Missions & Settlements

Why It Matters

The La Salle expedition alerted Spain to France’s interest in Texas. The Spanish decided that if they were to keep Texas, they must occupy it. Spanish missions and settlements provided a stronger hold on Texas than did the French traders.

The Impact Today

Early Spaniards originally named some of Texas’s settlements—San Antonio, Nacogdoches, and La Bahía. Many cities in Texas have the names of Catholic saints. These include San Marcos, San Augustine, Santa Elena, and many more.

- 1690: ★ First Spanish mission dedicated in East Texas
- 1718: ★ Mission San Antonio de Valero, the Alamo, was established
- 1722: ★ Los Adaes became the unofficial capital of Texas
- 1718: • French founded city of New Orleans
- 1719: • France declared war on Spain
- 1756: • Seven Years’ War began in Europe
- 1765: • The British Parliament passed the Stamp Act
This painting of the San José Mission by W. A. Aiken is typical of missions built in Texas in the late 1600s and early 1700s.
Main Idea
Fearing a French presence, Spain renewed efforts to settle eastern Texas during the 1600s and 1700s.

Key Terms
presidio
council

Reading Strategy
Organizing Information As you read this section, complete a table like the one shown here by filling in the dates of the first Spanish missions in Texas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Mission</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Near El Paso</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Texas</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Read to Learn
• about Spanish and French settlers in Texas.
• why East Texas missions failed.
• about Spanish reaction to the French.

Section Theme
Continuity and Change The Spanish attempted to establish missions in Texas but faced difficulties.

Preview of Events
1682 Ysleta is the first permanent European settlement in Texas
1690 Father Damián Massanet establishes first mission in East Texas
1714 Louis de St. Denis meets with Spanish officials

Spain Looks to Texas
As part of the settlement of New Spain, friars in 1682 founded the first permanent settlement of Europeans in Texas—the mission of Corpus Christi de la Ysleta, located near present-day El Paso. Most Spanish
activity during the 1690s, though, was in the eastern part of Texas, near French Louisiana. Fearing the arrival of La Salle in 1685 would produce French settlements, Spanish officials made a stronger effort to establish colonies. In the next several decades, Spain built missions, military outposts called presidios, and towns in lands occupied by Native Americans.

Spanish officials learned of La Salle’s fort in Texas soon after it was built. They immediately sent troops to destroy it. An expedition led by Alonso de León (ah•LOHN•soh day lay•OHN), the governor of Coahuila, reached the site on April 22, 1689, only to find the fort deserted and in ruins.

**A Tejas Mission**

De León then led his troops northeast. Near the Colorado River, they met a large group of Hasinai people, whom they called the Tejas, (TAY•hahs) a word meaning “friend.” Angelina, a Hasinai woman, served as guide and interpreter. Father Damián Massanet, a Catholic church official on the expedition, promised he would come back. When the expedition returned to Mexico, Massanet asked the viceroy for permission to found a mission among the Tejas.

The viceroy agreed, and in the spring of 1690 Father Massanet, three other friars, and about 100 soldiers set out for East Texas. When the expedition arrived at the Tejas villages in late May, the Tejas greeted the Spanish visitors with a feast.

The first Spanish mission in East Texas was dedicated on June 1, 1690. It was a crude log building and contained only a few simple furnishings. Named San Francisco de los Tejas (sahn frahn•SEES•koh day lohs TAY•hahs), the mission was located a few miles west of the Neches River near the present-day town of Weches.
A Mission Abandoned

Despite the promising beginning, troubles soon struck San Francisco de los Tejas. Drought ruined the Tejas’s crops, and disease killed many of the Native Americans and one of the friars. The Tejas rejected the Catholic religion and resented the Spaniards’ attempts to change the way they lived.

Meanwhile, officials in Mexico City decided that the mission must be abandoned. Realizing France was not a threat, there was no reason to spend money supporting missions so far from Spanish settlements.

Although the failure of the mission was a disappointment, its mere presence had strengthened Spain’s claim to Texas. The Spaniards now realized that a colony needed presidios and Spanish families who would settle on the land.

From 1693 to 1714, Spain made no effort to settle Texas, but settlements along the Rio Grande flourished. Mission San Juan Bautista (sahn hwan bah•TEES•tah) was built west of the river near the present-day town of Eagle Pass in 1699. The mission, five miles from the Rio Grande, was strategically located near a series of crossings providing access to Texas. Here the outpost eventually grew into a complex of three missions, a presidio, and a town. The mission earned the title of the “Mother of Texas Missions” because it was the base for many expeditions whose aims were to establish missions in East Texas. The mission at San Juan Bautista provided grain, cattle, and horses to the missionaries on these expeditions.

