# NOTICIAS DE ANZA

*Volume 1 Number 1* *Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail* *May 1992*

*October 23, 1775, the Anza expedition leaves Tubac. From a painting by Cal Peters courtesy of Tumacácori National Historic Site.*

## Anza Trail Plan Underway

Establishment of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail requires the preparation of a comprehensive management plan. This plan will:

- Specify objectives and practices of trail management.
- Identify significant natural, historic, and cultural resources to be preserved.
- Develop a protection plan for high potential historic sites and route segments.
- Detail cooperative agreements with federal, state, and local organizations and private interests
- Define procedures for marking the trail with signs.

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## From Tubac to San Francisco

*By Robert C. Barncastle, Park Manager, Tubac Presidio Arizona State Historic Park*

Every time I walk from the museum to the schoolhouse here at the Tubac Presidio, I cross one of the few National Historic Trails in the United States.

On some days, when my mind is less on administrative duties and more on a flight of historic fancy, I can picture colonists packing their bags and rounding up the kids for the 1,200-mile trek over desert and mountains to the bay area of California.

Forty soldiers from the Tubac Presidio and 240 colonists left Tubac on October 23, 1775. This expedition resulted in the establishment of the Mission Dolores and the Presidio (military post) of San Francisco.

This settlement by colonists from the Tubac Presidio resulted in the strong genealogical ties existing today between Tubac families and the founding fathers of San Francisco.

Anza had made the trip earlier in 1774 with 20 mounted "soldados de cuera" ("soldiers of leather" - so called because of their armor of seven layers of cowhide) and Father Francisco Garcés.

On this trip, he found a pass in the formidable San Bernardino Mountains leading to the Pacific Coast. He arrived at the Mission San Gabriel and followed known Indian trails to the then recently discovered Bay of San Francisco.

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This 1774 expedition opened a practical land route between the internal provinces of New Spain and coastal California. Anza was quickly promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel and just as quickly assigned the task of returning to Tubac to escort colonists to settle the bay area.

The 1775 expedition to colonize San Francisco ended on March 23, 1776, just four months before the Continental Congress endorsed America's Declaration of Independence.

Father Pedro Font, eight soldiers from Tubac, and a few Indian guides left the main party in Monterey to choose sites for the mission and the presidio overlooking the finest bay on the Pacific Coast.

The second expedition by Anza, made possible by the first, is the "why" of the establishment of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail. The formal designation came about by an Act of Congress, Public Law 101-365, passed by the House and Senate and signed into law on August 15, 1990.

It seems as though few people in Arizona and California are aware that a National Historic Trail exists in their backyards. Thousands from Nogales to San Francisco literally live, work and play on this historic route.

One aim of the National Trails System Act is to encourage local groups to participate in development and maintenance of the trail.

Tubac is fortunate to have one group working to do just that. Developers Roy Ross and Gary Brasher, of the Barrio de Tubac and the Mission Land developments, are planning to build a trail following Anza's route between Tumacácori and the presidio at Tubac.

We can only hope that this sensitivity and appreciation by Ross and Brasher becomes contagious since, as those colonists leaving Tubac so long ago must have said, "We have a long way to go." ±

## Certifying Trail Segments

The preceeding article was edited from one appearing in the Tubac Village Sun, Spring 1992 with permission of the author. The article mentions what could be a major beginning for the implementation of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail. A private developer wishes to provide the land for the trail alignment between Tubac Presidio and Tumacácori National Historic Park.

Certification for this segment of trail could become a model for the entire route. Certification is the process through which non-federal sites, segments, or programs that meet basic preservation, interpretation, and/or recreation criteria are designated by the National Park Service as official components of the trail. Once designated, they become eligible for assistance and inclusion in official trail programs. Trail segment certification can occur once the comprehensive management plan is complete.

## Plan Underway

*(Continued from page 1)*

- identify sites that will provide public information about the trail.
- provide for appropriate public use, including opportunities to retrace the trail route.

