

OÑATE EXPEDITION FIRST COLONISTS



The inspector at last put in an appearance during the second week of November, an occasion that produced a welcoming salvo of harquebus shots. Oñate went forth to greet him, and the two men embraced in the Spanish style. Then they retired to Don Juan's tent to confer. The new arrival was Juan de Frías Salazar, an aging soldier who had fought with the King's armies in Flanders and afterwards came to New Spain where he made a fortune in mining. Oñate had every reason to expect that Salazar would prove as accommodating as his predecessor, Lope de Ulloa, but unhappily he was in for another jolt.

At their first meeting, Salazar displayed his true character. He was arrogant, pompous, willful, and petty, the sort of man to let power go to his head and assume dictatorial authority. Brusquely, Salazar informed Don Juan that all of his commands must be executed promptly and without challenge. His initial terse order astonished Oñate. The entire expedition, the inspector declared, must start north at once, and several days up the trail he would halt it at his pleasure and conduct the visita.¹

These names are taken from the inspections by the Commissary General, Juan de Frías Salazar, December 5, 1597, through January 10, 1598, with Jaime Fernández, Royal Notary.²

Don Juan de Oñate 1/7/98

Soldiers

Franciso Vázquez 12/7/97

Juan Medel 12/7/97

Juan Ortiz Riquel 12/7/97

Miguel Pérez de Villa Viciosa and one servant 12/7/97

Gonzalo Hernández, wife, married daughter, and son old enough to bear arms 12/7/97

Pedro Sánchez Monrroy, wife, children, and family 12/7/97

¹ Marc Simmons, *The Last Conquistador, Juan de Oñate and the Settling of the Far Southwest*, University of Oklahoma Press: Norman, 1991, 85-86.

² George P. Hammond, *Don Juan de Oñate, Colonizer of New Mexico 1595 – 1628*, University of New Mexico Press, 1953, 226-285.

Francisco Hernández Cordero, wife, and father-in-law 12/7/97

Alonso Martínez 12/7/97

Gonzalo de la Carrera 12/7/97

Isidro López 12/7/97

Antonio de Seriñana 12/7/97

Francisco de Ledesma 12/7/97

Juan González de Vargas 12/7/97

Bernabé de las Casas 12/7/97

Don Juan de Escarramad (sponsored in part by Oñate) 12/7/97

Miguel Montero de Castro 12/7/97

Hernán Martín Serrano and wife Juana Rodríguez 12/6/97

Juan Gutiérrez Bocanegra and son, Antonio Gutiérrez Bocanegra 12/6/97

Manuel Francisco 12/7/97

Alonso de Sosa Alborno and wife, Doña Beatriz Navarro

Juan Pérez de Donís, wife Doña Anna de Herrera, son Fray Gonzalo de Herrera, preacher and teacher in the order of St. Augustine, two grown sons, lay brothers, two maiden daughters, and a married daughter 12/5/97

Captain Felipe de Escalante 12/5/97

Alférez Domingo de Lezama 12/5/97

Francisco Cadino (sponsored in part by Oñate) 12/6/97

Martín Ramírez 12/5/97

Lorenzo de Munera 12/5/97

Alonso Robledo 12/5/97

Pedro de San Martín (sponsored in part by Oñate) 12/6/97

Captain and Alférez Francisco de Sosa Peñalosa, wife Doña Euphemia, daughter Doña Juana de Trejo, married to Diego de Zubía, captain and purveyor of this army, son Francisco de Sosa Peñalosa, son Estevan Illán de Sosa married to Doña Juana de Argüello 12/7/97

Contador Alonso Sánchez, Contador of Public Treasury (accountant), wife and children 12/7/97

Captain Marcos Farfán de los Godos, and servants Pedro de Rivas and Hernando Rascón 12/7/97

