

# **Journey of Problem Solving**

## **Lesson Two – Site-Visit Activities**

### **San Juan Bautista State Historic Park**

#### **Park Highlights Sheet**

#### **Historic Buildings Activity Cards**

The following are a few highlights of the San Juan Bautista State Historic Park and the San Juan Bautista Mission. Teachers can make cards with the highlights on one side and the corresponding drawings of the buildings with related flags on the other. Laminate and hole punch the cards for chaperones' and/or students' use while gathering information during your visit.

#### **Park visit and safety reminders**

- To help protect historic buildings, students cannot use pencils during their visit
- In adult chaperoned groups of five or less, students will access the park buildings
- To assist the students, a ringed set of highlight cards will be used to direct the group's focus
- Though every group will visit all of the buildings, each group will start in a different one
- Each group will gather the most complete information about their first building for their class presentation project (see assessments in Lesson Three) - for example the group that visits the mission first becomes the "experts" of the mission and will present an oral report on the mission

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## PICTURE 1

### San Juan Bautista Mission      Mission Days      Spain Ruled California

- **15<sup>th</sup>** mission built in California of 21 missions
- **Father Lasuén**- founded the mission on June 24, 1797
- **Mutsun Indians**- built the mission; many died by common diseases brought unknowingly by the Spaniards and buried in cemetery (around 3,000)
- **church**- largest of the missions; the only one with three naves (sections)
- **adobe bricks**- used in construction; made of mud, straw, manure, rocks and tile pieces
- **animal tracks**- animals walked across the wet adobe tiles while drying and were used in the church floor
- **cat door**- found in the chapel behind the church; cats prevented rodent problems and diseases
- **paintings and borders**- painted by Mutsun Indians and Mexican artists representing various beliefs for the symbols
- **main church alter**- by Thomas Doak, a sailor who left his ship and is said to have been the first US citizen to settle in Spanish California
- **El Camino Real**- unpaved section of the “Kings’ Highway” below the mission, a road linking the missions together
- **San Andreas Fault**- earthquake fault that runs along the side of mission cemetery, a boundary area where the North American Plate is sliding past the Pacific Plate.

## PICTURE 2a

### Castro-Breen Adobe Outdoor Exhibits      Rancho Days      Mexico Ruled California

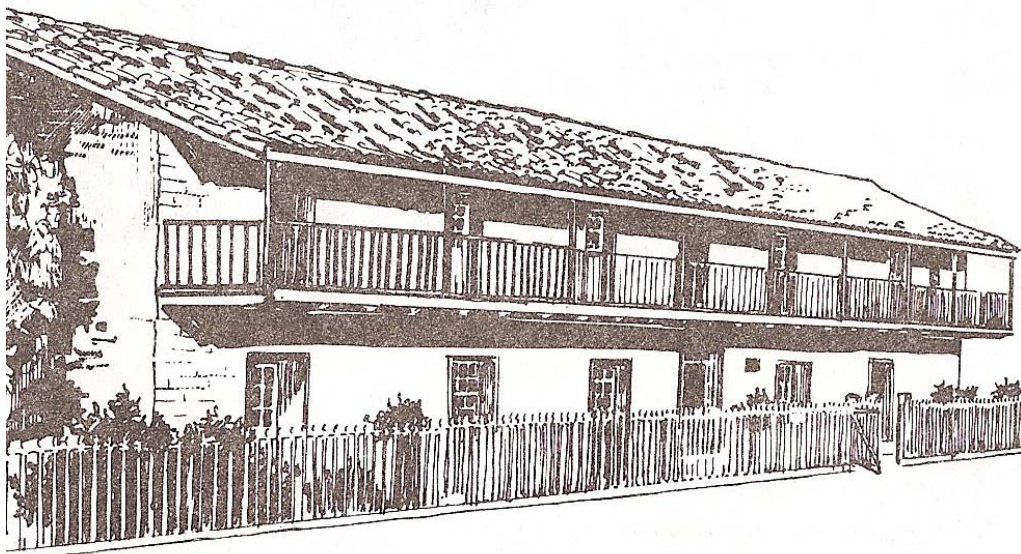
- **gristmill**- large basalt round stones turned by donkey power; grains were funneled through the hole in top stone, the flour was then used to make bread, etc.
- **cistern** - round brick well near eaves of house built to hold water for household uses; used to be 14 feet deep
- **horno oven**- beehive shaped oven; once oven was hot the ashes were removed and foods slowly cooked
- **“California bank notes” (cow hide)**- the touchable hide on the table; used like money to trade for needed goods
- **hide and tallow display**- cow hides were used for leather goods; the tallow (cow fat) was melted down and used in making candles and soap



