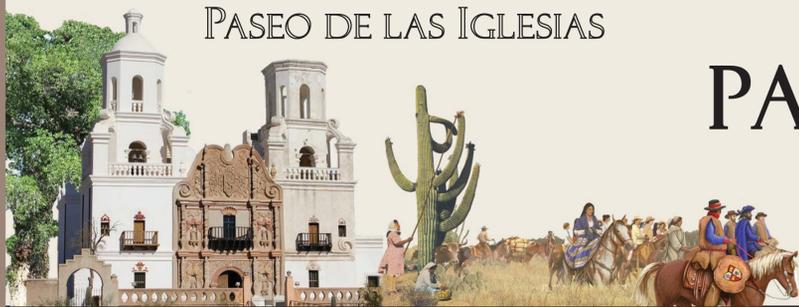
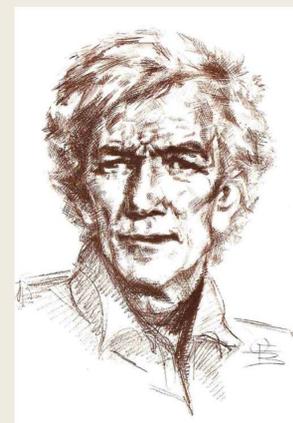
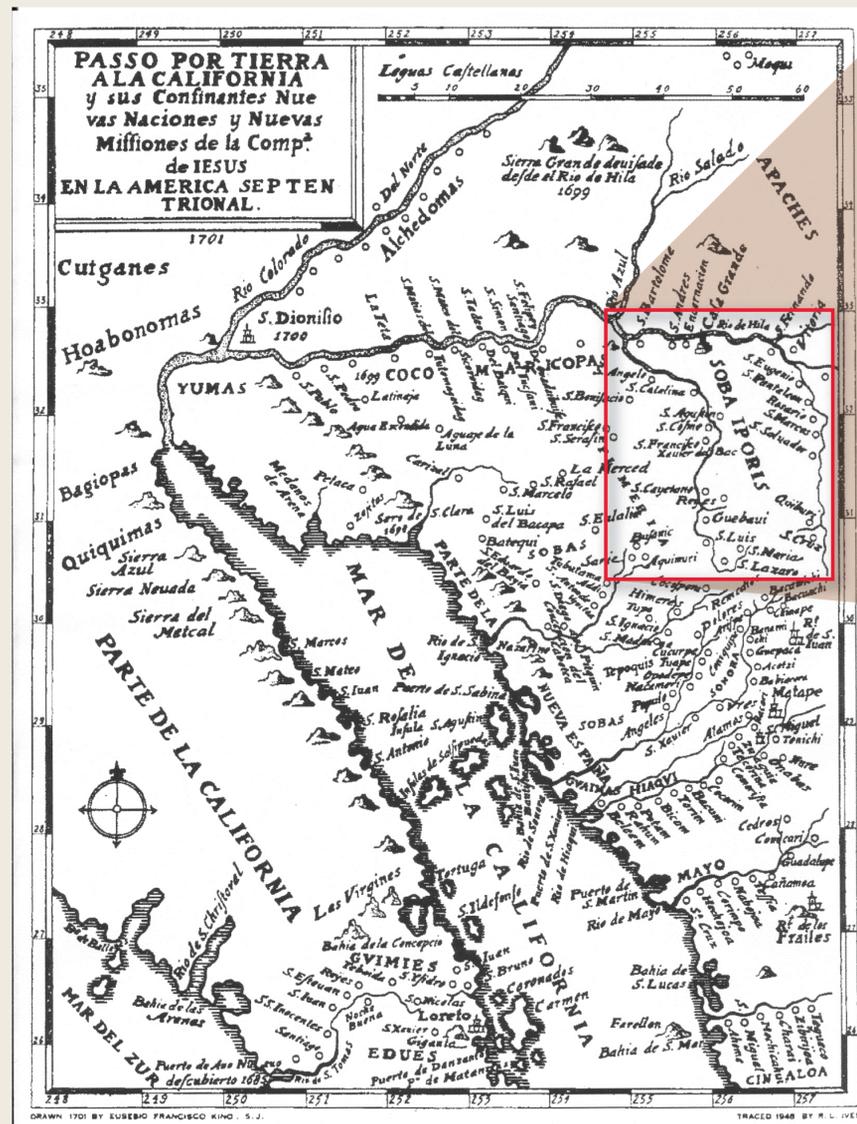


