

Preguntas y Respuestas

Scope and Content

In the early nineteenth century the Spanish government sent out questionnaires to its colonies seeking information on the customs of the Native Peoples living under its jurisdiction. The questionnaires reached the Alta California Missions through the Bishop of Sonora. The President of the Missions in California collected the Franciscan missionaries' answers to the questionnaires. It is unclear if these replies were ever sent to Mexico, or if they ever reached Spain. These manuscript documents, though brief, form a body of valuable ethnographical information about Native Californians living around the Missions during the early nineteenth century. The documents describe the food people ate, the work the people did at the Missions, and the ways they entertained themselves. They also provide interesting insight into the relationships between the Friars and Native Californians at the different Missions.

The collection includes manuscript originals, as well as typewritten transcriptions and translations.

Extent

~ 0.5 linear feet

Location

Vault, drawer 22

Questionnaire (*Interrogatorio*) on the state of the Indians of the California Missions:

PRQ-1

Copy as of August 13, 1813

Culiacán. 4 pp.

The questionnaire asks 32 items to be elucidated by the missionaries.

With a typewritten transcription in English by Fr. Maynard Geiger, O.F.M. [Zephyrin #630]

Answers (*Respuestas*):

PRA-1

October 30, 1800 – Mission Santa Barbara

Reply in hand of Fr. Estevan Tapis.

Photocopy. 14 pp. With typewritten transcription. [Zephyrin #390]

PRA-2

November 11, 1800 / December 1800 – Mission La Purisima

Reply in the hand of Fr. Gregorio Fernández.

Photocopy. 4 pp. With typewritten transcriptions in Spanish (November 11) and in English (December) by Fr. Maynard Geiger, O.F.M. [Zephyrin #391]

PRA-3

December 31, 1813 – Mission Santa Barbara

Reply in the hand of Ramón Olbés. 4 pp.

With typewritten transcriptions in English and Spanish by Fr. Maynard Geiger, O.F.M. [Zephyrin #631]

PRA-4

February 3, 1814 – Mission San Carlos

Reply in the hand of Juan Amorós. 12 pp.

With typewritten transcriptions in English and Spanish by Fr. Maynard Geiger, O.F.M. [Zephyrin #632]

PRA-5

February 3, 1814 – Mission San Fernando

Reply of Pedro Muñoz, O.F.M., and Joaquín Pascual Nuez. 3 pp.

With typewritten transcriptions in English and Spanish. [Zephyrin #633]

PRA-6

February 20, 1814 – Mission San Luis Obispo

Reply of Antonio Rodríguez and Luis Antonio Martínez. 6 pp.

With typewritten transcriptions in English and Spanish by Fr. Maynard Geiger, O.F.M. [Zephyrin #636]

PRA-7

February 26, 1814 – Mission San Antonio

Reply of Juan Bautista Sancho and Pedro Cabot. 5 pp. [Zephyrin #634]

PRA-8

March 8, 1814 – Mission Santa Inés

Reply of Estevan Tapis and Francisco Xavier Uría. 4 pp.

With typewritten transcriptions in English and Spanish. [Zephyrin #635]

PRA-9

April 15, 1814 – Mission San Miguel

Reply of Juan Martín and Juan Cabot. 3 pp.

With typewritten transcriptions in English and Spanish. [Zephyrin #637]

PRA-10

April 30, 1814 – Mission Santa Cruz

Reply of Marcelino Marquinez and Jayme Escudé. 11 pp.

With typewritten transcriptions in English and Spanish, and one transcription by Fr. Zephyrin Engelhardt.

[Zephyrin #638]

PRA-11

May 1, 1814 – Mission San Juan Bautista

Reply by Felipe Arroyo de la Cuesta. 7 pp.

With typewritten transcriptions in English and Spanish. [Zephyrin #639]

PRA-12

June 20, 1814 – Mission Soledad

Reply by Antonio Jayme. 2 pp.

With typewritten transcriptions in English and Spanish. [Zephyrin #640]

PRA-13

June 28, 1814 – Mission San Gabriel

Reply of Luís Gil y Taboada and José María de Zalvidea. 6 pp. [Zephyrin #641]

PRA-14

August 8, 1814 – Mission San Juan Capistrano

Reply of José Barona and Gerónimo Boscana. 3 pp.

With typewritten transcriptions in English and Spanish. [Zephyrin #642]

PRA-15

November 4, 1814 – Mission Santa Clara

Reply of Magín Catalá and José Viader. 4 pp.

With typewritten transcriptions in English and Spanish. [Zephyrin #643]

PRA-16

November 7, 1814 – Mission San José

Reply of Narciso Durán and Buenaventura Fortuni. 4 pp.

With typewritten transcriptions in English and Spanish. [Zephyrin # 644]

PRA-17

November 11, 1814 – Mission San Francisco

Reply of Ramón Abella and Juan Sainz de Lucio. 11 pp.

With typewritten transcriptions in English and Spanish. [Zephyrin #645]

PRA-18

December 12, 1814 – Mission San Luis Rey

Reply by Antonio Peyri and Francisco Suñer. 4 pp.

With typewritten transcriptions in English and Spanish. [Zephyrin #647]

PRA-19

December 23, 1814 – Mission San Diego

Reply by José Sánchez and Fernando Martín. 5 pp.

With typewritten transcription in English. [Zephyrin #646]

PRA-20

August 11, 1815 – Mission San Buenaventura

Reply by José Señan. 16 pp.

With typewritten transcriptions in English and Spanish. [Zephyrin #648]