

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

OSC

## NATIONAL SURVEY OF HISTORIC SITES AND BUILDINGS

|                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. STATE<br>Texas                                                                                                                  | 2. THEME(S). IF ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE, WRITE "ARCH" BEFORE THEME NO.<br>Theme IV, Spanish Exploration and Settlement |
| 3. NAME(S) OF SITE<br>Nuestra Señora de la Purisima Concepcion de Acuna Mission                                                    | 4. APPROX. ACREAGE<br>2                                                                                           |
| 5. EXACT LOCATION (County, township, roads, etc. If difficult to find, sketch on Supplementary Sheet)<br>Bexar County, San Antonio |                                                                                                                   |
| 6. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PRESENT OWNER (Also administrator if different from owner)<br>Catholic Church                               |                                                                                                                   |
| 7. IMPORTANCE AND DESCRIPTION (Describe briefly what makes site important and what remains are extant)                             |                                                                                                                   |

Like the other four San Antonio missions, Concepcion enjoyed its heyday during the middle eighteenth century. Together with San Juan Capistrano and San Francisco de la Espada, Concepcion was relocated on the San Antonio River in 1731 after the abandonment of the East Texas missions. The mission was secularized in 1794, and is today maintained by the Catholic Church, which holds services in the chapel on special occasions.

The adobe and tufa church of Concepcion Mission is perhaps the best preserved of all Texas missions, and at the same time has been the object of only minor restoration work. Aside from the addition of tile floors, replacement of doors, and re-roofing of the infirmary, the mission stands much as it did in the eighteenth century. Notable features of this mission include the original carved stone baptismal font and altar, and partly visible frescoes executed by the Franciscan friars. In contrast to the other San Antonio missions, however, none of the compound walls remain.

## 8. BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (Give best sources; give location of manuscripts and rare works)

Herbert E. Bolton, Texas in the Middle Eighteenth Century (Berkeley, 1915).  
Carlos E. Castaneda, Our Catholic Heritage in Texas (Austin, 1936-42), Vol. V.

