

# BASQUE LEGACY IN THE NEW WORLD: ON THE SURNAMES OF LATIN AMERICAN PRESIDENTS

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## Abstract

*In this article we explain the etymology of the surnames of Basque origin that some presidents of Latin American countries have or have had in the past. These family names were created in the language called Euskara, in the Basque Country (Europe), and then, when some of the people who bore them emigrated to America, they brought their surnames with them. Most of the family names studied here are either oiconymic or toponymic, but it must be kept in mind that the oiconymic ones are, very often, based on house-nicknames, that is, they are anthroponymic in the first place. As far as possible, we have related the surname, when its origin is oiconymic or toponymic, to its source, i.e. to the house or place where it was created.*

**Key words:** Basque, etymology, family name, Latin America, oiconym, placename, nickname.

## Laburpena

*Artikulu honetan Erdialdeko eta Hego Amerikako herrialdeetako presidente batzuek dituzten eta izan dituzten euskal jatorriko deituren etimologia azaltzen dugu. Abizenok euskararen barnean sortu ziren, Euskal Herrian, eta euskaldunek Ameriketara emigratu zutelarik eraman zituzten berekin. Aztertzen diren deitura gehienak etxe edo toki izenak dira, baina aintzat hartu behar da oikonimikoek, askotan, etxe izengoitietan dutela sorburu, hots, antroponimikoak zirela hasmentan. Ahal izan dugunean abizena iturria-ekin lotu dugu, etorkiz etxe edo leku izena zenean, alegia, deitura sortu zen etxe edo lekuarekin batu dugu.*

**Giltza hitzak:** Euskara, etimologia, deitura, Hego eta Erdialdeko Amerika, etxe izena, leku izena, izengoitia.

We are going to examine, in the present research, insofar as it is possible to us, the first and second family names of the presidents of Latin America whose ancestors were Basque. However, nowadays in some American countries at least, only the father's surname is used, in Argentina for instance, in contrast to current Spanish prac-

tice, and also in contrast to the uses of other South American countries like Bolivia, El Salvador or Peru, where the father's and the mother's surnames—in this order—are born by everyone.

By law, every child born in Spain receives two family names: the father's one in the first place and the mother's one in the second,<sup>1</sup> whereas women do not lose their own surname when marrying. It is the paternal surname which is regularly used as the first one, but sometimes, in order to avoid confusing instances, the second one is also required. In France, on the other hand, the custom is that only the father's surname is carried, being the woman the one who usually loses it in favor of her husband's. We find, therefore, two different traditions in the Basque Country, the Spanish one and the French one.

The present study has been carried out focusing on onomastics and historical linguistics, in an attempt to give an explanation of the original value of the surnames of Latin American presidents. The question has been left aside of whether the names under study correspond to actual presidents or to other kinds of authorities that existed, especially during the period in which the modern South American countries were gaining independence from Spain. In other words: we intend to analyse the original meaning that the Basque family names had—and still often have—in the Basque Country, taking as such the territory where the Basque language or *Euskara* is spoken or was spoken in the last centuries. That is to say, Lapurdi / Labourd, Nafarroa Beherea / Basse-Navarre and Zuberoa / Soule on the French side, and Bizkaia, Gipuzkoa, Araba / Álava and Nafarroa / Navarre on the Spanish side.

When a surname is based on an oiconym it must be born in mind that before the denomination in question became a family name it used to be merely a nickname that was related directly to the oiconym (see Salaberri & Zubiri 2009), as the following testimony from Luzaide (Navarre) dating to 1786 proves: *Ytten en la casa llamada de Echeandia vive Pedro Josef de Echandi* 'Similarly Pedro Josef de Echandi lives in the house called Echeandia'. It is a fact that, in the territories comprising the Spanish empire, the registration of both the name and surname of every new born increased as a consequence of the precepts adopted by the Catholic Church in the Council of Trent (1545-1563), but it is also clear that a very long period of time was necessary so that the mentioned precepts were completely accepted and implemented, at least in the field of onomastics.

We classify alphabetically the countries in which the presidents whose surnames are analysed in this paper ruled, in order to make the search easier, but the surnames under study are ordered chronologically. These names are given in their historical Spanish variant, but in the text we use their original Basque form.

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<sup>1</sup> A law passed three years ago allows the parents to bestow the maternal surname on the child, and a recently passed law determines that when the couple agrees to it, any of the parents' surnames can be bestowed upon the baby. When there is no agreement, however, it is determined by alphabetical order which of the two family names available is put before the other.

## Argentina

*Justo José de Urquiza (1854-1860)*

*Urkitza*: The base for this name is *urki* ‘birch tree’ and the suffix *-tza* ‘place of’ or ‘abundance of’, the meaning of the whole being ‘the place where the birch tree is’ or ‘the place where the birch tree abounds’. *Urkitza* is a frequent microtoponym, as well as the name of a neighborhood of Zeberio (Bizkaia) and that of several farm-houses.

*José Evaristo Uriburu (1895-1898), José Félix Uriburu (1930-1932)*

*Hiri* ‘house’, ‘village’ has a Western Basque variant, *huri*, and then there is *buru* ‘upper area’, which are the elements composing this name. Thus, it denotes the upper part of a village or a house found there.

*José Figueroa Alcorta (1906-1910)*

*Alkorta* is the result of the compounding of *harri* ‘stone’ (usually *har-* in composition) and *korta* ‘stable’, ‘barn’, which is the western variant of *gorte*, *korte* and originated from Latin *cohorte*. The existence of final *-a* is due to morphophonological reasons: since in Western Basque, for example, the union of *neska* ‘girl’ and the article *-a* gives *neskea*, speakers of Basque have reanalysed *kortea* (*korte* + *-a*) as having *korta* as the base, and not *korte*.

*Hipólito Yrigoyen (1916-1922, 1928-1930)*

The components of *Irigoyen* are the aforementioned *hiri* ‘house’, ‘village’ and *goien* ‘upper area’, which is the superlative of *goi* ‘upper area’. This might be a surname based on an oiconym or on a toponym. *Irigoyen(e)a* or *Irigoiengoa* is the name of several houses (found in the Navarrese villages of Ezkurra and Orbaizeta, for instance).

*Pedro Eugenio Aramburu (1955-1958)*

The members of *Aranburu* are *haran* ‘valley’ and *buru* ‘upper area’, ‘hill’, ‘small mountain’. Thus, this name designates the upper area of a valley. In any case, *Aranburu* is a frequent microtoponym, and also a customary oiconym.

*Raúl Alberto Lastiri (1973)*

The elements of *Lastiri* seem to be *lats* ‘brook’ and *iri* ‘next to’, the meaning of the whole being ‘the area next to the brook’; the original *\*Latsiri*, through epenthesis, must have given *Lastiri* (<*\*lats-t-iri*, Mitxelena 1997: 120). The surname that we are analysing probably originates from *Lastiria*, which is the name of a house found in Arizkun (Baztan valley, Nafarroa / Navarre), *Lastiri* being no more than the nickname of the person born in said house.

*Eduardo Duhalde (2002-2003)*

The initial *D-* of *Duhalde* is an agglutinated version of the Romance preposition *de*, which means that the original name was, for example, (*Petri* ‘Peter’) *de Uhalde*. This can very well be the nickname that somebody born in the house called *Uhaldea* received (from *uh-*, a compositional variant of *ur* ‘water’, ‘stream’, ‘river’, plus *alde* ‘area close by’ and the article *-a*, originally meaning ‘the house that is near the stream or river’). There is a house called *Uhaldea* in Uhartehiri (Basse-Navarre), and another one in Sara (Labourd), for instance.

**Bolivia***José María Pérez de Urdinenea (1828)*

*Urdinenea* comes from *Urdinenea*, which is a surname based on an oiconym or house-name. More precisely, the first bearer of the family name was probably born in the house called *Urdinenea* (Lekaroz, Baztan valley, Navarre; in the nineteenth century *Urdinenea* is also documented in the village of Berroeta, in the same valley). *Urdinenea* is a form derived itself from an older variant *Urdinarena*, composed of *Urdina*, a nickname that means ‘the person whose hair is going grey’ plus the ending of the possessive genitive marker *-ren* and the article *-a*; that is to say, it meant originally ‘the house of the man / woman whose hair is going grey’. Until relatively late (around the 17th century), it has been customary for the people born in a house to bear its name as an identifier, which later became a family name.

*José M. de Acha (1861-1864)*

*Acha* is or can be the occidental variant of the general *haitza* ‘the rock’ (*haitz* ‘rock’ plus the article *-a*) whose form is due to a palatalization that happened in the western- and easternmost dialects of Basque. *Atxa* is a frequent microtoponym and the name of some farmhouses located in western Basque Country.

*Aniceto Arce (1888-1892), Walter Guevara Arce (1979)*

The origin of *Arce* may lie in either of Basque forms *Artze* [árce] and *Artzi* [árci]. The first is a common microtoponym and the name of a neighborhood in Donamaria, a small village in Navarre. It means ‘the place where the stones abound’, from *har-*, a compositional variant of *harri* ‘stone’, ‘rock’, and *-tze*, a suffix that can be locative or express abundance. The other possible source of the name, the also Basque *Artzi*, is the name of a village as well as of a valley in the same region (Nafarroa / Navarre), and evolved in Romance into *Arce* [árθe], with an interdental voiceless fricative and with the opening of the last vowel. The etymology of *Artzi*, in any case, is unknown.

*Gebara* is the name of a small village in Araba that was of great importance in the Basque Country during the Middle Ages. It is attested for the first time in Ptolemy’s lists (*Γέβαλα*), during the Antique Period, and has, according to the most renowned researchers (Mitzelena 1950: 478, 1956: 184; Gorrotxategi 2000: 146), an Indo-

ropean etymon related with Gothic *gibla* and Greek *κεφαλή* ‘head’, ‘upper area’. The evolution *-l* > *-r-* is customary in Basque where, as an example of this change, Latin *angĕlu* becomes *aingeru* ‘angel’.

*Mamerto Urriolagoitia (1949-1951)*

The members of the surname *Urriolagoitia* are *Urriola*, which is the name of two neighborhoods in Bizkaia, and *goitia* ‘the upper one’, meaning that this specific farm was located in the upper part of one of the two mentioned neighborhoods, higher above another one that could be called *Urriolabeitia* ‘the lower Urriola’. It is typical of Basque farm names to bear the element *goitia* as opposed to *beitia* and others like *zelaia* ‘flat’, ‘plain’, for instance in *Garitabeitia* / *Garitagoitia* / *Garitazelaia*, the three of which are surnames nowadays. In any case, the base *Urriola*, from the point of view of language, is not completely clear: it could be a compound consisting of *urri* ‘scarce’ and *ola* (‘shepherd cabin’, ‘ironworks’), even though the order *adjective* + *noun* is uncommon in Basque, where the usual order is the opposite. Nevertheless, there are some exceptions like *Agorrola*, composed of *agor* ‘dry’ and *ola*, in front of *Urola*, with *ur* ‘water’ as the first member.

