



Over 290 million years ago geologic forces and the rush of rivers created a natural gateway through the Sangre de Cristo Mountains and Glorieta Mesa. Glorieta Pass became a cultural crossroad through which hunters and gatherers, traders, conquerors and explorers, immigrants, soldiers, ranchers, and tourists passed.

Walk the trails and imagine Pecos through the centuries: the bustling sounds of the trade fairs between the people of Pecos Pueblo and the Plains Indians; the clang of swords and Spanish armor; the smell of incense burning in Spanish missions; the rumble of thousands of wagons traveling the Santa Fe Trail; the gnawing hunger in your stomach after drought killed your crops; the burst of artillery shells at Glorieta Pass. Finally, imagine the careful scraping and digging of archeologists' tools uncovering mysteries of the past, and the sight of cattle grazing under the bright blue sky.

Listen to the stories. Explore the sites where cultural demonstrations and traditional practices continue today—a living legacy of the people who passed this way. Welcome to Pecos, where the past is present.



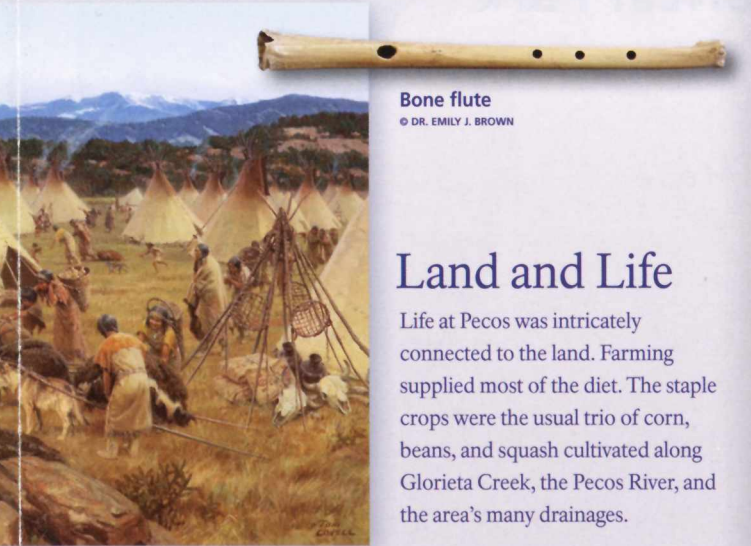
The Pecos Indians were intermediaries in the trade of the goods between people who lived on either side of the

Sangre de Cristo Mountains. They were economically powerful and skilled traders.

Located on the busy trade route between the farming people of the Rio Grande Valley to the west and the Plains Indian hunters to the east, **Cicuye**, later called **Pecos Pueblo**, was built on a high ridge near abundant water supplies. A natural fortress, it grew into one of the largest and most powerful pueblos, rising four to five stories high, home to 2,000 people. The Pecos Indians' life and traditions were deeply rooted in ancient Puebloan customs and religious beliefs. Kivas, underground ceremonial rooms, were connections to the spiritual world. The people believed prayers, rituals, and offerings brought good fortune and helped maintain balance and harmony in all things. The Pecos followed ancestral farming practices and set aside food for winter in massive storerooms.

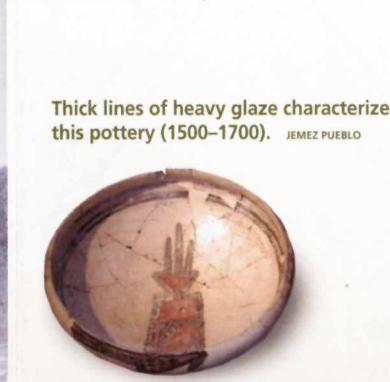


Sangre de Cristo Mountains
HISTORY COLORADO



Sangre de Cristo Mountains. They were economically powerful and skilled traders.