PICTURE 1 – San Juan Bautista Mission



PICTURE 2a – Castro-Breen Adobe



PICTURE 2b

**Castro-Breen Adobe-Inside Overview of All Cultures Mexico Ruled California**

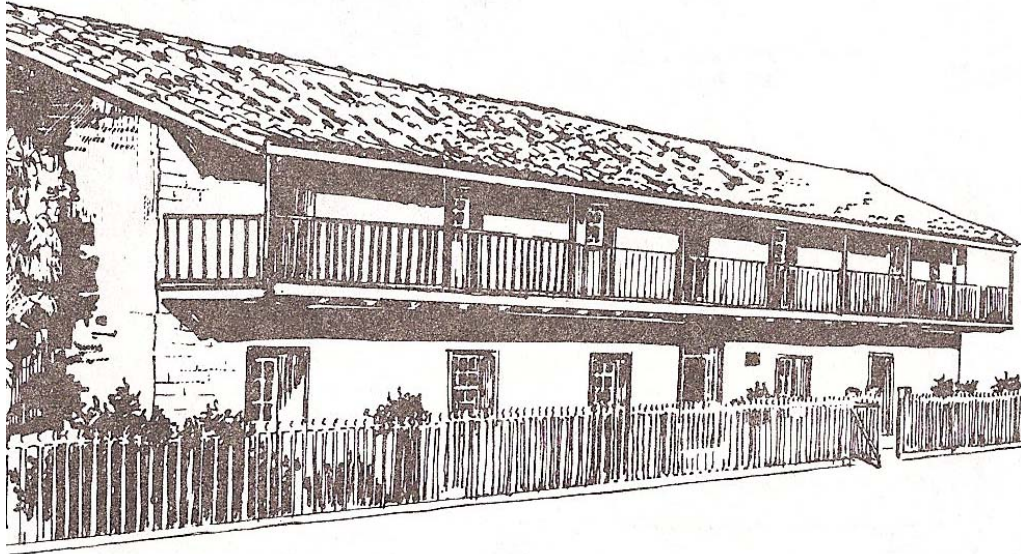
- **General Jose Maria Castro**- Mexican government official, used the adobe structure as his home and office
- **Breen family**- pioneers and survivors of the Donner Party, purchased the home from Castro after John Breen went to the gold fields
- **crossroads map**- routes from Native American times to the present
- **spinning wheel**- wool from sheep was carted then spun into cloth
- **adobe bricks and mold**- a mold was used to form the adobe into bricks
- **rocker**- gold mining tool, used to sift out flakes or, if lucky, nuggets of gold
- **diary**- read about young John Breen's experiences in the California goldfields
- **squeeze box**- musical instrument on top of the piano
- **roof tiles**- notice what was used to make their shape

