

de Stolfe Journal ●●●●●●●●

Early Spring 2021 | 10.2



Contents

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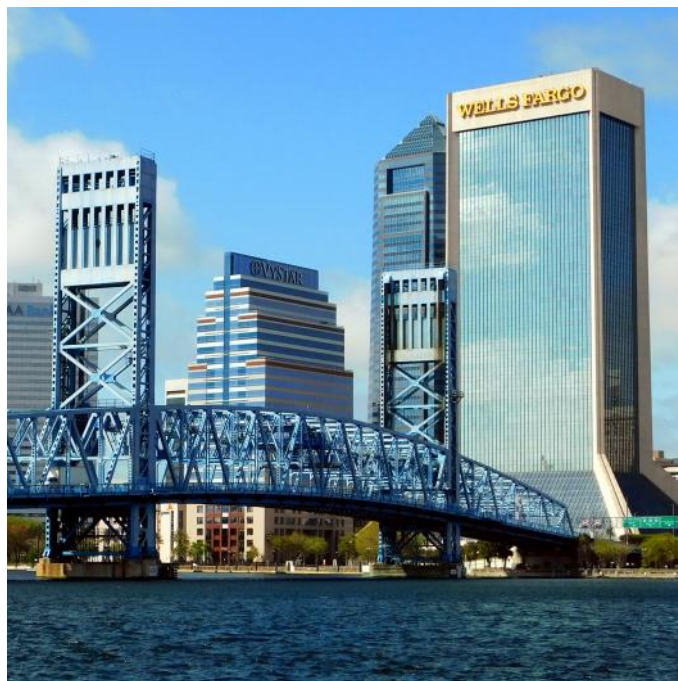
*Covers activities in February and March 2021.
The page numbers correspond to the PDF pages.*

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Atamasco lilies, also called rain lilies, found somewhat wild at a rest stop along I-10 in Florida.

On The Cover



This is downtown Jacksonville, Florida. Often called the River City, the St. Johns River runs right through the middle of the city/county.



I picked up this postcard while in Jacksonville Beach. See page 50 for some more postcards.

We live in the 21st century! Anywhere you see a web link like this, click it to go automatically to the webpage that it references! (Try it now!)

www.destolfe.com



Comments by RG

Whirlwind of Activities in a Short Time!

Hello and welcome to another issue of the de Stolfe Journal!

At the time of this writing, much has happened in a few short months! I'm covering some of that news in this journal, and I'm reserving some of the news for the next journal, the Late Spring 2021 issue.

To pick up from where I left off in the last journal, I mentioned that Dad and I went on a third trip to Florida. The bulk of this issue covers the activities of that trip, which lasted about 13 days in the second half of March. Even while on that trip, we had a couple of other little side trips! This journal will cover those activities as well.

Another set of activities happened right the next day after returning from Florida and lasted for another five weeks through April. Those are the activities reserved for the next journal, along with a few other side reports of other things I did at that time.

And even besides that, yet more things happened in the month following the five weeks! (So that would be in May.) That report will also be in the next journal along with the activities from the five weeks in April.



Producer, RG de Stolfe

So in this journal, the bulk of it is the trip Dad and I took to Florida, which I'm calling the third trip. The reason for the third trip to Florida stems from unfinished business left over from last year after we left. From June 2020 through February 2021, we have been waiting and waiting and waiting and waiting for the probate to finish we initiated in May of 2020. After a extreme and prolonged leanness (understand that to mean broke, broke, broke!), we finally got word by mid February from our second lawyer (we fired the first one) that the necessary actions were finally done! With that, we were able to put the house for sale. Not even two weeks went by after Mom died in 2020 did we start getting cards, notes, calls, and texts from people wanting to buy the house!

I call them wolves. But even with that, we could not sell the house until it was officially transferred to show that we owned it to have the right to sell it, which was ten months later. Mom knew that we would probably sell the house after she died, and she wanted us to get the financial benefit from selling the house. Little did any of us know just how crazy the housing market would get as a result of the lockdown last year!

We went to Florida to finish some business. The biggest reason to physically go to Florida was to pick up the items we put into storage there in June last year. We intended to get a U-Haul trailer for Dad's car to pull. The house was already sold and we got payment before we even left. That was the means for us to even be able to go. (Remember when I said we were broke, broke, broke?) I also wanted to claim a few items from inside and outside of the house. Besides all of that, there were a few places I wanted to go that we ran out of time last year to do.

That catches you up now to the point where this journal begins. We did quite a lot of things, most covered here and some not included in the Journal.

Enjoy!

Word For Life

So long, farewell, auf Wiedersehen, good night...

There are many words and phrases to express when departing. The above phrase comes from a line in the film *The Sound of Music*. Other things we say are see you later, goodbye, good day, later, peace out, etc. The word I want to focus on here is farewell.

This expression is actually two words of *fare* and *well*. In reality, it is an expression to bid to someone that they live well or that they be in good health. Therefore, it makes a good phrase to say when leaving to wish someone good.

The flip of the words is welfare, or welfare. This word basically means the same thing as farewell but in a noun form.

The apostle Paul used the word farewell many times in his letters to express his care for the recipients that they live goodly, to live in peace and in good health. But he also expressed farewell even if he did not write the word farewell in most of his letters.

In another example from the Old Testament, Mordecai paced in front of the woman's quarters of the palace awaiting news about Esther regarding her candidacy to become queen.

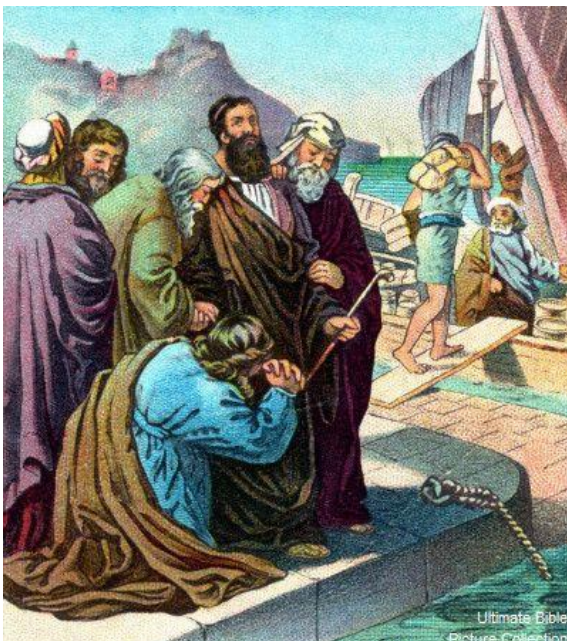


2 Corinthians 13:11

“Finally, brethren, farewell. Become complete. Be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.”

Esther 2:11

“And every day Mordecai paced in front of the court of the women's quarters, to learn of Esther's welfare and what was happening to her.”



Ultimate Bible Picture Collection

Illustration of Paul in Acts 20 speaking his farewell, in particular because Paul said to them that they “will see my face no more”. (Acts 20:25)

National Doughnut Day

Friday, June 4, 2021



Refer to the Doughnut Day 2018 special issue for more information.

Check your local area for doughnut giveaways!

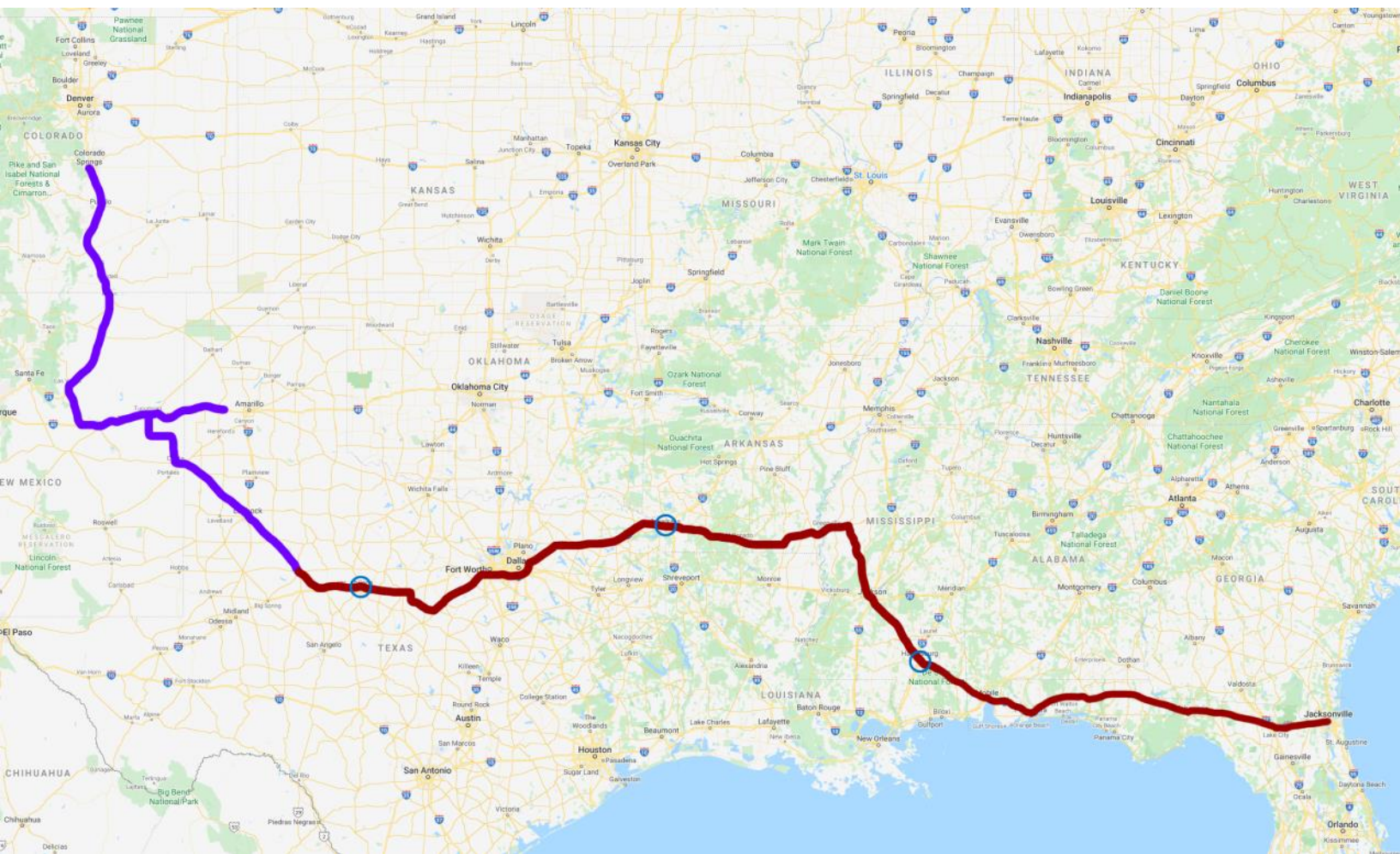
Third Trip To Florida

Reintroduction

To pick up from the June 2020 and July 2020 issues of the journal, about nine months went by before we would be able to return to Florida for the third and final trip that we knew last year we would need to do to finish with Mom's estate. Much of what happened those nine months were beyond our control for it was out of our hands. In short, the probate finally finished by mid February. Soon after, we listed the house for sale, which we knew we would do even last year and of which Mom knew we would do after her eventual death. The sale process happened very quickly in such a hot selling market as it was (and

still is). Once everything was done with the sale of the house, we decided to leave the next day. We decided that instead of me going up to Colorado to then go to Florida like last year, dad would come down to Texas and we would leave from here. This was especially important since we were planning to have a U-Haul to bring some stuff left in storage back here, which is why it made no sense for me to first drive to Colorado or to end back in Colorado. Dad had a hitch on the car that was easily rated for what would be the lighter weight of the filled trailer we would need.

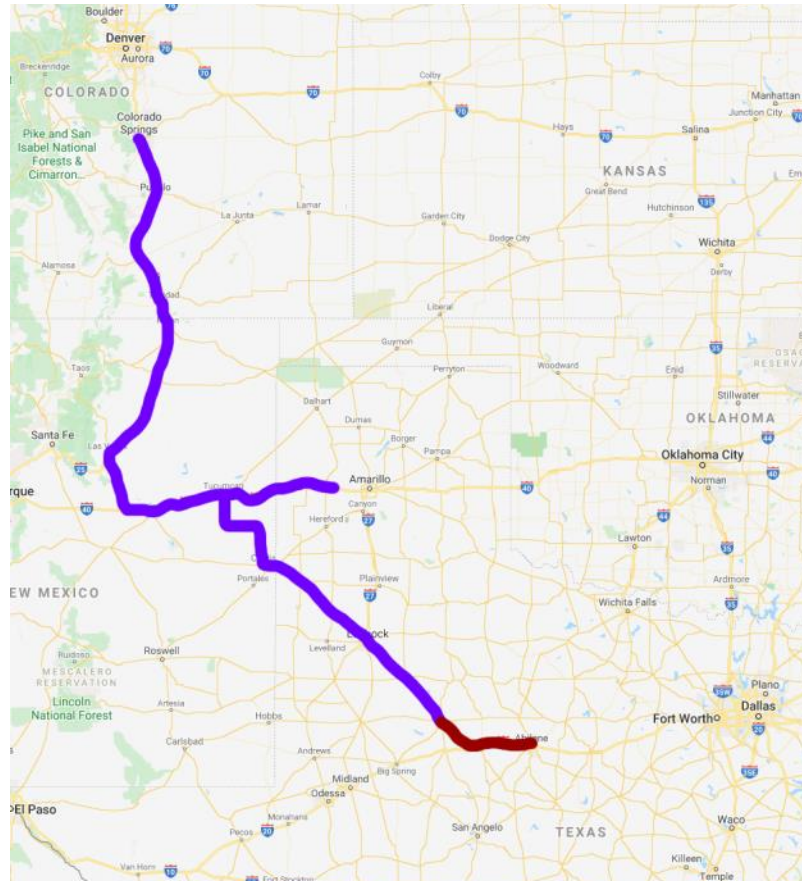
Here is the map of the trip to Jacksonville. The purple is Dad's route, and the red is the route we took with the blue circles being where we stayed the night.



Third Trip To Florida

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

Dad left just before midnight on March 16 and had quite the unexpected travel! I had prearranged a route months ago that would be very easy for him to take through the plains of Colorado from Pueblo to Lamar and down to Amarillo and onward. However, a heavy snowstorm fell that night, effectively shutting down the plains route. Dad then went the route through Raton Pass. But instead of cutting through the northeast triangle of New Mexico as I have done many times before, he continued down on I-25 to Las Vegas, New Mexico. From there, he would take the connection road to jump to I-40 and intended to go to Amarillo to get to I-25 and back on the route I sent him. However, some sort of accident (probably caused by the weather) by the time he got past Vega caused the traffic to come to a complete standstill and stayed that way for several hours! After three hours, he said enough of this and made a move headed back west on I-40. (Personally, I would not have waited past an hour, if even that long!) Now, he got as far as Tucumcari, when I suggested that he should instead make his way south from there to Clovis, then on to Lubbock from there. By the early evening, he finally got to my house just before dark, which was somewhere around 18 to 20 hours later after he left Colorado Springs! (For comparison sake, I my run between Snyder and Colorado Springs usually takes 9 or 10 hours, depending on stops.) We unloaded what things I intended to keep at home and packed up what stuff I intended to take. Rather than stay the night in my apartment, which I thought would not be very comfortable for him, I decided that we should drive to Abilene (which is approximately 90 minutes away) to satay at a hotel there. By going to Abilene, we could be that much more ahead for driving the next day. We stayed at the Sleep Inn on I-20. (I gained a bunch of reward points for staying at the Choice Hotels last year. So, I figured to see how far I get with them.)



Dad's route to my house. It was not the route either of us expected! Weather had much to do with it! Instead of staying in Snyder, we went to Abilene.

