



SANTA BARBARA TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

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To Encourage the Preservation of Historic Buildings and Sites in the County of Santa Barbara

NEWS RELEASE

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Photos available upon request

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“The Anza Expeditions and the Settling of California,” a presentation by Vladimir Guerrero, Ph.D.

Thursday, March 15

7:00 p.m.

Historic Chapel at El Presidio de Santa Barbara State Historic Park

123 E. Canon Perdido Street, Santa Barbara, CA

\$: Free for Trust members; \$10 Non-members

Lecture followed by light refreshments

For more information (805) 965.0093

PRESENTATION RECOUNTS THE HISTORIC EXPEDITION OF JUAN BAUTISTA DE ANZA UP THE PREVIOUSLY UNEXPLORED CALIFORNIA COAST – Remarkable journey changed the lives of indigenous peoples and shaped the development of Arizona and California

(SANTA BARBARA, CA, FEBRUARY 27, 2007) – The Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation (Trust) presents **“The Anza Expedition and the Settling of California”** on **Thursday, March 15th at 7:00pm** in the historic **Presidio Chapel**. Join guest speaker **Vladimir Guerrero, author, *The Anza Trail and the Settling of California***, as he recounts the tales of this historic expedition through the uncharted expanses of “New Spain.”

In 1775, Juan Bautista de Anza led 240 men, women, and children up from the northernmost stronghold of New Spain (near the present-day border between Arizona and Mexico) up to what later became the city of San Francisco. This was the second of two expeditions that **pioneered a pathway through unexplored California, and was instrumental in opening up the West to European settlement**. In many ways it was to the Pacific Coast what the Mayflower voyage was to the Atlantic.

“It is, in short, the story of the migration of a racially diverse and yet integrated group of Spanish subjects who were the genesis of the Californio society, the Pilgrims of the State of California” said author, **Vladimir Guerrero**.

With his original translations of the diaries of three key players in these journeys, **Vladimir Guerrero** chronicles an era when priests and military commanders worked together to found cities and when Indian nations and outsiders came together in uncharted desert lands.

ABOUT the speaker - Vladimir Guerrero, a life long student of the language, literature, and history of Spain, holds a Ph.D. in medieval Spanish from the University of California, Davis. He has taught Spanish language and literature at UC Davis, the University of Oslo (Norway), and Michigan State University. His publications include academic articles on medieval literature as well as short fiction. *The Anza Trail and the Settling of California* is his first full-length book.

ABOUT the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation – Founded in 1963 by Dr. Pearl Chase and other concerned community leaders, the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation works to protect, preserve, restore, reconstruct, and interpret historic sites within Santa Barbara County. The Trust is the primary force in the reconstruction and preservation of El Presidio de Santa Barbara State Historic Park and the restoration of La Casa de la Guerra in downtown Santa Barbara. Most recently, the Trust has begun reconstruction on the Northwest Corner of El Presidio de Santa Barbara, the eighteenth-century Spanish colonial fort that is Santa Barbara's birthplace. These additions will eventually house the new Presidio visitor's center, and with the help of the new Resource Center, serve to interpret the city's Hispanic heritage, and the larger multi-cultural heritage of the surrounding Presidio neighborhood from the eighteenth century to the present. **For more information visit www.sbthp.org**

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