PADRE EUSEBIO FRANCISCO KINO MISSIONARY AND EXPLORER



“His vision – and his ability to command the affection and loyalty of the native peoples he encountered – made him the preeminent pathfinder and mission builder in the West.” ~ Stewart L. Udall, United States Secretary of the Interior (1961–1969)



▲ Eusebio Francisco Kino, S.J.
1645–1711
Drawing by Frances O'Brien

◀ Your current location is marked with a red star on Kino's map. You are between the village he named San Cosme that was located at the base of "A" Mountain and the village of San Francisco Xavier del Bac that is the site of today's O'odham community of W:ak and the San Xavier Mission.

◀ Kino's famous 1701 map "Land Passage to California" was the principle map of the Sonoran Desert for the next 150 years and was likely used by Juan Bautista de Anza. "Sobaipuris" is the name the Spanish gave the O'odham people who lived along desert rivers of Southern Arizona.

PADRE EUSEBIO FRANCISCO KINO, one of the greatest missionaries of the New World, worked tirelessly for 25 years among the O'odham native people who lived in what is today Southern Arizona and Northern Sonora. Kino transformed O'odham life by introducing European culture and technology together with horses, cattle, and other domestic animals and fruit trees, winter wheat, and other grain crops.

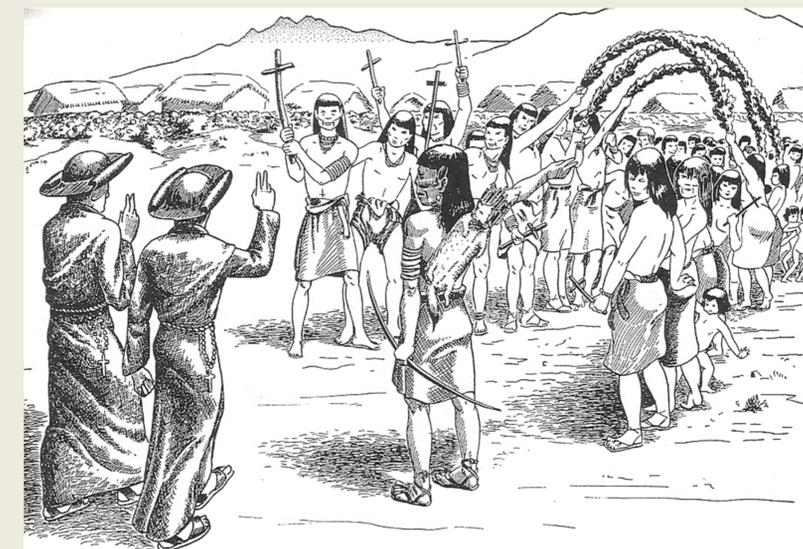
Before he became a Jesuit missionary, Kino was an astronomy and mathematics professor in Southern Germany. He used his scientific skills as he explored and mapped the vast Sonoran Desert. He discovered a land route to California and his published maps were the first to show that California was part of the mainland and not an island as was then believed. Seventy-five years later, the Juan Bautista de Anza Expedition

followed the trails blazed by Kino and fulfilled Kino's vision of a Pacific seaport in California when the Expedition settled San Francisco in 1776.

KINO AND THE O'ODHAM

Kino and the desert sharing O'odham people were close, devoted friends. The O'odham joined Kino in building 24 missions in Sonora and Arizona that included San Xavier del Bac and Tumacácori. After accepting the invitation of the O'odham of Bac, Kino established the San Xavier Mission in 1692 and was the first European to visit other O'odham villages along the Santa Cruz River in the Tucson area. Padre Kino passed through what is now Paseo de las Iglesias as he traveled between the missions.

Both Kino and the O'odham of Bac were disappointed that Kino could not move his mission headquarters from Dolores and live permanently with them. However, the O'odham traveled 120 miles to Dolores to help Kino farm and ranch and receive his ministry. Kino visited Bac on many of his 50 explorations of the Sonoran Desert. Kino was welcomed by the O'odham into their villages and often with raised wooden crosses and flowered arches.



▲ The O'odham welcoming Kino. Drawing from The Upper Pima of San Cayetano del Tumacácori by Dr. Charles C. Di Peso of the Amerind Foundation.

