9-1-1986

Auto Route, Huntsville, Alabama, to All Florida and Alabama Points, Via Gadsden

Historic Huntsville Foundation

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Recommended Citation
Available at: https://louis.uah.edu/historic-huntsville-quarterly/vol13/iss1/4

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AUTO ROUTE, HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA TO ALL FLORIDA AND ALABAMA POINTS, VIA GADSDEN

To Florida go via Guntersville, Gadsden, Rome and Atlanta. To New Orleans and Mobile go via Gadsden, Birmingham, Montgomery and Selma.

Mileage.

0 HUNTSVILLE, Court House on left, First National Bank Building on right. Jog straight ahead South on macadam pike.

5.8 LILLYFLAG, Cross RR track; straight thru four corners; straight thru at 9.7.

11 WHITESBURGH, The Tennessee River, bear left around store house. (Caution.) Do not cross river at Ferry located just around curve to right. Turn right over iron and wood bridge following road straight ahead with poles. Cross wood and iron bridge at 12.4 then bear right over winding road. Cross RR then pass church at 13.9.

14.6 HOBBS ISLAND (TAYLORSVILLE), Station on right; straight thru, following gravel road and poles. Pass church on right at 16. Pass school house on right at 16.6. Cross wood and iron bridge at 18.1. Sharp turn to right at 19.1. Straight ahead; keep to right at 20.7. Keep to right at 21. Church on right at 21.4. Straight ahead at 24.2. Turn right at 24.4 into:


32.1 COTTONVILLE, Store on left, straight thru; Fork; take left at 32.7. Church on left at 33. Cross two wood colverts at 34.4. Go over long winding hill at 36.2. Sharp turn to right at 37.6. School house on left at 38.7.
Bear right down hill to Tennessee River Ferry; cross here to Guntersville; ferry runs day and night. Necessary to call for ferry at night as it anchors during the night on the Guntersville side. Two large gasoline power ferries each handling five cars. Toll $1.00. Go straight out from ferry. Four-corners; turn right with travel at 43.6.

GUNTERSVILLE, four-corners; Court house on left; straight thru. Brick church on left at 44.1. Pass watering trough in middle of road, at 45.5. Avoid right hand road at 45.9. Go thru covered bridge at 46.4. Go up winding road to Sand Mountain at 47.2.

Top of Mountain. Irregular four-corners; bear left with travel 50. Thru covered bridge at 51.7. Go thru bridge again at 52.4. Pass Cemetery on left at 54.

ALBERTSVILLE, Four corners; straight thru. Cross RR station on right at 54.7. Take right at 54.8. Forks, keep right at 56.2. Cross iron bridge at 58.8. Cross RR at 60.

BOAZ, Straight thru; P. O. on right. Pass church on right; thru covered bridge. Forks; take left at 60.9. Cross RR. Church and school house on right at 65.8.
The tourist is now across Sand Mountain or plateau a distance of 17.5 miles at an elevation of about 2,000 feet above sea level which was the original elevation of this entire section which extends North East for hundreds of miles at a width of about 15 to 30 miles.

Descend long winding magnificent road with wide sweeping curves. A grand view of the valley on right at 68.5. Bottom of mountain at 69.6. Cross iron bridge and bear left and then right over another mountain at 76.2. Four-corners; straight thru at 78.3. Turn left, RR on right at 78.4.

ATTALLA, Bank on left; Four-corners; straight thru with trolley, crossing RR. Keep straight up hill at 78.9. Cross concrete bridge at 79.6. Cross RR at 80.

ALABAMA CITY, P. O. on right; cross RR and follow trolley. Cross concrete bridge 82. Forks; take left at 82.2. Bear right; pass Southern RR shop on left at 82.6. Cross RR. Four-corners; meeting trolley; turn left Broad St. 83.

GADSDEN, Court House on left; turn left one block Printup Hotel, corner Fourth and Locust where Gadsden Auto Club is located. Adolph Reich President. Call on them for logs and information to all points South.

HUNTSVILLE to GADSDEN 84 miles.
Huntsville to Birmingham via Gadsden 144 miles.
Huntsville to Rome via Gadsden 148 miles.
Huntsville to Atlanta via Gadsden and Rome 206 miles.
Do not depend upon the public to give correct information. Call on the Auto Club or Commercial Association in each city. They usually furnish correct information.

"SEE AMERICA FIRST"

Good hotels at Guntersville, Albertsville and Boaz. Accomodations can also be secured at New Hope.
(EDITOR'S NOTE): Other Auto Routes in the 1919 Chamber of Commerce booklet gave instructions for travel from Huntsville to the Tennessee cities of Memphis, Chattanooga, and Nashville.

The Memphis route guided the tourist through Florence, Alabama (68 miles) to Corinth, Mississippi (136.1 miles) where one was advised to call on the Corinth Chamber of Commerce for further information. No total mileage to Memphis was provided. The roads to Florence were noted as being "gravel, stone and dirt roads, most of which are in poor shape. This is a section of the Mussel (sic) Shoals Highway." Travelers to Decatur were instructed to take the Huntsville to Florence Route to mileage 23, "then turn sharp to left straight thru to Decatur."

The roads to Chattanooga (117.6 miles) must have been fairly good, but the route to Nashville (114.8 miles) was noted with a warning: "Gravel and stone roads with short stretches of dirt. Thru hilly farming country. Roads first class in dry weather. Two hours of sunshine after a heavy rain puts roads in fine condition. . . Good hotels at Fayetteville, Shelbyville and Murphreesboro."

Each Auto Route ended with the same admonition found at the conclusion of the Florida and points South route given above - the public could not be relied upon for correct road information.

A map of the "best all year road thru Huntsville, Ala. to Florida" was part of the cover illustration of the 1919 Chamber of Commerce booklet.