



19005 Coast Highway One, Jenner, CA 95450 ■ 707.847.3437 ■ info@fortross.org ■ www.fortross.org

Title: **Report of a Visit to Fort Ross and Bodega Bay in April 1833 by Mariano G. Vallejo**

Author(s): translated by **Glenn Farris and Rose-Marie Beebe**

Published by: California Mission Studies Association

Source: Fort Ross Conservancy Library

URL: www.fortross.org

Fort Ross Conservancy (FRC) asks that you acknowledge FRC as the source of the content; if you use material from FRC online, we request that you link directly to the URL provided. If you use the content offline, we ask that you credit the source as follows: “Courtesy of Fort Ross Conservancy, www.fortross.org.”

Fort Ross Conservancy, a 501(c)(3) and California State Park cooperating association, connects people to the history and beauty of Fort Ross and Salt Point State Parks.

© Fort Ross Conservancy, 19005 Coast Highway One, Jenner, CA 95450, 707-847-3437

**REPORT OF A VISIT
TO FORT ROSS AND BODEGA BAY
IN APRIL 1833**

**by
MARIANO G. VALLEJO**

**Translated to English
by Glenn Farris and Rose-Marie Beebe
and Annotated by Glenn Farris**



**California Mission Studies Association
Occasional Paper #4
December 2000
Copyright ©**

**REPORT OF A VISIT
TO FORT ROSS AND BODEGA BAY
IN APRIL 1833**

**by
MARIANO G. VALLEJO**

**Translated to English
by
Glenn Farris and Rose-Marie Beebe
and
Annotated by Glenn Farris**

**California Mission Studies Association
Occasional Paper #4
December 2000
Copyright ©**



View of Fort Ross in 1828 by August Bernard Duhaut-Cilly (Frugé and Harlow 1999:188).

FOREWORD

The California Mission Studies Association is pleased to offer this fourth Occasional Paper in our series on mission-era California. The document that is the subject of this publication provides an intriguing insight into the period of change known as the secularization of the missions of California that began in earnest under the administration of Governor José Figueroa.

The original of the document titled: “1833 Mayo 5, San Francisco, Ynforme que dá al Com.^e Gral, el Alfe.^z de la Comp.^a Perm.^{te} Mariano G. Vallejo (Reservado) is found in the Bancroft Library, Berkeley among the Vallejo Papers. It was prepared by *Comandante* of the Presidio of San Francisco, Mariano G. Vallejo for his Commanding General José Figueroa, the new governor of California, following a visit to the Russian establishments of Fort Ross and Bodega Bay and the future location of Santa Rosa.

Two versions of the report by Mariano Vallejo of his visit to Fort Ross in April 1833 are found at the Bancroft Library. The primary one is in the Archivo de Vallejo (1874). In fact, there are both the rough draft original and a clean “final” version among these papers that are noted as having been deposited with the Bancroft in 1874. This document has a summary statement in English: “M. G. Vallejo report to the Comandante General of his expedition to Bodega; condition of the Indians, their hostility, the

effect of the bad treatment received, etc. Report also on the Russian settlements at Ross and Bodega, extent, population, agricultural products, manufactures, commerce, form of government, etc.” This final version was published in a Spanish transliteration by Dr. Michael Mathes (1990). It has also been included at the end of this publication.

There is also another, slightly different version that appears in the Bancroft’s Archives of California, volume 53 (State Papers Missions and Colonization Tomo 2) pp. 98-112. An English translation of the Archives of California version was prepared for use in the plans for rebuilding parts of Fort Ross by Michael Tucker and Nicholas Del Cioppo (1979), however, this was never published.

Once again, the California Mission Studies Association wishes to offer its most sincere thanks and appreciation to the generous support of the John and Beverly Stauffer Fund.

Glenn Farris, *Editor*

Publications Committee

William Short, *Chair*

Rose-Marie Beebe

Laurence Gould

John R. Johnson

Randall Milliken

Robert Senkewicz

PROLOGUE

The year 1833 was a watershed year in the history of California. The newly appointed Mexican governor, a mestizo named José Figueroa, announced the Mexican government's edict that the missions of California were to be secularized. He was a well-liked governor and sought peace with all of the factions that had formerly been at odds under Governors Echeandía and Victoria. One of his other moves was to reach out to the Russians in their settlement at Fort Ross. In an order dated April 11, 1833, he sent the 25 year old *Comandante* of the decaying presidio of San Francisco on a mission to Fort Ross to purchase armaments, to wit: 200 *carabinos* (rifles) appropriate for use by the cavalry; 150 sabers; 200 saddles; 100 pairs of buckskin trousers; 30 *morreones* (uniform caps); some uniform boots and 10 *quintales* (1000 pounds) of lead (Mathes 1990:188-189). It is very unlikely that Vallejo was able to obtain all these supplies¹. As far as purchasing

¹ In the text of his report, Vallejo does not mention what he actually was able to obtain from the Russians. However, in later memoirs he commented, "During my stay at Ross I bought clothing, morocco leather, wax to be presented to the missions and tobacco for smoking in pipes and in the form of snuff. I also opened negotiations for guns which they were to deliver at the rate of fifteen pesos each". However, perhaps the reason he did not mention the purchases in his official report came next, "I paid cash for the pieces of Morocco leather, wax and tobacco, for since I had bought them as presents, they were not to appear on the current account which Governor Figueroa had opened with their neighbors, but the guns and articles of clothing were taken in exchange for products of the country at the market price" (Vallejo n.d.:167-168).

1000 lbs. of lead, we know that the Hudson's Bay officer, Michel LaFramboise was only able to purchase 10 lbs. of powder and 30 lbs. of lead during his visit to Fort Ross on March 22-24 (Maloney 1943:340-341).

Apart from his effort to obtain needed supplies from the Russians, Vallejo also undertook a reconnaissance of the countryside between the Russian settlements of Bodega Bay and Fort Ross and the mission of San Francisco Solano de Sonoma. This last of the California missions was soon to be affected by the secularization edict and transformed into Vallejo's new headquarters for the Frontera del Norte as the civil pueblo of Sonoma.

The report of Vallejo's trip includes many derogatory references to the missionaries and their "corrupt reign" over the Indians. Vallejo makes numerous efforts to gain the friendship of the Indians living between the Russian settlements of Fort Ross and Bodega Bay and the missions of San Rafael and San Francisco Solano de Sonoma. He also appraises various locations for their potential for settlement, particularly the site known as Santa Rosa.

Vallejo's travels through Sonoma County in 1833 brought him in contact with not only the Russian commandant of Fort Ross, Peter Kostromitinov², but also Wallin-?éla

² Peter Stepanovich Kostromitinov was manager of the Ross settlement from 1830 to 1836 when he was replaced by Alexander Rotchev (Pierce 1990:259ff). Kostromitinov stayed on at Fort Ross until at least 1838. He was evidently a competent manager, although his inability to

(Gualinela) the chief of the Indian village at Bodega Bay since 1818 (Farris 1998) and into the near proximity of the Indian leader Toribio. During his visit to Fort Ross he states that the commandant there was annoyed with the fact that the Indians were retreating further and further away from the Russian settlement and that this created a lack of available workmen. Russian Commandant Kostromitinov even suggested that Vallejo and his troops might aid them in rounding up some of the Indians, which he declined to do. It is interesting to find that a few months later the visiting governor of Russian America, Baron Ferdinand Von Wrangell condemned the commander at Fort Ross for his forays into the surrounding territory to forcibly bring back Indians to help with the harvest (Gibson 1969). However, the apparent antagonism between the Russians and some of their Indian neighbors did not seem to apply to all. Vallejo (n.d.: 168) made the observation,

The number of Indians who went in and out of Ross was much greater than had been supposed by the Mexican authorities, for ever since the time of Governor Don Luis Argüello [1823-1825] the Californians had had very little dealings with these 'pioneer land grabbers' alias 'squatters.' We were not well informed as to the progress they had made in their relations with the Indians, but when I witnessed the fact that many hundreds were coming down from their hill country to bring to the fort the hides of wild animals which they traded for

speak other languages hampered him in his dealings with Spanish and French visitors.

tobacco, kerchiefs, and liquor, I came to the conviction that in case of hostilities, the subjects of the Czar could count upon several thousand native auxiliaries.