Captain Don Luis Gasco de Velasco, wife Doña Isabel 12/7/97

Captain Gerónimo Márquez, five children male and female 12/7/97

Captain Alonso Gómez Montesinos 12/7/97

Alonso de Quesada, three servants, two men, one of which is married to a female servant, and one soldier 12/7/97

Juan del Caso Baraona 12/7/97

Cristóbal López 12/7/97

Andrés Pérez 12/7/97

Luis de Araujo 12/7/97

Lucas de Tordesillas 12/7/97

Hernando Hinojos and Sebastián Rodríguez, brothers 12/7/97

Juan Pérez de Bustillo, wife, seven daughters and two grown sons 12/6/97

Francisco Sanchez (caudillo, a military leader, under Captain Alonso Gómez) 12/7/97

Antonio Hernández (soldier under Captain Gregorio Márquez) 12/7/97

León de Ysasti 12/7/97

Pedro de Sariñana 12/7/97

Juan de León 12/7/97

Juan de Griego 12/8/97

Gaspar López de Tabora (sponsored a soldier named Antonio Rogriguez) 12/6/97

Alférez Bartomolé Romero, wife Dona Lucia Lopez, household and family 12/8/97

Alférez Pedro Robledo (company of Captain Alonso de Sosa Albornoz), and four sons, Diego Robredo, Alonso Robredo, Pedro Robredo, and Francisco Robredo 12/6/97

Alférez Bartomolé González de Almaguer, several servants (one armed) 12/8/97

Juan de Pedraza 12/8/97

Alonso Martín (sponsored by Oñate – it's not clear if an Alonso Martínez, also sponsored by Oñate, is a separate person) 12/6/97

Alonso Varela 12/6/97

Manuel Díaz 12/6/97

Pedro Varela 12/6/97

Asensio de Arechuleta 12/6/97

Cristóbal Sánchez and Juan Rodríguez (brothers) 12/7/97

Captain Pablo de Aguilar Ynosoja 12/8/97

Joseph Brondate (stated he could not go on the expedition due to 'pressing matters') 12/8/97

Martín Carrasco, and a servant 12/9/97

Juan Rogríguez 12/8/97

Captain Juan Moreno de la Rua 12/9/97

Marcos Cortés 12/9/97

Captain Marcelo de Espinosa 12/5/97

Juan de Victoria 12/11/97

Alférez Alonso Núñez Hinojosa (sponsored by Oñate) 1/6/98

Sargento Mayor Vicente de Zaldívar (nephew of Oñate) 12/8/97. His brother's name, Maese de Campo Juan de Zaldívar, is missing from these rolls).³

³ Simmons, *The Last Conquistador*, 33.

Captain Gregorio de César 12/13/97

Sargento Rodrigo Zapata 12/9/97

Juan Velarde Colodro (Oñate's private secretary) 12/8/97

Lorenzo Salado de Ribadeneyra (Oñate's valet), one male servant 12/8/97

Isidro Suárez de Figueroa (sponsored by Oñate) 1/6/98

Alférez Juan de Victoria Carvajal (probably Vitoria not Victoria), two grown sons Gerónimo and Estevan, and one male servant 12/8/97

Francisco García, wife, and small daughter 12/8/97

Franciso Hernández Guillén (sponsored by Oñate), wife, two daughters, one married, a son-in-law, and a grand-daughter 12/8/97

Francisco Sánchez, one male Indian servant 12/16/97

Alférez Diego Núñez de Chaves (Alférez to Captain Bartolome de Cardenas) 12/15/97

Rodrigo Belmán (sponsored by Oñate) 1/4/98

Cristóbal Pérez (sponsored by Oñate) 1/4/98

Juan de Medina (sponsored by Oñate) 1/4/98

Juan Ximénez (sponsored by Oñate) 1/4/98

Diego Hernández (sponsored by Oñate) 1/7/98

Diego Castilla (sponsored by Oñate) 1/7/98

Isidro Juárez (sponsored by Oñate) 1/7/98

Juan Guerra (sponsored by Oñate) 1/7/98

Diego Landín (sponsored by Oñate) 1/7/98

Jorge de Zumaya (sponsored in part by Oñate)

