

In January 1691, Father Kino was the leader of the first Europeans to visit the O'odham village where he started Tumacácori Mission. A mission was a community for teaching native people the Spanish way of life. People in the missions learned new ways to farm, a different religion, and to speak Spanish. They started building houses and churches using mud bricks called adobe. Beginning in 1800, it took Tumacácori's community almost 25 years to build the church that you see today. It will take you much less time to connect the dots! While you connect the dots, pretend you are in this scene from 200 years ago. Imagine standing in front of the mission's church. Feel the heat from the sun on your back. Look at all the people around the church. List the different things they are doing. What animals do you see? What do you hear and smell? List as many sounds and smells as you can imagine from the scene. Use your imagination to write a journal entry that tells what happened at the mission 200 years ago. Sign the entry using your signature with a rubric. Would you rather visit the mission this year or 200 years ago? Why?