Whereas the official stance of the Spanish and the Mexican regimes in California had advocated the departure of the Russians from their enclaves at Fort Ross and Bodega Bay, it appears that there was a change of heart, albeit brief, during the Figueroa administration³. In fact, Vallejo appears to have actively sought the help of the Russians in his efforts to establish himself in the new Frontera del Norte in Sonoma. This would explain some puzzling notes in a treaty that Vallejo had prepared in seeking peace with the Satiyomi chief, Tucumin Succara in 1836 (Farris 1989b). In this there were provisions that stated:

4. As a guarantee of good faith of the Satiyomi nation, the Great Chief Succara will send to reside in Sonoma his brother, Cali-Vengo (Loma Brava), and his sons, Ipuu Succara and

³ Vallejo in his later memoirs elaborated on this, writing, “Convinced that the Mexican government did not have at its disposal the maritime forces necessary for dislodging the Russians, who had large establishments at Bodega and Ross, General Figueroa decided that, since there was no remedy at hand with which to meet the evil, he would enter into commercial relations with their neighbors who, without permission of the Government, had made themselves the masters of land and animals which did not belong to them. With such purpose in mind, on May 15, 1833 [sic], he sent me to Fort Ross to bargain with the representatives of the Russian companies for various articles of clothing and arms. In addition, he gave me secret instructions to do with high politics” (Vallejo n.d.:167).

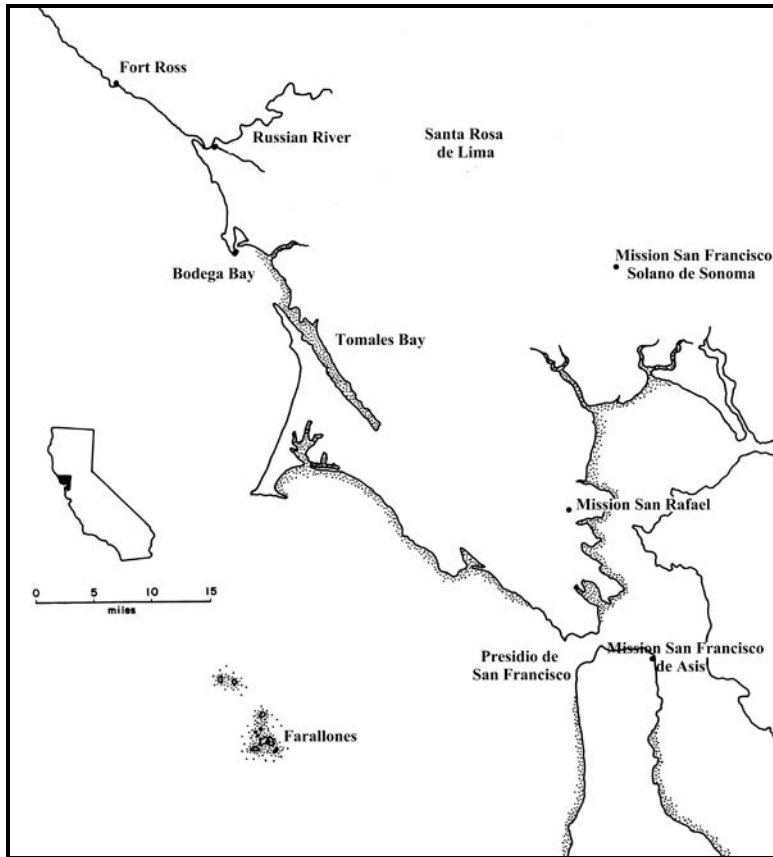
Calpela Succara, who shall be treated, as long as they conduct themselves well, like Russian officers.

9. The chiefs of the Satiyomis promise to deliver within the space of one moon in the valley of Sonoma or at Fort Ross all the children of the Cainamero and Suisun tribes that they have taken prisoner in the course of the last three years (Vallejo 1875:300-302).

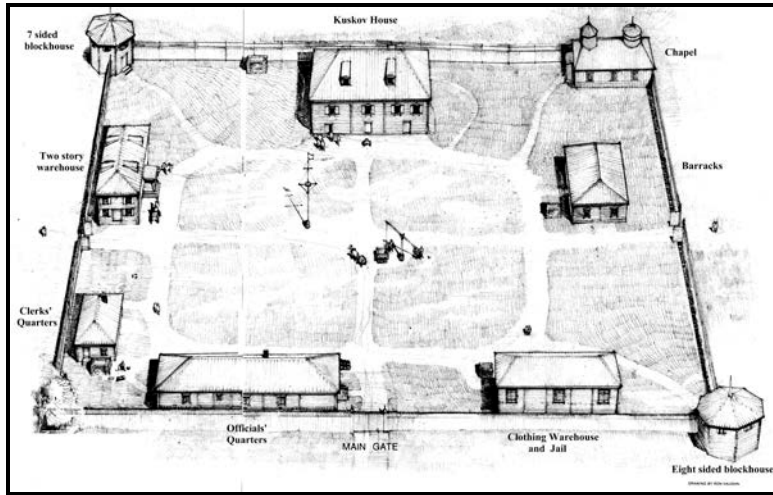
The order of Vallejo's report is somewhat confusing because it begins with Vallejo and his troop of twenty soldiers leaving Fort Ross on his way to Bodega Bay on April 28. (Vallejo stated that he received the order on April 19 and evidently proceeded to Fort Ross sometime soon after since he later says that he departed the fort on the 28th.) He then speaks of his trip through the lands between Bodega Bay and Santa Rosa that make up the main part of his reconnaissance report for the governor. Finally, he provides details of his visit to Fort Ross itself. Vallejo's trip coincided with several other notable visits to Fort Ross within a few month period. John Work's Hudson's Bay brigade passed there on April 19, barely preceded by Ewing Young's fur hunting expedition to the northwest mountains of California (Farris 1989a, 1992). Not long after Vallejo's journey to Fort Ross, it was visited by the governor of the Russian American Company in Sitka, Ferdinand Von Wrangell who arrived on July 12, 1833 (Gibson 1969:207).

Governor Figueroa, himself, later made a report of a visit to Fort Ross on August 23-25, 1834 (Mathes 1990:207-210) in which he commented on the newly constructed farm established two miles from the Russian River called Los Tres Amigos. After Figueroa's untimely death in 1835, official relations between the Mexicans and the Russians again deteriorated⁴ even though on a personal level Vallejo and the last Russian Commandant, Alexander Rotchev, maintained a rather cordial friendship.

