

DIVISIONS -- THE OLD SPANISH TRAIL.

Following the convention and the action there looking toward re-divisioning of the highway and the inclusion of the natural tributaries the following represents the divisions now planned, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.

In the re-divisioning of the Old Spanish Trail the old history is kept closely in mind.

I. FLORIDA DIVISION -- 1,000 Miles.

East coast to Miami and west coast to Tampa, and to include tributaries. Tampa is the ancient gateway of DeSoto, DeNarvaez and the early explorers. St. Augustine is the oldest city in the United States. All South Florida is rich in old Spanish history. Florida was Spanish until 1819.

The trail continues through North Florida from St. Augustine to the Alabama line, through Jacksonville, Tallahassee and Pensacola.

Pensacola was the ancient gateway of the Spanish in West Florida and pensacola claims the most ancient history of any city in the land, for DeLuna came with a great expedition of military and priests in 1559 and planted a colony.

The ancient trail of the Spanish connected Pensacola and St. Augustine. St. Augustine is the natural, historical terminus on the Atlantic seaboard.

II. ALABAMA DIVISION -- 70 Miles.

First indefinitely Spanish, then a part of the Old Louisiana of the French. Mauvila was the ancient Indian kingdom where DeSoto's great expedition encountered disaster. That was the first decisive battle in the United States. Mobile takes its name from Mauvila, and the Old Spanish Trail had its birth in Mobile in 1915, with Pensacola and West Florida assisting.