

# Pecos Mission

Size: 7" x 10"

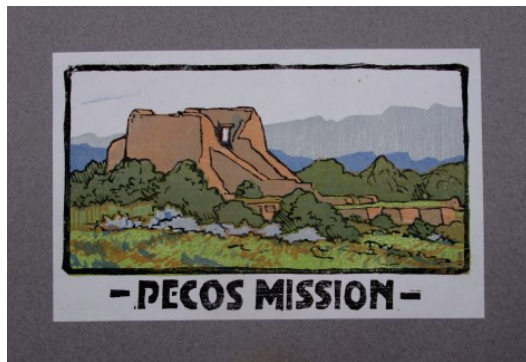
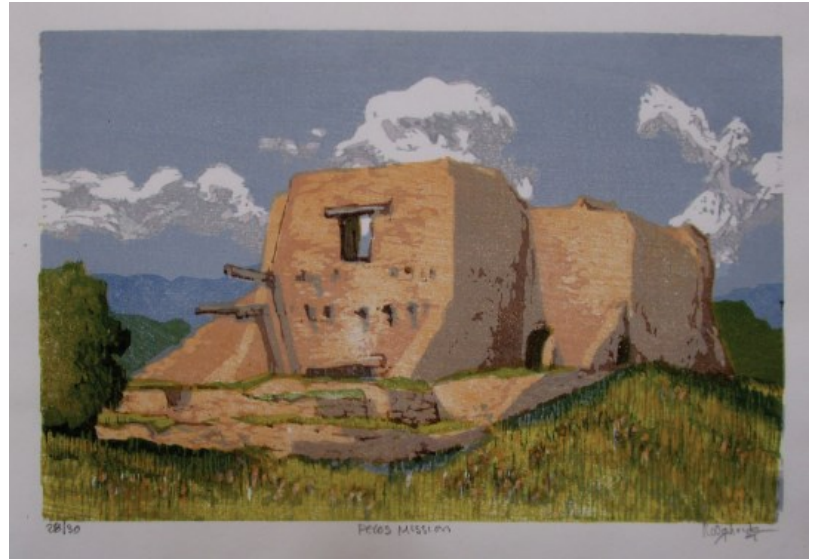
Edition: 30

Release Date: October 2017

Print Processes: Serigraph and woodblock

Client: Alianza de las Americas

An eight page accordion booklet was created for the Alianza de las Americas, a Denver Art Museum support group, for their annual fund raiser. The group focuses on Spanish Colonial Arts and so the Pecos Mission National Historic Park was chosen as the subject. The cover image is a 5 color woodblock. All the type and line illustrations were printed as serigraph. The feature image "Pecos Mission" was printed using the Moku Hanga printing technique. The cover paper is a hand-made Japanese paper dating from 1910.



Annual Fund Raiser Print 2017  
 for Alianza de las Americas  
 A non-profit organization that supports and engages  
 in educational programs related to the  
 New World Department of the Denver Art Museum.

"Pecos Mission"  
 A Reduction Woodblock printed in an edition of 30 prints.  
 5 1/2" x 8 1/2"  
 by Leon Loughridge

The woodblock was hand printed by Leon Loughridge at Dry Creek Art Press in Denver for Alianza de las Americas. The accordion folder was cut and assembled at the Dry Creek Art Press studio specifically for the print.

WARNING: The Pecos Mission woodblock is mounted by the fold-over flap with no glue which can be removed by wetting the paper. The print can be removed along the fold for framing. DC Art Press is willing to remove the print for framing at no charge. We recommend cotton rag matting and backing as well as UV glazing.

"Pecos Mission"  
 A reduction woodblock by Leon Loughridge

**A Brief History**

The Spanish first encountered the Pecos when Francisco Vazquez de Coronado traveled to northern Mexico in search of the seven golden cities. Hearing the tales of Cabeza de Vaca's travels and the legendary cities known as Cibola, Coronado set out in 1540 to trace Spain's northern frontier with an army of 12,000 to claim these Native American cities. When Coronado and his men reached the village of Pecos, they encountered a Plains Indian, later captured at Pecos, he told Coronado and his men about a land filled with the riches that the Spaniards sought. In the spring of 1541, Coronado and his men followed the Plains Indian to this mystical land called Quereas. After searching for days through present day Kansas, Coronado takes the Plains Indian when he learned that the guide lied there, Coronado and his men turned back and returned to Mexico empty-handed.

When veteran missionary Fray Andres Suarez arrived to Pecos in 1621, the relationship between the natives and the missionaries improved. The Franciscans gained the trust of the Pecos Indians and under the direction of Suarez, the Pecos and the Franciscan friars built an adobe church that was the most grandest of all of the New Mexico mission churches. The mission succeeded under the ministry of Fray Suarez, and from 1621 to

1634, the Franciscan missions continued to expand throughout New Mexico. The missions failed when church and civil officials began to compete for the labor and loyalty of the natives, which bred Indian resentment that led to the Pueblo Revolt of 1680. The Spaniards would not return to Pecos for another 12 years.

When Diego de Vargas revisited the lost Spanish colony in 1682, he was aided by the warm welcome at Pecos and by the Indians' willingness to assist the Spaniards in his quest to reclaim the American Southwest. After the people of Pecos helped Vargas with 140 warriors, the Spaniards captured Santa Fe, and began to rebuild the mission. The Pecos and the Spaniards erected a proto-church on the ruins of the old mission church, and to gather established a peaceful Spanish-Plains community. The serene environment in Santa Fe lasted until the 1700s, when disease and Comanche raids decimated Pecos and reduced the population to less than 200. Survivors eventually left their declining community, and in 1838, the Pecos joined their kinfolk at Santa Fe.

Condensed from the National Park Service brochure on the Pecos National Historic Park.