Bartolomé de Herrera (sponsored in part by Oñate)

Captain Gaspar Perez de Villagrà (missing from the rolls)

Franciscan Missionaries

Father Rodrigo Duran (left the expedition just before it started)

Fray Cristóbal de Salazar (Onate's cousin)

Fray Diego Márquez (was reassigned just before the expedition started)

Three Priests and a lay brother (probably all these left with Fr. Duran)

Replacements (ten priests and lay brothers) arrived 3/3/98:

Fray Alonso Martínez (commissary)

Settlers

Conspicuously missing from these rolls are Don Juan Onate's son, Cristóbal, and many women and children and other relatives of the men who are listed above.

Equipment Lists

From "Don Juan de Onate, Colonizer of New Mexico 1595-1628" by George P.

Hammond and Agapito Rey, UNM Press, 1953. These lists are from the inspection by Juan de Frias Salazar.

Don Juan de Onate: two carts with iron-rimmed wheels; two state coaches (one was being repaired); 25 mules with sets of harness, pads and girths; 14 saddles (6 sillas estradiotas and 6 sillas jinetas, and two sillas de armas [heavy saddles]), 119 horses (many "old nags").

Armor: 6 leather shields, 6 lances, 12 halberds, 6 arquebuses, 6 swords and daggers, 6 corselets (one with a Burgundian helmet and greaves)[corselets are breast and back plates], 5 buckskin jackets and 2 of chamois (gamuza).

Personal Armor: 10 coats of mail, 7 bevors, 10 cuisses, 1 arquebus, 1 small-caliber gun (esmeril), with chamber, and two small bronze pieces with chambers.

Soldiers:

BANNERS

1 (damask with a picture of Christ in the center, images of our Lady and Saint John on the sides, and on the back a picture of Saint James, the whole thing embroidered in gold),

1 (taffeta banner of white blue, yellow, and red, with two figures, Santa Anna in the company of her blessed grandson and our Lady, and on the back San Diego, the whole thing embroidered in gold and silver),

FIREARMS

Harquebuses – 81.

Muskets – 6.

Large Harquebuses – 1.

Wheel-lock harquebuses – 7.

Hammer Harquebuses – 2.

Escopetas – 2.

Pistols – 4.

BLADE WEAPONS

Swords – 69.

Arms for a Servant – 1.

Cutlass – 1.

Machetes – 3 (as presents for the Indians).

Fencing Foils – 8.

Daggers – 17.

POLE ARMS

Lances – 6.

Short Lances – 1.

Captain's Lances – 2.

Jineta Lances – 3.

Javelins – 5 (one is referred to as a gorguz).

Halberds – 6.

Hooked Blades (dale or hoz, many with the hook turned down “un dale con su media luna abejo) – 22. The authors believed that the hooked blade was similar a scythe or sickle, but this doesn't make any sense since it was usually listed with the weapons.

Hocking Blades (desjarretadera) – 6. The authors believed that the hocking blades resembled the English billhook which was used for hocking cattle. But I think it was the half-moon shaped blade on a pole that was used for hocking cattle. It was also sometimes used as a weapon (remember the officer in the movie “Alatriste” who was caught on the neck with one). The half-moon blade could be facing out from the length of the pole or facing to one side, as described above.

SHIELDS

Shields – 7.

Shield (Chimal) – 1.

Castilian Shields – 1.

Fregenal Leather Shields – 4. Fregenal is a city in Spain in the Province of Badajoz.

Leather Shields – 9.

Tehuantepec Round Shields – 3. Tehuantepec is a city in Mexico in Oaxaca Province.

Barcelona Bucklers – 2. Barcelona is a Spanish City in Catalonia.

Native Shields – 5.

HELMETS AND BEVORS

Helmets – 11 (most of the men did not elaborate on what type of helmet).

