

# Exploring the Anza Trail

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
  
The Juan Bautista de Anza  
National Historic Trail



## Santa Clara County - Rich in History and Culture



*The historic Peralta Adobe in downtown San Jose is the last remnant of the Spanish pueblo of 1777. Descendants of the Aza expoedition helped build this adobe and found the settlement in San Jose.*

*This place appeared to me very good for a settlement, especially if one followed the course of the river upstream a little; for it has extensive level and good lands, and sufficient timber of sycamores, oaks, and other trees.*

*24 March, 1776 - Padre Font*

The Juan Bautista de Anza Expedition of 1775-1776 had a direct impact on the development of modern Santa Clara County. Amidst the high-rise buildings and sprawling business campuses, a determined visitor can still find well-preserved sites associated with the early settlement of Alta California. Juan Bautista de Anza, accompanied by *soldados* (soldiers), *padres* (fathers), and *pobladores* (settlers), trekked northward to establish a military, civilian, and religious presence north of Monterey. As Anza and Padre Font noted in their journals, Santa Clara County had an abundance of fertile land, water, and timber. It became a prime location for settlement because of its natural resources and close proximity to both the Presidios of San Francisco and Monterey. The *pobladores* from northern Mexico settled Pueblo San Jose de Guadalupe, bringing with them their frontier culture. Years of heavy rains and flooding challenged these rugged colonists as they slowly chiseled out an existence as outsiders in a land far from home. The legacy of their efforts is seen in the historic buildings that exist today.

### Historic Sites

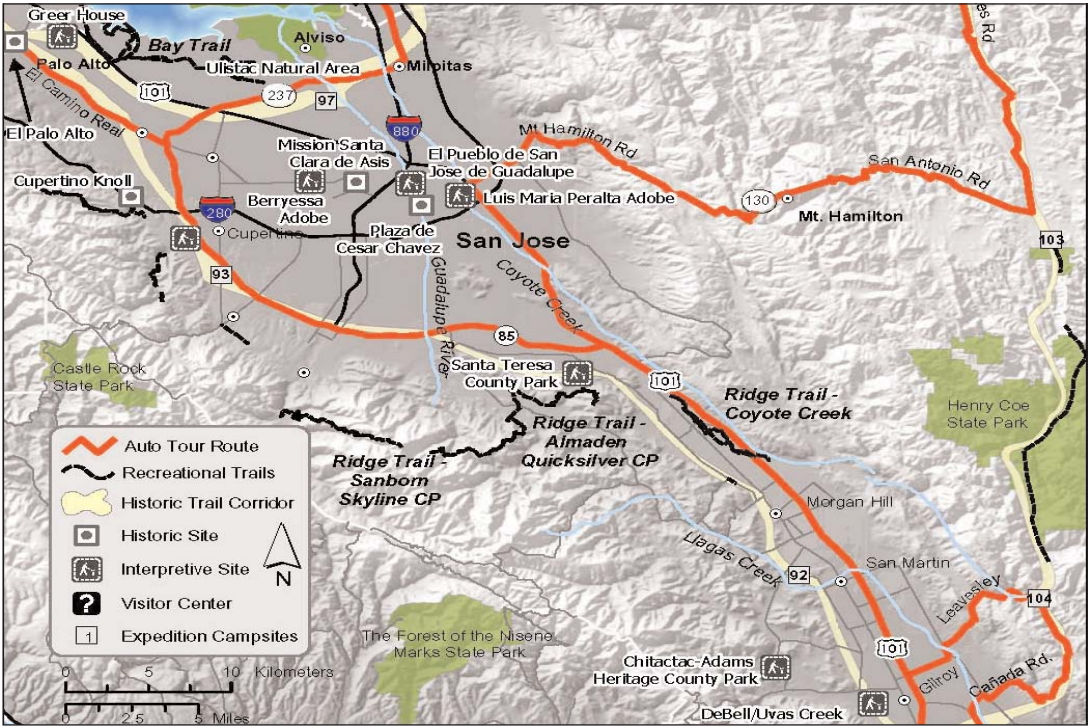


**Peralta Adobe** -Manuel Gonzalez, an Apache *poblador*, built the Peralta Adobe sometime before 1800. The adobe stands as the final remnant of the second site of El Pueblo San Jose de Guadalupe. Established in 1777, Pueblo San Jose was the first civilian settlements in Alta California. The two-room Peralta Adobe illustrates the crude lifestyle led by Anza *pobladores* like Gonzalez and later owner, Luis Maria Peralta. Outdoor areas exhibit ways in which people would cook, socialize, and craft tools on the Spanish frontier. *Open: Saturday and Sunday, 11:00 am-5:00pm. Admission: Adults \$6, Seniors \$5, Children (6-17) \$4, Children (under 5) free. Handicapped Accessible. Restroom Facilities. 175 W. St. John Street. San Jose, CA 95110.*

**Berryessa Adobe** - This adobe was built on ex-mission lands in late 1840's by Juan Chrisostomo Galindo. It was purchased by the Berryessa family in 1861. Both the Galindo and the Berryessa families were *pobladores* with the Anza expedition and helped to shape the development of Santa Clara County in the Spanish and Mexican eras. The house retains many of its original features and is an example of Spanish presence in Santa Clara County. *373 Jefferson Street. Santa Clara, CA. Handicapped accessible. Restroom Facilities. Limited*



Map



Historic Sites



**Berryessa Adobe in Santa Clara**  
constant rebuilding of the mission site, the Franciscan fathers found time to convert more indigenous people in Santa Clara than at any other mission in California. The fifth mission, which was completed in 1928, can be visited today on the Santa Clara University Campus. 500 El Camino Real. Santa Clara, CA 95053. Open daily – no charge.

**Bernal-Gulnac-Joice Ranch** - This historic area was originally the home to the Muwakema Ohlone people. Before the arrival of the Spanish, the Muwakema Ohlone used this area for over 6,000 years. The perennial spring,



**Bernal Adobe at the Santa Teresa County Park**

access – contact Santa Clara Planning Department for more information.

**Mission Santa Clara de Asis - Fr.**  
Tomas de la Peña found the mission in 1777 the year after the Anza expedition’s arrival by the banks of the Guadalupe River. Due to flooding and fire, the mission site was moved four times before it found its final home. Despite nearly



**Mission Santa Clara de Asis**

named after Santa Teresa by Joaquin Bernal (Anza *poblador*), and the rich natural diversity supported year-round settlements for 3,000 years. In 1834 the land became part of Rancho Santa Teresa and was given to the *poblador* Jose Joaquin Bernal by the Mexican government. Though the adobe and lands have since changed, the area contains much of its natural beauty and ranch lifestyle. Manila Drive, Santa Teresa County Park. (408) 226-5453. Hours: 8am- sunset daily. Handicapped Accessible. Restroom Facilities.

*Photos, text, and layout courtesy of NPS Volunteer Vanessa Koons.*

Contact

The Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail was created by Congress in 1990 to commemorate the epic journey of colonists from Mexico to San Francisco. The trail is administered by the National Park Service in cooperation with public and private partners. For information about the trail, contact the trail superintendent at 1111 Jackson, Oakland California, 94607. Or call (510) 817-1438. (English); (510) 817-1323 (Spanish). You can visit the trail website at [www.nps.gov/juba](http://www.nps.gov/juba) or at <http://anza.uoregon.edu>.