

There are several tributaries in South Texas with San Antonio as a center. When San Antonio was settled a new trail developed from Mexico City thru San Antonio to Nacogdoches and then into French territory at Natchitoches and on to New Orleans and Mobile—the Old San Antonio Road (El Camino Real; the King's Highway) now marked every 5 ms. by the D. A. R. This Camino Real in Texas is one of the most ancient highways in America for it appears to have been a continuation of the highway of the Aztecs.

San Antonio and New Orleans started the same year (1718), each becoming the military, religious and commercial seat of empire. San Antonio became the seat of Franciscan missions of the diocese of San Antonio. New Orleans became the Louisiana seat of the Jesuit diocese of Quebec. Nacogdoches was the Spanish military and mission frontier and Natchitoches was the French frontier post. Missions were also planted at Uvalde and near the old silver mine at Menard.

VII. EL PASO AND NEW MEXICO DIVISION—670 Miles, Main Lines.

Van Horn westward thru and including New Mexico (336 ms.) and the Rio Grande Valley northward in New Mexico to Santa Fe (332 ms.). Also to include tributaries. The Camino Real from Mexico City to Santa Fe passed thru El Paso.

The oldest and most romantic works in the Spanish Southwest. Santa Fe is the second oldest city in the United States. The prehistoric Indian works and the old Spanish adventure and effort are an interwoven romance. This is all naturally a part of the Old Spanish Trail system.

VIII. WESTERN DIVISION—1,000 Miles.

Arizona and California to Los Angeles, 826 ms. The old mission works in California continued northward beyond San Francisco.

The Santa Cruz Valley in Arizona, Tucson to Nogales, 86.6 ms., was a western entrance from Old Mexico into the Spanish Southwest. The old missions, San Xavier (1692) and Tumacacori, older, are there, two of the most remarkable churches ever built in a wilderness.

In Arizona and California were the last of the works of the Spaniard, and the most numerous of those amazing communal establishments, the old Franciscan missions built a day's journey apart, the first at San Diego in 1769.

In Arizona, too, Coronado in 1540, with an expedition worthy of a king's ransom, searched for the Cities of Gold. He pushed his search for three years thru northern Texas and on to northeastern Kansas, then returned a broken man.

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109 Gunter Hotel, San Antonio, Texas.

H. B. Ayres, Managing Director.

The Association is incorporated. Field workers are bonded by a national surety company. Periodical audits are made of all accounts. A permanent, business organization is developing to open and popularize this southern historical territory, to mark the Highway and its tributaries, to foster campsites, to sign historical places—a Highway of the Southern Borderlands fostered by the people of the South for the travelers of the world.

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Councilors are appointed in localities along the Trail to act as the local officials in all matters affecting the work, and for fostering the comfort and pleasure of travelers. Councilors are also a part of the Divisional Council under the Vice-Presidents in handling divisional questions.

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(Recommendations are invited for the appointment of Councilors.)

THE HIGHWAY OF THE SOUTHERN BORDERLANDS