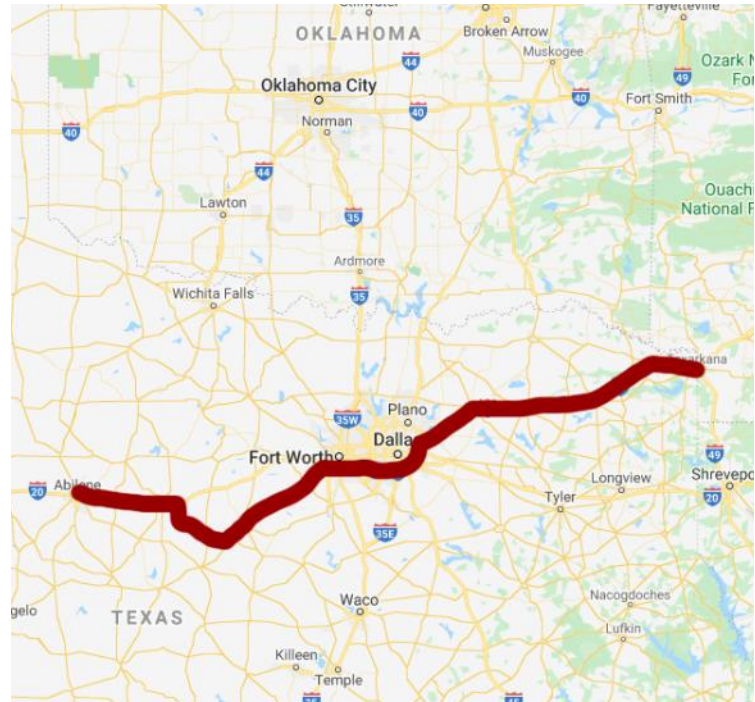


*This is a generic image of Dad's car.
The color is called bronze.*

Third Trip To Florida

Thursday, March 18, 2021

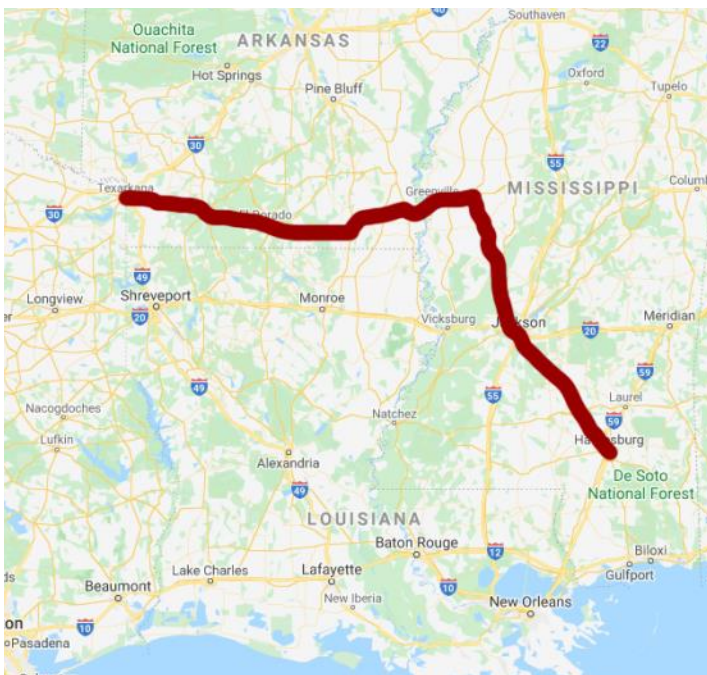
We left in the mid morning from Abilene with a preplanned, intentional stop to visit some of my friends in De Leon for a few hours. We visited for a while and later had lunch with them. We then went over to Stephenville. I planned to stop at Chick Elm's Grand Entry Western Store to get some boots. (And I ended up getting two pairs!) We also stopped at the HEB for gas and a car wash. (This is something that dad does at home and especially while travelling. Refer to the trip writings from last year.) From Stephenville, we intended to head to the northeast corner of Texas. Based on some old information from May and June last year, Florida was screening all cars coming into the state to make sure they were not coming from states in the northeast or from Louisiana. I could not find any information explicitly stating that they were or were not still doing this. So instead, I wanted to completely bypass going through Louisiana and instead went through southern Arkansas by way of Texarkana to Jackson. I would find out later that this diversion was unnecessary, but I knew that I did not want to go through New Orleans or southern Louisiana even though we could have technically taken I-20. We got to Rockwall where we had dinner at Cracker Barrel (for Thursday turkey, of course) then went a little further to spend the night at the Comfort Inn in Texarkana.



Route from Abilene to Texarkana, both in Texas.

Friday, March 19, 2021

We again left in the mid morning. We would travel through small roads in southern Arkansas with varying landscapes, which were mostly rural or foresty. (And yes, I spelled that word right! I meant Foresty, not forestry!) We stopped in El Dorado for some breakfast and gas. (We later passed a town called Snyder, Arkansas.) We kept travelling on the many small roads and through the many small towns until we finally got to the Mississippi River around 1:30 PM. We went over a nice bridge into Mississippi. We went as far as Yazoo City before stopping for some lunch at Popeye's and to rest for about an hour. We got into Jackson and on to US 49. We then stopped in Richland at a Kroger, the same one we stopped at last year, for gas and I picked up a few items. Shortly after we left, we were caught up for about 40 minutes from an accident on the road. About another 30 minutes later, we stopped at a Dairy Queen for some ice cream (something we did quite often). We stayed at the Quality Inn in Hattiesburg. For this particular night, we got separate rooms.



Route from Texarkana to Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

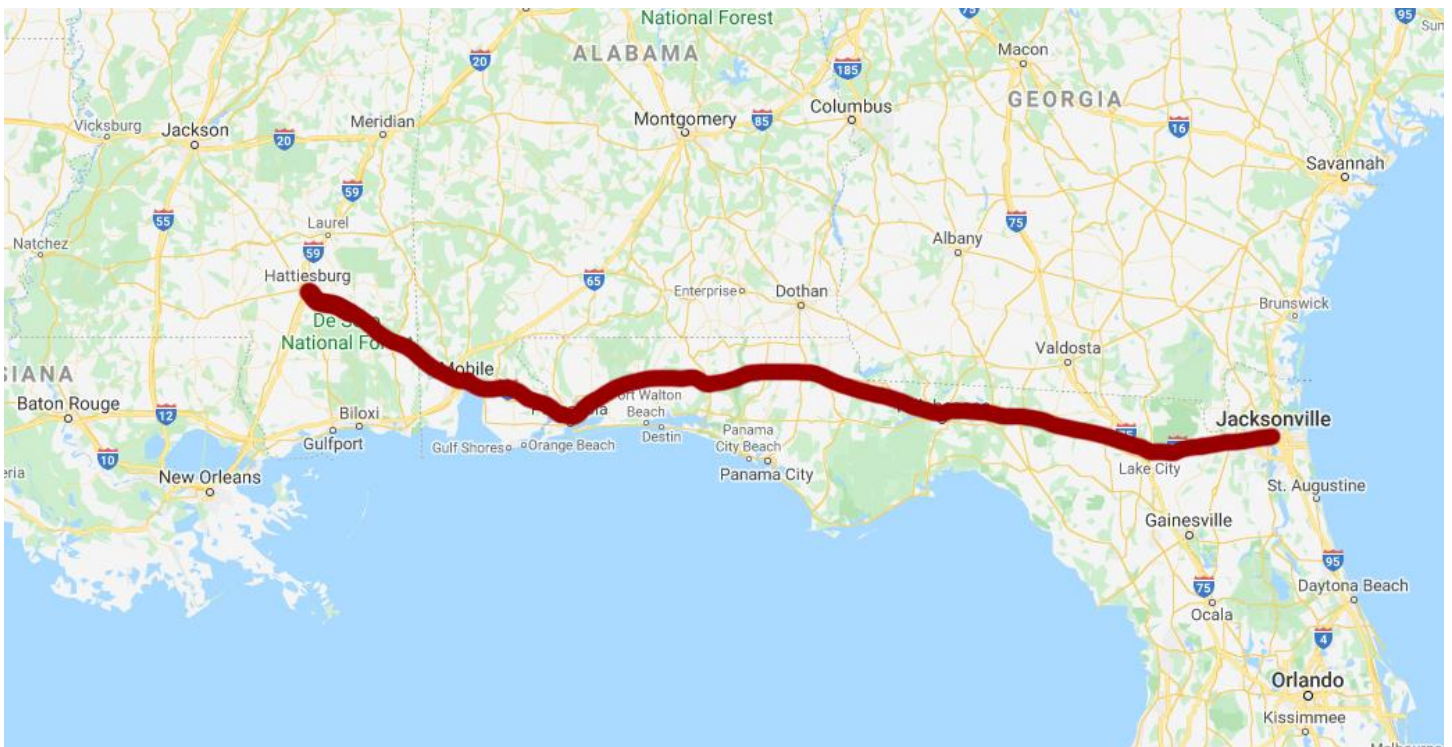
Third Trip To Florida

Saturday, March 20, 2021

On this day, we would arrive to Jacksonville from Hattiesburg, much the same as we did on one of the trips last year. We again left the hotel in the mid morning and headed to Mobile on US 98. About an hour later, we got to the Alabama border. We stopped at a Winn Dixie in Semmes (like last year) for breakfast (the usual of doughnuts, bananas, and juice or coffee) and got to downtown Mobile after about another 30 minutes. On I-10, we went through the tunnel that goes under the Mobile River and onto the long bridge over Mobile Bay. After about another 30 minutes, we got to the Buc-ee's in Robertsdale, Alabama. This Buc-ee's is called the Beach Express and is the same one we stopped at four times between the two trips last year. This time, we spent about an hour and half with getting gas, visiting the exceptionally clean bathrooms, and looking around at the snacks and gift items. Last year, I had bought a small bowl that I liked and

decided that I wanted the other designs and colors besides the one I got before. However, this particular location did not have them anymore (or at least, I could not find them). We got into Florida after another 30 minutes and soon after went on the not as long bridge over Escambia Bay near Pensacola. There were no diversions or checkpoints, just straight driving. We continued on with only a couple of rest stops until we got into Jacksonville before dark. We stayed at a newly built hotel, a Comfort Inn, that was only open for a few days when we got there. It was located in Jacksonville very close to Orange Park. With it being spring break, the hotel stayed busy the entire time we were there. Almost right next to the hotel was a Culver's, that must have also been fairly new, where we had some dinner, and there was a Costco right across the street from them both. We went to this Costco once last year to get gas when we were in town.

Route from Hattiesburg to Jacksonville, Florida.



Third Trip To Florida

Sunday, March 21 through Friday, March 26, 2021

We ultimately stayed in Jacksonville for seven nights before leaving on March 27, also having extended it from the five nights originally planned. We did not plan specifically what we would do each day, but we knew of various things we wanted to do, and we determined day by day what we would do. This trip was much simpler than the previous trips since we had already done the bulk of the hard work last year. We just had a few miscellaneous things to

do that were part of the conditions of the sale of the house. The Comfort Inn hotel was quite nice especially by being new and clean. The hotel was hard to beat by the other hotels we stayed at! I had a random list of things I wanted to do while in Jacksonville, of which I did not get to do all of them. However, I definitely wanted to go to St. Augustine, and dad wanted to go visit Bok Tower, which is located in central Florida.

Sunday, March 21, 2021

We got going by mid morning after a light breakfast at the hotel. We stopped by the storage unit to make sure everything still looked okay in it, which it was after over nine months. (The storage unit was made of cinder blocks with very few openings for bugs or even dust.) After that, we made our way rather impromptly to go to the beach, another thing I wanted to do. (Even having lived in Jacksonville for almost eight years, I cannot recall ever going to the beaches there!) We ended up going to Jacksonville Beach. Now, the weather was still rather cold and windy (but would warm up later in the week). That made for quite the scene on the beach with the strong winds blowing sand, choppy waves, and gray, dreary skies. “Happy spring break!” After that, we stopped at a shell shop—something you always have to do when in Florida!—to get some shells and other souvenirs. We also stopped at the adjoining surf shop run by the same owner. (Shell shops and surf shops are more common the further south you go in Florida along the coast where it is more tropical than in northern Florida.) We had lunch at Outback Steakhouse there before returning back to the main part of Jacksonville. After that, we did a few errands.

Monday, March 22, 2021

Since it was the first day of the week after getting to Jacksonville, I needed to do some banking, which we took care of. We also stopped by a furniture store where we sold some furniture to last year. I was thinking that I sold a particular piece I had decided I wanted to keep. We looked around seeing nothing of the items we had sold back in early June last year. I did find a small half round hall table I liked, which the owner was nice enough to just let us have! (It was not of the highest quality. But would be a good project table.) We went to put the table in the storage unit, and as I was rearranging the unit, I came across the table I thought I sold! It was covered with a blanket which is why I could not see it in the photos I took last year. We went and had lunch at Moon River Pizza. After that, we went downtown to go to a particular office. Since the office was right on the river, I wanted to go and take photos along the Riverwalk for a retroactive project. Dad did not want to do all that walking, besides being a little cold still, so I went by myself for about an hour. By early evening, we took our realtor out for dinner to Carrabba’s Italian Grill. Later, we had dessert of frozen custard at Culver’s.

See next page for more

Third Trip To Florida

Jacksonville Beach



Even on a cold, windy, dreary day, the beach was pleasant and salty!

Plenty of sand dunes and various grasses and wildflowers growing.



Third Trip To Florida

Florida Shell Shop

Any time you are in Florida, particularly the coasts or South Florida, you have to stop at a shell shop! These are stores to buy shells and various other kitchy Florida things. These stores buy the shells, they don't go get them off the beach! (There is a big market for this sort of thing.) In this case, this shop is the only shell shop in Jacksonville Beach. (Like I said, it is more common the more south in the state you go.) They sell shells individually and in bundles or baskets. No doubt, I got a bunch!



Plethora of shells at the shell shop!

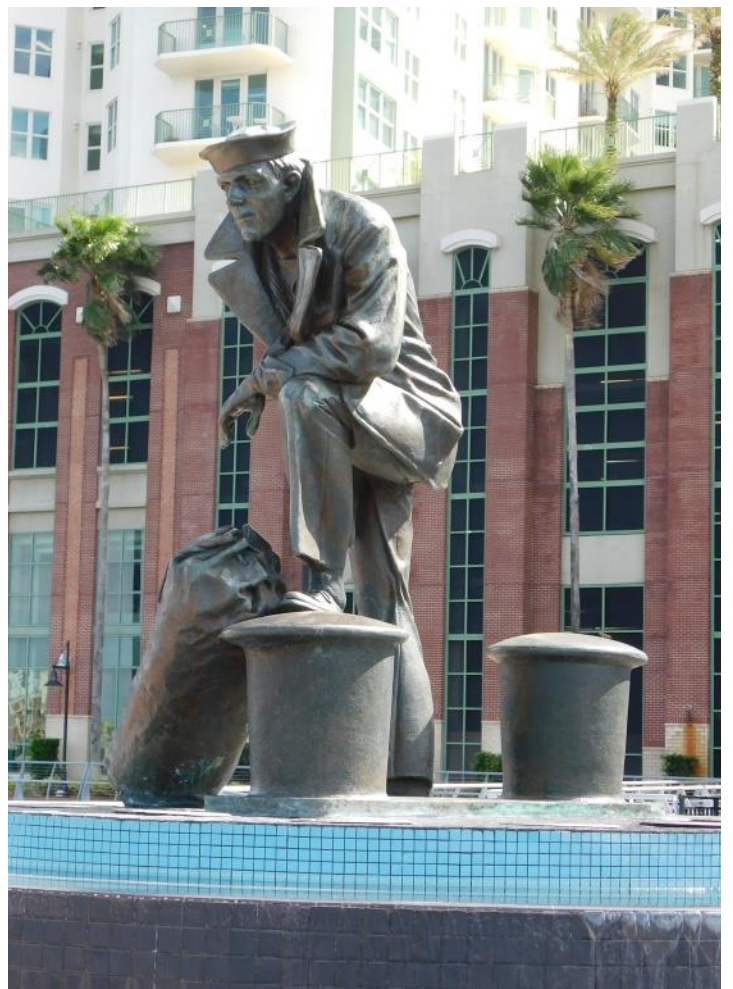


The surf shop next door owned by the same people.