PICTURE 3

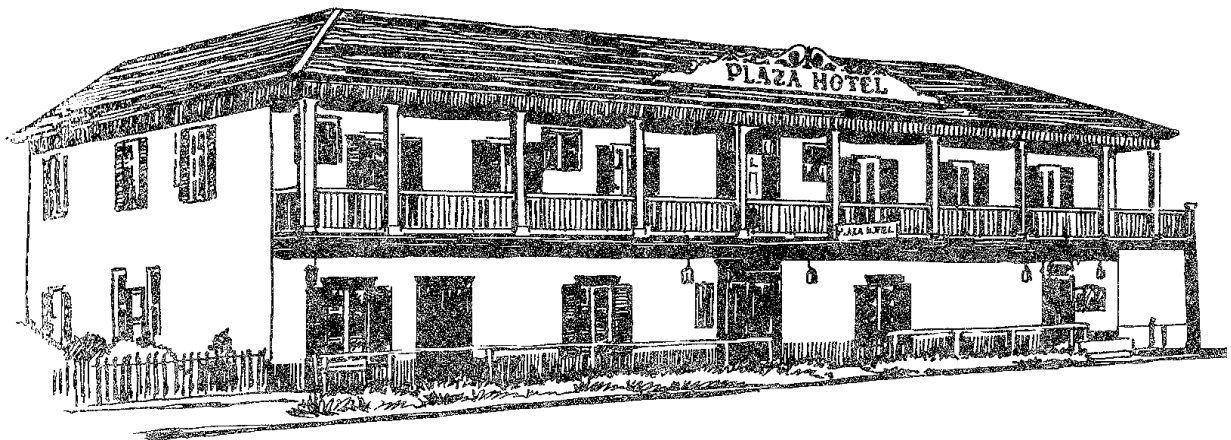
**Plaza Hotel Statehood Days United States Governed CA(beginning Sept. 9, 1850)**

- **Angelo Zanetta**-owner and chef; in charge of dining room
- **John Comfort**- co-owner; ran the hotel rooms and saloon, also owner of the Plaza Stable
- **originally**- the lower portion of the building was a guard house and barracks for the mission soldiers
- **barroom**- was the first room opened to the public in 1856, and made \$3000 in 24 hours
- **rooms**- rented \$1 - \$2.50 per night
- **two-story outhouse**- so the ladies wouldn't have to use the restroom near the downstairs barroom, they walked across a cat-walk from the parlor to the outhouse.
- **the dining room**- the bugle on the table was used to call the hotel staff, letting them know a stage coach was arriving
- **chicken coop**- visit the black Spanish Minorca chickens found behind the hotel, the breed was introduced to the area by Spaniards from the Island of Minorca

PICTURE 2b – Castro-Breen Adobe



PICTURE 3 – Plaza Hotel



PICTURE 4

**Plaza Stable Statehood Days United States Governed CA (beginning Sept. 9, 1850)**

- **built around 1874** for the stagecoach traffic; 11 coaches used to come through daily
- **worked with Plaza Hotel-** as travelers were left off at the hotel to eat and rest; the horses were taken to the Plaza Stable to be cared for
- **25 stalls-** places for horse, with chutes for feeding hay from the loft
- **weather vane-** original; it is in the form of a trotting horse, used to tell wind direction
- **Blacksmith area-** behind stable; blacksmith would make shoes of many sizes to fit horses and other animals; also made tools and metal tires
- **Cattle Brands-** before barbed wire fencing the cattle were identified by the brand of their owners; behind the stable is a display of brands; be sure to see what the brand was for Mission San Juan Bautista's cattle
- **American Eagle-** behind stable; vehicle used to fight fires; note buckets' shape