1541 Spain was determined to colonize this land, converting the Pecos and other tribes to Catholicism, creating citizens loyal to the crown. In 1610 **Franciscan friars** tried to convert the people of Pecos. In doing so they destroyed kivas, smashed statues, and banned Pueblo ceremonies. The Pecos resented this interference with their traditional



Thick lines of heavy glaze characterize this pottery (1500–1700).



Spanish cross
BLAIR CLARK

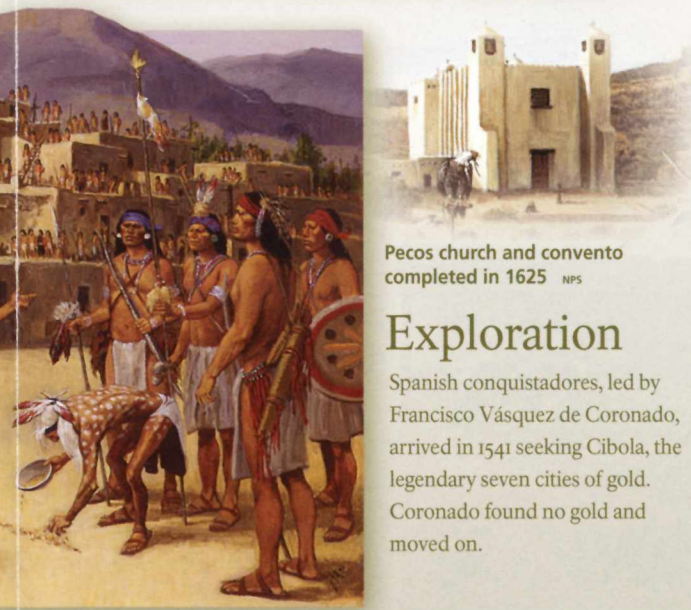
ways. In 1621 Fray Andrés Juárez arrived. He acknowledged the culture, language, and beliefs of the Pecos, while trying to educate and convert them. Under his direction a large mission church was built and relations between the church and the Pecos people improved for a time.

The Apache

Various Apache tribes, nomadic buffalo hunters from The Plains, came to trade fairs at Pecos Pueblo. They brought slaves, buffalo hides, flint, and shells to exchange for pottery, crops, textiles, and turquoise.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

While some converted, many just tolerated the Spanish, paying required tributes, and suffering cruel treatment when they did not. Resentment grew as they were forced to follow religious practices in secret. The Spanish government and Franciscan friars were increasingly at odds with each other as both vied for social and economic control of the Pecos.



The people of Cicuye, called Pecos by the Spanish, welcomed the strangers with music and gifts.

One man worked to coordinate many distinctive groups of Pueblo people—along with **Utes**, **Navajos**, and **Apaches**—to defeat the Spanish. His plan was daring and dangerous. Could it succeed?



Pecos church and convento completed in 1625
NPS

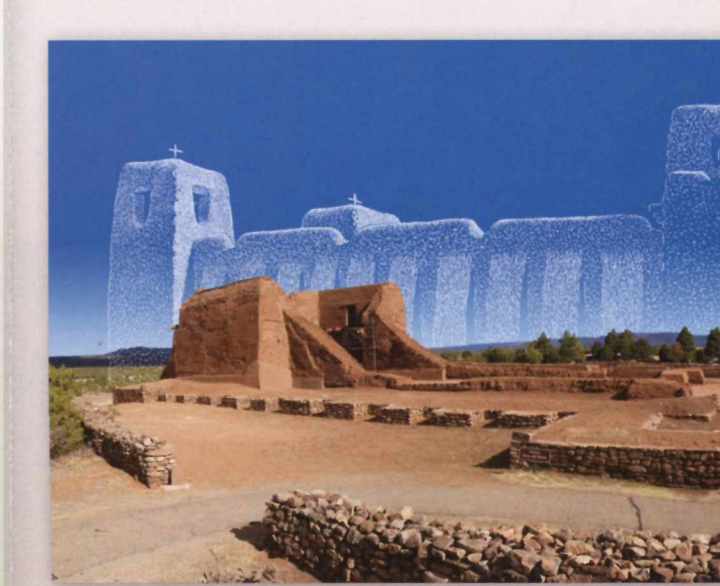
Exploration

Spanish conquistadores, led by Francisco Vázquez de Coronado, arrived in 1541 seeking Cibola, the legendary seven cities of gold. Coronado found no gold and moved on.