*Víctor Paz Estensoro (1952-1956, 1960-1964, 1985-1989)*

*Estensoro* is a well-known surname nowadays, but, although its Basque origin is obvious, its etymology is not completely clear, since the first element, *Esten-*, could stand for *ezten* ‘sting’, making reference to the form of the *soro* ‘field’, ‘meadow’. However, the oldest testimonies show *Esten-*, not *Ezten-*, and is therefore to be considered of unknown origin. *Iohan d’Estensoro* is documented in 1374 in Segura (Gipuzkoa) and *Martin Yvannes d’Estensoro* in 1407 in Gabiria, in the same region. In 1854 *Estensoro* was the name of two farms, one found in Idiazabal and the other one in Olaberri, both of them in Gipuzkoa. Nowadays *Estensoro* is the name of a farm in Idiazabal, which is located very near from mentioned Segura.

*Hernán Siles Zuazo (1956-1960, 1982-1985)*

*Zuazo* [θuáθo] is the romanized version of Basque *Zuatzu* [suácu], from a previous *Zuhatzu* [suhácu], with a voiced aspiration, which currently names four small villages in Araba. Two of them are documented for the first time in 1025. In Navarre there are, as well, two small villages called *Zuazu* [θuáθu] in Spanish, and *Zu-gatzu* in Basque, spelled *Zuhatzu*. The etymology is clear: a *zuhatz* variant of *zuhaitz* ‘tree’ plus the suffix *-zu* that expresses abundance. That is to say, originally *Zuhatzu* meant ‘place of trees’, ‘forest’.

*René Barrientos Ortuño (1966-1969)*

*Ortuño* is a personal name, which comes from Latin *Fortunius* ‘lucky’, ‘fortunate’, a derivative of *fortuna* ‘luck’, ‘fortune’. *Ortuño* is not necessarily Basque, but it has been rather common in the Basque Country since the Middle Ages: *Hor-*

*tunno de Ybarguen* is documented in Lekeitio (Bizkaia) in 1448 and *Ortuno de Goytia* or *Hurtunno de Goytia* in the near village of Ondarroa in 1495 (Salaberri 2003: 185-186).

## Chile

*Antonio José de Irisarri (1814)*

*Irisarri* is a quite extended surname in the Basque Country, especially in Navarre. Its origin must be found in *Irisarri*, officially *Irissarry*, which is the name of a village in Arberoa or Pays d'Arbéroue, a region in Basse-Navarre. The elements of the compound are, undoubtedly, *hiri* 'village' + *sarri* '(a kind of) forest', the whole meaning, roughly, '(the) village forest'. *Irisarri* is also the name of a house in the Navarrese village of Goizueta.

*Agustín Eyzaguirre (1826-1827)*

*Eizagirre* is the name of a neighborhood found in Azpeitia (Gipuzkoa) and also of several farmhouses located in this province and in Bizkaia. Mitxelena (1997: 37, 42) proposes that the elements of this compound are *haize* 'wind' and *agirre* 'place facing', meaning 'place facing the wind', '(house, farm) found in a windy place', and in fact toponyms like *Aizagirre*, *Aizagerri* are well known, but there is a problem: the medieval attestations of the name have, as far as we know, always *Ei-*. Therefore, it is certain for the second element to be the mentioned *agirre*, but the first one is not completely clear.

*Francisco R. Vicuña (1829)*

*Bikuña* is a small village found in Araba whose oldest record dates back to 1025 (*Pingunna*), which is a form that evolved into *Bicunia* (1156), *Vicunna* (1275), *Bicunna* (1295), spelled always with a digraph <nn> or <ni> that clearly represents a palatal nasal. The origin of the toponym is to be found, in our view, in the Latin construction *\*(villa) pinciuna* 'the property of the man called Pincius'; the subsequent evolution being probably the following one: *\*Pincuina* (with metathesis of *-ju - > -wi-*) > *Pinguña* (written *Pingunna* in 1025, with the voicing of the voiceless velar after *n*, which is a regular change in Basque) and *\*Picuña* (which shows dissimilation of the first nasal consonant that subsequently disappears) > *Bicuña* or *Bikuña* (which shows a voicing of the initial stop, a customary change in Basque).

*F. Errázuriz (1831)*, *Federico Errázuriz Zañartu (1871-1876)*,

*Federico Errázuriz Echaurren (1896-1901)*, *Germán Riesco Errázuriz (1901-1906)*

*Errazuri(t)z* has its source in *Errazuriz* (1726, 1781), which names a farmhouse in the Navarrese village of Arizkun (Baztan valley), pronounced probably *Erratzuritz* [eracúric] or *Erratzuriz* [eracúris] in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, considering the current pro-

nunciation *Erratxúriz*. In our judgement, this is a compound whose elements are the phytonym *erratz* (*Sarothamnus purgans*), *zuri* ‘white’ and *-tz*, which is the remnant of the older suffix *-tze* that expresses ‘place of’ or ‘abundance of’. We must also consider that the neighboring village is called *Erratzu*, a toponym based on the same phytonym.

*Zañartu* is another Basque surname, which has no simple interpretation but which does clearly resemble a verbal participle. It is not impossible for it to be a compound with a second member like *ihartu* ‘wilted’; we do not know whether the first member is *zain* ‘vein’, ‘nerve’, ‘root’ or something else. *Zañartu* is the name of a neighborhood in Oñati (Gipuzkoa) and is attested as *Çanartu* at the end of the fifteenth century; the first record of the toponym that is spelled with <ñ> dates back to 1504.

Finally, *Etxaurren* is a country church in Aiara (Araba / Álava) with a first element *etxe* or *etxa-* ‘house’ and a second element that is probably *hurren* ‘the nearest (place)’, meaning ‘the nearest place to the house’.

*Anibal Pinto Garmendia (1776-1881)*

The elements of *Garmendia* seem to be *gar* ‘flame’, *mendi* ‘mountain’ and the article *-a*, but the first remains doubtful. *Garmendia* is nowadays the name of three farmhouses in Gipuzkoa and a quite frequent family name.

*José Manuel Balmaceda (1886-1891)*

*Balmaseda* names a town in Bizkaia. The toponym is romance, with a first element *Bal-* ‘valley’ and a second one that has an ending *-eda* ‘abundance of’, which is very common with phytonyms, i.e. this ending *-eda* often has a phytonymic base (cf. the Spanish *arboleda* ‘grove’, from *árbol* ‘tree’). The mentioned second element is not clear and, in the case of the surname of the president of Chile, is written with <c>, nothing unusual given that in some Spanish-speaking regions the confusion between [s] and [θ] is common.

*Emiliano Figueroa Larrain (1925-1927)*

*Larrain* is in Basque a transparent noun, meaning ‘threshing floor’, which usually appears together with a suffix, an adjective or another noun. *Larrain* is the name of a farmhouse in Astigarraga (Gipuzkoa) and a microtoponym in the same province.

*Abraham Oyanedel (1932)*

*Oyanedel* is clearly the result of the slight deformation of Basque *Oianeder*, whose components are *oihan* ‘forest’ and *eder* ‘beautiful’, that is to say, ‘beautiful forest’. The change *-r > -l* is well known in some Spanish dialects, in which *beber* ‘to drink’ or *comer* ‘to eat’ become *bebel* and *comel*. *Oianeder* might be a nickname based on *Oianederrenea*, which is the name of a farmhouse in Oiartzun (Gipuzkoa), that is to say, originally it might have meant ‘the person born in *Oianederrenea*’.

*Alfredo Duhalde (1946)*

See *Eduardo Duhalde* (Argentina).

*Augusto Pinochet Ugarte (1973-1990)*

As in *Duhalde*, the first member of *Ugarte* is *ur* ‘water’, ‘stream’, ‘river’, although the compositional variant present here is not *uh-*, but *ug-*. The second component is *arte* ‘span’, ‘space in between’ and the original meaning of the toponym was ‘the space existing between two streams’ (or two rivers, or a stream and a river). The house located in that area would be called *Ugarteia* and the owner or the person living there *Ugarte*, and hence the surname.

We would like to make notice that the widow of the Chilean dictator Pinochet is *Lucía Hiriart*, who bears a surname that is the northern variant of *Iriarte*. This is also the family name of one of the Peruvian presidents (see below).

## Colombia

*Luis de Ayala y Vergara (1812)*, *Felipe de Vergara y Caicedo (1812)*,  
*Estanislao Vergara (1829)*, *Domingo de Caycedo y Sanz (1830, 1831)*,  
*Ignacio Gutiérrez Vergara (1861-62)*, *Julio César Turbay Ayala (1978-82)*

*Ayala / Aiara* and *Aiala*: The first toponym is obscure and designates a region in Araba attested as *Ayala* in 1085, which evolved in Basque into *Aiara*, due to the change *-l- > -r-* that takes place in intervocalic position when the lateral is a *lenis*. On the other hand, *Aiala* is the name of an uninhabited village documented in 1025 as *Aialha*, with the digraph <lh> that is the equivalent of a *fortis* lateral and is not dropped; the components of this toponym might be *\*ai* ‘slope’ and *alha* ‘meadow’, that is to say, ‘the meadow situated on a slope’.

*Bergara* is the name of a village in Gipuzkoa, as well as that of a neighborhood located in Arizkun (Baztan valley, Navarre), and is related to *Birgaragoien / Virgala Mayor* and *Birgarabarren / Virgala Menor*, which are the names of two small villages located in Álava. *Bergara* (Gipuzkoa) is attested for the first time in 1053 and since then the name has always been spelled the same way (*Bergara* or *Vergara*). With regard to its etymology, Mitxelena (1997: 257) considers that this is a difficult toponym to explain; Nieto (1997: 359) thinks that it does not look Basque and may be related to the name *berg-* ‘mountain’, and Albertos (2004: 260) believes that it is an Indo-European toponym (the village is situated in the banks of the river called *Deba*). Irigoien (1987: 162), on the other hand, suggests that the second element of the toponym might be *\*gala*, the Basque version of *kala* ‘small inlet’, ‘place protected from the wind’, ‘sunny side’ present in *Calagurris*, *Calagorris* (currently *Calahorra*, found in the autonomous region of La Rioja).

*Caicedo*: There are two villages of the same name in Araba (*Caicedo-Sopeña*, *Caicedo-Yuso*) and there was a small village, now uninhabited, in the same region, in Trebiñu. We find *Cassiceto* and *Cassizeto* in 1025, which became *Cayçedo*, *Caycedo* in the thirteenth century. Mitxelena (1964: 30) writes that the variant *Caicedo* is due to a dissimilation similar to the one that is found, e.g., in *Plasencia > Plentzia*. This is a



Romance toponym that has the well-known ending *-edo* from Latin *-etu*; the name in the base is a dendronym, a tree-name.

*Santz*, on the other hand, may be a patronymic of the name *Sancho*, *San(t)zo* coming from Latin *Sanctius* (< *Sanctus*), but it may be, as well, a variant of the same in proclitic position (cf. *Arnalt Sanz filius Sanz Fort*, north Basque Country, c. 1100, and *Johan Sanz fill de don Sancho Periz*, Navarre, 1261).

*Manuel Benito de Castro y Arcaya (1812)*

*Arkaia* is the name of a small village located in Vitoria-Gasteiz (Araba) that was recorded for the first time in 1025 as *Arcabia*, with an aspiration. Later, we find the same form in 1135, having become *Arcaya* in 1295. In a recent article (Salaberri 2012: 216) we suggest that this name might be a deanthroponymic, that is to say, a toponym that has in the base a personal name, i.e. the variant *\*Arcanius* of the documented *Arcanus*.