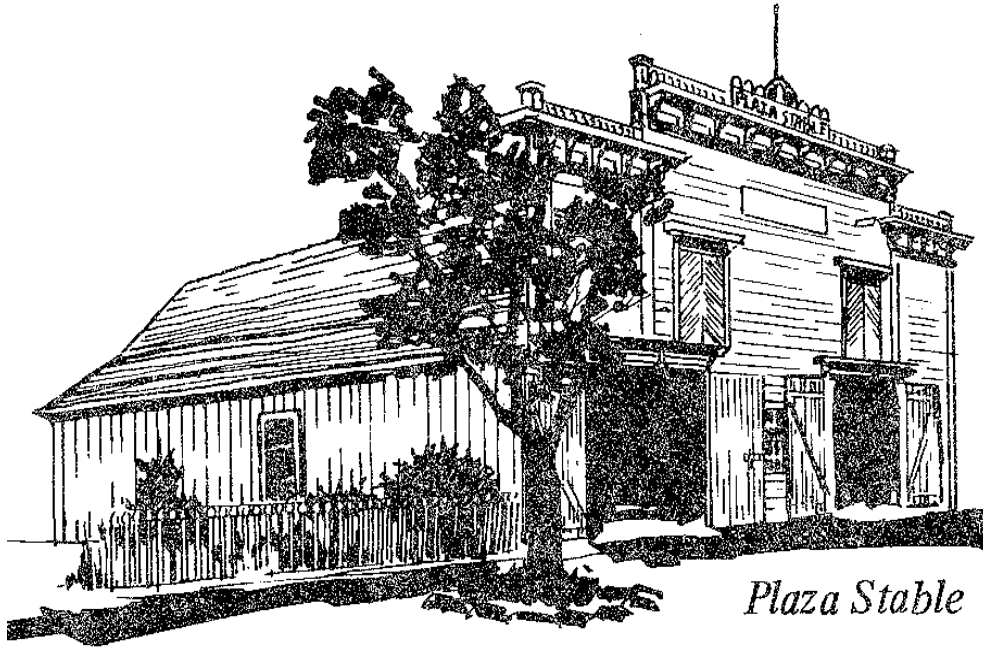
PICTURE 5

**Plaza Hall/Zanetta House Statehood Days United States Governed California**

- **first use-** in its original adobe form, a dormitory for unmarried mission Indian women. An adobe wall can be seen on the back porch.
- **Angelo Zanetta-** built the Plaza Hall over the ruins of the dormitory hoping the building would become the San Benito County Courthouse. From statehood in 1850 to 1874 San Juan Bautista had been part of Monterey County. Unfortunately, when the area became San Benito County on February 12, 1874, the county headquarters moved to Hollister and a county courthouse was built there.
- **Second use-** building became the Zanetta's home when the county seat (headquarters of county government) went to Hollister.
- **children's room-** many toys from the 1800's.
- **top floor-** the upstairs is now closed. It is one large room with a fireplace. The top floor was used for public gatherings and dances.



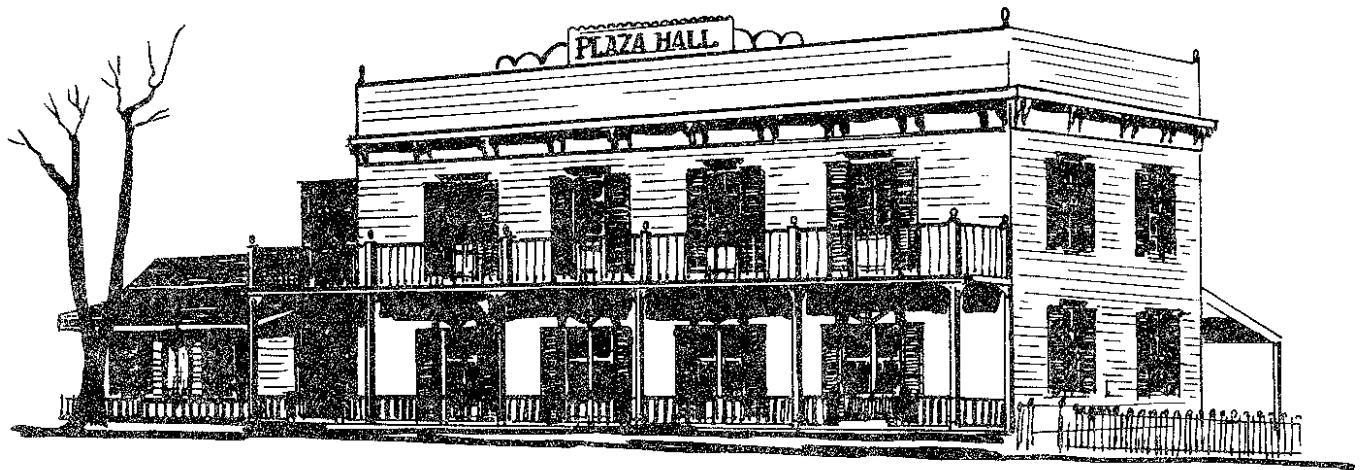
PICTURE 4 – Livery Stable



*Plaza Stable*



PICTURE 5 – Plaza Hall/Zanetta House



*The Zanetta House later became Plaza Hall*