One of its missionaries was Father Francisco Hidalgo (ee•DAHL•go), a gentle friar who had known the Tejas of San Francisco de los Tejas. Father Hidalgo repeatedly asked permission to return there to start another mission. His requests were ignored.

Franco Threatens Again

Several years after La Salle’s venture in the 1680s, France made another attempt to claim the lands drained by the Mississippi. In 1699 a French expedition established a colony on the
Gulf Coast at Biloxi in present-day Mississippi. Soon other French trading posts were scattered throughout the Mississippi Valley.

The French were not interested in taking territory or converting the Native Americans to Catholicism. French traders won the friendship of many Native American groups, and the French made large profits exchanging blankets, guns, and wine for furs and skins. The French also hoped to trade with Spanish merchants in Mexico, but Spanish law prohibited foreigners from trading in the colonies of New Spain.

Without the knowledge of Spanish officials, Father Hidalgo wrote a letter to the French governor in Louisiana, asking that the French establish a mission among the Tejas. The French governor listened to Hidalgo’s proposal because it offered an opportunity to open trade.

The French governor appointed Louis de St. Denis (loo•EE dahs sahn deh•NEE) to negotiate with the Spanish officials on the Rio Grande. St. Denis had traded successfully with Native Americans in Louisiana. On the way to the Rio Grande, he built a trading post, Natchitoches, on the Red River. Then St. Denis and a small party left for San Juan Bautista, arriving in July 1714.

The unexpected arrival of the French party alarmed Captain Diego Ramón, the presidio’s commander. He arrested St. Denis and sent him to Mexico City to be examined by the viceroy. St. Denis insisted that France had no plans to occupy East Texas.

The Spanish viceroy and his council, or advisers, did not believe St. Denis. They ordered new missions to be built in East Texas with Spanish soldiers to protect them. Trade between the Spanish and French was stopped. Curiously, the viceroy appointed St. Denis to guide the Spaniards into East Texas. The Spaniards could benefit from his knowledge of Texas trails and his good relations with Native Americans. St. Denis was also given permission to marry Manuela, the step-granddaughter of Captain Ramón.

**Reading Check**

**Explaining** Why did Captain Ramón arrest St. Denis?

### Section 1 Assessment

**Checking for Understanding**

1. **Using Key Terms** Identify the difference between a presidio and a mission. In your definition, include the purpose of each of these.

2. **Reviewing Facts** What was the name of the first Spanish mission in East Texas?

**Reviewing Themes**

3. **Continuity and Change** Explain how politics, religion, and climate all played a role in the failure of Mission San Francisco de los Tejas.

**Organizing to Learn**

4. **Identifying** Create a chart like the one shown below. Explain how each person played a role in the establishment of the early missions in Texas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Person</th>
<th>Role</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>de León</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angelina</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massanet</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hidalgo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Denis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramón</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Critical Thinking**

5. **Comparing and Contrasting** How did the French and the Spanish differ in their relationships with Native Americans in Texas?

**Drawing Inferences** What were Father Massanet’s motives when he asked the viceroy for permission to found a mission among the Tejas? What do you think his reaction would be to the failure of the mission?
Main Idea
Spain expanded efforts to colonize Texas during the first half of the 1700s, but many of the settlements failed.

Key Term
province

Reading Strategy
Classifying Information Complete a chart like the one shown here, recognizing how Native Americans in the Plains felt about the Spanish in Texas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Native Americans</th>
<th>Attitudes Toward Spanish</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apaches</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comanches</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tonkawas</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Read to Learn
• what settlements Spain built in East Texas.
• what missionary efforts the Spanish first made among the Plains people.

Section Theme
Culture and Traditions The Spanish and French established settlements in Texas and interacted with Native Americans.

Preview of Events
1716
Six missions are established in East Texas

1718
Mission San Antonio de Valero, the Alamo, is founded

1722
Los Adaes becomes the unofficial capital of Texas

A Texas Story
Father Massanet was well educated and had a keen eye. His observations provide information about the Native Americans he knew. “The house is built of stakes thatched over with grass . . . is round, and has no windows, daylight entering through the door only. In the middle of the house is the fire, which is never extinguished, day or night . . . Ranged around one-half of the house are ten beds, which consist of a rug made of reeds, laid on four forked sticks. Over the rug they spread buffalo skins, on which they sleep.”