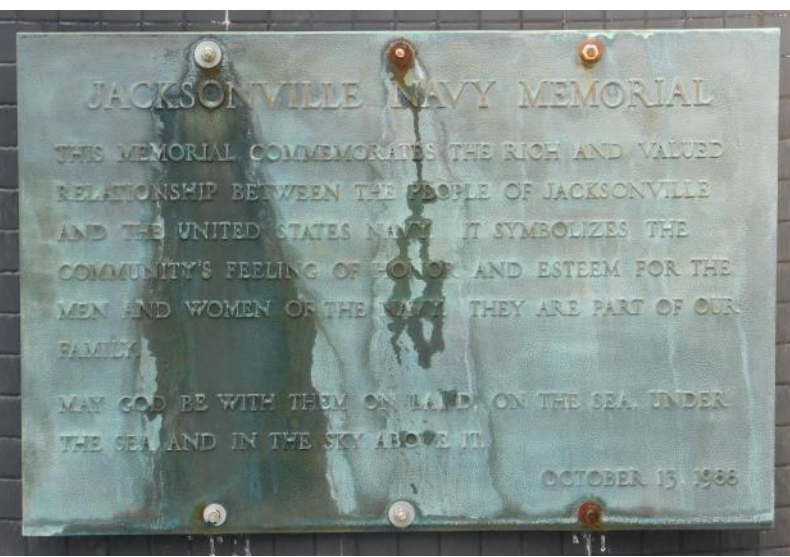
Riverwalk



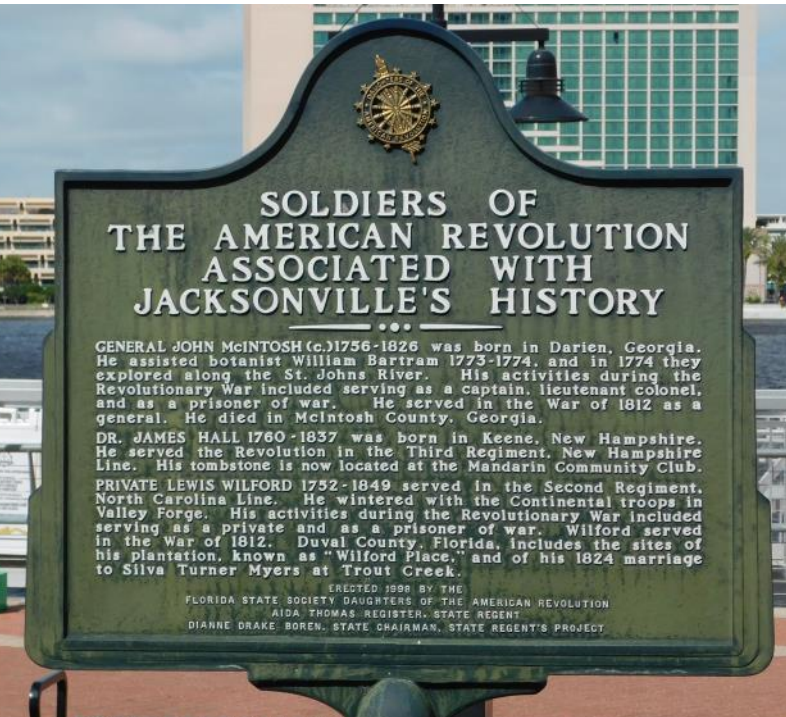
The Riverwalk along the St. John's River in Jacksonville, Florida



Sculpture of a sailor of the Jacksonville Navy Memorial, established in 1988.



Riverwalk

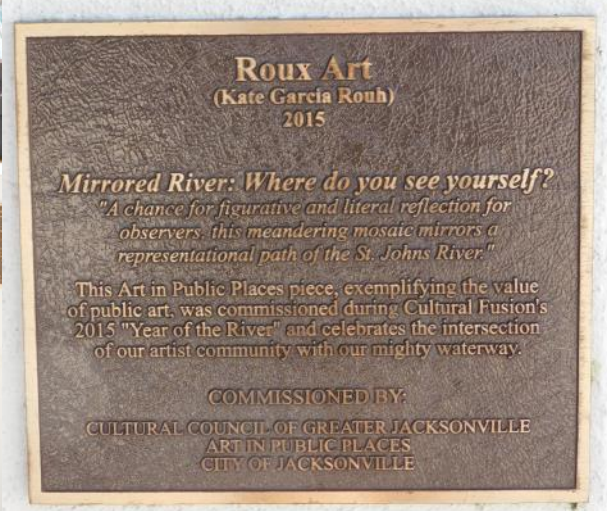


The Riverwalk along the St. John's River in Jacksonville, Florida



Riverwalk

Downtown Jacksonville, on the north bank. Jacksonville has 9 bridges of varying types.



Mosaic public art on river wall under the John T. Alsop Jr. Bridge (or Main Street Bridge).

Third Trip To Florida

Tuesday, March 23, 2021

See next page for more

We started out today going to Publix to look around and get a few things. Publix started in Florida in 1930. The whole time I lived in Florida, we shopped at Publix, along with Winn Dixie and a short time at Piggly Wiggly in South Florida. Next, because it was part of the agreement of the sale of the house, we went to the house to look at it and to claim a few things I wanted. I realized that I was lacking in certain tools, so we zipped over to Lowe's and came back to the house. One particular feature of the house that I knew would be thrown away in an inevitable remodeling by the new owners was to claim a certain period based feature of homes long ago. The house was finished in 1930, and so the

house is basically a late 1920s style. Kitchens at the time still had the remnant of being utilitarian spaces. The item I wanted to claim was a built-in ironing board! This is where the museum part of me as well as my previous experience as a curator came to play! Basically, I ripped out the entire assembly of the ironing board out of the wall to take with me! It took some effort and was full of nails, but I got it out, molding and all! After taking it out, we could clearly see the plaster and lathe wall construction behind it that made up the whole house. We stopped by the U-Haul location to reserve the trailer which we would pick up on Friday along with a few other errands.



Before removal

After removal

Plaster and lathe construction

Third Trip To Florida

Publix—Where Shopping Is A Pleasure

As I said before, the whole time I lived in Florida, we shopped at Publix. We shopped occasionally at other stores, like Winn Dixie, but we liked Publix the best. The first Publix opened in 1930. Here is what Publix tells about its history:

“George W. Jenkins, the late founder of Publix Super Markets Inc, was born September 29, 1907. Growing up in Harris, Georgia, he worked in his father’s general store. In 1925, he headed to Tampa, Florida at the age of 17 with hopes of making his fortune in the Florida real estate boom. Instead, he took a job as a stock clerk in a Piggly Wiggly grocery store. After only a couple of months, he was promoted to manager and was later transferred to manage the chain’s largest store in Winter Haven, a position he held from 1926 to 1930. It was that year that he resigned from Piggly Wiggly to start his own grocery store.”

“On September 6, 1930, George Jenkins opened his first store, called Publix Food Store, in Winter Haven. In 1935, he opened a second location across town. He closed these first two stores to open his dream store, the first Publix Super Market, on November 8, 1940. A “food palace” of marble, glass, and stucco, this store included innovations such as air conditioning, fluorescent lighting, electric eye doors, and terrazzo floors.”

I still remember when Publix in the 1980s and early 1990s still looked like the store to the right! (Even with the green neon behind the letters and down the center column.) And yes, we collected the Green Stamps to fill the books to go to the S&H Green Stamps store in Coral Gables to see what we could get! (The S&H stands for Sperry & Hutchinson.)

Read More

- **Publix Supermarket history**—<http://corporate.publix.com/about-publix/culture/history>



Publix Super Market opened in 1940. This Art Deco style building in Winter Haven still stands today, but it is currently vacant.



Old logo

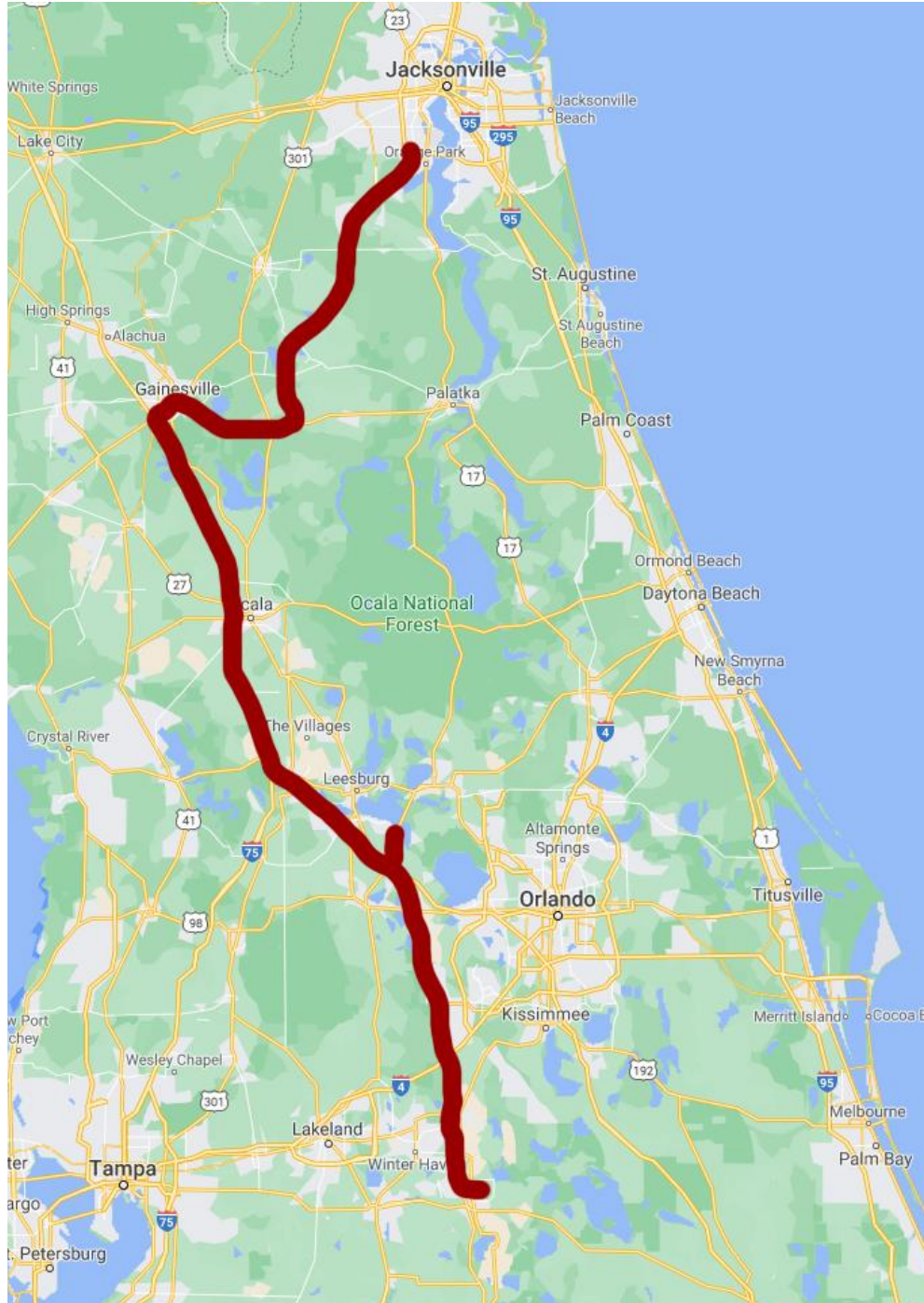


Logo today

Third Trip To Florida

Wednesday, March 24, 2021

I wanted to go somewhere, and Dad wanted to go somewhere. So this day and the next we spent for our little trips. Today, we went where dad wanted to go, which was to Bok Tower located in central Florida. I had been there before sometime in the early 80s, nearly 40 years ago. At that time, it was simply a place to visit, but now is now an expanded major attraction. We left in the mid morning and headed towards Gainesville then down from there. We made a couple of stops for gas and later for lunch. We then got on the Turnpike and got off near Howey-in-the-Hills. This is a small town where dad lived in the 50s, and he wanted to check out a couple of places he remembered while in the area. We continued on and passed by the Florida Citrus Tower (built in 1956) near Clermont but did not stop there. We finally got to Bok Tower near Lake Wales by about 4:00 PM not realizing that it was much farther than it appeared on the map! We spent about two hours there to view the gardens and the tower. We left when they closed at 6:00 PM. All around the attraction were orange groves with trees full of oranges. (And no, we did not steal any oranges!) We left and less than an hour later, we stopped at a Bob Evans for dinner. By the time we left there, it was dark, and we finally got back to the hotel in Jacksonville a little before midnight. Long day!



General route we took from Jacksonville to Bok Tower Gardens.

See next page for more

Central Florida

Howe-in-the-Hills, Florida

This unusual town name is located in Lake County of Florida and has a population of about 1100 people as of the 2010 census. Here's what Wikipedia shows:

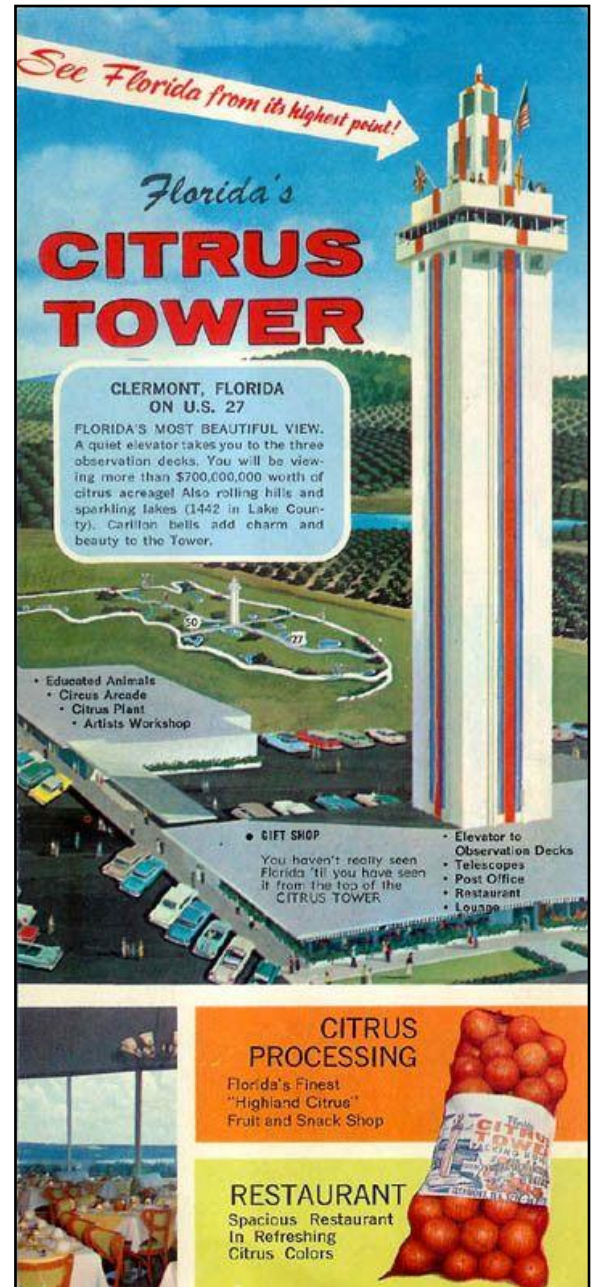
“Howey-in-the-Hills was founded by William John Howey, a citrus grower and real-estate developer. On May 8, 1925, Howey-in-the-Hills was incorporated as the Town of Howey. In 1927, the name was officially changed to Howey-in-the-Hills to reflect the location of the town in an area of rolling hills. The first citrus juice plant in Florida was built in Howey-in-the-Hills by William John Howey in 1921.”

(That's exactly one hundred years ago!)

Dad lived in the area in the 1950s and wanted to see the area while he was near the area.



This is the Howey Market. Dad specifically wanted to stop here because he said that he worked here in the 1950s. It is quite different now, but the building is still there.



While we did not stop here, this structure is the Florida Citrus Tower near Clermont, Florida. Built in 1956, they claim it to be an earliest Florida attraction.

Bok Tower



This is the most iconic view of the tower in the Bok Tower Gardens.

Bok Tower

The Name of the Tower

Today, the site is an expansive attraction with the tower and various gardens. Although decades ago, it was just the tower and you could nearly drive up to the tower. Sometime in the early 1980s, we went there for a visit.

According to their website, Edward William Bok “was born in Den Helder, Netherlands, on October 9, 1863. He came to the United States at the age of six. Educated in the Brooklyn Public Schools, he became an office boy with the Western Union Telegraph Company in 1876. Continuing his education at a night school, he began working for Henry Holt and Company, publishers, in 1882. Two years later he became associated with Charles Scribner’s Sons, publishers, eventually becoming advertising manager. He was the editor of The Brooklyn Magazine from 1884 to 1887. In 1886, he founded The Bok Syndicate Press, which led to the offer of the editorship of The Ladies’ Home Journal in 1889. Under his management, The Ladies’ Home Journal became one of the most successful and influential publications in America and the first magazine in the world to have one million subscribers. Bok also had a great influence on American architecture. He was a leader of the Arts and Crafts movement at the turn of the century and was the first to call Victorian parlors “living rooms.” Frank Lloyd Wright Jr. was one of the new architects Bok promoted by making his house plans available to the public in the Journal. After 30 years as editor he retired in 1919. On February 1, 1929, President Calvin Coolidge dedicated the Gardens in Lake Wales, Florida, that Bok had made as a gift for visitation by the American people in gratitude for the opportunity they had given him. Edward William Bok died in Lake Wales within sight of his beloved Singing Tower on January 9, 1930, and is now buried at the base of the Tower.”



