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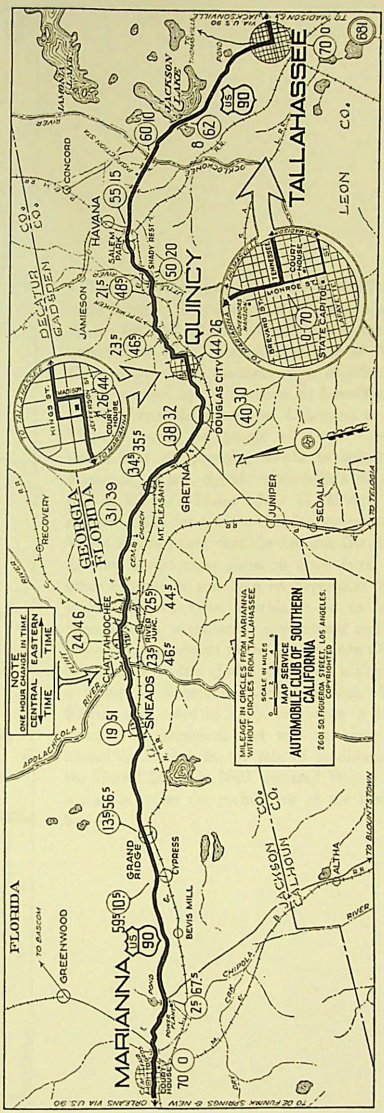
By the Treaty of Paris in 1763, Florida was ceded to England in return for Havana. The provinces of East Florida and West Florida were now formed. Civil, in place of military government was instituted; immigration began and Andrew Turnbull, an Englishman, brought over a band of about 1,500 Minorcans (1769), whom he engaged in the cultivation of indigo at New Smyrna. Roads were laid out, some of which yet remain; and in the last three years of British occupation the Government spent $580,000.00 on the two provinces. Consequently the people of Florida were for the most part loyal to Great Britain during the war of American Independence. In 1779, Spain having declared war against Great Britain, Don Bernardo de Galvez, the Spanish Governor at New Orleans, seized most of the English forts in West Florida and in 1781 captured Pensacola. By the Treaty of Paris in 1783, Florida reverted to Spain and no religious liberty being promised, many of the British inhabitants left East and West Florida. A dispute with the United States concerning the northern boundary was settled by the Treaty of 1795, the line 31° north latitude being established.



Time Changes at Apolachicola River from Eastern to Central and vice versa