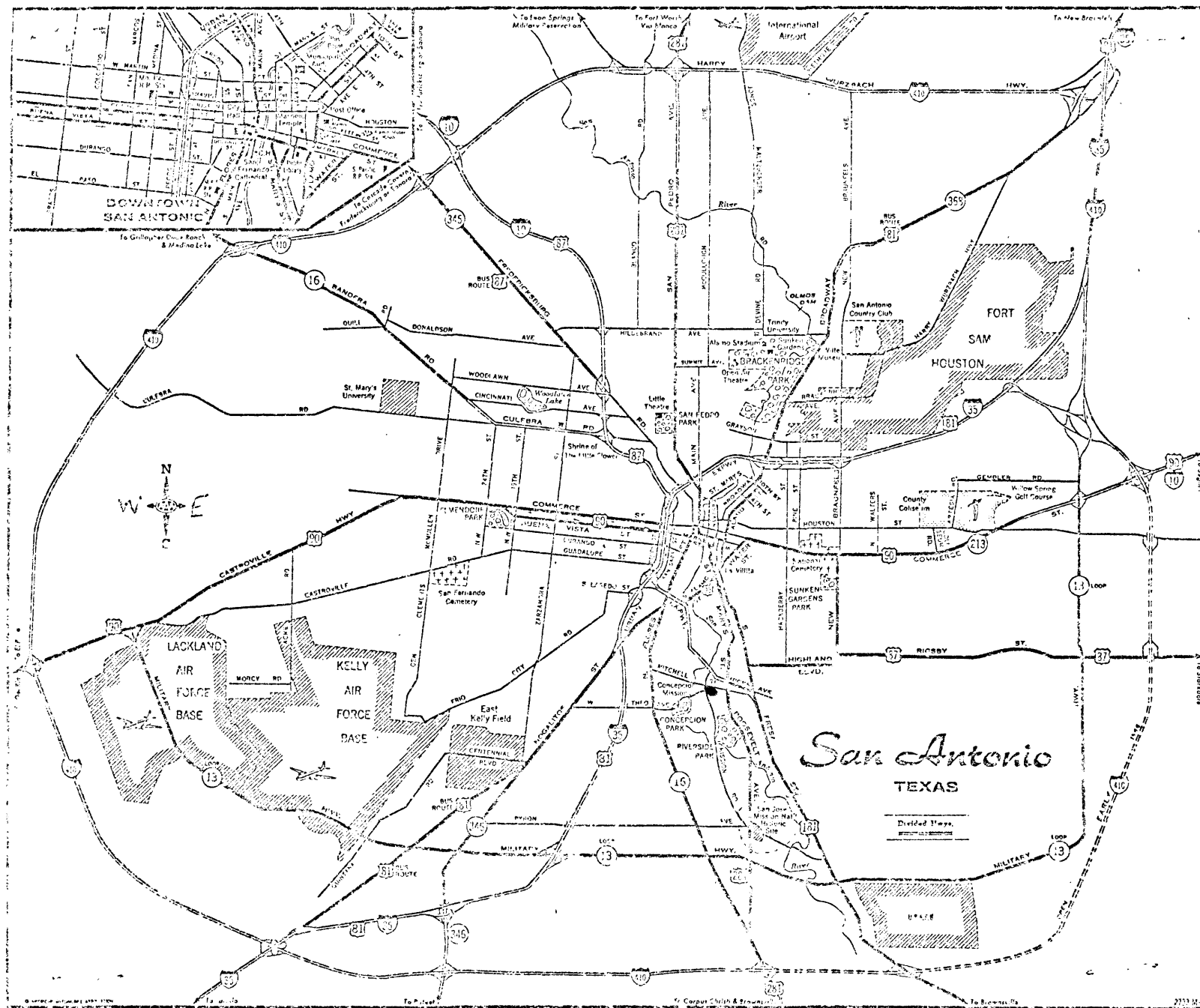
## 9. REPORTS AND STUDIES (Mention best reports and studies, as, NPS study, HABS, etc.)

HABS: 5 sheets (1934); 14 photos (1936).

|                                                                                                    |                        |                                                       |                                     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 10. PHOTOGRAPHS *<br>ATTACHED: YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> | 11. CONDITION<br>Fair  | 12. PRESENT USE (Museum, farm, etc.)<br>Parish church | 13. DATE OF VISIT<br>March 20, 1958 |
| 14. NAME OF RECORDER (Signature)<br><i>Robert M. Utley</i>                                         | 15. TITLE<br>Historian | 16. DATE<br>May 8, 1958                               |                                     |

\* DRY MOUNT ON AN 8 X 10 1/2 SHEET OF FAIRLY HEAVY PAPER. IDENTIFY BY VIEW AND NAME OF THE SITE, DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH, AND NAME OF PHOTOGRAPHER. GIVE LOCATION OF NEGATIVE. IF ATTACHED, ENCLOSE IN PROPER NEGATIVE ENVELOPES.

(IF ADDITIONAL SPACE IS NEEDED USE SUPPLEMENTARY SHEET, 10-317a, AND REFER TO ITEM NUMBER)



