Stagecoach Mail through the Sonoran Desert Summer

Postal Route 68166
Quijotoa, Arizona Territory
- Haynes’ Well 18 miles
- Quinlin’s Station 12 miles
- Half Way House Station 8 miles
- Bowley Station 11 miles
- Aguirre’s Dry Camp 14 miles

Tucson, Arizona Territory 13 miles
New Mexico Territory border 140 miles
Arizona Territory Postal Route distance 216 miles

July 15, 1890
Quijotoa, Arizona Territory
Postmark Pitzer-Meyer Type 3
Postmark Census 1 of 4 known
Earliest known Type 3 postmark date

The Quijotoa postal route to Tucson was the longest and harshest in Southern Arizona in 1890. The 76 mile route traversed waterless valleys of the lower Sonoran Desert, home to peaceful Papago Indians. July temperatures often exceed 105F.

Trice weekly mail service by stage from Quijotoa to Tucson provided by Pedro Aguirre & Co. This cover was postmarked Tuesday morning July 15, 1890 prior to departure of the 9:00 AM Tucson stage.