

MISSION SAN MIGUEL

By Alexis and Madison





Founding

Mission San Miguel was founded on July 25, 1797. It was founded in San Miguel, California. The person that was important to the founding was Father Fermin Lasuen. The site was chosen because it was suitable for growing wheat, barley, corn, peas, and beans. It was also suitable for maintaining sheep and cattle. All the missions were built for spreading christianity and to extend colonization.



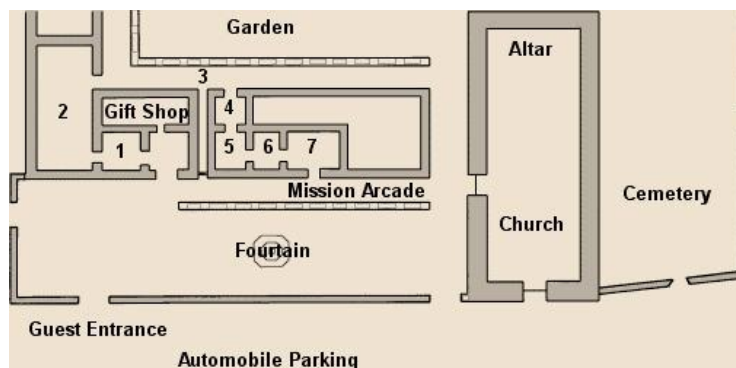
History

Before the Spaniards came and took over the Native Americans, men hunted and fished to feed their tribe. The woman gathered acorns, wild herbs, roots, and berries. When the Spaniards came their lives changed, completely! Instead of the men hunting and fishing, they tended the crops or they would maintain the animals. The women weaved cloth, made clothes, boiled down fat to make soap and candles, and tended the vegetable gardens. The children would often help the women with their chores, once their religious instruction was over. Mission San Miguel was used for housing 13,500 sheep and 9,000 cattle. They stored 92,000 bushels of wheat, barley, corn, peas, and beans. Many neophytes missed the freedom of their tribal life and would try to

leave the mission. The Fathers would not allow neophytes to leave and would send soldiers to search for them. The Native Americans that were new to the religion were usually punished for breaking the rules.

Description

Some major features are the barn and the bell tower. The types of rooms are padre's quarters, workers quarters, workshops, mission cemetery, and an altar in the front of the church. Outside there is a mission garden and a fountain. The barn is where they maintained the animals. The bell tower is where the bell was located. The bells was used to notify the Native Americans that were working of the time. Padre's quarters is where the priests and the nuns lived. Worker's quarters is where the workers lived. The workshop is where the workers make the tools for the mission. The mission cemetery is very colorful from all the flowers in the graveyards. The church's altar is colorful, delicate, and beautiful. The building material that all the walls are made out of is adobe bricks.



Present Day

It had an earthquake called the San Simeon quake on December 22, 2003. Today Mission San Miguel is very old and has cracks in the walls because of the earthquake. Today it is used for a museum and also a church. The quarters are used for homes to the Franciscans. Today there is even a mission arcade and a gift shop! All of Mission San Miguel still remains. There have not been any recent earthquakes at this mission. There is still some of Mission San Miguel that is not rebuilt, and all the adobe bricks are not cleaned up. The part that crumbled is a lot of rocks. There is a lot of greenery at mission San Miguel.



Bibliography

1. [Mission San Miguel Arcángel by Mary Null Boulé](#)
2. missionscalifornia.com
3. californias-mission.org
4. sfgate.com