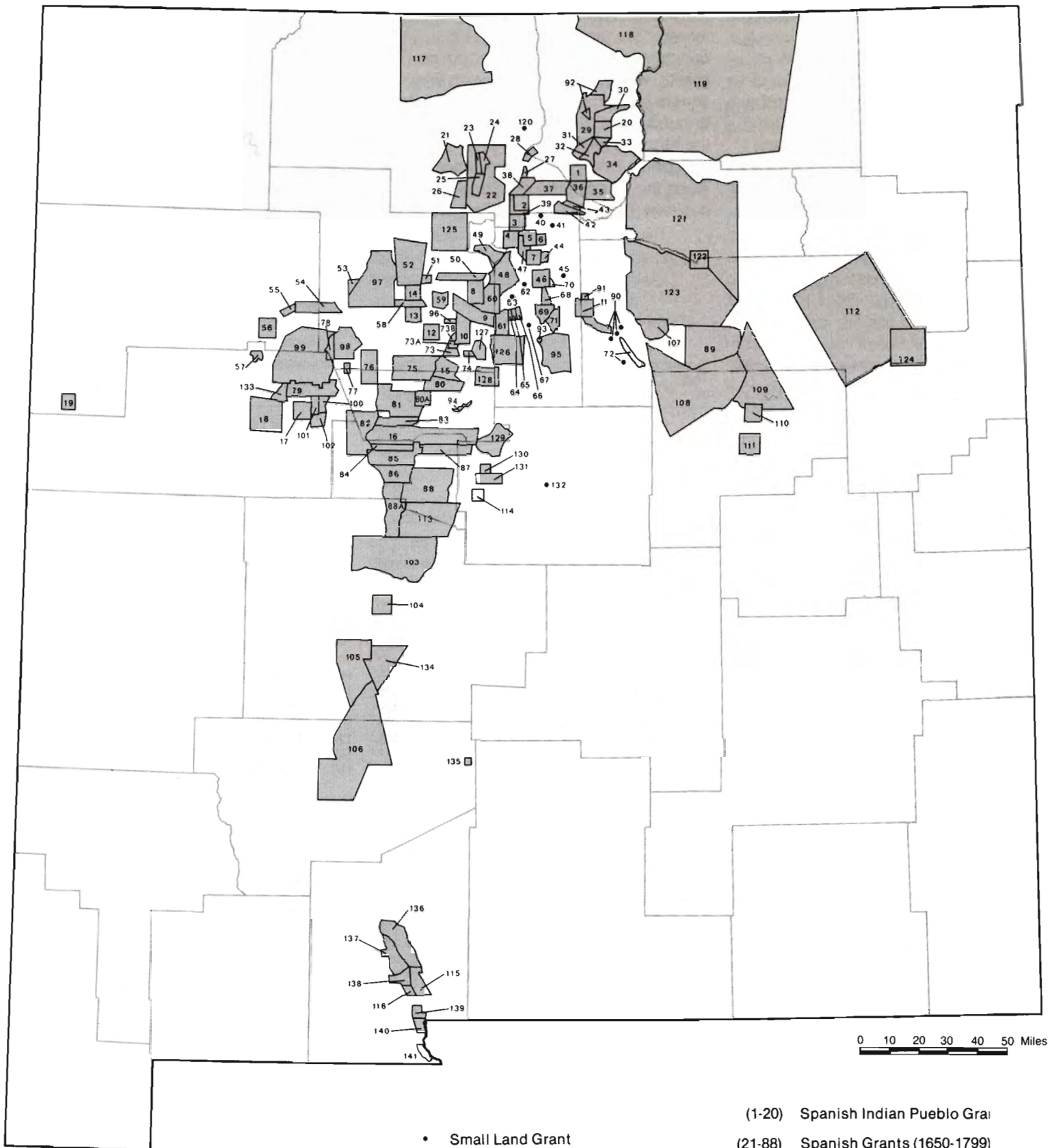


Land Grants



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Land Grants

New Mexico land theoretically belonged to the Spanish Crown following the settlement contract conducted by Oñate in 1598 and, after the Plan of Iguala in 1821, it became the domain of the Mexican government. Spanish and Mexican land grants were designed to colonize and develop unoccupied lands and to defend against foreign encroachment and hostile nomadic tribes. Land grants in New Mexico were