By 1680, years of oppressive Spanish control, famine, disease, and Apache raids had taken a toll on the Pecos and other Pueblo people. The Spanish had tried to eradicate every aspect of ancestral Pueblo life.

Po' pay, (1630–1688) a Pueblo religious leader, wanted to end Spanish domination of the Pueblo world. His message was peace, prosperity, and independence. He secretly united many of the separate Pueblos to rise up against the Spanish. Once the plan was made, runners carried knotted cords to the villages. The number of knots indicated the

The Comanche
Once the Comanches, powerful, mounted Indians from the plains, began raiding Pueblo settlements, little hope remained for a peaceful existence.



Pre- and post-Pueblo Revolt churches
NPS

By 1692 the Spanish returned, but this time took a more conciliatory approach with the Pueblo people, their traditions and customs. Working together, the Spanish and Pueblos built a smaller church in 1717 on the site of the one destroyed in the revolt.

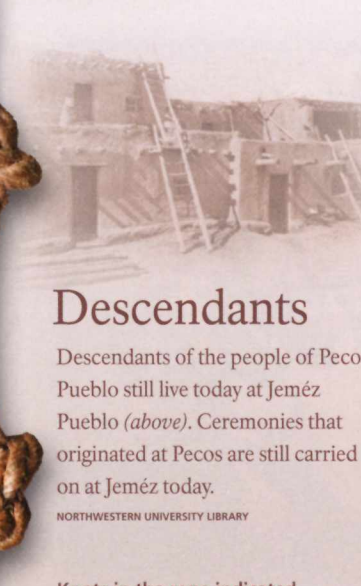
Drought, disease, migration, and **Comanche** raids all took a toll on Pecos, and by the late 1700s, the



Knots in the rope indicated the number of days until the start of the rebellion.

region's population vastly decreased. In 1786, Governor of New Mexico Juan Bautista de Anza led a campaign against the Comanche and signed a formal peace treaty at Pecos Pueblo on February 28, 1786.

In 1838 the last few remaining Pecos inhabitants moved to **Jeméz Pueblo**. As a new century began, new territories formed and thousands of settlers traveled past the ghostly remains of the once powerful pueblo called Cicuye.

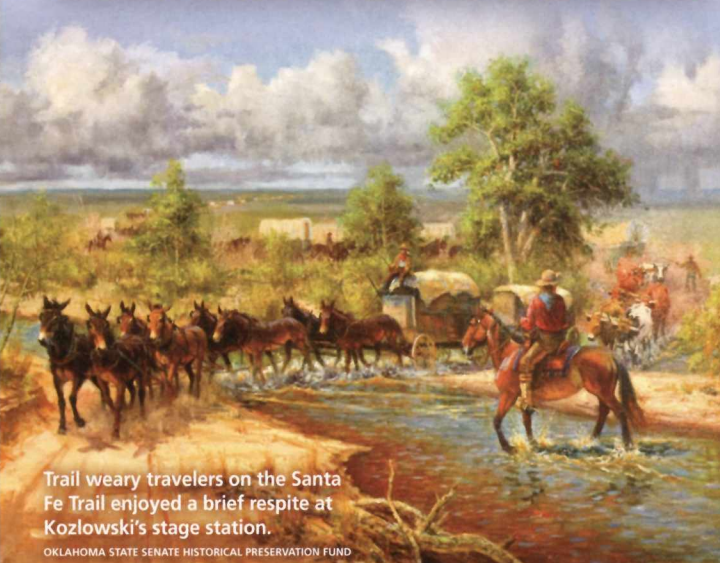


Trail weary travelers on the Santa Fe Trail enjoyed a brief respite at Kozlowski's stage station.

