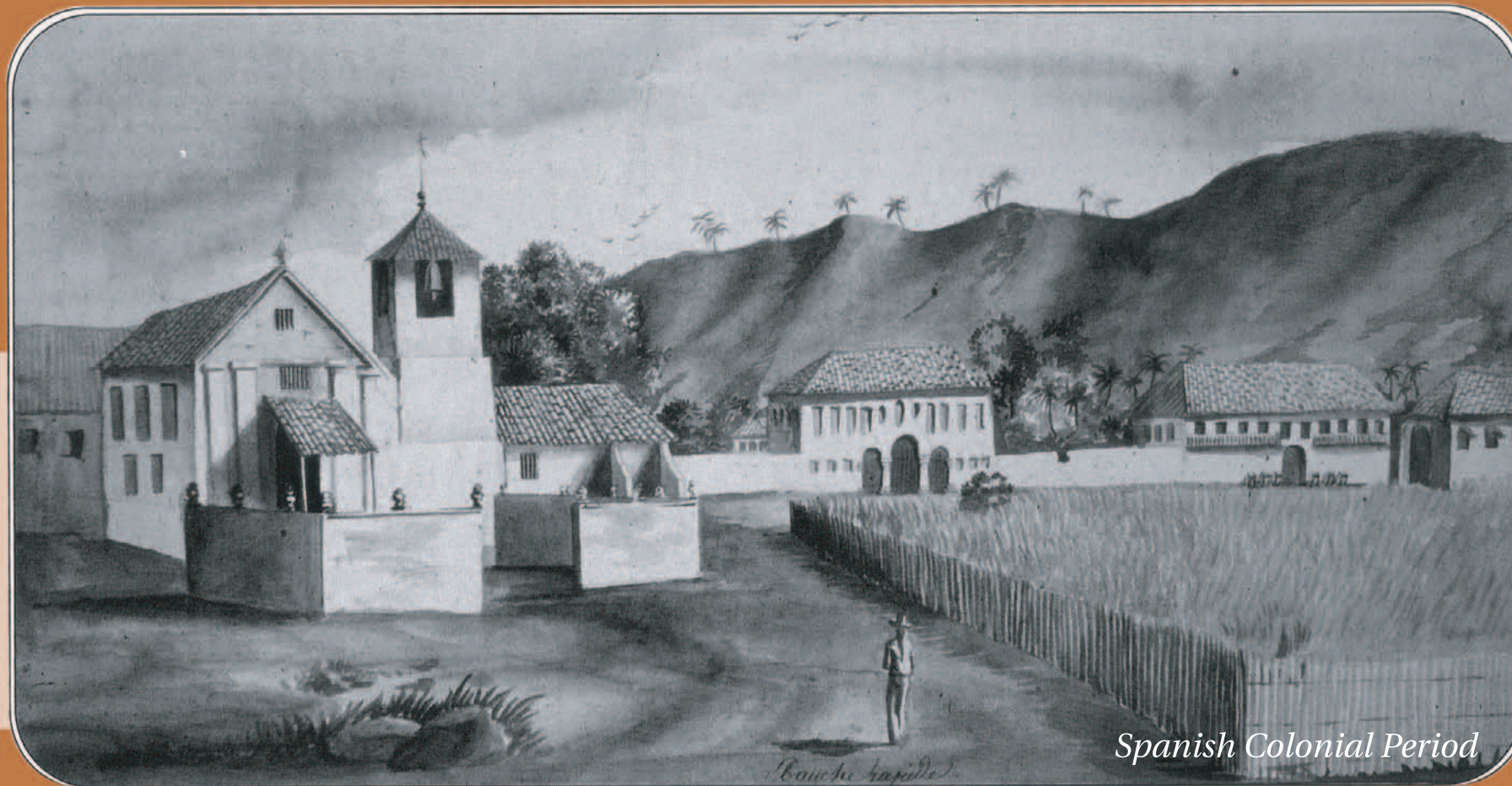
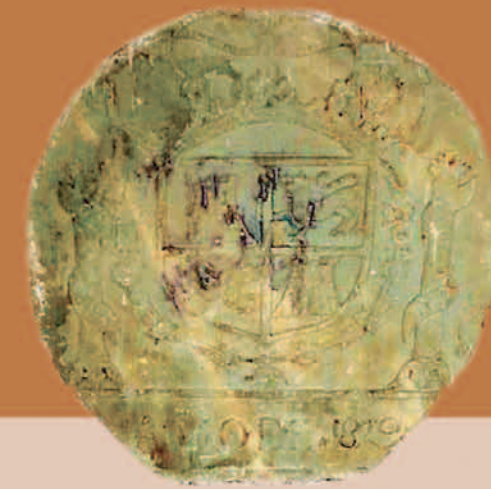




Spanish Colonial Period



PLAZA DE ESPAÑA

Plaza de Principal • Plaza de Magallanes

On June 15, 1668 Padre Luis Diego de San Vitores established the first Roman Catholic mission in the Mariana Islands. The mission was established in Hagåtña named Dulce Nombre de Maria (Sweet Name of Mary). Through the establishment of the Catholic mission, the Spanish military colonial government was also established.

The Plaza de España is the historic landmark of Spain's presence on Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands. Nearly two and a half centuries as the seat of government, the Plaza represented the Roman Catholic Church and Spanish Colonial Government as one. On one side of the Plaza is the Dulce Nombre de Maria Cathedral-Basilica. On the other side, the former Spanish Governor's residence and Administrative Office once stood.

During World War II, the Plaza de España and most of the surrounding historic structures were destroyed. Listed on the Guam Register in 1974 and the National Register of Historic Places in 1975, the following structures were preserved and restored. They include the Kiosku, the Spanish Arches and Walls, the Gazebo, the Garden House, and the Azotea.

These historic photographs illustrate the Plaza's transitions and changes during the Spanish, First American and Post World War II Periods.

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Post WWII Period



First American Colonial Period

