



ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL MISSION was built in 1891 for English settlers recruited to El Toro by Dwight Whiting. It was built largely through the generosity of Mr. Whiting and Judge and Mrs. Keating, his in-laws. Constructed of beautiful redwood from northern California in single-wall Victorian San Francisco stick-style of architecture, it had only one room. Two transepts and the alter area added later created a floor plan in the shape of a Latin cross.

The mission originally was located on Whisler Drive in EL Toro, surrounded by 36 acres of olive trees, the income from which helped maintain the church. Most of the furnishings are original, many having been donated by the Whiting and Keating families.

The mission was dedicated to St. George, the patron saint of England. It was also a memorial to a Keating son, George James. It was a nondenominational school church from the late 1920's to the early 40's when regular services were resumed. By 1969 a growing congregation necessitated the construction of a larger St. George's Church in Laguna Hills. After this, the old mission was leased to various denominations until donated to the Country and moved in 1976 to Heritage Hill.



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