From 1821 to 1880 the **Santa Fe Trail** was a major commerce and travel route. These early tourists often visited the crumbling ancestral site of Pecos Pueblo wondering what people had lived here and what had happened to them.

Thousands passed here on their way west. Look for the wagon ruts cut into the earth. Imagine the creak of the wagons, rattle of the harness and chains, and the dreams that filled the hearts and minds of the men, women, and children seeking a new life.

Martin Kozlowski's 600-acre ranch and stage station, an 1860s version of a convenience store, offered welcome relief from trail life. Travelers could catch up on news, talk with traders, stop at the nearby spring, and even enjoy a meal of freshly caught brown trout. This station closed in 1880 when the railroad made the Santa Fe Trail obsolete.



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Glorieta Pass (1821–62)

In **1821**, Mexico won independence from Spain. In 1846, the expansionist desires of the US led to land disputes with Mexico, resulting in the **Mexican-American War of 1846–48**.

President Polk ordered Brig. Gen. Stephen Kearny to secure New Mexico. Kearny reassured citizens the US would protect their freedom and religion, while increasing trade. He kept local officials in power and paid for corn stolen by his troops. Meanwhile, Mexico expected an invasion and heavily fortified Glorieta Pass with 4,000 militia and volunteers. Having heard Kearny's promises, many men opposed fighting. The force disbanded and Kearny averted a battle, conquering Santa Fe without a shot fired.



Glorieta Mesa rises above the pass.
NPS / JIM EYNARD

In **1862**, early in the Civil War, the Confederacy began a campaign to seize control of the Southwest, including Fort Union and the gold fields of Colorado and California. These resources could support the vulnerable Southern government and secure a frontier to the West.

On March 26 Union and Confederate troops skirmished at Apache Canyon. They rested and buried their dead on the 27th as reinforcements buoyed both sides. On the 28th both forces left their camps and fought for more than six hours over the steep, mountainous terrain. At day's end the Confederates held the field, but learned Union troops had destroyed their supply train near Johnson's Ranch (present-day Cañoncito). By forcing a retreat back to Texas, the **Battle of Glorieta Pass** marked the end of Confederate ambitions to control New Mexico and beyond.



Manuel Chavez,

Lt. Col. of the New Mexico Volunteers, led a small Union detachment behind Confederate lines and destroyed the Confederate supply train. They burned all 80 wagons, ending the Confederates' ability to fight in New Mexico.

NEW MEXICO HISTORY MUSEUM



Confederate Lt. Col. William Scurry leads Confederate forces in an assault on Pigeon's Ranch.

NPS / ROY ANDERSON

Ruins, Rodeos, and Ranches (1915–91)

From **1915–29** Alfred V. Kidder conducted excavations at Pecos Pueblo. His systematic examination of stratigraphy, the study of layered archeological deposits, and chronology at the site revealed more than 600 years of human occupation. He examined trends and changes in layers of cultural artifacts, pottery fragments, and human remains. He is considered the originator of the first comprehensive, systematic approach to North American archeology.



Kidder's excavation at Pecos Pueblo
NPS



Pecos Pueblo pottery
JEMEZ PUEBLO

In **1925** Tex Austin (*right*) purchased 5,500 acres creating the **Forked Lightning Ranch**. He converted Kozłowski's stage station into his ranch headquarters and hired architect John Gaw Meem to design and build a ranch house overlooking the Pecos River. The city kid from St. Louis wore a sizeable cowboy hat and learned to sit a horse, producing his western persona as well as the rodeos for which he became famous. For a while, Austin was able to sell the romance of the old west to tourists eager for the experience. However, he lost his ranch during the Great Depression, and due to financial and physical problems, committed suicide in 1938.



