

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

REVISED

NATIONAL SURVEY OF HISTORIC SITES AND BUILDINGS

1. STATE California	2. THEME(S). IF ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE, WRITE "ARCH" BEFORE THEME NO. IV - Spanish Settlement and Exploration
3. NAME(S) OF SITE San Juan Bautista Pueblo (and Plaza)	4. APPROX. ACREAGE 6 Acres
5. EXACT LOCATION (County, township, roads, etc. If difficult to find, sketch on Supplementary Sheet) San Benito County, on the Plaza in San Juan Bautista'	
6. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PRESENT OWNER (Also administrator if different from owner) State of California (Division of Beaches & Parks), - Roman Catholic Church	

7. IMPORTANCE AND DESCRIPTION (Describe briefly what makes site important and what remains are extant)
Mission San Juan Bautista was secularized in 1835 and in the same year, the Mexican government established San Juan Bautista as a pueblo. By 1840 the little town had a population of about 50 Mexicans, which increased to 75 by 1845.

Grouped around the town's central square or plaza are several structures dating from the Spanish-Mexican periods. On the west side is the José Castro adobe, built 1839-41 by General José Castro, one of the two most powerful men in California-Mexican political life from 1835 to 1846. His residence and office is a large well-preserved, two-story adobe with balcony, built in the "Monterey Colonial" style.

To the north of this house is the Plaza Hotel. The first floor of this structure was built about 1814 as a one-story adobe barracks for the Spanish soldiers from the Monterey Presidio, who guarded the mission; its second story and balcony were added in 1858 when the building was converted into a hotel. These two structures are a part of San Juan Bautista State Historical Monument and are open to visitors.

Across the plaza is Mission San Juan Bautista, established June 24, 1797 as the 15th California mission. Its church, built 1803-1812, and measuring 210 by 77 feet, was one of the largest in California. The outer walls of this church are largely original. Owned by the Roman Catholic Church, the church is also open to visitors.

At Third and Franklin Streets is located Casa de Juan Anza. This small one-story adobe is believed to have been built about 1799. The house, now a private residence, has been altered, but is in excellent condition.

8. BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (Give best sources; give location of manuscripts and rare works) **Hubert H. Bancroft, History of California (7 vols., San Francisco, 1884-90), III, 691-693; IV, 661; Helen S. Giffen, Casas & Courtyards: Historic Adobe Houses of California (Oakland, 1955), 51-53; Mildred E. Hoover, Hero E. & Ethel G. Benseh, revised by Ruth Teiser, Historic Spots in California (Stanford, 1958), 286; Kurt Baer, Architecture of the California Missions Berkeley and Los Angeles, 1958), 171-172.**

9. REPORTS AND STUDIES (Mention best reports and studies, as, NPS study, HABS, etc.) **Russell C. Ewing, "San Juan Bautista Plaza, California," (N.P.S. Typescript, San Francisco, March, 1936), 13pp. photos. Historic American Building Survey No. CAL-1120, 14, 1541.**

10. PHOTOGRAPHS * 2114	11. CONDITION Restored Buildings	12. PRESENT USE (Museum, farm, etc.) State Historical Monument	13. DATE OF VISIT May 20, 1958
ATTACHED: YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>			
14. NAME OF RECORDER (Signature) Charles W. Snell	15. TITLE Reg. Chief, Br. Historic Sites	16. DATE Nov. 12, 1963	

* DRY MOUNT ON AN 8 X 10 1/2 SHEET OF FAIRLY HEAVY PAPER. IDENTIFY BY VIEW AND NAME OF THE SITE, DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH, AND NAME OF PHOTOGRAPHER. GIVE LOCATION OF NEGATIVE. IF ATTACHED, ENCLOSE IN PROPER NEGATIVE ENVELOPES.

(IF ADDITIONAL SPACE IS NEEDED USE SUPPLEMENTARY SHEET, 10-317a, AND REFER TO ITEM NUMBER)