⁴ William Slacum (1912:207-208) in a report to the American government commented on this change of relationship, "An agent of the Russian Government was here last year...He got permission from the late General Figueroa (then commandant general of California) to put up a large building on the bay of St. Francisco, ostensibly to be used as a granary to receive the wheat purchases in California; but, in effect, it was intended as a blockhouse, and was to have been made defensible. The timber was cut, and now lies ready to be used. General Figueroa died, and his successor, 'Chico,' prohibited the Russians from erecting their blockhouse."



Map of the area traveled by Mariano Vallejo on his trip to Ft. Ross in 1833 (after Beck and Haase 1974: No. 40).



Bird's eye view of Fort Ross circa 1833 by Ron Vaughn (O'Brien 1980:15-16). Please note that the Barracks building as shown is considerably shorter than its true length of 77 feet. By comparison, the Officials' Quarters is 70 feet long.

**REPORT TO THE COMMANDANT
GENERAL BY THE ALFEREZ⁵ OF THE
PERMANENT COMPANY OF SAN
FRANCISCO, MARIANO G. VALLEJO
(PRIVATE), MAY 5, 1833, SAN FRANCISCO**

On the 28th of the previous month [April 1833] I left [Fort] Ross and went to the port of Bodega, 7 leagues distant from this establishment. [At Bodega Bay] there are two wooden buildings built to service its own ships and foreign ones in discharging, loading and storing cargo and the crops that are grown in this area. This port and another nearby called San Francisco (á) los Tomales⁶, form a beautiful bay whose two points of land extend into the sea at a distance, from one to the other, of about a league and a half⁷ so that it forms the port known until now as Bodega. It has not been named appropriately, for it should be known as a gulf, because inside this bay, between the northern and southern extremities, are two large and navigable *esteros* that have anchorage for some large ships and for many smaller vessels that can travel into the interior for about six

⁵ Second Lieutenant. Despite this modest rank, Vallejo was the Comandante of the Presidio of San Francisco at this time (Sept. 1831-1834). After 1834 he established himself in Sonoma as the Comandante General of the northern frontier of California (Langellier and Rosen 1996:189).

⁶ Also known as Tomales Bay, but earlier called San Francisco de Regis (Payeras 1995:335).

⁷ Four English miles.

leagues⁸. Both abound with trees, but at Bodega it only goes in about a league.

All the lands that surround this bay are covered with grasses of many kinds, suitable for seasonal plantings and irrigation for there are five rivers with enough permanent water, lagoons, etc. unsurpassable for the raising of cattle. Although it was not possible for me to examine the areas of San Francisco [Tomales Bay], I can assure you that it offers greater advantages than Bodega Bay.

There are no fortifications at the port of Bodega. The only people living there are an Indian chief and his people whose ranchería is called Tiutuye⁹. It currently consists of 43 men and women. His task is to protect the buildings the Russians have constructed. They are not bothered on their rancheria by the Russians. On the contrary, Gualinela¹⁰, which is the name of the chief of this rancheria, informed me that a few days before I arrived at this place, 200 armed men, both gentiles and Christian Indians from Mission San Rafael had been there to see for themselves if any troops had passed through that area. A mission Indian from San

⁸ This refers to Tomales Bay which is a long narrow estuary that does penetrate 14 miles inland.

⁹ Tiutuye is noted on a map associated with the Golovnin expedition of 1818 as being on the ocean side of Bodega Head in the area currently known as Salmon Beach (Farris 1998:9). Kelly (1991:7,14) shows it as *Tiwüt-huya*.

¹⁰ This was the same man who had just become chief in 1818 at the time of the visit of Vasilii Golovnin and his ship, the *Kamchatka*. The Russians knew him as Vallí-éla [Wallin-‘éla]. In Bodega Miwok this means “Great Water Spirit” (Farris 1998:9).

Rafael named Toribio¹¹ assured them of this, telling them that they would be killed or taken to San Francisco. A “great captain of soldiers” (this is the name they give their leaders) was in charge of the troops who would do this and the Indians should prepare themselves to fight or see which side to take. In saying these things Toribio managed to scare the gentiles as well as the Christians who had fled from various missions. They immediately told him that a large number of Indians had gathered together and were armed and ready to die or not allow themselves to be taken to other lands by the soldiers as they always were doing.

They were tired of being subjected to the conniving and treacherous lies of the corporals of the guard who said one thing and then did something else. They said the soldiers always promised friendship, but as soon as they had gained the Indians’ confidence, the soldiers would take them captive by force and transport them to the Missions San Rafael and San Francisco [Solano] where they would be forced to become Christians. They were unified wholly by the influence of Toribio. This essentially was what was said by the gentiles with Gualinela, the chief of the rancheria of Tiutuye¹².

¹¹ Toribio was baptized at Mission San Rafael on May 13, 1820, number 386. He was then 26 years old, but described as a *capitan* of the rancheria of Leccatiut (Lecatuit or Leka-tiwut), further up the Petaluma River from the town of Petaluma (SBMA, San Rafael Baptisms; Kelly 1991:5). His Coast Miwok name was *Pixpix-uccux*.

¹² The year 1833 marked the formal secularization of the missions under Governor Figueroa, so it was a time of change in the relationship of the authorities with the Indians. Vallejo was also trying to establish

I spoke persuasively to him; I instilled him with confidence; I flattered him and managed to have his people speak with me even even though they had previously fled in fear leaving Gualinela there alone. I flattered and lavished attention on the chief in front of everyone, which helped gain his friendship. They demonstrated a blind faith in me as well as in my troop which consisted of 20 men. I had forewarned these men to conduct themselves with moderation and gentleness. Gualinela offered to send his emissaries, which he did, to the non-Christian people to tell them that everything Toribio had told them was false. For he himself had spoken with the great Captain of the soldiers who said that they did not wish to fight or kill or to take them to other lands. He and all his people already were friends with the soldiers. He told them that they should lay down their arms and if any of them wished to go to San Francisco [Solano]¹³ with him, they should tell him. I do not know how it all ended because we continued our march before they returned.

With reference to what the *Capitan* of Tiutuye [Gualinela] had told me, when he spoke of the treachery of the soldiers, I observed that the natives had indeed been harassed and deceived as much by the soldiers as by the missionaries

himself in what was soon to become the northern frontier of California. At this point he was looking to develop Indian allies to strengthen his position in the north.

¹³ This referred to the Mission San Francisco Solano de Sonoma that was soon to become secularized and would be Vallejo's headquarters for his new Frontera del Norte.

with their detestable and inconsiderate system of reducing these poor natives to Christianity, violently tearing them away from their homes and transporting them by force to strange lands¹⁴. Since they are then baptized in a similar manner, it is very reasonable and just that they regard with distrust the promises being made to them now. The missions of Alta California have been generally founded on this principle.

I headed to the point of Santa Rosa, some 12 leagues distant from Bodega. I crossed over the closest hills and arrived at the valley called Tamalanica where the Russians had promptly sown fields two years ago. This is 3 leagues from Bodega and about 5 leagues from Fort Ross. There are no Russians or other foreigners at this place, although when they planted there a Kodiak [man] stayed to keep watch. The place has been very cut over and was abandoned because of the complaints made to the Commander of Fort Ross about that establishment by the *Comandante* of the one in San Francisco in the year 1831¹⁵. The result is that they withdrew to Ross where they remain.

