The Spanish Missions:
The Spanish Return to Texas

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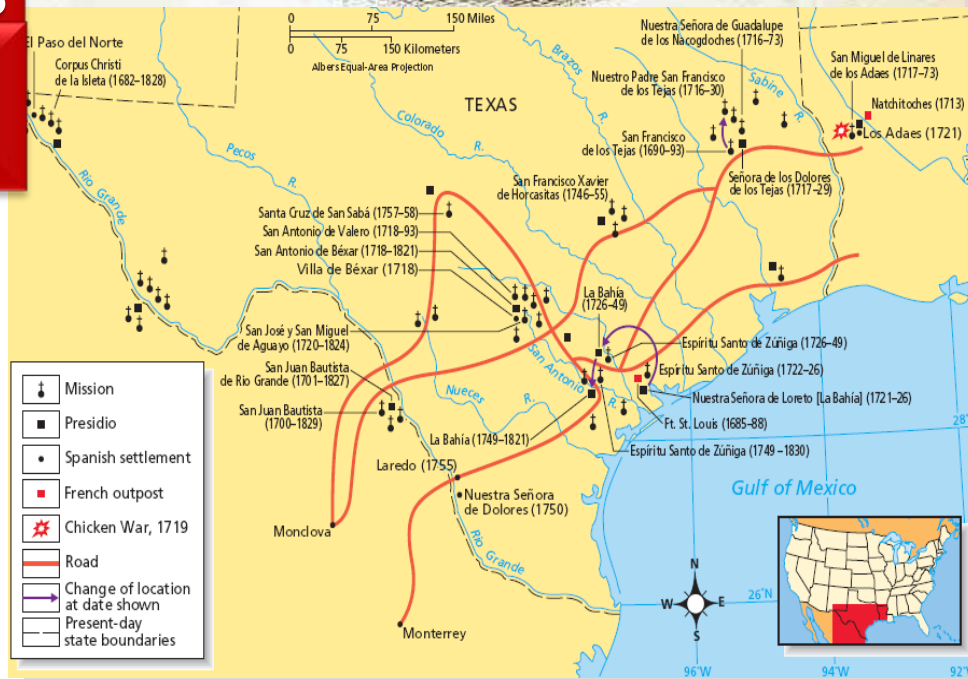


A NEW FRENCH THREAT

After failures in East Texas, the Spanish ignore Texas for more than 20 years.

Spanish Flag

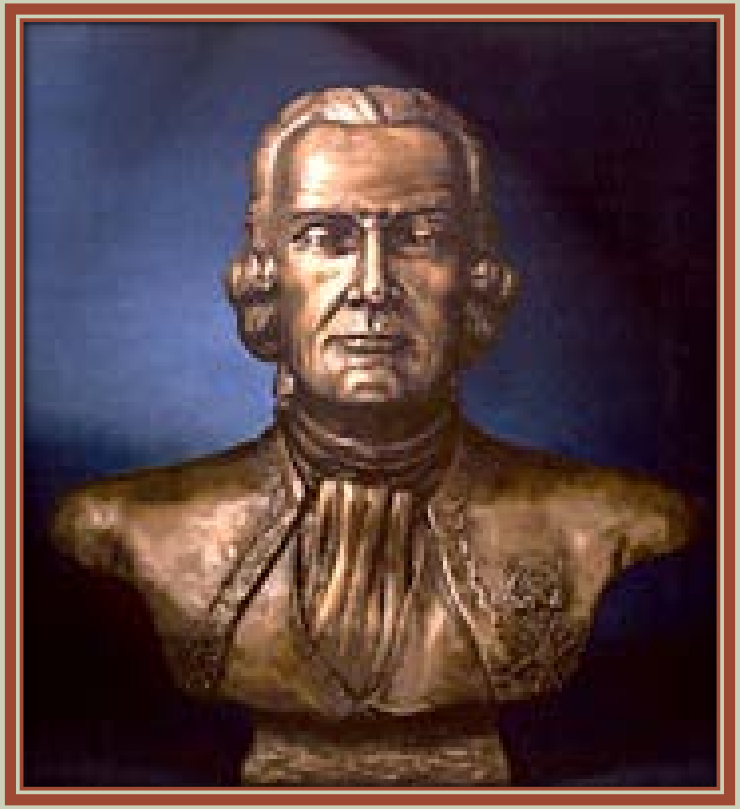
A NEW FRENCH THREAT

Reconstructed model of San Francisco de los Tejas, where Father Francisco Hidalgo had served

