

Chronicles of the Trail



*Quarterly Journal of the Camino Real de Tierra Adentro
Trail Association*

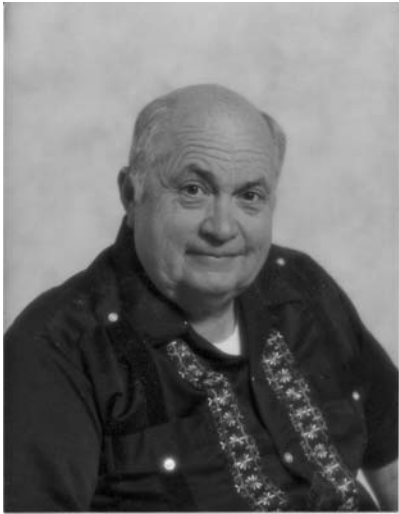
Volume 3, No. 3

Summer 2007



Installation of The Equestrian, El Paso TX

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Patrick H. Beckett

On June 14th El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro was placed on the list of America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. We are fast losing the battle to preserve what little remains of the trail in the United States. During the last few months El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro has been under attack by a number of proposed activities. The most recent that we know about are: the proposed sale(s) of one of the better stretches of trail south of La Bajada (between Santa Fe and Albuquerque); and an Off Road Vehicle (ORV) trail near Gordy Hill north of Socorro which should impact the Camino Real both directly and indirectly. The ORV trail is outlined in the proposed draft of the (BLM) Socorro Field Office: Resource Management Plan Revision and Environmental Impact Statement. We are also working with the Spaceport America to minimize the visual impact and indirect impact of the trail in the area of the spaceport. We ask all CARTA members to be alert for other proposed activities on or around El Camino Real.

May 29, 2007: The first meeting of the Spaceport America Planning and Design Advisory Committee was held in Truth or Consequences, New Mexico. Only one representative from each of the invited organizations was allowed to participate in the discussions. I represented CARTA. Some of the organizations represented were: Tim Sanders, Bureau of Land Management; Aaron Mahr, National Park Service; Claudia Gallardo, El Camino Real International Heritage Center; Mark Santiago, Farm and Ranch Heritage Museum; Daniel Carey, National Trust for Historic Preservation; Brian Haines, Dona Ana County; and Janet Porter-Carrejo,

Sierra County. This meeting was chaired by Rick Homans, Director of the New Mexico Spaceport America. Also in attendance were Stacey Zee, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA); Kathy Roxlau, Tetra Tech; and Susan Krueger, Town of Mesilla.

Rick Homans explained that this committee was to provide a forum for all the cooperating agencies and to offer advice to the New Mexico Spaceport America. Stacey Zee (FAA) gave an update on the EIS scheduled out in late summer.

Mike Holston and Rick Homans spoke on the criteria and process that determined the location of the spaceport. Homans then showed the spaceport location with the existing Camino Real. He discussed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that has been developed between the State Land Office (SLO) and the Historic Preservation Division to develop a state management plan for the Trail. Homans was interested in establishing a 20 mile limited development zone around the spaceport, and possible visitor centers located in Hatch and T or C which would allow only authorized vehicles, such as regularly scheduled buses, into the spaceport proper.

Kathy Roxlau (Tetra Tech) gave an update on the cultural resources and archaeological sites and stated that they are in the process of writing up the reports of their findings. Aaron Mahr discussed the National Park Service concern about trails resource protection. Tim Sanders (BLM) stated that there is a 5 mile zone on either side of the Camino Real to protect the viewshed on BLM lands.

I was asked to chair a sub-committee on ideas to minimize the impact on the Camino Real. I agreed to chair it if BLM and NPS would appoint representatives to the sub-committee who were familiar with the resource.

June 12, 2007: Spaceport America selected 3 finalists in the design competition for the Terminal and Hanger Facility (THF) building. CARTA was invited to the mandatory briefing and orientation for these three teams. CARTA vice-president and Chronicles editor, John Bloom, attended the Albuquerque morning meeting. Jean Fulton, Secretary of CARTA, and I attended the afternoon meeting where we briefed them on the Camino Real and local history.

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CHRONICLES OF THE TRAIL

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Cover photograph
Courtesy of
Nicholas P. Hauser

CARTA Officers and Board
Members are listed on
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From the Editors

What a busy summer along El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro! There was the "Spring Fiesta" on June 9th at the CR International Heritage Center, for instance, with special appeal for family enjoyment. On June 14th on historic La Mesilla's plaza, the National Trust for Historic Preservation announced that "our" Camino Real is on their national list of most endangered historic places. (See statement by Daniel Carey, page 21)

Then on June 30 in an elaborate, impressive ceremony, the first of a series of BLM-NPS collaboration signs was unveiled at Tomé Hill Park Along the Camino Real.

And, not incidentally, for months and continuing, CARTA officers have been involved in meetings relating to the planned Spaceport America, in the southern part of the Jornada del Muerto. See President Pat Beckett's reportage on this, particularly.

Further, as to this issue of CHRONICLES, however, we want to express special appreciation to PASSWORD editor Marilyn Gross and friends of the El Paso County Historical Society, for letting us publish our lead story on the awesome historic statue of Oñate. It is a remarkable story. Don't fail to read notes at the end of the article for identification of the author, El Paso's "Twelve Travelers" project, etc.

We continue to offer special thanks to Dr. Leo Oliva for the continuing documentary on Zebulon Pike, and to Hal Jackson for images.

CARTA's special friend, Michael Romero Taylor, remembering his late mother on the date of her birth, has provided a very special appreciation of her important contributions to Camino Real history.

Part of the purpose of this publication, we believe, is to keep CARTA members abreast of writings, museum exhibits, etc., both in Mexico and the United States, relating to El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro. Hence we value, and know readers will also, the thoughtful book review by retired New Mexico State Historian, Robert Tórréz.

We are in a field where there are not a lot of writers and publishers at work, so let us know of publications we might miss, please. And we continue to need articles, notes, whimsy, whatever! – for future issues. Readers, think of yourselves as collaborators, and don't let us down!

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CARTA looks forward to receiving contributions to *Chronicles of the Trail*. The purpose of our publication is to stimulate interest in the Camino Real de Tierra Adentro, encouraging readers to join in the adventure of memorializing and exploring one of the great historic trails of North America. Our target audience is the intellectually alive and curious reader who might also be interested in magazines such as the *American Heritage*, *Smithsonian*, or *Archaeology*. We can accept articles that range from 1,000 or 1,500

words up to 8,000 or 10,000 words in length. We can accept line drawings and black and white photographs, preferably in digital form, in a proportion that will fit in one or two columns.

Membership in CARTA is open to all. Membership applications are on our Website.

Ten Years on the Trail of a Colossus *

By Nicholas P. Houser

It has been a long ride for sculptor John Sherrill Houser, who ten years ago began the Don Juan de Oñate statue, now known as “The Equestrian.” This colossal sculpture was, in the broad scheme of the XII Travelers Memorial, designed as an icon for the early Spanish colonial period, 1598 to 1680.



John and Ethan Taliesin Houser

The City of El Paso commissioned the first two monuments on February 3, 1992. The contract with the artist specified that the monuments must be at least one and one-half times life-size, but could be “enhanced” provided the sculptor raised additional funds. This was the “Achilles heel” and the secret behind the world’s largest equestrian bronze which would be four and one-half times life-size.¹ This marked the beginning of a decade-long incredible journey.

In 1993, an independent XII Travelers non-profit board was established for the raising of funds and for promotional purposes. In September 1996, the first bronze statue in the XII Travelers series, a 14-foot high, twice life-size, “Fray Garcia de San Francisco, Founder of the Pass of the North, 1659” was installed in the heart of downtown El Paso. This success eased the project into

its next phase.

That fall, the city selected Don Juan de Oñate as the subject for the second monument and John traveled to Spain on a research trip to gather historical data. In Madrid he was hosted by Don Manuel Gullon y de Oñate and together they journeyed to the Basque country to visit Pueblo Onati, the natal town of Don Juan’s father, Cristobal de Oñate. The town’s coat of arms was later incorporated into the breastplate on the monument. Before departing from Spain, John also modeled a portrait, a bust, of Manuel, who is a descendant of Don Juan, to use as a reference for the colossal head of the monument. Despite Oñate’s historical prominence as “the Father of New Mexico” and “the Founder of the Camino Real” there are no known likenesses.

After this fruitful visit, John returned to El Paso where he discovered in the Mesilla valley, a handsome Andalusian stallion, Helicon, who became the inspiration for his big horse. John had already determined to give El Paso not only a beautiful sculpture commemorating the region’s early history but also a work of unique size. In 1997, the city approved the concept maquette, the small scale model, and creation of the colossal horse began.

Finding a stable for the thirty-six-foot horse was more difficult than anticipated because John needed an enlarging studio with a forty-foot ceiling and a consistent north light. When the search seemed hopeless, his good friend, Julian Martinez, Mexico’s renowned monumental sculptor, suggested that he bring the project to Mexico City, where a foundry had offered to build for John a studio that would match his specifications.

John decided to take the project south. He packed his van with supplies, including the clay maquette, and together with his son, Ethan Taliesin Houser, who later became the project’s associate sculptor, headed down the Pan American Highway. A few days later, as dawn

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* Reprinted, with permission, from *Password*, V 52, no. 1, Spring 2007. The El Paso Historical Society. Photos courtesy of the author.

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was breaking, their vehicle was struck by a red semi truck roaring along at fifty miles per hour. Fortunately, John, Ethan, and the truck driver escaped injury but the van was totaled. Frantically, John searched the wreckage for his precious passenger. The clay maquette, entombed in a mountain of protective foam, miraculously emerged unscathed.

John's long-sought enlarging studio was finally begun in Atizapan de Zaragoza, a small industrial pueblo a few miles north of Mexico City. But its construction was fraught with problems and delays. Finally, the XII Travelers recognized that their only recourse was legal action. During the long ordeal, the sculptor continued to refine the small maquette in a makeshift studio that was periodically flooded by torrential summer rains, forcing him to take refuge on chairs and tables where he continued to work amid the claps of thunder.

The lawsuit was still unresolved when John and Ethan were ready to begin enlarging the full-scale model. Studio construction was also at a standstill with little more to show than a concrete floor and shoulder-high walls. Against all odds and under the open sky, exposed to the wind and the dust—and the rain and the mud—the sculptor and his crew began the tedious and exacting process of enlarging. The conditions were daunting for even such fierce determination, and much of the work had to be redone later with the consequent loss of many valuable months.

However, in spite of the deplorable work environment, John, Ethan, and three experienced Mexican enlargers were successful in beginning construction of the giant armature-endoskeleton, composed of huge steel I-beams and some seventy horizontal cross-sections welded into place one above the other. It was an enormous task, and when completed, the rearing horse appeared for the first time before the sculptor and his crew as a gigantic rebar structure soaring to the rooftop and vaguely reminiscent of the Eiffel Tower.

The enlarging process took almost eight years to complete. Referring to the building of the armature, John said, "Our greatest challenge was enlarging the small maquette to the full-size scale model by a linear factor of thirteen or 2,000 times the volume. It was necessary to take very precise measurements for even small errors

would become monumental when magnified to such a colossal scale."