*Antonio Villavicencio y Verástegui (1815)*

*Berastegi* is the name of a village in Gipuzkoa and was some centuries ago the name of another village in Arakil (Nafarroa / Navarre); *Berastegigaitz* ‘Berastegi the big one / the bad one’ was similarly the name of a former village in the same valley. The Gipuzkoan toponym was recorded as *Berastegui* in the eleventh century (c. 1032), and the Navarrese ones as *Berastegui* and *Berastegui Gaiz* in 1143 and 1178, respectively. There are some later attestations of *Blastegui*, which implies an etymon with a lateral, perhaps a derivative of *Vigila* plus the hypocoristic suffix *-x* and *-(t)egi* ‘place’, that is to say, ‘the place (house, farm...) of the man called *Berax* (*Berats*)’.

*Fernando Serrano Uribe (1816), Álvaro Uribe (2002-10)*

*Uribe* is composed of *huri* ‘house’, ‘village’ and *be* (< *behe*) ‘below’, meaning originally ‘the area / the house situated below the village (located usually on a hill, on a slope)’. *Uribe* is the name of a region in Bizkaia, that of a neighborhood in Zeanuri, in the same province, and the name of several farms.

*Simón Bolívar (1819, 1826, 1829)*

See this name in Venezuela.

*Rafael Urdaneta (1830-31), Roberto Urdaneta Arbeláez (1951-53)*

*Urdaneta* is the name of a neighborhood in Aia (Gipuzkoa) and that of several farms found in the same province. This toponym can not be derived directly from *urde* ‘pig’ and it seems more appropriate to think of *urdan-*, a compositional variant of *urdain* (< *\*urdani*) ‘pigman’, plus the locative suffix *-eta*, the whole meaning something like ‘the pigman’s place (house, farm...)’, ‘the place where the pigmen usually are’.

*Arbeláez* is a slight deformation of *Arbelaitz*, the name of a rock located in Zegama, as well as of a mill in Mutriku and of several farmhouses, all of them found in Gipuzkoa. The components of the compound are *arbel* ‘slate’ and *haitz* ‘rock’, ‘boulder’.

*Juan de Dios Aránzazu (1841-42)*

*Arantzazu* is the name of a village in Bizkaia, of a neighborhood in Gordexola in the same province, and of another neighborhood in Oñati (Gipuzkoa). It is also the name of a farmhouse and a microtoponym. Currently this toponym is a very widespread female name, due to the popularity of the sanctuary of the Virgin Mary found there. The etymology is transparent: *arantza* ‘blackthorn’ plus the collective suffix *-zu*, the whole meaning ‘the place where the blackthorn abounds’.

*José María Melo y Ortiz (1854)*

*Ortiz*, *Ortitz* is the patronymic of the personal name *Orti*, which is the Basque variant of Romance *Fortunio*, *Fortun*, *Fortuño*, *Furtuño*, etc., very frequent in the Middle Ages, which comes from Latin *Fortuni*.

*Manuel María Mallarino Ibarguen (1855-57)*

*Ibarguen* is the western variant of *Ibargoien*, from *ibar* ‘valley’ and *goien*, a superlative of *goi* ‘high’, meaning either ‘the high(est) valley’ ( $\approx$  *Ibargoiti* in Navarre) or ‘the highest part of a valley’. There is a neighborhood called *Ibarguen* in Zeanuri (Bizkaia), as well as two towerhouses and several farmhouses with the same name in the same province.

*Mariano Ospina (1858-1861), Pedro Nel Ospina (1922-26), Mariano Ospina (1946-50)*

*Ospina* ‘vinegar’ is an attested nickname in the Middle Ages that makes reference to the character of its bearer.

*Francisco Javier Zaldúa (1863, 1882)*

*Zaldu* means ‘grove situated mostly near a river, stream’ (sometimes ‘a wet place abundant in trees’) from Latin *salto*, from where its Spanish equivalent *soto* also comes; *-a* is the definite article. *Zaldu* is the name of a neighborhood in Gordexola (Bizkaia) and *Zaldúa* is the name of another neighborhood in Zaldibar (Gipuzkoa), as well as of several houses and places in the whole Basque Country.

*Juan Agustín de Uricoechea Zarnozza (1864)*

*Urikoetxea* is the name of six farmhouses in Bizkaia; the elements of this compound are *huri* ‘house’, ‘village’, the ending of the place-genitive *-ko*, *etxe* ‘house’ and the article *-a*, that is to say, ‘the house of (that is in) the village’.

*Zarnozza* might be a deformed variant of *Zornotza*, the name of a Bizkaian village. It was also the denomination of a farmhouse in Zestoia (Gipuzkoa) that dates back at least to 1479, and is still the name of three farms and also a microtoponym. *Zornoztegi*, *Zornoztaegi* was, as well, the name of a small village in Araba, and, therefore, there is enough ground to think that long ago *\*zornotza* was a common name, but unheard of in the present.

*Joaquín Riascos García (1867)*

*García* is attested very often in the Middle Ages as *Garzea*, *Garzeia*, *Garze*, *Garzeo*, *Garzio*, *Garzia*, *Garzi*, etc., and according to Irigoien (1982: 625-634) it means ‘the young person’. From the medieval *Gartzea* comes the Basque adjective *gaztea* ‘young’ and also *Gartzia*, romanized as *García*, which used to be a very common first name in ancient times that became afterwards a family name.

*José Eusebio Otalora (1882-84)*

*Otalora* is the name of seven farmhouses in the west of the Basque Country and a microtoponym in Arratzua-Ubarrundia and Legutio (Araba). It seems to mean ‘the place where the flower of the furze or gorse abounds’.

*César Gaviria (1990-94)*

*Gabiria* is the name of a village in Gipuzkoa. In our judgement (Salaberri 2011: 163) it is a deanthroponymic based on the personal name *Gaberius*. The etymon seems to be *\*(villa) gaberiana* ‘Gaberius’ house’ and the evolution the following: *\*(villa) gaberiana* > *\*Gabiriana* (by assimilation) > *\*Gabiriâa* (with the dropping of the lenis nasal in intervocalic position) > *Gabiria*.

**Costa Rica***Francisco María Oreamuno (1844-1846),**Ricardo Jiménez Oreamuno (1910-1914, 1932-1936)*

It seems that the origin of the surname *Oriamuno* is to be found in the name of the farmhouse called *Oriamuño* (Segura, Gipuzkoa), which was attested as *Oriomuno* or *Oriamuno* in the Middle Ages. At present there is a village called *Orio* on the coast of said region, and the river that flows into the sea by this village is called *Oria*. Mitxelena (1997: 143) refuses to see there *(h)ori* ‘yellow’ and prefers to speak about an unknown base *\*ori(a)*. We (Salaberri 1997: 32-33) spoke in favor of seeing there a derivative of the mentioned color noun, with a different determiner in each case: a determiner that expresses distance (-a) in the hydronym and another determiner that expresses proximity (-o) in the village name. Another possible explanation is to think that *Orio* is a deanthroponymic, that is to say, a toponym that derives from the personal name *Olius* (*\*Oliano* > *\*Oriano* > *Orião* > *Orio*). The second member of the compound is *muno* ‘hill’. The spelling *Orea-*, with *-ea-*, is probably due to hypercorrection.

*Aniceto Esquivel Sáenz (1876), Ascensión Esquivel Ibarra (1902-1906)*

*Eskibel* is the name of a small village located in Vitoria-Gasteiz (Araba / Álava), the name of a farmhouse in Busturia (Bizkaia), that of a house in Zuia (Araba / Álava), and a microtoponym found here and there. The first element is probably *Es-*, a compositional romanized variant of *(h)aitz* ‘rock’; the second component

is *gibel* ‘back’, which contains an unvoiced velar plosive as a result of its position after a voiceless sibilant. The original meaning of the name was ‘the back of the rock’.

*Sáenz* (*Saentz*) is a patronymic, in other words, a surname that in the Middle Ages expressed that its bearer was the son or daughter of a man called *Sancho*. The surname might have originated in the Basque Country, but it might have its source, as well, in any other region of the north of the Iberian Peninsula.

*Ibarra* (*ibar* ‘valley’ + the article *-a*) is the name of a village found in Gipuzkoa, the name of several neighborhoods and of many farmhouses, and a frequent micro-toponym. The etymology of *ibar* is, according to Lakarra (2013), *ur* ‘water’ (‘stream’, ‘river’) and *\*bar* ‘inside’, ‘under’, and the evolution of the word as follows: *hur* (this is the old form of the standard *ur* and it is still alive in some dialects) + *\*bar* > *\*huh-bar* > *\*hibbar* > *\*ihbar* > *ibar*.

*Juan Bautista Quirós Segura (1919)*

This surname could have originated in *Segura*, the name of a Gipuzkoan village, but this is not certain, given that in Spain there are several homonymous villages. According to Nieto (1997: 321-322) it comes from *Villa Secūra*, which is based on the name *Secūrus* of the Roman owner. Another possibility, since the village in Gipuzkoa was founded in the Middle Ages, is to consider that the origin of the toponym is the Spanish (*Villa*) *segura* ‘safe village’, which is a name that would go together with some other medieval toponyms like *Villafranca*, *Villagrana*, *Villamayor*, *Villanueva*, *Villarreal*, etc.

*Julio Acosta García (1920-1924)*

See *Joaquín Riascos García* (Colombia).

*Luis Rafael Obilio Ulate (1949-1953)*

*Ulate* appears to be the result of a slight deformation of *Eulate*, which is the name of a small village in Ameskoa valley (Nafarroa / Navarre). The second component is clearly *ate* ‘door’, ‘pass (across the mountains)’ and the first one could be *euli* ‘fly’, but this is not certain. The original meaning may be, therefore, ‘the mountain pass where the flies abound’.

*Mario Echandi (1958-1962)*

*Etxandi* is a surname that comes from a nickname and this, in turn, derives from the rather frequent oiconym *Etxeandia*, *Etxandia* ‘the big house’ (this house exists, for instance, in the Navarrese villages of Labaien and Ziga; the elements are *etxe*, *etxa-* ‘house’ and *handi* ‘big’, plus the article *-a*). That is to say, originally *Etxandi* was the person born in the house called *Etxeandia* or *Etxandia*.

*Miguel Ángel Rodríguez Echeverría (1998-2002)*

*Etxeberria* is a very common oiconym and, as a result, a truly extended family name, transparent for any speaker of Basque. It means ‘the new house’, from *etxe* ‘house’, *berri* ‘new’ and the article *-a*.

## **Cuba**

*Carlos Mendieta (1934-1935)*

*Mendieta* is the name of some neighborhoods in the Basque Country (located e.g. in Araba and Bizkaia), that of several farms and a very extended microtoponym. Its base is *mendi* ‘mountain’ plus the suffix *-eta* that expresses ‘place of’ or ‘abundance of’.

*Manuel Urrutia (1959)*

In colloquial speech *urruti* is an adverb that means ‘far’, but in toponymy *Urrutia* denotes ‘the area located on the other side of the river (stream, brook...)’ and is the name of numerous houses found in Basse-Navarre (Aiziritze, Arnegi, Behauze), in Labourd (Arrangoitze), in Navarre (Abaurrepea, Etxalar, Garaioa, Orbaizeta, etc.) as well as of neighborhoods located in Navarre (Erronkari, Garde, Otsagabia...). All these are situated beyond the river, taking always the area where the church and the town hall are as reference. A derivative of the former, *Urrutikoetxea* (with *-ko* ‘of’ and *etxea* ‘the house’), can be, as well, the source of the surname (in Ezkurra, Navarre, for example).

