

OSL

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL SURVEY OF HISTORIC SITES AND BUILDINGS

1. STATE Texas	2. THEME(S). IF ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE, WRITE "ARCH" BEFORE THEME NO. Theme IV, Spanish Exploration and Settlement
3. NAME(S) OF SITE Nuestra Señora de la Purisima Concepcion de Acuna Mission	4. APPROX. ACREAGE 2
5. EXACT LOCATION (County, township, roads, etc. If difficult to find, sketch on Supplementary Sheet) Bexar County, San Antonio	
6. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PRESENT OWNER (Also administrator if different from owner) 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.

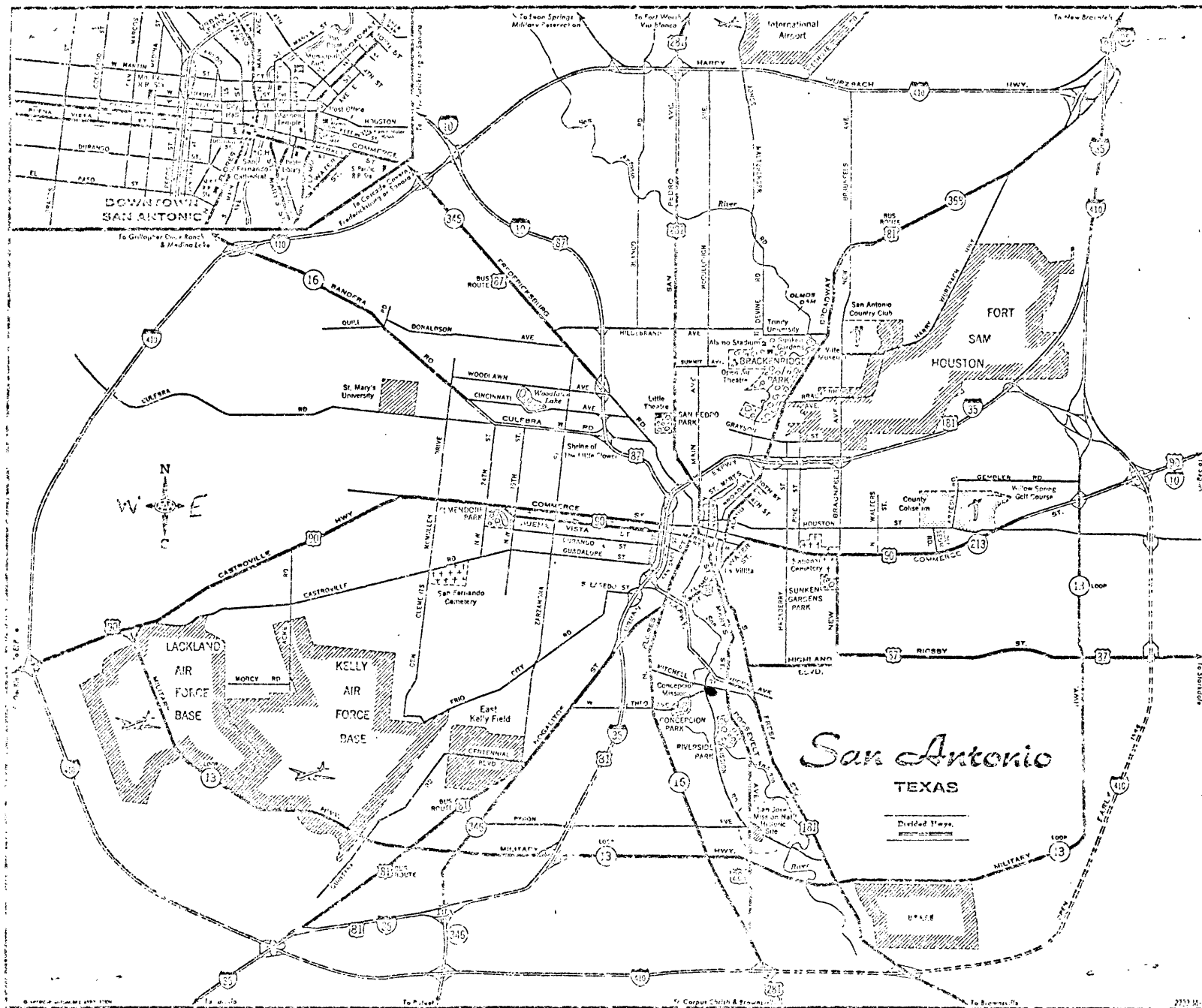
9. REPORTS AND STUDIES (Mention best reports and studies, as, NPS study, HABS, etc.)

