A Guide to the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail

by Greg Bernal-Mendoza Smestad, Ph.D.
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Los Californianos, San Diego, California
Antepasados XI

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Front Cover Art: Anza’s path through what is today Sinaloa and Sonora and Baja California (Mexico), Arizona and California, together with Anza’s signature and rubric; Graphic: Wade Cox and Lance Beeson (color version).

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This is dedicated to my Californio grandmother,

Velma Bernal Mendoza,

who was proud of our Californio heritage.
Basque proverb: Egizu beti on, ez jakinarren non.
“Do always the right thing, even if you don't know who benefits.”
Anza was Basque and many of the people he brought to California had Basque roots.

Californio proverb: Del plato a la boca se pierde la sopa.
“There's many a slip between the cup and the lip;
Between the plate and the mouth, you can spill the soup.”

The people that came to California on the Anza trail (and those that came during the subsequent two generations) became known as Californios, and had their own sayings, customs and culture.