

# The Descriptive Log

This information is carefully prepared. Hotels, garages, camps and service stations are selected with the purpose to build up good service. Houses that pay their rated subscriptions are printed in black face type; they and the membership make this traveling service possible for you.

Villages and hamlets are not included, as a rule. They are numerous along the way, so also garages, service stations and camping places. Many hotels fill early. New hotels are being continually built or old ones remodeled. Service improves all the time, for this is an important travelway.

\*Indicates county seats. Inf., Information Headquarters.

## FLORIDA—435 MILES

### Road Conditions

All State and Federal standard road and all will be paved by the summer of 1929. At present most of the pavement is laid.

No ferries. Maintenance is good, detours during paving construction well maintained. The Florida sector is one of the best examples of highway construction on the Old Spanish Trail.

### Description of Country

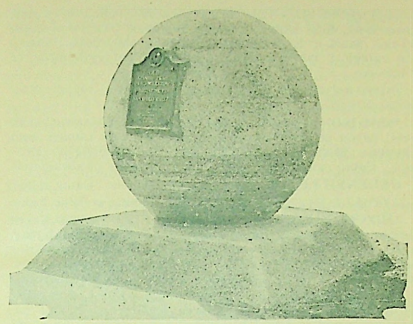
The eastern coastal section, palmetto plains and pinehlands. The Tampa glassway to rolling hills, with live oak and other fine trees. Elevations reach 262 ft. at De Funiak Springs. There are rich farming sections, truck raising, pecan and satsuma orange orchards, tobacco, shade raising and poultry. Irrigated cities are paved, have nice public buildings, homes and parks, old trees shade the streets. Around Tallahassee many north-erners maintain large estates, fine driving and poultry. Across Florida the drinking water is very good. In the western part pinehlands again occur and lumbering has become a big industry. Now homeseekers are flocking in and finding the Florida Old Spanish Trail territory good.

### Old History

San Agustín was settled in 1565, the oldest city in the United States. Ponce de Leon discovered and named Florida in 1512. The De Narvaez expedition landed at Tampa Bay in 1528 and De Soto in 1539, and both fought their way around westward in Old Spanish Trail territory to the Tallahassee country where De Narvaez turned south to escape by sea and De Soto turned north and wandered thra the south and west. De Soto's body was buried in the Mississippi River, De Narvaez was lost in the Gulf of Mexico, Cabeza de Vaca, De Narvaez' treasurer, and three others, were the only survivors to reach Mexico and their story is told under "The El Paso Valley." Ragged survivors of the De Soto expedition years later escaped down the Mississippi River to Mexico.

There are records of 38 missions established out of St. Augustine, westward to Tallahassee and up into Georgia. They were probably of wood for no rains are shown except some of oyster shell cement north of Brunswick, Ga. De Luna landed at Pensacola Bay in 1559 with the largest expedition of them all, but Indian emnity soon drove him back to Vera Cruz. While the Spaniards were exploring the Floridas other remarkable expeditions were moving northward from Mexico into Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California. Santa Fe became the second oldest city in the U. S. while others lay claim to existence back in the dim past. When the thirteen states were fighting for independence the Gallatin missions, Florida was Spanish until 1821, except for an English period 1763-1783; Spain sold Old Louisiana back to France in 1800; France sold to the U. S. in 1803; Texas independence was won in 1836 and that territory was annexed by the U. S. in 1845. The Mexican War was 1846-48. The New Mexico-Arizona-Southern California territory was ceded to the U. S. by Mexico in 1848. The Gadsden Purchase of part of southern New Mexico and Arizona was in 1853.

The five great centers of mission and colonization effort of the Spaniards are along the Old Spanish Trail—St. Augustine, Ariz., San Antonio, Tex., El Paso—Santa Fe, Tucson—Nogales, Ariz. San Diego and the California coast. The Old Spanish Trail of today is a thread binding together for time the old Spanish history and legend of three and four centuries past. The Spaniards and padres sought riches to lay up in heaven and the conquistadores sought riches for personal glory and often found disaster for their vain but romantic quest. Now a new race is finding riches in the crucibles of industry.



OLD SPANISH TRAIL MONUMENT AT ST. AUGUSTINE

\*ST. AUGUSTINE. A charmingly attractive city of ancient buildings, streets and types characteristic of old Spain. The tropical growths have aged with the years and fine old homes and hotels add to the distinction of the city.

HOTELS—Open all year; ALHAMBRA, 70 rms. A.P., \$4 up; E.P. \$2 up. KENWOOD, 30 rms., E.P. \$1.50 up. Also BENNETT, MARION, MONSON, OCEAN VIEW. Open in winter; ALCAZAR, BARCELONA, PONCE DE LEON, ST. GEORGE, and others. Two private cabin camps, good. Inf.—Chamber of Commerce.

ST. JOHNS RIVER. Toll bridge at Jacksonville. Toll rate on page 5.

\*JACKSONVILLE. Gateway to South Florida; tourist and industrial city. Large lumber and naval stores market, railroad center and seaport.

HOTELS—ALBERT, moderate rates. ARAGON, medium rates. CARLING, new and high class. MASON, first-class commercial and tourist. SEMINOLE, first-class commercial and tourist. WINDSOR, first-class, comfortable lounges, faces park. GEORGE WASHINGTON, new and high class.

CAMPS—Phoenix Park camp on river in a grove, 40 cabins, good.

INF.—Jacksonville Motor Club. (AAA).

MARINE GARAGE—Foot of Hogan St., largest storage garage in South. Mechanics expert on all cars. Open day and night. Wrecker, washing, all attentions. Phones 5-7243 and 5-4958. Member Jacksonville Motor Club, AAA and OST.

\*MACCLENNY. Village. HOTEL ANNIE over store. Camp space. Glen St. Mary nurseries, 3 mi. west, noted nurseries, open to visitors.

OLUSTEE. Lodging. Camp space in live oak grove. Olunsee Battlefield, Civil War, east 2.5 mi., marked by monument.

\*LAKE CITY. Jct. highway from northern states to South Florida. Important gateway city. Numerous lakes. BLANCHE HOTEL leads. Also POWELL HOTEL. Two cabin camps, 25c to \$1.50, good.

INF.—West Coast Inf. Bureau or Chamber of Commerce.

\*LIVE OAK. An attractive home city, paved streets, old live oak shade trees. Hogs, dairying, farming, tobacco.