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

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



# San Antonio TEXAS

Divided Ways

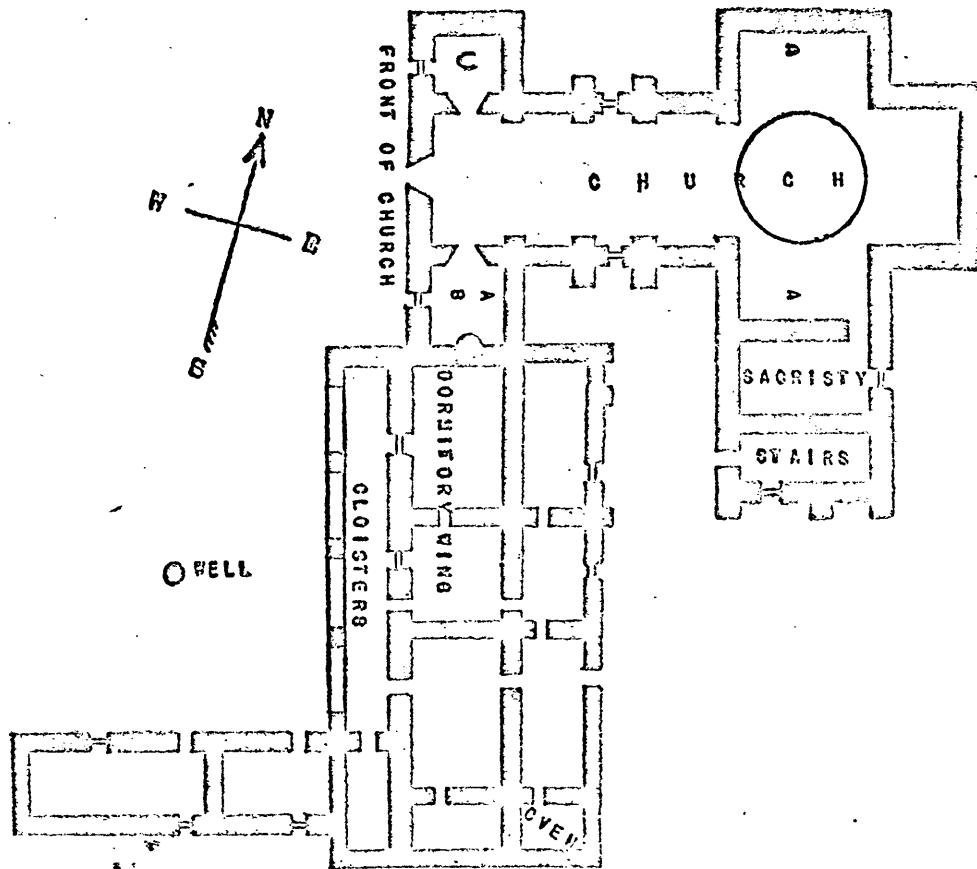


FIG. 10. PLAN OF THE MISSION OF NUESTRA SEÑORA DE LA CONCEPCIÓN  
PURÍSIMA DE ACUNA, TEXAS

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

From Cleve Hallenbeck, Spanish Missions of the Old Southwest.

(New York, 1926).