

**PUEBLO DE SAN JOSE DE GUADALUPE - 29 NOVEMBER 1777**

Original Settlers of the Pueblo of San Jose

By Rudecinda Lo Buglio

Source: AGI, Audiencia de Guadalajara, 275 (103-4-17) Chapman guide #3792

Dated: 15 April 1778 (Census of founding of Pueblo de San Joseph, listing the people in the Pueblo at the founding on 29 November 1777.)

1. Corporal, s/c, Balerio de Mesa, wife Maria Leonar Borboa, 7 children: Joseph Joaquin, Joseph Ignacio, Ygnacio Dolores, Joseph Antonio, Nicolas Maria, Juan, Maria Manuela.
2. Juan Ramirez de Arrellano, s/c, wife Maria Agueda Lopez Dearo (Dearo is de Haro), son Juan Mariano, 4 years old.
3. Xavier Beltran, s/c, wife Maria Gertrudis Lugo, 2 adopted orphan girls, Maria Gertrudis Valencia, Huerfana (orphan) 8-years old, Maria de la Luz Valencia, one-year old, Loreto Lugo Indio sirviente. The girls' parents were Manuel Valencia and Maria de la Luz Munos.
4. Joaquin de Castro, s/c, wife Maria Martina Botiller; 5 children: Josef Mariano, Josef Joaquin, Francisco Maria, Carlos Antonio, Maria de la Encarnacion, and Francisco Maria, Yndio agregado.
5. Josef Manuel Yguera (Higuera), s/c, wife Maria Ignacia Antonia Limon Redondo, 4 children: Juan Joseph, Juan Faustino, Maria Bictoria, Maria Gertrudis, Joseph Yndio 16-year old sirviente.
6. Serefino Lugo, s/c, wife Gertrudis Pacheco.
7. Gabriel Antonio Peralta, s/c, wife Francisca Xaviera Balenzuela, 3-children: Luis Maria, Pedro Regaldo, Maria Gertrudis.
8. Felipe Santiago Tapia, s/c, wife, Juana Cardenas, 8 children from 1st wife, Maria Juana Filomena Hernandez: Joseph Bartolome, Juan Jose, Juan Cristobal, Joseph Francisco, Joseph Bictor, Maria Rosa, Maria Manuel (sic), Maria Ygnacia.
9. Juan Manuel Villela, s/c, soltero.
10. Manuel Amesquita, son Joaquin Gavriel, one year old. Wife, Maria Rosalia Zamora, was buried in San Francisco 16 March 1777. Second wife, Maria Barbara Graciana Hernandez.
11. Ygnacio Archuleta, wife Maria Ygnacia Gertrudis Pacheco.
12. Joseph Manuel Gonzales, wife Maria Micaela Ruis, 5 children: Juan, Ramon, Faustino, Maria Gregoria, Ana Maria.
13. Joseph Antonio Romero, wife Maria Petra Aceves.
14. Joseph Tiburcio Basquez (Vasquez), wife Maria Antonia Bojorquez, one child, Maria Ygnacia.
15. Joseph Francisco Sinova, wife Maria Gertrudis Bojorquez

The list totaling sixty-eight includes a herdsman and his wife. Of the sixty-six Pobladores / families, there were only fifteen men (nine soldiers, five Pobladores, and the herdsman). s/c = Soldado de Cuera

Sources: Article by Rudecinda Lo Buglio, Los Californianos Noticias.

Los Fundadores Newsletter, December, 2005

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## **[Early] History of San José, California**

Over 230 years ago, near what is today the airport, a gathering of 15 men and 51 women and children started a settlement that they called El Pueblo San José de Guadalupe, the first purely civilian non- American Indian settlement in California. San José was thus founded on Nov. 29, 1777. The settlers, with their families, set out from the Presidio of San Francisco on the seventh day of November, 1777, accompanied by the lieutenant of the 1775-1776 Juan Bautista de Anza Expedition, Josef Joaquin Moraga. In the Spring of 1776, Anza, Padre Pedro Font, Lt. Moraga, and a small group of Spanish soldiers had explored the area north of Monterey, including Santa Clara county, on their way to choose the sites for the Mission and Presidio in San Francisco. Lt. Moraga came through Santa Clara County again in June of 1776 with settlers (called pobladores) on their way from Monterey to San Francisco to found the Presidio.

In November of 1777, he and some of those same settlers founded the Pueblo of San José near the Guadalupe River. They were all citizens of the Spanish empire, but most were of mixed American Indian, African, and Hispanic ancestry. They later came to call themselves Californios. Arriving in San José in early November, Moraga gave the pobladores possession in the name of his Majesty King Carlos III of Spain, marking out for them the plaza for the houses and distributing the house-lots among them. He measured off for each one a piece of land for planting a Fanega (7 acres for 1.6 bushels) of corn, and for beans and other vegetables. They immediately set to work to build the houses of palisades covered with clay, with flat roofs, and, when these were finished, each began to clear and plough his piece of ground for the planting of corn and beans. They also proceeded to build a dam to take the water from the Guadalupe River. It is thus that San José began in an area already occupied for thousands of years by the native Ohlone peoples.

Their village in the area was called Tamien, and the coming of the Spanish, and the founding of the Mission Santa Clara in January of 1777, marked the beginning of the end of their way of life. Ohlone and Californio descendants are still around today. Each year, there is a commemoration in San José that allows people today to come together to look back on those days gone by.

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