

San Antonio Missions

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

San Antonio Missions
National Historical Park



Seventh Grade: The Summit of the Empire

Mission San Jose - Visit Outline

- I. Resource Protection Message
 - A. Welcome
 - B. The park is an extension of your classroom
 - C. Help preserve these historic structures
- II. The People
 - A. Hunter/gatherer bands
 - 1. Not a tribe but a band
 - 2. Seasonal hunters
 - 3. Under pressure from Comanche, Apache & Spanish expansion
 - B. The Comanche and Apache
 - 1. Tribal people
 - 2. Moving south on Spanish horses
 - 3. Subsistence pattern
 - C. Spain
 - 1. Explores Texas
 - 2. Claims land in the name of the King
 - 3. Develops facilities to legitimize claim
- II. Process
 - A. The function of a mission
 - 1. Create Spanish citizens
 - 2. Develop supporting infrastructure
 - 3. Defend the realm
 - B. The mission as a trade school
 - 1. Agriculture
 - 2. Ranching
 - 3. Other new technologies (mills, metal work)
 - C. The mission as place of worship
 - 1. The role of the Franciscans
 - 2. The ties between the church and crown
 - 3. Replacement and inclusion
- III. Place
 - A. Why San Antonio?
 - 1. River
 - 2. Native population
 - 3. Halfway point on camino
 - B. Progression of construction
 - 1. First simple jacales
 - 2. Early stone structures
 - 3. Monumental architecture
 - C. Legacy
 - 1. Language
 - 2. Faith
 - 3. Community

Further Reading

Alamo Chain of Missions

Marion A. Habig
Franciscan Herald Press

San Antonio Missions National Historical Park

Louis Torres
WNPA

The Missions of San Antonio

Lewis Fisher
Maverick Press

Spanish Texas 1519-1821

Donald Chipman
University of Texas Press