

every astronomical observation, every survey contemplated by the genius of man, must have a beginning point somewhere. For measuring altitude, the sea level is the beginning; for measuring latitude, the equator is the initial point; for measuring longitude, Greenwich England, is designated as the zero monument.

In keeping with this earth-encircling thought that all things within the wide scope of human intelligence should have a fixed and designated beginning point, this granite boulder is here today erected as a point from which to measure all distances on the Old Spanish Trail, and its connecting lines, covering a distance of nearly four thousand miles. Indeed, no more fitting place could have been found between the two great oceans on which to erect this zero marker of the Old Spanish Trail than here in this strategic city, situated geographically midway between the two terminals of this historic highway. In this thriving, cosmopolitan city of San Antonio, no more appropriate spot could have been designated for the placing of this monument than here, on Military Plaza, within the shadow of the age-old San Fernando Cathedral, whose up-lifted iron cross has always been used as the beginning point for land surveys, and which, to this day, well represents the geographical center of your city.

This stone of entering Texas granite estimated to be a million years old, presented to San Antonio by your City Federation of Women's Clubs, and dedicated, on this occasion, as a measuring marker for the Old Spanish Trail, is the third Zero monument to be erected in the entire United States.

This highway, the Old Spanish Trail, beginning at the water's edge of the Atlantic Ocean, skirting the coast of the Gulf of Mexico, traversing for a thousand miles the southern reaches of