A Shorter Road to Grand Isle

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At the southernmost tip of Jefferson Parish, within fifty miles of New Orleans, lies Grand Isle. Approximately four square miles in area, with a frontage of about eight miles on the Gulf of Mexico, Grand Isle offers the only surf bathing to be found in the vicinity of New Orleans. A favorite vacation spot, it may be reached either by boat, automobile or airplane. To most residents of Jefferson Parish and New Orleans, however, the present road to Grand Isle is longer than it need be, necessitating a trip of about 100 miles, through the parishes of Jefferson, St. Charles and Lafourche.

A new road has been proposed; the route has been surveyed and checked by the Louisiana Highway Commission and found to be thoroughly feasible both from an engineering and economic standpoint. The Federal, State and Parish authorities favor this project, and have

Mr. Donovan, chairman of the Tarpon Rodeo held at Grand Isle in the summer of 1937, checking some of the fish caught. Last year's catch was the largest ever taken. The boat is the Pat Marie 2nd, official yacht.
Grand Isle is famed not only for its surf and sports, but for its unique and picturesque beauty. In this lane, the interwoven oleanders form a fragrant and beautiful tunnel, at the end of which lies the blue Gulf of Mexico.

The constant pressure of the warm breezes from the Gulf has caused these trees to assume their wind-blown angles perpetually.
stated their willingness to co-operate. It is the settled policy of all governmental agencies to encourage projects aiming at increased recreational facilities for the people. It seems quite probable that this new road may soon become a reality.

Leaving Marrero, the proposed route proceeds to Lafitte. No road need be built here, since there is already a highway, which is about to be blacktopped. From Lafitte, a new road must be constructed, for a distance of thirty miles. As the proposal now stands, this road will closely parallel the route taken by boats to reach Grand Isle, following the bank of Dupré Cut to Bayou St. Denis, cutting across the marshland skirting Barataria Bay, and finally across a chain of little islands to Grand Isle. If a canal is dug from the vicinity of Lafitte to the Gulf of Mexico, the banks of the canal can be used as the foundation of the new road.

This road will offer magnificent recreational possibilities. Not only will it reduce the distance to Grand Isle by exactly half, but will
A nice catch of speckled trout, caught in the bay waters of Grand Isle. The men in the picture are, left to right: R. E. Bridges, C. C. Clifton and W. H. Black.

in itself afford an interesting trip. It will greatly facilitate the transportation of oysters, fish, shrimp and crabs, as well as oil and other products of Jefferson Parish.

The present road from Marrero to Lafitte is already popular. Running twenty miles through a region abounding in game and fish of every kind, it attracts sportsmen the year around. The picnic-grounds and boating facilities so easily available draw thousands of people each summer. Its pictorial charms are many. Spring brings a wealth of color—purple, blue and copper iris vying with the tender green of new leaves and the flame of budding maple. In summer the glossy oak leaves form arches of grateful shade over the road and through gaps in the trees the cool bayou waters sparkle invitingly.

Below Lafitte, the country changes. The Marrero-Lafitte Road runs through comparatively high land, through farms and forests. The section below Lafitte will be built through low, marsh land, but on a firm foundation of sand. Even the trip across the marsh will be far
Three bull red fish caught in Grand Pass, between Grand Isle and Grand Terre. The men in the picture, reading from left to right: W. H. Black, R. E. Gunstrum and C. C. Clifton.

Fornet Millet's general store at Grand Isle, where boats visiting Grand Isle dock.
from monotonous, for it offers its own variety of beauty, in the lush
grasses and flowers of the flat land and the huge live oaks growing on
the higher ridges, or “chenieres”. The road will pass directly through
the Lafitte Field, one of the country’s most promising oil districts.

At the end of the road lies Grand Isle, offering everything for a
perfect vacation, delicious food, excellent fishing and hunting, and the
best and safest surf bathing to be found anywhere.

Not only is Jefferson Parish a unit in desiring this new road, but
petitions have been signed by thousands in Orleans Parish and other
parishes adjoining Jefferson, asking that this road be built, and it is
to be hoped that we will soon have our newer, shorter route to Grand
Isle, all in Jefferson Parish.