

Acknowledgments

IN THE SUMMER OF 1975, having compiled a bibliography of printed materials relating to the descendants of Moctezuma II, I carried out my first archival research in the Archivo General de la Nación (AGN) in Mexico City. Joining me there was Ann Prather Hollingsworth, my doctoral student, who had chosen Pedro Moctezuma and his descendants as her dissertation topic. Ann collected information on the Aztec emperor's principal male heir while I focused on Isabel and Mariana Moctezuma.

During the summer months of 1976, I conducted additional research in the Archivo Histórico Nacional (AHN) in Madrid and the Archivo General de Indias (AGI) in Seville. Most of my efforts centered on locating pertinent documentation for our topics, which I flagged for micro-filming.

Over the next four years, I assisted Ann's research and supervised her dissertation to completion. We then decided on a collaborative effort on selected members of Moctezuma's progeny. Through no fault of Ann's, that work did not come about. My research interests shifted to the Spanish Borderlands, with emphasis on colonial Texas, while Ann studied Pedro Moctezuma in greater depth. She hoped to revise her dissertation for publication, but she and her husband, Bob, retired to Morelia, Michoacán, in the late 1980s.

Meanwhile, the Texas State Historical Association launched the largest publication project ever attempted in Texas: a fifteen-year effort that resulted in six massive volumes, *The New Handbook of Texas* (1996). My

responsibilities as co-advisory editor for all entries on Spanish Texas and writer of approximately sixty entries ended, but a co-authored work on the Moctezumas was not possible, because Ann was battling a serious illness that took her life in November 1999. Following Ann's death, Bob Hollingsworth generously offered me her notes and microfilm, as well as permission to use her copyrighted dissertation. This book, then, is dedicated in part to her memory and scholarly contributions to it.

I also owe a debt of gratitude to Luis López Elizondo, an independent researcher and scholar in Múzquiz, Coahuila, Mexico. Luis read the chapters, provided information on a number of useful Web sites, and served as a valuable contact with scholars in Mexico and Spain. It is Luis's intention to carry the story of Moctezuma II's descendants from 1700 to the present—an undertaking that I have encouraged and will assist by making my research materials available to him. Additionally, Luis hopes to receive permission to translate this book into Spanish, thereby making it more accessible to a broader readership. I am indebted to María Castañeda, who located a copy of Juan Cano de Saavedra's will in the AGI and sent a photocopy to me.

F. Todd Smith, my colleague and fellow Spanish Borderlands scholar in the department of history at the University of North Texas, read the entire manuscript and made valuable suggestions for improving it, as did his wife, Helen Sophie Burton, now a doctoral degree recipient in Latin American history from Texas Christian University. Sophie, a Fulbright Scholar in residence at Seville from January to July 2002, and Todd have been generous with their time and expertise. They helped me fill lacunae by checking documentation in the AGI, and they facilitated my brief stay in Seville in May 2002.

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As usual, all omissions, weaknesses, and errors are my responsibility.

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