Casques with Bevors – 8. A casque is an open-faced helmet. Technically, modern helmets are casques.

Helmets with Bevors – 26. Some helmets such as Burgundian helmets have bevors attached; bevors cover the lower face of the individual, leaving only the eye showing between the bevor and the helmet.

Iron Morions – 2. Morions are open-faced helmets with the front and back brims turned up.

Bevors – 53 (two are referred to “with case”). Bevors can also be separate from the helmets.

Bevors of Chain mail – 18. These are usually hoods of chain mail that cover the head – all but the face, sometime all but the eyes. Helmets can be worn over this type of bevor. Pairs of Bevors – 2 (?).

BODY ARMOR

Complete Sets of Armor – 3. Many men mentioned a “complete set of armor” and elaborated this set as composed of a coat of chain mail, cuisse or cuisses, and a bevor.

Coats of Mail – 97.

Mailed Gloves – 1.

Tough Coats of Mail (jacerina) – 1.

Fine coats of Mail – 3.

Coarse Coats of Mail – 2.

Jackets of Mail – 6 (one is referred to as a “jaco, with sleeves”).

Breeches of Mail – 2.

Buckskin Jackets – 28.

Castilian Buckskin Jackets – 1.

Leather jackets – 9.

Chamois coats (gamuza) – 9.

Chamois Jackets – 2.

Short Jackets – 3.

Breastplates – 29. One man declared 26 breastplates with sleeves of mail. No elaborated whether they also had a back plate or not.

Cuisses – 56. Note: ‘Cuisse’ is a French word meaning “thigh” so these are leg or upper leg coverings, usually to the knee. They could be made of plate, chain mail, leather, or padded cloth. I interpreted the entries listed as “some cuisses” as one set. Some of the men mentioned one cuisse which could have been the skirt type instead of separate leggings.

Cuisse – 33. As mentioned above I believe that these are the skirt type.

Mail Cuisses – 4 Four men specifically mentioned that their cuisses were made of chain mail.

TRANSPORTATION

Carts (some with iron rims) – 41. Some are mentioned as having iron rims, one is listed “with an awning” or “covered” (embrejado), one with a bell, one is described as a “wagon” (carro), and two carts are called “carretas”.

Horses (all types) – 1157. I didn’t separate war horses from riding horses, ponies or mares.

Horses and Mules (counted together) – 70.

Mules – 65.

Teams of Mules – 1

Asses – 4.

Jackasses – 6.

Oxen – 356. In addition, two “teams” of unspecified number are listed

Saddles – 6 (unspecified type).

Bridona Saddles – 4. The authors believe these are similar to sillas de armas.

Bridle Saddles (brida) – 14.

Jineta Saddles – 138.
Estradiota Saddles – 30.
Side Saddles – 2.
Pack Saddles – 5.
Bridles – 5.
Native Bridles – 4.
Halters – 2.
Horse Armor – 99. Horse armor is often listed as “some horse armor” which is impossible to quantify so this number may be off.
Buckskin Horse Armor – 11. These were listed specifically.
Fregenal Horse Armor – 1

TENTS

Tents – 12 (1-34 yards of frieze, 1-large of frieze, 1-60 yards of frieze, 1 large canvass, 1-54 yards of frieze, 1 tent, 1 small of frieze, 1-35 yards of frieze, 1-30 yards of frieze, 1-30 yards of frieze, 1-40 yards of frieze). It’s possible that many people did not declare their tents. The dictionary defines frieze as a heavy durable coarse wool and shoddy fabric.

LIVESTOCK TOOLS

Branding irons – 1.
Currycombs – 6.
Goad sticks – 4.
Hocking blades (mentioned above in arms).
Hoof-Parers – 2.
Horseshoes 133 (with thousands of nails).
Lancets (for bleeding horses) – 1.
Spurs (pairs) – many.
Tool Sets (for shoeing horses probably including a hammer, tongs, and hoof-parer) – 10.

