

## LESSON 1

# Spanish Missions

### Read Aloud

*In the morning when the bell rang, Pueblo people came to church. They came from their homes, their fields, and their workshops. At the church, the Spanish priests greeted them. But the priests who had brought their religion to the Pueblo were puzzled. Why did the Pueblo also keep their own religion?*

### Focus Activity

#### READ TO LEARN

Why did the Spanish build missions in the West and the Southwest?

#### VOCABULARY

- mission

#### PEOPLE

- Don Juan de Oñate
- Antonio de Otermin
- Popé
- Diego de Vargas
- Junipero Serra

#### PLACES

- St. Augustine
- New Mexico
- Santa Fe
- El Camino Real
- Texas
- San Antonio
- California
- San Diego
- San Francisco

### THE BIG PICTURE

As you read in Chapter 6, the Spanish settled in North America long before the English. You read how Francisco Coronado from 1540 to 1542 searched the Southwest for the Seven Cities of Gold. By the late 1500s New Spain included most of present-day Mexico, the Caribbean islands, Central America, and the southwestern United States. Spain also claimed parts of South America.

In 1565, to protect their sea routes from the English and their lands from the French, Spain founded **St. Augustine**. It was Spain's first settlement in what is now the United States. It lay on the Atlantic Coastal Plain in the colony of Florida. St. Augustine was founded years before the English founded Roanoke and Jamestown.

Later in the 1500s the Spanish built settlements in the West and the Southwest. Why did they come? What happened when they met the Native Americans who lived there?

## THE SPANISH COLONIES

Coronado did not find gold. But other Spanish explorers kept on searching. **Don Juan de Oñate** (dohn HWAHN DE oh NYAH te), who was born in Mexico, was one of the last Spanish conquistadors to search for gold in the Southwest. In 1595 he got permission from King Philip III of Spain to build a settlement in the lands the Spanish called **New Mexico**.

In 1598 he built San Gabriel where the Rio Grande and Chama Rivers meet. When the Pueblo people fought Spanish claims to their lands, the colonists left San Gabriel. In 1609 they founded **Santa Fe**, making it New Mexico's capital.



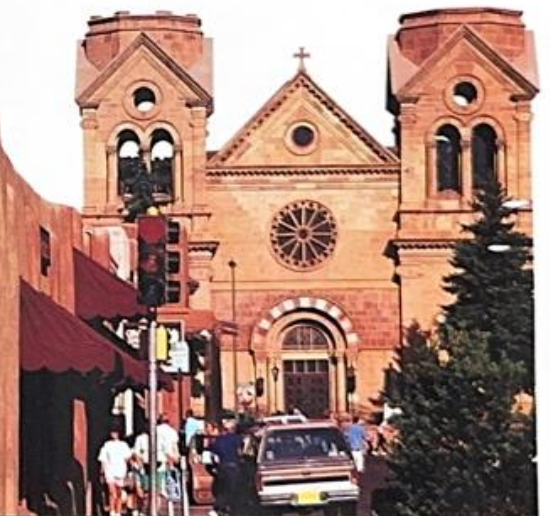
Today Santa Fe is the capital of New Mexico. It is also a well-known art center, famous for its mix of Native American and Spanish cultures.