Seven months after the legal battle began, it was finally resolved giving John and the XII Travelers "legal occupancy and the right "to complete the studio at their expense." The XII Travelers volunteers met this challenge successfully and the work was freed to begin in earnest.

A rotating platform, twenty-feet in diameter and capable of bearing the twenty-ton estimated weight of the enlargement was built on a circular steel rail, and on this platform the over-hanging bulk of the horse's body was supported by three long steel pipes. As the giant horse and rider took form, every now and then, a visitor would enter the studio, gaze-up at the towering enlargement, and ask with a smirk, "How do you plan to get that darn thing out?" John would patiently reply that the simple solution was "molds." Thus, the colossal horse did, in fact exit through the small side-door—but in pieces.

Most of the modeling on the horse was done *in situ*, directly in plaster, from thirty-foot high scaffolding towers. The two gigantic heads, however, were modeled at floor level in plastacine which allowed a more accessible and subtle treatment of form. A giant mirror was mounted on one side of the horse's head so that the sculptors could simultaneously see the opposite view and maintain symmetry in their work.

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Colossal sculpture requires distance for proper viewing, and a balcony at the back of the studio offered the necessary perspective to study the monument's progress. Slowly the horse was turned on its platform revealing the effect of the modeling in a changing light. But it was still a "giant in a shoe box" and the horse's rump and the front legs cleared the opposite walls with only two inches to spare. Moreover, there was no room for the tail, which had to be modeled apart for later attachment.

In addition to participating in every aspect of the monument's development, Ethan Taliesin created original

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versions of 16th century Spanish renaissance ornamentation for the horse's tack and also modeled some wonderfully free bas-reliefs on the sides of Oñate's helmet. The designs were borrowed from intaglio drawings of a helmet that probably belonged to one of Oñate's men and is now on display in the Museum of the Palace of the Governors in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Because of deadline pressure, the mold-making process began as soon as was possible. As soon as the molds of one area were completed, they were shipped immediately to the foundry. A total of nearly 500 molds traveled in increments over Oñate's Camino Real from the enlarging studio to Shidoni Foundry in Tesuque, New Mexico. The bronze casting alone took over two years. John summarized the foundry process in this way:

Hot wax is poured or painted into the molds to create a wax cast which is then invested, or coated, with a fire-resistant ceramic shell. The wax is then melted out and the empty shell is filled with molten bronze. Finally the separate bronze castings are welded together like pieces of a giant puzzle to resurrect the original.

In the spring of 2006, the giant sections and assorted pieces of the monument in progress were transferred from Shidoni to the Eagle Bronze Foundry in Lander, Wyoming for assembly, chasing, and patina.² The internal steel armature supporting the long axis of the horse's body—from neck to rump—resembled the trunk of a giant sequoia. The huge castings, thus reinforced, were tack-welded together for a test-run. They rolled out of the monument shop on steel rails into the open air under a canopy of blue sky where a crane hoisted the bronze horse into its rearing position. There the monument stood gleaming in the sunlight where it met the world for the first time. It was a red-letter day for the sculpture, the foundry, the sculptor, the XII Travelers, the local citizens, and the invited press.

But, alas and alack, one small piece was missing. Incredibly it was found a short time later among

the 500 molds that had been returned to El Paso. John had the "lost" mold shipped to Lander overnight where it was cast in bronze and added to complete the pre-assembled monument.

The statue was then taken apart and five gigantic sections were loaded onto flatbed trucks for transport to the El Paso International Airport where it was stored in hanger number 7. A few months later, in October 2006, the Eagle Bronze monument crew returned to El Paso where they removed the giant bronze sections from the hanger and the—almost intact—colossus was trans-



John S. Houser and Ethan Taliesin Houser
celebrate the final installation of "The Equestrian" in El Paso, Texas.

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ported the short distance to the monument site near the airport entrance. An eight-foot high concrete base had already been constructed and was awaiting the arrival of its occupant. Two tall cranes raised the lofty equestrian bronze onto its throne where it was bolted to steel supports anchored deep in the foundation. Later, the horse's front legs and tail were attached. The installation took one week.

The dedication and unveiling of the installed monument is scheduled for April 21, 2007—408 years after the arrival of Don Juan de Oñate and his colonists at San Elizario, near El Paso, where they held their historic Thanksgiving celebration on April 28, 1598. The Oñate expedition then crossed the Rio Grande near the Pass of the North, on May 4th, en route to New Mexico and the land of Cibola, unaware of the hardship and conflict that awaited them.

The legacy of Spanish colonization is controversial, as all such endeavors have been throughout the history of the world. Sadly, the evolution of society is often the result of conflict, we have only to recall our nation's expansion through "Manifest Destiny," the bloody consolidation of national states out of local kingdoms in northern Europe, or the incursion of Greece by the invading tribes that laid the foundations of western civilization.

In 2003, nearly ten years after the city commissioned the "Oñate" statue, it was renamed by the city council out of concern for the colonizer's brutal, retaliatory actions against Acoma Pueblo—and eighty-two years of early Spanish colonial history vanished. At least, for the foreseeable future, the world's largest equestrian bronze will be known anonymously as "The Equestrian."

Out of such conflict and assimilation has come the rich legacy our region, which encompasses Native American and Spanish culture. Today we celebrate this cultural mestizaje³ even as we mourn its price. "The Equestrian," named or nameless, still represents the first wave of Hispanic immigration into the southwest that lit the lamp of a new era.

Biographical Notes: JOHN S. HOUSER maintains a studio in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and Ethan Taliesin, his son, has a studio in Mexico City. The author, Nicholas P. Houser is the brother of the sculptor. He is an anthropologist and historian, and project historian and member of the XII Travelers Board. He is editor of the Board's website <<http://www.12travelers.org>> that describes the memorial and contains historical information for students, historians, and the public.

The artists are grateful for and indebted to the general public who showed their support over the many years. There were many donors to this project:

The XII Travelers Board raised over 1.3 million dollars (63% of the total) from the private sector, in addition, more than \$100,000.00 was generated as in-kind contributions. The Robert E. and Evelyn McKee Foundation, the major philanthropic sponsor, donated over \$400,000.00. A special plaque, dedicating the monument in their honor, will be mounted on the statue's base. At a crucial moment the Department of Aviation of the City of El Paso generously allocated \$700,000.00 of airport private revenue funds for the completion of the monument. The monument involves no taxpayer money.

FOOTNOTES

1. World records are notoriously short and difficult to confirm. Although we have found some close seconds in reference to size of our monument, nothing so far has come to light to topple El Paso's claim, which is now being investigated by The Guinness Book of World Records.
2. Chasing is an important part of the finishing process after a work has been cast in bronze. Chasing is the refining of a bronze cast and includes smoothing the surfaces and edges. This also applies to a large bronze which is cast in many sections so that the work can be properly welded or joined.
3. This is a term acceptable to historians that defines the racial mixing primarily between the Native American and Spaniard, thus the word mestizo for an individual of both races. It is used here as a cultural term, that is, the blending of cultures.

ZEBULON MONTGOMERY PIKE'S REPORT ON THE INTERNAL PROVINCES OF NEW SPAIN, 1810, PART I

Edited with introduction by Leo E. Oliva, editor Santa Fe Trail Association Quarterly, Wagon Tracks, and member Pike Bicentennial Commission; maps and photos by Hal Jackson, chairman of Pike Bicentennial Commission and author of Following the Royal Road: A Guide to the Historic Camino Real de Tierra Adentro, University of New Mexico Press, 2006.

INTRODUCTION

Zebulon Montgomery Pike provided detailed reports of his two exploring expeditions to Secretary of War Henry Dearborn in January 1808. The journals and reports were published in 1810 under the lengthy title, *An Account of Expeditions to the Sources of the Mississippi, and Through the Western Parts of Louisiana, to the Sources of the Arkansas, Kansas, La Platte, and Pierre Rivers; Performed by Order of the Government of the United States During the Years 1805, 1806, and 1807, and a Tour Through the Interior Parts of New Spain, When Conducted Through These Provinces, By Order of the Captain-General, in the year 1807.*¹ A reprint of Pike's journal on El Camino Real appeared in the last two issues of *Chronicles*. An appendix to the journals, portions of which are reprinted here (in two parts in this and the next issue), include Pike's report on the "Internal Provinces" of New Spain. Selections from this appendix, especially the sections with information on New Mexico, Chihuahua, Durango, and Texas, along with "general remarks," are reprinted. The text is from the 1810 edition.

It is important to remember that Pike and his small band of soldiers were taken by Spanish troops from their winter stockade on the Rio Conejos, tributary of the Rio Grande, near present Alamosa, Colorado, in February 1807. Pike believed he was on the headwaters of the Red River because of the incorrect maps he carried, showing the Red River rising in the Rocky Mountains between the Arkansas and Rio Grande. When told he was on the Rio Grande, Pike requested of New Mexico Governor Joaquín Real de Alencaster that his party be escorted directly to the Red River



Portrait of Zebulon Montgomery Pike

and not taken to Santa Fe. That request was denied, and Pike and his men were escorted to Santa Fe and beyond to Chihuahua to meet there with Commandant-General Nemesio Salcedo. From there Pike a portion of his troops were escorted across Texas to the U.S. post at Natchitoches, Louisiana, where they arrived July 1, 1807. Several of Pike's soldiers were detained in New Spain for a longer period of time.

Pike saw the major settlements throughout the provinces he traveled in northern New Spain. For four months Pike was a guest of Spanish officials and parish priests, some of whom provided him with detailed information about the geography, economy, population, culture, and military force of the region. With that information, Pike provided reports on areas and people (especially Indian tribes) he had not visited and included detailed reports on the army and religion. Clearly, much of what Pike described came from Spanish officials and clergy who apparently had few reservations about sharing such information with an

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officer of the U. S. Army. Spanish officers who had fought against the Apaches regaled Pike with stories of battles in which they or their comrades had engaged, and they provided details about the organization and strength of the army in New Spain. From conversations with priests, Pike predicted that the clergy would provide leadership for an independence movement, and this proved to be the case in less than five years after he was there. Pike's reports show much more interest in the independence of Mexico from Spain than any thought of the United States conquering the territory. Because Pike clearly encouraged Mexican independence, it is no wonder that Spanish officials were alarmed by his reports and feared an invading force from the United States would arrive in northern New Spain at any time.

General James Wilkinson had sent Pike on his western exploring expedition with these instructions: "In the course of your tour, you are to remark particularly upon the geographical structure, the natural history and population of the country through which you may pass. . . ."² Any army officer, given those instructions and escorted through large portions of northern New Spain, would have prepared a report, just as Pike did.

Pike reported to General Wilkinson, soon after his arrival at Natchitoches, "I have been able to collect (I make bold to assert) a correct account of their military force, regular and irregular; also, important and interesting information on geographical situations, political sentiments, and dispositions of the people of every class, manners, arts, resources, riches, revenues, value and productions of their mines, situation, &c. &c."³

This was important information for the United States because Pike was the first representative of the government to witness and report on conditions in the "internal provinces." What he reported, although it seems quite sketchy and occasionally misinformed when compared to later reports, stimulated interest in trade with New Mexico and settlement in Texas, both of which began successfully in 1821, the year Mexico won independence from Spain and, at least partly because of Pike, welcomed these contacts with U.S. citizens. Facundo Melgares, a lieutenant in the Spanish army when Pike was in New Spain in 1807 and with whom Pike became a good friend, was governor of New Mexico in November 1821 when he welcomed William Becknell and five companions from Missouri to trade in Santa Fe. The Santa Fe Trail, which be-

came an important link to El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro, quickly became an international route of commerce.

