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ENUMERATION OF FLORIDA SPANISH
MISSIONS IN 1675

WITH TRANSLATIONS OF DOCUMENTS

by **MARK F. BOYD**

The instances when either the Spanish civil or ecclesiastical colonial authorities submitted enumerations of the mission establishments in Florida appear to have been infrequent and irregular. It is consequently somewhat surprising that two lists are available for the year 1675. The first of these to attract attention was the list incorporated in an undated letter written to the Queen of Spain by Bishop Gabriel Diaz Vara Calderon of Cuba, which was presented in translation by Lucy L. Wenhold (1936). The bishop paid an extensive pastoral visit to Florida in 1674-75, remaining for eight months, during which he appears to have visited Guale, Timuqua and Apalachee. His list has been the most useful of the enumerations heretofore available. The lists in the documents here presented in translation, are enclosures accompanying a letter to the Queen from Don Pedro de Hita Salazar, Governor of Florida, dated San Augustin, August 24, 1675 (AI 58-1-26:38). It is among a series of photostats of documents relating to Apalachee in the Stetson collection made available to the writer through the courtesy of the late Dr. James A. Robertson, then Secretary of the Florida State Historical Society. The Arcos and Fernandez de Florencia descriptions are somewhat more specific than is that of the bishop, inasmuch as they mention some villages of pagans, and give approximate populations. The account of Arcos relates the crossing of various bars or estuaries en route, thus permitting of the insular localization of the Guale missions. The Guale list gives the names of the resident missionaries, which are unfortunately omitted from that for Apalachee and Timuqua. Father Geiger (1940) appears to have been the only scholar to have been cognizant of these lists, as he incorporates data relating to the Guale missionaries in the sketches of his dictionary. The decadence of the Guale

and Timuquan missions at this time is striking, particularly when compared with populous Apalachee. The latter had a population in excess of eight thousand, as compared with 670 for Guale and 1330 for Timuqua.

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MISSIONS OF GUALE AND MOCAMA

Pedro de Arcos, soldier of the company of Captain Don Juan de Hita Salazar, one of those of the garrison of this Presidio, says that in compliance with the orders of the Sergeant Major Don Pablo de Hita Salazar, Governor and Captain General of this City, Presidio and Provinces of San Augustin of Florida, who commanded me to describe to him the places and people of the Provinces of Mocama and Guale and of how those of the Presidio have participated in them on this and other occasions, I give the following report:

Firstly, the village where is found the infantry of the garrison is called Santa Cathalina, with which is incorporated the village of Satuache, it may have one hundred and forty persons, between men, children and women. It is attended by a missionary for the administration of the Holy Sacraments, the Father Fray Bernave de los Angeles.

From this place [Santa Cathalina] to that of San Joseph of Sapala is two leagues, passing a bar [en route]. In round numbers it may have, between men, children and women and pagans, fifty persons. Here serves the missionary, Father Fray Juan Bautista Campana.

From this place of Sapala to that of Santo Domingo of Asao is six leagues, having to pass the bars of Aspo

and that of Asao. It is served by the missionary Father Fray Juan de Useda. It may have between men, children and women, thirty, a little more or less.

From this place of Asao to that of San Simon is two leagues. This is a village of pagans, which may have forty persons, among men, children and women.

From this place of San Simon to that of Ocotonico is one league. It may have one hundred and twenty persons between men, children and women.

From this place of Ocotonico to that of the mission of Guadalquini is one and one half leagues. It may have forty persons, with men, children and women, a few more or less. It is in charge of the missionary Father Fray Pedro de Luna.

From this place of Guadalquini to that of San Phelipe is six leagues, passing [en route] the bars of Guadalquini and that of Ballenas. [It has] thirty six persons, between men, children and women and some pagans. It has for missionary Fray Pedro de la Lastra.

From this place [San Phelipe] to the Isle of Mocama is three leagues, crossing [en route] the bar of San Pedro. The first village of Mocama is of pagan Yamases, and has sixty persons, between men, children and women.

From this place [first village] to that of the casique of Ocotoque which is on the same isle, is one league, and may have forty persons, between pagan men, children and women.

From this place [Ocotoque] to that of La Tama is two leagues. It may have fifty persons between pagan men, children and women.

From this place [La Tama] to that of Santa Maria is one half league. [It] also is of pagans, and may have forty persons, between men, children and women, a few more or less.

From this place [Santa Maria] to the mission of San Juan del Puerto is three leagues, and en route one passes the bar of Santa Maria. It may have thirty per-

sons, between men, women and children, a few more or less. It has for missionary the Father Fray Diego Bravo. To go [from here] to the Presidio, one crosses the bar of San Juan, and since this is the last place of the Province of Guale, one passes within by navigable rivers from there to the Presidio of San Augustin.

MISSIONS OF APALACHE AND TIMUQUA

The Captain Juan Fernandez de Florencia, Deputy Governor and Chief Justice, and Military Captain of the Province of Apalache, by commission from Senor Don Pablo de Hita Salazar, Governor and Captain General of the Presidio of San Augustin of Florida and of its Provinces, by His Majesty: In compliance with a written order from his lordship in which he commands me to send him a report of the villages of this Province and those of Timuqua, and of others which are reduced to our Holy Catholic Faith, and in compliance with it, I relate that in this Province of Apalache are eleven mission villages, that each of them is served by a priest of the order of San Francisco, which is his parish, although at present, three of them lack priests, although served by one from the nearest place there is to each of these villages.

In the village of San Luis, headquarters of the deputy governor (which it has always been) there is a population of one thousand four hundred persons, between men, children and women, a little more or less.