## **Dominican Republic**

*Héctor García (1965-1966)*

See *Joaquín Riascos García* (Colombia).

## **Ecuador**

*José Joaquín Eufrasio de Olmedo y Maruri (1845)*

*Maruri* is the name of a village in Bizkaia (officially *Maruri-Jatabe*, attested *Maruri* in 1416) and the name of several farmhouses. This seems to be a compound of a descendant of the Latin anthroponym *Maurus* (\**Mauru*, *Mauri*) plus *huri*, the western variant of *hiri* ‘house’, ‘village’, which means that the origin of the toponym would be \**Maurihuri* > *Maururi* > *Maruri* ‘Mauri’s house’, ‘Mauru’s village’.

*Manuel de Ascásubi (1849-1850, 1869)*

*Askasubi* is documented in 1483 in the Guipuzkoan village of Oñati (*Juan de Ascasubi*, *Sancho de Ascasuby*) and later in 1860, this time as a farmhouse found in the same village. According to Mitxelena (1997: 64), this surname is composed of *azkar*,

*askar*, which is the name of a tree (*Acer campestre*), and *zubi* ‘bridge’. The evolution has been apparently as follows: *askar* + *zubi* > \**askarzubi* > *askasubi* (with *-rz-* > *-s-*, as in *edertarzuna* > *edertasuna* ‘beauty’).

*Antonio de Elizalde (1850)*

*Elizalde* is a family name that is based on the nickname *Elizalde* ‘the person born in the house that is called *Elizaldea*’, which in turn means ‘the house that is near the church’. The components of the surname are *eliza* ‘church’ and *alde* ‘near’, ‘close to’. *Elizaldea*, in addition to being a very frequent oiconym (it exists, for instance, in Lekaroz and Orbaizeta, Navarre, and in Sara, Labourd), might be, as well, the name of a neighborhood, just as in Luzaide (Navarre), or a microtoponym.

*Diego María de Noboa y Arteta (1789-1870), Pedro José de Arteta (1867-1868)*

*Arteta* is the name of a small village located in Olloibar valley (Nafarroa / Navarre), as well as of several farmhouses, and a rather extended microtoponym. Its components are the noun *arte* (*Quercus ilex*) and the suffix *-eta* that denotes, like other toponymic endings, ‘place of’ or ‘abundance of’.

*José María Mariano Segundo Fernández de Urbina (1851-1856)*

*Fernandez de Urbina*: This kind of composed surname where the first element is a patronymic and the second a toponymic was very common in the Basque Country in the Middle Ages, but later a simplification took place and, as a result, usually the most frequent element (the patronymic) became lost and only the toponymic survived, given that it was the most appropriate in order to identify a person. However, in Álava these compound family names survived, albeit lexicalized, and as well as in the neighboring area of Navarre.

At present there are three villages named *Urbina* in Álava, and although the toponym has been explained as being composed of *ur* ‘water’, ‘stream’, ‘river’ and *bi* ‘two’ meaning ‘the village located near two streams’ (*Urbia*, *Urbieta* and the like are common in Basque microtoponyms), the last segment remains without a satisfactory explanation, and we think that it is more probable for it to be a deanthroponymic toponym based on \*(*villa*) *urbinana* ‘Urbinus’ villa’ (Salaberri 2012: 224).

*Gabriel Gregorio García (1859)*

See *Joaquín Riascos García* (Colombia).

*Manuel Gómez de la Torre Gangotena (1859)*

*Gangotena* is clearly based on an oiconym whose last part is the genitive desinence *-ena*, which expresses ownership, the whole meaning originally ‘the house of a person called *Gangot*’. This *Gangot* contains the suffixes *-go*, a variant of *-ko* after a nasal, and *-ot* of Romance origin, both of them very common in Basque hypocoristics,

and its source is *Juangot*, which means ‘little John’. The surname comes probably from the Navarrese village of Erratzu (Baztan valley) where the house called *Gangotena*, *Juangotena* is recorded in 1726 (Ondarra 1984: 14, Salaberri 2009: 121). Currently there exists a house called *Gangoteneko borda*, originally meaning ‘the stable / secondary house of Gangotena’.

*José Javier Eguiguren (1875)*

*Egiguren* is a compound of the noun *hegi* ‘slope’, ‘hillside’, ‘long summit’ and the adjective *guren*, meaning approximately ‘beautiful’, which has been interpreted by many, mistakenly in our view, as ‘limit’, ‘border’. In our opinion this toponym meant something like ‘beautiful slope’, ‘beautiful long summit’. *Egiguren* is the name of a neighborhood in Berriatua (Bizkaia) and the name of two farms in Elgoibar (Gipuzkoa).

*Antonio María Vicente Narciso Borrero y Cortázar (1875-1876),  
Ramón Antonio Borrero y Cortázar (1883)*

*Kortazar* is originally an oiconym composed of the segments *korta* ‘stable’, ‘barn’ and *zar*, from an older *zahar* ‘old’, the whole meaning ‘the old stable’, ‘the old barn’.

*Pedro Ignacio Lizartzaburu (1883)*

*Lizartzaburu* is a toponym that is composed of *lizartza* ‘place where the ash tree abounds’ and *buru* ‘upper area’, ‘hill’. *Lizartza* is very frequent in Basque microtoponymy and is, as well, the name of at least two farms and that of a village in Gipuzkoa.

*Vicente Lucio Salazar (1895)*

*Salazar* is the Romance variant of the name of the Navarrese valley that in Basque is called *Zaraitzu*, both toponyms coming from *Saresaço* (924), *Sarasaço* (c. 1032), *Saresazo* (1034), *Sarasazu* (1055, 1099), *Sarasaitz* (1255). This means that the etymon was something like *\*Sarasaitzu* and the Basque evolution the following: *\*Sarásaitzu* > *\*Zarásaitzu* (with the familiar assimilation of the sibilants) > *Zaráitzu* (by dissimilation of the second sibilant, which is dropped; it is possible, as well, that the name were shortened by haplology). The evolution of the Romance variant was probably as follows: *\*Sarásaitzu* > *Sarasá(t)zu* > *Sarasá(t)zo* > *Sarazáz* > *\*Sarazár* > *Salazár*. Nevertheless, the surname *Salazar* could come, as well, from *Salazar*, which is the name of a village in the north of Burgos (Spain); in such a case it would have nothing to do with the mentioned *Zaraitzu*.

*Lizardo García Sorroza (1905-1906)*

*Sorroza* is probably a slight deformation, or the result of dissimilation, of *Zorroza*, in Basque *Zorrotza*, from *zorrotza* (*zorrotz* ‘sharp’ + the article *-a*), which is a quite

well-known Basque nickname attested from the Middle Ages on (*Lop Santz Çorrotça*, 1249).

*Carlos Freile Zaldumbide (1911-1912)*

*Zaldunbide* is a toponym composed of *zaldun* ‘knight’, ‘horseman’ and *bide* ‘way’, ‘path’ meaning originally ‘(the) horsemen’s way, path’, ‘(the) way along which the horsemen used to ride their horses’. *Zaldunbidea* is a place-name found in Arriñao (Navarre), the name of a wood in Mendata (Bizkaia) and of a house in Bithir-ña (Basse-Navarre), among others.

*Leónidas Plaza (1912-16)*

*Plaza* ‘square’ is a Spanish word, but also an oiconym found in Zugarramurdi (Nafarroa / Navarre) referring to the location of the house at issue, as well as the name of a neighborhood in Sara (Labourd). Therefore, *Plaza* might be the mentioned Spanish noun, but also a family name coming from a Basque oiconym. In fact, *Plaza* is a well-known surname in the Basque Country, which is found, for instance, in Narbarte (Navarre), not far from the villages of Sara and Zugarramurdi.

*Francisco Arizaga (1925-1926)*

*Aritzaga* is a surname that is based on a toponym and is composed of *haritz* ‘oak tree’ plus the suffix *-aga* that denotes a place where the noun of the base can be found or where it is of abundance.

*Pedro Pablo Garaicoa (1925-1926)*

This surname is based on a place- or house-name; its components are *garai* ‘tall’, ‘upper’, the desinence of the place-genitive *-ko* and the article *-a*, the whole meaning being ‘the (house) located in the upper neighborhood’, ‘the (house) situated high in the village’. *Garaikoa* is the name of a house in Orbaizeta (Aezkoa valley, Navarre).

*José Modesto Larrea (1925-1926), Luis Alberto Larrea (1931),  
Carlos Eduardo Freile Larrea (1932), Osvaldo Hurtado Larrea (1981-1984)*

*Larrea* is the name of a small village in Álava, that of several neighborhoods and farms, and also a very extended microtoponym. The noun *larre* means ‘meadow’ and the final *-a* is the definite article.

*Isidro Ayora (1926-1931)*

In the Middle Ages the male name *Aioro* and its female counterpart *Aiora* were common in the Basque Country and gave rise to some patronymics (*Aioroiz*, *Aioritz*...), but it is probable that they were known in other regions as well, outside the territory where Basque was spoken.



*José María Velasco Ibarra (1934-1935, 1944-1947, 1952-1956, 1960-1961, 1968-1972)*

See *Ascensión Esquível Ibarra* (Costa Rica).

*Carlos Julio Arosemena (1947-48), Carlos Julio Arosemena (1967-68),  
Otto Arosemena (1966-68)*

*Arotsemena* is a surname based on an oiconym that meant originally 'the house that belongs to the smith's son'. Its elements are *arotz* 'smith', *seme* 'son', the genitive desinence *-(r)en* plus the article *-a*. The house *Arozsemerena* is recorded in Elizondo (Baztan valley, Navarre) in 1726, it having currently become *Arrosamenea*, due probably to folk etymology (*Arrosa* 'rose' and hence a female name).

*Francisco Illingworth Icaza (1960)*

*Icaza* seems to be a derivative of *ika-*, which is a compositional variant of *iko* 'fig tree' plus the suffix *-tza* 'place of', 'abundance of', but as Mitxelena (1997: 146) suggests *ika-* could stand also for *ike*, *ika*, *pika* 'steep hill'. In this case this name would denote 'the place where there is a steep hill', 'the place where there are steep hills'. *Ikatza* is the name of several farmhouses, almost all of them found in Bizkaia.

*Clemente Yerovi Indaburu (1966)*

*Ierobi* is the name of a farm located in the village of Oiartzun (Gipuzkoa), and attested for the first time, as far as we know, in 1425. As Mitxelena writes (1997: 100, 135), the elements of this compound are *ihera*, which is a variant of *eihera* 'mill', a derivative of the verb *eiho*, *eho*, *ehotu* 'to grind', 'to mill' and the suffix *-era*, which denotes here 'place', and *hobi* 'pit', 'hole', 'gully', 'small cavity'. The original meaning, therefore, was 'the hole of the mill', 'the gully where the mill is located'.

*Indaburu*: At the beginning this was probably a nickname that designated 'the person born in the house called *Indaburua*' (Azpilkueta, Navarre; Ibarrola, Oztibarre, Basse-Navarre). The members of this oiconym are *inda* 'path', *buru* 'upper area', 'hill', 'small mountain' and the article *-a*, the whole meaning being 'the house located in the upper area of the path'.

