pine. It probably served as a symbol or totem for a village or a family group (clan).

It is explained at the Museum that there were many such poles in preColumbian times in the Southeastern U.S., but except for minor fragments, the only two known examples are the horned owl totem and the eagle totem, which also is on display here. The interesting eagle totem was donated to the Museum by N. F. Norton.

Indians in the Southeast U.S. also used other kinds of poles in connection with special ceremonies and ball games.