In **1941** E.E. "Buddy" Fogelson, a Dallas oil man and rancher, purchased the ranch, expanded it to 13,000 acres, and raised Santa Gertrudis cattle. In 1949 he married film star Greer Garson. The couple actively supported preservation of the area. Greer told her friend and columnist Louella Parsons, "I am taking to ranch life like a duck to water. I've switched from bustles and bows to Levis and boots, and I think it's definitely a change for the better."



In **1991** Garson sold her ranch parcel to The Conservation Fund, which donated it to the National Park Service. She and Fogelson were honored with the Conservation Service Award, the Department of the Interior's highest civilian honor.

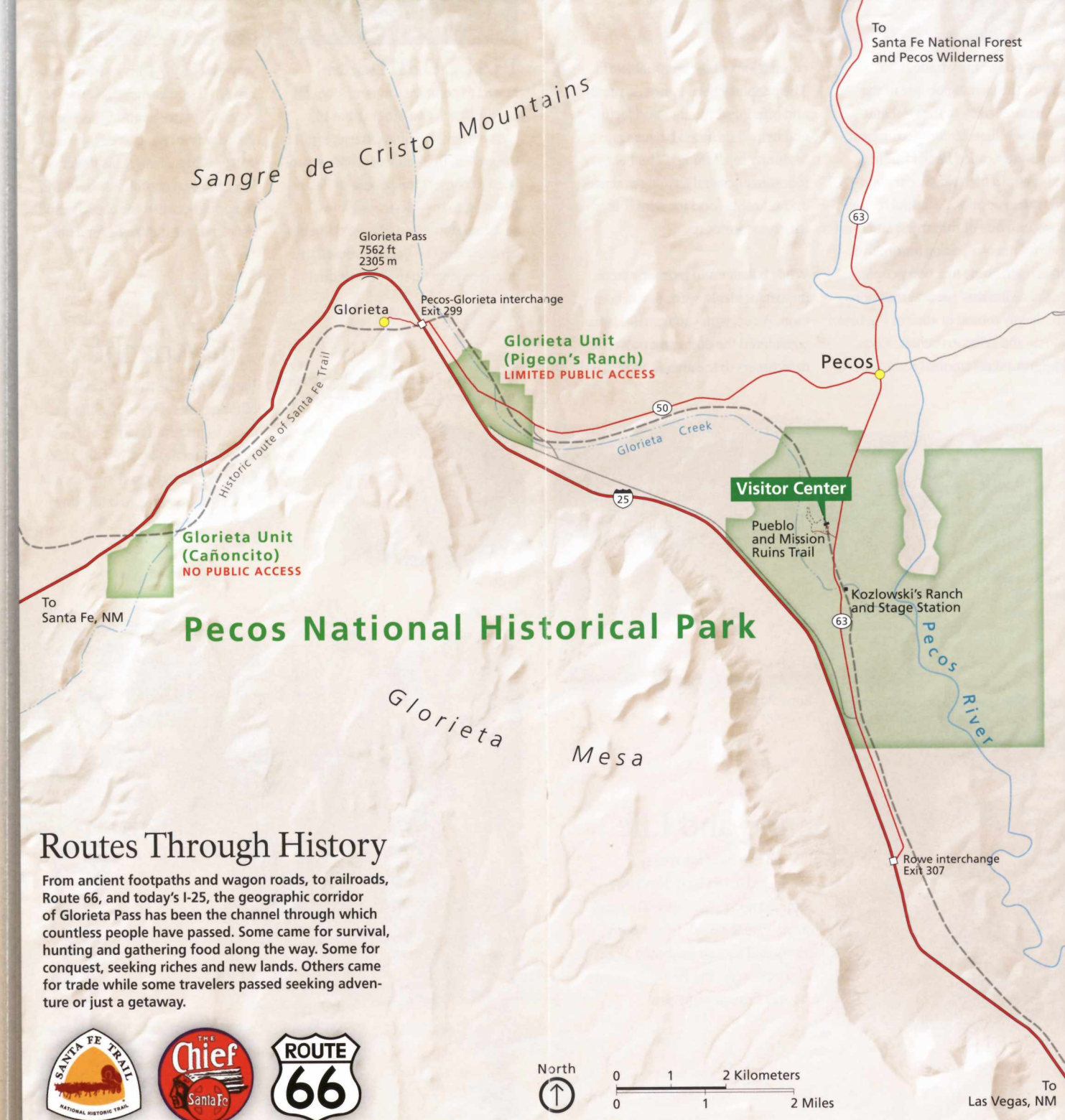


Tex Austin had the Forked Lightning Ranch house built overlooking the Glorieta Creek and Pecos River.

Later, the Fogelsons hosted movie stars and politicians here. Many undoubtedly enjoyed the view

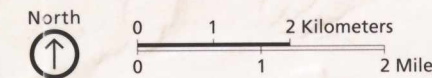
from this front porch. Buddy told Greer, "don't fancy this place up," and she didn't.

AUSTIN-NATIONAL COWBOY & WESTERN HERITAGE MUSEUM; FORKED LIGHTNING RANCH-NPS



Routes Through History

From ancient footpaths and wagon roads, to railroads, Route 66, and today's I-25, the geographic corridor of Glorieta Pass has been the channel through which countless people have passed. Some came for survival, hunting and gathering food along the way. Some for conquest, seeking riches and new lands. Others came for trade while some travelers passed seeking adventure or just a getaway.



Preservation of the Past—A Legacy Today

Pecos National Historical Park was established as a national monument in 1965 and redesignated a national historical park in 1990 following the addition of the Forked Lightning Ranch and Glorieta Battlefield units.

Today the park staff, volunteers, and partners work to preserve, protect, and share the stories of the past, a living legacy.

PLAN YOUR VISIT

