

MEMORANDUM      SAN SABA TRAIL

Conversation today with Mr. W. M. Locke, county surveyor, Bexar county. Mr. Locke has been surveying in this locality for forty-three years, and has a personal familiarity with the old trails, old history, old landmarks, etc.

In 1683 it is recorded that Mendoza went northward from Mexico, having left around El Paso and proceeded down the Rio Grande to the junction of the Conchos river; thence to the Alamito Creek, then northward over the old Salt Lake trail to Comanche Springs (Pt. Stockton), then across Horsehead Crossing and in time reached the Indian villages where he established a Mission, the ruins of which may today be seen near San Saba, Texas.

Later great stagecoach trails from Mexico developed northward over this general course and then southeastward to San Antonio. Other trails broke through the Davis mountains and also north of the Davis mountains, creating the old stagecoach trails from San Antonio westward to El Paso and through to California.

At San Saba are still to be seen ruins of an old Spanish fort. The traditions are the Spanish had a rich mine there the location of which has become lost and that the fort was in protection of that industry.

The San Saba trail from San Antonio, according to Mr. Locke and the maps which he has, left the front of San Fernando Cathedral at San Antonio. All old roads start from the Plaza in front of this Cathedral. The San Saba trail proceeded to San Pedro Springs; thence east of but more or less parallel with the present road to Leon Creek, crossing it at the present crossing; thence almost on the present road to the spring at Leon Springs.

From Ave it follows the old left-hand or stage road to Boerne; thence by the present road to the Spanish Pass, through the Pass to the right of the present road; thence down the valley of Zink's Creek, crossing the Quad-