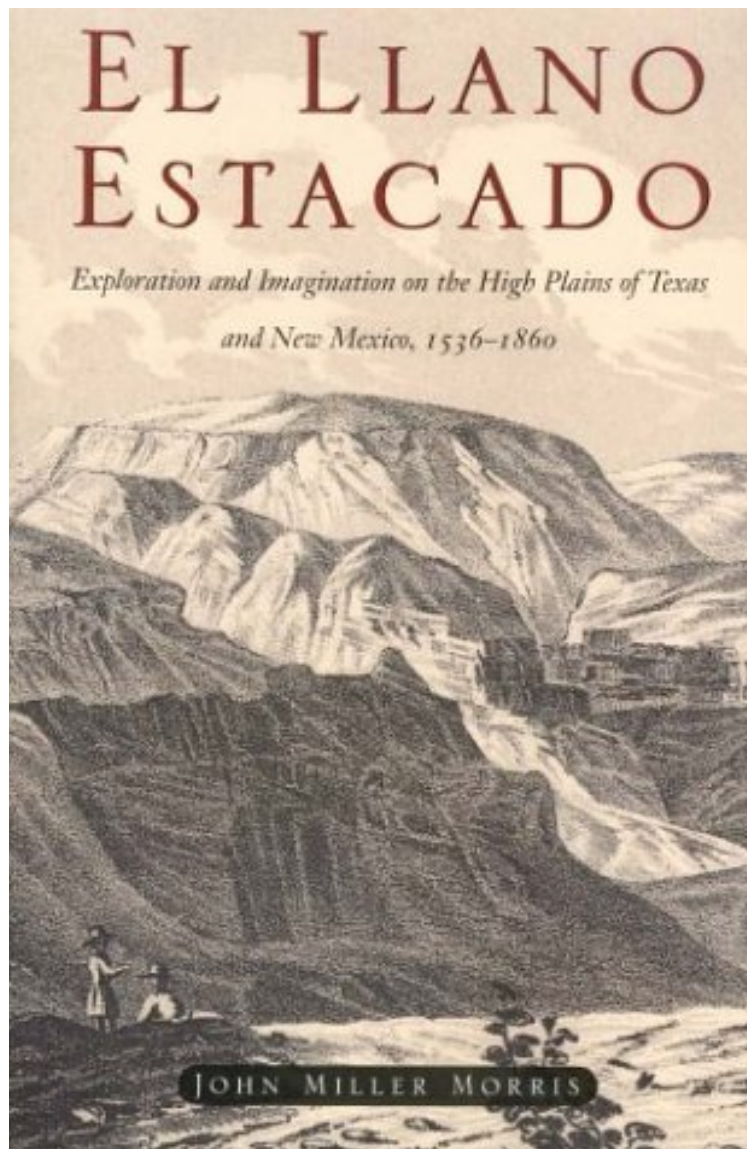


(Download) El Llano Estacado: Exploration and Imagination on the High Plains of Texas and New Mexico, 1536-1860

## El Llano Estacado: Exploration and Imagination on the High Plains of Texas and New Mexico, 1536-1860

*John Miller Morris*

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This story of the legendary Llano Estacado from 1536 to 1860 informs our understanding of discovery and geography in the Southwest. El Llano Estacado is more than a good read: it is also a native son's meditation on the role of the imagination and myth in how we perceive this unique environment. From the dawn of historic contact with the Southern High Plains, a remarkable series of Spanish, French, Mexican, and Anglo-American explorers and adventurers attempted to make sense of its curious environment. "Lo Llano, " the first part of this saga, is a detective story on the Lost Coronado Trail. The key to this ancient Southwestern mystery - where did the Spanish go in 1541? - is understanding what they saw and how they remembered it in their writings. Part Two, "The Llano Frontier, " studies the three centuries of Spanish exploration and imagination following Coronado. "The Illimitable Prairie, " part three of the study, analyzes the romantic discovery of the Llano in the Anglo imagination. In the final part, "T Great Zahara, " the author rides the trail of the classic Anglo explorers of the Llano: James W. Abert, Randolph Marcy, John Pope, and others. The visual representations of the Llano are also revealed through numerous illustrations of rare maps and lithographs.

About the AuthorJOHN MILLER MORRIS, a native son of the Panhandle, is the author of From Coronado to Escalante. He is assistant professor of social geography and interdisciplinary studies at the University of Texas at San Antonio.