Missions Are Established in East Texas
Guided by St. Denis, with Angelina as interpreter, a large Spanish force arrived in June, 1716 at the site of San Francisco de los Tejas. For the first time, Spanish families came to live in the forests of East Texas. The Native
Americans were friendly and did not resist the Spanish effort. Within a year, the Spanish had established six missions and a small fort, a presidio they named Nuestra Señora de los Dolores de los Tejas. The presidio, located on the Neches River, was built to protect the missions from attacks by the Native Americans or the French.

Spanish officials chose a site on the San Antonio River as the best place for the new settlement. A friar described it as follows:

“The best site in the world, with good and abundant irrigation water, rich lands for pasture, plentiful building stone, and excellent timber.”

Presidio San Antonio de Béxar, on one side of the San Antonio River, was built in 1718 under the leadership of Martín de Alarcón (day ah•lar•KOHN). Many of the soldiers brought families, began digging irrigation canals for farming, and settled permanently. The women tilled the land, cooked, cleaned, and cared for the children. Across the river Father Antonio de San
Buenaventura y Olivares founded Mission San Antonio de Valero. The mission chapel, which was built a few years later, is now known as the Alamo. Throughout its history, San Fernando de Béxar (later called San Antonio) has been the site of many battles. With Texas’s independence, the town found itself a distance from the bulk of the new republic’s population.

Aguayo Defends the Missions

The settling of East Texas halted when war broke out between Spain and France in 1719. A small unit of French soldiers from Louisiana seized the Spanish mission near present-day Nacogdoches. An escaped mission brother exaggerated the size of the invading French army. Panic-stricken missionaries, soldiers, and families in East Texas fled to San Antonio later that year.

Angry and determined, the viceroy of New Spain immediately planned to retake East Texas. He ordered the Marqués de San Miguel de Aguayo to organize a force to meet the French threat. Aguayo was the governor of the provinces of Coahuila and Texas. In the spring of 1721, Aguayo marched to Texas with more than 500 soldier-settlers, thousands of horses and mules, and large herds of sheep and cattle. He again established the abandoned missions there and moved Presidio Nuestra Señora de los Dolores from the Neches River to the banks of the Angelina River.

Aguayo Founds Two Cities

Near the French post of Natchitoches, not far from present-day Robeline, Louisiana, Aguayo built a large presidio, Nuestra Señora del Pilar de los Adaes (nou•WEHS•trah seh•NYO•rah dehl pe•LAHR deh lohs ah•DAH•ehs). A force of 100 soldiers and their families started a village nearby. Six brass cannons guarded the fort. St. Denis, now the French commander at Natchitoches, protested that the presidio was in French territory. However, he made no effort to drive the Spanish soldiers and settlers away.

Years before, in 1691, Spanish authorities had recognized Texas as a province and had appointed the first governor. For many years officials governed the province from settlements in other areas of northern Mexico. The threat from the French, however, suggested the need for closer supervision. Soon after Aguayo established Los Adaes, it became the unofficial capital of Texas in 1722. It remained the capital for almost 50 years.

From Los Adaes, Aguayo traveled southwest to Garcitas Creek where his expedition established a mission and a presidio near the ruins of La Salle’s fort. The mission and presidio were later moved to the San Antonio River, near the present-day town of Goliad (GOH•lee•ad). The Spaniards named the settlement La Bahía del Espíritu Santo (lah bah•EE•ah dehl ehs•PEER•ee•too SAHN•toh), or, simply, La Bahía.

An Uneasy Peace

When Aguayo returned to his home in Coahuila, he left Texas’s 9 missions, 2 villages, and 4 presidios protected by about 300 soldiers. Spanish
rule in Texas seemed secure. Then, in 1727, Spanish officials concluded that expenses were too high. To reduce spending, the Spaniards soon abandoned the presidio on the Angelina River, reduced the number of soldiers at Los Adaes, and moved 3 of the East Texas missions to San Antonio.

The French continued to be active in East Texas. Although their trading with Native Americans there irritated the Spaniards, France did not occupy any territory west of the Arroyo Hondo (ah•ROH•yoh HOHN•doh), a small stream located between Los Adaes and Natchitoches that flows into the Red River. With this boundary generally accepted by both Spanish and French officials, relations between the two countries usually were peaceful.

