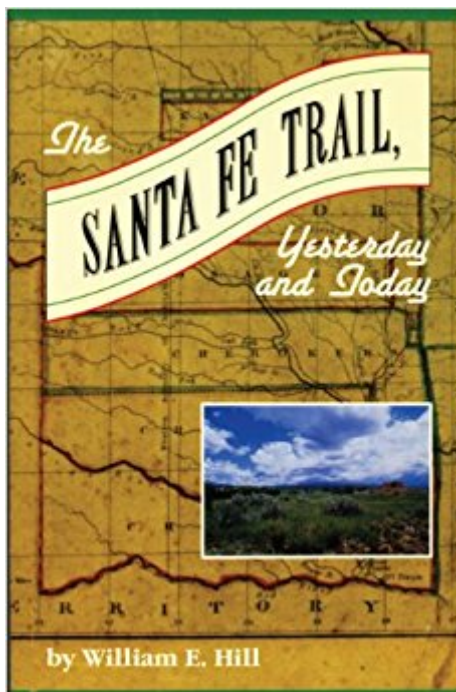


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# Santa Fe Trail



## Synopsis

One of the three main trails that served as the chief routes for western emigration in the United States. Easy to use whether you are in an armchair or an automobile: the book is divided into sections on history, maps, diaries, artists, and what to see along the Santa Fe Trail. Contemporary and historical photographs illustrate the presentation.

## Book Information

Paperback: 232 pages

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## Customer Reviews

This book conveys the hardship and romance of travel west over the trail when it was a months-long journey through unsettled and often dangerous territory. Using the diaries of people who traveled the trail and historic photos, author Hill captures the adventure and spirit of a trip over the Santa Fe trail. -- S Gaugian, May/June 1994, Vol. XXXII, No. 3

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William E. Hill's interest in history and traveling developed early in his life. As a youngster, whenever his family had a vacation, they headed west. As an adult, he has spent more than twenty years traveling with his family along the emigrant trails that he now writes about. He has written books about each of the three major trails west: the Oregon Trail, the California Trail, and now the Santa Fe Trail. In addition, he has written numerous articles and two trail activity books. William Hill is a

charter member and director of the Oregon-California Trails Association, a member of the Santa Fe Trail Association, and a member of a variety of state historical associations. He holds a MS In Education and a CAS in Education Administration from Hofstra University, and teaches social studies in Commack High School, Commack, New York. William E. Hill, his wife Jan, and son Will reside in Centereach, New York.

This is a fun book for historians of the Trail and travelers. Maps, pictures of then and now, diary excerpts, and the authors views make one want to go travel the trail.

I purchased the book in anticipation of a bicycle ride of the trail. It relates very well to the trip and will add color and appreciation to the ride.

To call William E. Hill an author is to give him too much credit for this book. The bulk of this book is taken up by photographs, maps, and diary entries without an overarching narrative. It would have been better as a coffee table book. Nothing about the writing is particularly insightful.

This book provides a wealth of information in interesting, well written form. This book hits the spot for this western history buff. As a former history teacher, I wish I had had this book when teaching about the Santa Fe trail. There is a load of information presented in engaging form. This is the kind of book that, had it been on my classroom bookshelf, would have found students browsing, looking at pictures and maps, and READING! I highly recommend this book for western history buffs, western literature fans and those who share my travel lust, both in reality and armchair style. For anyone interested in writing western fiction or non-fiction of the Southwestern frontier, this will be an awesome resource. I look forward to other books of William Hill's trails series.

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