I followed my route to Santa Rosa and on the march I passed by the *ranchería* of Satuyomi¹⁶, currently

¹⁴ This policy was called *reducción*.

¹⁵ This may have been in conjunction with the Rancho de Santa Rosa land grant made in 1831 in the Valley of the Cainameros by Governor Echeandía to Rafael Gomez. However, Gomez did not take possession of the grant and his claim was abandoned (Smilie 1975:44).

¹⁶ This comment on the abandonment of the village of Satuyomi (or possibly Satayomi) by its people so that they could unite with their

unpopulated since they have gone to unite with those of the interior. A beautiful permanent creek passes through there. It is capable of irrigating all the lands in its immediate surroundings, and abounds with trees of all types.

Next to this place there is another valley known as Melea¹⁷ that has the same qualities as the previous one. Next, at a distance of 3 leagues is situated the Arroyo de Sayomi¹⁸ with adequate permanent water and surrounded by excellent terrain, irrigable lands, temperate climate, watering places, and wooded areas. Four leagues away, more or less one finds Livantuligüeni¹⁹, which forms in its basin great *tulare*²⁰ lakes teeming with beaver²¹. One can find here, as well as in other places, some vestiges [left by] the foreigners who hunted these animals²². Livantuligüeni

compatriots in the interior is intriguing because a later village of Satiyomi, near present day Healdsburg, was the base of a chief named Tucumin Succara who led a coalition of gentile Indians against Vallejo and his Indian ally, Francisco Solano (Farris 1989b).

¹⁷ Meleya was a Coast Miwok rancheria to the southwest of Petaluma on San Antonio Creek. Melea means “turtle” in Coast Miwok (Kelly 1991:5,96).

¹⁸ This was a rancheria on the Petaluma River.

¹⁹ Levantolome (Livancacayomi); rancheria on west side of Santa Rosa lagoons, five or six miles north of Sebastopol (Merriam 1977:69-70).

²⁰ Shallow lakes with a heavy growth of tule reeds surrounding them. Tule was an important material for house thatching and for making fringed skirts for the women.

²¹ This is a good description of the great Laguna de Santa Rosa.

²² A reference to the various American and Hudson’s Bay Company expeditions that came to California hunting beaver. In fact, only a few days before Vallejo’s arrival there had been a large Hudson’s Bay expedition that passed through the area led by John Work and Michel

is situated to the west of the valleys of Santa Rosa Jaquillomi²³. These [valleys] and the other one contain extensive lands with the finest conditions for founding a beautiful town. I am always inclined to found [the pueblo] in the immediate surroundings of Santa Rosa and Jaquillomi for, in addition to the environment, it is enhanced by a beautiful setting in terms of topography, views, etc.

All that I have described is what I was able to examine while traveling through without going off the trails that were barely passable. As hard as I tried, it was impossible for me to inspect everything because of the heavy rains that made the ground muddy and unsuitable for the herd of horses. I am assured that deeper in the interior, perhaps eight or ten leagues inland, the lands are respectively better and we could see this from a distance. Even though I did not go there, I climbed some hills from where I could observe their extensive and inviting appearance.

This report does not complete the objective set by me before undertaking the expedition because of the dangerous obstacles that kept me from examining everything. This is not the best season for expeditions. For this reason I cannot report with exactness or certainty the land that offers the

Laframboise (Farris 1989a). Somehow, the Hudson's Bay group seem to have not passed near enough to the Laguna de Santa Rosa to have encountered the beaver, because no mention is made in their account (Maloney 1944:22-23).

²³ Jauyomi or Gualomi. Rancheria, called by Spaniards Santa Rosa de Lima, at or near Santa Rosa (Merriam 1977:65).

greatest advantages for the founding of a pueblo²⁴. And since there are such vast lands from which to choose, my plans are not satisfied by the little that I could see, but rather, I conclude that one could find other, more favorable lands. This is why I believe it would be worthwhile to mount another expedition during a better time of year with all the necessary preparations that such an important endeavor demands. For, these lands are heavily populated with natives who are very mistrustful of our motives, a fact that should have been noted from the very outset.

I made various attempts to explore inland but I was not able to further my investigations because of the poor conditions of the terrain. From there I sent messages to the gentiles and Christian Indians assuring them that they would not be bothered if they remained peaceful, as well as anything else I could think of to try to gain their confidence. Even though the messengers did not return right away, I have recently been informed that my promises and assurances have had an impact on the Indians, proof for them being the good treatment they have received from my troop and me. Most of them were pleased that they were treated well and with kindness. They view me as a great captain, and under their orders they promptly released several corporals had been wrongfully pursuing them by order of the missionaries.

²⁴ As part of the secularization of mission lands, a plan was developed to establish a civil pueblo at Santa Rosa using members of the Hijar-Padres party of colonists that had been sent to California.

Sr. Comandante General²⁵, it is necessary to confess the terrible cruelties and injustices perpetrated against the poor Indians by those entrusted with the administration of justice. The temporal and even greater spiritual harm done to these unhappy people has come from the missionaries who have debased the origins and fundamentals of our Christian doctrines. The result is that the natives now ridicule our attempts at evangelism, lose the truth of our religion, and ignore the true morality of our customs. At the same time, it is imperative to admit that these poor men had reason, as I stated before, to band together in such large numbers and remain in a hostile state. These are the inherent consequences of bad faith, of bad treatment and cruelty by the missionaries, and of the bloodthirsty system that they introduced wanting to convince others that this is the method and example of Jesus Christ. What monstrosities! It would not be difficult for me to give Your Honor some examples of some of the methods actually practiced at the missions in this area, such acts that would horrify the most feral of men. However, I omit them because this is neither the time nor place to discuss these matters in detail. Let it suffice to say that I have found no untruth in any of these accusations.

²⁵ Governor and General José Figueroa to whom the report is addressed.

[FORT ROSS]

As discreetly as possible and with all the means at my disposal I tried to understand the intentions of the Russians in promoting the settlements of Sitka and Ross, as Your Honor entrusted me to do. I managed to obtain the following information from the Commander of this place, Don Pedro Costromitinoff²⁶. There are nine Russian-American settlements. Among these are the Island of Sitka, Unalaska, Kodiak, Kamchatka, and others. The Island of Sitka houses 400 Russians, as well as a considerable number of natives. They live within a strong fort because of the continuous insurrections fomented by some of the natives. In the traffic among these establishments, they have 12 purely merchant vessels, three frigates and nine brigantines, four of which number were constructed at Ross. On the island of Sitka there is a permanent settlement that is uniquely intended for fishing and commerce in furs with the surrounding area natives, and in cutting some fine lumber. With respect to agriculture and animal husbandry, clearly speaking, this sterile area will never be able to produce anything in the way of crops because the fields are covered with snow all year round²⁷. The natives of this country survive on fish that are extremely abundant on and around the island. The provisions that they purchase on our coast are distributed

²⁶ Peter Kostromitinov was the commandant at Fort Ross.

²⁷ Vallejo shows a decided misunderstanding of the climate of Sitka in this statement. However, it was true that Russian Alaska was not capable of growing grain crops.

proportionately to all their establishments to provide for the Russians who live there.

