

OLD MISSION CHAIN TRAIL TO NOGALES FOR TRAVEL BY TOURIST

Development of the Arizona old Spanish missions in conjunction with those of Northern Mexico adjacent to Nogales, together with a tourist highway covering the Santa Cruz Mission trail projected soon into Mexico by four eminent men, authorities on Missions.

Frank Pinkley, custodian of the Tumacacori Mission, on his recent visit to that ruin and Nogales, conferred with the Nogales chamber-of-commerce relative to restoring the Mission to condition guaranteeing its preservation. He also proposes to beautify and clear up the 15-acre government national park grant surrounding the Mission.

Outlines Tourist Trail

At that time he outlined the possibilities of establishing a Tourist Trail to cover the Missions of Arizona and the Santa Cruz district, linked with the ancient specimens of Missions in Sonora. Sonora was the cradle of the old Spanish missionary movement into the U. S. California is an adjunct to the Santa Cruz Valley Missions just as these are adjuncts of the Sonora Missions.

The party to visit Sonora going via Nogales on the missionary exploratory trip will include Dean Cummings of Arizona University, Frank Pinkley, Justad Jaastad, architect specialist on the Missions restoration, and Prentice Duell.

The trip will cover possibilities and needs for gas and auto service station. Hotel accommodations will also be worked out with road data.

Nogales as Tourist Center

The plan will make Nogales a tourist trail center for travel of persons visiting the Missions. This will be a part of the Old Spanish Trail which includes the old Missions route from Florida to California. The Tourist Trail development will make Nogales the most important point between California and Florida on the Old Spanish Trail.

In outlining the proposed trip into Mexico, Mr. Pinkley writes the Nogales chamber-of-commerce as follows:

In company with three other persons who are as interested in Arizona mission history as myself, I want to go into Mexico for a week or two, crossing at Nogales, Ariz. We will probably not want to go more than 80 miles south of Nogales. Dolores will probably be the farthest southeast and Caborea the southwest limit of the journey.

We must make the trip in person so we may be able to:

- (1) Get reliable road data for road maps.
- (2) Get plans of various Missions.
- (3) Get photographs of the Missions and towns for the files and advertising purposes.
- (4) Get in personal touch with the authorities and see what they will do toward aiding a general movement to advance the interest in Missions.

When we return from the trip, if conditions are found satisfactory, we want to arrange for an advancement of the Arizona chain of Missions from its present obscure state until it becomes a thing of prominent interest in the mind of the tourist.

This might be done either by a special organization under some such name as the "Arizona Mis-

sion Association," or it might be done through a special committee or department of the Archaeological and Historical Society.