SAR Seeks Descendants of Spanish Soldiers who Served in California during the American Revolution

Spain declared war on England 21 June 1779 and strongly supported the revolutionary efforts against England on many fronts until peace was declared 3 Sep 1783. During this period, King Carlos III of Spain reinforced the California settlements of New Spain and established the new pueblo of Los Angeles, the new presidio of Santa Barbara, and the new mission at San Buenaventura. The 250 plus soldiers who served in these frontier settlements were specifically focused on warding off the English and Russian claims and advances.

The South Coast Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), considers these Spanish soldiers as allies whose descendants can join the SAR just as descendants of Spanish soldiers on the Southern coast or descendants of other soldiers in the former English colonies on the East Coast. Any descendant from a Spanish soldier who served during the critical period of 1779-1783 is invited to join. Of the 250 plus soldiers in California in service during the four year period, wives and children of 185 have been identified. By intermarriage, these families include most of the 3000 Spanish/Mexican people in California in 1822 when Mexico declared Independence from Spain. The 185 soldiers are listed below with asterisks (*) by those who have been entered into the Personal Ancestry Files of the LDS.

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Primos, if your ancestors are listed among those that have been compiled by the Sons of the American Revolution, I strongly urge you to consider submitting your family data and joining the SAR. It will send a clear message of historical unity and promote our heritage. Mimi

Francisco Acebedo Jose Antonio Quinterio Aceves Jose Maria Aguila y Frages Jose Maximo *Alanis Justo Roberto Altamirano Tiburcio Altamirano Francisco Xavier *Alvarado Asencio Alvarez; Juan *Alvarez Luis Joaquin Alvarez de Acevedo Pedro Alvarez; Juan Francisco Alviso Felipe Sebastian *Alvitre Pedro Antonio *Amador

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Carmen Arana Manuel Ramirez Arellano Juan Antonio Armesquita Jose Gabriel de Arce Joseph Dario Arguello Domingo de Montegudo Aruz Jose Calixto *Ayala Francisco Xavier *Beltran Dionisio Bernal Iuan Francisco *Bernal Nicholas Antonio Benevesa Josef Ramon *Bojorquez Pedro Antonio Bojorquez Manuel Boronda Iose Bravo Vicente Briones Josef Antonio *Buelna Iose Ramon Buelna Manuel *Buitron Jose Manuel *Bustamante Francisco Xavier Calvo Manuel Camero Ygnacio Cantua Salvador Carriaga Guillermo Canillo Joseph Raymundo Carrillo Mariano Carrillo Joaquin Isidoro de Castro Jose Macario *Castro Jose Mariano Castro Ygnacio Clemente Castro Marcus Chayboya Mariana Antonio Cordero Pablo Antonio *Cota Rogue Jacinto *de Cota Idefonso *Domingwez Jose Maria *Dominguez Juan Jose Dominguez Alejandro Antonio Duarte Jose Joaquin Espinosa Jose Joaquin Cayetano *Espinosa Salvador Manuel *Espinosa Jose Estrella Pedro Fages Anastacio Maria Feliz **Jose Feliz** lose Doretio Feliz Joseph Francisco *Feliz Jose Vicente *Feliz Juan Victorino Feliz Jose Rosalino Fernandez Jose Miguel Flores Nicholas Galindo Carlos Gallegos Felipe Santiago*Garcia

Luz Garcia Isidro (Jose) German Iose Maria Gongora Felip Indalecio *Gonzales Jose Rafael Gerardo Gonzales Juan Pablo Grijalva Jose Julian Guerrero Ygnacio Maria Gutierrez Torbidio Martinez Guzman Iose Bernardo Heredia Justo Lorenzo Hernandez Joaquin Higuera Jose Joaquin Higuera Jose Joaquin Antonio *Higuera Jose Manuel *Higuera Salvador Higuera Ygnacio Anastacio de la Higuera Jose Francisco Leyba Ygnacio Antonio Linares Pedro Antonio Lisalde Jose Ygnacio Maria de Jesus Lopez Juan Francisco Lopez Sebastian Antonio *Lopez (Jr) Francisco Salvador *de Lugo Luis Gonzaga Lugo Jose Manuel Ignacio Lugo Seferino de Lugo Jose Maneul Machada (aka Orchaga) Joseph Maria Martinez Juan Ignacio Martinez Toribio Martinez Francisco Xavier Mejias Juan Norberto Mejias Pedro Jose Meiias Antonio Mesa Jose Valerio Mesa Rafael Mesa Alejo Miranda Jose Monroy Antonio Montano Juan Andres (Hilario) Montiel Jose Joaquin Moraga Jose Antonio *Navarro Juan Crispin Perez Nieto Joseph Manuel Perez Nieto Juan Matias Olivas Joseph Ygnacio *Olvera Juan Maria *Olvera Ygnacio Narciso *Olvera Jose Antonio Onteveros Jose Francisco de Ortega; Jose Maria *Ortega Juan Ismerio de Osuna Miguel Antonio Pacheco Juan Francisco Padilla Juan Antonio Basilio Parra