With regard to the settlement at Ross, I tried to speak to him with great neutrality and proper discretion. He essentially told me that “according to what he knew, it was founded with the purpose of hunting sea otters and sea lions which were then abundant; that later they cultivated the lands that can be seen around them with a great deal of effort and little return for the essential sustenance of its founders. Their predecessors obtained some large and small domestic animals and now they have increased to 800 head of cattle, 700 horses, 2000 sheep and 60 hogs²⁸. The lands of the establishment can support this number and no more. In the best years the wheat produces only 8 to 1 due to the bad terrain.” In effect, the terrain is not suitable because it slopes, almost perpendicular. It is full of gravel and is mountainous terrain. This greatly reduces the arable land and it is plowed using horses. He also informed me that “he had sown a very small amount of wheat in a valley somewhat distant from Ross and the Commandant of [the Presidio of] San Francisco complained immediately, which caused him to withdraw to Fort Ross. The Comandante General prior to Your Honor protested against the person in charge of conducting business on this coast, Don Cirilo

²⁸ By contrast, Governor Ferdinand von Wrangel, also visiting in 1833, cited figures of 719 cattle, 415 horses, 605 goats and sheep and 34 pigs reported on hand at Fort Ross as of September 12, 1833 (Gibson 1969:209).

Chlebnikof²⁹, and he expressly prohibited him from expanding the boundaries of the establishment even though they might be reduced to existing on a small piece of land. The Russians have managed to cultivate an orchard of 400 fruit trees³⁰ that is located on the best land at the bottom of an embankment that is part of the hills above Ross³¹. They have a vineyard of 700 vines at this location and all is ready for harvesting.

At Ross there are two fine mills, one powered by wind and the other by water³². These serve to grind all their wheat. Both mills are kept in constant motion by the ceaseless wind and by a creek that flows through the settlement. Here they have constructed a structure or dockyard for the building of ships³³, etc., in which they have built four brigantines and several launches, eight of which are there now and carry cargo in this port of San Francisco.

²⁹ Kiril Khlebnikov was a chief agent for the Russian-American Company based at Sitka. He visited California on a number of occasions over the years from 1817-1832 and often represented the Company to dignitaries, but he was never a commandant of Fort Ross.

³⁰ In the comprehensive inventories of 1841 of Fort Ross and the surrounding area, only 260 fruit trees are mentioned as being in the orchard. Once more, it seems Vallejo has overstated the situation.

³¹ The Fort Ross orchard sits astride the San Andreas Fault at the base of the hills above Fort Ross.

³² This is the only indication in the historical record of a water mill at Fort Ross during this period.

³³ Since there had been no ships built there since about 1825, it appears that this "shipyard" was only building launches.

Another building serves as a tannery in which all types of hides are tanned. Their artisans are well trained in their respective trades; a forge or smithy is in good condition.

The current population is composed of 300 men, women and children. Among these are 70 Russians of all ages and both sexes. The rest, which is the major part, is made up of mestizos of Russian and Kodiak mix, and local natives.

The fort is in a state of deterioration, including the [stockade] wall³⁴ that forms a perfect quadrilateral of 100 *varas*³⁵. In the two opposite corners that face, one toward the mountain and the other toward the sea, there are mounted 12 pieces of artillery on two towers or a type of platform, of 8 caliber, six in each one. Six pieces of the same caliber are mounted in a large building with cannon ports on both sides. They call it the Barracks³⁶ and it is situated right next to the main door or gate where they maintain a guard to keep track of whoever enters or leaves. Three pieces are mounted at the rear of the commandant's

³⁴ The deterioration of the buildings and stockade at Fort Ross was also marked by Wrangel, "However, almost all the buildings and the palisade itself with the watchtowers are so old and dilapidated that they need repairs, or they will have to be replaced by new structures" (Gibson 1969:207).

³⁵ Actually, the Fort Ross stockade was more of a rectangle 277 feet by 314 feet.

³⁶ The barracks at Fort Ross was located on the east side of the quadrangle, however, he may also have been referring to the Officials' Quarters on the south side. In either case it is hard to understand how these buildings, constructed so close to the stockade walls could have cannon ports on "both sides."

house³⁷. All of these pieces are mounted on naval gun carriages except for two *violentos* of 3 caliber that are mounted laterally to the stairway of the main building.

Each able-bodied individual keeps a musket at home. Sixty extra muskets and eleven rifles are kept in a gun rack in the antechamber of the Commander's house.

The [stockade] walls and the buildings are built of weak timbers, insufficient to withstand any attack except by the natives who have no heavy arms, only bows and arrows. They could not withstand a cannon ball of any caliber.

The settlement has no military force, for those residing there are all commercial people. The commander is specifically charged with administering business matters as well as justice and reports directly to the Governor on the island of Sitka.

The commander and his subordinates are very disgusted with the Indians whose *rancherías* are nearby because they killed some who had left Ross and for having stolen wheat from the above-mentioned planting. The Commander of Ross was in such a state of exasperation that he decisively told me "that if in addition to my orders I had to engage in hostilities against the natives, he himself with 30 of his men

³⁷ Here too, it seems peculiar to say that the cannons are mounted to the rear of the commandant's house, although there is a space of eight feet or so between it and the stockade wall.

would assist me in chasing and attacking them³⁸.” I declined his offer, saying that my objective was not hostile, but I thanked him for his offer.

The treatment they give the gentiles or Indians is excellent when they invite them to help harvest the wheat. Apart from that, they are very harsh with them³⁹.

Not one *ranchería* has submitted to them apart from the conduct mentioned previously. Not even remotely could one get the Commander or his junior officers to express anything concerning the defections in spite of my relentless determination to observe the conduct of all of them. To the contrary, he instilled a sincere confidence in me, disproportionate with his concept of adulation and false appearances. He is an individual of good circumstances and qualities, fairly talented and educated. He is respected by his subordinates and all of them are men of little patience. His ideas are liberal with respect to government affairs. He communicated that the Governor of the Island of Sitka would be at Ross by the 1st of June⁴⁰.

³⁸ Wrangel’s own report stated the great need for Indian labor to bring in the grain at harvest and to carry clay for making bricks. One hundred and sixty one Indians were working for the company doing this work at the time of his visit (Gibson 1969:211).

³⁹ Wrangel also commented on the harshness of capturing Indians from some distance away and forcing them to work on the harvest at Fort Ross. He stated it was contrary to Company policy and should be stopped (Gibson 1969:211).

⁴⁰ Wrangel did not arrive until July 12, 1833 (Gibson 1969:207).

The village of the establishment contains 59 large buildings, more or less⁴¹. They are without order or symmetry and are arranged in a confusing and disorienting perspective. Inside the walls there are nine buildings, all of them large and attractive, including the warehouses and granaries.

This is all I have to report to you for now as per the orders issued to me dated April 11th, and which I received on the 19th of the same.

I believe that in addition to what I have stated, I should tell Your Honor that it seems to me indispensable to prepare another new study of the terrain that is the subject of this report in order to proceed with more success and manage to establish ourselves on the best land.

I conclude by telling Your Honor that I am very eager to cooperate in some way toward the enlargement of my nation and in the prosperity of this precious and interesting part of the great Mexican Republic.

San Francisco, 9⁴² May 1833
M.G.V.

⁴¹ This figure seems to be corroborated by the inventories of sale for Fort Ross produced in 1841 (Cf. Dmytryshyn and Crownhart-Vaughn 1989).

⁴² In the original this was written as a 6 and then overwritten with a 9. On a separate document dated May 9 is described as “Vallejo to Comandante General forwarding a dispatch from Russian settlement at Ross” (Vallejo Archives, Vol. 2, Parte 2, Doc. 141B; pg. 433). Thus it appears that while the draft was originally penned on the 6th, it was finalized and sent on the 9th of May.

