

Spanish Colonial Bibliography



This bibliography is an overview of books that would have been typical of the very early 17th century in Spanish Colonial New Mexico. As such, the list includes the titles of popular books of the time that the Spanish colonists were reading and carrying with them on the [El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro](#) to Santa Fe. Shakespeare may have read some of these popular works as well.

The bibliography includes a selection from library inventories that were found in New Mexico during the 17th century – books owned by the Franciscan Order, books owned by early governors of New Mexico, and books owned by individuals.

Works from early 17th century New Mexico libraries:

- ◆ Eleanor B. Adams and Frances V. Scholes, “Books in New Mexico, 1598-1680,” in *New Mexico Historical Review*, vol. 17, no. 3, July 1942: 226-270.

A sample of the 76 or more books owned or used by the Franciscans:

- ◆ *Por nueve breviarios a diez pesos cada uno* (purchased in 1609). [For nine breviaries, ten pesos each; a breviario is a liturgical book of the rites of the Catholic Church containing the canonical prayers, hymns, Psalms, readings and notations for everyday use by priests in the Divine Office.]
- ◆ Aristotle, [Topics](#)
- ◆ Fray José Anglés, [Flores theologiarum quaestionum](#)..., Salamanca, 1575-76
- ◆ Padre Esteban de Avila, [De censuris ecclesiasticis tractatus](#), Lyons, 1608
- ◆ Cardinal Roberto Bellarmino, [Dichiarazione piú copiosa della dottrina Cristiana](#), 1598 [An Ample Declaration of the Christian Doctrine]
- ◆ *The [Canons and Decrees of the Council of Trent](#)*, Bologna, 1563
- ◆ Fray Juan Márquez, [El Gobernador Christiano](#), Salamanca, 1612 [The Christian Governor]
- ◆ Ovid, [Metamorphoses](#)
- ◆ St. Augustine, [Contra Faustum Manichaeum](#) [Answer to Faustus, a Manichean]

Books owned or used by governors:

- ◆ [Pedro de Peralta](#) (1610-1614)
Ignacio López de Salcedo, *Practica criminalis ecclesiastica*, Alcalá, 1565
- ◆ [Juan de Eulate](#) (1618-1625)
a book by Fray Manuel Rodríguez, perhaps *Adiciones a la explicación de la Bula de la Cruzada*

[Additions to the Explanation of the Bull of the Crusade] or *Quaestiones regulares et canonicae*, Salamanca, 1598-1602

Books owned by Spanish colonists:

- ◆ Alonso de Quesada
seven books on the divine and humans
- ◆ Juan del Caso Baraona
five books about medicine by important authors [This small collection was probably the first medical library in New Mexico.]
- ◆ Francisco Gómez de Torres
book of papers on devotion
- ◆ Diego Romero
booklet of different orations and devotions
- ◆ Francisco de Anaya Almazán
Curia philípica, Juan Hevia Bolaños, Lima 1603
- ◆ Nicolás de Aguilar
a book entitled *Catecismo en lengua castellana* [Catechism in the Spanish Language] and inside another very small book entitled *Instruccion para Examinar la Conciencia* [Instruction for Examining the Conscience], a booklet printed about the four Gospels
- ◆ Cristóbal de Anaya Almazán
un catecismo y exposicion de la doctrina sancta [a catechism and display of the holy doctrine], Madrid 1659; another small book entitled *Catecismo; Trabajos de Jesús* [Catechism; Works of Jesus], Venerable Tomás de Jesús, 1602 or 1609

General works, typical of the time:

- ◆ Fernando de Rojas, *La Celestina* (1499) (additional material later added and title changed to *Tragicomedia de Calisto y Melibea* – Tragicomedy of Calisto and Melibea)
- ◆ Desiderius Erasmus, *Handbook of a Christian Knight* (1501); *In Praise of Folly* (1511); *Colloquies* (1518)
- ◆ Margery Kempe, *The Book of Margery Kempe* (1501)
- ◆ Garcí Rodríguez de Montalvo, *Las Sergas de Esplandián* (1510) [Labors of the Very Brave Knight Esplandián]
- ◆ Thomas More, *Utopia* (1516)
- ◆ Jacques Lefèvre d'Étaples, *Nouveau Testament* (1523) [New Testament]
- ◆ Baltissare Castiglione, *Il Cortegiano* (1528) [The Book of the Courtier]

- ◆ François Rabelais, [*Pantagruel*](#) (1532) (the first of the pentalogy of novels called *The Horrible and Terrifying Deeds and Words of the Very Renowned Pantagruel, King of the Dipsodes, Son of the Great Giant Gargantua*)
- ◆ Álvaro Núñez Cabeza de Vaca, [*La Relacion*](#) (travel narrative; 1542) [The Account]
- ◆ Nicolaus Copernicus, [*On the Revolution of the Heavenly Spheres*](#) (1543)
- ◆ Andreas Vesalius, [*On the Fabric of the Human Body in Seven Books*](#) (1543)
- ◆ Gerónimo de Santa Fe, [*Hebraeomastix*](#) (1552)
- ◆ Anonymous, [*Lazarillo de Tormes*](#) (1554) [The Life of Lazarillo of Tormes; His Fortunes and Misfortunes as Told by Himself]
- ◆ Jorge de Montemayor, [*Diana*](#) (1559)
- ◆ [*Joan Perez de Lazarraga*](#), *Silbero, Silbia, Doriesteo, and Sirena* (Basque, 1567)
- ◆ Alonso de Ercilla y Zúñiga, [*La Araucana*](#) (1569) [The Araucaniad]
- ◆ Santa Teresa of Avila, [*El Castillo Interiori*](#) (1577) [The Interior Castle]
- ◆ Michel Eyquem de Montaigne, [*Essais*](#) (1580) [Essays]
- ◆ Miguel de Cervantes, [*La Galatea*](#) (1585); [*Don Quixote*](#) (vol. I, 1605; vol. II, 1615)
- ◆ San Juan de la Cruz, [*The Dark Night of the Soul*](#) (1585)
- ◆ Lope de Vega (1562-1635), [*Fuente Ovejuna*](#)
- ◆ [*Tirso de Molina*](#) (1579-1648), *Cigarrales de Toledo* (1621) [Weekend Retreats of Toledo]
- ◆ Gaspar Pérez de Villagrà, [*Historia de la Nueva México*](#) (1610) [History of New Mexico]
- ◆ Francisco Quevedo, [*El Buscón*](#) (written in 1604, published in 1626) [The Swindler]
- ◆ Luis de Góngora, [*Soledades*](#) (1613) [The Solitudes]

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