Plains People Resent Missions

The first Spanish missionaries in Texas traveled among the Native American people of East Texas. The people there were not very interested in Catholicism, but they rarely threatened the lives of the Spanish friars or settlers. Many other Native Americans, those living along the coast and along the Rio Grande, joined the friars in the mission towns.

Native American people of the Plains, on the other hand, resented the intruders who had come to their hunting grounds. Apaches regularly raided San Antonio, making life dangerous for the European settlers. The Comanches fiercely fought the invaders and greatly valued the prized Spanish horses they were able to capture. Despite the obvious dangers, Spanish friars were eager to spread the Catholic religion and teach the Plains people the Spanish way of life. To do so, they established missions in central and western Texas.

Colonizing Texas

Early Spaniards were not in agreement about the benefits of Spain’s efforts to colonize Texas. Read the two views below and then answer the question.

Explorer Has a Favorable Response

The Tejas are a very well governed people and plant large quantities of maize, beans, calabashes, cantaloupes and watermelons. They are very familiar with the fact that there is only one true God, that He is in Heaven . . . And certainly it is a pity that people so rational, who plant crops and know there is a God, have no one to teach them the Gospel, especially when the province of Texas is so large and so fertile and has so fine a climate.

—Report of explorer Alonso de León, May 1689

A Spanish Official Visiting Texas Is Not Impressed by the Province

A villa without order, two presidios, seven missions, and an errant population of scarcely 4,000 persons of both sexes and all ages that occupies an immense desert country stretching from the abandoned presidio of Los Adaes to San Antonio does not deserve the name of the Province of Texas . . . nor the concern entailed in its preservation.

—Commandant-General Teodoro de Croix to José de Gálvez, October 30, 1781

Learning From History

Why do you think an explorer and a military officer would have such different points of view?
Between 1748 and 1751, three San Xavier (sahn sah•VEE•her) missions were founded along the San Gabriel River (then known as the San Xavier), near present-day Rockdale. Intending to serve the Tonkawa and other peoples, the missions suffered many misfortunes. Apaches raided the settlements, smallpox and measles struck the settlers, drought ruined the crops, and the Tonkawas left. After a short time, the Spanish friars abandoned one of the missions and moved the other two closer to San Antonio.

**San Sabá Mission Fails**

In 1757 missionaries founded Mission Santa Cruz de San Sabá (sahn•tah CROOZ day sahn sah•BAH), near present-day Menard in central Texas. Soldiers built a presidio a few miles away. The founding of the mission was a bold step. More than 100 miles (161 km) filled with danger separated San Sabá from the nearest Spanish settlement. Both Apaches and Comanches roamed the area.

Why did the Spaniards take such a risk? Spanish missionaries wanted an opportunity to convert the Apaches into Christians. The Apaches had, in fact, asked for the mission, hoping to use the Spaniards as protection from their fierce Comanche enemies. Apaches visited the mission from time to time to receive food and gifts but never stayed very long.

Comanche attacks on the mission in 1758 and 1759 took nearly 30 lives. Although the Spanish maintained a presidio on the San Sabá River until 1769, they moved missionary efforts for the Apaches to the Nueces River.

The Texas missions, including San Sabá, failed in their efforts to Christianize the Plains people. Isolated missions lacked the supplies and people to survive in the remote region, far from administrative help. The Apaches and Comanches were too fiercely independent to give up their nomadic lifestyle. In the San Antonio area, however, missions succeeded in persuading some Native Americans to settle, farm, and practice Catholicism. Even there, the mission towns changed. They came to resemble Spanish towns and attracted Spaniards as well as Native Americans.

**Reading Check Evaluating** Were the friars successful in converting the Apaches to Christianity?

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**SECTION 2 ASSESSMENT**

**Checking for Understanding**

1. **Using Key Terms** Define province. What word in United States government correlates to province?
2. **Reviewing Facts** List the main points of conflict between the Plains people and the Spanish missionaries.

**Reviewing Themes**

3. **Culture and Traditions** Why did Spanish missionaries continue their work in East Texas and on the Plains when many people there resented them?

