The Alamo: Building A Scale Model

Making a model of the Alamo is a popular project for students and individuals interested in the history of the site. Many maps and plats of the Alamo exist but discrepancies among them pose a problem for anyone who undertakes the task of building a diorama or model of the Alamo. The Alamo compound has seen many uses during its history and its structures have been altered repeatedly. Although it is impossible to determine the exact measurements of the buildings of the Alamo during the 1836 siege, the dimensions included in this packet are a close approximation of the Alamo compound at the time of the siege and battle. The following sources were consulted in researching the Alamo’s dimensions:


FRONT OF THE CHURCH IN 1836.

Note: The parapet (arched cap) & two upper windows were added in 1850 by the U.S. Army.

22' 7 1/2" 33' 6" 22' 7 1/2" 62' 11 3/8"
The Church

The roof of the church was still uncompleted in 1836. The walls varied in thickness from 43” to 48”.

The church and other permanent structures of the Alamo were built using a tan-colored limestone.
The Alamo Compound, ca. 1836

The exterior walls of the compound consisted of a series of separate huts connected by walls running between them. These huts and walls varied in height from 9' to 12'.