

Mission San Jose Y San Miguel De Aguayo,
Granary
6539 San Jose Road
San Antonio
Bexar County
Texas

HABS No. TX-333 D

HABS
TEX
15-SANTV,
SB-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
MISSION SAN JOSE Y SAN MIGUEL DE AGUAYO,
GRANARY

HABS
TEX
15-SANT.N,
5B-
HABS No. TX-333 D

Location: 6539 San Jose Road, San Antonio,
Bexar County, Texas.

Present Owner: The State of Texas.

Present Use: Public museum.

Significance: The granary is a typical component of a Spanish mission complex built during the period of Texas frontier.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: Circa 1768.
2. Original and subsequent owners: See History section of Mission San Jose y San Miguel de Aguayo, HABS No. TX-333.

B. Historical Context: See Mission San Jose y San Miguel de Aguayo, HABS No. TX-333.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: The Granary is significant for its form of construction, which consists of a series of flying buttresses which reinforce the tunnel vault roof.
2. Condition of fabric: The walls are sound and the building is currently well maintained.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: The Granary is rectangular in shape, one-story high and measures approximately 35' X 110'.
2. Foundations: Rubble stone.
3. Walls: Rubble stone laid in lime mortar.
4. Structural system, framing: Load bearing masonry walls reinforced with engaged and flying buttresses, transverse round arch rings and tunnel vault roof.
5. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: Openings are spanned by timber lintels. Doors are wood.

- b. Windows: Window openings are located just above the springline of the vault and are rectangular in shape. On the exterior wall the openings are spanned by a simple two-member pointed segmental arch. Windows are wood sash and not original.

6. Roof: Tunnel vault; covering not known.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plan: Two transverse masonry walls create two narrow rectangular rooms at the north end leaving the remainder as one large undivided space.
2. Walls: Plastered.
3. Flooring: Originally packed earth; now flagstone.
4. Doors: None.
5. Lighting: Electric hanging fixtures in "colonial" style.

D. Site:

1. General orientation and setting: Oriented with its long axis north to south, the Granary forms the northwest corner of the Mission Plaza.

PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

The San Antonio project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) in the summer of 1968, and was made possible with funds from HABS and two sponsors, the Bexar County Historical Survey Committee and the San Antonio Conservation Society. Under the direction of James Massey, Chief of HABS, the project was carried out by Wesley I. Shank (Iowa State University), project supervisor, and by student assistant architects, Charles W. Barrow (University of Texas); Les Beilinson (University of Miami); William H. Edwards (University of Illinois); and Larry D. Hermsen (Iowa State University) at the HABS field office in the former Ursuline Academy buildings, San Antonio. John C. Garner, Jr., director of Bexar County Architecture Survey, did the outside work on the written documentaries. Susan McCown, a HABS staff historian in the Washington D.C. office, edited the written data in 1983, for preparation of transmittal to the Library of Congress. Dewey G. Mears of Austin, Texas took the documentary photographs of the San Antonio structures.

The 1983 photographs of the granary are part of the 1983 San Antonio Missions project, which was sponsored by the Southwest Regional Office, National Park Service. John Lowe of the HABS/HAER Office, Washington, D.C., took the photographs.