

# Dominguez and Escalante

# Objective

- Students will investigate the route, cause and effects of the Dominguez/ Escalante expedition into Utah.

# Spain In Mexico

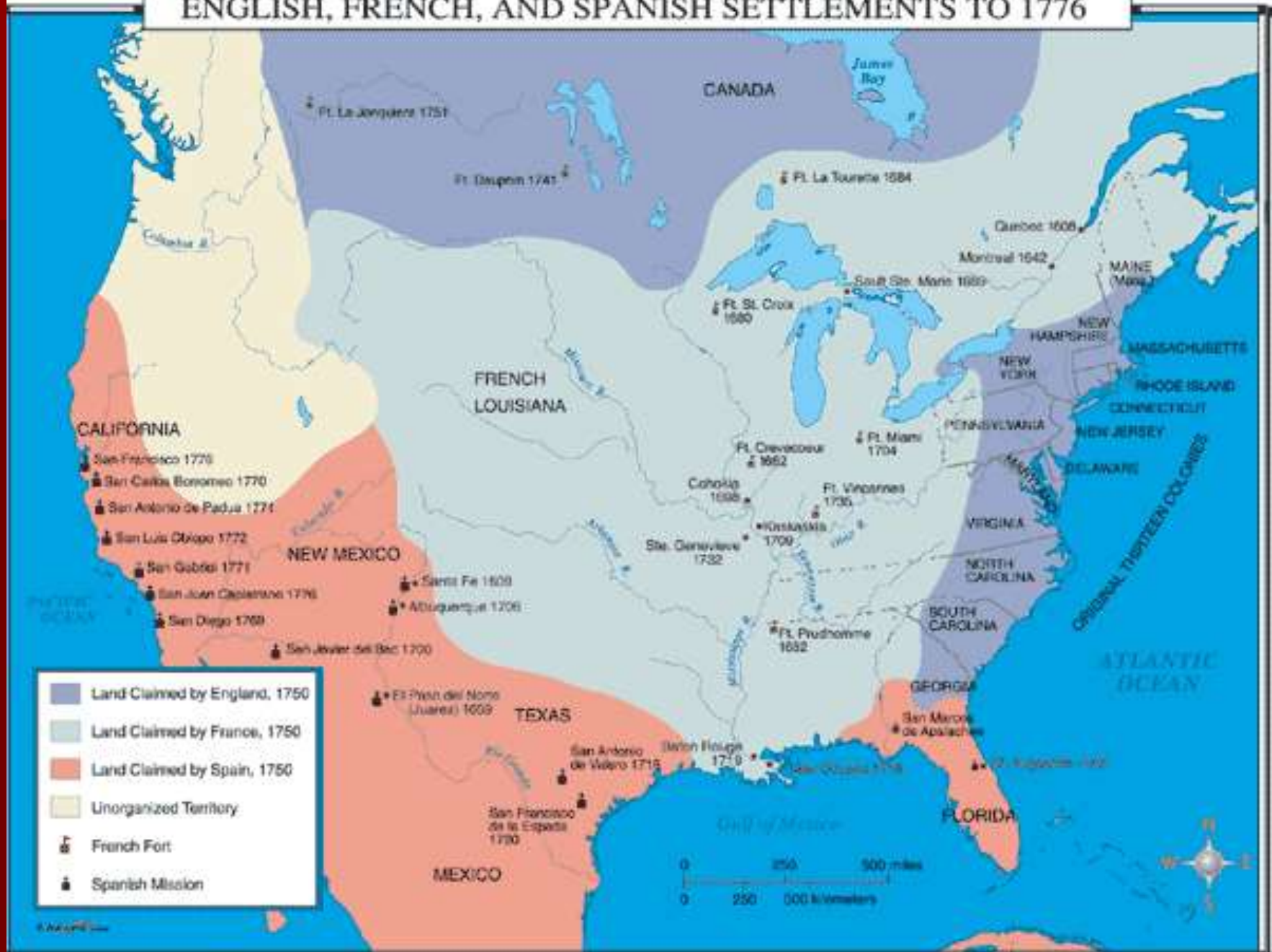
- From the time of Columbus' discovery of the New World Spain had increased it's empire through out the Americas.
- 1513 Ponce de Leon
- 1513 Balboa
- 1519 Cortez
- 1531 Pizarro
- 1540-42 Coronado
- 1565 St. Augustine



# Spanish Claims

- As Spain sent explorers further into what is now the U.S they set up more claims to the land.
- Spain claimed California, but England, France, and Russia were closing in.