### The Spanish Missions

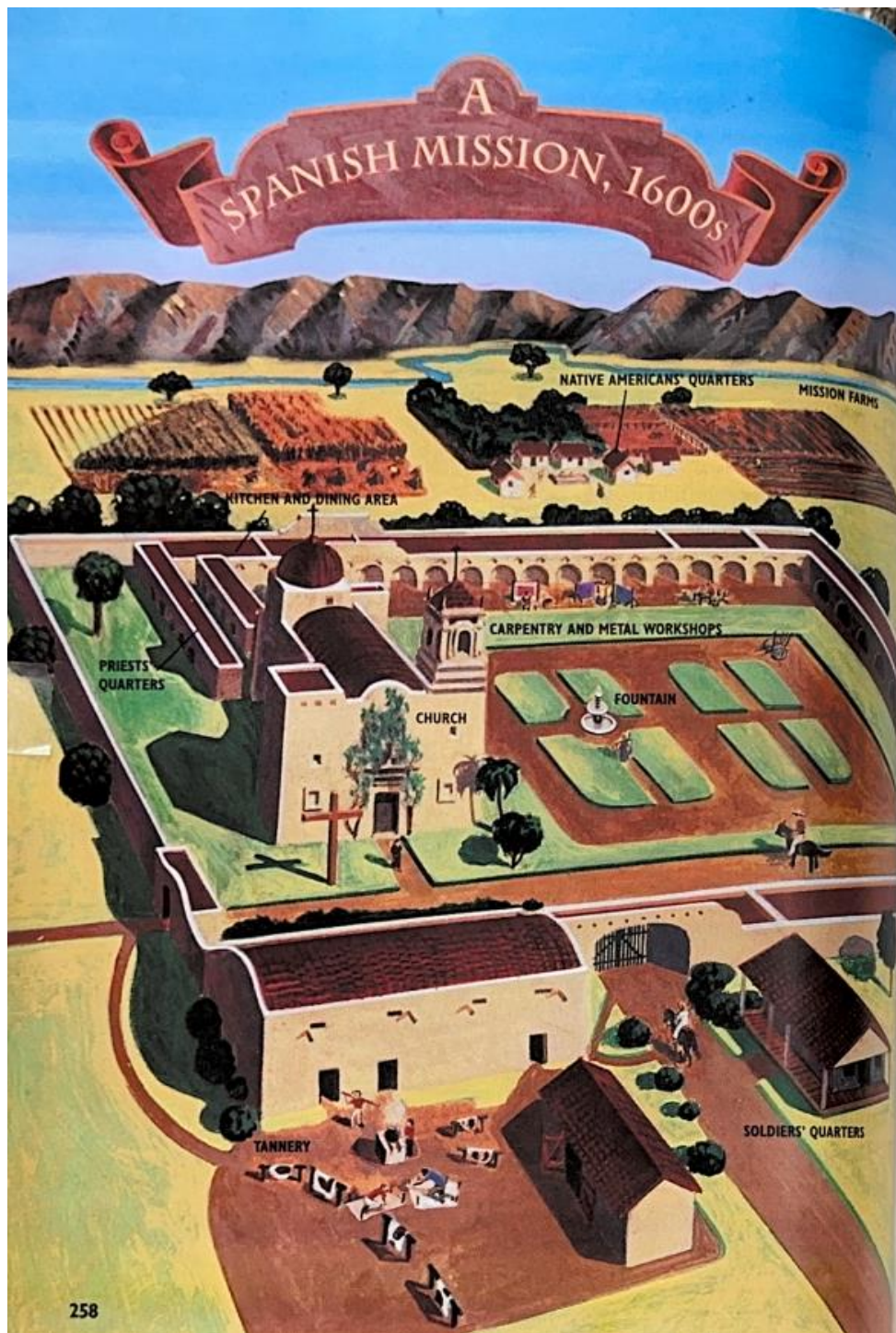
During the next 20 years, the Spanish built over 100 settlements in New Mexico. Many were **missions**. A mission is a settlement where missionaries live and work.

The purpose of the missions was to convert Native Americans to the Roman Catholic religion. The center of mission life was the Catholic Church. The missions also had farms, ranches, orchards, workshops, and sleeping quarters. You can see what most Spanish missions in the Southwest looked like in the diagram on page 258.

Spain's colonies in the Southwest were connected to Mexico by **El Camino Real** (el kah MEE noh re AHL). **El Camino Real** means "the royal road" in Spanish. Part of this road began as Native American trails. Oñate turned it into a major route between New Mexico and Mexico. Many Spanish missions were built along this road.







## POPÉ AND THE PUEBLO REVOLT

As you have read in Chapter 4, the Pueblo had lived in the Southwest for hundreds of years. How did they respond to the Spanish settlers?

### The Spanish and the Pueblo

Oñate met with Pueblo leaders in their kivas. Read this account of one meeting. How do you think the Pueblo reacted to Oñate's speech?



### MANY VOICES

#### PRIMARY SOURCE

Account of a speech by Don Juan de Oñate to the Pueblo in about 1598, recorded by Juan Perez de Donis, a member of Oñate's expedition.

**H**e told them that he had been sent by the most powerful king and ruler in the world, Don Philip, king of Spain, who desired especially to serve God our Lord and to bring about the **salvation** of their souls, but wished also to . . . protect and bring justice to them, as he was doing for other natives of the East and West Indies. To this end he sent the Spaniards from such distant lands to theirs, at enormous expense and great effort. . . . By [agreeing to be ruled by Spain] they would live in peace, justice, and orderliness, protected from their enemies.

salvation: saving

At first many Pueblo took the food, clothing, and shelter the missions gave them. But under Spanish rule, more people than ever went hungry. For centuries Pueblo farmers had given part of their crops to help the needy. Now they also had to give a part to the

Spanish. The Spanish often forced the Pueblo to work for them without pay. They punished the Pueblo for keeping their own religion.