This summer, the National Park Service will be conducting public workshops in California and Arizona in all nineteen counties through which the trail route passes. These work sessions will be held to identify issues, opportunities, resources, and existing local plans. Those on the mailing list will be notified of their particular county meetings. If you know of people who should be invited, please help us add them to the mailing list. ±

*Meredith Kaplan, National Park Service Team Coordinator for the Anza Trail Plan*

## Along the Trail...

✦ The Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail has been nominated as an Arizona State Historic Trail, one step toward eligibility for Arizona's Heritage Funds.

✦ The City of Tucson, Arizona, has completed a Concept Plan for Mission San Agustin del Tucson Cultural Park which includes restoration/preservation/reconstruction of the Convento and the Mission Gardens to reflect the 18th century Spanish and Native American pueblo. This site provides potential for interpretation of the Anza expedition since Anza and Font both record passing through the pueblo of Tucson. In addition, as Captain of Tubac Presidio, Anza's relationship to the Tucson site is more extensive than the 1775-76 trip.

✦ The Yuma Crossing Foundation of Yuma, Arizona has a strong interest in interpreting the Anza journey to found San Francisco as part of its plan to interpret all crossings that have occurred over time in the Yuma vicinity.

✦ Anza-Borrego Desert State Park in California identifies segments of the Anza trail route within its boundaries. The park's name links Captain Juan Bautista de Anza with the bighorn sheep that live in the park's mountains.

✦ The Juan Bautista de Anza National Trail is named and conceptually routed along roadways in the County of San Luis Obispo trails plan.

✦ Segments of the Delta-DeAnza Trail have been opened for public use by the East Bay Regional Park District in Contra Costa County within the San Francisco Bay Area. The trail parallels the historic Anza route. ✦

## Anza Night in Cupertino

Many memories were shared as the Cupertino Historical Society relived the Bicentennial Anza trek at its April 28, 1992 meeting at the Quinlan Center in Cupertino. Five people, still fitting into their 1976 costumes, appeared in their reenactment garb, authentically designed and crafted by Jeannie Ryder.

The Arroyo de San Joseph Cupertino was an encampment of the Anza expedition. This history inspired major local involvement in the 1976 re-enactment and spawned the California Lancers, formed under the guidance of Joe Adamo. The Lancers are still active proponents of marking the National Historic Trail.✦

*Anza costumes modeled by (front row from left) Joe Adamo, Barbara and James Gregory and (back row) Jeannie and Ham Ryder.*

## ANUNCIOS

### Next Issue

The next issue of *Noticias de Anza* will appear in August 1992. Please have all articles and other information to the Western Regional office by July 15.

### Mailing List

We are sending this newsletter to groups and individuals we have contacted recently either by telephone or during field trips along the route. We have also relied on our files from the 1984-85 feasibility study. Please let us know if there are corrections to be made.

## Doni Hubbard, Volunteer Coordinator

Doni Hubbard, a director of Heritage Trails, the chief sponsoring organization for the Anza Trail, will serve as volunteer coordinator during the comprehensive management plan effort. Doni's most recent book on trails, Favorite Trails of Desert Riders, includes a section on Anza's historic route through Coyote Canyon in Anza-Borrego State Park. Doni has taught history and owns the five volume work of Dr. Herbert Bolton on which the historic definition of the trail route is based. All of you citizen groups and individuals out there, expect a contact from Doni. +

## ¿Como Noticias?

*Noticias de Anza* will bring you news of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail. It is our opportunity to share information with all of you along the 1200-mile trail route. It is also your opportunity to share with each other.

We hope that you will submit articles like the one by Bob Barncastle of Tubac Presidio appearing in this issue. In this way we can all keep up-to-date on newsworthy happenings regarding the future of the route.

We have selected the Spanish name *Noticias* (News) as a reminder of the uniquely Spanish heritage of Arizona and California for which people like Juan Bautista de Anza are responsible. The trail route offers us the opportunity to explore this cultural heritage, to understand the role of the indigenous peoples who made Anza's trip possible, and to appreciate the natural resources along the way. +

If you would like to be on the mailing list to receive a copy of this newsletter, or if you have questions about the comprehensive management plan for the Anza Trail, please contact:

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NOTICIAS DE ANZA
*The Newsletter of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail*

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