# ENGLISH, FRENCH, AND SPANISH SETTLEMENTS TO 1776



- In order to maintain the provinces in California a route from Mexico City to Monterey Bay.
- A route from Mexico City to Santa Fe had been established but from there no route was established. The Grand Canyon was in the way.

# United States

Santa Fe  
Santa Fe  
Abuquerque

El Paso  
El Paso  
Juarez  
Chihuahua

El Paso  
Alicante  
Coralito

# Mexico

Durango  
Zaragoza  
Agua Calientes  
Lecón  
Guadalupe  
Mexico City

Venecia  
Alvarado  
Oaxaca

Sea of Cortez

Gulf of Mexico

Pacific Ocean

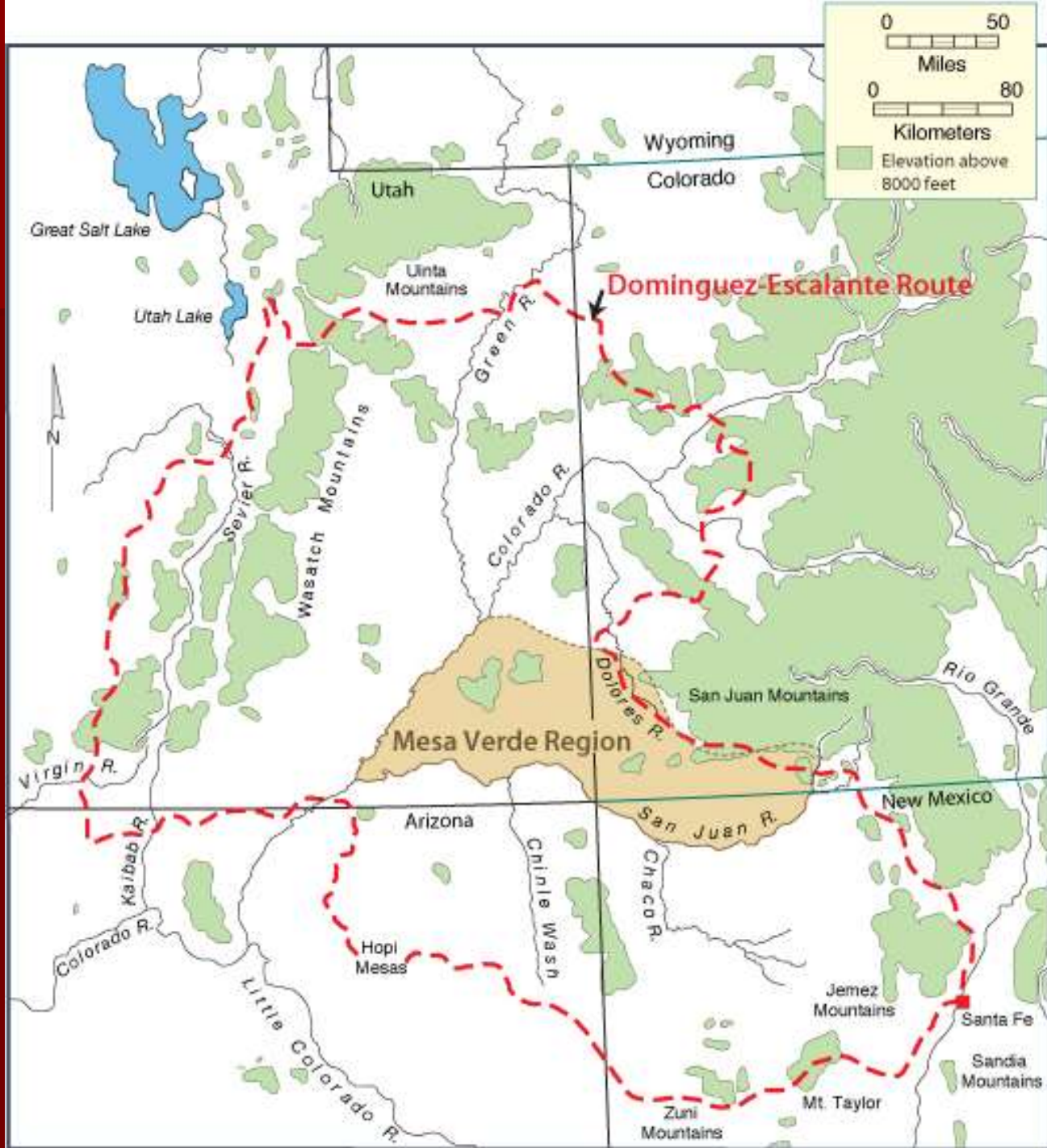




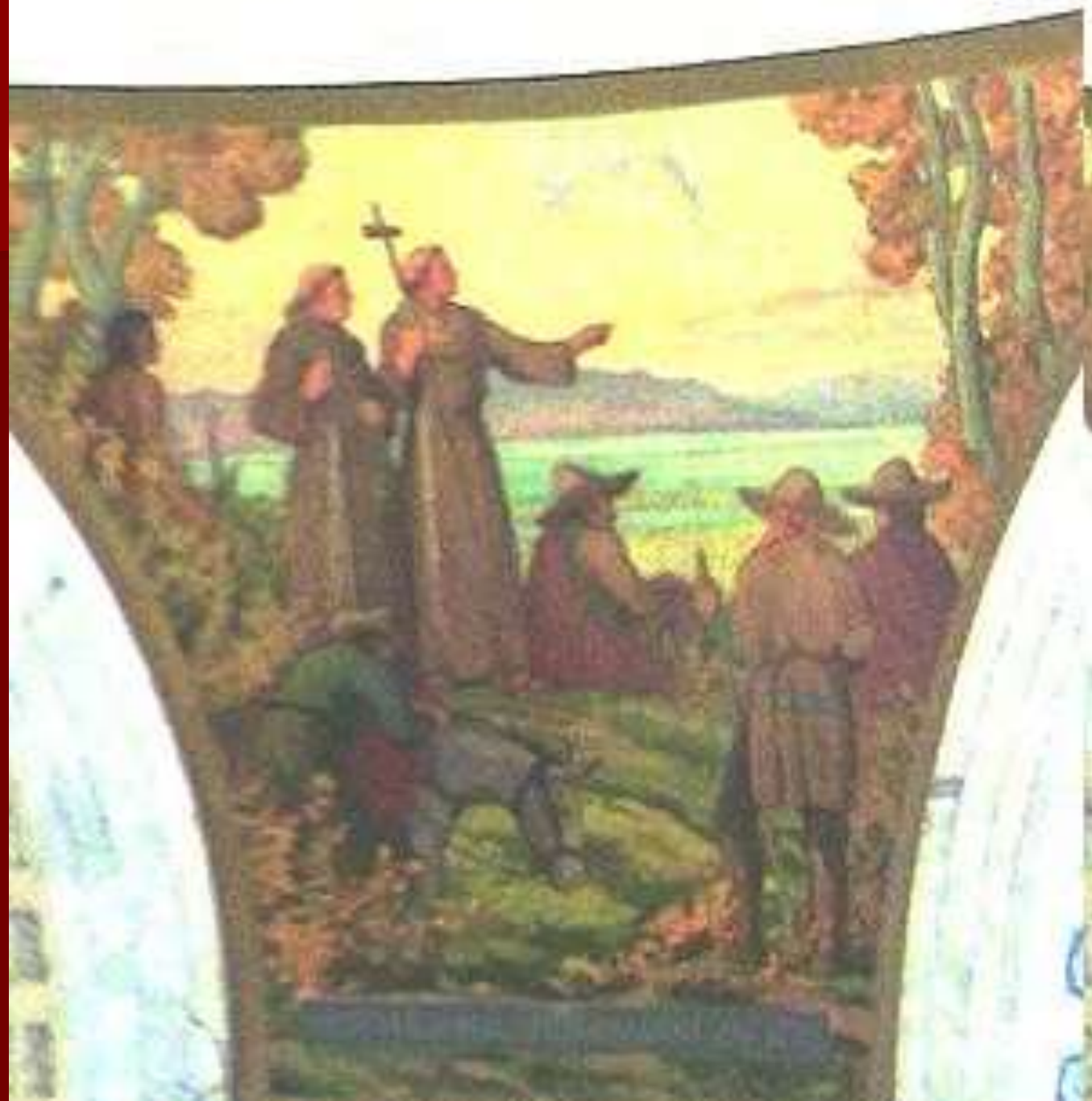
- Two Spanish friars were chosen to go north and find a new route to Monterey Bay.
- Father Francisco Atanasio Dominguez
- Father Silvestre Velez de Escalante