Sons of the American Revolution Continued

Jose Victor Patino Luis Pena Felipe Santiago *de la Cruz Pico

Gabriel Antonio Peralta Iuan Iose Peralta Luis Maria Peralta Joseph Maria *Pico luan Maria Pinto Pablo Pinto Iose Polanco Vicente *Quijada **Juan Francisco *Reves Julian Rios** Sgt ??? Robles Juan Esteban Rocha Ignacio Rochin Antonio Mirando Rodriguez Joaquin Rodriguez Jose Augustan Antonio Rodriguez Jose Ygnacio *Rodriguez Manuel Rodriguez Pablo *Rodriguez Pedro Pablo *Rodriguez Felipe Romero Jose Esteban Romero Juan Maria *Romero Eugenio Rosalio Mateo Rubio Efigenio *Ruiz Fructuoso Maria Ruiz luan Maria *Ruiz Justo Nasario Saez Hermenegildo Sal Jose Pedro Loretto Salazar Jose Maria Gil Samaniego Jose Antonio Sanchez Joseo Tadeo Sanchez ?Gregorio? Antonio Sandoval Francisco Serrano Francisco Xavier *Sepulveda Jose Miguel *Silvas Jose Maria *Soberanes Francisco Sotello Gillermo Soto Ygnacio *de Soto Felipe Santiago Tapia Eugenio Valdez Jose Melesio (Hilario) Valdez

Manuel de Vasquez Jose Antonio Maria Velarde Jose Fernando de Velasco y Lara Juan Jose Villalobos Antonio Clemente Feliz Villavicencio: Jose Maria *Verdugo Juan Maria Verdugo Mariana de la Luz Verdugo Ygnacio Leonardo Maria Verdugo Juan Jose *Villa Lobo(s) Rafael de Jesus Villavicencio Juan Villela Iuan Antonio *Ybana Jose Antonio Yorba Pio Quinta Zuniga. Soldiers in the Monterey

garrison in 1782 whose families have not been identified include: Artemio Alegro Manuel ?Amiuna? Joaquin Beltran Marcelino Bravo Marcus Briones Francisco Caguellas Jose Bonefacio Estrada Diego Ruiz Francisco Sanchez Jose Maria Soto Manuel de Vargas Casimiro Varelas Francisco Villagones Rafael Villavicencio Marcus Villela.

Soldiers in the San Diego garrison in 1782 whose families have not been identified include: Julian Acevedo Ignacio Rafael Alvarez Jose Joaquin Armenta Manuel Ramon Bernal Augustin Castillo Antonio de Castro Jose Manuel Canedo Anastasio E. de Cota Gregorio Crispin Hermenegildo Flores Iose Maria Gloria Jose de la Luz Garcia Jose Antonio Leyva Jose Antonio Pena Jose Ignacio Perez Iose Estevan Perez Manuel Antonio Robles Jose Alejandro Solis

Garrison lists for Santa Barbara and San Francisco have not been recovered, but Jose Prudencio Arangure was at Santa Barbara. Those on escort duty with the nine missions have not all been recovered. Also, those who were massacred with Captain Rivera y Moncada by the Yuma Indians are not all known.

Families have not been identified for military

Lt Col Juan Bautista de Anza Capt Fernando de Rivera y Moncada Capt Jose Morero Capt Bernardo de Urrea Lt Jose de Zuniga Ensign Jose Velasquez Lt Don Diego Gonzalez

They apparently did not settle in California. Many known soldiers returned to Mexico and established their families there. Descendants of these persons would be eligible to join the SAR if they can define and document their families.

CASpanSo, SAR3, 27 Oct 1997. Research by G. W. & N.C. Hough. Please send additions/corrections to Granville W. Hough, Prospective Member Contact, South Coast Chapter, SAR (714) 581-7575, email gwhough@larkom. net.

Likely Repositories of the Spanish Archives of Pre-statehood California

Compiled by Bill Doty

- Library of Congress, 101 Independence Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20540, (202) 707-5000
- Monterey County Recorder, PO Box 29, Salinas, CA 93902, (408) 755-5041
- Steinbeck Library, 350 Lincoln Avenue, Salinas, CA 93901, (408) 758-7311
- Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley, Berkeley, CA 94720 (SIG) 642-6000
- Sutro Library of the San Francisco Public Library, 480 Winston Drive, San Francisco, CA 94132, (415) 731-4477
- Huntington Library, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA 91108, (818) 405-2141.
- Historical Society of Southern California, % Lummis Home, 200 East Avenue 43, Los Angeles, CA 90031, (213)222-0546
- Los Angeles County Archives, 222 North Hill Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012, (213) 974-1196
- Los Angeles City Archives, 555 Ramirez St, Los Angeles, CA 90012,(213) 485-3512
- California State Archives, 201 N. Sunrise Ave, Roseville, CA 95661

Juan Ygnacio Valencia

Jose Manuel Valenzuela

Jose Segunda Valenzuela

Juan Atanasio Vasquez

Juan Augustus Valenzuela

Ignacio Vicente Ferrer Vallejo

Jose Pedro Gabriel Valenzuela

Ten References for Spanish Soldiers of 1779-1783

Granville W. Hough, Pd.D.

