

# *San Antonio Get Away Weekend*

*November 5—8, 2010*



The weekend of November 5 thru 8th, We traveled to San Antonio Texas to celebrate our 30th wedding anniversary. Here are some memories from our trip.

San Antonio is most famous for the “Alamo”, which is located literally in the middle of the downtown area. Very fascinating history and how it played a prominent role in Texas becoming independent from Mexico.



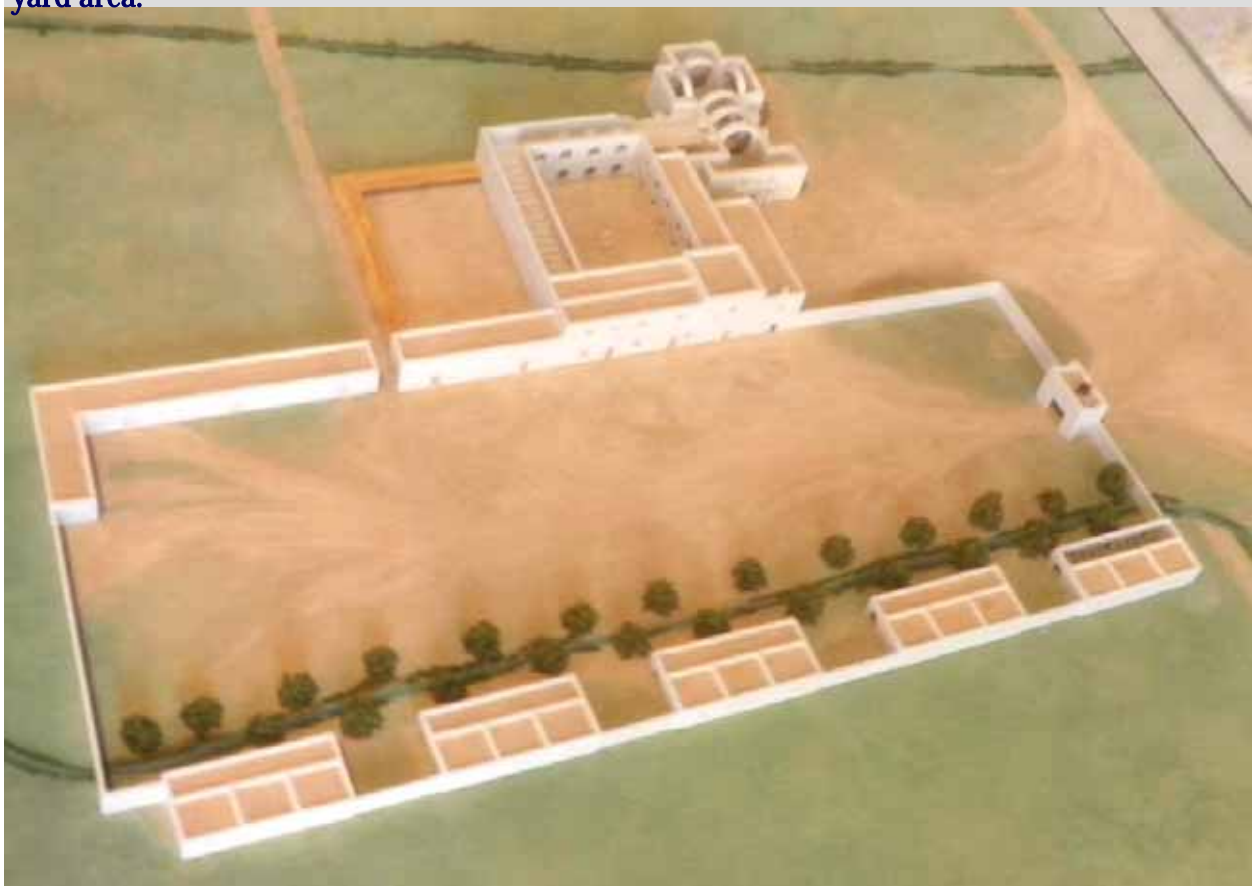
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Images depicting the famous Battle of the Alamo (*above*) and how the complex was originally configured (*below*). The Alamo was actually a mission. Most have 'Hollywood' image of the battle being fought just at the chapel, when it really took place at the outer wall and courtyard area.



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*Above:*  
San Antonio Cathedral

*Left:*  
County Courthouse

*Right:*  
Landmark building

*Below:*  
Buckhorn Saloon



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***Above:*** San Antonio's famous "River Walk". This is just a phenomenal tourist attraction. Very vibrant place to visit, along with many great restaurants, etc.

