

1821

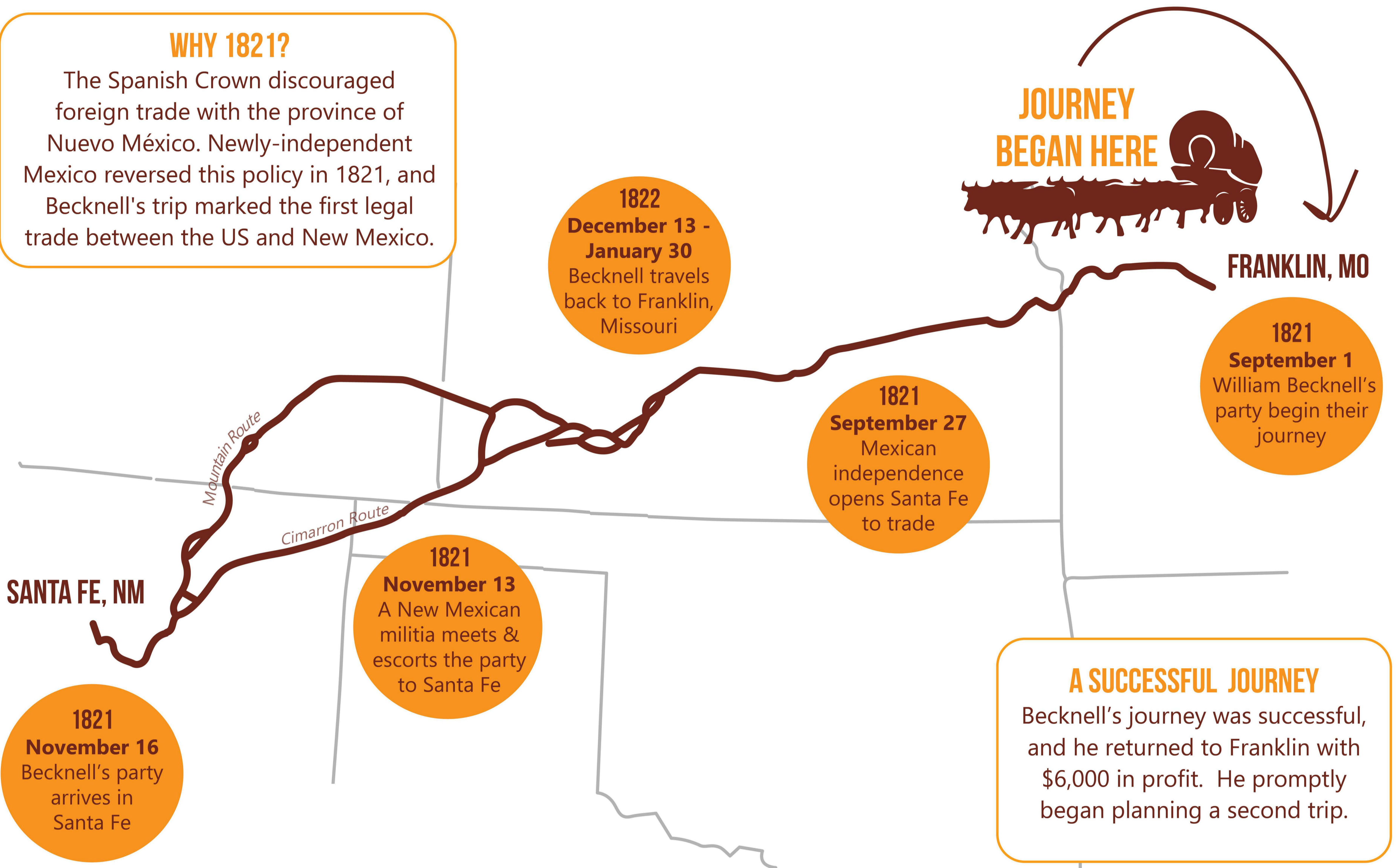
# THE SANTA FE TRAIL

200 YEARS OF COMMERCE, CONFLICT, & CULTURE

2021

## WHY 1821?

The Spanish Crown discouraged foreign trade with the province of Nuevo México. Newly-independent Mexico reversed this policy in 1821, and Becknell's trip marked the first legal trade between the US and New Mexico.



## A SUCCESSFUL JOURNEY

Becknell's journey was successful, and he returned to Franklin with \$6,000 in profit. He promptly began planning a second trip.

## 934 MILES

Becknell's party travelled approximately 934 miles to reach Santa Fe.

## 8-10 WEEKS

For most, it took 8-10 weeks to travel from Independence or Westport, Missouri.

## 2-WAY HIGHWAY

Though Becknell's original route was from Missouri to Santa Fe, traffic was multi-directional.

## IMPACTS

Not only did the Trail move goods, but it also spread ideas, cultures, and people.

## WAGONS & RUTS

Conestoga Wagons could hold 2-3 tons and were pulled primarily by mules & oxen. In some places, you can still see the ruts left by wagons, animals & people.



## TRAIL'S END

By 1866, the trail became shorter as the railroad pushed Westward. In 1880 the railroad reached Santa Fe, ending the trail.

