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978-0-521-48125-0 - The Kingdom of Quito, 1690-1830: The State and  
Regional Development

Kenneth J. Andrien

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This volume examines the impact of public policy on the long-term socioeconomic development of the Kingdom of Quito (now modern Ecuador) from 1690 to 1830. During the seventeenth century this Andean province gained greater regional autonomy as the institutional framework of the Spanish colonial state began its decline. The kingdom then began to establish links to an integrated network of secondary regional markets whose prosperity began to evolve more independently of the colonial export sector, which revolved around silver mining and the transatlantic trade. By the eighteenth century, however, global economic patterns, imperial reform policies, and a series of complex regional and local socioeconomic changes converged to reverse this trend towards greater autonomy and transformed development patterns in Quito.

This study focuses on how state policy contributed to these profound socioeconomic changes in the kingdom from the onset of the demographic and economic crises of the 1690s to the culmination of the independence movements in 1830. This examination of the Kingdom of Quito explores a fundamental but often ignored historical question: how did the colonial and early republican states contribute to shaping the political economy of Spanish America?

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KENNETH J. ANDRIEN

*The Ohio State University*



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*For Anne,  
Jonathan,  
and Elizabeth*

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