***Below:*** Some streets scene of San Antonio.



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**Mission San Jose**

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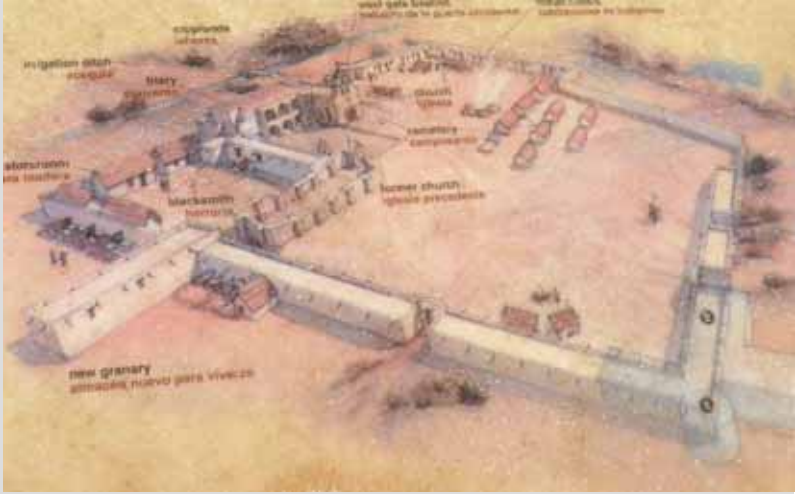
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**Mission Espada**

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Grueneville Texas: A neat touristy type destination just about 30 minutes north of San Antonio. The Grist Mill Restaurant is a 'must see' and dine at. Just a wonderful place to soak in the Texas culture. (Note: the town name is pronounced "GREEN-ville". Don't ask me why.)

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Fredericksburg Texas—another touristy destination, about 1 1/2 hours north of San Antonio. Plenty of restaurants and artsy type stores.

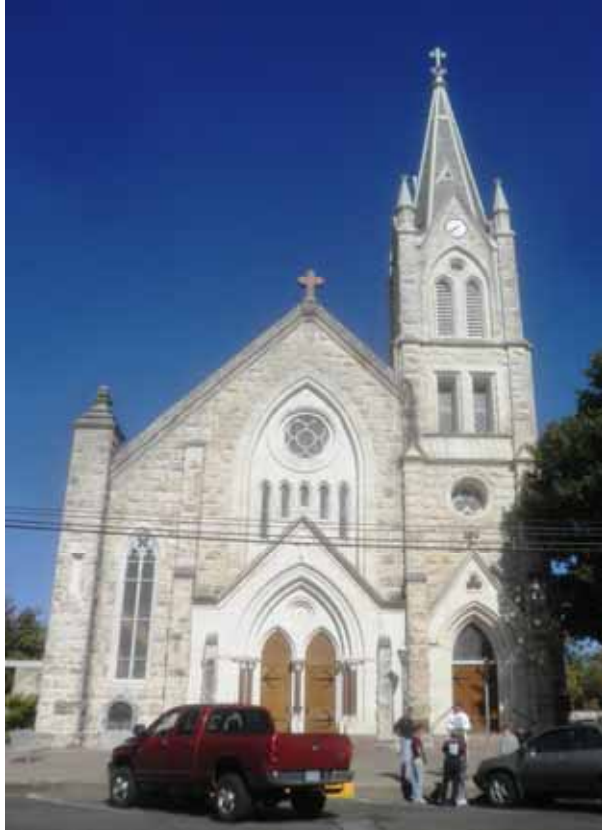
One attraction not anticipated was the “World War II Pacific Museum” (upper right 2 photos). Why would a Pacific War museum be located in the middle of Texas? Well, the famed naval Admiral Nimitz is from Fredericksburg. While interesting, such a museum probably should be located in a naval town like San Diego or Norfolk—or, Honolulu!

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While in Fredericksburg, we visited St. Mary's Church. The original church (lower right photo) was built by German immigrants. Very beautiful church interior.

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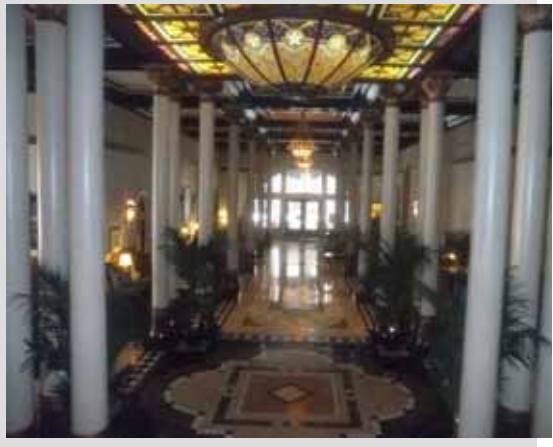


On Friday, Nov. 5th, we traveled up to Austin, Texas, to visit some good friends. The Austin skyline has really changed over the past 20 years since the first time I visited there.



**Left:** Univ of Texas football stadium. We had lunch at the Stadium Club.

**Below left:** Texas State Cemetery where many famous Texans are buried, including Albert Sidney Johnston, who is from Kentucky and a famous Confederate General, and Stephen Austin who the city is named for, among many others



**Above Right:** Historic Driskell Hotel lobby



**Left:** Lake Travis where there are many beautiful upper income homes that line its banks

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***Above:*** Whole Foods Natural Food Company is based in Austin, and their flagship store in downtown Austin is a must see! It is a decadent pleasure to walk thru and view all the food displays. Who would have thought a food store would be a tourist destination?

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***Above:*** My friend's house, Cynthia and Pablo Ruiz. Their house overlooks downtown Austin with a beautiful skyline view. I worked with Pablo on various healthcare projects in the San Antonio region. He now is an architect with the state of Texas.



Lance Armstrong, the famous bicyclist, lives in Austin. Above is his house—or, more like mansion. Who would have thought a bicyclist would have such a magnificent home?

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**Steve & Kathy standing in front of a large group of cactus**



**DeWayne and Kathy**