*Edward William Bok
(1863-1930)*



I didn't think to photograph it, but Bok's grave above is located near the base of the tower.

Read More

- **Bok Tower Gardens**—<https://boktowergardens.org>

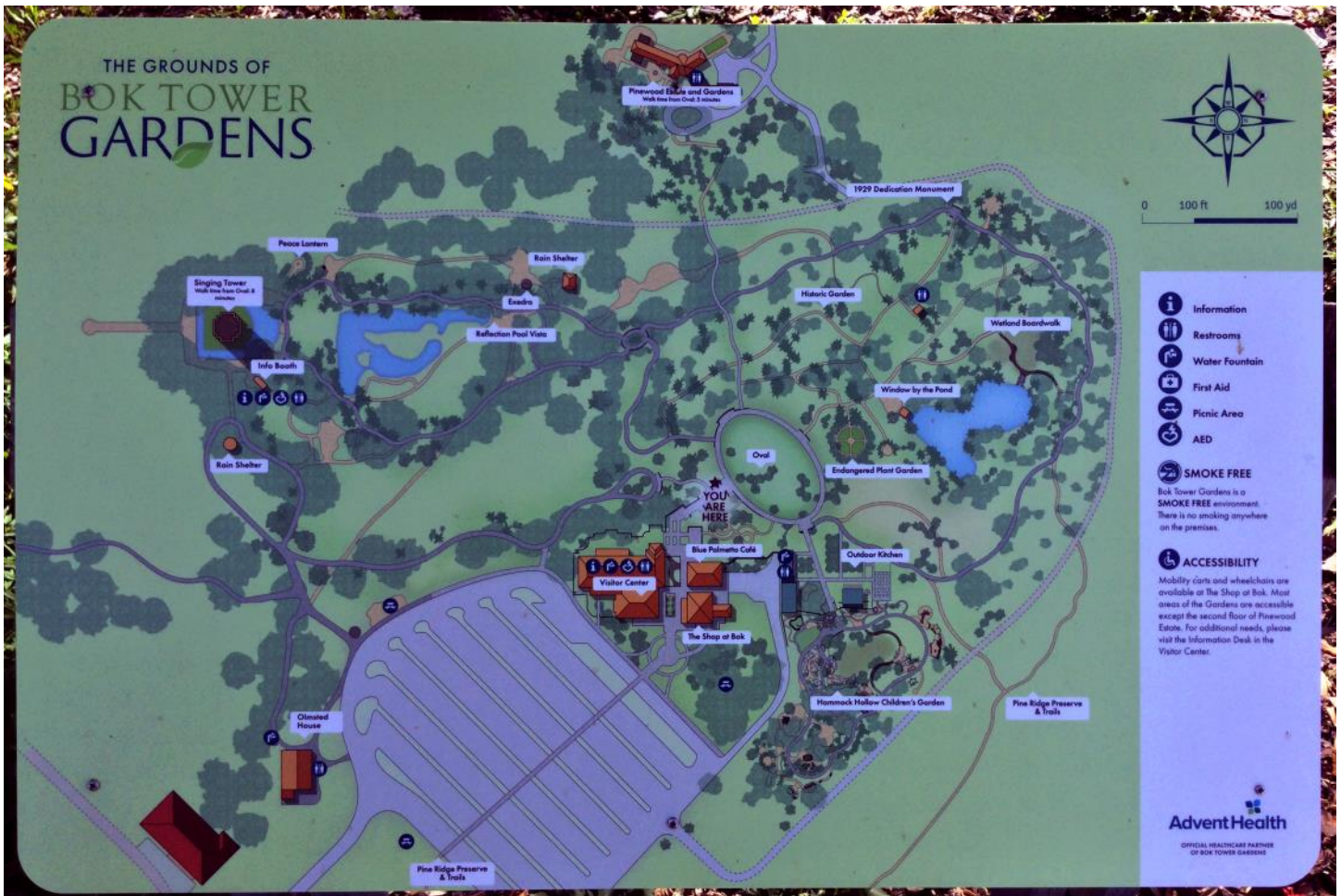
Bok Tower

The Gardens

You can see by the map just how extensive the gardens are! As you walk around, you can almost smell the oxygen by how clean the air is! We did not have enough time to explore even a fraction of the whole park, besides not being able to walk that much through it. (Well, for Dad to walk through it.)



Did you know that Spanish moss has flowers?



Map of the grounds of Bok Tower Gardens

Watch out!
Just kidding!
It's made of bronze!



Bok Tower



Japanese Camellia (and lots of honey bees!)



Oxalis flowers with Chenille flowers



White Camellia

Maroon Camellia

Hibiscus

Yucca

Bromeliad

Pentas

Gerbera Daisy

Japanese Camellia

Culcas

Panama Rose

Yucca, Yucca & Tomatoes

Carla Azalea

Bok Tower



YESTERDAY-TODAY-
AND-TOMORROW

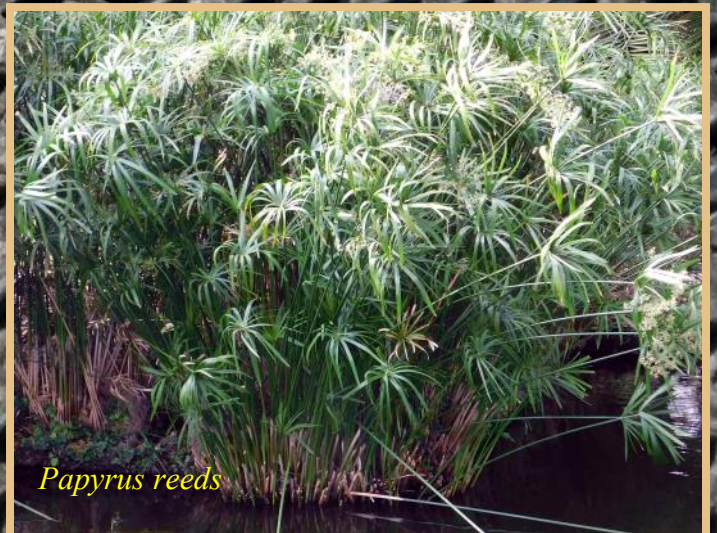
Brunfelsia australis

Solanaceae

Brazil to Argentina



Spanish Moss on Live Oak tree

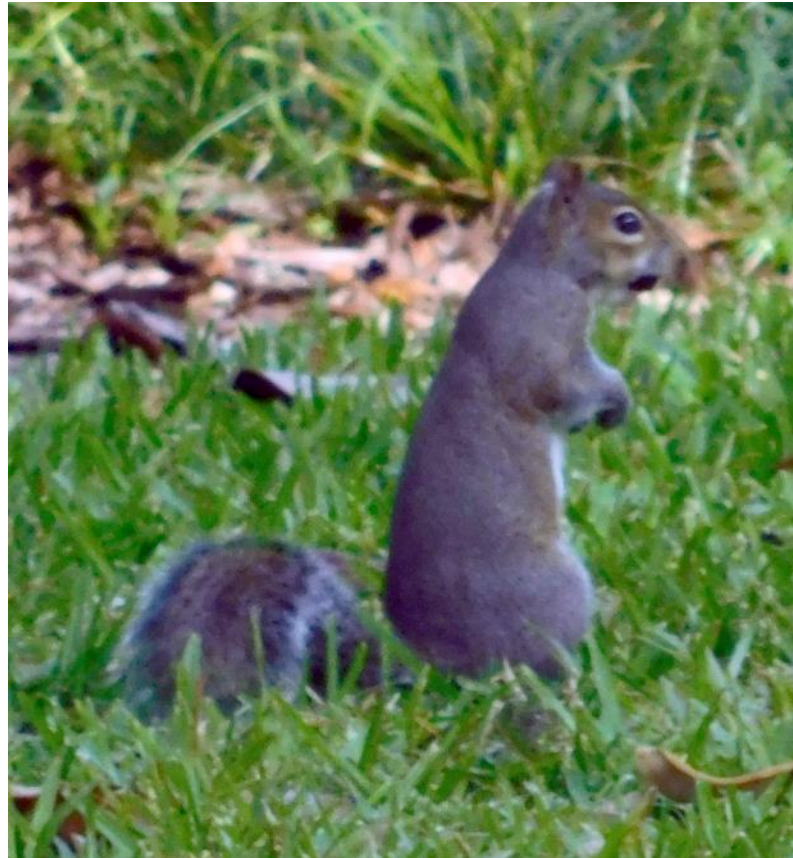


Papyrus reeds

Bok Tower

The Squirrels

I distinctly remember when I was last at Bok Tower in the early 1980s that I fed the squirrels by having food in my hand. They would come up to you and eat out of your hand. However, the squirrels were such that if they didn't like how you gave them the food—specifically how you held the food in your hand—they would bite your fingers and run away, as was the case with me!

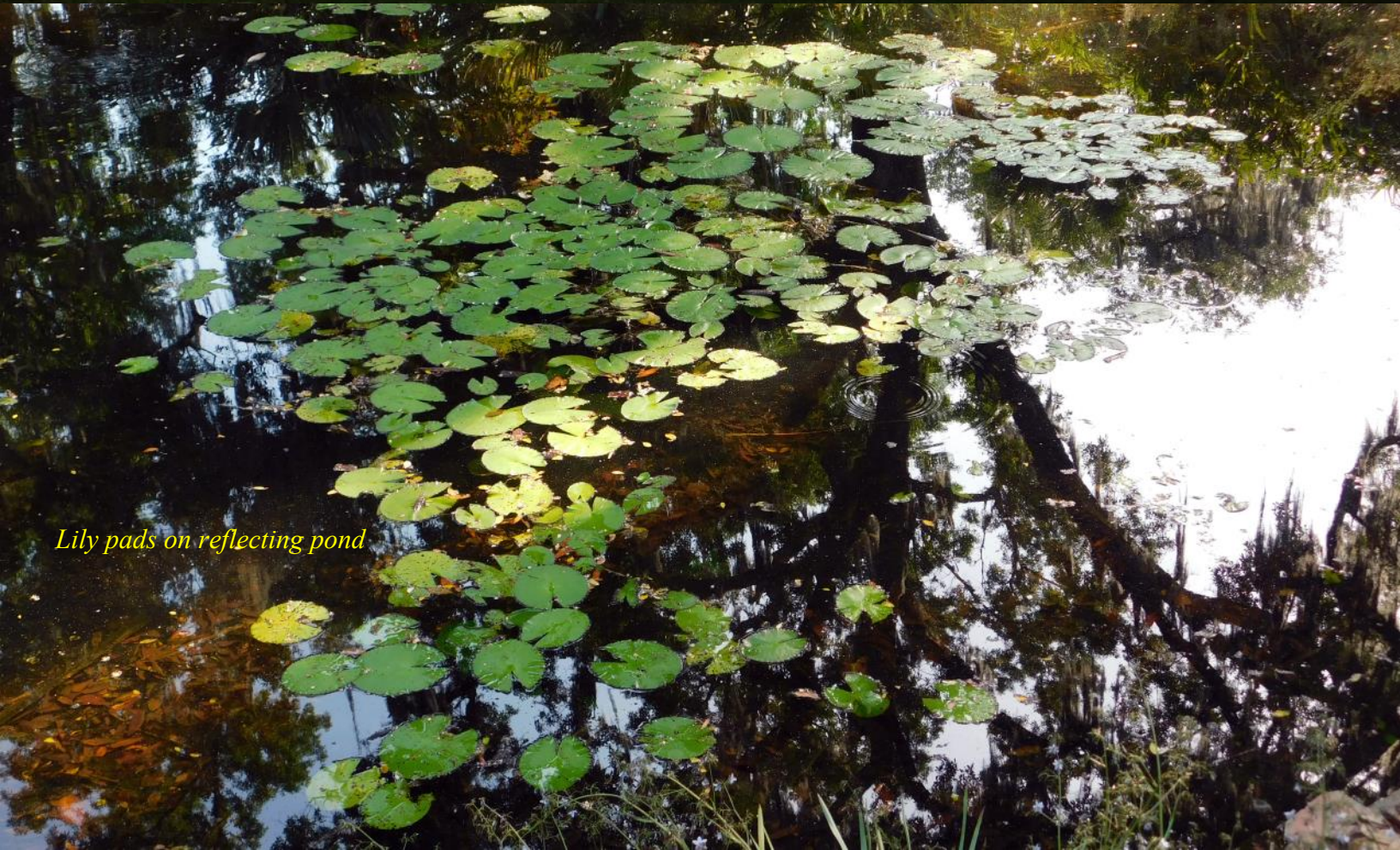


*Not a squirrel, but one of the many lizards.
The red arrow shows the plant identified by the sign.*

Bok Tower



View showing the hills of central Florida



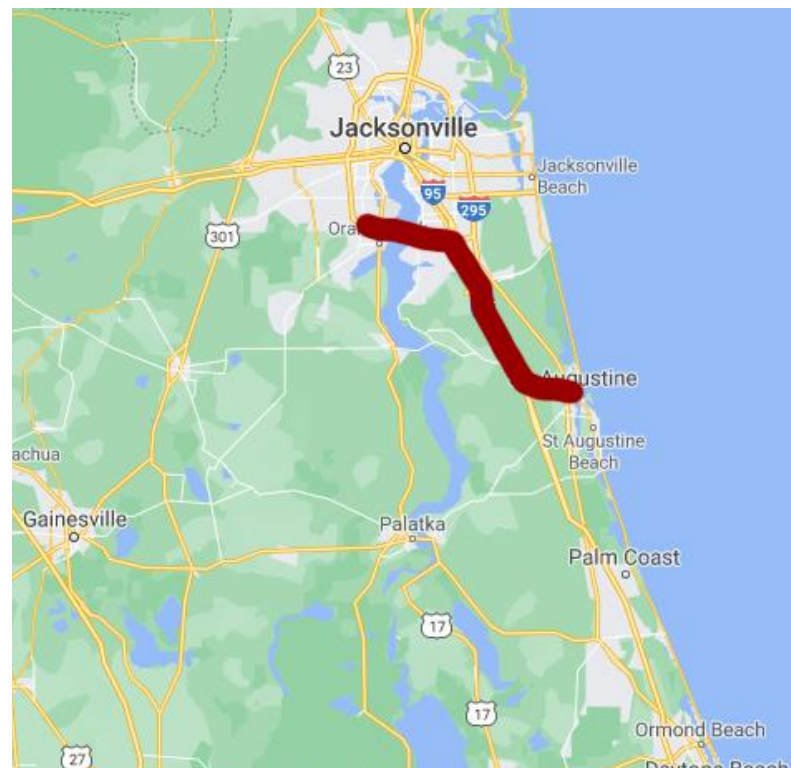
Lily pads on reflecting pond

Third Trip To Florida

Thursday, March 25, 2021

Today, we went to the place where I wanted to go. Last year, I wanted to go there, but the timing was not right. And that place was St. Augustine! I had been to St. Augustine two time before, circa 1979 and 1994. In both cases, interestingly, it was after the death of a family member, my grandfather in 1979 and my grandmother in 1994. Mom and I went both in 1979 and 1994. Since St. Augustine was less than an hour away, we did not have the trouble of driving for hours to get there like with going to Bok Tower. Near the World Golf Village outside of St. Augustine, a new Buc-ee's just opened! It was in the works for the past three years and finally opened not long ago. Mom could not believe that the place would have 100 gas pumps! (which is very common for Buc-ee's to have anywhere from 60 to 100 pumps at each location.) We stopped and looked around, and I found the little bowls I was wanting that I could not find at the Buc-ee's in Alabama. (Another Buc-ee's had just opened in Daytona Beach.) Once we got to St. Augustine proper, I knew there was much I wanted to see, but I did not make any specific plans of what I would actually visit knowing that a few hours in one day would only let me see a small part of the town (as compared to if I went there for several days). I did want to go to the fort, Castillo de San Marcos, but it was rather crowded as well as quite hot, so we continued on to find something else to see. We went over the bridge to Anastasia Island, called the Bridge of Lions, but we got caught for the bridge to go up to let a sailboat float by. (This is a historical drawbridge, while the other bridges are much newer and higher.) After we went over the bridge and got on the island, we saw a modest sign pointing to the lighthouse. We followed the signs, but the narrow subdivision we drove through almost made it seem like we were going in the wrong direction, but we did get there. The lighthouse was there long before the subdivision, which developed around it. The St. Augustine Light Station, which is now an attraction called the St. Augustine

Lighthouse & Maritime Museum, is actually the second one built between 1871 and 1874. Dad was not interested, but I climbed all 219 cast iron steps to the top of the tower! (And I did that in 1994 as well!) There were many people of many ages who went up and down that tower! I also visited part of the Maritime Museum. Before we left, we stopped at the gift shop where I spent way too much money!