### The Pueblo Revolt

By the 1670s thousands of Pueblo people had become Catholics. But most of them also kept their traditional religion. This angered the Spanish governor, **Antonio de Otermin** (ahn TOH nee oh DE oh ter MEEN). In 1675 he put 47 Pueblo religious leaders in jail. One of them was named **Popé** (poh PAY). When the Pueblo threatened to leave the missions, these leaders were freed. As soon as Popé was set free, he began planning a rebellion.

Popé told Pueblo leaders that they had to force the Spanish to leave. He got the Pueblo to work with the Apache who lived in the countryside. By 1680 the Pueblo were united.

Runners brought knotted cords to Pueblo villages to show how many days were left until the revolt. On August 10, 1680, the Pueblo attacked, and the Spanish fled New Mexico.



## SPANISH MISSIONS IN CALIFORNIA AND THE SOUTHWEST, LATE 1700s

## MAP WORK



The Spanish built **missions** throughout California and the Southwest. Many of them, such as Los Angeles, are large cities today.

1. Which missions in the Southwest were also major settlements?
2. In which present-day states were most of the missions built?
3. Why do you think forts were built close to some missions?



Father Serra tried to treat the Native Americans fairly. Later, he also fought to end slavery.

The missions around what is today the city of **San Antonio** became known as "the Alamo chain."

The area along the Pacific Coast was the last part of New Spain to be settled. In 1769 a Spanish missionary named Father **Junipero Serra** (hoo NEE pair roh SEH rah) walked from Mexico to the land the Spanish called **California**. That year Father Serra founded **San Diego**, the first mission in California. By 1823 there were 21 missions there. As you can see from the map on page 260, missions stretched as far north as present-day **San Francisco**.

Father Serra believed that the Native Americans should "have their own lands and crops so that poverty will not make them [leave the mission]."

Today many Navajo raise sheep, an animal that the Spanish introduced in what is now the American Southwest.

### Texas and California Missions

In the 1680s the Spanish also began settling in the part of New Spain that is now **Texas**. These settlements were built to keep the French explorers and traders out of the area.



## WHY IT MATTERS

In the struggle between Native Americans and Europeans, the Pueblo victory was only one event. It did not stop Spanish settlement. By 1800 the Spanish controlled much of what is now the United States.

Both Native American and Spanish influences can still be seen in these areas. Taos, a city in New Mexico, has a Pueblo name. San Antonio, Texas, has a Spanish name.

## ✓ Reviewing Facts and Ideas

### SUM IT UP

- From the 1500s to the 1800s the Spanish built missions in what is today the United States.
- A Pueblo religious leader named Popé led a revolt against Spanish rule in 1680. But the Spanish returned and again took over New Mexico in 1692.
- In 1769 the Spanish priest Father Junipero Serra began to build missions throughout California.

### THINK ABOUT IT

1. Where in our present-day country did the Spanish build missions?
2. How did Oñate get the Pueblo to agree to Spanish rule?
3. **FOCUS** How did the missions change Native American lives?
4. **THINKING SKILL** *Decide* what else the Pueblo or the Spanish could have done to stop the Pueblo revolt of 1680.
5. **WRITE** Write a diary entry about working in a mission from the point of view of a Pueblo.

## THE SPANISH RETURN

The Spanish wanted to take back New Mexico. **Diego de Vargas** (dee EH goh DE VAHR gahs) led an army of about 200 there in 1692. Without firing a shot, Vargas convinced 23 Pueblo villages to return to Spanish rule.

How did Vargas do it? In 12 years, much had changed. Popé and other Pueblo leaders had died. The Pueblo were no longer united. Yet they had still won an important victory. In return for peace, Vargas agreed to let the Pueblo live apart from the Spanish and keep their own religion.