From this place [San Luis] to that of San Damian de Acpayca, is one league [there is a] mission, and as many as nine hundred persons, a little more or less.

From this place [San Damian] to that of San Antonio de Bacuqua is two leagues, mission of one hundred and twenty persons.

From this place [San Antonio] to that of San Pedro de Patale is two leagues, mission of about five hundred persons.

From this place [San Pedro] to that of San Joseph de Ocuya, is four leagues, which may have as many as nine hundred persons, a little more or less.

From this place [San Joseph] to that of San Juan de Azpalaga is a league and a half, and it may have up to eight hundred persons.

From this place [San Juan] to that of San Francisco de Oconi, is one league, and may have up to two hundred persons, a little more or less.

From this place [San Francisco] to Concepcion de Ayubale is little more than half a league, and in it are eight hundred persons.

From this place [Concepcion] to San Lorenzo de Ybitachuco is a league and a half, and may have as many as a thousand two hundred persons.

From this place of San Luis to Candelaria, a new mission established this year, there are people of La Tama and Yamases all of one nation [*todos de una nacion*], there is a little more than a half league, and there are as many as three hundred persons.

From this place [Candelaria] to San Martin de Tomole is two leagues, and there may be seven hundred persons.

From this place [San Martin] to Santa Cruz de Ytuchafun is a little more than two leagues, which has as many as sixty persons, men, women and children.

From the said place of San Luis on the road to the sea is established a mission of three small villages which together may have three hundred persons of the nation Caparaz (sic.) (Pacaraz, ?) Amacanos and Chines, called Asuncion de Nuestra Senora, a new mission established in the past year of one thousand six hundred and seventy four.

*From the village of San Luis toward a river by which one may go to the Province of ApalacheCole, two leagues. From the said place of San Cuiz [sic., Cruz (?) Luiz (?)] is established the mission La Natividad de Nuestra Gracia, a new mission established in the year thousand six hundred and seventy five, which today has very few people, which according to my information, may be as many as forty persons.

From the river to the two missions of the Province of the Chactos, which are no more [que no son mas], and which were established in the past year, the first of which is called San Nicolas de Tolentino and will have one hundred persons. It is ten leagues from the river.

From this [San Nicolas] to San Carlos is four leagues. It may have four hundred persons. In these two places are two missionaries and on the said river of Santa Cruz, another.

On departing from the Province of Apalache for San Augustin, one enters the Province of Timuqua, the first village in it being San Miguel de Asile, which is one and half leagues from Yvitachuco, and has up to forty persons, a little more or less.

Footnote: *The original Spanish of the three paragraphs following the asterisk apparently contain instances of omission and garbling attributable either to Captain Fernandez de Florencia or some bygone copyist. Two leagues, the expressed distance from San Luis to the Apalachicola river is absurd. This leads to the suspicion that the word "veinte" was omitted from before "dos". A statement of twenty-two leagues would be reasonable. The phrase *no son mas* does not make sense with its context. These paragraphs are as follows:

"Del lugar de Sn Luis a un Rio que por el se ba a la Proia de ApalacheCole, dos (Sic) leguas. del dho lugar de Sn Cuiz esta fundado Doctrina La Natividad de Nra Gracia Doctrina nueva que se fundo ano de mill y stos y setenta y cinco y tiene oy muy poca jente que segun estoy ynformado ay asta quarenta personas."

"Deste Rio a las dos Doctrinas de la Provia de los chactos que no son mas y se fundaron el ao pasado el prima de ellos se lama Sn Nicolas de Tolentino y tendra cien personas esta diez leguas del Rio."

"Desta al de San Carlos ay quatro leguas Tendra quatrocientas personas en estos dos lugares estan dos Religiosos y en dho Rio de Sta Cruz otro-".

From this place [San Miguel] to San Matheo is two and a half leagues, is a mission, and has up to three hundred persons, a little more, or less.

From this place [San Matheo] to the mission of Santa Elena de Machava is three leagues and a half, and it may have up to three hundred persons.

From this mission [Santa Elena] to San Pedro is one and a half leagues, and it will have a little more than three hundred persons.

From this village [San Pedro] to San Juan de Guacara are nine leagues. It is a mission. It is situated on the margin of a large river, which is crossed in a canoe, and has up to eighty persons.

From this village [San Juan] to Santa Cruz de Tari-gica is eight leagues, and has up to eighty persons.

From this village [Santa Cruz] to Santa Catholina is five leagues and has up to sixty persons.

From this village [Santa Catholina] to Santa Fee is nine leagues, and has up to one hundred and ten persons, a little more or less.

From this village [Santa Fee] to San Francisco is four leagues, which has up to sixty persons.

From this village [San Francisco] to the River of Salamototo are sixteen leagues deserted, and in the said deserted country are some rivers which during the greater part of the year are so dry that they only afford water to drink, and in the season of the rains are so full that many times they may only be crossed with rafts. The river of Salamototo is very large and about a league in breadth at the crossing. On the side of the Presidio there is a place which with great labor ferry and transport the people which go and come from the said provinces is [nevertheless] nearly uninhabited, and would not have more than forty persons in all. This is what I have seen and have been told many times, and although there are other provinces such as that of Apalachecole which have given submission to Your Majesty, and of

that of Toasa, of these I cannot given information because they have not given [information] that is reliable, and only could have some error in the number of inhabitants of the villages, since I have not taken a census and they die daily, for which reason I have said a little more or less. Done in San Luis de Apalache on the 15th of July of one thousand six hundred and seventy five years.