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Review of Spanish Borderlands Sourcebooks: The Spanish Missions of New Mexico

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Spanish Borderlands Sourcebooks: The Spanish Missions of New Mexico. Edited with an introduction by John L. Kessell and Rick Hendricks. New York: Garland Publishing, Inc., 1991. Sources. xxii + 504 pp. \$75.00.

This book is volume 18 of the Spanish Borderlands Sourcebooks series. It forms part of a two-volume collection of writings about the missions of New Mexico before and after the Pueblo Revolt of 1680. The editors note that volumes 17 and 18 both contain "selected articles, excerpts from longer works, and printed mission documents" (p. xiii).

The editors' introduction is a fine analysis of the selections chosen, and the fifty-five references include works ranging from Herbert Eugene Bolton's brilliant and Eurocentric article of 1917 depicting the mission as a distinctive institution of the Spanish frontier to Ramón A. Gutiérrez's recent revisionist study of colonial New Mexico.

Articles selected for this book were written or edited by Eleanor B. Adams, Fray Angélico Chávez, and Alison Freese. Excerpts have been reprinted from Adam's *Bishop Tamarón's Visitation of New Mexico, 1760*; J. Manuel Espinosa's *The Pueblo Indian Revolt of 1696 and the Franciscan Missions in New Mexico: Letters of the Missionaries and Related Documents*; Ramón A. Gutiérrez's *When Jesus Came, the Corn Mothers Went Away: Marriage, Sexuality and Power in New Mexico, 1500-1846*; Henry W. Kelly's *Franciscan Missions of New Mexico, 1740-1760*; John L. Kessell's *Kiva, Cross, and Crown: The Pecos Indians and New Mexico, 1540-1840* and *The Missions of New Mexico Since 1776*; George Kubler's *The*

Religious Architecture of New Mexico in the Colonial Period and Since the American Occupation; Fray Joaquín de Jesus Ruiz's observations on the administration of the New Mexico Missions in *The Missions of New Mexico, 1776: A Description by Fray Francisco Atanasio Domínguez, with Other Contemporary Documents*, edited and translated by Adams and Chávez; and William Wroth's *Christian Images in Hispanic New Mexico, the Taylor Museum Collection of Santos*.

Although the editors' introduction is insightful and the writings and list of references emphasize the declining influence of the friars, their many problems, and the moral decline apparent among the friars by the late eighteenth century, this collection of writings is not recommended. The problem with the book is its fragmented structure, lack of an index, and the poor quality of the reprinted type and illustrations.

A good example of carelessness in the book's publication is found in the excerpts from Adam's edition and translation of *Bishop Tamarón's Visitation of New Mexico, 1760*. It is arbitrarily split into two selections and page 19 of the original work is reproduced twice (pp. 109 and 209). Before continuing with Tamarón's work, the reader either reads Harry W. Kelly's Harvard honors thesis on the state of the missions at mid-eighteenth century or frantically looks for the continuation of Adam's explanation of the bishopric of Durango's claim to jurisdiction over New Mexico.

In summary, both the specialist and general reader interested in the missions of New Mexico after 1680 are best served by reading the book's introduction and consulting the original publications.

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