*Rosalía Arteaga (1997)*

*Arteaga* is the name of more than one location (village or neighborhood) found in the Basque Country (two in Bizkaia, one in Navarre) and very frequent, as well, as house-name and microtoponym. Its base is the dendronym *arte* (*Quercus ilex*) plus the suffix *-aga*, which denotes a place where the noun of the base, i.e. the *Quercus ilex*, can be found, or where it is of abundance.

*Carlos Mendoza (2000)*

*Mendotza* is the name of a small village in Araba / Álava. Traditionally this name has been interpreted as coming from *mendi* 'mountain', *hotz* 'cold' plus the arti-

cle *-a*, that is to say, originally it would be, according to this explanation, '(the village situated on) the cold mountain'. However, the location of the village does not help a great deal, given that it is not found on the top of a mountain, but at the *Arabako lautada / Llanada alavesa* 'the plain of Araba / Álava', and we believe (Salaberri 2012: 223-224) that it might be a toponym based on the anthroponym *Ventuitius*, with the following evolution: *\*(villa) ventuitiana* 'the property of Ventuitius' > *\*Bentutjana* > *\*Bentotjana* > *\*Bentotzana* > *\*Mendotzâa* > *Mendotza* (Basque) > *Mendoza* (Spanish).

### El Salvador

*Carlos Salazar (1834), Gregorio Salazar (1834), José María Peralta (1859, 1860-1861)*

See *Vicente Lucio Salazar* (Ecuador) and *Enrique Peralta Azurdia* (Guatemala).

*Rafael Zaldívar (1876-1884, 1884-1885)*

*Zaldibar* is the name of a village in the province of Bizkaia. The first component of this toponym is probably *zaldu*, which means 'grove situated mostly near a river' (sometimes 'a wet place abundant in trees') from Latin *saltn*, from where its Spanish equivalent *soto* also comes. In any case, there is another possibility, namely that the first component would be *zaldi* 'horse', since it is often quite difficult to distinguish between this name and *zaldu*, in composition, given the phonetic similarity that exists between them. The second element is clearly *ibar* 'valley', and the whole must have meant originally 'grove valley' or 'horse valley'.

*Carlos Ezeta (1890-1894)*

*Ezeta* seems to be a derivative of *Eza* (see *Melchor de Eca Múzquiz y de Arrieta*, Mexico) plus the suffix *-eta*, which denotes 'place of' or 'abundance of', but we do not know for certain whether the base is *Eza* (*Etza*) or something else. Another possibility is to think that this toponym comes from an original *Lezeta* (a quite common toponym; its etymology is *leze* 'cavern', 'cave' plus *-eta*), as a result of the dropping of the *l*, but this dropping is not justified.

*Osmín Aguirre y Salinas (1944-1945)*

*Agirre* is the name of several neighborhoods and a very common Basque oiconym. It means approximately 'the place facing', 'the house that is found in a visible place'.

*Salinas*: It is not certain that this toponym comes from the Basque Country, but several villages are found therein that are called *Salinas* in Spanish, from *salina* 'saltmine', 'salt-flats', 'saltmarsh', denoting a village where salt is abundant and is produced or extracted from the ground. In Basque these villages are called *Gatzaga*, *Getze*, etc., *gatz* meaning 'salt'.

*Carlos Mauricio Funes (2009)*

*Funes* is the name of a Navarrese village that almost always has been documented as such (the first attestation dates back to 1014), that is to say, it has not changed in a millennium. The origin of the name, nevertheless, remains obscure.

## Guatemala

*Pedro de Aycinena (1865)*

*Aycinena* was in 1727 the name of a house located in the Navarrese village of Berroeta (Baztan valley), which at present is called *Aintziñenea*. The first element of the compound seems to be *aitzin* ‘the front part’, ‘forward’, which is perhaps a nickname bestowed on somebody who was brave or courageous; the ending consists of the possessive genitive marker *-en* and the article *-a*.

*Miguel García-Granados Zabala (1871-73)*

On the surname *García* see *Joaquín Riascos García* (Colombia). *Zabala*, on the other hand, can be either an adjective meaning ‘broad’, ‘wide’ or a noun meaning ‘small square’, ‘broad terrain’ and, therefore, the source of this surname might be a nickname referring to a man or woman with a broad back, but it could also be the nickname of somebody who was born or lived in the homonymous house. *Zabala* is also the name of several neighborhoods and farmhouses, and a very extended microtoponym.

*Guillermo Flores Avendaño (1957-58)*

*Abendañu* or *Abendaño* is the name of an uninhabited village near Vitoria-Gasteiz (Araba / Álava) that is attested in 1025 as *Abendagnu*, and in 1135 as *Auendanio*. In our opinion, the toponym comes from *\*(fundu) abentianu* ‘Abentius’ property’ and its evolution has been the following: *\*Abentainu* (by metathesis) > *\*Abentañu* (by means of palatalization *-jn-* > *ñ*) > *Abendañu* (as a consequence of the voicing of *t* after *n*, which is customary in Basque) > *Abendaño* (with the usual Romance opening *-u* > *-o*).

*Enrique Peralta Azurdia (1963-66)*

*Peralta* is the name of a village in Navarre and comes not from Basque but from Latin, more exactly, from *Petralta* (attested so in 1030), which turned into *Pedralta* (c. 1030) and then, rather early, into present-day *Peralta* (1080), that is to say, it is a compound whose original elements are Latin *petra* ‘stone’, ‘rock’ and *alta* ‘high’, ‘upper’, meaning ‘the upper rock’ or ‘the high stone’. *Azurdia*, on the other hand, looks certainly Basque (there are surnames like *Azurmendi*, *Azuriza*, etc.), but it is not clear.

*Carlos Manuel Arana (1970-74)*

*Harana* means ‘the valley’ in Basque (< *haran* ‘valley’ plus the article *-a*), and is a very widespread toponym. It designates, for instance, a valley located in Álava.

*Kjell Eugenio Laugerud García* (1974-78), *Fernando Romeo Lucas García* (1978-82)

See *Joaquín Riascos García* (Colombia).

## Honduras

*Francisco Zelaya* (1839-1841), *José Manuel Zelaya* (2006-2009)

*Zelaia* can be a noun meaning ‘field’, ‘plain’ or an adjective meaning ‘flat’. In this case it seems more probable for it to be a surname coming from an oiconym that would designate a house located on a plain or flat terrain. In fact, *Zelaia* is the name of several neighborhoods and farmhouses, as well as a widespread microtoponym.

*Salvador Aguirre* (1919)

See *Osmín Aguirre y Salinas* (El Salvador).

*Roberto Suazo* (1982-1986)

When speaking about the name of the Bolivian president *Hernán Siles Zuazo* we have said that *Zuazo* was the romanized form of Basque *Zuatzu*, *Zubatzu*. In this case the variant *Suazo* is even more romanized, due probably to the confusion existing in some Spanish-speaking areas between [s] (<s>) and [θ] (<z>), but it might be, as well, the result of the dissimilation *z - z > s - z*.

*José Azcona* (1986-1990)

*Azcona* is the name of a village in Deierri valley (Navarre) that was attested for the first time in 1193 as *Aizcona*, which is the old form of the name and the most frequent variant in medieval documents. The Basque variant *Aizkoa*, with the dropping of the *lenis* nasal between vowels, is documented for the first time in 1293 (written *Ayzcoa*). The etymon of the toponym is not certain, given that even though the possible base *haitz* ‘rock’ is quite clear, the ending *-ona* (> Spanish *-ona* / Basque *-o(a)*) appears mostly together with anthroponyms, and at least in one case next to a theonym.

## Mexico

*Agustín de Iturbide* (1821-1822)

*Iturbide* is a very common Basque surname that means ‘the fountain path’, ‘the path that leads to the fountain’. It is probably based on a nickname originating from a house called *Iturbidea* ‘the house located close to the path that leads to the source’, which is present in the villages of Doneztebe, Elgorriaga, Orbaizeta (Navarre), and in Larresoro (Basse-Navarre), for instance. *Iturbide(a)* is also a very widespread microtoponym.

*José Mariano Michelena (1823-1824)*

*Mitxelena* is a surname that comes from a nickname, which, at the same time, has its origin in the homonymous house name meaning ‘Mitzel’s house’. *Mitzel*, *Mitx-ele* is one of the Basque hypocoristics that derived from the Spanish name *Miguel* or Basque *Mikele* ‘Michael’ some centuries ago. That is to say, *Mitxelena* meant originally ‘the house of Little Miguel, the house of Little Mikele’.

*Melchor de Eca Múzquiz y de Arrieta (1832)*

*Etza* (> *Eza* in Spanish) was the name of a small village in Deierri valley (Navarre), which became uninhabited, whereas *Urbina Eza* or *Urbina de Eza* is the name of a small village in Kuartango (Araba / Álava). The etymon is obscure. In addition, we do not know the exact origin and pronunciation of the surname *Eca* that, according to the Spanish spelling, must be read *Eka*.

*Muskitz*, attested as *Muskitz* and *Muzquiz* in the Middle Ages, is the name of a small village found in Imotz valley (Navarre), and the surname that we are commenting on is probably originated in it, although there is another village called *Muskiz* in Bizkaia, near Bilbao. The etymon of the toponym is \**Muski*, a variant of the documented anthroponym *Amusco* or *Musco*, and the whole meant originally ‘the place of \*Muski’, ‘the property of the man called \*Muski’, which an *-(i)tz* suffix that comes from the Latin genitive and denotes possession (see Salaberri 2011b: 54). The patronymic *Amuskoiz*, *Amuscoz*, of the same source, is documented (Salaberri 2003: 151).

*Arrieta* is the name of several villages, neighborhoods and houses, and it is also a quite extended microtoponym. Its etymon is clear: *harri* ‘stone’, ‘rock’ and the suffix *-eta* that denotes ‘place of’ or ‘abundance of’. That is to say, *Arrieta* means ‘the place where the rock or the stone is’, ‘the place where the stones or the rocks abound’.

*Francisco Javier Echeverría (1841), Luis Echeverría (1970-1976)*

See *Miguel Ángel Rodríguez Echeverría* (Costa Rica).

*Mariano Paredes y Arrillaga (1846)*

*Arrillaga* is based on an oiconym, given that there are several farmhouses called *Arrillaga*, and coexists with its full form *Arribillaga*. The etymon is the following: *harri* ‘stone’, ‘rock’ + *bil* ‘round’ + *-aga*, which is a suffix that denotes the place where the noun of the base can be found or where it is of abundance. Therefore, the name meant originally ‘the place where the round stone / rock is’ or ‘the place where round stones abound’.

*Pedro María Anaya (1847, 1847-1848)*

*Anaia* is a kinship term in Basque that means ‘brother’s brother’ and comes from an older form *annaie* (plus the article *-a*). In the Middle Ages the noun was adapted from Basque by Romance as *praenomen*, and hence its posterior usage as family name.

*Félix María Zuloaga (1858, 1859, 1860-1862)*

*Zuloaga* is the name of a neighborhood in Zegama (Gipuzkoa) and of several farmhouses, and a widespread microtoponym. It originally meant ‘the place where the hole is found’, ‘the place where the depression is found’, which consists of *zulo* ‘hole’, ‘depression’ and the suffix *-aga* that we have mentioned when commenting on *Arrillaga*.

*José María Iglesias Inzurruaga (1876-1877)*

There is no doubt about the Basque character of *Inzurruaga*, but the only clear thing that can be said about this family name is that the ending corresponds to the Basque toponymical suffix *-aga* that designates ‘place of’ or ‘abundance of’.