of three types: proprietary grants given to individuals; community grants given to ten or more families or to pueblo communities; and the *sitio*, or ranch, grants, which varied in size from one square league during the colonial period to hundreds of thousands of acres during the Mexican period.

Spanish land grants were concentrated along the Río Grande and its tributaries between Taos and Belen. Mexican grants

tended to be larger and were located on the periphery of existing grants. Texan independence in 1836 compelled such New Mexican leaders as Governor Manuel Armijo to issue massive grants to New Mexican citizens. Should the American occupation of Santa Fe occur, it was intended to keep as much New Mexican land in Mexican hands as possible. Accordingly, large grants such as Sangre de Cristo, Beaubien-Miranda,

Land Grants

Map No.	Grant	Date Granted	Acreage	Map No.	Grant	Date Granted	Acreage	Map No.	Grant	Date Granted	Acreage
Spanish Indian Grants											
1	Picuris	1689	14,959	50	Cañada de Cochiti	1740	19,112	97	Ojo del Espíritu Santo	1815	113,141
2	San Juan	1689	12,213	51	Ojo de San Jose	1768	4,340	98	Nuestra Señora de la Luz	1820	39,184
3	Santa Clara	1689	12,224	52	Cañon de San Diego	1798	116,286	99	Cebolleta	1807	199,567
4	San Ildefonso	1689	15,413	53	M&S Montoya	1767	2,963	100	Gigante		
5	Pojoaque	(1859)	11,593	54	Ignacio Chavez	1768	47,258	101	San Juan		
6	Nambe	(1856)	22,560	55	Felipe Tafoya	1767	4,340	102	El Rito		
7	Tesuque	1689	16,706	56	Bartolome Fernandez	1767	25,424	103	Sevilleta	1819	272,193
8	Cochiti	1689	22,763	57	San Mateo Spring	1754	4,340	104	Socorro	1815	17,371
9	Santo Domingo	1689	65,571	58	San Ysidro	1786	11,476	105	Pedro Armendaris #34	1820	447,534
10	San Felipe	1689	30,285	59	Ojo del Borrego	1768	16,079				
11	Pecos	1689	16,000	60	La Majada	1716	54,404	106	Pedro Armendaris #33	1820	
12	Santa Ana	1689	15,406	61	Mesita de Juana Lopez	1782					
13	Zia	1689	16,282	62	Pacheco	1769	581	Spanish Grants (1821-1829)			
14	Jemez	1689	17,314	63	Cieneguilla	1693	3,202	107	Tecolote	1824	41,123
15	Sandia	1689	22,883	64	Sitio de Juana Lopez	1750	1,086	108	Anton Chico	1822	378,537
16	Isleta	1689	109,362	65	Sitio de Los Cerrillos	1788	572	109	Preston Beck	1823	318,690
17	Laguna	1689	17,403	66	Los Cerrillos	1788	1,479	110	Jose Perea—Los Esteros	1825	17,712
18	Acoma	1689	94,159	67	San Marcos Pueblo	1754	1,895	111	Agua Negra	1824	17,361
19	Zuni	1689	17,636	68	Sebastian de Vargas	1728	13,434	112	Pablo Montoya	1824	655,468
20	Taos	1793	15,400	69	Cañada de Los Alamos	1785	12,068	113	Casa Colorado	1823	131,779
				70	Talaya Hill	1731	319	114	Manzano	1829	17,360
				71	Lamy		16,547	115	Brazito	1823	14,808
				72	San Miguel del Bado	1794	5,024	116	J.M.S. Baca		3,531
				73	Bernalillo	1701	3,404	Mexican Grants (1830-1853)			
				73A	El Ranchito	1794	4,945	117	Tierra Amarilla	1832	525,515
				73B	Angostura	1745	1,579	118	Sangre de Cristo	1843	1,038,195
				74	San Antonio de las Huertas	1767	4,763	119	Baubien & Miranda (Maxwell)	1841	1,714,764
				75	Alameda	1710	89,346	120	Petaca	1836	1,392
				76	Bernabe Montano	1753	44,070	121	Mora	1835	827,889
				77	Cañada de Los Alamos	1768	4,096	122	John Scolly	1846	21,701
				78	Agua Salado	1769	10,693	123	Las Vegas	1835	431,653
				79	Paguete	1796		124	Baca Location #2	1835	99,298
				80	Elena Gallegos	1716	35,084	125	Baca Location #1	1835	90,424
				80A	Albuquerque	(1901)	17,361	126	Ortiz Mine	1833	69,458
				81	Atrisco	1768	67,491	127	Tejon	1840	12,801
				82	Antonio Sedillo	1769	86,249	128	San Pedro	1839	20,094
				83	Pajarito	1746	28,724	129	Chilili	1841	41,481
				84	Gutierrez & Sedillo		22,636	130	Tajique	1834	7,185
				85	San Clemente	1716	37,099	131	Torreón	1841	14,146
				86	Nicolas Duran de Chavez	1768	46,655	132	La Salina	1846	ca. 600
				87	Lo de Padilla	1716	51,940	133	Cubero	1834	16,490
				88	Tomé	1739	121,594	134	Bosque de Apache	1845	60,117
				88A	Belen	1740	180,633	135	B.F. Edwards		640
				Spanish Grants (1800-1820)				136	Doña Ana Bend Colony	1839	35,399
				89	Antonio Ortiz	1819	163,291	137	Mesilla Civil Colony #1	1853	21,628
				90	Los Trigos	1815	7,342	138	Santo Tomas de Iturbide	1853	9,622
				91	Alexander Valle	1808	ca. 300	139	Refugio Colony #1	1852	15,000
				92	Arroyo Hondo	1815	20,629				
				93	Galisteo	1814	260	140	Refugio Colony #2	1852	
				94	Cañon de Carnue	1819	2,000	141	Santa Teresa		8,479
				95	San Cristoval	1815	81,031				
				96	Santa Rosa de Cubero	1815	1,945				

