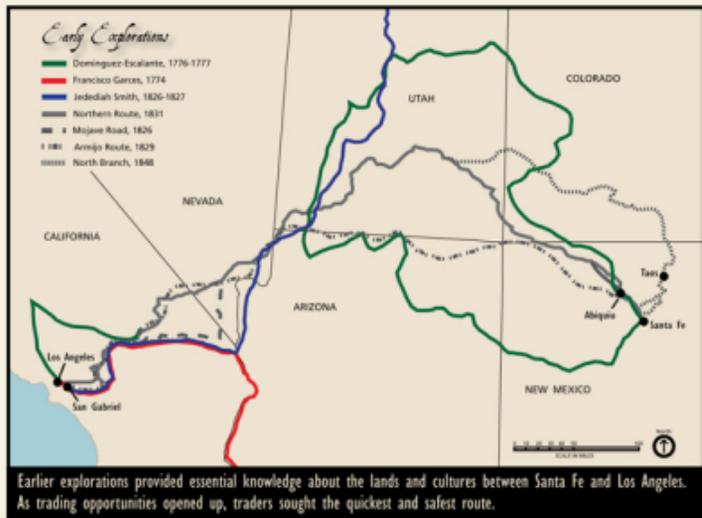


# Timeline

## EARLY EXPLORATIONS

- 1598..... Don Juan de Oñate establishes San Juan de los Caballeros (near modern Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo), the first Spanish settlement in New Mexico.
- 1610..... Don Pedro de Peralta founds Santa Fe, the new capital of New Mexico.
- 1765..... Juan María Antonio Rivera leads two parties from New Mexico to explore southwestern Colorado and southeastern Utah.
- 1774..... Father Francisco Hermenegildo Garcés sets out from southern Arizona to explore a path to the California missions. He follows the Mojave River and reaches Mission San Gabriel.

- 1776..... Franciscan priests, Francisco Atanasio Domínguez and Francisco Silvestre Vélaz de Escalante follow Rivera's route to the Great Basin in western Utah.
- 1781..... Spanish colonials establish El Pueblo de la Reina de los Angeles in California.
- 1821..... Mexico gains independence from Spain.
- 1825..... Antoine Robidoux builds Fort Uncompahgre (Fort Robidoux) near present-day Delta, Colorado, where Indians and traders bargained for goods.
- 1826..... Jedediah S. Smith leads a small party of fur trappers westward from Cache Valley, Utah.



## TRAIL MILESTONES

- 1829..... Antonio Arrijo leads the first trade caravan from Abiquiá to Los Angeles, opening the Old Spanish trail.
- 1831..... William Wolfskill and George C. Yount blaze a more northern route that ascends into central Utah before heading southwest into California.
- 1834..... José Avieta and 125 men arrive at Los Angeles carrying 1,645 serapes, 314 blankets, and other woolen goods.
- 1837..... José María Chávez and family settle in what became known as the Chávez Ravine in Los Angeles.
- 1839..... José Antonio Salazar arrives in California at the head of a group of 75 men; Francisco Quintana carries domestic manufactures worth \$78.25.
- 1841..... Francisco Estevan Vigil arrives at Los Angeles and presents a passport and instructions describing the duties and responsibilities of a commander of a caravan.
- 1842..... A party of 40 New Mexicans from Abiquiá settles at Agua Mansa and Politana in California; Francisco Estevan Vigil and 194 men are issued passports carrying 4,150 California animals back to New Mexico.
- 1843..... Juan Arce hauls merchandise worth \$487.50.
- 1844..... Francisco Bael carries domestic manufactures and sheep worth \$1,748.
- 1846..... The Mexican-American War begins.
- 1848..... Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo ends Mexican-American War; the Southwest becomes U.S. territory; California Gold Rush begins
- 1849..... Commercial caravans across the Old Spanish Trail largely cease as more direct transportation routes develop
- 2002..... The Old Spanish National Historic Trail is designated by Congress