

2.0 Introduction - Rancho San Andres Castro Adobe

- 2.1 Welcome to the Rancho San Andres Castro Adobe State Historic Park. My name is (Interpreter/docent name) and I am a California State Parks Interpretive Aide.
- 2.2 This site is listed on the National Register of Historic Places California Historical Landmark number 998 on December 12, 1976.
- 2.3 The Ohlone people occupied this area for over 13,000 years. The Ohlone group was made up of many tribes throughout much of Central California. The ones in this area were the Awaswas speaking Aptos tribe. Just to our south was the Calendaruc Tribe in the area of the Pajaro River.
- 2.4 Juan Bautista de Anza brought about 240 settlers from the northern frontier of New Spain to California for the purpose of establishing *presidios*, missions, and communities (*Villas and Pueblos*).
- 2.5 The expedition brought the Joaquin Ysidro Castro family who were founding members of the Presidio at San Francisco, Mission San Francisco, Pueblo de San Jose, Mission Santa Cruz, and Villa de Branciforte (now Santa Cruz).
- 2.6 When Jose Joaquin was old enough, he joined the Spanish Army as his father had. After he retired, he settled in Villa de Branciforte (1797) and was given a provisional land grant from the Mexican Governor of California, totaling 2 square leagues, confirmed after statehood, as 8,911 acres called Rancho San Andres in 1823.
- 2.7 This Adobe is built in the Monterey Colonial Style and is the only 2 story adobe in Santa Cruz County. Construction of the Adobe is thought to have taken place in 1848-1849 by Juan Jose Castro. He was the son of Jose Joaquin Castro who came to California at the age of 7 with the Anza Resettlement Expedition of 1775.

- 2.8 Through the years, many families have owned this property and played their parts in its preservation.
- 2.9 After the 1989 earthquake, California State Parks acquired the Adobe in 2002 from the Kimbros after years of Edna's advocacy to save the badly damaged building. State Parks, joined by Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks, together they began the restoration and interpretation of this new State Park.
- 2.10 In 2007 Friends of Santa Cruz State Parks (FSCSP) began the restoration by organizing volunteers to make 2500 adobe bricks so that stabilization and restoration by State Parks and FSCSP could begin. Since then, earthquake reinforcement has been installed, a new roof was added and many other improvements that you will hear about.
- 2.11 On your tour today you will:
1. Visit the Potter-Church garden, designed by the famed Thomas Church.
 2. Be taken back to the Rancho days when the Vaqueros herded cattle and other livestock.
 3. Hear how we think the Castros lived in the Sala.
 4. Experience the Fandango Room where many dances were held.
 5. Be introduced to the bedroom of Juan Jose and Rita Castro.
 6. See the Cocina where food was prepared and learn what agricultural products were produced.
 7. Finally, hear about how the Castros lost it all.