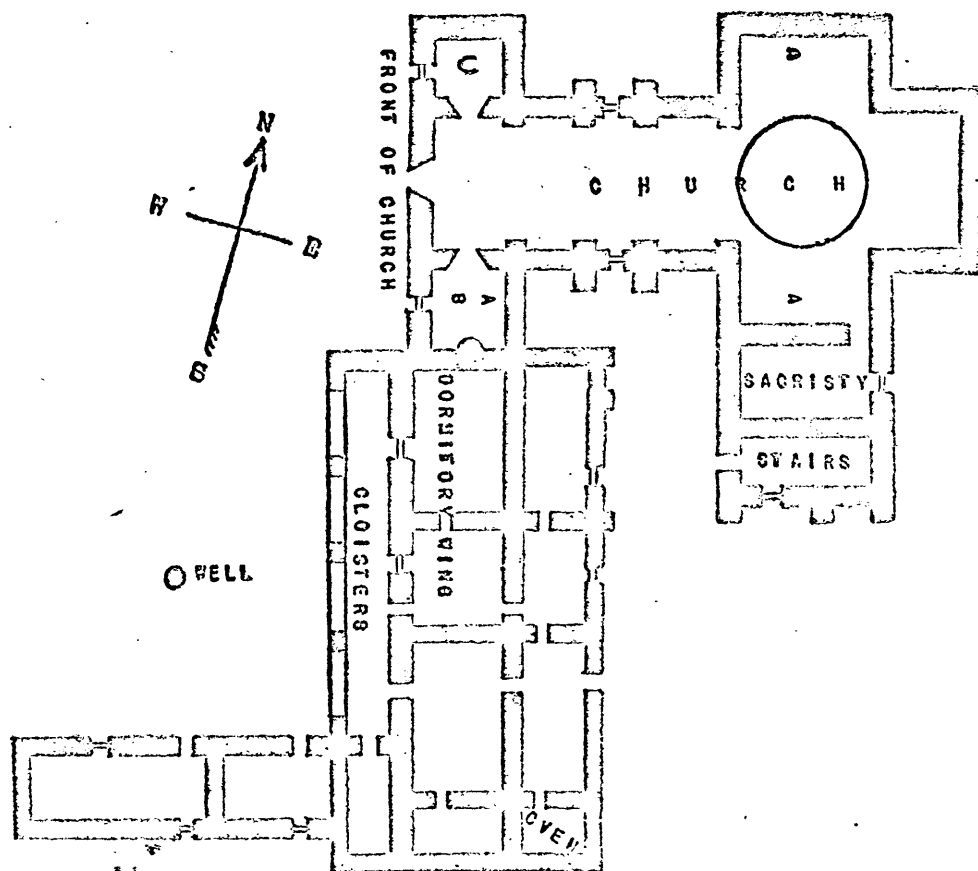


FIG. 10. PLAN OF THE MISSION OF NUESTRA SEÑORA DE LA CONCEPCIÓN  
PURÍSIMA DE ACUÑA, TEXAS

*A, altar. B, baptistry. C Bellery*

From Cleve Hallenbeck, Spanish Missions of the Old Southwest.

(New York, 1926).

Negative No. 4768

1755  
Subject Concepcion Mission Church, 1731 South (side) elevation

Date Mar. 23, '68 Locality 807 Mission Road, San Antonio, Tex By Charles W. Snell



Negative No. 4771

Subject Concepcion Mission Church, 1731 North side (left) 175

Date Mar. 23, 1968 Locality 807 Mission Road, San Antonio, Tex. By Charles W. Snell



Subject Concepcion Mission Church, 1781  
West (front) elevation and Convento

Date Mar. 23, '68 Locality 807 Mission Road, San Antonio, Tex. By Charles W. Snell



1755  
Negative No. 4766

Subject Concepción Mission Church, 1731, East (rear) elevation

Date Mar. 23, '68 Locality 807 Mission Road, San Antonio, Tex. By Charles W. Snell



Negative No. 4767

Subject Concepcion Mission Church, 1731 - 1755  
West (Front) Elevation and Convento

Date Mar. 23, '68 Locality 807 Mission Road, San Antonio, Tex. By Charles W. Snell





Nuestra Señora de la Purísima Concepción de Acuña Mission,  
San Antonio, Texas. Looking east. Photo by Robert M.  
Utley, March 20, 1958. Negative in Region Three Office,  
National Park Service, Santa Fe, New Mexico.



Concepcion Mission Church, 1731-1755  
West (front) elevation

807 Mission Road  
San Antonio, Texas

March 23, 1968

Charles W. Snell

Western Reg. Neg. 4765