Pike's report provided the first information by an official observer to be published in the United States. His observations on trade and commerce quickly stimulated commercial ventures from the Missouri Valley to New Mexico, all of which failed until Mexico won independence from Spain in 1821. This makes Pike's report on the "internal provinces" a significant historical document, a foundation piece in the relationship between Mexico and the United States that eventually saw the development of the Santa Fe trade after 1821 (which extended into other interior provinces via El Camino Real), settlement of Texas that led to independence (1836) and statehood (1845), and the war between the U.S. and Mexico (1846-1848) by which the U.S. acquired more than half of Mexico. Thus the importance of Pike's report on the "internal provinces" (New Mexico, Biscay, Sonora, Coahuila, Sinaloa, and Texas, with "general remarks on New Spain"), of which the sections on New Mexico, Biscay, Texas, and "general remarks" are reprinted here as they appeared in 1810. The omitted sections about Sonora, Coahuila, and Sinaloa are very sketchy and contain information similar to what appears in the other parts. Pike's reports are reprinted with original spelling and inserts and corrections are in brackets.

INTERNAL PROVINCES⁴

[New Mexico]

New Mexico lies between 30° 30' N. latitude and 104 and 108° W. longitude, and is the most northern province of the kingdom of New Spain; it extends north-west into an undefined boundary, is bounded north and east by Louisiana, south by Biscay [Nueva Viscaya, present states of Chihuahua and Durango] and Cogquilla [Coahuila], and west by Sonora and California. Its length is unknown, its breadth may be 600 miles, but the inhabited part is not more than 400 miles in length and 50 in breadth, lying along the river del Norte, from the 37° to the 31° 30' N. latitude; but in this space there is a desert of more than 250 miles.

Air and Climate.—No persons accustomed to reside in the temperate climate of 36 and 37 degrees of north latitude in the United States can form any idea of the piercing cold which you experience in that par-

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allel in New Mexico; but the air is serene and unaccompanied by damps or fogs, as it rains but once a year, and some years not at all. It is a mountainous country. The grand dividing ridges which separate the waters of the rio del Norte from those of California border it on the line of its western limits, and are covered, in some places, with eternal snows, which give a keenness to the air that could not be calculated upon nor expected in a temperate zone.

Timber and Plains.—The cotton [cottonwood] tree is the only tree of this province, except some scrubby pines and cedars at the foot of the mountains. The former borders the banks of the rio del Norte and its tributary streams. All the rest of the country presents to the eye a barren wild of poor land, scarcely to be improved by culture, and appears to be only capable of producing sufficient subsistence for those animals which live on succulent plants and herbage.

Mines, Minerals, and Fossils—There are no mines known in the province, except one of copper situated in a mountain on the west side of the rio del Norte, in latitude 34° N [Santa Rita del Cobre]. It is worked and produces 20,000 mule-loads of copper annually. It also furnishes that article for the manufactories of nearly all the internal provinces. It contains gold; but not quite sufficient to pay for its extraction; consequently it has not been pursued.

There is, near Santa Fe, in some of the mountains, a stratum of talc [mica], which is so large and flexible as to render it capable of being subdivided into thin flakes, of which the greater portion of the houses in Santa Fe, and all the villages to the north, have their window-lights made.

Rivers.—The river del Norte takes its source in the mountains (which give birth to the head-waters of California, the Plata, Pierre Jaune [Yellowstone] of the Missouri and Arkansaw of the Mississippi) in 40° N. latitude and 110° W. longitude. Its distance from its source to the gulf of Mexico may be, by its meanders, estimated at 2000 miles, passing through the provinces of New Mexico, part of Biscay, Cogquilla, and New San Ander [Nuevo Santander, now the area of the Mexican state of Tamaulipas and the portion of Texas between the Rio Grande and Nueces River], where it falls into the gulf in 26° N. latitude. It cannot, in any part of its course, be termed a navigable stream, owing to the sand-bars. In the flat country and mountains in the upper part, with which its course is interrupted, small boats might ascend as high as the Presidio de rio Grande in Cogquilla, and it

might be navigable for canoes in various parts of its course. In the mountains above Santa Fe it afforded amply sufficient water for canoe navigation, and even more than appeared to be flowing in its bed in the plains. This must be attributed to numerous canals and the dry sandy soil through which the river courses and where much of the water which flowed from the mountains must be absorbed and lost. In the province of New Mexico it is called the Rio del Norte; below it is termed the Rio Grande; but in no instance did I hear it called the Rio Bravo, as many of our ancient maps designate it.

There are also, in the limits of this province, to the west, the rivers San Rafael, San Xavier, river de los Dolores, also de los Anamas or Nabajoa, all of which join and form the Great Rio Colorado of California. The two first take their sources in the same mountains as the Rio del Norte, but on the west side.

The river Colorado, by its meanders, may be about 1000 miles in length, from its sources to its discharge into the head of the gulf of California, in the 33^{d} degree of N. latitude. It has been represented to me, by men of information and research, to be navigable for square rigged vessels at least 300 miles from the gulf. By this river and the Arkansaw there could be the best communication established between the Pacific and the Atlantic oceans. There are represented to be various, numerous and warlike nations of Indians on its banks. Through the whole of its course its banks are entirely destitute of Timber, and indeed I was informed that for 300 miles there was not a tree ten inches in diameter.

The river S. Buenaventura empties into the Pacific



The Mission church at San Elizario (Pike called the community fort Elisiara). This is not the church that Pike would have seen but it is on the same site.

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ocean to the north of California in 39° 30' N. latitude, and takes its source in the Sierra Madre to the north of the Colorado and del Norte.

The Rio Gila heads opposite to the copper-mines, and discharges itself into the gulf of California, just below the Colorado, in the 33d degree N. latitude.

The Rio Puerto is a branch of the Rio del Norte, and comes from the north and joins that river about 100 miles below the Presidio del Norte.

None of the foregoing streams present any evidences of civilization on their shores but the Rio del Norte.

Lakes.—I heard of no lakes in the province, except that of Tampanagos, the existence of which I consider to be doubtful. It is said to commence (according to Father Escalante) in the 40th deg. N. latitude, and to have been explored to the 42d deg. In a N.W. direction, where it enlarged its dimension, and the discoverer thought proper to return.

Animals.—North Mexico produces deer, elk, buffalo, cabrie [pronghorn], the gresley [grizzly], black bear, and wild horses.

Population.—Its population is not far short of 30,000 souls, one-twentieth of which may be Spaniards from Europe (or Chapetones [Guachupines, the natives of Spain]), four-twentieths Creoles, five-twentieths Metifs [Métis?], and the other half civilized Indians.

The capital is Santa Fe, situated on a small stream which empties into the east side of the Rio del Norte, at the foot of the mountains which divide the waters of that river from the Arkansaw and Red river of the Mississippi, in 36° N. latitude and 109° W. longitude. It is an oblong square, extending about one mile from east to west on the banks of the creek. In the centre is the public square, one side of which forms the flank of the soldiers' square, which is closed and in some degree defended by round towers in the angles which flank the four curtains: another side of the square is formed by the palace of the governor, his guard-houses, &c. The third side is occupied by the priests and their suit, and the fourth by the Chapetones who reside in the city. The houses are generally only one story high, flat roofs, and have a very mean appearance on the out-side, but some of them are richly furnished, especially with plate [silver].

The second cities in the province are Albuquerque and Passo del Norte [present Ciudad Juárez]. The latter is the most southern city of the province, as Tons

[Taos] is the most northern. Between the village of Sibilleta [La a de Sevilleta] and the Passo there is a wilderness of near 200 miles.

Trade and Commerce.—New Mexico carries on a trade direct with Mexico through Biscay, also with Senora [Sonora] and Sinaloa: it sends out about 30,000 sheep annually, tobacco, dressed deer and cabrie skins, some fur, buffalo robes, salt, and wrought copper vessels of a superior quality. It receives in return, from Biscay and Mexico, dry goods, confectionary, arms, iron, steel, ammunition, and some choice European wines and liquors, and from Senora and Sinaloa, gold, silver, and cheese. The following articles sell as stated (in this province), which will shew the cheapness of provisions and the extreme dearness of imported goods:

Flour sells, per hundred at -	2 dollars
Salt, per mule-load, -	5
Sheep, each, -	1
Beeves, each, -	5
Wine del Passo, per barrel, -	15
Horses, each, -	11
Mules, each, -	30
Superfine cloths, per yard, -	25
Fine do. do. -	20
Linen, per yard, -	4

and all other dry goods in proportion.

The journey with loaded mules from Santa Fe to Mexico, and returning to Santa Fe, takes five months. They manufacture rough leather, segars [cigars], a vast variety and quantity of potters' ware, cotton, some coarse woollen cloths, and blankets of a superior quality. All these manufactures are carried on by the civilized Indians, as the Spaniards think it more honorable to be agriculturalists than mechanics. The Indians likewise far exceed their conquerors in their genius for, and execution of, all mechanical operations.

New Mexico has the exclusive right of cultivating tobacco.

About two miles above the town of the Passo del Norte [present Ciudad Juárez] is a bridge over the river, where the road passes to the west side, at which place is a large canal, which takes out an ample supply of water for the purpose of cultivation, which is here carried on in as great perfection as at any place that I visited in the provinces. There is a wall bordering the canal the whole way on both sides,

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to protect it from the animals; and when it arrives at the village, it is distributed in such a manner that each person has his fields watered in rotation. At this place were as finely cultivated fields of wheat and other small grain as I ever saw. Numerous vineyards, from which were produced the finest wine ever drank in the country, which was celebrated through all the provinces, and was the only wine used on the table of the commanding general.

Agriculture.—They cultivate corn, wheat, rye, barley, rice, tobacco, vines, and all the common culinary plants cultivated in the same latitude in the United States. They are, however, a century behind us in the art of cultivation; for, notwithstanding their numerous herds of cattle and horses, I have seen them frequently breaking up whole fields with the hoe. Their oxen draw by the horns, after the French mode. Their carts are extremely awkward and clumsily made. During the while of the time we were in New Spain I never saw a horse in a vehicle of any description, mules being made use of in carriages as well as for the purposes of labour.

Antiquities.—On the river St. Francis, a large branch of the river Gila, which heads near the copper mines in New Mexico and discharges itself into the Red river of California, are the remains of old walls and houses which are ascertained to have been the work of the Mexicans on their route emigrating from the north-west to the plains of Mexico, where they finally established themselves. Those walls are of a black cement, the durability of which increases with its age, so that it has hitherto bid defiance to the war of time. Its composition is now entirely lost. There is also found at this place many broken pieces of earthen ware, which still possess the glazing as perfect as when first put on.

Aborgines.—The Kyaways [Kiowas] wander on the sources of La Platte and are supposed to be 1000 men strong. They possess immense herds of horses and are at war with both Pawnees and Tetaus [Comanches], as well as Sioux. They are armed with bows, arrows and lances, and hunt the buffalo. This nation with the Tetaus and Utahs all speak the same language. The Utahs wander at the sources of the Rio del Norte, are supposed to be 2000 warriors strong, are armed in the same manner, and pursue the same game as the Kyaways. They are, however, a little more civilized, from having more connection with the Spaniards, with whom they are frequently at war, but were then at peace, and waging war with the Tetaus.