Reservado⁴³

**Ynforme que da al Señor Comandante general
el Alferes de la Compañia permanente de San
Francisco, C.M.G.V.**

El dia 28 del ppdo. salí de Ross y me dirijí al puerto de Bodega distante 7 leguas de aquel establecimiento, en donde existen dos [las] fabricas construidas de madera con objeto de facilitar á sus buques y estrangeros comodidad para descargar, cargar, y depositar las esquilmas que estraen de aquella parte. Este puerto, y el que está inmediato, llamado San Francisco (á) los Tamales, forman una hermosa bahia, cuyas dos puntas de tierra se internan al mar, distantes poco mas ó menos una de otra legua y media, de modo que éstas hacen el puerto conocido hasta ahora por Bodega. No ha dádose hasta aquí el nombre que propiamente debe darsele de Golfo, pues dentro de la bahia dicha, en los dos estremos, Norte y Sur hay dos esteros navegables y capaces para contener fondeados algunos buques de mayor parte, y para multitud de menores, que pueden hacer el trafico hasta seis leguas al interior.

Ambas abundan de maderas, aunque en el de Bodega de esta una legua. Todos los terrenos que circundan la nominada bahía están cubiertos de pastos de todas clases, propios para siembras de temporal y regadio, pues existen cinco arroyos con bastante agua permanente, lagunas, &a;

⁴³ Whereas this text mainly follows the transliteration published by Mathes (1990), in some cases I found certain words in the original that had been left out. These are included in brackets in this text.

de consiguiente inmejorable para la cria de ganados. Aunque no me fue posible reconocer exactamente el de San Francisco puedo asegurar que proporciona mayores ventajas que el de Bodega.

No existe en el puerto de Bodega fortaleza alguna; solo permanece allí un Capitan de gentiles con su gente cuya rancheria se nombra Tiutuye, constante actualmente de cuarenta y tres personas, entre hombres y mujeres. Su objeto es cuidar las fábricas que han construido los rusos. No son molestados por ellos en su rancheria, antes bien, al contrario, [Gualinela, este es el nombre del Capitan de el rancheria], me informó que pocos dias antes de mi arribo á aquel punto, habian estado allí 200 hombres armados entre gentiles y cristianos de San Rafael, con objeto de desengañarse si habia pasado alguna partida de tropa por aquellas inmediaciones, pues así lo aseguró un tal Toribio, cristiano de la Mision de San Rafael, diciendoles á los gentiles que los iban á matar ó llevarlos para San Francisco, y que al efecto mandaba la tropa un grande capitan, (este nombre le dan á los oficiales): que se dispusieran para batirse ó vieran qué partido tomaban, de manera que Toribio consiguió alarmar tanto á los gentiles como á los cristianos huidos de varias misiones: que al mismo tiempo le dijeron que estaban ya reunidos y armados multitud de indigenas resueltos á morir, ó no dejarse llevar para otras tierras como siempre estaban haciendo los soldados. Todo por influjo de Toribio: que ya estaban cansados de sufrir á los cabos de las escoltas tanta cautela y traiciones: que en lo sucesivo seria otra cosa: que siempre los soldados les prometian amistad, y cuando estaban con mas confianza los

aprisionaban violentamente, y los conducian á San Rafael ó [San] Solano para hacerlos cristianos. Estas piensan sustancialmente las espresiones vertidas por [los gentiles de] Gualinela, Capitan de la rancheria de Tiutuye. Lo persuadí, le infundí confianza, le agasajé; y logré que su gente hablase conmigo, la que se habia fugado por temer, y nada menos estaba Gualinela. A todos agasajé y regalé al Capitan, de suerte que conseguí su amistad; hicieron una ciega confianza tanto de mi, como de mi tropa que constaba de 20 hombres, á quienes previne se portasen con moderacion y dulzura. Me ofreció Gualinela enviar á la gentilidad dos ó mas hombres, con objeto de decirles de su parte: que no creyeran á Toribio; que todo cuanto les habia contado era falzo, por que él mismo habia hablado con él Capitan grande de los soldados, y que no queria pelear, ni matar, ni llevarlos á otras tierras; que toda su gente y él eran amigos ya de los soldados; que dejarán las armas, y que si algunos querian pasearse con el hasta San Francisco le avisaran. En efecto, mandó á sus emisarios, cuyo resultado ignoro por haberse marchado antes de su regreso.

Refiriendome á la relacion de Capitan de Tiutuye, cuando habla de las traiciones de los soldados, veo que efectivamente han sido vejados y engañados, tanto por parte de la tropa como por los misioneros, por su sistema detestable y ninguna politica en reducir al cristianismo á los infelices indigenas, arracandolos violentamente de sus hogares, y conducirlos por la fuerza á tierras estrañas, en donde son bautizados en iguales terminos, de manera que con mucha razon y justicia desconfian de las promesas que

se les hacen ahora. Bajo este principio están fundadas generalmente las misiones de la Alta California.

Me dirijí al punto de Santa Rosa distante como 12 leguas de Bodega, trocé la sierra inmediata, y llegué al arroyo de Tamalanica, en donde puntualmente los rusos hicieron algunas siembras dos años hace: dista del puerto de Bodega y de Ross, como 3 leguas del primero, y cinco del segundo. No existe en dicho parage ningun ruso ni otros estrangeros, aunque en el tiempo que sembráron allí se mantuvo un codiaca para el cuidado. El parage es muy corto, y actualmente abandonado, con motivo de los reclamos que hicieron al Comandante de aquel establecimiento por él de este de San Francisco el año 1831 siendo el resultado él haberse retirado hasta Ross donde permanecen

Segui mi derrotero para Santa Rosa y en marcha pasé por la rancheria de Satuyomi, actualmente sin poblacion por hallarse reunida con las del interior, corre un hermoso arroyo permanente que proporciona regar todas las tierras de su inmediacion, y abunda de maderas de todas clases.

Inmediato á este lugar se halla otro arroyo, conocido por Melea en el que concurren las mismas circunstancias que el anterior=En seguida, y á distancia de 3 leguas está situada el arroyo de Sayomi con bastante agua, es permanente y circundando de ecselescentes terrenos de regadio, temporal terrenos de regadio, temporal, abrevaderos y maderas.= A cuatro leguas, poco mas ó menos, se encuentra Livantuliguini, que forma en sus derramaderos, grades lagunas tulares, y abunda de castores. Se encuentra tanto

en este como en los anteriores algunos vestigios de los extranjeros pescadores de estos animales. Está situado Livantuliguini al poniente de los arroyos de Santa Rosa y Jagüillomi; contienen estos y aquel terrenos dilatados con las mejores circunstancias para la fundacion de un pueblo hermosísimo, inclinándome siempre á que ésta sea en las inmediaciones de Santa Rosa y Jagüillomi, porque además de sus circunstancias concurre la de una hermosa situacion topografia, vista, &a.

Todo lo que queda asentado en cuanto pude inspeccionar de tránsito sin salir fuera de las veredas medio traficables, no siendome posible por mas tentativas que hice para verificarlo, á causa de las copiosas lluvias, atascaderos, y malos pasos para la caballada. Se me asegura, que mas al interior, ocho ó diez leguas, son los terrenos mejores respectivamente, y ya se deja ver á lo lejos; pues aunque no llegué, subi algunas cumbres desde donde observé la estension y amenidad de ellos.