*Pedro Lascuráin (1913)*

*Laskurain* is the name of two farms that are located in the Gipuzkoan village of Antzuola (*Laskurainaundia* and *Laskuraintxikia*, literally ‘big Laskurain’ and ‘small Laskurain’) and also the name of a mill, and, therefore, it is easy to see *-arain*, a variant of *haran* ‘valley’ as the second member of a compound in which the meaning of the first element is not clear (a derivative of *lats* ‘stream’ plus the locative suffix *-gu*, *-ku?*, an anthroponym?).

*Eulalio Gutiérrez Ortiz (1914-1915), Pascual Ortiz (1930-1932)*

See *Jose María Melo y Ortiz* (Colombia).

*Venustiano Carranza (1917-1920)*

*Karrantza* (*Carranza*) is the name of a valley and of a village, found in Bizkaia, near the autonomous region of Cantabria. It comes from *Carrantia*, documented in 1140, and is of Indo-European origin, as the final *-ntia* suggests.

*Miguel Alemán (1946-1952)*

*Alaman* (male) and *Alamana* (female) used to be a quite frequent personal name in the Middle Ages and denoted originally the ethnicity of the bearer (in Spanish *alemán* means ‘german’). Nowadays *Aleman* is a rather common surname, especially in Navarre, where there is a village called *Almandoz* (Baztan valley), based, probably, on the hypocoristic *Alemanto*.

*Carlos Salinas de Gortari (1988-1994)*

*Gortari* might be interpreted as *gorte* meaning ‘stable’, ‘barn’ plus the agent suffix *-ari*, like *errotari* ‘miller’ (< *errota* ‘mill’ plus *-ari*) or *bordari* ‘the one who lives in a *borda*’, in a farm or secondary house (< *borda* plus *-ari*). In fact, *Gor-*

*rtari* is attested in 1366, but in 1539 we find *Gortayri*, and we believe that the etymon is *gorta-*, the compositional variant of the mentioned *gorte*, plus *iri* ‘next to’, ‘close to’, with a monophthongized *-ai-* > *-i-*, like in *atairi* > *atari* ‘doorway’ (< *ate* ‘door’ + *-iri*), \**Errekairi* > *Rekari* (< *erreka* ‘stream’ + *-iri*), \**Karrikairi* > *Karrikiri* (< *karrika* ‘street’ + *iri*), *Labairi* > *Labari* (< *labe* ‘oven’ + *ri*) and others. Currently, *Kortari* (< *Gortari*) is the nickname that the persons born in the house called *Kortaria* (< *Gortaria* < *Gortairia*) bear in Arizkun and in Lekaroz (Baztan valley, Navarre).

### Nicaragua

*Joaquín Zavala (1879-1883)*

See *Miguel García-Granados Zabala* (Guatemala).

*José Santos Zelaya (1893-1909)*

See *Francisco Zelaya, José Manuel Zelaya* (Honduras).

*Arnoldo Alemán (1996-2001)*

See *Miguel Alemán* (Mexico).

### Paraguay

*Facundo Macháin (1870)*

Mitxelena (1997: 126-127) thinks that *Matxain* is a variant (a hypocorism, like *Matxin*) of the personal name *Marti(n)*, *Marti(n)a*, but we have never found it as such, although we have attested more than sixty hypocoristics of this name (see Salaberri 2009).

*Higinio Uriarte (1877-1878)*

*Uriarte* is the occidental equivalent of the central and oriental names *Iriarte* (see *Manuel Cándano Iriarte* in Peru) and of the oriental *Hiriart* (see *Augusto Pinochet Ugarte* in Chile). With regard to the first element, see also *José Evaristo Uriburu* and *José Félix Uriburu* (Argentina). *Uriarte* is currently the name of a neighborhood in Elgeta (Gipuzkoa) as well as of numerous farmhouses.

*Juan Bautista Egusquiza (1894-1898)*

*Eguzkitza* is a common microtoponym and the name of several *baserri* or Basque farms. *Iguzkitza*, which presents the variant *iguzki*, is the name of a village in Navarre, situated in the Solana valley, which has the same meaning. The elements of the place name are *eguzki* ‘sun’ and the locative suffix *-tza*, and its original meaning ‘the sunny place’, ‘the sunny side’.

*Juan Antonio Ecurra (1902-1904)*

*Ecurra* comes probably from *Ezkurra*, which is the name of a small village in Navarre. *Ezkurra* meant once 'the tree' (this meaning being attested, for instance, in 1596) and must be interpreted with great probability in its generic sense as 'the grove' or 'the wood', although nowadays it means 'acorn'; the last *-a* is the Basque article. The evolution *-zk-* > *-sk-* takes place sometimes when a Basque name is used in Spanish, due to the different character of the sound represented by the grapheme <z> in these languages, but this evolution is also known to happen in Basque.

*Juan Bautista Gaona (1904-1905)*

*Gaona* might be a variant of *Gauna*, which names a village in Iruraitz-Gauna (Álava / Araba) and which is attested as *Ganna* in 871, *Gaunna* in 1062, *Gauna* from 1257 on, *Gaona* in 1436. We believe that this toponym was originally something like *\*(villa) caunana* or *\*(villa) gaunana* 'the property of the man called *\*Caunus* or *\*Gaunus*', where the anthroponym would be a variant of the attested *Caunius* or *Gaunius*. The evolution might have been the following: *\*(villa) caunana* or *\*(villa) gaunana* > *Gaunâa* > *GauNa* > *Gauna*, with the customary dropping of the lenis nasal in intervocalic position in Basque.

*Eusebio Ayala (1921-1923, 1932-1936), Eligio Ayala (1923-1924, 1924-1928)*

See *Luis de Ayala y Vergara* (Colombia).

*José Félix Estigarribia (1939-1940)*

*Astigarribia* is the name of a neighborhood in Mutriku (Gipuzkoa) and is a compound whose members are the dendronym *astigar* (*Acer campestre*; it is present also in *Astigarraga*, which is a village of the same province, and *Astigarreta*, a neighborhood of Beasain, in the same region), plus *ibi* 'ford' and the article *-a*, that is to say, the toponym meant originally 'the ford of the maples'. The change *as-* > *es-* takes place in some Basque toponyms used in Spanish, although we don't know well why.

**Peru***José de la Mar Cortázar (1825, 1826, 1827-1829)*

See *Antonio María Vicente Narciso Borrero y Cortázar* and *Ramón Antonio Borrero y Cortázar* (Ecuador).

*Hipólito Unanue (1826)*

According to Mitxelena (1997: 156-157) *Unanue* stems from *unanu* (*Asphodelus albus*) plus the locative suffix *-ue*. The toponym originally meant 'the place where the *Asphodelus albus* is abundant'. Currently *Unanue* is the name of three farmhouses and a microtoponym.



*Manuel Salazar y Baquijano (1827, 1827-1829, 1834, 1834-1835)*

See what we have said above about the name of the Ecuadorian president *Vicente Lucio Salazar Baquijano*, on the other hand, comes from *Bakixano*, in Basque *Bakixao* (attested in 1498), which is the name of a neighborhood found in the village of Iurreta (Bizkaia), it being a deanthroponymic, that is to say, a toponym that derives from an anthroponym or personal name, probably from *\*Baquisius*. It comes, therefore, from something like *\*(fundu) baquisianu > \*Baquisiano*, i.e. *'\*Baquisius' property'*.

*Agustín Gamarra (1829, 1833, 1838-1839, 1839-1840, 1840-1841)*

In a recently published article (Salaberri 2012: 220) we claimed that *Gamarra maior* and *Gamarra minor* (Araba / Álava), which appeared in the so-called «Reja de San Millán» in 1025, might be based on an anthroponym, on *Cammarus*, more precisely on *\*(villa) cammarana* 'Cammarus' property' and that by a methathesis (*mm - r > m - rr-*) it became *\*Camarrana* first and then, following the usual Basque phonetic evolution, *Gamarra*.

*Juan Bautista Eléspuru (1831)*

The first element of this compound is *eles-*, which is the result of the depalatalization of *alex-*, which is in turn a compositional variant of *alex* 'church', from *eleiza*, and in the last term, from Latin *ecclesia*. The second element is *-puru*, a variant of *buru* 'head', 'upper area', common in such a form when found after a voiceless sibilant, and the whole probably meant 'the house that is situated on the upper part of the church'. The family name comes from what we call a «house nickname» that resulted later in the surname. *Elexpuru*, *Elespuru* is the name of several farmhouses, all of them situated in Bizkaia, and also a microtoponym.

*Andrés Reyes y Buitrón (1831)*

*Buitrón* might be a variant of *Butrón*, which is the name of a neighborhood in Gatika (Bizkaia). This was attested in Basque for the first time c. 1567 in the verses of the Alavese poet Perez de Lazarraga as *Butroe*, from a former *\*Butrone*, and which evolved subsequently into *Butroi* in present-day speech (like *Montdragon > \*Mondragone > Mondragoe > Mondragoi*, a village situated in Gipuzkoa). The origin of the toponym is probably Romance.

*Manuel Tellería Vicuña (1832)*

*Tellería* comes from *teilería* [te'leria], which is a loanword from Spanish *tellería* that later became in this language *tejería* 'roof tile factory', from *tella* (> *teja*), Latin *tēgula* 'roof tile', a derivative of *tegere* 'to cover'. *Tellería* is currently the name of several neighborhoods as well as of numerous farmhouses, and a widespread microtoponym. With regard to *Vicuña*, see *Francisco R. Vicuña* (Chile).

*Luis José de Orbegoso (1833-1836)*

Mitxelena (1997: 97, 143) considers that *Orbegoso* is a compound whose elements are *orbe*, which is a variant of *oru*, *orube* ‘housing site’, ‘lot’ and *gozo* ‘sweet’. The spelling *Orbegoso* is due, apparently, to the so-called *seseo*, that is to say, to the tendency that exists in some Spanish-speaking places to pronounce each [θ] (<c>) as [s] (<s>). *Orbegoso* nowadays is the name of a farmhouse in Nuarbe (Bizkaia) and used to be, as well, the name of a farmhouse found in the Gipuzkoan village of Azpeitia in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

*Felipe Santiago Salaverri (1835-1836)*

*Salaberri*, *Salaberria* is a quite extended surname in the Basque Country and originally names the person born in the house called *Salaberria*, from *sala* ‘house’, ‘palace’ (see Orpustan 2000: 131), *berri* ‘new’ and the definite article *-a*, that is to say, ‘the new house’, ‘the new palace’. There are several houses called *Salaberria* in Baztan valley (Navarre), Basse-Navarre (Donostiri and Uhartehiri, for instance), Labourd (Sara) and Soule, where in the village of Liginaga there are two houses called *Salaberria* and one *Salaberriko borda*. In the eighteenth century a single person could be identified as *Salaberria* and *Salaberri* in the same Navarrese document.

*Juan Ángel Bujanda (1835)*

*Bujanda* or *Buxanda* is the name of a small village found in Álava, which is attested for the first time in 1071 as *Busçanda* and then, still in the Middle Ages, as *Buxanda*, being *Bujanda* the customary Spanish pronunciation with the usual evolution [j] > [x]. We believe that this name might be based on the anthroponym *\*Buxandus*, which would be the result of adding the Latin suffix *-ndus* to the documented personal name *Buxus* (cf. *Adiuvandus*, *Amandus*, *Sperandus*). The evolution of the name, in our view, might have been the following: *\*(villa) buxandana* [*buksanda*] ‘the property of *\*Buxandus*’ > *\*Buxandâa* > *Buxanda* / *Bujanda* or, otherwise, *\*(villa) buxanda* ‘the property of *\*Buxandus*’ > *Buxanda* / *Bujanda*.

