



DOMÍNGUEZ-ESCALANTE ROUTE, 1776

THE DOMÍNGUEZ-ESCALANTE JOURNAL

THEIR EXPEDITION THROUGH
COLORADO, UTAH, ARIZONA,
AND NEW MEXICO IN 1776

Translated by Fray Angelico Chavez

Edited by Ted J. Warner

Foreword by Robert Himmerich y Valencia

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Map on p. ii adapted from map in *Utah's History*, Richard D. Poll, ed. 1978. Courtesy of Utah State University Press.

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Cover illustration from Map of Dominguez-Escalante Expedition by Don Bernardo de Miera y Pacheco, 1778. Miera map courtesy of Utah State Historical Society.

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ORAIBI—SANTA FE

NOVEMBER 17—JANUARY 3



November 17

On the 17th, quite early, they brought us at our lodging some baskets or trays of flour, beef tallow, maize paperbread,⁴⁴⁰ and other kinds of food supplies. We promptly purchased what we could, since of what we most needed they brought the least. For lack of an interpreter, we were unable to discuss their civil submission as it was opportune and as we desired it. We made them understand some things, especially the ritual headman and our host and benefactor; they listened attentively, but let us know little else than that they wished to preserve their friendship with the Spaniards. The ritual headman told us that he had already notified the rest of the pueblos to give us shelter and to sell us the provisions necessary for reaching Zuni.

We let them know that we were very grateful for this favor and the other ones we had received from them, and after midday we left Oraibi for El Pueblo de Shongopavi;⁴⁴¹ and, after going nearly two leagues and a quarter southeast, we arrived when the sun had already set, and they welcomed us attentively, promptly giving us lodging. Today two leagues and a quarter⁴⁴² southeast.

November 18

On the 18th, when the Indian councilmen of this pueblo had assembled, along with those of the adjacent ones, Shipaulovi and Mo-

440. A paper-thin bread made from fine cornflour: it tastes like cornflakes and is really the forerunner of cornflakes. It is delicious. To learn how it is made see *Me and Mine: "The Life Story of Helen Sekaquapiewa* (Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 1969), 112-15.

441. The Hopi village located on the southern tip of Second Mesa.

442. Almost six miles. The journal description of this day's travel nicely illustrates a common feature of the diary. The actual direction of travel was first nearly east and then nearly south. The destination of Shongopavi is southeast of Old Oraibi. Thus the "two and a quarter leagues to the southeast" is quite correct.

Oraibi to Santa Fe

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shongovi,⁴⁴³ after we had tendered them our thanks—partly by signs and partly in Navajo—for the courtesies and good reception they had given us, we preached to them; and they replied that they could not parley with us for their being unable to understand Castilian, or ourselves the Moqui language, that we should go over to Walpi,⁴⁴⁴ where there were some who knew the Castilian tongue, and that there, by talking all that we wanted with the ritual headmen and war captains, we would learn about what they all desired.

But when we insisted that, in case they had understood us, they should answer for their own selves, they further replied that the ritual headman and war captain of Oraibi had sent them word to welcome us, to take care of us and sell us provisions, while cultivating our friendship without treating about or admitting any other matter—in short, that they wanted to be our friends but not Christians. This over, we gave the Indian who had lodged us and treated us so well a woolen blanket for his wife, figuring that in this way they would better appreciate our gratitude and would become more fond of us; but it did not turn out the way we expected because, when the Indian woman gladly took it, a brother of hers snatched it away from her and threw it at us with a mean look on his face.

We presumed that his suspicious mind imagined in this innocent act of recompense some perverse motive contrary to our honor and profession, and so we tried to make him understand the true intention with the seriousness and prudence which the case called for. Then the Indian, wanting to make up for the wrong he had done us—although his fault was not as grave as it appeared—put us in another predicament which was even greater than the first as he addressed us a long time without our understanding what he was saying, pointing at Padre Fray Silvestre and Don Juan Pedro Cisneros.

After having made us ponder a great deal, and those who had assembled having left, he said in Navajo that he had learned about what took place in Oraibi when the said Padre Fray Silvestre and Don Juan Pedro had been there the summer of the year before,⁴⁴⁵ and that he had been present in Walpi when the Cosnina man spoke to Padre Fray Sil-

443. These are the two other Hopi villages located on Second Mesa.

444. A Hopi village located on First Mesa along with Hano, a Tewa village, and Sichomovi.

445. See Eleanor Adam's translation of this visit, cited in footnote 437, above.