Este informe no llena con objeto que me habia prometido antes de mi espedicion, pues encontré obstaculos poderosos que me impidieron verificarlo. La estacion no es la mas a proposito para expediciones. En tal virtud, no puedo manifestar con exactitud ó certeza el terreno que proporcione mayores ventajas para la fundacion de un pueblo, y como se ofrescen terrenos dilatados en donde escojer mi ambicion no está satisfecha con lo poco inspeccionado, sino que calculo que se podria lograr conséguir otros mas ventajosos; por lo que creo que se debe intentar y poner en ejecucion nuevo reconocimiento en

mejor tiempo, y con todos los requisitos que demanda un asunto tan interesante, es decir, con despacio y prolijidad, para lo cual se necesita una fuerza considerable, pues los terrenos estan muy poblados de indigenas que desconfian demasiado de la integridad daden que se debió observar con ellos desde muy al principio.

Desgraciadamente les asiste muchas razon y justicia para ello, cuyos resultados ahora se patentizan por el estado alarmante y hostil en que actualmente se encuentran. Hice varias tentativas para internarme, y no lo pude verificar por lo pesimo del terreno.

Desde allí mandé exhortos á los gentiles y cristianos, asegurandoles que no serian molestados ni inquietados si se mantenian tranquilos, y todo cuanto me ocurrió mas á proposito para hacerlos entrar en confianza. Aunque no volvieron pronto los enviados ultimamente se me ha informado que bastante han podido mis promesas entre ellos y seguridades, siendo les prueba bastante el buen trato han redibido por mi y mi tropa algunos de ellos, y la mayor parte admirados de verse agasajados y tratados con dulzura por mi y me miran como grande capitan, y puntualmente bajo sus órdenes algunos cabos que los han perseguido sin cesar por mandado de los misioneros indebidamente.

Es necesario, Sr. Comandante General, confesar las grandes violencias é injusticias cometidas por los encargados de la Administracion de Justicia en lo temporal, y de mayor magnitud en lo espiritual, con los infelices indigenas, siendo aquellos genios abusivos el origen ó fundamento

primordial de los mas funestos resultados que se palpan: siendo los que han puesto hasta el extremo en ridiculo nuestra verdadera religion, la lenidad del Evangelio, y la verdadera moralidad en las costumbres.

Es al mismo tiempo preciso conceder á esos infelices hombres demasiada razón, como antes dije, para haberse reunido en tanta multitud, y permanecer en actitud hostil, consecuencias inherentes de la mala fé, mal trato, y crueldad de los misioneros, y del sistema sanguinario que introdujeron queriendo persuadir ser este el método y ejemplo de Jesucristo. ¡Que Monstruosidades!

No me seria dificil presentar á V. S. algunos casos practicados puntualmente en las misiones de este demarcacion que son tales que horrorizarian al hombre mas feral, pero los omito por no ser esta ocasion propia, y abreviar mi informe.

Por todos los medios que estuvieron á mi alcance, y con el disimulo que me fué posible, procuré penetrar las miras de los Rusos en fomentar los establecimientos de Sitk, y Ross, segun V.S. me encarga, y conseguí por el Comandante de este Don Pedro Costromitinoff estos datos: que los establecimientos rusa Americanos son nueve, entre los que se cuentan la isla de Sitk, la Onolask, la de Codiak, Camchatk, y otras; que la isla de Sitk contiene 400 personas originarias de Rusia, y número considerable de indigenas, y se mantiene con muy buenas fortificaciones, á causa de las sublevaciones continuadas contra los rusos por aquellos naturales: que en el trafico de los establecimientos

se cuentan actualmente doce embarcaciones puramente mercantes, tres fragatas y nueve bergantines, de cuyo número han construido cuatro en Ross: que en la isla de Sitk, si permanece el establecimiento, es unicamente por la pesca y comercio de peleterias con las tribus inmediatas, y algunas maderas finas: que por lo respectivo á agricultura y cria de ganados, jamas podrá aquella parte estéril producir ninguna cosa de estos ramos por estar los campos cubiertos de nieve todo el año, absolutamente hablando: que los naturales de aquel pais se mantienen con peces de que abunda estremosamente la isla y sus contornos: que las provisiones que se compran por ellos en nuestras costas son remitidas proporcionalmente á todos los establecimientos para la manutencion de los rusos que existen en ellos.

Referente al establecimiento de Ross procuré hablarle con la mayor indiferencia y descuido aparente, y sustancialmente se esplica así: “que unicamente se fundó, segun estaba informado, con objetos de hacer la pesca de nutrias y lobo de que abundaba en aquel tiempo: que posteriormente han cultivado los terrenos que se ven, con mucho trabajo y poco fruto de ellos, para el mantenimiento preciso de sus fundadores: que sus antecesores consiguieron algunas cabezas de ganado mayor y menor, y se ha reproducido hasta el número de 800 cabezas de vacuno, 700 de caballar, 2000 de lanar, y 60 marranos: que este número es el que puede mantenerse en los terrenos del Establecimiento, y no mayor: que los trigos solo rinden, cuando mejor fructifican, ocho por uno, por los malos terrenos”. En efecto, las tierras no son á proposito pues son laderas casi perpendiculares, llenas de cascajo y montañas;

bastante reducidas las siembras, y labrada la tierra con caballos. Me informó también que “había hecho una pequeña siembra de trigo en un arroyo algo distante de Ross, que inmediatamente le reclamó el Comandante de San Francisco, lo que causó retirarse hasta su establecimiento: que el Sr. Comandante General antecesor de V.S. demandó contra él al encargado de los negocios en esta costa Don Cirilo Clebnicoff, y este le prohibió espresamente que no se saliese del ámbito que actualmente ocupaba en establecimiento aunque reducido á corto espacio de terreno.”

Han logrado cultivar una huerta de 400 árboles frutales, que está en el mejor estado y situada en un bajo que forma la ladera de la sierra inmediata á Ross; un viñedo de 700 cepas, ambos en buen estado de fructificación.

Existen dos hermosos molinos, uno de viento y otro de agua, los que sirven para moler trigo, ambos están ocupados continuamente.

Por el clima ventoso y un arroyo que pasa por la misma población son fabricados allí: una casa hermosa y espaciosa ó arsenal para la construcción de buques &a. en donde se han construido cuatro bergantines y varias lanchas, de las que puntualmente existen y trafican dentro de este puerto de San Francisco, ocho.

Otra sirve para curtiduría en donde se curte toda clase de pieles. Sus artesanos son bastante instruidos en los respectivos ramos: una fragua ó herrería en buen estado.

La poblacion existente es de 300 personas, entre hombres, mujeres, y niños, entre los que se cuentan 70 rusos de todas edades y secos; el resto, que es la mayor parte, entre mestizos de ruso y codiaca, de codiaca y naturales del pais.

El estado de la fortificacion está y sigue en deterioro, aun la muralla que forma un cuadrilongo exacto de 100 varas. En los dos angulos contrapuestas que miran, uno hacia la montaña, y otro al mar, estan colocadas 12 piezas de artilleria sobre 2 torreones ó especia de plataforma, de calibre de á ocho, seis en cada uno; seis piezas del mismo calibre estan colocadas dentro de un edificio grande con troneras por ambos lados: se le nombra Cuartel, y está situado inmediato á la puerta principal ó garita, donde se mantiene un portero para saber quien entra ó sale; tres piezas por la espalda de la casa del Comandante; y todas estas piezas están montadas en cureñas de marina, á escepcion de 2 violentos de á 3 que están colocados lateralmente en la escalera del edificio principal.