Father Francisco Hidalgo asked the French for help in establishing missions in East Texas.

A NEW FRENCH THREAT

1713: Gov. Cadillac of Louisiana sends Louis Juchereau de St. Denis to East Texas to find Father Hidalgo.



Bust of Louis Juchereau de St. Denis

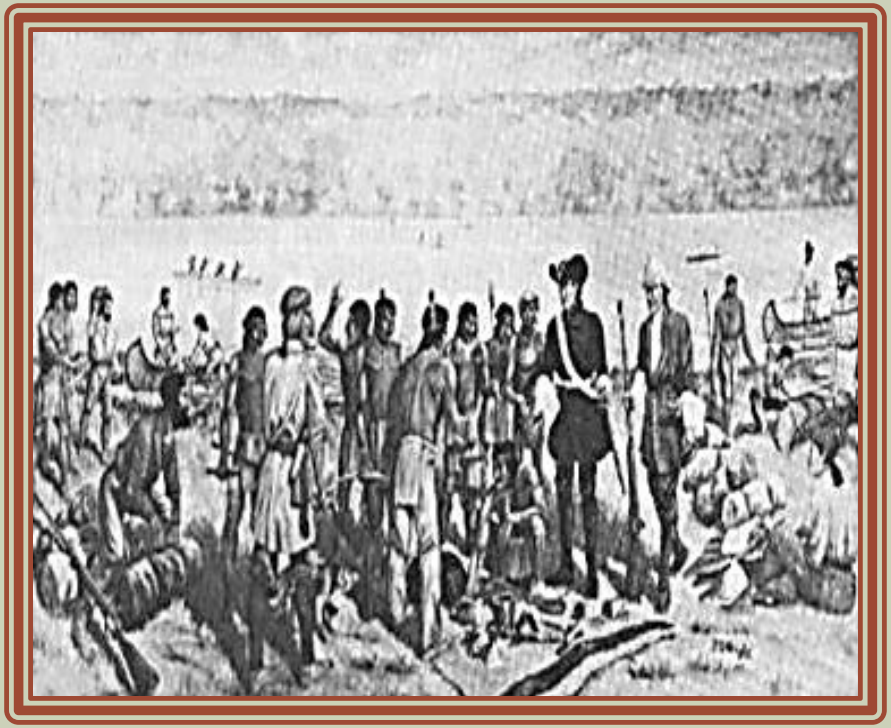
A NEW FRENCH THREAT

- Travels through East Texas searching for Father Hidalgo.
- After not finding Father Hidalgo, St. Denis heads towards West Texas.

A NEW FRENCH THREAT

- Trades with Tejas Indians
- Spain prohibited French from trading in New Spain

A NEW FRENCH THREAT



St. Denis and the Caddo Indians

- Arrives at San Juan Bautista and is arrested, but he is treated well.
- After marrying the step-granddaughter of the presidio commander, St. Denis is taken to Mexico for questioning.

EAST TEXAS MISSIONS

Spanish are alarmed by presence of a French trader in Texas, so they decide to build new missions in East Texas.

NEW EAST TEXAS MISSIONS

- 1716: Domingo Ramon leads an expedition to East Texas.
- St. Denis serves as a guide to the expedition.

An actual page from Captain Domingo Ramon's 1716 expedition into East Texas.

NEW EAST TEXAS MISSIONS

Nuestro Padre San Francisco de los Padre Mission

- Warmly welcomed by the Caddo Tejas Indians.
- They establish Nuestro Padre San Francisco de los Tejas near site of original mission.
- Hidalgo placed in charge of mission.

