Sonoma County Part 1 of 4: Jenner, Timber Cove, Plantation, Seaview Road, Cazadero, Duncan Mills, Fort Ross, Monte Rio, Guerneville.

The Sonoma County Courthouse in Santa Rosa.



Sonoma County

Sonoma County Data Population: 458,614 (Rank: 16) Land Area (square miles): 1,576 (Rank: 29)

Sonoma is divided into two parts. Sonoma Valley is drained by the Petaluma River into San Pablo Bay and the Russian River area drains into the Pacific Ocean.

Jack London, the famous writer, called the Sonoma Valley the Valley of the Moon. His home has been turned into the Jack London State Park. There is also the Annadel State Park and the San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge. The valley is famous for its wine production and wineries. The Russian River area includes redwood forests.

Highway 1 runs along the coast where the Kruse Rhododendron State Reserve, Salt Point State Park, Fort Ross, Sonoma Coast State Beach are located. At Jenner, a small coastal community, the Russian River enters the ocean.

Sonoma is one of the original 1850 counties. There are two versions about where the name comes from. One is that the name is a Chocuyen Indian name translated as "Valley of the Moon." The other is that the name Sonoma comes from Yukian Wappo Indian language, "tso" (earth) and "noma" (village).

Cities: Cotati, Cloverdale, Healdsburg, Petaluma, Rohnert Park, Santa Rosa, Sebastopol, Sonoma, Windsor. Towns: Yorkville, Boonville, Bodega, Bodega Bay

Introduction

California is comprised of 58 counties. The state, the third largest in the U.S., has the greatest diversity of geography of any of the states. It has huge deserts, high mountain ranges, fertile valleys and a 1000 mile coastline. Beginning in 2001 my wife and I began to travel and photograph the state as a retirement hobby.

In 2009 we published a CD containing about 4,000 photos of the regions of the state. Since that time we have added about 10,000 more photos to our collection. It was also at this time (December 2008) I began to send a photographic diary of our trips to friends and people with an interest in California geography.

Now we are organizing our collection by county using all of our photos dating back to 2001.

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Jenner

Jenner began when John Rule bought 4,000 acres from a Spanish land grant in 1867. Rule encouraged a writer, Charles Jenner, to settle there. Today the community has a population of 137. (May 2008)



Jenner



Russian River at Jenner

The Russian River is the only river on the north coast that flows southward. It is 110 miles long. (May 2008)



Russian River at Jenner



The coast near Jenner.



Timber Cove

Timber Cove has a population of 164. This was originally a port were lumber was loaded on ships to take to San Francisco. (May 2008)



Timber Cove



Timber Cove



Bufano Statue at Timber Cove

Behind the motel is Benny Bufano's peace statue. It is 60 feet tall and shaped in the form of a missile with a welcoming hand (to potential Russian missiles.) (May 2008)



Kruse Rhododendron State Park



Plantation

East of the Kruse Rhododentron Park is a Tibetan Buddhist Temple built in the 1990's. We took this shot from the air. The temple is called Odiyon. (2010)