# July 4 1776

- July 4 1776 was the scheduled time of departure but it was delayed by a Comanche attack and Escalante got sick.
- On July 29<sup>th</sup> the expedition led by 2 fathers and 12 Spanish colonials with 2 Indians began the expedition.



- September 12<sup>th</sup> the expedition finally crossed into Utah.
- They were led by two natives Joaquin and Silvestre.
- From there they crossed the Uintah Basin, Strawberry Valley, Diamond Fork Canyon, and into Spanish Fork.





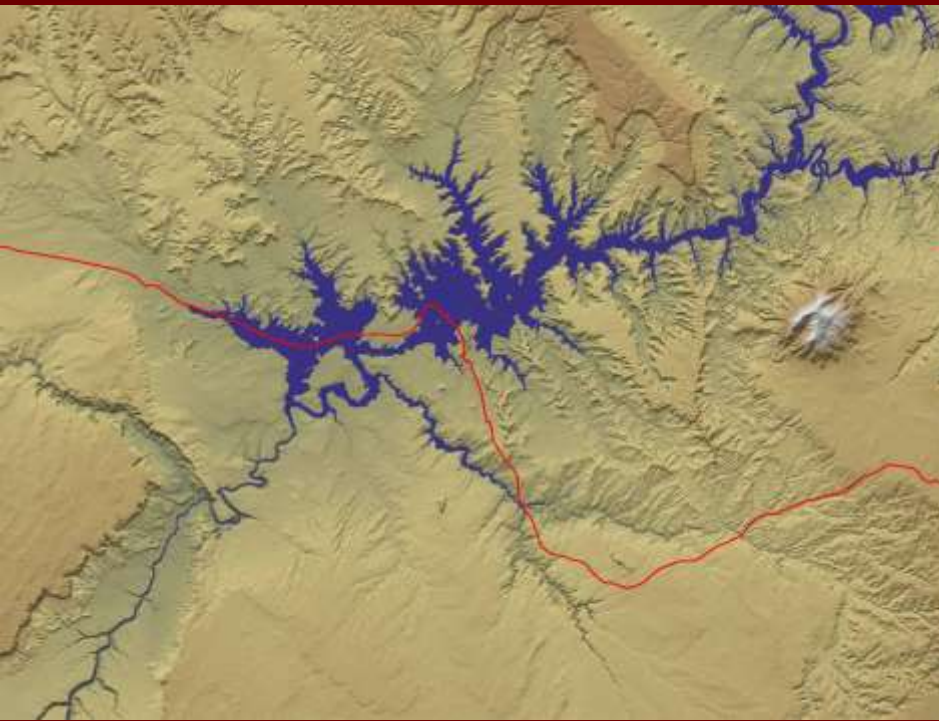
# Utah Valley

- Upon seeing the valley they found a paradise of abundant water, pasturage, croplands, game, fish, fowl, and friendly Timpanogots Utes.
- They were thrilled with their discovery. They promised the Utes they would return in a year.

- Leaving Silvestre they got a new guide named Jose Maria to help guide them.
- The route they took south out of Utah Valley basically follows the route of I-15.
- They felt they needed to go southwest to get to Monterey.



- October 5<sup>th</sup> Jose Maria deserted and went home.
- An early season storm also hit slowing them.
- Dominguez and Escalante decided to return to Santa Fe aborting the mission.



- The problem was the Grand Canyon separated them from home.
- Just north of the Arizona border they found a place to cross the Colorado River.
- They arrived in Santa Fe on January 2, 1777. They went 1,700 miles.

- Even though the Padre's put forth a great review of Utah Valley Spain never pushed farther into the area.

# Questions

- Was the mission a success or failure?
- Why was mapping so important to the expedition?