**Organizing to Learn**

4. **Listing** Create a chart listing the major missions that were founded in East Texas. Write why each mission was significant.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mission</th>
<th>Significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>San Francisco de los Tejas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Antonio de Valero</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>La Bahía del Espíritu Santo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santa Cruz de San Sabá</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Critical Thinking**

5. **Synthesizing Information** Relations were usually peaceful between the Spanish and the French because they recognized a common boundary. Explain the need for a commonly recognized boundary between cultures in conflict today.

**TAKS Practice**

**Cause and Effect** Explain some of the reasons that caused the mission at San Sabá to fail.
Why Learn This Skill?
When you examine two or more groups, situations, events, or documents, you are making comparisons. This skill helps you identify similarities (the ways things are alike) and differences (the ways things are different).

Learning the Skill
Follow these steps to make comparisons:
• Read or study each item to be compared.
• Ask yourself the same questions about each of them.
• Analyze how the answers to these questions are similar or different.

Practicing the Skill
Refer back to page 124 and reread “A Texas Story,” which describes a Caddo chief’s house. Then read the following passage describing Native American homes in Mission San José. Answer the questions that follow.

“Arranged along this [wall], . . . were the stone quarters where the [Indians] lived. They had flat roofs . . . Each house had a bedroom and a kitchen, and each family was supplied with a cooking flatiron, a grindstone for corn, a water jar, a bed, a chest of drawers, and a clothes closet . . . near the houses were several baking ovens.”

1. Describe the building style used for each type of house. Were they similar or different?
2. How were the insides of the houses, including furniture and tools, alike? Different?
3. What tools and materials available at the Spanish mission did the Caddo people not appear to have?
4. What advantage is there in sharing baking ovens among the families?

Making Comparisons  What advantages and disadvantages might the Native Americans experience by living in a house at a Spanish mission? Make lists under the headings “advantages” and “disadvantages.”

Glencoe’s Skillbuilder Interactive Workbook, Level 1, provides instruction and practice in key social studies skills.
Main Idea
Farmers and ranchers adapted to life in Texas missions, presidios, and settlements.

Key Terms
ayuntamiento
alcalde
mestizos
Tejano

Reading Strategy
As you read this section, create a chart like the one shown here on how the settlers improved life in the missions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Health</th>
<th>Recreation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Read to Learn
- how settlers lived daily life.
- about mission life.
- what factors drew Native Americans into Spanish settlements.

Section Theme
Groups and Institutions  Spanish missions were busy centers of activity, but many Native Americans disliked them.

Preview of Events
✦ Mid to Late 1700s
More civilian settlers move to Texas

✦ 1772
San Antonio, largest settlement, becomes the capital

✦ 1790
Women make up 45 percent of population

A Texas Story
Massanet spent many years building churches among the Native Americans in East Texas. “I told the governor [Native American Leader] . . . that I heartily appreciated his desire to have the priests in his household, but that . . . it might be well to build a dwelling for the priests.” Despite the friendliness of the natives, the churches did not last. In 1693, Massanet set fire to the last church and returned to Mexico.

Life in the Missions
Spanish missions were busy centers of activity. The friars worked hard to persuade Native American people to live close to the missions. They hoped to teach the Native Americans the Spanish way of life. Gifts were sometimes offered to make this life seem more attractive.
Sometimes the Spaniards used force to get the Native Americans to settle near the missions.

The Native Americans who accepted mission life were kept busy from dawn to dusk. Each day started with prayers. After breakfast, the children attended school, including classes in religion. The women wove cloth, molded pottery, or cooked. The men worked in the fields or learned carpentry or blacksmithing. After supper came more religion classes for adults, followed by prayers.

The friars generally were strict, and in most missions, the food was plentiful. Large herds of cattle, sheep, and goats guaranteed a regular meat and milk supply. Mission farms, especially those at San Antonio and Goliad, produced rich harvests of corn, beans, cantaloupes, cucumbers, watermelons, chiles, pimientos, peaches, and sweet potatoes. Father Morfi described the activity of the Native American people at Mission San José in San Antonio from his—the European—viewpoint:

“...These Indians are today well instructed and civilized and know how to work very well at their mechanical trades and are proficient in some of the arts. They speak Spanish perfectly, with the exception of those who are daily brought in... They go about well dressed, are abundantly fed.”

The following report on San José de Aguayo, dated 1785, describes the construction and organization of a Spanish mission in Texas.

