

Apache Adaptation to Hispanic Rule

As a definitive study of the poorly understood *Apaches de paz*, this book explains how war-weary, mutually suspicious Apaches and Spaniards negotiated an ambivalent compromise after 1786 that produced over four decades of uneasy peace across the Southwest. In response to drought and military pressure, thousands of Apaches settled near Spanish presidios in a system of reservation-like *establecimientos*, or settlements, stretching from Laredo to Tucson. Far more significant than previously assumed, the *establecimientos* constituted the earliest and most extensive set of military-run reservations in the Americas and served as an important precedent for Indian reservations in the United States. As a case study of indigenous adaptation to imperial power on colonial frontiers and borderlands, this book reveals the importance of Apache–Hispanic diplomacy in reducing cross-cultural violence and the limits of indigenous acculturation and assimilation into empires and states.

Matthew Babcock earned his Ph.D. from Southern Methodist University, his M.A. from the University of New Mexico, and his B.A. from Dartmouth College. He is currently Assistant Professor of History at the University of North Texas at Dallas and is a recipient of a prestigious Dornsife Long-Term Research Fellowship at the Huntington Library. He has written numerous journal articles and book chapters, which have been published in Spain, Canada (Quebec), and the United States. He is a member of the American Historical Association, American Society for Ethnohistory, Western History Association, and Texas and East Texas State Historical Associations.

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Cambridge University Press
978-1-107-12138-6 — Apache Adaptation to Hispanic Rule
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MATTHEW BABCOCK
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CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom
One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA
477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
4843/24, 2nd Floor, Ansari Road, Daryaganj, Delhi – 110002, India
79 Anson Road, #06-04/06, Singapore 079906

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It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning, and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

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Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781107121386

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First published 2016

Printed in the United States of America by Sheridan Books, Inc.

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

NAMES: Babcock, Matthew, author.

TITLE: Apache adaptation to Hispanic rule / Matthew Babcock.

DESCRIPTION: Dallas : University of North Texas, 2016. | Series: Studies in North American Indian history | Includes bibliographical references and index.

IDENTIFIERS: LCCN 2016019202 | ISBN 9781107121386 (Hardback : alk. paper)

SUBJECTS: LCSH: Apache Indians—Government relations. | Apache Indians—History.

CLASSIFICATION: LCC E99.A6 B125 2016 | DDC 979.004/9725—dc23 LC record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2016019202>

ISBN 978-1-107-12138-6 Hardback

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Acknowledgments

Numerous people from six nations on three continents contributed to this book, which began as a dissertation at Southern Methodist University (SMU). I owe an enormous debt to my advisor, David Weber, whom I sorely miss and whose wise counsel, helpful comments, and generous sharing of research materials helped make this a strong and compelling project from its inception. Special thanks as well to the other members of my dissertation committee: Sherry Smith and Peter Bakewell from the Clements Department of History and James Brooks at the School of American Research. SMU's History Department, the Clements Center for Southwest Studies, and the Jonsson Foundation provided me with fellowships and grants that enabled me to complete the research and writing of the dissertation, and the members of the history faculty, particularly Ed Countryman and Sherry Smith, have been enormously supportive of the manuscript in the years since graduation.

The scope and emphasis of this project changed significantly in the summer of 2013, when I received an unsolicited email from Manuel P. Sanchez, Chairman of the Chihene Nde Nation of New Mexico, telling me, "Our people are living proof of your dissertation at SMU." Startled and excited, I learned that the Chihenes were descendants of many of the late eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century Mimbres, Gila, and Mogollon leaders I had been reading about in the archives. Over time, I also discovered that although their history is closely related to that of the neighboring Chokonen or Chiricahua, they were a distinct people whose story is centered in the area of modern New Mexico and Chihuahua, not the Chiricahua Mountains of modern Arizona. Mistakenly, based on the

claims of various anthropologists, I had assumed that Ndé or Apache collective historical memory only went as far back as about 1850. I am extremely grateful to Manny for contacting me and his help in connecting me with Ndé people from San Antonio to the Pacific Coast. Thanks as well to Lorraine Garcia and Michael Paul Hill, whose contributions are acknowledged in the footnotes herein.

A long-term Dana and David Dornsife Fellowship at the Huntington Library in San Marino, California, in 2013–2014 enabled me to revise the manuscript and expand its timeframe. Steve Hindle, Fred Hoxie, Roy Ritchie, James Simpson, and Joan Waugh were especially helpful in offering intellectual support. I also wish to thank Eric Ash, William Deverell, Alicia Dewey, Alison Games, Sarah Grossman, Paul Hammer, Steve Hackel, Rob Harper, Aurelio Hinarejos, Theresa Kelley, Kathleen Murphy, Lindsay O’Neill, Julie Orlemanski, Sandra Rebok, Francois Rigolot, Stephanie Sobelle, Isaac Stevens, and Valerie Traub for helping me balance productivity and pleasure during a memorable year that I wish never ended.

I am also grateful for financial support from the University of North Texas at Dallas, where I completed the book, and for the encouragement and support of colleagues and administrators.

I feel extremely fortunate to publish my first book with Cambridge University Press, and I wish to thank Ned Blackhawk, Kristina Deusch, Debbie Gershenowitz, Fred Hoxie, and Robert Judkins for offering such valuable advice, insights, and help in producing it. For their assistance with digital images and maps, I thank Anne Blecksmith at Huntington Reader Services; Manuel Flores at Huntington Imaging Services; Lorraine Garcia; Richard La Motte; Liza Posas at Braun Research Library at the Southwest Museum of the American Indian; Marilyn Van Winkle at the Autry National Center of the American West; and Tom Willcockson.