Visitor center, ancestral sites, and battlefield trails are open year-round. Please check the park website for specific seasonal hours. The park is closed Thanksgiving, December 25, and January 1. Stop first at the visitor center to see the film and exhibits. Traditional crafts of northern New Mexico are demonstrated on summer weekends. To check on the regularly scheduled guided tours, call 505-757-7241.

A 1.25-mile self-guided trail from the visitor center winds through the Pecos Pueblo and Mission Church sites. Inquire at the visitor center about the 2.25-mile Civil War Battle of Glorieta hiking trail and entrance combination. The visitor center and 80 percent of the main trail are wheelchair-accessible. Service animals are welcome. Audio tour devices are available on a limited basis.

Directions: Pecos National Historical Park is 25 miles southeast of Santa Fe, NM, off I-25. Traveling north on I-25, exit at Pecos-Glorieta interchange 299, go east on NM 50 to the town of Pecos, and turn south on NM 63. The park is two miles south. Traveling south on I-25, exit at Rowe interchange 307 and go north on NM 63 for five miles to the park entrance. No public transportation serves the park.

ACCESSIBILITY

We strive to make our facilities, services, and programs accessible to all. For information go to the visitor center, ask a ranger, call, or check our website.

LODGING AND CAMPING

The park has no overnight lodging or camping. However, campsites are available in the Santa Fe National Forest to the north. Contact: Santa Fe National Forest, Pecos Ranger District: 505-757-6121.

REGULATIONS AND SAFETY

- All natural and cultural features in the park are protected by law. Please do not remove or disturb artifacts.
- Centuries-old walls of former buildings are fragile: do not climb, sit, or lean on them.
- Pets on a leash are allowed on the main and battlefield trails, but are prohibited in park buildings.
- Pecos lies at 7,000 feet of elevation; if you are not used to the altitude, be cautious.

• Rattlesnakes sometimes are found along park trails in summer. Please do not disturb them; report sightings to a ranger.

- Check the website for regulations on firearms possession in the park.