SMITHING TOOLS

Anvils – 4.
Blacksmith vise – 1.
Chains – 1 (with collars), 1 (with eight collars), 1 (with collars).
Forge tools and a vise for repairing harquebuses and mining equipment, making nails, and other blacksmith work.
Hammers – 5 (1 wagon-maker’s hammer).
Iron Machine (ingenio) for extracting Silver – 1.
Iron Wheel rims – 10.
Many pounds of iron tools and extra iron.
Portable Forges (bellows with pipes) – 6 (2 for smelting silver).
Set of Iron Tools – 1.
Tongs – 2.

ARMS AND ARMOR TOOLS

Granulator (to granulate gunpowder) – 1.
Grindstones – 5.

Gunpowder – lots.

Iron parts for Harquebus locks (i.e., wheels, screws, wheel covers, little chains, etc).

Lead – lots of lead to make bullets.

Molds for making shot and gunner's ladles – 2.

Pieces of Mail – (many extra pieces).

Pincers (to mend chain mail – 3.

Punches and tools for making arms – 1.

Tap and Die Set – 1 (for making harquebus screws).

Tool to dismount Harquebus Levers – 1.

CARPENTRY AND GENERAL TOOLS

Tool Kit – complete set of carpentry and harquebus stock making tools.

Punches – 4.

Augers – 21.

Barrels with hoops – 9 (some for water and at least 1 for wine) .

Axes – 72.

Saws – 8.

Files – 13.

Pickaxes – 5.

Wedges – 4.

Carpenter's Blocks – 2 (sets?).

Padlocks – 4.

Balance – 1.

Crowbars – 2.

Sledge Hammers – 2.

Hammer-adze – 1.

Chisels – 22.

Adzes – 22.

A complete set of tools (?).

Wood cutting blades – 2.

Heal knife (shoemakers) – 1.

FARMING TOOLS

Plowshares – 7.

Hoes – 23.

Sickles – 30.

Hooked Blades (mention above in arms).

SACRAMENTAL

Sacred Vestments for saying Mass – 1 box.

Bells – 1.

MEDICAL TOOLS

Fleam (for bleeding) – 1. Bleeding tools were the traditional arena of the barber.

Rock Sulphor – 6 pounds. Sulfur was used as a medicinal tonic and laxative, in skin treatments, and as a as a mild reducing and antibacterial agent.

5 pounds of medicines (by recognized masters); and “some pharmaceuticals”.
2 cases of instruments for bloodletting and draining.
One set of Surgical instruments.
One syringe and 4 cupping glasses.

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

Boxes or bags of clothing and linens.
Needles, thimbles, scissors, white thread and silk thread of all colors.
One gross of buttons.
Six dozen ribbons.
Eight sacks of frieze.
Alum – 2 pounds. Alum was used as a water purifier and a dye fixer.
Verdigris – 2 pounds. Verdigris is the green compound that forms on copper. It is used as a pigment in paint and in dyeing.
One hundred cakes of soap.
Books – 7 (religious and nonreligious).
Extra shoes and boots for men and women (many).
Earrings (for barter).
Beads.
Hawks bells – 18.
Needles – 400.

COOKING/DINING TOOLS

Boilers (copper) – 3.
Comals (iron) – 8. Comals are flat griddles for making tortillas.
Comals (copper) – 14.
Cooking Pans (“ollas”, copper and iron) – 11.
Copper casques (?) – 1.
Guelons – 1 (?).
Jugs (for oil) – 3.
Kettles (copper) – 19.
Knives (kitchen) – 13.
Knives (butcher) – 25 (plus 5 “sets”).
Ladles (copper and iron) – 20.
Metates – 1 (bowl shaped rocks for grinding corn).
Mortars (brass) – 3.
Pails – 4.
Plates (pewter) – 3.
Roasting Spits – 6.
Salt Shakers – 1.
Silver Pitcher – 1.
Spoons (copper) – 1.
Spoons (iron) – 2.
Tripod – 1.