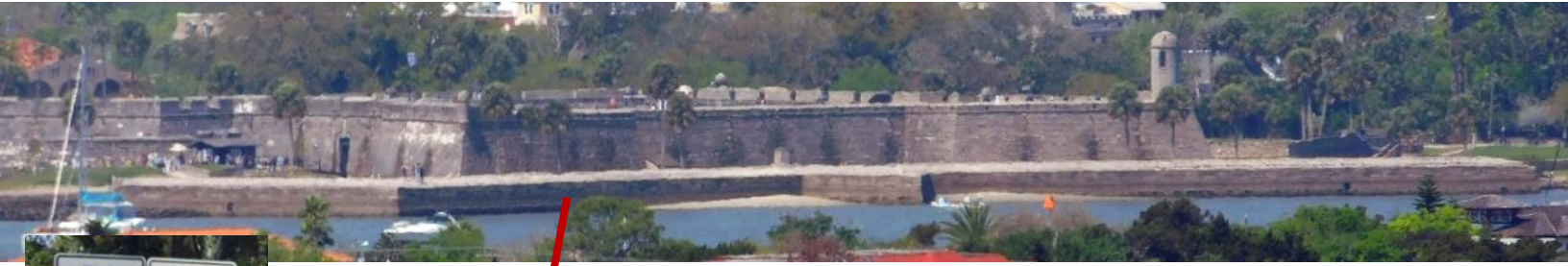
Route to St. Augustine

Bowls found at Buc-ee's

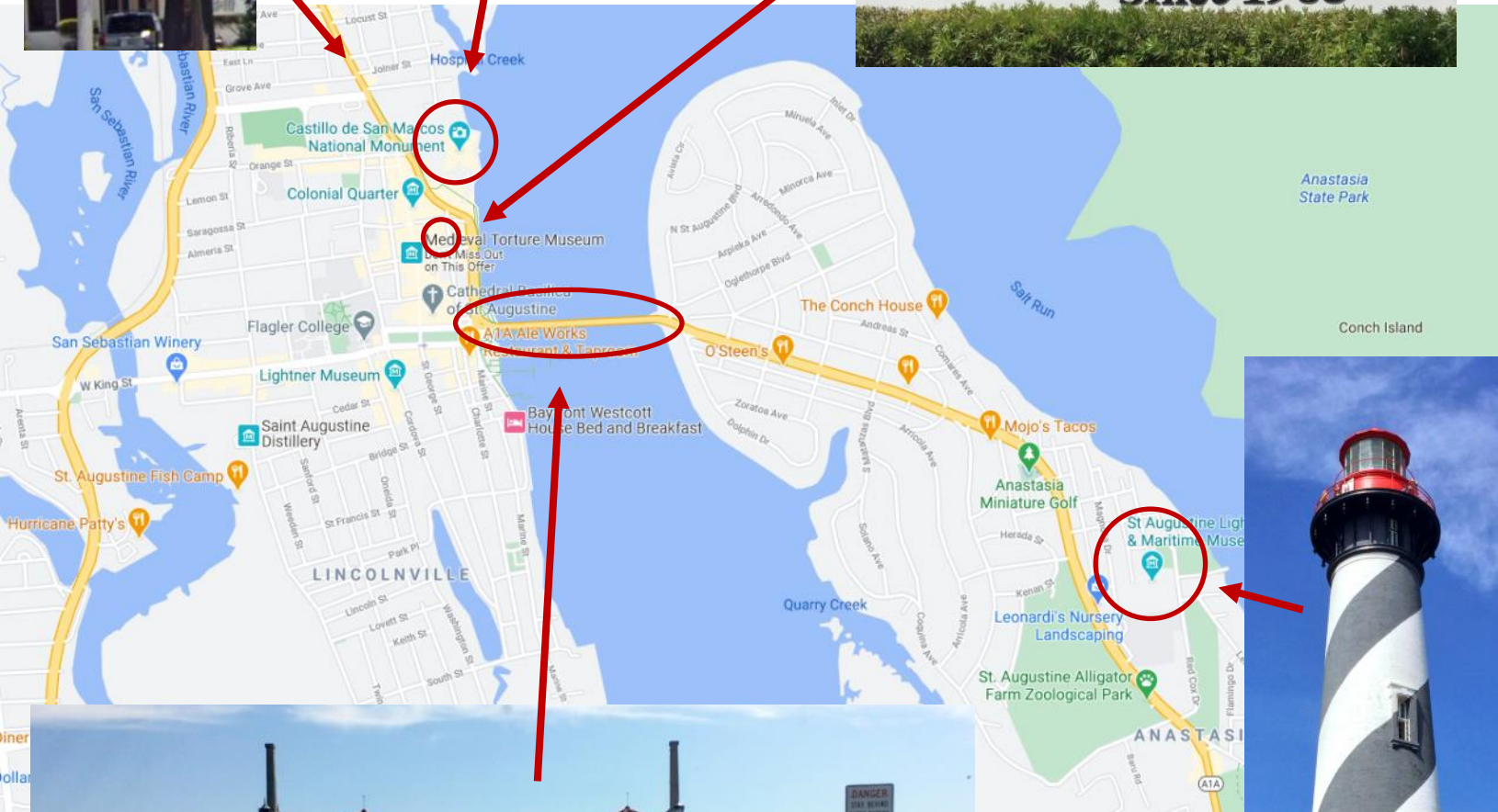


See next page for more

St. Augustine



Castillo de San Marcos



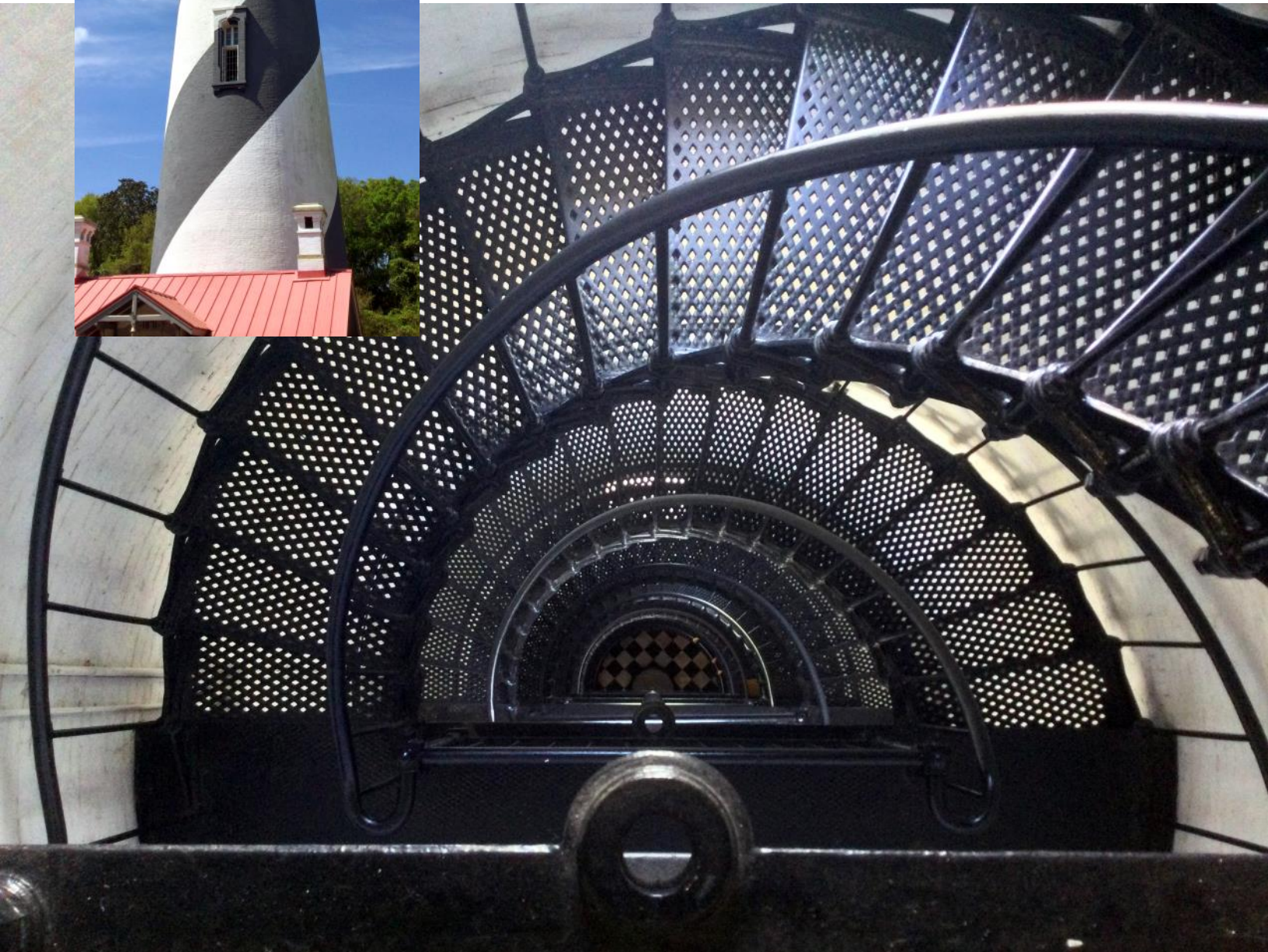
St. Augustine Lighthouse



Bridge of Lions

St. Augustine

St. Augustine Lighthouse



St. Augustine

St. Augustine Lighthouse



Reinforcing of lighthouse walls



One of several large labels at each landing.

ONE	
MILLION	BRICKS
IN AUGUST 1908, A LIGHTNING STRIKE HIT THE TOWER, RAN ALONG THE CALL BELL WIRES USED TO COMMUNICATE BETWEEN THE TOWER AND THE HOUSE, AND DAMAGED A DOORFRAME IN THE KEEPERS' HOUSE	
CAST IRON	AUGUST 31, 1886
219	AN EARTHQUAKE CENTERED IN CHARLESTON, SC SHOOK THE LIGHTHOUSE VIOLENTLY SWAYING THE TALL TOWER FOR
STEPS	40
YOU SHOULD NOT BE IN THE TOWER IF THERE IS LIGHTNING IN THE AREA	SECONDS
#NEVER STRIKE TWICE THE LIGHTHOUSE IS STRUCK BY LIGHTNING SEVERAL TIMES EACH YEAR	60 BULLSEYE DIOPTRIC PRISMS
	★ LIGHTHOUSE LEGENDS ★ #STANDING TALL

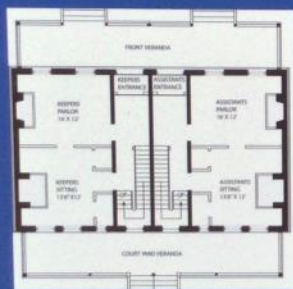
St. Augustine



Outside of the keeper's house near the light tower. The building has fantastic architecture typical of very old Florida. The two floors and basement currently contain the Maritime Museum.

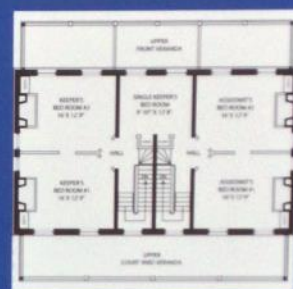
“St. Augustine had up to three lighthouse keepers and their families that lived in the home. It was arranged as a duplex, with the Head Keepers’ family on the north side, the 1st Assistant Keeper on the south side, and a single room for the 2nd Assistant Keeper, who was usually unmarried.”

KEEPERS’ HOUSE LAYOUT



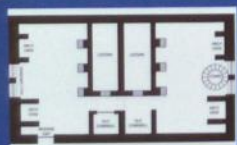
The First Floor

The parlors were located on the first floor, where the families spent their leisure time, including entertaining guests, reading, and playing games. We would call these rooms our living rooms or family rooms today.



The Second Floor

The bedrooms were upstairs. Each family had two bedrooms, one for the keeper and his wife and the other for any children living with them. The second assistant keeper had a small room that straddled the two sides.



The Basement

Basements are uncommon in Florida, especially as close to the ocean as the keepers' house is. Usually, when you're four feet into Florida soil, you're in a swimming pool. The basement is possible because as a former beach dune, the elevation of the Light Station is higher above sea level than much of the Florida coast. Keepers used the basement for storage and collected rainwater in the cisterns.

St. Augustine

Maritime Museum



*For those who know,
they know how this flag is different!*



St. Augustine

Columbia Restaurant

Another place I knew I wanted to visit where I had been to before was the Columbia Restaurant. Mom and I went there in 1994. It is a Tampa style Cuban restaurant operated by the same family since 1905 in Ybor City, with the St. Augustine location open since 1983. They had a gift shop with wares from Spain, and I again spent too much money on a few things I liked! (Gotta like the cow shaped creamer!) We took a brief walk around the shops where the restaurant was located, specifically a fudge shop, before getting back to the car. On the way out, I noticed a road sign that had both US1 and A1A. I wanted to get some photos, but missed it because the traffic was heavy and after several attempts to go back around to get the photo, I said heck with it and just left. We took Old Dixie Highway back up to Jacksonville. We got back to the hotel before dark. With so much to see with this old city, I will need to plan to go back to see more!



This Spanish pottery (made in Spain) is very colorful! Shown here is a bull shaped creamer (yes, milk comes from cows, but whatever!), small pitcher, sugar packet dish, small ceramic plate, and wood tamper (used for crushing fruit in making sangria).

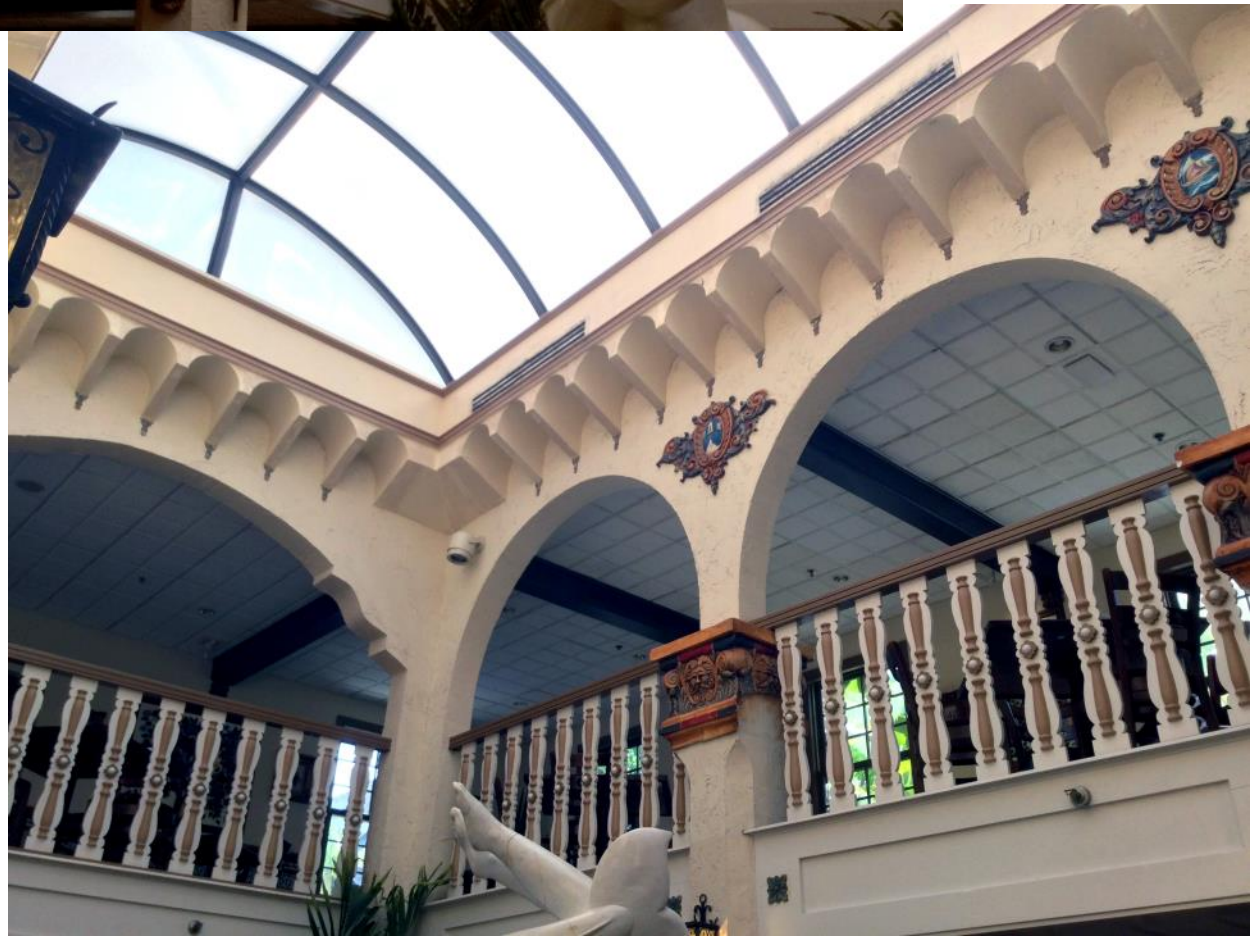
This screenshot from Google Maps Streetview shows the two Florida highways, US 1 and A1A.