A battle was fought between them and the Tetaus in September 1806, near the village of Tons [Taos]: there were about 400 combatants to each side, but they were separated by a Spanish alca[ld]e riding out to the field of battle. There were eight or ten killed on each side. The Utahs gave all the horses taken to the Spaniards. This shews in a strong degree, the influence the Spaniards have over those Indians. The Nanahaws [Navajos] are situated to the north-west of Santa Fe, are frequently at war with Spaniards, and are supposed to be 2000 warriors strong. They are armed in the same manner as the preceding nations. This nation, as well as all others to the west of them bordering on California, speak the language of the Appaches and Le Panis [Pawnees], who are in a line with them to the Atlantic.

The Appaches are a nation of Indians who extend from the black mountains in New Mexico to the frontiers of Cogquilla, keeping the frontiers of three provinces in a continual state of alarm, and making it necessary to employ nearly two thousand dragoons to escort the caravans, protect the villages, and revenge the various attacks they are continually making on the subjects of his Catholic majesty. This nation formerly extended from the entrance of the Rio Grande to the gulf of California, and have waged a continual warfare, except short truces, with the Spaniards, from the time they pushed their enterprises back from Mexico into the internal provinces. It is extremely difficult to say what are their numbers at the present day, but they must be very much reduced, from their long and constant warfare, the wandering and savage life they lead in the mountains, which is so injurious to an increase of population, and in which they are frequently extremely pinched by famine.

At the commencement of their warfare the Spaniards used to take their prisoners and make slaves of them; but finding that their unconquerable attachment to liberty made them surmount every difficulty and danger in returning to the mountains, they adopted the mode of sending them to Cuba, which the Appaches no sooner learned than they refused to give or receive quarters, and in no instance have there been any taken since that period, except surprised when asleep or knocked down and overpowered.

Their arms are the bow and arrow and the lance. Their bow forms two demi-circles, with a shoulder in the middle: the back of it is entirely covered with sinews, which are laid on in so nice a manner, by the use of some glutinous substance, as to be almost imper-

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ceptible; this gives great elasticity to the weapon. Their arrow is more than the "cloth yard" of the English, being three feet and a half long, the upper part consisting of some light rush or cane, into which is inserted a shaft of about one foot, made of some hard, seasoned light wood; the point is of iron, bone, or stone, and, when the arrow enters the body, in attempting to extract it, the shaft comes out of its socket and the point remains in the wound. With this weapon they shoot with such force as to go through the body of a man at the distance of 100 yards, and an officer told me that, in an engagement with them, one of the arrows struck his shield and dismounted him in an instant. Their other weapon of offence is a lance of 15 feet in length, with which they charge with both hands over their heads, managing their horses principally with their knees. With this weapon they are considered an overmatch for the Spanish dragoons single handed, but, for want of a knowledge of tactics, they can never stand the charge of a body which acts in concert. They all carry a shield. Some few are armed with guns and ammunition taken from the Spaniards. Those, as well as the archers, generally march to war on foot; but the lancemen are always mounted. Numerous are the anecdotes I have heard related of their personal bravery and the spirit of their partisan corps. Not long before I went into that country a cornet, with 63 dragoons, between New Mexico and Biscay, was surrounded by about 200 Appaches infantry, and instead of charging them, as it was on the plain, he ordered his dragoons to dismount and fight with their carabines, in consequence of which he and his whole party fell a sacrifice.

Malgares [Facundo Melgares] related an instance when he was marching with 140 men and they were attacked by a party of Appaches, both horse and foot, who continued the fight for four hours. Whenever the Spanish dragoons would make a general charge, the Appaches' cavalry would retreat behind the infantry, who met the Spaniards with a shower of arrows, who immediately retreated, and even the gallant Malgares spoke of the Spanish cavalry's breaking the the Appaches' infantry as a thing not to be thought of.

Malgares assured me that, if the Appaches had seconded the efforts and bravery of their chieftain, the Spaniards must have been defeated and cut to pieces; that in various instances he rallied his men and brought them up to the charge, and that when they flew, he retired indignantly to the rear. Seeing Malgares very actively engaged in forming and bring-

ing up the Spaniards, the Appache chieftain rode out a-head of his party and challenged him to a single combat with his lance. This my friend refused, as he said that the chief was one of the stoutest men he knew, carried a remarkably heavy lance, and rode a very fine charger; but one of his corporals, enraged to see the Spaniards thus braved by this savage, begged permission to meet the "infidel." His officer refused his request, and ordered him to keep his ranks; but he reiterating the request, his superior in a passion told him to go. The Indian chief had turned his horse to join his party, but seeing an enemy advancing, he turned, gave a shout, and met him at full speed. The dragoon thought to parry the lance of his antagonist, which he in part effected, but not throwing it quite high enough, it entered his neck before and came out at the nape, when he fell dead to the ground, and his victorious enemy gave a shout of victory, in which he was joined by all his followers: this enraged the Spaniards to such a degree that they made a general charge, in which the Indian cavalry again retreated notwithstanding the entreaties of their gallant leader.

In another instance a small smoke was discovered on the prairie; three poor savages were surrounded by 100 dragoons and ordered to lay down their arms: they smiled at the officer's demand and asked him if he could suppose that men who had arms in their hands would ever consent to become slaves. The officer, being loath to kill them, held a conference for an hour, when finding that his threats had as little effect as his entreaties, he ordered his men to attack them at a distance, keeping out of the reach of their arrows, and firing at them with their carabines, which they did, the Indians never ceasing to resist as long as life remained.

In a truce which was held a Spanish captain was ordered to treat with some of the bands. He received their deputies with hauteur, and they could not come upon terms. The truce was broken and the Indians retreated to their fastnesses in the mountains. In a day or two this same officer pursued them: they were in a place called the door in the mountain, where but two or three dragoons could enter at a time, and there were rocks and caves on the flanks behind which the Indians secreted themselves until a number of the Spaniards had come in, when the Indians sounded a trumpet and the attack began and continued on the side of the Appaches until the Spanish captain fell, when the Indian chief caused the firing to cease, saying that "the man who had so haughtily spurned the proffered peace was now dead." On this

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occasion they deviated from their accustomed rule of warfare and made prisoner of a young officer, who, during the truce, had treated them with great kindness, and sent him home safe and unhurt. Some of the bands have made temporary truces with the Spaniards and received from them 25 cents per diem each. These people hang round the fortifications of the country, drink, shoot, and dissipate their time; they are haughty and independent. Great jealousy exists between them and the Spaniards. An officer was under trial, when I was in the country, for anticipating an attack on his fortress by attacking the chiefs of the supposed conspiracy, and putting them to death before they had time to mature and carry their plan into execution. The decision of this case I never learnt; but those savages who have been for some time about the forts and villages, become by far the most dangerous enemies the Spaniards have, when hostile, as they acquire the Spanish language, manners, and habits, and passing through the populated parts under the disguise of the civilized and friendly Indians, commit murders and robberies and are not suspected. There is in the province of Cogquilla a partisan by the name of Ralph, who, they calculate, has killed more than 500 persons. He comes into the towns under the disguise of a peasant, buys provisions, goes to the gambling tables and to mass, and before he leaves the village, is sure to kill some person or carry off a woman, which he has frequently done. Sometimes he joins people traveling on the road, insinuates himself into their confidence, and takes his opportunity to assassinate them. He has only six followers, and from their knowledge of the country, activity, and cunning, he keeps about 300 Spanish dragoons continually employed. The government have offered 1000 dollars for his head.

The civilized Indians of the province of New Mexico are of what was formerly twenty-four different bands, the different names of which I did not become acquainted with, but the Keres were one of the most powerful; they form at present the population of St. Domingo, St. Philips, and Deis [Sandia], and one or two other towns. They are men of large stature, round full visage, fine teeth, appear to be of a gentle, tractable disposition, and resemble the Osage more than any other nation of whom I possess any knowledge. They are not the vassals of Individuals, yet may properly be termed the slaves of the state, for they are compelled to do military duty, drive mules, carry loads, or in fact perform any other act of duty or bond-

age that the will of the commandant of the district, or any passing military tyrant chooses to ordain. I was myself eye-witness of a scene which made my heart bleed for those poor wretches, at the same time that it excited my indignation and contempt, that they would suffer themselves, with arms in their hands, to be beat and knocked about by beings no ways their superiors, unless a small tint of complexion could be supposed to give that superiority. Before we arrived at Santa Fe, one night, we were near one of the villages where resided the families of two of our Indian horsemen. They took the liberty to pay them a visit in the night. Next morning the whole of the Indian horsemen were called up, and because they refused to testify against their imprudent companions, several were knocked down from their horses by the Spanish dragoons. With the butt of their lances; yet, while the blood streaming down their visages, and arms in their hands, they stood cool and tranquil: not a frown, not a word of discontent or palliation escaped their lips. Yet what must have been the boiling indignation of their souls at the indignities offered by the wretch clothed with a little brief authority; but the day of retribution will come in thunder and in vengeance.

Those savages are armed with bow and arrows and with lances, or escopates [carbines].

Although they are said to be converted to Christianity, they still retain many of their ancient rituals, feasts, and ceremonies, one of which is so remarkable it must not be passed unnoticed. Once a year there is a great feast prepared for three successive days, which they spend in eating, drinking, and dancing. Near to this scene of amusement is a dark cave, into which not a glimpse of light can penetrate and in which is prepared places to repose on. To this place persons of all descriptions, of both sexes and of all ages, after puberty, and repair in the night, where there is an indiscriminate commerce of the votaries, as chance, fortune, and events direct. These revels certainly have great affinity to some of the ancient mystic rights of Greece and Rome.

Government and Laws.—The government of New Mexico may be termed military, in the pure sense of the word; for although they have their alca[ldes or inferior officers, their judgments are subject to a reversion by the military commandants of districts. The whole male population are subject to military duty, without pay or emolument, and are obliged to find their own horses, arms and provision. The only thing furnished by the government is ammunition, and it is extraordinary with what subordination they act when

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they are turned out to do military duty, a strong proof of which was exhibited in the expedition of Malgares



The church at El Paso del Norte. The old mission church is on the left, the tower is a later addition.

to the Pawnees. His command consisted of 100 dragoons of the regular service and 500 drafts from the province. He had continued down the red river until their provision began to be short: they then demanded of the lieutenant where he was bound and the intention of the expedition? To this he haughtily replied, "wherever his horse led him." A few mornings after he was presented with a petition, signed by 200 of the militia, to return home. He halted immediately, and caused his dragoons to erect a gallows; then beat to arms. The troops fell in: he separated the petitioners from the others, then took the man who had presented the petition, tied him up, and gave him 50 lashes, and threatened to put to death, on the gallows erected, any man who should dare to grumble. This effectually silenced them, and quelled the rising spirit of sedition; but it was remarked that it was the first instance of a Spaniard receiving corporal punishment ever known in the province.

