



**Vital Flores 1791 - 1886**

Vital Flores was the son of Jose Flores and Anna Maria Guerrero. His grandfather was Gil Flores, who accompanied Antonio Gil Y'Barbo on his journey with the inhabitants from Fort Los Adaes to San Fernando de Bexar (San Antonio) in 1773 when the fort was closed. They helped to settle the village of Nacogdoches. Vital Flores was born April 28, 1791 in Nacogdoches, TX. He married Maria Gertrudis Mora, daughter of Gregorio Mora and Josefa Caro.

He was considered well educated and was elected Alcade (Mayor) of Nacogdoches in 1834, and was acting political chief of the Department of Nacogdoches during the considerable time that Henry Rueg, the regular political chief, was absent. Vital received a land grant for one league (4,428 acres) of land near the village of Nacogdoches, July 15, 1829, and on July 13, 1833, received a grant for six leagues (26,570 acres) of land in Walker and Polk Counties. Grant was obtained through Power of Attorney vested in Andres Brisco. Vital also received a grant for a town lot in Nacogdoches on September 29, 1827.

Vital was born Catholic, but shortly before his death, he and most of his descendants broke with the Catholic church and most went to the Methodist Church. Before his death he had sold or deeded his vast holdings to his children. It was his custom to give land to his children as wedding gifts. Vital died at the home of his daughter Maria Antonia Flores Y'Barbo in Nacogdoches on January 23, 1886. He is buried in the Elm Grove cemetery near Martinsville in Nacogdoches County.