

SITE OF  
NUESTRA SENORA DE GUADALUPE MISSION  
OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE MISSION

ESTABLISHED IN 1756 ON THE GUADALUPE RIVER AT OR  
NEAR PRESENT NEW BRAUNFELS AS AN EXTENSION OF THE  
ILL-FATED MISSION SAN FRANCISCO XAVIER DE HORCASITAS  
(1746-1755). EARLIER LOCATED 100 MILES NORTHEAST, SAN  
FRANCISCO XAVIER HAD BEEN SHAKEN BY ATTACKS, DISEASE  
AND STRIFE BETWEEN FRIARS AND SOLDIERS, WHICH HAD  
CLIMAXED IN THE MURDER OF A FRIAR IN 1752.

ALTHOUGH MOST OF THE PERSONNEL AND INDIAN CONVERTS  
(NEOPHYTES) FLED, THE MISSION CONTINUED UNTIL 1755.  
AFTER THAT TIME IT MOVED TO THE GUADALUPE RIVER TO  
GATHER ITS SCATTERED MAYEYE INDIANS, WHO REFUSED TO  
ENTER VALERO MISSION (THE ALAMO) IN SAN ANTONIO. LIKE  
THE OTHER THREE SAN XAVIER MISSIONS, SAN FRANCISCO  
XAVIER WAS SHORT-LIVED.

GOOD FEATURES AT THIS SITE INCLUDED FIVE SPRINGS,  
FERTILE FIELDS, TIMBER, MEADOWS AND THE NEARBY RIVER.  
TWO FRIARS RAN THE SMALL MISSION, WITH A CITIZEN  
GUARD, SO AS TO AVOID FRICTION. FOUR SPANISH FAMILIES  
AND 41 INDIANS (27 OF THEM BAPTIZED) COMPRISED THE  
INHABITANTS OF THE MISSION AS OF JANUARY, 1757.

NEVER A STRONG MISSION, GUADALUPE CONTINUED ONLY  
UNTIL MARCH, 1758. AT THIS TIME THE CHURCH WITHDREW  
ITS STAFF BECAUSE OF INCREASINGLY DANGEROUS RAIDS  
BY COMANCHES AND OTHER NORTHERN TRIBES. (1968)

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*Rolling*  
*EB*  
*AP, 11-18-68*

APPROVED  
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\*\* 1/4 " lettering  
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San Francisco de los Tejas " when relocated and re-established in Luis de Aguayo and Fray Isidro " president of the Texas mission of Santa Cruz de Querétaro, " mission was east of the Neches est of present Alto in Cherokee seph Guerra was appointed res- 1730, after the abandonment of estra Señora de los Dolores de ession was removed at the re- naries to the Colorado River in ent Zilker Park, Austin. In 1731 s final location on the San An- named San Francisco de la

E. Castañeda, *Our Catholic Her-* W. Hackett, "The Marquis de ivery of Texas from the French," *al Quarterly*, XLIX (1945-1946).  
 Rancharía. San Francisco lower San Antonio River near tra Señora del Espíritu Santo a refuge for runaway Indians vicinity during the eighteenth

W. Hodge (ed.), *Handbook of* (1910).

de los Tejas Mission. San as, the first Spanish mission in ublished in 1690 near the pres- in Houston County by the ries of the college of Santa " on the entrada of Captain Fray Francisco Casañas de charge until the mission was Fray Francisco Hidalgo " ession during that period. It 1716 by Domingo Ramón, " name to Nuestro Padre San as."

M. Casis (trans.), "Don Damian s de Sigüenza," *Quarterly of the Association*, II (1898-1899); *Catholic Heritage*, II (1936); C. W. de Aguayo and His Recovery ench," *Southwestern Historical* (1946).

e Valero. San Francisco de eblo around San Francisco " was organized by Martín ber 14, 1718. The pueblo was Spanish withdrew from East as re-established in 1721 by 90."

Castañeda, *Our Catholic Her-* V. Hodge (ed.), *Handbook of* (1910); Elizabeth H. West, dium of the History of Texas, *Texas State Historical Asso-*).

vier de Horcasitas Mis- avier de Horcasitas Mission Francisco Xavier de los Xavier de los Tejas, and s Dolores del Rio de San tarted with the planting of ans in 1746 before approval ined. Fray Mariano Fran- Viana, " who began peti- as early as 1745, selected ading advocate of the mis- tence. Located two or three e of Brushy Creek with the