Morals, Manners, &c.—There is nothing peculiarly characteristic in this province that will not be embraced in my general observations on New Spain, except that being frontier, and cut off, as it were, from the more inhabited parts of the kingdom, together with their continual wars with some of the savage nations who surround them, render them the bravest and most hardy subjects in New Spain; being generally armed, they know the use of them. Their want of

gold and silver renders them laborious, in order that the productions of their labor may be the means of establishing the equilibrium between them and the other provinces where those metals abound. Their isolated and remote situation also cause them to exhibit, in a superior degree, the heaven-like qualities of hospitality and kindness, in which they appear to endeavor to fulfil the injunction of the scripture, which enjoins us to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and give comfort to the oppressed in spirit, and I shall always take pleasure in expressing my gratitude for their noble reception of myself and the men under my command.

Military Force.—There is but one troop of dragoons in all New Mexico of the regular force, which is stationed at Santa Fe, and is 100 strong. Of this troop the governor is always the captain, entitling himself captain of the royal troop of Santa Fe dragoons; but they are commanded by a first lieutenant, who is captain by brevet.

The men capable of bearing arms in this province may be estimated at 5000; of those probably 1000 are completely armed, 1000 badly, and the rest not at all.

Religion.—The catholic religion is practised in this province after the same manner as in the other provinces, and will hereafter be taken notice of generally.

History.—In the year 1594 two friars came out from Old Mexico to New Mexico, and were well received by the savages. They returned, and the ensuing year Juan de Ouate [Oñate], a monk, went out, explored the country, and returned. After this 100 troops and 500 men, women, and children came out and settled on the Rio del Norte, some, no very great, distance from where Santa Fe now stands. They entered into an arrangement with the Indians on the subject of their establishment; but a few years after the Indians rose en masse, fell on the Spaniards by surprise, killed most of the soldiers, and obliged them to retreat to the Passo del Norte (from whence it acquired its name). Here they waited a reinforcement from Biscay, which they received, of 70 men and two field-pieces, with which they recommenced their march and finally arrived at Santa Fe, then the capital Indian village, to which they immediately laid siege. The Indians maintained themselves twenty-two days, when they surrendered and entered into a second negotiation, since which time the Spaniards have been engaged in continual warfare with the various savage tribes which surround them on all sides, and who have been near ruining themselves several times,

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and obliged them to apply for reinforcements from Biscay and Senora. A few years since the Tetaus carried on a warm and vigorous war against them, but are now at peace and considered as their firmest allies. . . .

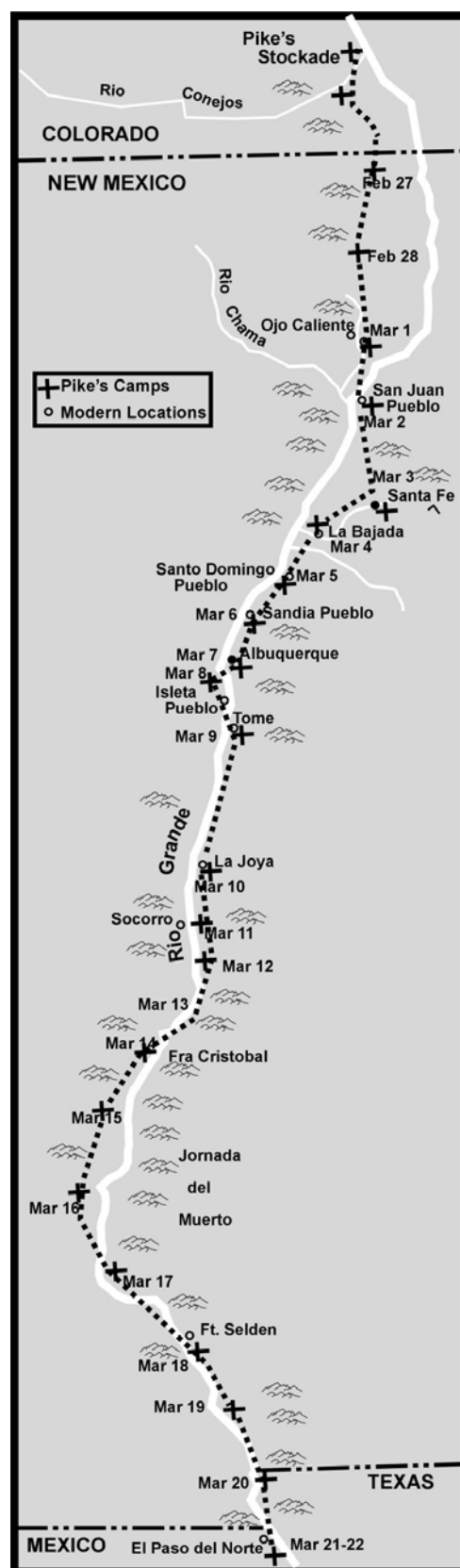
[Biscay, present states of Durango and Chihuahua]

Geography.—Biscay lies between 33° and 24° N. latitude and 105° and 111° W. longitude, is bounded on the north by New Mexico, on the west by Senora and Sinaloa, and on the east by New Leon and Cogquilla. It is 600 miles in length from north-west to south-east, and 400 miles in width from east to west, taking it at its greatest extent.

Air and Climate.—The air is dry and the heat very great at that season of the year, which precedes the rainy season, which commences in June and continues until September by light showers. During the other part of the year there is not the least rain or snow to moisten the earth. The atmosphere had therefore become so electrified, that when we halted at night, in taking off our blankets the electric fluid would almost cover them with sparks, and in Chihuahua we prepared a bottle with gold-leaf, as a receiver, and collection sufficient of the electric fluid from a bear-skin to give a considerable shock to a number of persons. This phenomenon was more conspicuous in the vicinity of Chihuahua than in any other part that we passed over.

Mines and Minerals.—This province abounds in silver and gold mines, which yield an immense quantity of those metals, but not so great a revenue to the king as those which are nearer the mint, and consequently present a greater facility to coinage. I am not acquainted with the proportion of the metals which the mineral yields in any instance, except in one of the silver mines at Chihuahua, which belonged to a friend of mine, who informed me that his mine yielded him 13 1-2 dollars per cwt. I one day, with Robinson, went through many of these furnaces and noticed the manner which they pursued in analyzing the mineral and extracting the metals, but, as I had previously asked several Spanish officers to accompany me, who had always declined or deferred it to a future period, I conceived it probable it was too delicate a subject to make a minute inquiry into. I, however, so far observed the process as to learn that the mineral was brought from the mines in bags, on mules, to the furnace: it was then ground or pounded into small lumps, not more than the size of a nut, and precipitated into water, in a sieve which permitted the

Sketch Map of northern portion of Pike's route down El Camino Real [courtesy of Hal Jackson].
It shows much of the territory described in the accompanying article.



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smaller particles to escape into a tub, through several progressive operations. From the small particles which remained at the bottom of the tubs, after it had been purified of the earthy qualities, there was a proportion of metal extracted by a nicer process; but the larger parts were put into a furnace similar to our iron furnaces, and when it was in a state of fusion, it was let out into a bed of sand prepared for it which formed it into bars about the size of our common pig iron, averaged in value at about 2,500 dollars. The gold was cast into a mould similar to a bowl and stamped, as was each bar of silver, by the king's assayer [assayer] of metals, with its value. They were worth from 8 to 10,000 dollars. These masses of silver and gold are then received into the king's treasury in payment, and in fact have a currency through the kingdom; but there are vast speculations made on the coinage, as people who have not large capitals prefer selling their bullion, in the internal provinces, at a considerable discount, to being obliged to transport it to Mexico, in order to have it converted into specie. The present C——, I was informed, was engaged in this traffic, on which, from the province of Senora, he sometimes made 25 per cent. Numbers of the proprietors who have no immediate use for their bullion put it into their cellars, where it remains piled up for their posterity, of no service to themselves or the community. There are at Chihuahua and its vicinity fifteen mines, thirteen silver, one gold, and one copper, the furnaces of all of which are situated round the town and suburbs, and present, except on Sundays, volumes of smoke arising to the eye in every direction, which can be seen from a distance long before the spires of the city strike the view. It is incredible the quantity of cinders which surround the city in piles ten to fifteen feet high: next [to] the creek they have formed a bank of it to check the encroachments of the stream, and it presents an effectual barrier.

I am told that an European employed some hands and wrought at the cinders and that it yielded one dollar and twenty-five cents for each per day; but that this not answering his expectations, he ceased his proceedings. At Mausseme [Mapimí] there is one gold and seven silver mines.

At Durango there are many and rich mines, but the number to me is unknown.

There are also gold mines in the Sierra Madre, near Alomas [Alamosa], and many others of which I have no knowledge. There is in the province, about one hundred miles south of Chihuahua, a mountain or hill

of loadstone [magnetic oxide of iron]. [Juan Pedro] Walker, who had been on the ground and surveyed it, informed me it appeared to be solid strata, as regular as that of limestone, or any other of the species. He had brought home a square piece of near a foot and half, was preparing some to be sent to Spain, and likewise forming magnets to accompany it, in order that their comparative strength might be ascertained with magnets formed in Europe.

Rivers.—Rio Conchos is the largest in the province. It takes its source in the Sierra Madre, near Batopilas in 28° N. latitude, and discharges itself into the Rio del Norte in the 31°, after a course of about 300 miles. It is the largest western branch of the Rio del Norte, and receives in its course the Rio Florido from the east and San Paubla [Pedro] from the west, where we struck the Conchos. It appeared to be nearly as large as the Rio del Norte at the Passo.

'The Rio San Paubla is the largest western branch of the Conchos, and heads in 28° 50' N. latitude, and empties into the latter at Bakinoa. Its whole course is about 150 miles: in summer it is nearly dry, and in the rainy seasons impassable.

The Rio Florido takes its rise in the latitude 26 1-2 N. and after a course of about 150 miles, discharges itself into the Conchos. Guaxequillo [Guajoquilla, present Jiménez] is situated on its east bank about its center.

The Rio Nassas is in part the line between Biscay and Cogquilla: it runs north and sinks in the lake du Cayman; it is nearly dry in the dry seasons, but at some seasons it is impassable.

Lakes.—Lac du Cayman and lac du Parras are two small lakes, situated at the foot of the mounts and are full of fish.

Animals, insects, &c.—There are some few bears, deer, and wild horses, but they are not in abundance. The scorpions of Durango are one of the most remarkable instances of the physical effects of climate or air that I ever saw recorded. They come out of the walls and crevices in May, and continue about a fortnight in such numbers that the inhabitants never walk in their houses after dark without a light, and always shift or examine the bed-clothes and beat the curtains previous to going to bed, after which the curtains are secured under the bed, similar to the precautions we take with our mosquito curtains. The bite of those scorpions has been known to prove mortal in two hours. The most extraordinary circumstance is that of taking them ten leagues from Durango, they

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become perfectly harmless and lose all their venomous qualities. Query, Does it arise from a change of air, sustenance, or what other cause?

Population and Chief Towns.—The population of Biscay may be estimated at 200,000: of these three-tenths may be Spaniards from Europe, five-tenths Creoles, five-tenths Metifs and Quatroons, and seven-tenths Indians. Durango was founded in 1550. It is the principal city, the seat of government for that province of Biscay and of the bishoprick of Durango. Its population may be estimated at 40,000 souls. It is situated in 25° N. latitude and 107° W. longitude.

Pallalein, situated somewhere at the foot of the Sierra Madria, is supposed to contain 25,000 souls.

