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### **What Others Say...**

#### **“Where Florida Stayed Wild” By William Schemmel**

##### **For the Atlanta Journal –Constitution**

November 9, 2008

Writer William Schemmel traveled St. George Island and most all of Florida’s Forgotten Coast while researching his “Where Florida stayed wild” feature that appeared November 9, 2008 in the Atlanta Journal-Constitution.

He concluded his most comprehensive overview with, “As for the nickname “The Forgotten Coast”, it came about several years ago when Apalachicola and other neighboring towns were left off the state’s tourism map. But one can’t help but wonder whether the oversight wasn’t by design. What better way to keep an off-the-beaten path gem under wraps.”

The writer was obviously impressed with the “naturalness” of much of the majestic “Forgotten” coastal region.

Here is what he had to say about St. George, “St. George Island has a “split” personality. Hundreds of beach houses, condos (limited by law to 35 feet above the first inhabitable level), gated luxury subdivisions, convenience stores, restaurants and other visitor amenities line along skeins of glistening white beaches at the western end. But development skids to a halt at the state park’s gates.”

“Opened in 1980 the park is a minimally disturbed haven of white sandy beaches, pine forests, and live oak hammocks. Six picnic shelters are equipped with grills tables and restrooms. Campsites are in family, youth group and primitive campgrounds. More than three miles of hiking trails wind through the forests, around ponds and wetlands.”