San Gabriel River on present Kolbs Hill in south- western Milam County, the mission was formally established on May 7, 1748. One of the group generally known as the San Xavier Missions, " San Francisco Xavier had many adverse turns of for- tune culminating in the murder of Fray Juan José Ganzábal in 1752. Circumstances of the murder implicated Felipe Rábago y Terán, " captain of San Francisco Xavier Presidio, " and caused most of the Indians and all but one friar, Fray Ande y Altamirano, to flee. Altamirano remained at San Francisco Xavier, keeping the mission (the only one of the San Xavier group to do so) in continuous operation until 1755, when Pedro de Rábago y Terán, " without authority, ordered the removal of the San Xavier Missions and the presidio of San Francisco Xavier to the San Marcos River. The neophytes were encouraged to join the mission of San Antonio de Valero, " but many of them re- fused. Late in 1755 San Francisco Xavier, renamed Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe Mission, " was temporarily and unofficially re-established on the Gua- dalupe River near present New Braunfels for those neophytes who would not join San Antonio de Valero; the other two San Xavier Missions and the presidio located temporarily on the San Marcos. On January 14, 1757, the properties of all the San Xavier Missions were delivered by the president of the San Antonio missions to Fray Alonso Giraldo de Terreros " for use in the proposed San Sabá de la Santa Cruz Mission."

BIBLIOGRAPHY: H. E. Bolton, *Texas in the Middle Eighteenth Century* (1915); C. E. Castañeda, *Our Cath- olic Heritage*, II (1936); H. E. Bolton, "The Founding of the Missions on the San Gabriel River," *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*, XVII (1913-1914).

San Francisco Xavier de Naxara (Najara) Mission. San Francisco Xavier de Naxara Mis- sion was established by the Marquis de Aguayo " for the Rancharía Grande Indians " on March 11, 1722, one league south of San Antonio de Valero Mission. " Aguayo had promised a separate mission for this tribe when he secured the services of a Rancharía Grande chief, Juan Rodríguez, as guide of his expedition. The new mission endured with little success until 1726, when it was merged with San Antonio de Valero. Its lands were regranted to the mission of Nuestra Señora de la Purísima Con- cepción de Acuña " in 1731.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: C. E. Castañeda, *Our Catholic Her- itage*, II (1936); C. W. Hackett, "The Marquis de Aguayo and his Recovery of Texas from the French," *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*, XLIX (1945-1946). H. E. Bolton, *Texas in the Middle Eighteenth Century* (1915).

San Francisco Xavier Presidio. San Fran- cisco Xavier Presidio (also known as San Xavier or San Francisco Xavier de Gicgdo), located four and one-half miles north of the juncture of Brushy Creek with the San Gabriel River in present Milam County, was temporarily established in 1748 with a guard consisting of troops loaned from the presidios of Nuestra Señora del Pilar de los Adaes and Nuestra Señora de Loreto. " Formal founding of the presidio of San Francisco Xavier was approved by the viceroy on March 30, 1751, with an initial complement consisting of fifty soldiers. The first captain, Felipe Rábago y Terán, " arrived at the site in December, 1751, and relieved José Joaquín de Eca y Músqiz, " temporary commander Rábago y Terán's instructions were to recruit sol- diers and settlers and send the temporary guards back to their original stations.

Constant friction between the captain and the missionaries culminated in the murder of Fray Juan José Ganzábal. Rábago y Terán was im- plicated in the murder, removed from office for a time, and replaced first by Miguel Garza y Falcón, then by José Joaquín Eca y Músqiz, and finally by Pedro de Rábago y Terán, " his uncle.

The recommendation of Pedro de Rábago y Terán for the removal of the San Xavier Mis- sions " and presidio because of unhealthful con- ditions was not granted; but in the summer of 1756 the situation became so intolerable that the soldiers, missionaries, and remaining neophytes of the San Xavier Missions moved without permis- sion to the springs of the San Marcos River. In 1756, the troops of San Francisco Xavier were ordered to join the forces designated for the pro- posed San Sabá Presidio, " the actual transfer of troops taking place on the San Marcos River on January 25, 1757, thus incorporating San Fran- cisco Xavier into San Sabá Presidio.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: H. E. Bolton, *Texas in the Middle Eighteenth Century* (1915); C. E. Castañeda, *Our Cath- olic Heritage*, II (1936); H. E. Bolton, "The Founding of the Missions on the San Gabriel River," *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*, XVII (1913-1914).

San Francisco Xavier de los Tejas Mis- sion. See San Francisco Xavier de Horcasitas Mis- sion.