NEW EAST TEXAS MISSIONS

The Expedition established five more missions and a presidio in East Texas.

SAN ANTONIO SETTLEMENTS

Ruins of the San Francisco Solano Mission in East Texas.

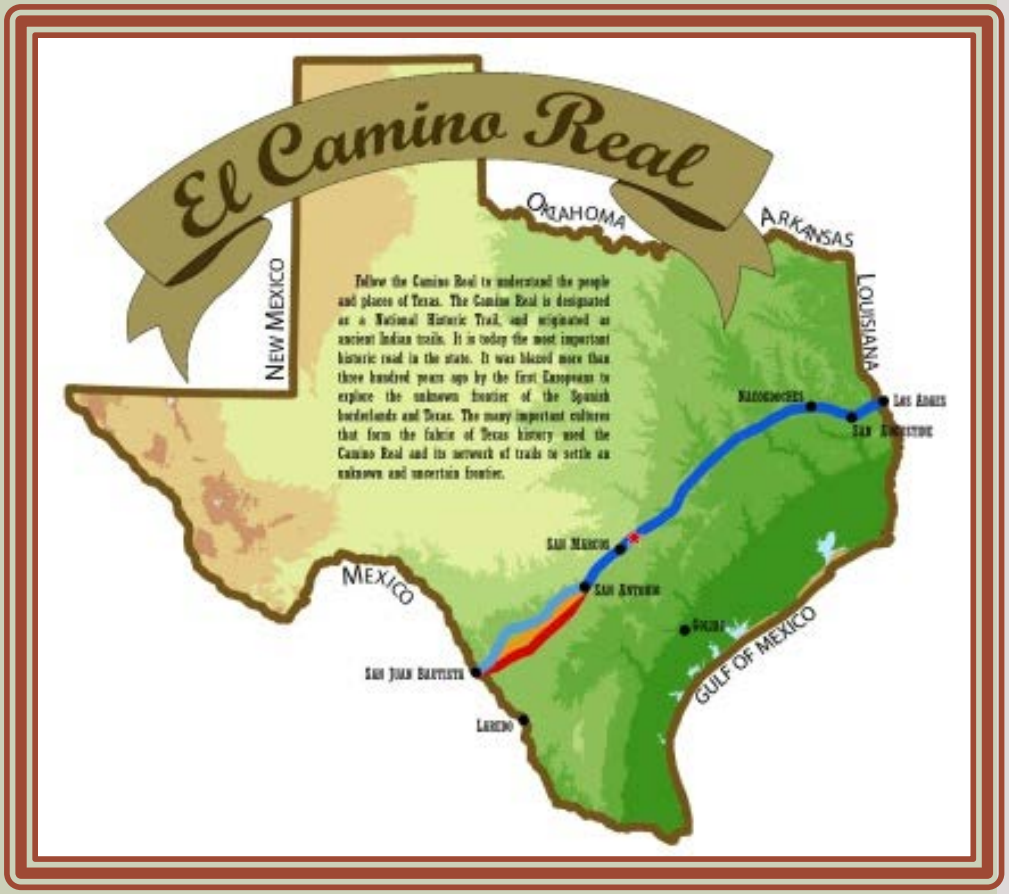
- Spanish knew first mission in East Texas failed due to its distant location.
- <u>Decide to establish an outpost between the Rio Grande and the East Texas missions.</u>

SAN ANTONIO SETTLEMENTS

In 1718, the Spanish built the Mission San Antonio de Valero along the San Antonio River. It would later on come to be known as the Alamo.

SAN ANTONIO SETTLEMENTS

- The first organized civil government in Texas was in San Antonio.
- Would become the halfway point on the El Camino Real.



SAN ANTONIO SETTLEMENTS

- **El Camino Real- "Royal Road" that led from East Texas missions to Mexico City.**
- **Used to establish and supply East Texas missions.**