“Situated on a broad plain, rather sparsely wooded, its grounds and buildings... offer an attractive sight... [H]ouses are built next to each other and have ample room, with [a] kitchen for each family. They are sufficiently protected against rain, wind, and other inclemencies of the weather... [S]eparated from the habitations of the Indians by a street, stand the missionary’s house, the church, and the sacristy. The first contains not only rooms for housing the missionaries, but also a kitchen, and the offices of the community. It is all of stone and lime and flat-roofed; the quarters for the missionary form a second story, and every part is in good taste.”

Although some Native Americans adapted to mission life, most refused to stay at the missions. They were not accustomed to the strictly regulated lifestyle. Many did not want to become farmers or blacksmiths or carpenters. Moreover, Native Americans found it difficult to leave behind a way of life that had served them well for centuries.

Reading Check Describing What was life like for Native Americans in the missions?
Soldiers Face Hardships

The life of the Spanish soldier on an isolated frontier outpost was difficult and dangerous. The soldiers’ duties included protecting the mission and nearby settlements, maintaining control over the Native Americans in the missions, and scouting the countryside for intruders. Most of the soldiers were also settlers. They brought their families to the military towns and farmed and soldiered for a living.

Military men were often poorly equipped and lived under difficult conditions. Father Morfi described the conditions at the San Antonio presidio:

“The soldiers’ quarters, originally built of stone and adobe, are almost in ruins . . . The presidio is surrounded by a poor stockade on which are mounted a few swivel guns, without shelter or defense, that can be used only for firing a [round of shots]. There is no other trade than that required to supply the needs of the . . . garrison and . . . of the wretched settlers.”

The soldier-settlers sometimes traded with the Native Americans living in the missions. According to the friars, the soldier-settlers took advantage of the Native Americans, who did not know Spanish ways. By the same token, the soldiers accused the friars of taking away the Native Americans’ freedoms.

Important Settlements in Spanish Texas

San Antonio, Goliad, Los Adaes, and Nacogdoches were the most important civilian settlements in Spanish Texas. San Antonio was the largest settlement and by 1772 served as the capital. It was the only authorized settlement in Texas where the people had some voice in their government. Landowners elected a city council called an ayuntamiento and a chief official with the title of alcalde.

The Spanish authorities had wanted to increase the population of San Antonio. They tried to bring in 200 families from the Spanish colony of the Canary Islands, off the African coast, but only 15 families came to Texas in 1731. Some of the oldest families of modern San Antonio trace their ancestors from the Canary Islanders. Several were wealthy women like María Betancour. At the time of her death, her will noted that she owned a 26-acre (11-hectare) ranch, a stone house with various household furnishings, and cattle marked with her brand. In 1776, María Josefa Granados owned the largest general store in San Fernando de Béxar (San Antonio). In 1814, María Pérez Cassiano, a Canary Islands descendant, ran the affairs of state while her husband, the Spanish governor, was out of town. Spanish troops called her La Brigadiera (the Brigadier-General).

Reading Check  Identifying Name the major civilian settlements in Texas in the late 1700s.

Living in Spanish Texas

People in Texas made their living in several ways. Some were farmers who irrigated their fields with water brought in through an elaborate system of canals. Male and female ranchers raised thousands of cattle. There were also shopkeepers, shoemakers, fishers, barbers, blacksmiths, tax collectors, oxen drivers, seamstresses and tailors, healers, and servants.

The population in Spanish Texas was not limited to Spaniards and Native Americans. Mestizos, people of mixed Spanish and Native
American heritage, also lived in Spanish Texas. Some mestizos were the children of soldier-settlers and Canary Islanders. A few African Americans living in Texas at this time were free, although some were enslaved. Felipe Ulua, for example, a Louisiana creole and slave, purchased his freedom and that of his wife, Mary Orteto. They and their children settled in San Antonio in 1807. Free African Americans also worked as domestics, farmers, ranchers, merchants, carpenters, and miners.

Most men and women were married, but widows and widowers made up 10 percent of the population. Doña Rosa María Hinojosa de Ballí was one of the earliest ranchers and landowners. A widow who inherited her husband’s and father’s land grants, she owned about one-third of the present lower Rio Grande Valley in 1798. Her ranch headquarters were near present-day La Feria, Texas, but she lived on the other side of the river in Reynosa, Mexico.

A Tejano Heritage Takes Shape

By this time a Tejano character was becoming part of the Texas cultural landscape. The term Tejano describes people of Mexican heritage who consider Texas their home. This Tejano heritage is reflected in the population, religion, language, institutions, and customs of Texas today.