San Gabriel, Texas. San Gabriel, a small agri- cultural community on the San Gabriel River in western Milam County, was named for one of three Spanish missions erected in the area in the early part of the eighteenth century. In 1751 there were 349 Indians in the three missions, but only traces of this settlement remain. Peter and Jesse Mercer, the first Anglo-American settlers on the San Gabriel River, built a rude cabin on the bank of the river and cleared a small farm in the bot- tom near the present San Gabriel post office. Six businesses, a post office, and a population of two hundred were reported in 1945.

Margaret E. Lengert

San Gabriel River. The San Gabriel River rises in North, South, and Middle Forks in south- western Williamson County. After the three branches unite at Georgetown, the river flows northeast about fifty miles to join Little River in central Milam County.

In 1716 Fray Isidro Felix de Espinosa and Domingo Ramón " named the stream San Fran- cisco Xavier, and it was so called by the Marquis de Aguayo " and other explorers and inspectors in the area. In 1828 Stephen F. Austin on his map spelled the name San Javriel, and field notes as late as 1833 continued to use that spelling, but the corruption to San Gabriel soon thereafter became " set.

San Gabriels, battle on the. The battle on the San Gabriels, a skirmish between a force of Indians and Mexicans led by Manuel Flores " and a company of Texas Rangers " under Lieutenant James O. Rice, " occurred on May 17, 1838, about nine miles west of present Georgetown in William- son County. The Texans had been following the Flores party since May 15 and finally made the at- tack on the banks of the North San Gabriel River. Flores was killed in the first charge and his fol- lowers fled, leaving behind them all their horses, mules, baggage, munitions, and other equipment. Although few persons participated in the engage- ment, it is significant because in the captured bag-

gage was found the and Vicente Cordova superior officers in the Cordova Rebell

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Will Hero of the Battle on *Historical Quarterly*, L *Indian Depredations*

San Geronimo ( an intermittent stre: County and flows s one miles to join the Medina County.

San Ildefonso ( rises in southern We west about six miles t is dammed to form Laredo. Owned by with a capacity of r igation.

San Ildefonso M sion, one of the gene: sions, " was establish missionaries of the Querétaro " with the tianizing the Coco, other Indian tribes. A monument six miles County, marks the ap

Circumstances of tl Ganzábal in 1752 and Felipe Rábago y Terá cisco Xavier Presidic the Indians and friars of rehabilitation, be: tions the San Xavier out authority, by Pec the San Marcos Rive property of the San X to Fray Alonso Giral proposed San Sabá de the neophytes of San home territory, it was for in Nuestra Señora

BIBLIOGRAPHY: H. E. *Eighteenth Century* (1915); *Catholic Heritage*, III (1938); of the Missions on the S; *Historical Quarterly*, X

San Isidro, Texa ern Starr County, is a field community. A p 1915 but was replaced Elena. Two businesse were reported in 1930

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Government ordered the abandonment of all presidios and missions in East Texas.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: C. E. Castañeda, *Our Catholic Heritage*, II-III (1936-1938); C. W. Hackett, "The Marquis de Aguayo and His Recovery of Texas from the French," *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*, XLIX (1915-1916); G. L. Crockett, *Two Centuries in Texas* (1932).

R. B. Blake

**Nuestra Señora de los Dolores de Benavente**, pueblo of. Nuestra Señora de los Dolores de Benavente, an Indian pueblo attached to Nuestra Señora de los Dolores de los Ais Mission,<sup>97</sup> was founded by Martín de Alarcón<sup>97</sup> on his inspection tour of Texas in 1718.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: C. E. Castañeda, *Our Catholic Heritage*, II (1936).

**Nuestra Señora de los Dolores del Rio de San Xavier Mission.** See, San Francisco Xavier de Horcasitas Mission.

**Nuestra Señora de los Dolores de los Dolores Presidio.** Nuestra Señora de los Dolores de los Dolores Presidio, also known as Presidio de los Dolores and as Presidio de los Tejas, was established by the Domingo Ramón<sup>97</sup> expedition in 1716. The presidio was built one-fourth league from San Francisco de los Tejas Mission<sup>97</sup> on the west bank of the Neches River. Abandoned in 1719 because of a French invasion of East Texas, it was reestablished by the Marquis de Aguayo<sup>97</sup> in 1721. Located four miles from the Angelina River one league from the mission of Nuestra Señora de la Concepción de los Hainai.<sup>97</sup> The state Department erected a monument six miles from Douglass, Nacogdoches County, to mark the presidio site.

Because of the peaceful demeanor of the Indians in East Texas, Pedro de Rivera<sup>97</sup> recommended the establishment of the presidio, which was effected in 1720. The immediate result of the presidio's abandonment was the removal of the Queréteran missions of San Francisco de los Neches, Nuestra Señora de la Concepción de los Hainai, and San José de Nazónis<sup>97</sup> to the Colorado River and later to San Antonio.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: C. E. Castañeda, *Our Catholic Heritage*, II (1936); C. W. Hackett, "The Marquis of San Francisco de Aguayo and His Recovery of Texas from the French," *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*, XLIX (1915-1916); H. E. Bolton, *Texas in the Middle Eighteenth Century* (1915).