*Juan Bautista de Lavalle y Zugasti (1835)*

In Navarre there are two small villages that are officially called *Zuasti* nowadays and colloquially, one of them at least, *Zugasti*, and attested as *Zuazti*. In addition, *Zugasti*, *Zugazti* is also the name of several farmhouses. The base of this toponym is the dendronym *zuhaitz* ‘tree’ or a variant *zuga(i)tz* plus *-ti*, which is an allophone of the collective suffix *-di*, the original meaning being ‘grove’, ‘wood’.

*Manuel Menéndez Gorozabel (1841-1842, 1844, 1844-1845)*

The present-day *Gorosabel* is a *baserri* or farm located in Bergara (Gipuzkoa) and attested as *Gorozabel* in 1860, in a region where the neutralization *z* > *s* took place.

In 1477 lived in Oñati, in the same region, the so-called *Sancho de Gorosavel*. According to Mitxelena (1997: 97, 147), the first member of this compound name is *gorosti* ‘holly’ or an older variant \**goros-*, and the second *sabel* ‘belly’, ‘stomach’, ‘cavity’.

*Manuel Ignacio de Vivanco Iturralde (1843-1844)*

*Iturralde* is a surname that is with certainty based on a nickname, which itself originated, probably, in an oiconym or house-name; in other words, *Iturralde* was the owner, the inhabitant or a person born in the house called *Iturraldea*, which means ‘the house that is near the fountain’, ‘the farm that is close to the spring’. *Iturraldea* is the name of numerous houses, found, for instance, in Aiherra, Hazparne, Sara (Lapurdi / Labourd), Arrosa, Lasa (Nafarroa Beherea / Basse-Navarre), Elbete, Etxalar, Garralda, Irurita, Orbaizeta and Orbara (Nafarroa / Navarre), and a widespread microtoponym.

*José Rufino Echenique (1855)*

*Etxenike* is a surname based on a nickname that meant originally ‘the owner of the house called Etxenikea’, ‘the person born or living in Etxenikea’, *Etxenikea* being, at present, the name of a palace found in Erratzu and of at least four houses located in Aniz, Elizondo, Gartzain and Lekaroz (Baztan valley, Navarre), as well as being the name of another house found in Zugarramurdi, in the same region. Mitxelena (1997: 236-237, 317) wrote that *Etxenike* (*Etxanike*, *Etxanika*) is probably a name whose base would be *etxe* ‘house’ (*etxa-* in composition) in addition to the suffix *-ika*, which has been thought to be of Celtic origin.

By any means, it is clear that the noun in the base is *etxe*, although we do not think that the suffix is *-ika*, given that the oldest form seems to be *Etxenikea* and given that the parallel oiconym *Olanikea* (from *ola* ‘hut’ and the same obscure ending *-nike* plus the article *-a*) is attested.

*Mario Ignacio Prado Ochoa (1865, 1865-1867, 1867-1868, 1876-1879)*

*Otxoa* is originally a hypocoristic form of the zoonym *otsoa* ‘(the) wolf’ that became first a quite extended and popular person name (*Oxoa Falcoiz*, 1072, *don Ochoa de Arieta*, 1188...), and then a surname.

*Luis la Puerta de Mendoza (1867-1868)*

See the name of the Ecuadorian president *Carlos Mendoza*.

*Manuel Costas Arce (1874-1875)*

See *Aniceto Arce*, *Walter Guevara Arce* (Bolivia).

*Francisco García Calderón Landa (1881)*

See what we have said about the name of the Costa Rican president *Julio Acosta García*. *Landa* is a noun that has more than one meaning in Basque: ‘field’, ‘a vegetable garden where corn is sown’, ‘a fertile piece of land located close to a river’, and so on. The surname is customary in Navarre, but its origin must be traced back elsewhere to the neighboring Romance languages where it was and still is used (*landa*, *lande*, *lane*). *Landa* is the name of three neighborhoods found in Araba and Bizkaia, and that of numerous farmhouses and other kinds of places. In Orbaizeta (Aezkoa valley, Navarre) there is a house called *Landa* or *Landakoa*.

*Andrés Avelino Cáceres Dorregaray (1884-1885, 1886-1890, 1894-1895)*

*Dorregarai* is originally a nickname that comes from the oiconym *Dorregaraiia*, meaning probably ‘the upper towerhouse’, ‘the towerhouse located on the high part of the village’, from *dorre* ‘towerhouse’ and *garai* ‘tall’, ‘upper’ plus the article *-a*. There was a house called *Dorregaraiia* in Erratzu (Baztan valley, Navarre) in 1726, and nowadays, in the same village, there is another house called *Dorregaraiiko borda* ‘the farm / the lesser house to the main house named *Dorregaraiia*’.

*Manuel Cándamo Iriarte (1895, 1904)*

*Iriarte* seems to be an anthroponym that names the person born in the house called *Iriarteia*. We find the oiconym *Iriarteia* in Arizkun, Ezkurra, Orbaizeta, Zugarramurdi (Navarre), Sara (Labourd, attested also as *Hiriarteia*), Uhartehiri (Basse-Navarre), etc. The elements of this compound are *hiri* ‘house’, ‘village’ and *arte* ‘the area / house situated in between (two things)’. Basque villages are frequently located on a hill, and the following distinction is often established between their different areas: *Irigoiena* ‘the upper neighborhood’, *Iriarteia* ‘the middle neighborhood’ and *Iribarrena* ‘the lower neighborhood’.

*Eduardo López de Romaña Alvizuria (1899-1903)*

*Alvizuria* is the name of some *baserri* or farms found in the Basque Country, and is pronounced with an affricate ([ts]). The elements of this compound are the phytonym *albitzuri* (*Holcus lanatus*) and the article *-a*, and the name meant originally ‘the place where the plant *Holcus lanatus* abounds’.

**Uruguay***Carlos Anaya (1834-1835)*

See *Pedro María Anaya* (Mexico).

*Manuel Oribe (1835-1838, 1843-1851)*

*Oribe* seems to be a variant of the more frequent *Uribe* (cf. this passage taken from a document concerning Durango [Bizkaia] and dated 1517: *Pedro de Oribe, fijo*

*del dicho Juan de Vrive* ‘Pedro de Oribe, son of the mentioned Juan de Uribe’, *Oribe, Uribe* meaning here probably a *baserri* or farm). See *Fernando Serrano Uribe, Álvaro Uribe* (Colombia).

*Bernardo Berro (1852, 1860-1864)*

*Berro* is a noun meaning ‘a newly-broken land’ and it is used in some of the oriental dialects of the Basque language where it has given way to numerous microtoponyms, which have occasionally turned into a village or valley name (cf. *Berroeta*, a village in Baztan valley, Navarre). *Berro* might name the person who is born in the house called *Berroa*, which currently is a place found in Irun (Gipuzkoa), and in the past in Arizkun (Navarre), where the farmhouse called *Beroko borda* ‘the farm / the secondary house of *Berroa*’ is still standing.

*Atanasio Aguirre (1864-1865)*

See *Agustín Eyzaguirre* (Chile) and *Osmin Aguirre y Salinas* (El Salvador).

*Tomás Gomensoro (1872-1873)*

Mitxelena (1997: 150) claims that the second element of the present-day surname is *soro* ‘field’, ‘meadow’, but he does not explain what *Gomen-* is or where it comes from. We think that it might be the compositional variant of *Gomen(t)za*,<sup>2</sup> which is the female equivalent of *Gomez, Gomit*, a rather frequent first name in the Middle Ages that nowadays has become a family name (*Gómez*). Given that in composition the vowel situated in the third syllable is dropped, the result of *Gomentza + soro* would be *\*Gomentzoro*, but from here we would expect *\*Gomentzoro*, not *Gomen(t)soro*. In any case, *Gomensoro* was the name of a farmhouse found in Azpeitia (Gipuzkoa) in 1860, and nowadays *Gomensorosaletxe* (literally ‘the corral of Gomensoro’) is the name of a farm in the village of Ataun, found in the same province. A *Sancho de Gomensoro* lived in Urretxu (Gipuzkoa) in 1390.

*José Eugenio Ellauri (1873-1875)*

The second element of *Ellauri* seems to be *huri* ‘house’, ‘village’, ‘town’ but the first element is not completely clear. Apparently it might be an anthroponym, a derivative of the Germanic *Vigila* that in the Middle Ages turned into *Beila, Bella, Bela*. If so, we might presume that the initial *b-* is dropped, similar to what happened with the family name *Ellakuria*, which comes from *\*Bellakuria* (< *Bellako*, a hypocoristic of *Bella*, plus *huri* and the article *-a*). At any rate, *Ellauri* is the name of a neighborhood and of a farmhouse in *Zeanuri* (Bizkaia) and that of another farmhouse in *Laudio* (Araba).

<sup>2</sup> There is a farmhouse called *Gomentza* in Kortezubi, Bizkaia, and a house called *Komentzanea* in Ezkurra, Navarre.

*Juan Idiarte Borda (1894-1897)*

*Idiarte* is the equivalent of *Iriarte* (cf. the name of the Peruvian president *Manuel Cándano Iriarte*), *Hiriart* (*Lucía Hiriart*, the widow of the Chilean dictator Augusto Pinochet; see above) and *Uriarte* (see *Higinio Uriarte*, Paraguay). *Idiarte* was originally, therefore, a nickname that designated the person born (or living) in the house called *Idiartea* (which is found, for instance, in Donostiri, Basse-Navarre). The confusion and alternation between *r* and *d* in intervocalic position is well known in Basque, where *edo* ‘or’ for instance becomes *ero* in some dialects, or *Iriberría* (a farmhouse in Arizkun, Navarre) turns into *Ideberrie*. *Borda*, on the other hand, is a generic noun in Basque and means ‘stable’, ‘farm’, ‘(secondary) house’.

*Juan Campisteguy (1927-1931)*

*Kanpistegi* is a family name known these days in Otsagabia (Zaraitzu valley, Navarre) and is based on *kanpix* ‘fickle, changing, apprehensive person’ plus the suffix *-tegi* ‘place’, ‘house’. The whole meant originally ‘the house of the changing or apprehensive person’, *kanpix* being here a nickname.

*Juan José de Amézaga (1943-1947)*

*Ametzaga* is the name of a small village found in the province of Álava, that of several neighborhoods and farms, and the denomination of some microtoponyms as well. Its base is the dendronym *ametz* ‘muricated oak’ and the suffix the aforementioned *-aga*; the whole meant originally ‘the place where the muricated oak is found’, ‘the place where muricated oaks abound’.

*Alberto Fermín Zubiria (1956)*

*Zubiria* is a microtoponym located in Allin valley (Navarre) and also the name of a house documented as palace in the eighteenth century and situated in Arraioz (Baztan valley, Navarre). The elements of the compound are *zubi* ‘bridge’, *iri* ‘next to’, ‘close to’ and the article *-a*, and its original meaning was ‘the area located close to the bridge’, ‘the house situated close to the bridge’.