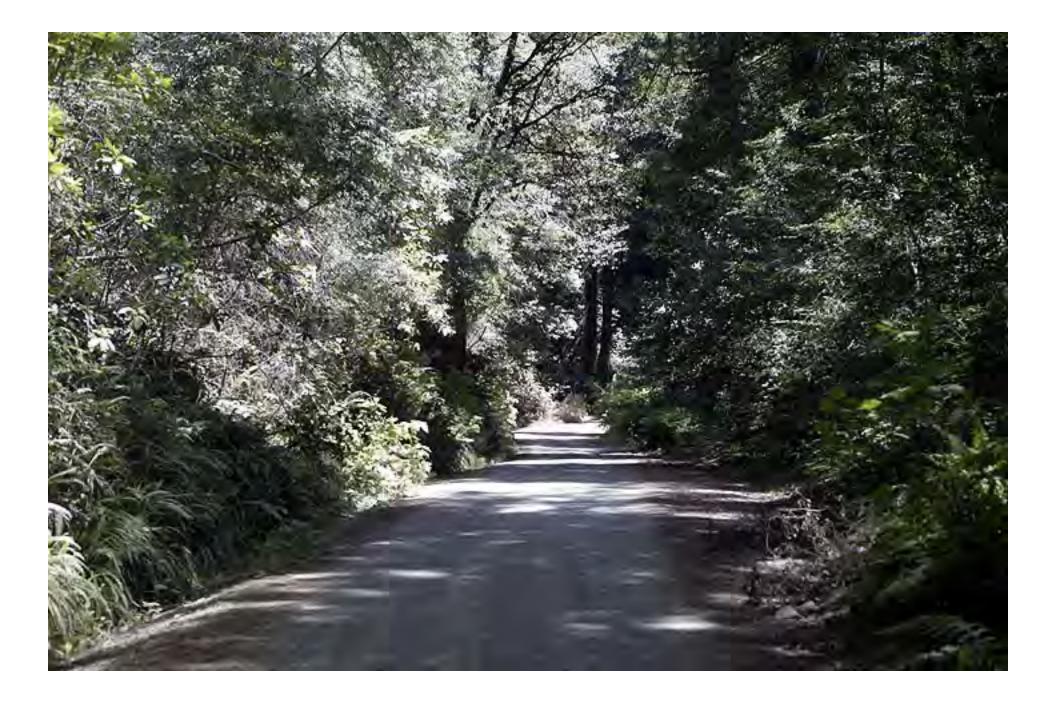


Plantation

Plantation was a community that was created in the 1860's. Today it has become a camp for kids beginning in 1952. (May 2008)