Chihuahua, the place of residence of the commandant general of the internal provinces, was founded in 1691, is situated in 29° N. latitude, 107° 30' W. longitude. Its population may be estimated at 7,000. It is an oblong square, on the east side of a small stream which discharges itself into the river Conchos. On its south extremity is a small but elegant church. In the public square stands the principal church, royal treasury, town-house, and the richest shops. At the western extremity is another church for the military, a superb hospital, belonging formerly to the Jesuits' possessions, the church of the monks of St. Francis, St. Domingo, the military academy, and quartel del tropa [barracks for the troops]. On the north-west were two or three missions very handsomely situated on a small stream which comes in from the west. About one mile to the south of the town is a large aqueduct which conveys the water round it, to the east, into the main stream below the town, in the centre of which is raised a reservoir for the water, from whence it is to be conducted by pipes to the different parts of the city, and in the public square is to be a fountain and jet d'eau, which will be both ornamental and useful. The principal church of Chihuahua was the most superb building we saw in New Spain. Its whole front was covered with statues of the apostles and the different saints, set in niches of the wall, and the windows, doors, &c. ornamented with sculpture. I never was within the doors, but was informed by Robinson that the decorations were immensely rich. Some men, whom we supposed entitled to credit, informed us that the church was built by a tax of 12 1-2 cents laid on each ingot of gold or silver taken out of the mines in the vicinity in — years. Its costs, with decorations, was 1,500,000 dollars, and when finished there re-

mained 300,000 dollars of the fund unappropriated. At the south side of Chihuahua is the public walk, formed by three rows of trees whose branches nearly entwined over the heads of the passengers below. At different distances there are seats for persons to repose themselves on. At each end of the walks there were circular seats, on which, in the evening, the company collected and amused themselves with the guitar, songs in Spanish, Italian, and French, adapted to the voluptuous manners of the country. In this city, as well as all others of any consideration, there are patrols of soldiers during the night, who stop every person at 9 o'clock and examine them. My counter-sign was "Americans."

Trade, Commerce, and Manufactures.—Biscay trades with North Mexico, Senora, and the vice-royalty, from the latter of which they bring on mules all their dry goods, European furniture, books, ammunition, &c. They furnish a great quantity of horses, mules, sheep, beeves, goats, &c. to the parts of the kingdom which are more populous and have less spare ground for pasturage, &c. Some persons make large fortunes by being the carriers from Mexico to Chihuahua, the freight being eight dollars per cwt. And they generally put 300 pounds on each mule. The merchants make their remittances twice a year in bullion. Goods sell at Chihuahua about 200 per cent on the prices of our Atlantic sea port towns. Their horses average at six dollars, but some have sold as high as 100: their trained mules at 20 dollars; but extraordinary matches for carriages have sold at 400 dollars per pair. Rice sells at four dollars per cwt.

They manufacture some few arms, blankets, stamped leather, embroidery, coarse cotton and woolen cloths, and a species of rough carpeting. Their blankets average two dollars, but some sell as high as 25 dollars.

Agriculture.—They cultivate wheat, corn, rice, oats, cotton, flax, indigo, and vines. What I have said relative to the cultivation of those articles in New Mexico will equally apply to this province, but it may be proper to observe here that one of [Philip] Nolan's men constructed the first cotton gin they ever had in the province, and that Walker had caused a few churns to be made for some private families, and taught them the use of them.

Timber, Plains and Soil.—To the north of Chihuahua, about 30 miles to the right of the main road, there is some pine timber, and at a spring on this side of Carracal [Carrizal] we saw one walnut-tree, and on all the small streams there are shrubby cotton-trees. With

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these few exceptions the whole province is a naked, barren plain, which presents to the eye an arid, unproductive soil, and more especially in the neighborhood of mines; even the herbage appears to be poisoned by the mineral qualities of the soil.

Antiquities.—There are none in the province which came within my notice but the Jesuits' college and church at Chihuahua, which were about a century old, and are used as hospitals. In these there was nothing peculiar, except a certain solidity and strength, which appeared to surpass the other public buildings of the city.

Aborigines.—There are no uncivilized savages in this province except the Appaches, of whom I have spoken largely [under New Mexico]. The Christian Indians are so incorporated amongst the lower grades of metifs that it is scarcely possible to draw the line of distinction, except at the ranelios [rancheros] or large land-holder, where they are in a state of vassalage. This class of people laid a conspiracy, which was so well concerted as to baffle the inquiries of the Spaniards for a length of time, and to occasion them the loss of several hundred inhabitants. The Indians used to go out from their village in small parties: in a short time a part would return with the report that they had been attacked by the Indians; the Spaniards would immediately send out a detachment in pursuit, when they were led into an ambuscade and every soul cut off. They pursued this course so long that the whole province became alarmed at the rapid manner in which their enemies multiplied; but some circumstances leading to a suspicion, they made use of the superstition of those people for their ruin. Some officers disguised themselves like friars and went round amongst the Indians, pretending to be possessed of the spirit of prophecy. They preached up to the Indians that the day was approaching when a general deliverance from the Spanish tyranny was about to take place, and invited the Indians to join in concerting with them the work of God. The poor creatures came forward, and in their confessions stated the great hand that had already been put to the work. After these pretended friars had ascertained the nature and extent of the conspiracy, and had a body of troops prepared, they commenced the execution and put to death about 400 of the unsuspecting Indians. This struck terror and dismay through the Indian villages, and they dared not rise and declare their freedom and independence.

Government and Laws.—In this province there is

some shadow of civil law; but it is merely a shadow, as the following anecdote may illustrate. An officer, on arriving at a village, demanded quarters for himself and troops. The supreme civil officer of the place sent him word that he must show his passport. The military officer immediately sent a file of men, who brought the judge a prisoner before him, when he severely reprimanded the judge for his insolence and obliged him to obey his orders instantly. This has been done by a subaltern, in a city of 20,000 inhabitants. The only laws which can be said to be in force are the military and ecclesiastic, between which there is a perfect understanding.

The governor is a brigadier-general, resides at Durango, and receives 5000 dollars, in addition to his pay in the line. It is proper to observe that there are ordinances to bear on each subject of civil discussion, but the administration of them is so corrupt, that the influence of family and fortune generally procure the determination that they have right on their side.

In each town is a public magazine for provisions, where every farmer brings whatever grain and produce he may have for sale, where he is sure to meet with a market; and should there be a scarcity the ensuing year, it is retailed out to the inhabitants at a reasonable rate. To this place all the citizens of the town repair to purchase.

Morals, Manners, &c.—There is nothing peculiar in the manners or morals of the people of this province, but a much greater degree of luxury among the rich, misery among the poor, and a corruption of morals more general than in New Mexico. As to military spirit they have none. At a muster of a regiment of militia at Chihuahua one of my men attended, and informed me that there were about 25 who had fire-arms and lances, 50 with bows and arrows and lances, and the balance with lances or bows and arrows only.

Military Force.—The regular military force of Biscay consists of 100 dragoons, distributed as follows: On the frontiers of the deserts of New Mexico and Senora, at the forts of Elisaira [San Elizario], Carracal [Carrizal], and San Buenaventura, Presidio del Norte, Janos, Tulenos, and San Juan Baptist. Farther south are Chihuahua, Jeronime, Cayone, San Paubla [Pedro], Guaxequillo [Guajoquilla, present Jiménez], and Conchos, with several other places which are appendages of these positions. The complement of each of those posts is 150 men, but may be averaged at 100 in all, say 100 at each post. The militia are not worthy of particular notice.

Religion.—Biscay is in the diocese of Durango, the

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bishop's salary being estimated at 100,000 dollars per annum. The catholic religion is here in its full force, but the inferior clergy are very much dissatisfied. The people's superstition is so great that they are running after the holy father in the streets, and endeavoring to kiss the hem of his garment, and should the bishop be passing the street, the rich and poor all kneel.

History.—I shall not presume to say any thing on this subject except that I believe this province has been populated about 270 years.

(concluded next issue)

Sources

1. Zebulon M. Pike, An Account of Expeditions to the Sources of the Mississippi, and Through the Western Parts of Louisiana, to the Sources of the Arkansas, Kans, La Platte, and Pierre Jaun, Rivers; Performed by Order of the Government of the United States During the Years 1805, 1806, and 1807, and a Tour Through the Interior Parts of New Spain, When Conducted Through These Provinces, By Order of the Captain-General, in the year 1807 (Philadelphia: C. & A. Conrad, 1810.)

2. James Wilkinson to Zebulon M. Pike, June 24, 1806, *ibid.*, 108.

3. Pike to Wilkinson, July 5, 1807, *ibid.*, Appendix to Part III, 60.

4. *Ibid.*, Appendix to Part III, 5-51.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (continued)

We then adjourned to the Yost Overlook site where Jean explained the significance of the visual impact on the Camino Real by the spaceport site.

June 14, 2007: National Trust and New Mexico Heritage Preservation Alliance announced the placement of El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro on America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places list. The announcement was made on the historic Mesilla plaza. Speakers were: Daniel Cary, Director, Southwest Office, National Trust for Historic Preservation; Susan Krueger, President, New Mexico Heritage Preservation Alliance; Patrick Beckett, President, CARTA; and Jon Hunner, Professor, New Mexico State University. Mr. Carey's speech is presented on page 21.

June 26, 2007 - John Bloom and I met with BLM and NPS officials in the early morning on the new proposed signage on the Jornada del Muerto portion of the Camino Real. During the late morning I toured the proposed sites of the signage with BLM and NPS.

The afternoon saw John Bloom and me at the second Spaceport America Planning and Design Advisory Committee meeting at the Elephant Butte Inn. The Environmental Impact Statement on the spaceport is due out on August 6th and will have a 30 day public input period. Only areas of the construction footprint will have an archaeological survey for the EIS, not the entire state set-aside. No survey will be done on the Camino Real, so this probably will not be part of the EIS unless you consider direct visual impact from Yost Draw and indirect impact from the closeness of the trail to the spaceport site.

June 30, 2007 - Camino Real de Tierra Adentro trail sign unveiling at Tomé Hill. See the note and photos on page 22 and the back cover.

Patrick Lucero Beckett, President CARTA

Patrick H. Beckett, President, CARTA

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Robert J. Tórréz: Book Review**ZEBULON MONTGOMERY PIKE'S GREAT WESTERN ADVENTURE, 1806-1807 by Jack Kyle Cooper***

The title to this book is a dead giveaway to how the author approaches the topic of this interesting volume. Cooper, a founding member of the San Luis Valley Historical Society, is a great admirer of Zebulon Montgomery Pike and wrote this volume in the expectation that it will enable Pike's "contribution to American western expansion" (p. viii) to be brought out from under the shadow of the much admired and better known western explorers, Meriwether Lewis and William Clark. Cooper contends that Pike's biographers have tended to perpetuate negative images of his accomplishments by attributing Pike with unproven complicity in the Burr-Wilkinson conspiracy with Spain and especially, that he was, as W. Eugene Hollon states in the title of his work on Pike, "The Lost Pathfinder." The author utilizes excerpts from Pike's journals to make his points within the narrative of this "great adventure," emphasizing the hardships he and his men endured. Cooper concludes that their success was due in large part to the fact that Pike did demonstrate the leadership and example that one would expect from great men.