St. Augustine



*The atrium of
the Columbia
Restaurant*



Third Trip To Florida

Friday, March 26, 2021

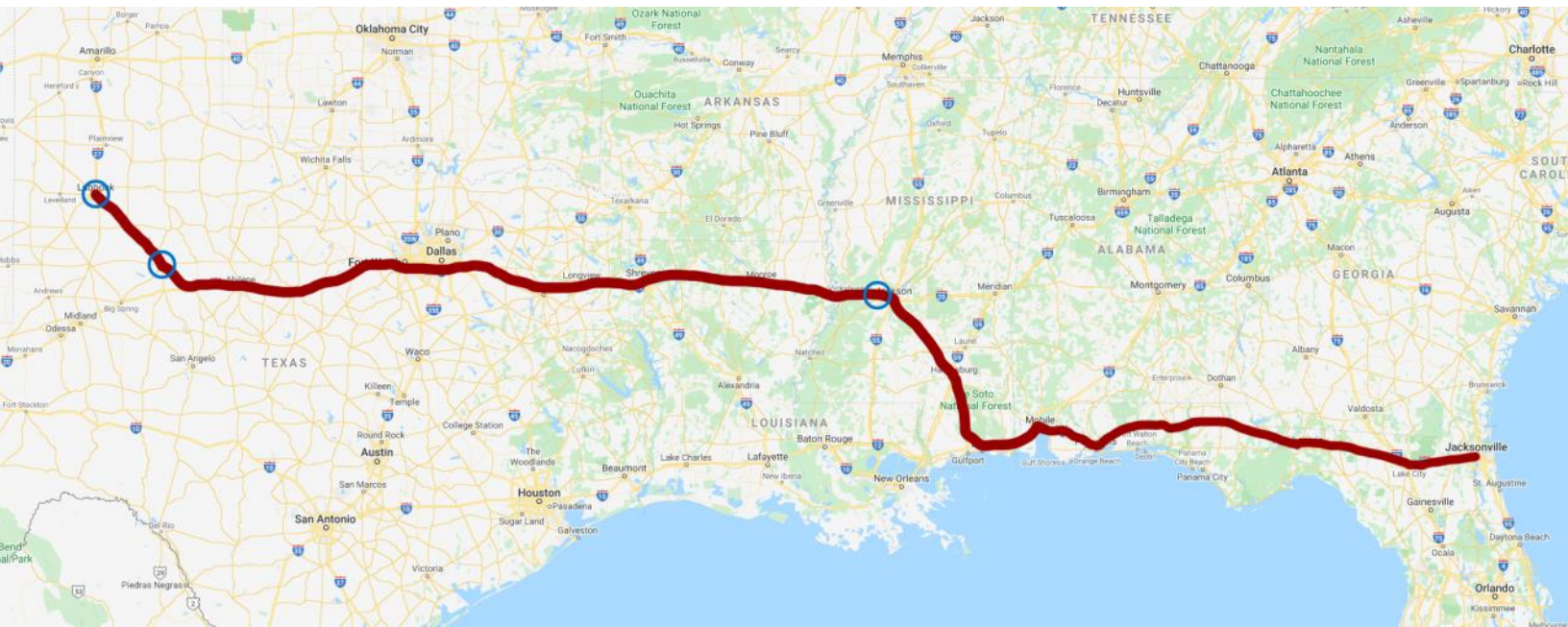
Today was the last full day before we would leave on Saturday, so it was the last chance to take care of things in Jacksonville. It was more of a work day rather than a day of leisure, however. We left the hotel and stopped in Costco to look around, which was across the street from the hotel. I bought some plants that I liked. Dad wanted to go to Golden Corral for lunch and we did a couple of other miscellaneous things, including picking up the trailer from U-Haul. We drove over to the house to dig up the plants I wanted. There were also some plants in

pots around the house I wanted as well. By this point the new owners had already changed the locks. A neighbor held a few items he had claimed out of the house several months before we came, and we loaded them into the trailer. It was a very hot day, but we slowly dug up the plants I wanted and got everything loaded up. Then, we went to the storage unit and laboriously loaded up the trailer of the stuff in the storage unit even past closing. We drove back to the Costco for gas and had dinner again at the Culver's before getting back to the hotel.

◀.....▶

On The Way Back—Saturday, March 27 to Sunday, March 28

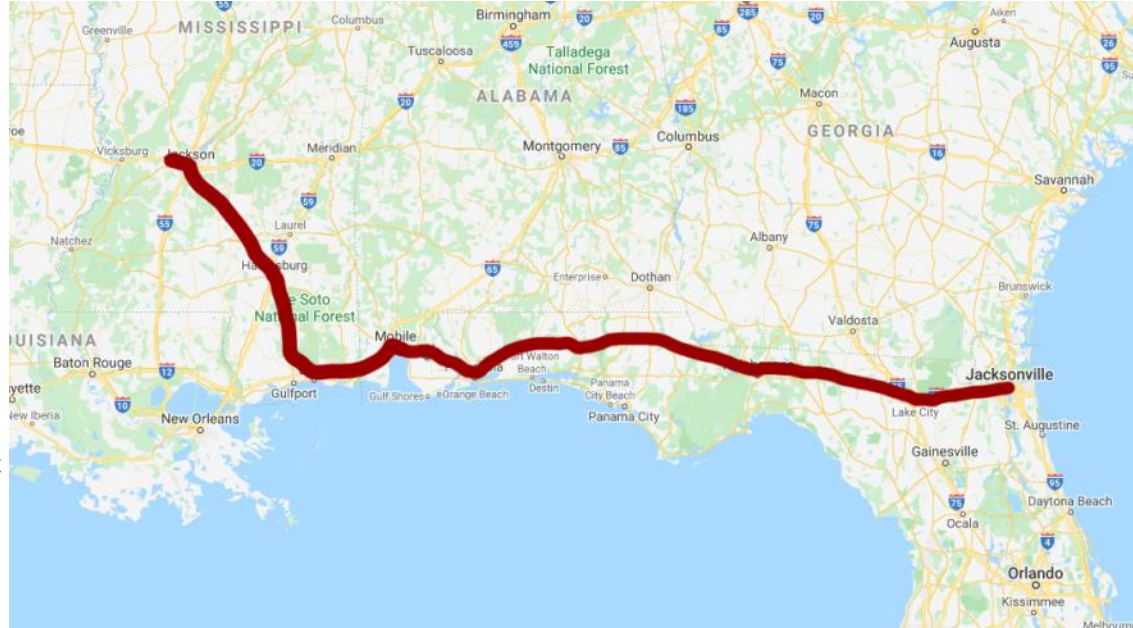
We ultimately decided to get back to my house fairly quickly, less than 48 hours with one overnight stop. The route back to Mississippi was mostly the same except that we then took I-20 all the way back to near Snyder, instead of going back through southern Arkansas. Turned out that it was just fine and certainly would have been much faster when going out!



Third Trip To Florida

Saturday, March 27, 2021

We left pretty early, nearly 6:00 AM. For most of the trip this day, we would stop a bunch of times, with one stop to sleep for about an hour and a half. By late morning, we stopped to get gas at the Pilot travel plaza and have some lunch at the Arby's there. When we got near the area, I had my camera ready to quickly get some photos of the Suwannee River sign. Last year, we drove by it several times, but it snuck up on me before I could even think about getting a photo! (Refer to my July 2020 issue.) We crossed the Florida Alabama line at about 2:30 PM and arrived at the Bu-ee's a short time after that, except that we did not spend very long there this time, mainly for gas. Once we got to Mobile after crossing the bay and going through the tunnel, we ended up making a wrong turn similar to the wrong turn we made last year. We headed towards Biloxi,



but went north once we got on the road we needed to get us to Hattiesburg. We ended up having dinner at a Cracker Barrel in Hattiesburg along with getting some gas before heading to Jackson. It was about three hours before we got to the hotel in Clinton, just west of Jackson. After nearly 17 hours of traveling, we were ready to sleep!



We saw this last year at a gas station. Two sizes of boiled peanuts in regular or Cajun! You can also get them canned for later!

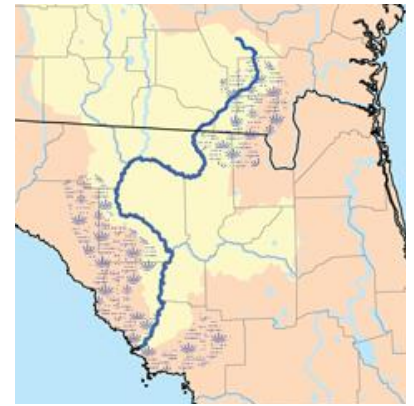
Suwannee River

Here is the unedited sequence of the photos of the sign within about three seconds!



*Way down upon the Swanee River,
Far, far away.
That's where my heart is yearning ever,
Home where the old folks stay.*

*By Stephen Foster, 1851
Florida State Song, 1935*



E D C E D C C G C

Way down up-on the

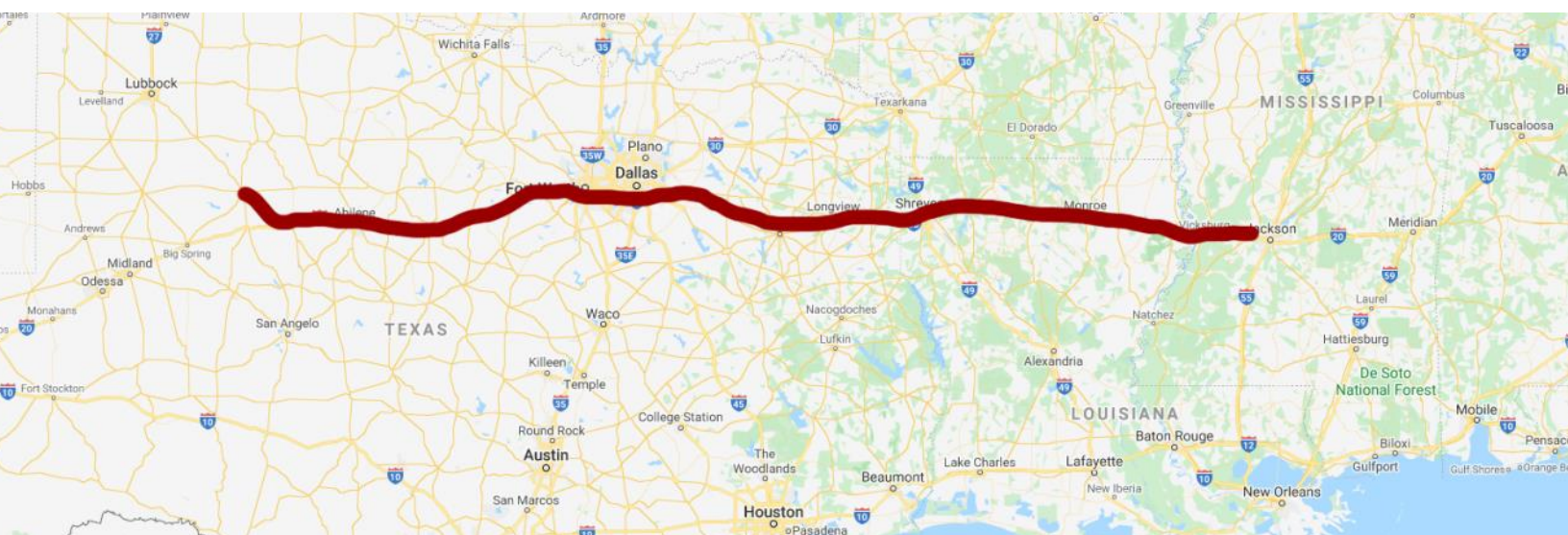
Swan-ee Riv-er

Third Trip To Florida

Sunday, March 28, 2021

Yesterday, I wanted to get as far as Jackson to try to avoid driving in heavy rains. By staying the night in Jackson, the rains would pass through in the early morning before we would leave instead of driving through them. The forecast showed a long line of strong, possibly tornadic, storms going through the area by early and mid morning on Sunday. Fortunately, the heavy rains went through before we left, and it would be fairly clear after that. However, we did not know about one other problem we would face before we left. The hotel (if you could call it that) was fully packed that night and parking was very tight, let alone for a car with a trailer. So we could either park on the street or park next to a block wall to the side of the motel (better word for this building). The footprint of the motel was quite tight. There was parking in the front and parking in the back and very little room on the sides. We were ready to go after 8:00 AM, and we left thinking we could just pull around the building through the back and be on our way. Except... there was only the one way to the back of the building and no other exit. The parking lot was full, and we were facing in the wrong direction! We could not turn around and so the only option was to back out and around a corner at that. Dad tried backing out, then I tried backing out, and we were both getting mad. Best as we tried,

we would have only jackknifed the situation if we kept trying. With that, we waited. People were leaving, but the spacing of the cars still didn't work for us to be able to turn around. A little while later, another guy who stayed the night at the hotel, saw that we were very much stuck and offered to back out the car and trailer after we explained what happened. So he did and did it quite effortlessly! Even around the corner! We talked for a few minutes after that, then we were finally on our way by almost 9:30 AM. We intended to get back to my apartment today, so we didn't worry about any travel restrictions and took I-20 through northern Louisiana. We got to the Mississippi River by 10:00 AM. We got some gas at Love's travel plaza a little while after that and got to another rest stop around noon. I was driving again and needed to sleep for about an hour at the rest stop. We left a little before 2:30 PM and got to the Texas border a little before 3:00 PM and stopped for gas a little while after that. Once we got to the metroplex, we stopped at a Wendy's in Grand Prairie a little after 6:00 PM. We continued on I-20 until we got to Sweetwater with various stops until we got back to Snyder a little before midnight. Dad slept on the couch while I slept in my own bed, and we just left the car parked in the parking lot.

