

# THE WORLD HERITAGE SITE NOMINATION

## San Antonio Missions National Historical Park



### BACKGROUND

The four missions in San Antonio Missions National Historical Park, plus the Alamo (originally Mission San Antonio de Valero), owned by the State of Texas, was included on the U.S. World Heritage Tentative List in 2008. The Missions would be the first World Heritage site in Texas and only the 23rd in the U.S. Some others include Yellowstone National Park, Statue of Liberty, Yosemite National Park, Grand Canyon and Independence Hall. The most recent inscribed World Heritage site in the U.S. was Louisiana's Poverty Point National Monument and State Historic Site in 2014.



### WHY THE SAN ANTONIO MISSIONS?

Nominated under World Heritage cultural criteria as the most complete and intact examples of the Spanish Crown's efforts to colonize, evangelize, and defend the northern frontier of New Spain during the period when Spain controlled the largest empire in the world.

The religious, economic, and technological system instituted by the friars transformed a nomadic aboriginal society into a settled one, which in turn became the basis of the ethnically diverse city that continues to influence what is today a major city. San Antonio is the seventh largest city in the United States.



### THE BENEFIT TO SAN ANTONIO

Up to \$100+ million in additional overall economic impact projected over a 10-year period.

Increased economic impact through tourism as a cultural and leisure destination by prestigious exposure of the World Heritage brand. This exposure will immediately bring cultural recognition to the San Antonio Missions and San Antonio.



### NEXT STEPS

**May 2015:** Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) delivers report to the World Heritage Centre.

**May 2015:** Department of the Interior and State Department staff tour proposed nomination area and participate in numerous strategic planning sessions with San Antonio leaders.

**June/July 2015:** World Heritage Convention—21 nations elected from among the signatories of the World Heritage Convention vote on San Antonio's nomination—Bonn, Germany.

#### *21 Voting Countries*

Algeria, Colombia, Croatia (Vice Chair), Finland, Germany (Chair), India (Vice Chair), Jamaica (Vice Chair), Japan, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar (Vice Chair), Republic of Korea, Senegal (Vice Chair), Serbia, Turkey, Viet Nam.



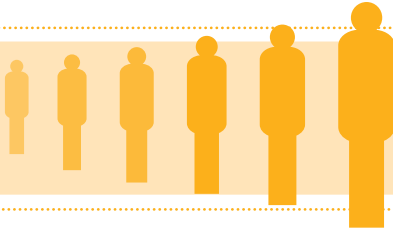
# ECONOMIC IMPACT for BEXAR COUNTY with WORLD HERITAGE STATUS

Over a 10-year period of World Heritage designation, Bexar County (San Antonio) can expect to see up to

**\$100+ million**



**in Additional Overall Economic Impact**



**1,000+**  
**New Jobs**

**Up to \$2+ million**  
**in Additional HOT Revenue**



**Annual Economic  
Incremental Benefits**

expected to range

**11-26%**

**above normal**

projections without World Heritage designation



Source: Bexar County Economic Impact Study, Harbinger Consulting Group, 2013.