**Nuestra Señora del Espíritu Santo de Matagorda Mission.** Nuestra Señora del Espíritu Santo de Zuñiga Mission, commonly called La Bahía Mission, was founded in 1722 by the Aguayo<sup>97</sup> expedition near Matagorda Bay possibly on the west bank of the Colorado River among the Comanche, Cujane, and Kiowa Indians<sup>97</sup> and placed in the care of missionaries from the college of Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe de Zacatecas.<sup>97</sup> The mission was established in connection with the presidio of Nuestra Señora de Loreto,<sup>97</sup> which reputedly was built on the east bank of Rêne Robert Cavalier, Sieur de la Moine, Fort St. Louis.<sup>97</sup> The name of the mission was taken from La Bahía del Espíritu Santo (Matagorda Bay) and honored Baltasar de Zuñiga, Viceroy of New Spain.

Because the mission and presidio were moved to the west bank of the Guadalupe River among the Aranama and Comanche Indians.<sup>97</sup> The area southeast of the present Victoria County was still known as Matagorda Mission Valley. In 1749, at the request of the missionaries, the mission and presidio were

moved again and located on their final site on the banks of the San Antonio River at the present town of Goliad. The gradual dissolution of the mission began in 1812, when many Indians deserted to join the Gutiérrez-Magee Expedition,<sup>97</sup> and the mission was secularized in 1830.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: C. E. Castañeda, *Our Catholic Heritage*, II-III (1936-1938); E. C. Buckley, "The Aguayo Expedition into Texas and Louisiana, 1719-1722," *Quarterly of the Texas State Historical Association*, XV (1911-1912); W. H. Oberste, *History of Refugio Mission* (1942).

W. H. Oberste

**Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe.** Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe was the name given by members of the expedition led by Juan Dominguez de Mendoza<sup>97</sup> to a camp site on the night of December 27 and December 28, 1683, on the Rio Grande a few miles above present Presidio, Texas.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: H. E. Bolton, *Spanish Exploration in the Southwest* (1916).

James M. Daniel

**Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe de Albuquerque,** pueblo of. Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe de Albuquerque, the Indian pueblo attached to Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe de los Nacogdoches Mission,<sup>97</sup> was named by Martín de Alarcón<sup>97</sup> on his inspection tour of Texas in 1718.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: C. E. Castañeda, *Our Catholic Heritage*, II (1936).

**Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe Mission.** Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe Mission was established on the Guadalupe at or near present New Braunfels in 1756 by Fray Mariano Francisco de los Dolores y Viana,<sup>97</sup> the president of the missions in San Antonio. Its purpose was to assemble those neophytes of the abandoned mission of San Francisco Xavier de Horcasitas<sup>97</sup> who would not join San Antonio de Valero Mission.<sup>97</sup> As the mission articles of San Francisco Xavier along with the mission articles of the other San Xavier Missions<sup>97</sup> had been ordered turned over to Fray Giraldo de Terreros for San Sabá de la Santa Cruz Mission,<sup>97</sup> Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe was on a temporary basis until a request for approval of its founding was acted upon by the viceroy. In January, 1757, there were at the mission four Spanish families, two priests, and forty-one Indians, all formerly of the mission San Francisco Xavier. The mission continued until March of 1758, when it was withdrawn in order to prevent its possible destruction by the Comanche<sup>97</sup> and other northern tribes.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: H. E. Bolton, *Texas in the Middle Eighteenth Century* (1915); C. E. Castañeda, *Our Catholic Heritage*, II (1936).

**Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe de los Nacogdoches Mission.** Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe de los Nacogdoches Mission was founded by the Domingo Ramón<sup>97</sup> expedition in a village of the Nacogdoche Indians<sup>97</sup> on July 9, 1716. Ramón placed Father Antonio Margil de Jesús,<sup>97</sup> president of the college of Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe de Zacatecas<sup>97</sup> missionaries in Texas, in charge of the mission. Abandoned temporarily in 1719 because of a French invasion of Texas, it was the first Zacatecan mission to be restored by the Marquis de Aguayo<sup>97</sup> in 1721. At that time Fray Joseph Rodríguez was appointed resident missionary by Fray Antonio Margil de Jesús. In 1773 the mission was permanently abandoned after the cession of Louisiana to Spain by the French. Its deserted buildings formed a nucleus