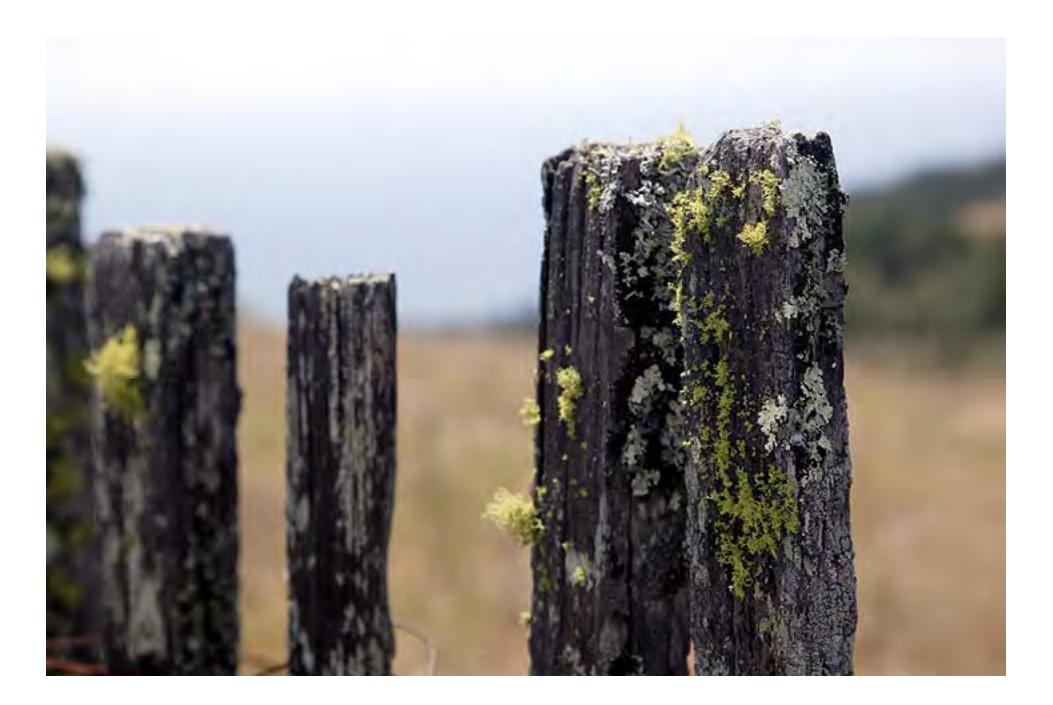


Road to Plantation



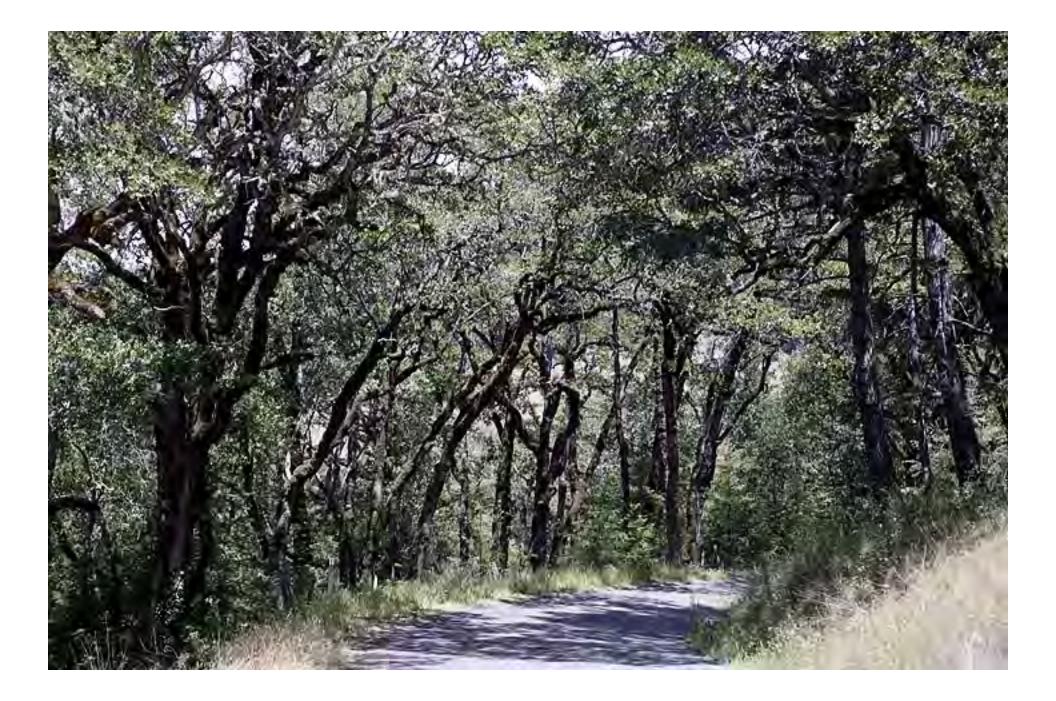
Plantation

















Fort Ross was established by the Russians from 1812 to 1842. Eventually it was sold to John Sutter. (May 2002)