To tell this story I consulted Spanish archival collections from repositories in three nations: the United States, Mexico, and Spain. At the University of Oklahoma’s Western History Collections, Kristina Southwell was especially helpful. Michael Hironymous, Adan Benavides, and Christian Kelleher helped make my many trips to the Benson Latin American Collection at the University of Texas at Austin enjoyable ones, and thanks to Joaquín Rivaya-Martinez and his family for hosting me during several return visits. Claudia Rivers at the University of Texas at El Paso’s Special Collections Library and Nancy Brown-Martínez at the University of New Mexico’s Center for Southwest Research graciously answered my questions about their microfilm collections. More recently,

Acknowledgments

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archivists Peter Blodgett and the late Bill Frank took time to guide me through the most pertinent materials from the Huntington Library's vast Western and Hispanic manuscript and microfilm collections, and Nayiri Partamian and Damon Russell were wonderful hosts in Pasadena. Brian DeLay was kind enough to loan me several rolls of microfilm from the Archivo General de la Nación (AGN) in Mexico City, and Karl Jacoby generously shared copies of Apache documents from the Archivo General del Estado de Sonora (AGES) in Hermosillo and his *Shadows at Dawn*. In Spain I am grateful to Isabel Simó Rodríguez and her staff at the Archivo General de Indias (AGI) in Sevilla, and José María Burrieza Mateos and the staff at the Archivo General de Simancas (AGS). Special thanks to David Rex Galindo and his family for housing me in Madrid and Valladolid.

Numerous colleagues have generously commented on the manuscript as it progressed from dissertation to book. Brian DeLay provided insightful guidance at a critical early stage. At the New Mexico Historical Review, Durwood Ball and Sonia Dickey helped me improve a portion of the manuscript, and I am grateful for the editorial advice of Salvador Bernabeú Albert at the Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas in Sevilla and Eric Chalifoux at *Recherches Amérindiennes au Québec*. At the invitation of Ron Hoffman, I also had the good fortune of presenting material at an Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture colloquium, where I received thoughtful commentary from Mark Hanna, Paul Mapp, and Brett Rushforth. I am especially thankful for Ed Countryman's invitation to participate in the Contested Spaces of Early America Symposium in David Weber's honor, where I benefited from extensive feedback from Juliana Barr, Daniel Richter, and Ed himself. Ned Blackhawk, Chantal Cramaussel, Brian DeLay, Pekka Hamalainen, Michael Jarvis, Cynthia Radding, and Sam Truett also helped me improve my work. Thanks as well to Chantal Cramaussel for the opportunity to take part in the Semanario Permanente sobre el Norte de Mexico y el Sur de los Estados Unidos at El Colegio de Michoacán in Michoacán, Mexico, where I received helpful commentary from Clementina Campos, Susan Deeds, Martín González de la Vara, Cynthia Radding, and Joaquín Rivaya-Martínez.

For offering intellectual stimulation, support, and encouragement, I would like to thank George Avery, Mark Barringer, Andrea Boardman, Jennifer Beisel, Tom Britten, Robert Caldwell, Court Carney, John Chávez, Paul Conrad, Troy Davis, George Díaz, Ruth Ann Elmore, Francis Galán, Alan Gallay, Luis García, Morris Jackson, Ben Johnson, Gabriel

Acknowledgments

Martínez-Serna, John Mears, Sara Ortelli, Mildred Pinkston, David Rex Galindo, Florencia Roulet, Joaquín Rivaya-Martinez, Jeff Shepherd, Scott Sosebee, Margo Tamez, and Blair Woodard.

Finally, I would like to thank my family and friends, especially Dawn and the Dallas running community, for helping me find the strength and endurance to see this project through.

A Note on Terminology

This book is written from multiple perspectives and reflects American Indian, Spanish, Mexican, and Anglo American viewpoints. Therefore the terminology I utilize derives from each of those cultures. Since members of the Chihene Nde Nation of New Mexico contacted me and expressed interest in my work, I have employed their preferred Athapaskan terms for their people instead of Spanish or American terms. That means that I use “Ndé” for “Apache” and “Chihene” for Gileños, Mimbrenos, Warm Springs, and Copper Mine Apaches. At their request, I have also used “Southern Apaches” in place of the cover term “Chiricahuas.” Although employing the term “Southern Apaches” for people whose homeland lies between Ndé groups commonly called Eastern and Western Apaches is potentially confusing from a geographical standpoint, U.S. Indian Agent Michael Steck and anthropologist William B. Griffen also followed this practice. In an effort to minimize the usage of all three of those larger geographical groupings, I have tried to identify Ndé people, especially Southern Apaches, by their specific bands whenever possible. Since headmen tended to marry women in multiple bands and followed a pattern of matrilineal residence, that decision has proven enormously challenging.

Rooted in Spanish archival research, this book also reflects a Hispanic perspective. Since the Athapaskan-speaking people I write about were in close contact with Spaniards and Mexicans who called them “Apaches” and “Apaches de paz,” I also employ those terms, when writing from a Hispanic perspective, for broader clarity (such as in the

title), variety of terminology, or when it is impossible to determine the precise band affiliations of individuals or groups. I encourage all readers to consult the Appendix for further clarification of the terminology used for the Athapaskan-speaking groups described in this book.