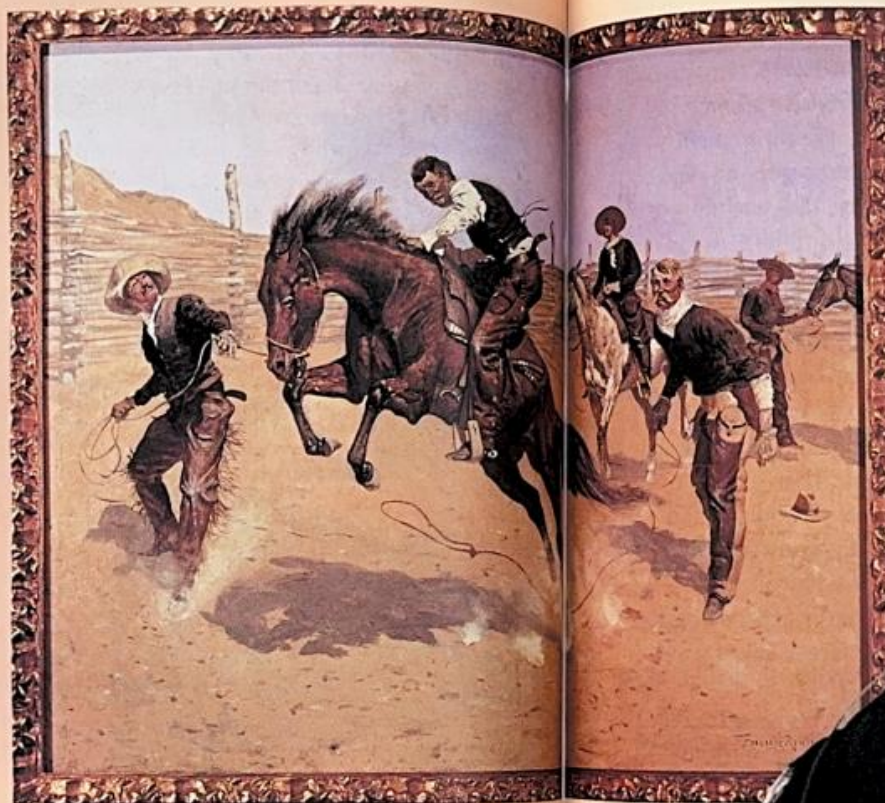
# VAQUEROS AND COWBOYS



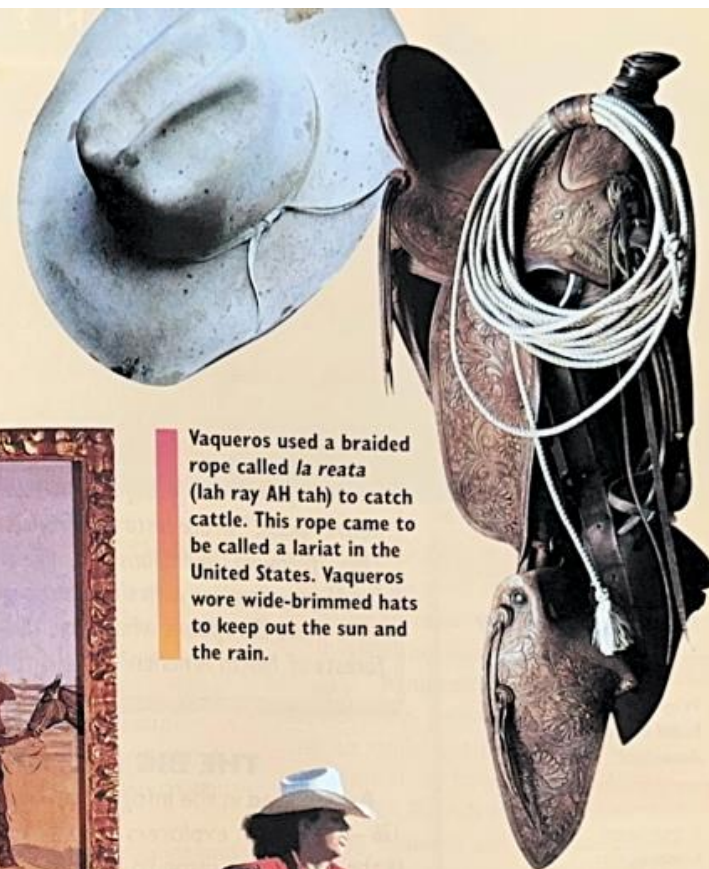
When the Spanish came to what is now the United States, they brought over some of their most valuable animals—the horse and the cow. They also

brought the skill, developed over many generations in Spain and Mexico, of herding cattle on horseback.

Spanish-speaking and Native American vaqueros (vah KAIR ohz) soon worked the ranches and rode the plains of the West and Southwest. In Spanish the word *vaquero* means “a person who works with cows.” The English word for vaquero—cowboy—is probably one you know well. The photographs on these pages show you how the vaqueros’ legacy lives on today.



A vaquero (top left) shows his roping skills. Frederic Remington painted *Turn Him Loose*, *Bill* (above) in the late 1800s. Today women also work as cowhands (right).



Vaqueros used a braided rope called *la reata* (lah ray AH tah) to catch cattle. This rope came to be called a lariat in the United States. Vaqueros wore wide-brimmed hats to keep out the sun and the rain.