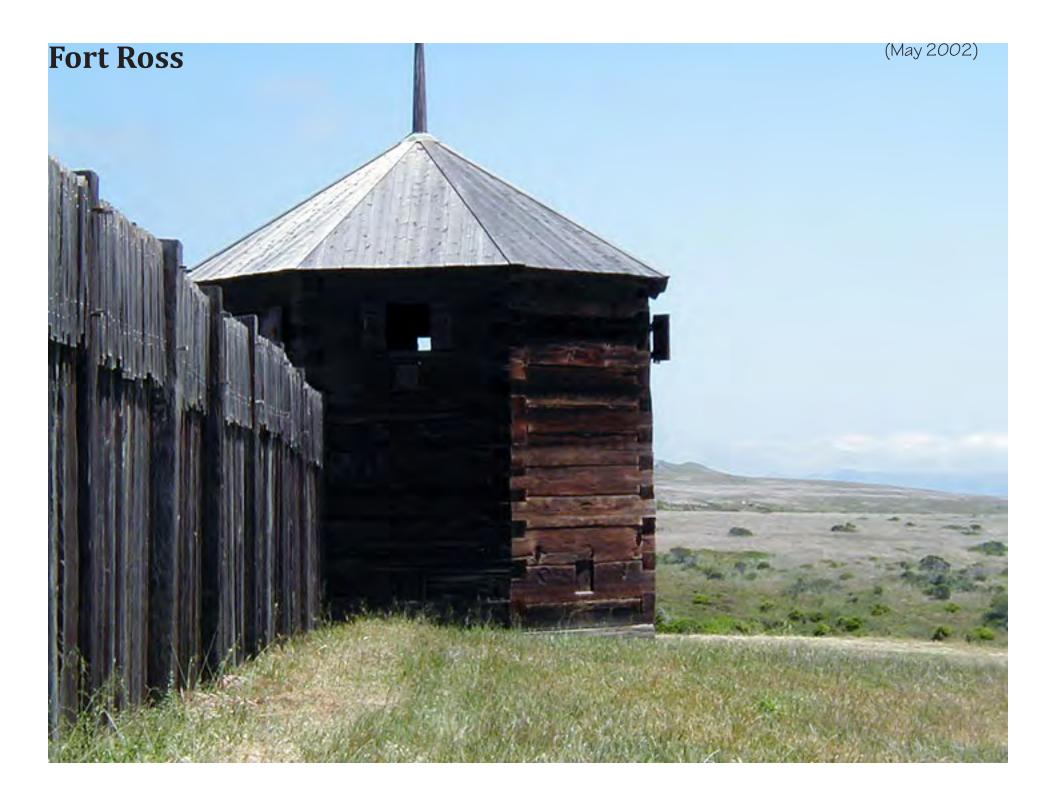






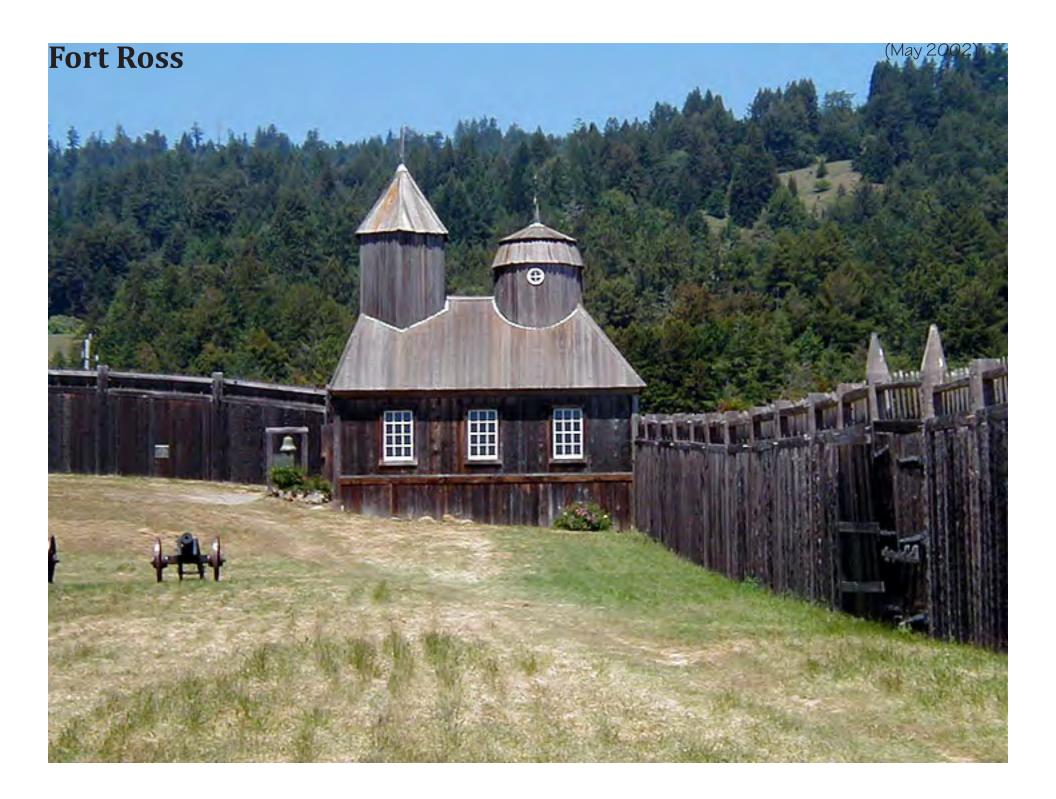










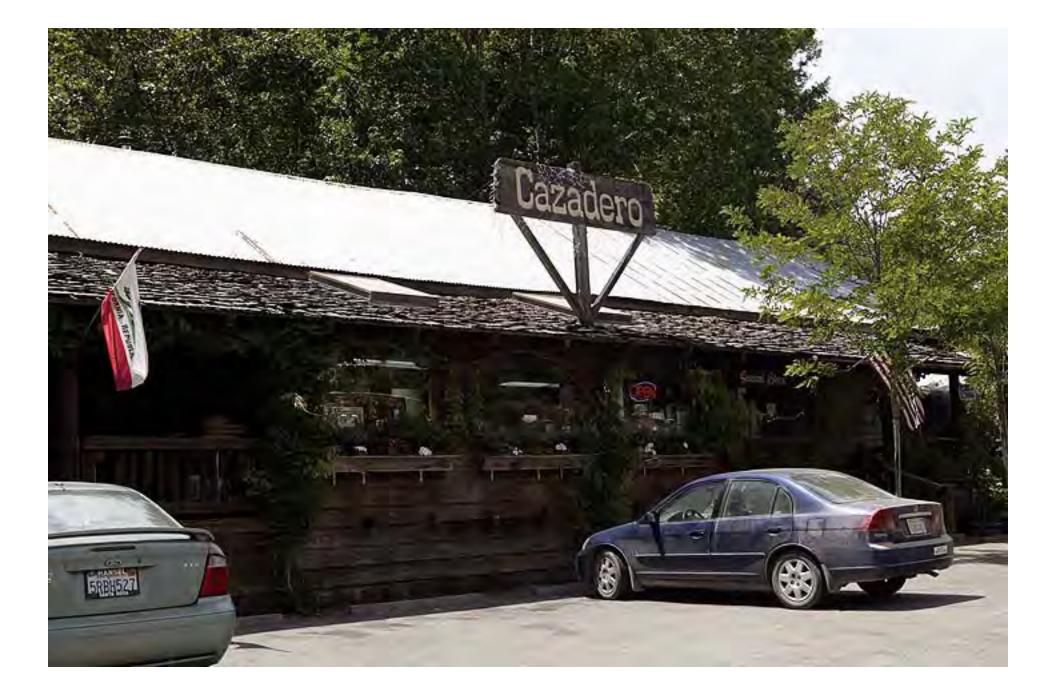




Cazadero has a population of 354. It has many summer camps. It began as a community in the 1870's. (May 2008)















(May 2008)



(May 2008)





Alexander Duncan founded a saw mill here in 1877 on the rail line that ran from Sausalito to Cazadero. It also became a vacation community as are most communities along the Russian River. (May 2008)







(May 2008)









(May 2008)

Monte Rio

Monte Rio is another one of the communities that developed along the rail line to Sausalito. It is the location of the exclusive Bohemian men's club which is located just across the river. (October 2005)



Monte Rio

(October 2005)



Monte Rio

(October 2005)









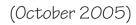
(October 2005)





(October 2005)

















(October 2005)