The settlers tried to improve community life. No school system existed, but some communities hired teachers. Tejano settlers started the first community school in San Antonio. Medical doctors were practically unknown, but officials tried to guard public health by forbidding practices such as dumping trash and washing clothes in the drinking water supply. Although life often was difficult for the new settlers, there were opportunities for different kinds of recreation. Communities sponsored dances, horse races, and holiday fairs in the village plazas.

Identifying What were two ways the settlers tried to improve their lives in San Antonio?

SECTION 3 ASSESSMENT

Checking for Understanding
1. **Using Key Terms** What is the relationship between an alcalde and an ayuntamiento?
2. **Reviewing Facts** How did officials guard public health?

Reviewing Themes
3. **Groups and Institutions** Identify the disagreements between the friars and soldier-settlers over the Native Americans.

Organizing to Learn
4. **Categorizing** Create a web like the one shown here, identifying occupations in Spanish Texas. Fill the ovals with information from the section.

Critical Thinking
5. **Making Comparisons** How did Native Americans’ way of life at the missions differ from their traditional way of life?

Drawing Conclusions What must the environmental conditions have been like at San Antonio and Goliad for the missions to have produced rich harvests of fruits and vegetables?
Reviewing Key Terms

1. Write a letter to the viceroy of Spain explaining what has happened with the Spanish missions in Texas. Use these words in your letter: presidio, council, province, alcalde, ayuntamiento, mestizo, and Tejano.

Reviewing Key Facts

2. What did Spanish officials do when they learned of La Salle’s fort in Texas?
3. What was the name of the first permanent settlement, and where was it built?
4. How did French traders make profits in Texas?
5. Why did Spanish officials choose a site on the San Antonio River for a new settlement?
6. What consequences occurred when a brother escaped from French soldiers at the mission near Nacogdoches?
7. Who was made governor of the province that included Texas?
8. How long did Los Adaes remain the capital of Texas?
9. Why did Spain risk building a settlement at San Sabá?
10. What were conditions like at the San Antonio presidio?
11. How did Spanish authorities try to increase the population of San Antonio?

Critical Thinking

12. Summarizing What problems did Spanish friars and soldier-settlers face in early Texas? Use the chart below to help organize your thoughts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Problems</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friars</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soldier-Settlers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

13. Making Generalizations Which seemed to influence the Spanish more in their establishment of Texas—a desire to teach Native Americans or a desire to keep out the French? Support your answer with examples from the text.

14. Making Inferences Why would the war between Spain and France in Europe stop Spanish missionary efforts in Texas?

15. Drawing Conclusions The growth of trade between Europe and the Americas changed the world. Do you think trade today is just as important? Why or why not?
**Geography and History Activity**

*Use the following clues to determine the answer.*

16. I am located west of the Neches River and was dedicated on June 1, 1690. What am I?

17. I played an important role in Texas history and was founded in 1718. What am I?

18. I stood near the ruins of LaSalle’s fort and was later moved to the San Antonio River. What am I?

**Cooperative Learning Activity**

19. **Architecture** Form a research team to consider some of the various types of settlements during this period. Research the architecture of this period in Texas. Prepare a presentation for a classroom discussion about your topic. If possible, provide illustrations with captions.

**Practicing Skills**

20. **Making Comparisons** Create a chart like the one shown here. Then reread Section 3. Complete the chart and pose three questions that can be answered by comparing the places from the chart.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Missions</th>
<th>Presidios</th>
<th>Settlements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What was the purpose?</td>
<td>to convert Native Americans</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who lived there?</td>
<td>Spanish soldiers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What were the daily activities?</td>
<td>Ranching, farming, community events</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What were the main problems?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Portfolio/TAKS Writing Activity**

21. **Evaluating** In what ways would life in Texas be different today if the French had more vigorously pursued establishing settlements? Write a paragraph explaining your answer. Save your work for your portfolio.

**Building Technology Skills**

22. **Building a Database** Conduct a search to gather information about daily life in the missions, presidios, and settlements in early Texas. Organize the information by categories of your choosing. Then write a report based on the information about life in one of these communities. Include photos, maps, or diagrams to illustrate life in the community you chose. If you have access to the technology, scan the images into a Power Point or other authoring software presentation.

**Self-Check Quiz**

Visit the texans.glencoe.com Web site and click on Chapter 5—Self-Check Quizzes to prepare for the chapter test.