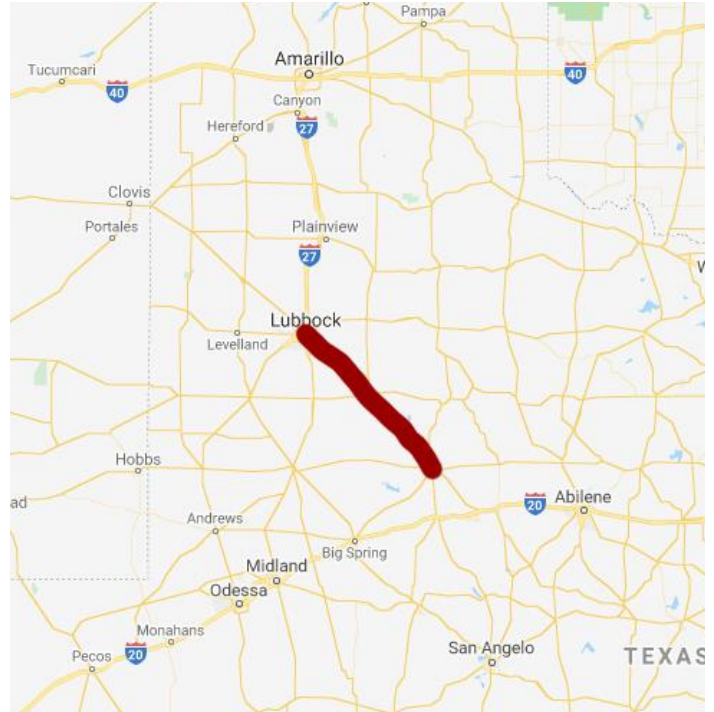


Third Trip To Florida

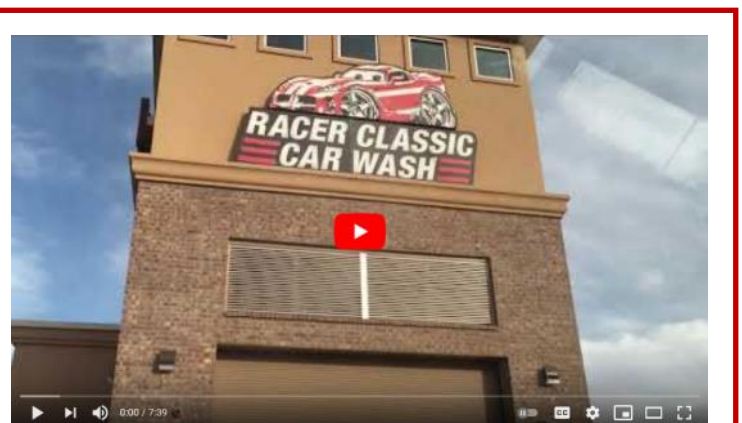
Monday, March 29, 2021

Dad was ready to go plenty early enough, so I got cleaned up. We unloaded the car and trailer of my stuff and of the various plants, putting them on the front porch. What was left in the car was dad's stuff and what was left in the trailer was the stuff I intended to put in the storage unit in Lubbock, nearly the same stuff that was in the storage unit in Jacksonville. (The reasoning behind this decision is best reserved for another issue!) I drove dad's car with the trailer, while dad drove my car since he would not be going back to Snyder. We stopped at a local doughnut place first for a little while for breakfast, then headed to Lubbock, getting there just before 12:30 PM. The storage unit was at the U-Haul place since I get one month free by renting the trailer. We took some time and fully unloaded the trailer into the storage unit before sweeping out the trailer and returning it. After that, dad wanted to go to a carwash. So, we each drove—back into our own vehicles—over to the Racer Classic Car Wash. (If you have not seen my YouTube videos of going through the Racer Classic Car Wash, then head over to my YouTube channel and take a watch!) It was over on the other side of town, but we just got on the loop and got off over on Milwaukee. Dad definitely liked the car wash. After that, we went over to Texas Roadhouse for a late lunch (or early dinner). I got dad set up with a hotel for the night in Lubbock and he would leave early the next morning to go back to Colorado. I did a few errands while in Lubbock then headed back to Snyder to finally be back home after about two weeks!

This is where the third Florida trip stops. However, very quickly after this, literally the next day, something else major happens which I will cover in the next journal, the Late Spring 2021 issue.



Snyder to Lubbock, a short 90 minute drive



Return To Racer Classic Car Wash

I return to the Racer Classic Car Wash at another new location!
But there's a twist!

YOUTUBELAND

RG on YouTube

In case you don't already know by now, I have recorded, edited, and uploaded my own videos to my YouTube channel for about five years now. I have some new videos out and a few more are in the works to be uploaded soon. These videos are meant to be a supplement to the de Stolfe Journal to add a dynamic layer to the static aspect of the Journal.



RG's YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxqM8QWWaVPwzLa0ccZ46Cw>



Cooking with RG—Carrots

Premier episode of the Cooking With RG series where he starts with how he cooks carrots.



Backwards Video

All of the footage in this video was edited to play backwards! Some is subtle, while other footage is dynamically odd! Enjoy!



Return To Racer Classic Car Wash

I return to the Racer Classic Car Wash at another new location! But there's a twist!



Fish of Atlantis 2.0

This is a second version of edited video of the fish in the aquarium located in Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Lockdown Posts

In the last issue, I included a portion of daily lockdown posts I made on my Facebook page. I did the posts from March 20 to April 30, 2020. After that was when I left on the first trip to Florida, as I reported in the June 2020 issue. The posts showed vintage photos with descriptions from my personal collection. I was originally going to include all of them in the last issue but ran out of time and space! A second portion is included here, while the last portion will be in the next journal. The brown Rafter Heart watermark shows that I own the photos.

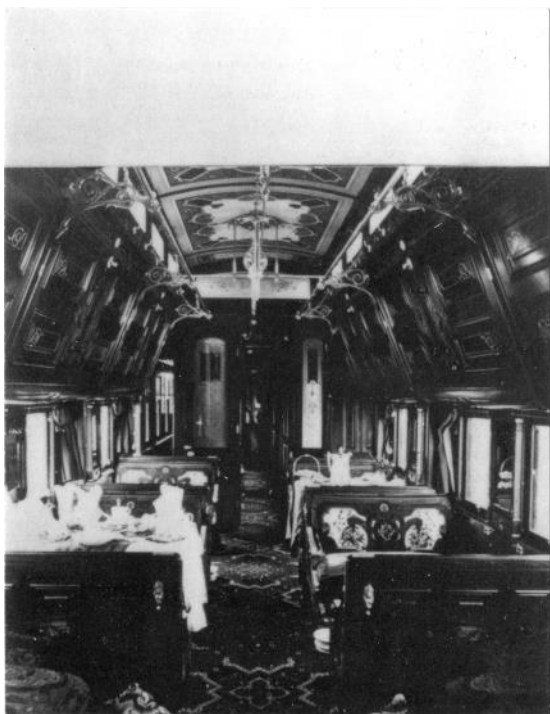


Sometimes when I buy photos on eBay, the seller throws in some extra photos. That was the case with this photo. This was the extra photo with another photo I bought. This photo shows two women sitting by what is called a soddie. A soddie is a dwelling made out of the grass and dirt from the ground. On the Great Plains, wood was a little sparse and lumber had to be railed in. This soddie is also half dug into the ground making it a soddie half dugout. One interesting feature is that the ladies are sitting by a window framed out with wood. The ladies are dressed in rather nice clothes although not formal. The one on the left is wearing a striped dress while the lady on the right is wearing a checked dress with a different fancier blouse. She is also holding a tin of something. I'm not sure what the sticks are she is holding.



I call this photo “The Grease Monkey” for obvious reasons! In the early days of automobiles, many people—particularly guys—were fascinated with how the automobile worked as well as how to fix it when it got broken. You have these two guys who are more than happy to tear apart this car! I cannot tell exactly what type or year estimate car this is, but I would guess early 1920s. The anchor logo might give a clue what type of vehicle this is (I have no idea). I do know that the horn is definitely the kind to go aahooooogah! Gotta like the car parts in the wheelbarrow!

Lockdown Posts



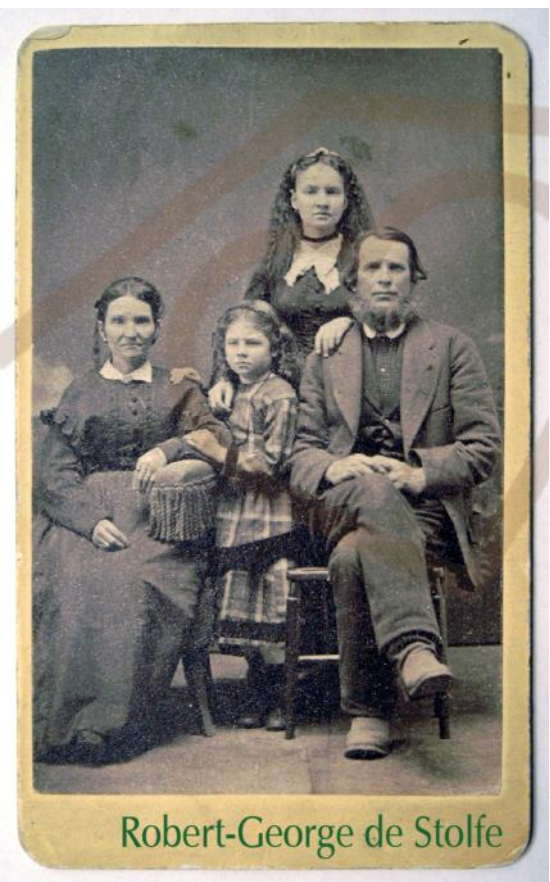
Robert-George de Stolfe

Today's vintage photo is a postcard. This RPPC (Real Photo Post Card) is of a series by Lightfoot Collection and is #47 in the Master Photographer series. On the front is a square photo of the interior of a dining car, the Pullman's Palace Hotel Car of the Central Pacific Railroad (CPRR). The photographer was Carleton E. Watkins (1829-1916). That dates the dining car to probably the turn of the 20th Century with the postcard series a little after that. Can you imagine what eating in a dining car like that must have been like?! The postcard photo does no justice to the detail that the original photo would have!



Robert-George de Stolfe

The photo for today is very specific since the information is right on the photo! This is the Ranger, Texas depot with some trains and lots of people. The photo was taken on June 2, 1919 by Jackson, possibly William Henry Jackson. A great photo of the hey day of the now small town, but also of the early 20th century from 100 years ago!



Robert-George de Stolfe

This is a Carte de Visite, which means a visiting card or card of visit, basically a photographic record of a visit. It is a specific size of photograph that is glued onto a type of board that usually has the photographer's name and other information. This photo is of a fine German family of a husband, wife, and two daughters. It looks to be the 1880s or the 1890s. The backdrop and chairs are very typical of photography studios of this time period. The photographer is HW Scibird of Decatur, Illinois. The logo on the back shows that he was part of the National Photographers Association. A fine portrait indeed!

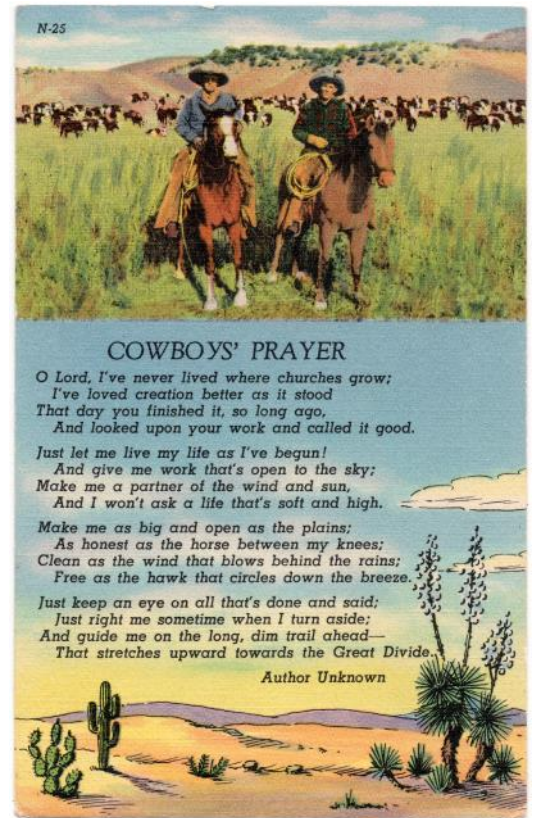
Lockdown Posts



Robert-George de Stolfe

Robert-George de Stolfe

In addition to photos, I will sometimes collect other items. Today, let's mix it up for this grain bag. Specifically, this is a corn meal package. In this case, it is a two pound cloth bag of stone ground cornmeal (everyone needs their roughage!) sold by Dillman Farm of Bloomington, Indiana. With how this bag looks, I am suspecting that it is a modern package (within the last 50 years) and possibly a "souvenir" item where the actual cornmeal is in a plastic bag inside the cloth bag. In any case, the back of the bag has a recipe for Grandma Dillman's cornbread. Now you know anything with bacon grease and buttermilk is going to be good!



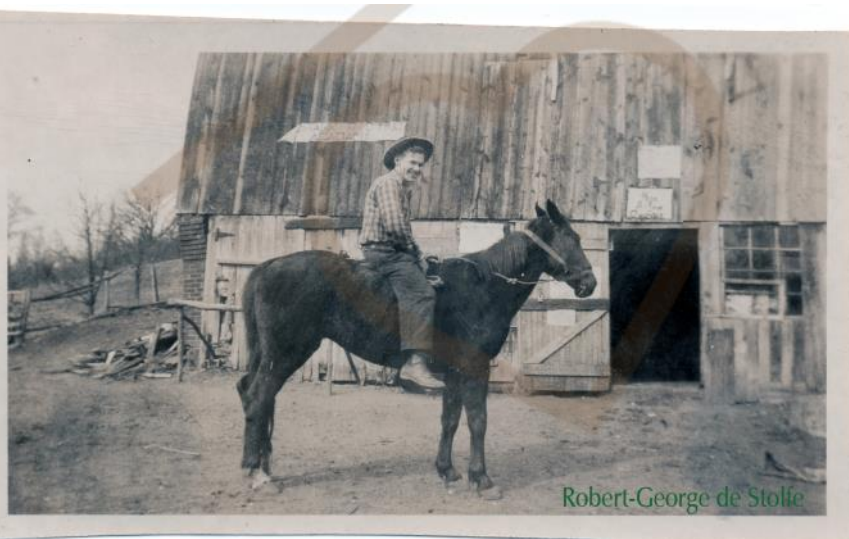
Today's vintage item is this postcard. This is a C. T. Art colortone post card on linen cardstock by Curteich of Chicago. This item in the series is N-25, Cowboys' Prayer. The general date range of manufacture is circa 1930-1945. However, the date of when it was mailed was December 5, 1961 to a man in Missoula, Montana (no zip code).



Robert-George de Stolfe

This cool photo is one of the earlier photos I have. It is also a larger photo. This is one of the few I have with some good information on it. On the back, it has written "Johnstown North Dakota Aug 1888" and "Johnston Harvest Crew" (should be Johnstown). The detail of this photo is amazing! We have in the photo ten men and one lady by the building and ten horses harnessed in pairs or threes. The photo does not show what was being harvested, but they certainly were using horses to do the job. An interesting part of the photo is the two big piles of wood. I do not know if that is what they were harvesting or if they are just well stocked for firewood.

Lockdown Posts



This is an interesting photo that is not what it appears at first! We have a guy bareback on a horse in front of a barn. A small banner on the barn states “--OHAWK RIDING ACADEMY” (perhaps “Mohawk?*). Also, above the door is another small sign stating, “Ride at Your Own Risk”. Above that sign is another sign that is too washed out to tell what it has on it. There is yet another sign above the horse’s neck on the barn that is again too washed out to tell. The barn looks rather messy, but it does have a hitching post to one side. Another unusual feature on the barn is a window with glass panes. The guy is wearing laced high top oxfords and is wearing a costumey hat with a laced edge and strings (think Little Debbie). Perhaps this city guy is getting riding lessons from the country folk!

*(*There is a small town of Mohawk in upstate New York that has some small farms scattered about. Perhaps this was somewhere around there. I bought the photo from a seller who lives in Pennsylvania.)*

Right before Easter, I showed an interesting photo with a camel. Well, here is another photo of a camel! This photo has a feeling like it is in the United States somewhere. In the back is a Quonset hut building and a constructed set of steps made of wood to be able to get on the camel. (Obviously, the camel handler appears to be from somewhere else.) Based on the curly edges of the photo and the style of the clothes, a good date estimate is the 1950s. Once again, the camel looks like it has a smiling face!



At first glance this photo might seem like a cowboy on a horse. However, this is actually a photo studio inside a tent. Everything you see in the photo are props, the horse, trees, cactus, the rock, the clothes, gun, etc. I have no clue on the date of this photo, but I suspect it was a booth at some sort of traveling fair. So basically, someone puts on the garb and uses the rock if needed to get on the horse. See how it all lines up with the rectangle base. Also, the rope typically is on the right side of the horse, but again, this is for a photo. This guy could be an actual cowboy, but he is showing off for the photo, not unlike the “Old West” photos we can take today. (And to clarify, the horse is fake.)

Lockdown Posts



This great photo from the 1930s shows some cowboys spending their leisure time on some blankets among some rocks under a tree. Obviously their day off, there are three guys and two gals with a boy wrangler tending to the two horses. The patchwork blanket looks awesome, and there are some other interesting details. What seems missing is any food. My only question is assuming there is another person taking the photo, where are the other horses? There are too many people for two horses!

The information that came with this photo stated that this photo was from the 1930s of a dude ranch in the southwest desert. Also, the photo paper is Velox. In the photo, we see a guy with two boys all on horses by this massive saguaro. In the United States, wild saguaros are only in Arizona with maybe minor overlap into California. Therefore, we can safely assume this photo to be somewhere in southern or southwest Arizona specifically. Those large holes in the cactus are bird nests, which obviously doesn't seem to bother the cactus! They are wearing heavy clothes suggesting it is winter. And besides, summer would be too hot for a trail ride!

