

## **Testimony of Candelario Villanueva, August 26, 1859**

### ***The State of Texas County of Bexar***

Before me Samuel S. Smith, Clerk of the County Court of said County personally appeared Candelario Villanueva, a Citizen of Bexar County to me personally known who being by me first duly sworn upon his oath saith that he was a member of Capt. J. N. Seguins Company in 1835 & 1836. That he entered Bexar between the mornings of the 5th and 10th of Decr. 1835. with the American forces; that the late Gregorio Esparza was also a Solider of Capt. J. N. Seguins Company and he did enter the Bexar with the American Forces and actually assisted in the reduction of Bexar and that he remained therein till after the capitulation of Genl. Cos subsequently after the Storming of Bexar the said Gregorio Esparza remained at Bexar until the approach of Santa Anna's Army when he went into the Alamo with the Americans. I remained at Bexar and when Santa Anna's Troops were entering the Town I started with Col. Seguin for the Alamo, when we were on the way Col. Seguin sent me back to lock his house up whilst performing that duty Santa Anna's Soldiers got between me and the Alamo, and I had to remain in the Town during the siege and assault during the Alamo. After the fall of the Alamo I went there and among

(page 2)

the dead body's of the those lying inside of the rooms I recognized the body of Gregorio Esparza; I also saw the dead bodies of Antonio Fuentes; Toribio Losoyo; Guadalupe Rodriguez and other Mexicans who had fallen in the defence of the Alamo, and also the bodies of Col. Travis, Bowie, Crockett and other Americans that I had previously known. I saw Francisco Esparza and his brothers take the body of Gregorio Esparza and carry it off towards the Campo Santo for interment; the bodies of the Americans were laid in a pile and burnt. I remained in Bexar until the return of Capt. Seguin and his companions after the Battle of San Jacinto when I rejoined his company - I afterwards entered the Regiment of Col. J. N. Seguin as a regular Soldier, about the 1st of November 1836. As a member of Antonio Manchaca's Company. The heirs of said Gregorio Esparza are his sons Enriquez, Manuel & Francisco Esparza, now living in Atascoso County. Sworn to and subscribed (he marking his mark for signature declaring his inability to write,) before me this 26th day of August A.D. 1859. And I do hereby certify that the said Candelario Villanueva is personally known to me to be the identical person he represents himself to be, and a man of credibility, and a Citizen of Texas, and a resident of Bexar County,

(page 3)

and after having read over the above depositions to the said deponent, and no one being present but him and myself and he being again sworn by me, upon oath said that the above depositions are true and correct, and he signed the same in my presence by making his mark within his name for signature declaring his inability to write. In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name and affixed the seal of the County Court of said County, at office, in San Antonio. This 26th day in August A. D. 1859.

Sam S. Smith

Bullock Texas State History Museum

Clk. C. C. B. Co.