FISHING AT PECOS NHP

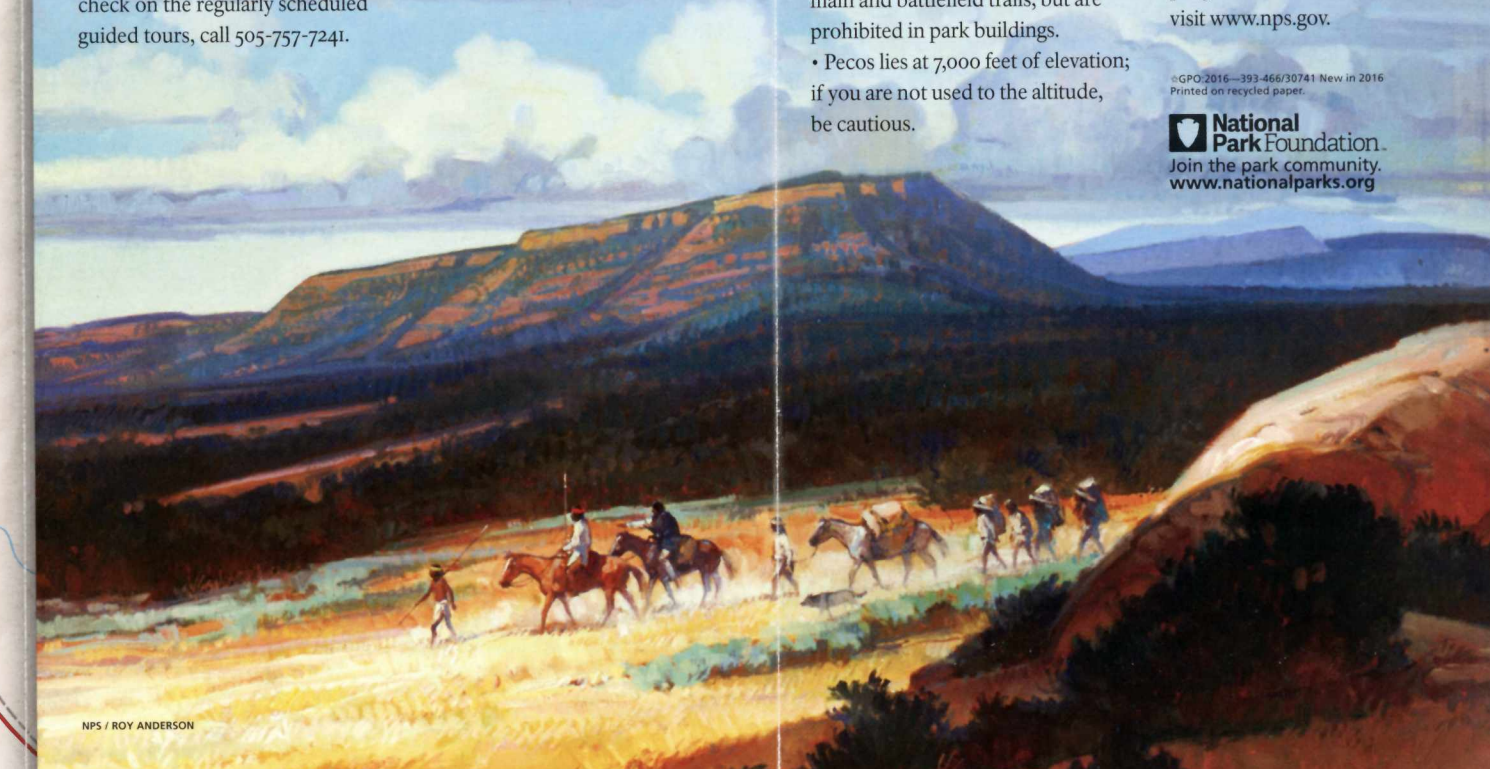
For details, please visit our website, www.nps.gov/peco, and click on Fishing at the Park.

MORE INFORMATION

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