Cada individuo de confianza mantiene en su casa un fusil: 60 de estos de repuesto colocados en la antesala de Comandante en armeros, y tambien tienen 11 rifles.

La muralla y los edificios son de madera bastante débil propia para resistir las invasiones de los indigenas que no tienen mas que jara y onda; pero no para resistir un cañoneo por menor que sea su calibre.

No mantiene el establecimiento fuerza militar: todos son puramente negociantes. El Comandante es un particular encargado de la Administracion, tanto de los negocios como de justicia, y depende inmediatamente del Gobernador de la isla de Sitk.

Tanto el Comandante de Ross, como sus dependientes, están muy disgustados con los indigenas que tienen sus rancherias menos retiradas, porque han matado á algunos que han visto separados de Ross, y por haberles robado el trigo de la siembra consabida, pero en tal extremo de exasperacion que el Comandante de Ross me habló decisivamente en estos términos: “que si á mas del objeto de mi comision, tenia que hostilizar á los indigenas, él mismo y 30 hombres me acompañarian á perseguirlos y atacarlos.” Me escusé diciendole que mi objeto no era hostil, dándole gracias por su oferta.

El trato que dan á los gentiles ó indigenas es ecseleente cuando los convidan á las cosechas de trigo; furera de ahi, son muy duros con ellos.

Ninguna rancheria se les ha sometido, si no es en los términos antes dichos. Ni remotamente se deja traducir en el Comandante de Ross ni en sus mandarines subalternos clase alguna de defeccion, no obstante mi continuo empeño en observar la conducta de todos ellos, antes por el contrario, me infundió una confianza sincera, desnuda, en mi concepto, de adulaciones y fingimientos. Es un sujeto de bellas circunstancias y cualidades, de bastante talento y educacion. Sus ideas son liberales en cuanto toca á asuntos

de Gobierno. Comunica ciertamente que el Sr. Gobernador de la Isla de Sitk debiera estar en Ross para el día 1° de Junio proximo.

La poblacion del establecimiento contiene 59 edificios mas ó menos grandes; estan sin órden ni simetria de modo que forma ó presta una perspectiva confusa y desordenada. Dentro de la muralla hay 9 edificios, todos grandes y hermosos, incluso los almacenes y trojes.

Es todo cuanto por ahora puedo informar á V.S. de conformidad con las instrucciones que se sirvió espedirme con fecha 11 de Abril po. Pdo., que recibí al 19 del mismo.

Creo ademas del espuesto, decir á V.S. que me parece indispensable hacer nuevo reconocimiento de los terrenos que son objeto de este informe, para obrar con mas acierto y lograr situarse en el mejor terreno.

Concluyo con decir á V.S. que me asisten vivos deseos de cooperar de algun modo al engrandecimiento de mi Nacion, y á la prosperidad de esta parte preciosa é interesante de la grande Republica Mejicana.

San Francisco, 9 de Mayo de 1833 M.G.V.

References Cited:

Beck, Warren A. and Ynez D. Haase

1974 *Historical Atlas of California*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press.

Duhaut-Cilly, August Bernard

1999 *A Voyage to California, the Sandwich Islands, and Around the World in the Years 1826-1829*. Translated and edited by August Frugé and Neal Harlow. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Farris, Glenn J.

1989a Recognizing Indian Folk History as Real History: A Fort Ross Example. *American Indian Quarterly* 13(4):471-480.

1989b Two Peace Treaties between Mariano Vallejo and Satiyomi Chief Succara. Paper presented at the Fifth Annual California Indian Conference. Arcata, CA. October 13, 1989.

1992 The Day of the Tall Strangers and other Events at Fort Ross in 1833. *The Californians* 9(6):13-19.

1998 The Bodega Miwok as seen by Mikhail Tikhanov in 1818. *Journal of California and Great Basin Anthropology* 20(1):2-12.

Gibson, James R.

1969 Russia in California, 1833: Report of Governor Wrangel. *Pacific Northwest Quarterly* 60(4):205-215.

Kelly, Isabel

1991 Interviews with Tom Smith and Maria Copa: Isabel Kelly's Ethnographic Notes on the Coast Miwok Indians of Marin and Southern Sonoma Counties, California. Edited by Mary E. T. Collier and Sylvia Barker Thalman. *MAPOM Occasional Papers Number 6*, San Rafael, California.

Langellier, John Phillip, and Daniel B. Rosen

1996 *El Presidio de San Francisco, A History under Spain and Mexico, 1776-1846*. Spokane: The Arthur H. Clark Co.

Maloney, Alice Bay (editor)

1943 The Fur Brigade to the Bonaventura: John Work's Expedition of 1832-1833 for the Hudson's Bay Company (Part 2). *California Historical Society Journal* 22(4):323-348.

1944 The Fur Brigade to the Bonaventura: John Work's Expedition of 1832-1833 for the Hudson's Bay Company (part 3). *California Historical Society Journal* 23(1):19-40.

Mathes, W. Michael

1990 *La Frontera Ruso-Mexicana. Documentos Mexicanos para la historia del establecimiento ruso*

en California, 1808-1842. Mexico:Secretaria de Relaciones Exteriores.

Merriam, C. Hart

1977 Ethnogeographic and Ethnosynonymic Data from Central California Tribes, Contributions to Native California Ethnology from the C. Hart Merriam Collection, No. 2. Assembled and edited by Robert F. Heizer. Archeological Research Facility, University of California, Berkeley.

O'Brien, Bickford (editor)

1980 Fort Ross: Indians, Russians, Americans. Sacramento: Fort Ross Interpretive Association.

Payeras, Mariano

1995 *Writings of Mariano Payeras.* Translated and Edited by Donald Cutter. Santa Barbara: Bellerophon Books.

Pierce, Richard A.

1990 *Russian America: A Biographical Dictionary.* Kingston, Ontario: The Limestone Press.

SBMA

n.d. Mission San Rafael Baptismal Records. Santa Barbara Mission Archives. Santa Barbara, CA.

Slacum, William A.

1912 Slacum's Report on Oregon 1836-7. *Oregon Historical Society Quarterly*, Vol. XIII, March 1912, (1):205-208.

Smilie, Robert S.

1975 *The Sonoma Mission, San Francisco Solano de Sonoma*. Fresno: Valley Publishers.

Tucker, Michael S., and Nicholas Del Cioppo

1979 Report to Mariano G. Vallejo. Confidential Information Concerning the Ross Settlement (Anonymous). Translated and edited by Nicholas Del Cioppo, October 1979. Ms. On file at Fort Ross State Historic Park.

Vallejo, Mariano G.

1874 Documentos para la historia de California, Archivo Particular del Sr. Don Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo, Tomo 2, parte 2: document 140 (pp. 385-404 [clean version]; 405-426 [draft version]. [Presente del Gen. Vallejo á la Bancroft Library 1874].

1875 *Historia de California*, Vol. III. Bancroft Library, Berkeley.

n.d. Documentos para la Historia de California (English Translation), Chapter XXVII, pp.167-169. Bancroft Library, Berkeley.