Opening with a review of the pre-expedition lives of Pike and the expedition principals as well as a fascinating overview of the Burr-Wilkinson conspiracy, most of the volume is devoted to rebutting what Cooper feels are inaccuracies and misinterpretations by earlier biographers and editors. He goes to great lengths to establish that Pike was not "lost" and that he was in fact a spy for the United States government acting on secret orders to acquire information about the Spanish territory of New Mexico. Cooper feels that Pike's written orders, expedition notes and maps were an elaborate deception to lead the Spanish to believe he was in fact lost, in the event he was "captured." He also feels that his "capture" contributed to the success of his plan by providing him extraordinary access to Spanish territory, and also that the knowledge Pike obtained gave the U. S. a great advantage in negotiating the Louisiana Purchase in 1819.

Cooper examines in sometimes excruciating detail the notion that Pike was a "prisoner" of the Spanish, concluding that although the Spanish suspected he was a spy, and Pike and his men were in fact detained by Spanish officials and troops, their treatment belies any claim they were "prisoners" in any way, form, or

manner. The author also maintains that Pike's route and the maps he developed were a catalyst for the subsequent opening of the Santa Fe Trail.

For those of us not well versed in the historiography of Pike's "great adventure," Cooper provides an outline of the errors he attributes to Pike's principal biographers -- Elliot Coues, Stephen Hart and Archer Hulbert, Donald Jackson, and Eugene Hollon. Those interested in a more current publication may want to consult the recent release by the University of New Mexico Press of Hart and Hulbert's "The Southwestern Journals of Zebulon Pike, 1806 -1807," with a new introduction by Mark L. Gardner.

There are a number of editorial infelicities in this volume that should have been caught and corrected before publication. These consist of spelling errors, incomplete phrases, and inconsistent paragraph blocking. While the appendix of Pike's field maps is certainly useful, it would have been more helpful if the maps had been inserted into the text where they were referred to in the narrative. These problems, however, detract only slightly from the author's effort to develop an interesting and ambitious case for a re-evaluation of the role Zebulon Montgomery Pike played in the western expansion of the United States.

Robert J. Tórréz
Albuquerque, NM

*Jack Kyle Cooper, ZEBULON MONTGOMERY PIKE'S GREAT WESTERN ADVENTURE, 1806-1807. Colorado Springs: Clausen Books, 2007. Pp. xviii, 214. Maps, illus., notes, bibliog., index. Paper, \$50.00. ISBN 0-9787046-0-6.

MARY HELEN DANIELS TAYLOR

By Michael Romero Taylor

I did not want time to slip by without letting the readers of the CHRONICLES know how much Mary Helen Daniels Taylor, (my mother), did for the understanding and preservation of the Camino Real de Tierra Adentro in southern New Mexico throughout her lifetime. She passed away this January in our family home in the southern New Mexican town of Mesilla, where she had lived for the past fifty-five years.

My mother's 85th birthday would have been today. She was born in El Paso, Texas, the only child of Albert and Mamie Daniels. She grew up within a few blocks of the Mexican border in Smeltertown, where her father was foreman of the cement plant. Daily life along the Rio Grande had a profound influence on her later work as a respected authority of border studies. In 1940, she graduated from El Paso High School and continued her education at the University of Texas El Paso. Once finished with school, she taught second grade at Zach White School and history at Bowie High School, both in El Paso. In 1945 she married J. Paul Taylor. She continued teaching in 1946 and 1947 as an instructor with the English Department at then-New Mexico State College.

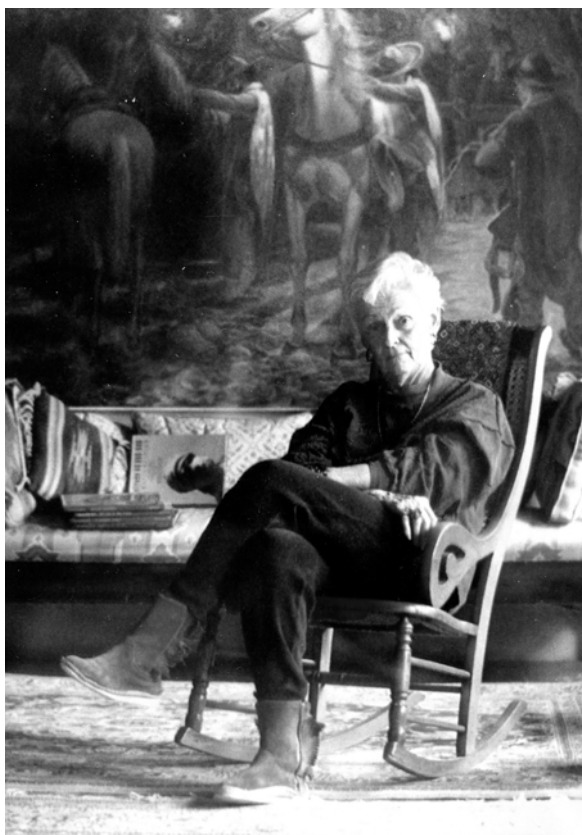
My parents had each visited Mesilla in their youth and both of them liked the small town atmosphere. So, they decided to move to Mesilla in 1947 to raise their family. In 1951, they purchased the Barela-Reynolds property on the west side of the plaza, a former commercial establishment with an extensive residence in the back that figured prominently in the history of the Chihuahua Trail from the 1850s through the 1870s. When they acquired the property, it was an old adobe practically in ruins. But they had the vision and energy to make it their home, and commenced to

raise seven children within its walls, renovating storage rooms and old barn areas and building additions as the family grew larger and larger. The property has been recently donated to the State of New Mexico as a state monument.

My mother became a leading authority on the history of southern New Mexico through knowledge gained while researching primary documents from various archives. She always had musty documents, big thick English and Spanish dictionaries, and piles of maps piled around her. She learned from Margaret Maestas how to decipher Spanish colonial and Mexican era Spanish from the original archives. Her writing partner, Nona Barrick, who passed away just two months prior to my mother, co-authored with Mom the recently published book titled *A PLACE AS WILD AS THE WEST EVER WAS – MESILLA, NEW MEXICO, 1848 – 1872*.

My mother's perspective on the history of southern New Mexico is unique because it derived from her research of primary documents from Mexican archives over the past forty years. Through this research she unearthed previously unknown information on the Mesilla Valley, the El Paso area, and northern New Mexico. She spent countless hours researching ecclesiastical and civil archives in Chihuahua, Juárez, Durango, the University of New Mexico Zimmerman Library, the Palace of the Governors History Museum, the State Records and Archives in Santa Fe, and the University of Texas at El Paso. All the research

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Mary Taylor at her home in Mesilla taken in the 1990s. She is sitting in front of a painting by Ken Barrick that depicts the Mesilla Guard, a militia that was active during the early years of the town's history.

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materials, including scores of maps she generated and collected, have been donated to the Rio Grande Historical Collections at New Mexico State University (NMSU). The records are in the process of being inventoried and accessioned and will eventually be available to the public.

Perhaps the major contribution by my mother to the history of the region was to enable the microfilming of almost all the Durango, Mexico, archives (including some collections from Sombrerete and Zacatecas). This material is shedding new light on the history of the region. These microfilmed archives dating from the 1600s up to the mid-1800s, are being made available to the public at the Rio Grande Historical Collections, NMSU library. Microfilm copies were also made for use at the Cathedral in Durango. Over a period of ten years, my mother traveled to Durango to work with the Archbishop in completing this mammoth task. Teresa Reyes, a great-great niece of Durango Bishop Zubiria and very close friend to the family, was the person in Durango who made the introductions between Mom and the Durango Archbishop and who assisted Mom throughout the multi-year project. Austin Hoover, former Director of the Rio Grande Historical Collections at NMSU, and Tim Blevins of the same office, were instrumental in archiving the material and directing the microfilm process. The Durango Archives project was funded by the New Mexico State Legislature, through appropriations totaling approximately \$400,000 secured by my father, who was a state representative for eighteen years. The project is on-going and funding continues to be provided through legislative appropriations

My mother was the happiest when she was out kicking the dirt, looking for old stage stops or military encampments, and parajes along the Camino Real de Tierra Adentro. She was a real sleuth at finding old trail remnants and archaeological sites. She loved nothing more than to hop in the car with her husband and children, and bounce along dusty, windy roads in search of historic places she had read about while doing research. She and Nona Barrick were always bringing the importance of local history to the attention of the public. For example, they were instrumental in pointing out the importance of Fort Selden to local and state decision makers that prompted protection of the property as a state monument in the early 1970s. It was in the area of Fort Selden that the paraje of Robledo was located, although precise loca-

tion of the elusive camp-spot on the Camino has eluded researchers to date.

Many remember my mother with a camera in her hand. She was an accomplished photographer at a young age. She took hundreds of black and white photographs of life in the valley, of her trips throughout New Mexico with my father, and of scores of area children when she operated her child portrait studio out of the front of the property in Mesilla. We seven kids – Robert, Dolores, Mary Helen, Johnny, Pat, Rosie, and myself – put a temporary slowdown on her professional photography business. When we began drifting out of the house after high school, she once again began taking photographs of the area. Her award winning photographs of Mesilla and New Mexico, (from the 1950s to the present), make up not only an incredible collection of professional photographs, but also an invaluable archive showing the way people lived, worked, and worshipped. Her photographs have also been donated to the Rio Grande Historical Collections and are in the process of being inventoried.

My mother's perspective on the history of southern New Mexico is unique because it derived from her research of primary documents from Mexican archives over the past forty years.

She was a dear friend to hundreds of people up and down the Camino Real de Tierra Adentro from Durango to Chihuahua to Santa Fe. Her many awards through the years, for work in history and the arts, honor her tremendous contributions to understanding this significant cultural route that spans four centuries and connected far-flung parts of the world to the Mesilla Valley.

Michael Romero Taylor
July 8, 2007

On June 11, 2007, the National Trust for Historic preservation named El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro as one of America's Eleven Most Endangered Historic Places, 2007. Mr. Daniel Carey, representing the Trust, spoke on Mesilla Plaza, announcing the designation. Presented below is a transcript of his remarks. Eds.

Good morning, my name is Daniel Carey and I am the Director of the Southwest Office of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Thanks for coming out this morning to listen to an important announcement I am making on behalf of the National Trust.

Before I do, I would like to recognize a few folks who are here to stand with us this morning. NMHPA¹ - Our Statewide Partner (Susan Krueger, President); CARTA (Pat Beckett, President); Dr. Jon Hunner from NM State University.

Let me say a word or two about the National Trust. We are headquartered in Washington, DC, but we stay close to the field via a network of regional offices. The Southwest Office is located in Fort Worth, Texas. We serve four states, including New Mexico.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation is a private, non-profit organization with more than 270,000 members nationwide. We champion the protection and preservation of America's diverse historic places and the revitalization of communities by providing leadership, education, advocacy and resources. As the recognized leader of the preservation movement in America, we seek to rally people and resources around saving the one-of-a-kind landmarks that help us understand who we are as a nation.

Since 1988, the National Trust for Historic Preservation has used its list of America's Eleven Most Endangered Historic Places as an alarm to raise awareness of the serious threats facing our country's greatest heritage treasures. This year, we celebrate the 20th list by calling attention to another eleven distressed American sites, including two in New Mexico: El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro and Historic Route 66 Motels.