Land Grants

Nolán, Vigil and St. Vrain, and Conejos were issued in northern New Mexico and southern Colorado during the 1840s in the wake of renewed Texan-Mexican conflict along the Río Grande.

Spanish and Mexican land grants were protected under the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo, 1848, which terminated the Mexican War. Hispanic residents were guaranteed the rights of American citizenship, but strict enforcement of treaty provisions was not maintained in the following years. Consequently, land grant controversies have been a major theme of New Mexican history since the 1840s. At issue was the conflict between Anglo and Hispanic land laws and

customs, indefinite land grant boundaries, inability of many claimants to prove legitimacy of titles, development of the Santa Fe Ring and its satellites to obscure and manipulate title ownership, and political and legal entanglements leading to major political violence in territorial New Mexico.

When the office of the United States surveyor general for New Mexico was created in 1854, the survey of the territory was to investigate Spanish and Mexican grants and recommend to Congress confirmation of the claims that had sound proof. In 1891, following unsuccessful efforts, Congress established machinery to quiet title to

these grants with the Court of Private Land Claims. By 1904 the work of this body was ostensibly completed, with a large number of claims rejected due to imperfect titles. There were also a number of fraudulent documents that had to be litigated, such as the gigantic Peralta claim of 12.5 million acres from Phoenix, Arizona, to Silver City. Even so, land grant issues remain vexing in New Mexico owing to the unfulfilled promise of the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo.

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