Descendants of Spanish soldiers who served in California while Spain was allied with the American colonists of the Revolutionary War have excellent references for documenting service of their ancestors. We know families of 194 of the approximately 300 soldiers who served during those years. Ten useful references follow:

- 1. Descendants who already know their soldier ancestor's name can start with Marie Northrop's two volumes, *Spanish-Mexican Familes of Early California*, 1769-1850, Vol 1 (revised 1987), and Vol 2 (1984). Statements of military service in these volumes was taken from Bancroft's Pioneer Index
- 2. Hubert Howe Bancroft's California Pioneer Register and Index Including Inhabitants of California, 1769-1800 extracted military service or other activity as recorded in Bancroft's earlier seven volume History of California. The Pioneer Register was later republished as Vol 17 in the "complete" Works of Hubert Howe Bancroft.
- 3. Hubert Howe Bancroft's seven volume History of California noted military service or other activity when it was found in Spanish records. These records seldom give more than the places or times where the soldier was listed or the activity in which he was engaged. Volumes I and II cover the Spanish period, III and IV the Mexican period, and the others later periods to the 1880 decade, when the volumes were published. These volumes are also in the "complete works" as volumes 18 through 24. Some of the sources Bancroft used burned in the San Francisco fire of 1906, but the majority are stored in the Bancroft Library, Univ. of California, Berkeley, CA.
- 4. The service records for California soldiers are stored in the Archives of the Indies in Seville, Spain. Mr. Raymond F. Wood abstracted 900 service records for

- the Spanish soldiers he could identify in California between 1769 until after Mexican independence and placed these abstracts in the Autry Museum of Western Heritage, 4700 Western Heritage Way (in Griffith Park adjacent to the Los Angeles Zoo). These records show dates of enlistment, promotion, discharge, death, and retirement. They can be studied by appointment: call (213) 667-2000.
- 5. Presidio lists for 1782 are available for San Dlego, Santa Barbara, Monterey, and San Francisco. San Diego and Monterey are in the California Collection of Marie Northrop, LDS film #1411704, item 12. Dr. Hough has Santa Barbara and San Francisco lists as copied by others many years ago at the Bancroft Library.
- 6. The 1790 Padron (census) lists the soldiers and their families. The ages of those listed as soldiers and their children frequently indicate how long the soldiers had been in service. Some of these lists were published by Marie Northrop in the Historical Society of Southern California Quarterly as follows: Los Angeles (June 1959); San Francisco (Dec 1959); Santa Barbara (Mar 1960); Monterey (June 1960); San Jose (Sep 1960); and San Diego (Mar 1961).
- 7. Published works of Thomas Workman Temple, II, are generally accurate and well documented. His abstracts of mission records are available through LDS Family History Centers. His "Soldiers and Settlers of the Expedition of 1781," *Historical Society of Southern California Quarterly* (1931), is very helpful, as are his other published works.
- 8. As noted above, the *Historical Society of Southern California Quarterly* published dozens of studies in English of the early California settlers and population groupings.
- 9. Early mission records have been studied and abstracted by numerous scholars and amateurs. The most accu

rate records are of course those microfilmed by the LDS from the original Spanish entries.

10. Adam C. Derkum's 38 notebooks, Spanish Families of Southern California are available on five LDS microfilm rolls 1597975-1597979. There is no index, but the families are arranged alphabetically. N. C. Hough has prepared a list of surnames for which there are significant entries, and this list is available on request.

Lists of soldiers, etc., and Sons of the American Revolution information, are available from Granville W. Hough, 3438 Bahia Blanca West, Apt B, Laguna Hills, CA 92653-2830, telephone (714) 581-7575, email gwhough@larkom.net.

Let There be Towns, Spanish Municipal Origins in the American Southwest, 1610-1810 by Gilbert R. Cruz. Texas A&M University Press, \$17. New book, brochure description.

When the Spanish moved into what is today the American Southwest, they set up three institutions to establish control: the presidio (military forts and troops), the mission, and civil settlements, or towns. Of these, only the town has survived to this day although the presidio and the mission continue to live on in the popular imagination.

Reprinted this year in paperback (first edition, cloth, 1988), this is the story of the origins of six towns in New Spain: San Antonio and Laredo (Spanish Texas), Santa Fe and El Paso (Spanish New Mexico), and San Jose and Los Angeles (Spanish Alta California)

The author contends that early civil settlements were probably the single most significant factor in establishing Spanish dominion in the Southwest. Cruz assesses the importance of the towns in populating the frontier, introducing industry, and bringing law and order and municipal government to the frontier.