What is the Eleven Most Endangered list? It is the list of buildings, sites and landscapes across the country that are at critical risk from neglect, deterioration, insufficient funds, inappropriate development, or insensitive public policy. The list is published with good will – to provide a roadmap for advocacy that enables the public to sound off in support of protecting these endangered historic places.

I am here today to announce that the National Trust for Historic Preservation is naming El Camino

Real de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trail to its 2007 list of America's Eleven Most Endangered Historic Places.

America's heritage is at risk, and El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trail (Spain's historic Royal Road to the Interior) is a perfect illustration of the fragility of that history. El Camino Real is the earliest Euro-American trade route in the United States, dating back more than four hundred years and stretching 1600 miles from Mexico City to Santa Fe (including 404 miles in New Mexico). Though worn with time, El Camino Real still possesses its austere physical beauty, rural solitude and remote isolation. It is also one of the most notable markers of the Hispanic experience in the Southwest.

But a proposed commercial Spaceport adjacent to one of the most pristine sections of the Trail threatens its integrity. The Spaceport's visual and auditory pollution, plus the increased traffic and associated sprawl it is sure to create will alter the area and the heritage traveler's experience.

We recognize that the New Mexico Spaceport Authority is considering several agreements to minimize its impact to the Trail, and we respect those efforts. In addition to those things (no more Trail crossings, low profile design for buildings, burying power lines, etc.), the National Trust urges the New Mexico Spaceport Authority to continue, in good faith, what it has begun (in terms of initiating a dialogue with interested parties) and to commit, in writing, with the appropriate parties, to the following mitigating measures to reduce impacts to El Camino Real:

- 1) Continue to seek alternative sites or move the project within the preferred location to the east as far as possible;
- 2) Secure World Heritage Site status through UNESCO² – this will bring the appropriate international recognition to the Trail;
- 3) Undertake a collaborative process with the appropriate state and federal agencies (SLO, HPD, BLM, NPS)³ to develop and implement a comprehensive management plan and memorandum of understanding that protects the Trail from inappropriate and ad hoc development;

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4) Establish a 20-mile no-development zone around the perimeter of the Spaceport in Sierra County (to include protection against intrusions into New Mexico's famous Night Sky); and

5) No further expansion of the Spaceport.

These measures, we contend, will help secure the future of El Camino Real by creating review and protection mechanisms that can curtail the kinds of development that will violate the sanctity of the Trail – things like wind farms, landfills and mining operations.

The key to securing all of this, and the main reason behind the National Trust's listing El Camino Real on the Most Endangered list, is the active participation by the people of New Mexico in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process as part of the National Environmental Protection Act and Section 106 process of the National Historic Preservation Act, which should begin later this summer. This process is wide open to the public and the more the Spaceport Authority hears from you, the more willing they may be to incorporate your creative ideas into the development process.

Other states envy the historical and cultural resources that New Mexico boasts. This is New Mexico's opportunity to show the way in terms of stewardship for those treasures.

So, the story today and going forward is El Camino Real. Yes, the Spaceport may pose the most imminent, high-profile threat to its integrity, but it is just one of many things that can happen along this historic trail. Our campaign is not a campaign against the Spaceport; it is for the education of and involvement by the people of New Mexico in planning for the Spaceport. We're not fighting the Spaceport; we're fighting ignorance and apathy about the potential impacts the Spaceport will have on El Camino Real and the region. By way of this listing, we hope to spur people to act in helping shape this project. The more knowledgeable, passionate people that are involved, the better it will be for all of us.

1. New Mexico Historic Preservation Alliance.
2. United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization.
3. SLO (NM State Land Office); HPD (Historic Preservation Division, NM Office of Cultural Affairs); BLM (US Bureau of Land Management); NPS (US National Park Service).

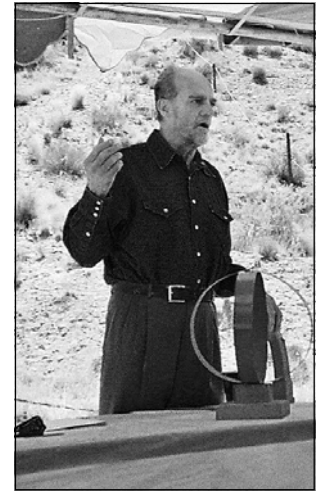
BEAUTIFUL NEW CAMINO REAL SIGN AT TOMÉ HILL PARK

Dignitaries and spokespersons and – yes! – some Spanish *soldados* gathered on the last Saturday of June 2007 to witness the unveiling of a beautiful new National Historic Trail sign, first of a new series, at Tomé Hill Park Along the Camino Real – the full, proper name of the place.

Richard C. Chapman, Director of the University of New Mexico's Office of Contract Archaeology, was escorted by *soldados* of La Sociedad de la Entrada to preside at a colorful tent over a lengthy list of speakers. A considerable crowd appreciated the background information provided and enjoyed the view of Armando Alvarez's remarkable sculptured figures and arch, the "Puerta del Sol" – and at least one wandering roadrunner. See pictures below and on back cover.



Reenactors entering the Park



Armando Alvarez



Unveiling New Sign at Tomé Hill Park Along the Camino Real. An earlier version of this sign appears in the Trail Certification article in *Chronicles* v1 no1, p. 19.

2007 Symposium

People and Places on El Camino Real

Saturday and Sunday, 15 and 16, September 2007
El Paso Archaeological Museum at Wilderness Park
4301 Transmountain Road, El Paso TX

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

Saturday, September 15 – 9:00am to 5:00pm

Session I: Claudia Gallardo, Moderator

Luis Urias: *The Camino Real: How it has changed in 500 years*

Mary Jane Garcia: *Doña Ana and the Camino Real*

Ruben Durazo A: *El Camino Real de Durango*

Jean Fulton: *Saving Socorro*

Discussion and questions

Session II: Ida Baca, Moderator

Ben Sanchez: *San Elizario and its Certification*

Presentation by NPS Representative

Presentation by BLM Representative

Claudio Gallardo: *The El Camino Real International Heritage Center Looks at the Past*

Discussion and questions

Buffet Lunch

Business Meeting, including Election Results

Session III: Pat Beckett, Moderator

Round Table on the Camino Real

Hal Jackson: *Following the Footsteps of Juan de Oñate*

Ben Brown: *Violence and Juan de Oñate*

Marc Thompson: *The Camino Real and Mestizaje*

Sunday, September 16 – Field Trip to visit El Camino Real and the site of Spaceport America

2007 Symposium Registration Form

People and Places on El Camino Real

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____ E-mail Address: _____

I wish to participate in Saturday's program ☐ [The cost of the symposium is \$20 plus \$10.00 for lunch]

I wish to participate in Sunday's field trip ☐

Enclosed is a check for \$20 (symposium only) ☐

Enclosed is a check for \$30 (symposium plus lunch) ☐

Will pay at the door ☐

Please complete the registration form and submit it even if you will be paying at the door. This will allow us to have an accurate count of participants for the symposium and for lunch. If submitting a payment with your registration form, please enclose a check made out to CARTA and mail it to: CARTA, P. O. Box 15162, Las Cruces, NM 88004 USA **E-mail registration only to wmlittle@zianet.com**

Deadline for receipt of registration forms is September 7, one week prior to the meeting.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Trail Associations

CARTA Annual Business Meeting and Symposium, September 15, El Paso TX

Santa Fe Trail Association Symposium,
September 27 – 30, Trinidad CO

www.santafetrail.org

Museums

El Rancho de las Golondrinas 334 Los Pinos Road, Santa Fe NM (505)471-2261 mail@golondrinas.org

Kitchen Angels Lavender and Herb Fair
July 28 – 29, 10 am – 4 pm

Celebrate the revival of the lavender tradition in New Mexico! *Alhucema* – lavender – was brought from Spain to the New World and coveted for its many uses, from medicinal to flavorful. The Lavender and Herb Fair is presented in collaboration with the non-profit group, Santa Fe Kitchen Angels.

Summer Festival, Frontier Days and Peruvian Paso Horses August 3 – 5, 10 am – 4 pm

Meet the colorful characters who put the “wild” in “wild west!” Mountain men and women will demonstrate their skills and spin tales of the past at encampments throughout the ranch. Flint knapping, panning for gold, hide tanning and bow making are just some of the activities your family will be able to observe and participate in. Enjoy music and dancing on our entertainment platform and buy arts and crafts directly from the artisans. Limited activities on Friday.

“Musical New Mexico: A Celebration of Música y Baile” August 11 – 12, 10 am – 4 pm

There's a lot more to New Mexico music than Mariachi! Influences from native cultures, Mexico and Spain will be celebrated, but we will also look at things a bit closer - tracing the origins of Flamenco back to Egyptian belly dance for example, or exploring how countries such as Hungary, Scotland and Germany have made their mark. Local musicians and dance groups will educate and entertain you; and children will enjoy a castanet workshop and making their own musical instruments from recycled objects.

“Food, Art and Adobe: Uniquely New Mexico”
August 25 – 26, 10 am – 4 pm

A million things make New Mexico unique. On this weekend, we'll celebrate three of them. Sample foods made from traditional recipes and using crops grown on the ranch; make adobe bricks and learn the basics of building with them; paint

a *retablo* with a master *santero* or learn to do decorative tin-work with an *hojalatero*. You will leave with even more love for the Land of Enchantment than you came with!

“Fiesta de los Niños: A Children's Celebration” September 1 – 2, 10 am – 4 pm

¡Ven a jugar con nosotros! Come out and play with us! Your children will have fun learning about history as they try on historic costumes of the Spanish settlers and build their very own miniature adobe house. Storytellers and costumed villagers – not to mention burros, goats and sheep - will bring this Spanish colonial ranch to life and inspire young minds; magicians and miniature horses will delight and entertain them.

Harvest Festival
October 6 – 7, 10 am – 4 pm

Bring in the harvest with the villagers of El Rancho de las Golondrinas, crushing grapes for wine by foot; grinding sorghum with burros, stringing colorful chile ristras, and much, much more. Enjoy bizcochitos fresh from the *horno* and tortillas hot off the *comal*. You may also participate in an outdoor Mass and procession for San Isidro, led by the Archbishop of Santa Fe, enjoy music and dancing on our entertainment platform and buy arts and crafts directly from the artisans. You will never look at history the same way again!

El Camino Real International Heritage Center, 300 East County Road 1598, San Antonio NM 87832. Located on I-25 between Socorro and T or C, Exit 115. For info: 505-854-3600, www.elcaminoreal.org

Adobe Horno-Making Workshop
October 13-14 and October 20-21

Día de Muertos, November 3rd, 11 am - 4 pm

Papel picado workshop, storytelling, video presentation, refreshments, and viewing of Día de Muertos altar installation.

Celebración de Otoño: El Camino Real International Heritage Center Welcomes Bosque del Apache, Center's 2nd Anniversary Celebration November 17th, 11 am - 4 pm

Living history demonstrations of life along El Camino Real, staff-led tours, special performances, refreshments.

Lacking a frequently-scheduled newsletter, CARTA tries to keep members up-to-date on events via the Internet. If members want to receive flashes on events by e-mail, and you have not provided your e-mail address, please do so.

Send a short message to Jean Fulton, CARTA Secretary, at jeanfulton@earthlink.net



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Puerta del Sol at Tomé Hill Park Along the Camino Real