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MURALS OF ST. AUGUSTINE PICTURES TELL THE STORY

MURALS OF ST. AUGUSTINE:

Pictures Tell the Story

From prehistoric cave drawings to Michelangelo's biblical paintings on the Sistine Chapel, man has long used pictures to tell the story of his struggles and accomplishments. Those narrative pictures are called murals. St. Augustine's history as the oldest city in America has been documented by artists in many forms. The ceiling decorations in Flagler College (the former Ponce de Leon Hotel) convey our ties to the sea with images of Spanish ships and mermaids. On Aviles Street, a modern tile mosaic with conquistadors, flags and crests shows our shared heritage with Spain. The most vivid of all are the colorful paintings in the Cathedral Basilica that portray the dramatic story of Pedro Menendez's founding of the city and his encounters with the Timucuan Indians. By looking very closely at these murals, you'll discover a new language--pictures! They can teach us all about history without using words.



"Pedro Menendez de Aviles First Mass"
created by the artist Hugo Ohlms in 1965
at the **Cathedral Basilica of St. Augustine**



**Hugo Ohlms at work on the
altar of the Cathedral Basilica**

HUGO OHLMS

A Legacy in Picture Stories

A love for the sea drew German mural artist Hugo Ohlms to St. Augustine, where he became director of the Flagler College Art Department when it opened. For the 400th Anniversary of the founding of St. Augustine, he was commissioned to redesign the Cathedral Basilica to reflect its Spanish roots. The church renovation included historical murals, paintings of saints and religious figures and modern stained glass windows. He also embellished the altar, installed imported decorative tiles and created a Spanish-inspired beamed ceiling. No detail was overlooked, and the project was considered Ohlms' crowning achievement.

EXPLORE!

▶ Throughout downtown St. Augustine, you will find paintings documenting the Spanish founding of this historical city.

Take a walk to discover these beautiful murals.



Flagler College Dining Hall Ceiling
depicting the voyage of the Spanish Conquistadors
74 King St.



Pedro Menendez de Aviles Mural (detail)
presented from our sister city Aviles, Spain in 2002
located outside on **Aviles St. near King St**

LEARN!

▶ **Overlapping** is a technique often used by artists, including Olhms, to create depth within their paintings or drawings. By putting one object in front of another, an artist can make some things look closer and other things far away.

Notice how Olhms used overlapping, to create distance and drama within this mural.



"The 1513 Landing of Ponce de Leon," a 7' x 14' mural painted by Hugo Olhms was constructed with almost 12 puzzle-like pieces so that it could be transported more easily.

CREATE!

Tell your own story in picture form, showing your favorite people and places.

Use what you know about **overlapping** to create depth!