Lockdown Posts



Today's photo is sort of a continuation of yesterday's photo, but that it is a little more modern! This was obviously a "few years ago"! This is me when Mom and I were in St. Augustine, Florida a little while after my grandmother had died in 1994. We spent the weekend. While there, we were in a shopping area near the fort. There, they had an Old West photo studio where you dress up in one of several mock scenes wearing whatever respective clothing matches the scene. This one was called, The Gambler. They were all dummy props and a single print photo. This was before the days of common digital photos. This was a "contact" sort of photo, much like the old single print photos of the 1800s before film. As I recall, the photo prints in reverse, but here I have it back the correct way. Fun!



I bought these two cabinet cards from an antique store in a small town. Sometimes, it is rare to find two old photos that were taken at the same time and not split up! These two photos were obviously taken at the same time from different view points. You can tell that the entire family is dressed up in their "good" clothes for the photo and showing their best assets, which include their house, buggy, fine horses, and a bicycle. The oldest son seems to be quite fond of the bicycle! The house is a modest T shaped house that might all be original or part of it could have been added. The trees might be pecan, but not sure. I am guessing that this couple has six kids, or some other combination of family members, and they still look rather young. Gotta like the windows that are two long panes for each sash. What else do you see?

Memorial

Miriam M. de Stolfe passed from this earth April 6, 2020 at the age of 73. She was born at Zurbrugg Memorial Hospital in Riverside, New Jersey on November 9, 1946 to George W. and Lydia M. Ingram. For nearly a decade, she lived there in Camden, New Jersey with her sister Kathryn Ingram (now Kathryn Alexander). In the mid 1950s, the family moved from New Jersey to Florida and settled in Jacksonville. After living in several places in the city, the family bought a house in late 1957, which belonged to the family well into the twenty first century. Miriam graduated from Robert E. Lee Senior High in 1965 and continued to live in Jacksonville until her marriage to Robert A. de Stolfe on February 17, 1968. From Jacksonville, the couple eventually moved to the South Florida area where they lived in various places before settling into Southwest Miami in the very early 1970s. On July 17 in 1972, the couple gave birth to a son, Robert-George de Stolfe. The living arrangement in Miami was quite unique in that the dwelling was part of the main building of a drive in theater named Tropicaire Drive-In Theatre with what was a cozy apartment style living arrangement on the second floor of the building. The family lived there through the 1970s and 1980s. Through most of the 1970s, both Robert and Miriam worked at a photography studio in Coral Gables until Robert went out on his own as a self employed photographer and Miriam

left to work part time as a greeting card merchandiser, a job she did with various companies to her death. After Miriam's father George died in early 1978, that left her mother Lydia as a widow through the 1980s. However, while Robert-George was starting High School, Miriam would go to Jacksonville in the late 1980s to care for her mother Lydia after a diagnosis of dementia, which later changed into Alzheimer's Disease by the early 1990s. Miriam and Robert-George moved to Jacksonville in early 1989 (into the same house where she was raised) while Robert stayed in South Florida. Sadly, Lydia died in early 1994. By 1996, Robert-George moved for college, and Miriam lived in the family house through to her death. All through her years, Miriam had a love of the family's pets: various dogs, cats, and once a parakeet. She also had a love of doing surveys, refunding and couponing, watching game shows and forensics types of programs, doing mystery shopping, growing her various plants, and eating at her favorite restaurants.

She was preceded in death by her parents George and Lydia Ingram and she leaves behind her sister and husband Dave and Kathy Alexander, her husband Robert de Stolfe, her son Robert-George de Stolfe, and various cousins, nephews, and other extended family by blood and by marriage, along with close friends, neighbors, and various coworkers.



Go to:

www.never-gone.com/memorials/miriamdestolfe

- Read life summary
- View photos in gallery
- Share your own photos
- Share your memories
- Submit condolence or tribute
- Light a candle
- Sign the guestbook

Memorial



Pike's Peak



The grave is at

*Pikes Peak National Cemetery
10545 Drennan Road
Colorado Springs, Colorado*

*The grave is in section 6 right
next to the road.*

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"Buy Me A Coffee" is a platform** to support creators by donating "coffees", which is a predetermined donation amount. However, the number of "coffees" you can donate is your choice. (They do deduct from me a small fee for processing with a credit card.) Click the button below to go to the my donation page.



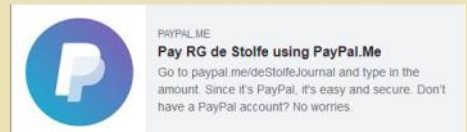
** Another similar platform is [Patreon](#). Currently, I am not a creator on Patreon. However, I do have an account since I am currently supporting other creators. [2 Corinthians 9:7]

As part of my new website for viewing and finding the archive of journals, I have established a means for people who like reading them to contribute financially. Currently, I have two ways to do it online.

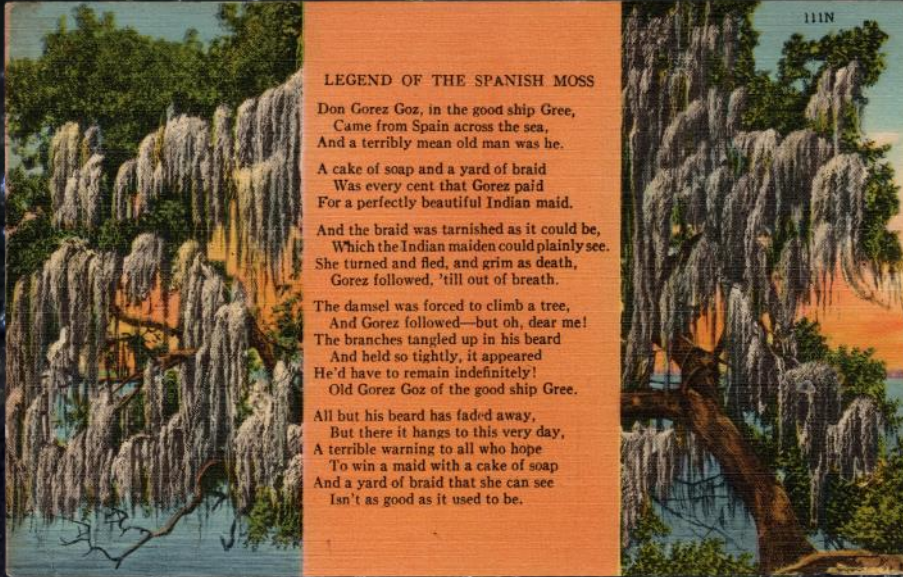
"**Buy Me A Coffee**" is a simple platform to support creators through moduled amounts called "coffees". "**PayPal.me**" is an even easier way to donate whatever amount you wish. Go to destolfe.com for more info.

Support Through PayPal.me

PayPal.me is part of the PayPal system for sending funds directly to a person. The only cost to me is a small fee PayPal deducts. You can give any amount you wish. Click the graphic below to go to my PayPal.me page.



Postcards



LEGEND OF THE SPANISH MOSS

Don Gorez Goz, in the good ship Gree,
Came from Spain across the sea,
And a terribly mean old man was he.

A cake of soap and a yard of braid
Was every cent that Gorez paid
For a perfectly beautiful Indian maid.

And the braid was tarnished as it could be,
Which the Indian maiden could plainly see.
She turned and fled, and grim as death,
Gorez followed, 'till out of breath.

The damsel was forced to climb a tree,
And Gorez followed—but oh, dear me!
The branches tangled up in his beard
And held so tightly, it appeared
He'd have to remain indefinitely!
Old Gorez Goz of the good ship Gree.

All but his beard has faded away,
But there it hangs to this very day,
A terrible warning to all who hope
To win a maid with a cake of soap
And a yard of braid that she can see
Isn't as good as it used to be.

Mom sent me this postcard and the one on the next page several years ago. I've been meaning to include them in the Journal ever since!

Legend of the Spanish Moss

**Don Gorez Goz, in the good ship Gree,
Came from Spain across the sea,
And a terribly mean old man was he.**

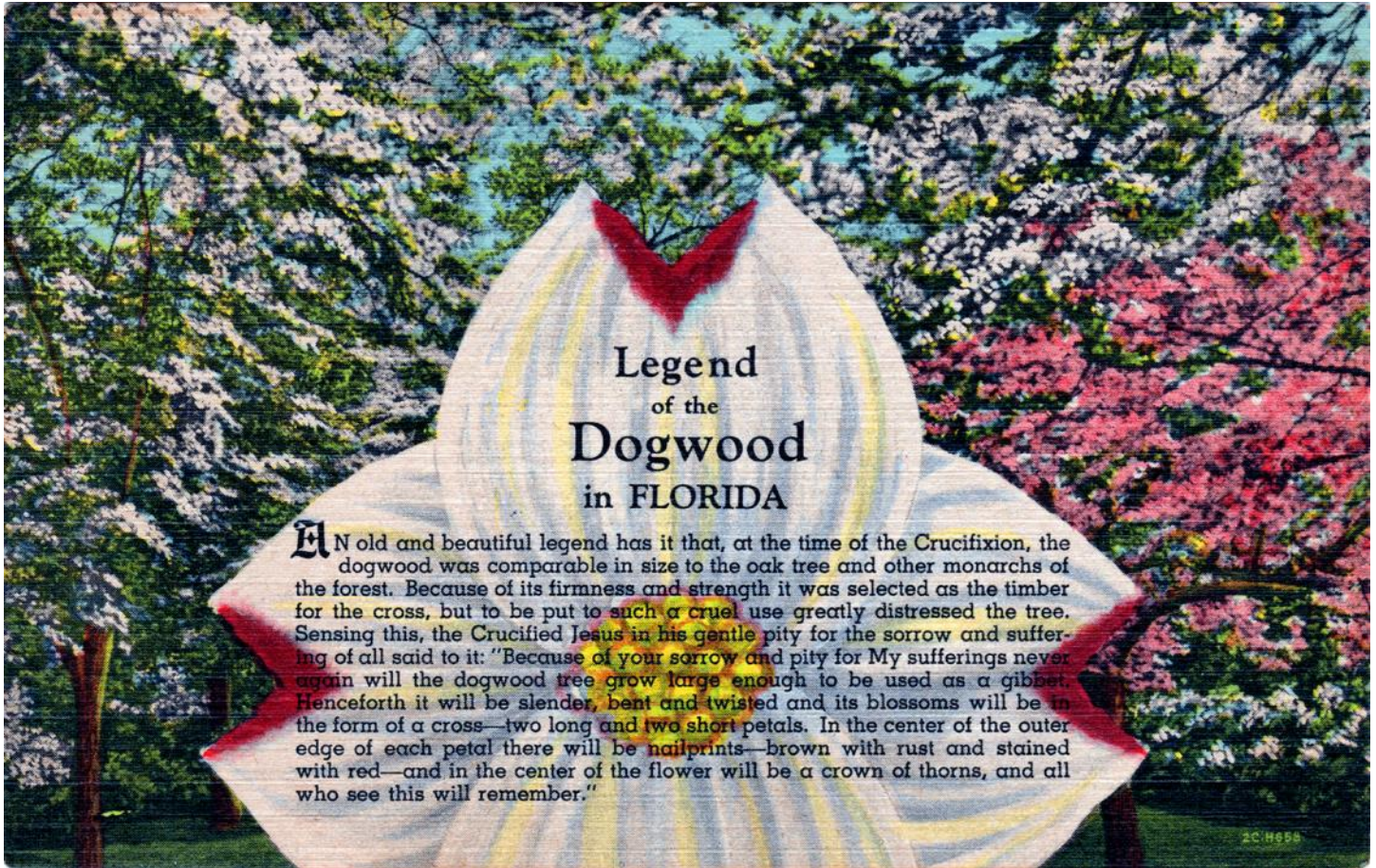
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To win a maid with a cake of soap
And a yard of braid that she can see
Isn't as good as it used to be.**

Postcards



For the nearly 8 years I lived in Jacksonville, one of my favorite aspects of spring there beside the azaleas was the dogwood trees. They had these nice white flowers covering the trees. Some of them had pink flowers. In the fall, the leaves would change colors into oranges and red, somewhat irregularly, and the flowers turned into bright red waxy fruits.



Dogwood (cornus florida)



Legend of the Dogwood in Florida

An old and beautiful legend has it that, at the time of the Crucifixion, the dogwood was comparable in size to the oak tree and other monarchs of the forest. Because of its firmness and strength, it was selected as the timber for the Cross, but to be put to such a cruel use greatly distressed the tree. Sensing this. The Crucified Jesus in His gentle pity for the sorrow and suffering of all said to it: “Because of your sorrow and pity for My sufferings never again will the dogwood tree grow large enough to be used as a gibbet. Henceforth it will be slender, bent, and twisted, and its blossoms will be in the form of a Cross—two long and two short pedals. In the center of the outer edge of each petal there will be nailprints—brown with rust and stained with red—and in the center of the flower will be a crown of thorns, and all who see this will remember.”

Read More

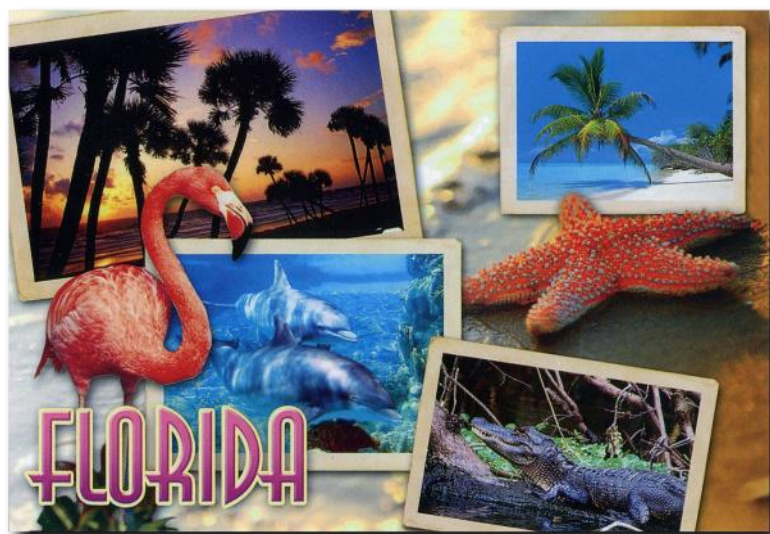
- **Florida Dogwood**—https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cornus_florida

Final Thought

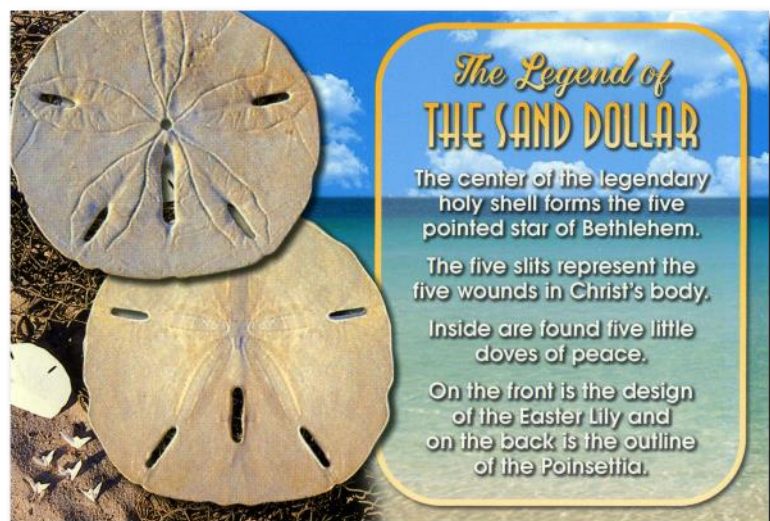
While traveling, collecting postcards is an easy and cheap way to recall where you've been with some sort of physical visual. I got these two postcards and the third one on the cover from the shell shop we went to in Jacksonville Beach.

(See the article elsewhere in this issue.)

This postcard about Florida shows all the usual suspects: sand, water, palm trees, aquatic life... and flamingos!



This cool postcard features sand dollars and its legend. (In this case, dried sand dollars... they are actual living creatures!)



de Stolfe Journal.....

The de Stolfe Journal is a publication made by Robert-George de Stolfe. The first issue was published in March 1986 as the de Stolfe Journal and published irregularly until 1998 (17 issues total). The *Candid* variety of the Journal started in July 2012, with a production of over 60 regular and special issues, with now the *Candid* dropped from the name. Archives of all issues—including the original ones (1980s-1990s)—are available on the website: www.destolfe.com

Publisher/Owner/Editor
Robert-George de Stolfe

Graphics/Layout*






Robert-George de Stolfe

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