*Arturo Lezama (1957)*

*Lezama* is the name of a village found in the Bizkaian region of Txorierrri and also the name of an ancient village located in Amurrio (Álava / Araba), this ancient village now having become a neighborhood. Bähr (1948: 38) claims about this kind of names found in the Basque Country that «sie lassen sich aus dem Baskischen nicht erklären», and Mitxelena (1997: 44) writes that *Aldama*, *Arama*, *Beizama*, *Lezama*, *Ultzama*, *Zegama*, etc. remind us of the known suffix *-ama*, *-isama*, and proposes that *Lezama* might be the equivalent of *Ledesma* (province of Salamanca, Spain), from Celtic *Letisama*. Gorrotxategi (2002: 114) claims that in the toponym

*Lezama* we find the Celtic superlative suffix *-ama*, and that Mitxelena formulated the hypothesis of its Celtic origin (< \**Letzama* < *Letisama* ‘the very extended [village, area]’).

*Martín R. Echegoyen (1959)*

*Etxegoien* is a house-nickname based on the oiconym *Etxegoiena* that originally meant ‘the house located highest in the village’, from *etxe* ‘house’ and *goiena* ‘the highest’. We find the oiconym *Etxegoien*, *Etxegoien(e)a* in Uhartehiri (Basse-Navarre), Itzalle and Zugarramurdi (Navarre).

*Faustino Harrison Usoz (1962)*

*Usoz* is the name of a small village found in Artzibar valley (Navarre). As we claim in a recently published article (Salaberri 2011b: 55-56), we believe that its base is the male anthroponym *Uso* (< *uso* ‘dove’) and the suffix *-tz*, which indicates possession and comes from the Latin genitive. The original meaning of the name, therefore, would be ‘the property of a man called Uso’.

*Juan María Bordaberry Arocena (1972-1976)*

*Bordaberri* is a surname based on the oiconym *Bordaberria* and consists of *borda* ‘farm’, ‘secondary house’ and *berri* ‘new’. There is a *Bordaberria* in Amorotze-Zokotze, in Basse-Navarre, another one in Uhartehiri, in the same region, and we find *Errotalde-Bordaberria* in Sara (Lapurdi / Labourd).

*Arotzena* is also a family name that originated from the oiconym *Arotzarena*, which later became *Arotzenea* and is found in several villages, among others in Saldias (Navarre). The elements of the compound are *arotz* ‘smith’ and the genitive ending *-arena*, the whole meaning ‘the smith’s house’.

*Pedro Alberto Demicheli Lizaso (1976)*

*Lizaso* is the name of a small village found in Ultzama valley (Navarre), which is recorded in the Middle Ages as *Liçasso* (1268, 1366), *Liçaso* (1350, 1366). That is to say, this name has always had the same form, even though the spelling has changed slightly. The etymon of the toponym might be the dendronym *lizar* ‘ashtree’ and the suffix is certainly *-so*, which expresses abundance, the whole meaning ‘place where ashtrees are abundant’.

*José Mújica (2010-)*

*Muxika* is the name of a village in Bizkaia pronounced [mújika] and has evolved in Spanish into *Mújica* [mújika]. We recently wrote (Salaberri 2011: 157) that it comes from \*(*villa*) *muxica* ‘the property of a man called *Moxius*’ with *o* > *u* after *m-*.

## Venezuela

### *Simón Bolívar (1825-1826)*

This is probably the best known among the names of presidents of American countries south of Río Grande. Although he was born in Caracas (Venezuela), his ancestors came from *Bolibar*, a neighborhood in *Bolibar-Ziortza*, located in the Bizkaian region of Lea-Artibai. *Bolibar* is the name of two *baserri* or farms in Bizkaia and the name of another one in Gipuzkoa, and is, as well, the name of a small village in Vitoria-Gasteiz, the capital of Araba / Álava. The elements of this compound originally are Latin *molinu* 'mill' (the Alavese village was *Boriniuar* in 1025, *Molinivar* in 1087) and Basque *ibar* 'valley'; that is to say, it meant 'the valley of the mill'.

The change *m-* > *b-* co-occurring with a nasal consonant in the same word is due to dissimilation. Similarly *-l-* > *-r-* is common in intervocalic position, when the lateral is a *lenis*, and the fall of the last vowel in the first member of the compound when it has three syllables is customary in Basque, as is the fall of the nasal in intervocalic position if it is a *lenis*. Finally, we must think that *\*Boribar* became *Bolibar*, due to the dissimilation of the rhotic (*r - rr* > *l - rr*). In short, the evolution has probably been the following: *Molinibar* > *Borinibar* > *\*Boriibar* > *\*Boribar* > *Bolibar*.

### *Andrés Narvarte (1835, 1836-1837)*

*Narvarte* is the name of a small village located in the valley of Bertizarana, in Navarre. Mitxelena (1997: 132) proposes that the base for the name is *naba* 'big plain surrounded by mountains', but the testimony that he uses is not trustworthy, and in the rest of the attestations we find always *Narbart(e)* or *Narvart(e)*. Therefore, one must assume that the noun of the base is *\*narba*, which is probably present, as well, in other toponyms like *Narbaitz*, *Narbaxa*, which names a small village in Araba and is an extended microtoponym. The second element of *Narvarte* is clearly *arte* 'the area situated in between (two things)'.

### *Wolfgang Larrazabal (1958)*

*Larrazabal* is a compound whose members are *larra-*, a compositional variant of *larre* 'meadow', and *zabal*, which may be either an adjective or a noun. In the first case the original meaning of the toponym would be 'broad meadow' and in the second 'the plain of the meadow'. *Larrazabal* is the name of three neighborhoods, several farmhouses and numerous fields, meadows and places.

From our analysis we believe we can draw the following conclusions:

1. Most of the family names of Basque origin are either place names, especially microtoponyms, or house names (51).
2. Among the plain toponyms, most are names of villages (35), although there are also names of valleys or which could be names of valleys (3), and a few names of neighborhoods (8). There are also microtoponyms (about 5).



However, there are also ambivalent designations, those that can name villages as well as neighborhoods, or villages as well as valleys.

3. There are as many plain oiconyms as in the previous point (35).
4. There are 13 family names based on anthroponyms, although one of them (*Zabala*) may also be an oiconym or a toponym.
5. There is only one that we have named an 'anthroponymic': *Fernández de Urbina*. As can be seen the first element is patronymic and the second toponymic.
6. However this may be, many of the names that we have classified as 'plain oiconym' or 'oiconym-toponym' can also be based on nicknames derived from oiconyms, and can therefore be anthroponyms as well, f.e. *Aramburu*, *Berro*, *Iriarte*, *Iturbide*, *Iturralde*, and others.
7. Amongst the names that we have analysed there are also forms that display different dialectal variants of the same etymon: *Iriarte* / *Idiarte* / *Hiriart* / *Uriarte*. These inform us of the origin of those who emigrated to America, even if only in general terms: *Hiriart* (north Basque Country), *Uriarte* (west Basque Country), *Iriarte* (central-southern Basque Country), *Idiarte* (central Basque Country). The same can be said about *Alcorta* (west), *Berro* (central-south), *Campistegui* (east), *Egusquiza* (central-west), *Ibargüen* (west), *Indaburu* (central-eastern), *Uricoechea* (west), *Uriburu* (west) or *Yrigoyen* (central-eastern).
8. Some other names provide us with direct information concerning the emigrant's origin, especially the family names that are toponymic: *Amézaga* (Ametzaga, Araba), *Aránzazu* (Arantzazu, Gordexola, Bizkaia; Oñati, Gipuzkoa), *Avendaño* (Abendaño, Araba), *Azcona* (Azcona / Aizkoa, Navarre), *Bolívar* (Bolibar-Ziortza, Bizkaia), *Bujanda* (Buxanda, Araba), *Gaviria* (Gabiria, Gipuzkoa), etc. This does not mean that the subject in question was born in one of said villages, because it could be that the meaning of his family name was already settled by the time he went to America. Thus, a person called *Amézaga* could in reality have been born in Vitoria-Gasteiz, one of his ancestors having been born in the Alaveses village of Ametzaga.
9. The number of those emigrants whose origin lay in Baztan is astonishing. It is quite certain that some came from the Navarrese valley: *Arosemena*, *Aycinena*, *Echenique*, *Errázuriz*, *Gangotena*, *Lastiri*, *Urdininea*. In other cases there is doubt concerning the origin of the subject, since in these he could have been born in some place other than Baztan: *Alemán*, *Bergara*, *Dorregaray*, *Gortari*, *Salaverry*, *Zubiria*.
10. Finally, it must be pointed out that the Basque family names have preserved their structure and form quite well in Central and South America, in that these family names are similar to the form that they had when their bearers departed to America, no doubt due to the fact that the official language of those once Spanish colonies was and is Spanish.

Most of the mentioned points are illustrated by the table:

Anthroponymic	Anthro-toponymic	Oiconymic	Oiconymic and/or toponymic	Toponymic
			Acha (Atxa) Aguirre (Agirre)	
Alemán (Aleman)		Alcorta (Alkorta) Alvizuría (Albitzuria)		
Anaya (Anaia)			Aramburu (Aranburu) Arbelález (Arbelaitz)	Amézaga (Ametzaga) Arana Aránzazu (Arantzazu) Arcaya (Arkaia) Arce (Artze, Artzi) Arizaga (Aritzaga)
		Arocena (Arotzena) Rosemena (Arotsemena)	Arrieta	
		Arrillaga	Arteaga Arteta	
		Ascásubi (Askasubi)		Avendaño (Abendaño, Abendañu) Ayala (Aiara, Aiala)
Ayora (Aiora)		Aycinena (Aitzinena)		Azcona (Azkona) Azurdia (?) Balmaceda (Balmaseda) Baquíjano (Bakixao)
			Berro	Bolívar (Bolibar)
		Borda Bordaberry (Bordaberri)		Bu(i)trón Bujanda (Buxanda) Caicedo, Caycedo
		Campístegui (Kanpistegi)		Carranza (Karrantza)
		Cortázar (Kortazar) Dorregaray (Dorregarai)	Duhalde (Uhalde)	Eca (Etza, Eza?)
		Echandi (Etxandi)		Echaurren (Etxaurren)
		Echegoyen (Etxegoien) Echenique (Etxenike) Echeverría (Etxeberria)	Eguiguren (Egiguren)	

Anthroponymic	Anthro-toponymic	Oiconymic	Oiconymic and/or toponymic	Toponymic
			Egusquiza (Eguzkitza) Elespuru (Elexpuru) Ellauri	
		Errázuriz (Erratzuri(t)z)		Escurra (Ezkurra)
		Estensoro (Estensoro)	Esquível (Eskibel)	Estigarribia (Astigarribia)
	Fernández de Urbina (Fernández de Urbina)		Eyzaguirre (Eizagirre)	Ezeta
		Gangotena		Funes Gamarra
			Garaicoa (Garaikoa)	Gaona (Gauna)
García (Gartzia)		Garmendia		Gaviria (Gabiria)
		Gomensoro Gorozabel (Gorosabel) Gortari		Guevara (Gebara)
		Icaza (Ikatz)	Ibargüen (Ibarguen) Ibarra	
		Indaburu	Idiarte	Inzuruaga
			Iriarte (and Hiriart)	Irisarri
			Iturbide Iturralde Landa Larrain Larrazábal (Larrazabal) Larrea	
		Lascuráin (Laskurain) Lastiri		Lezama
			Lizarzaburu (Lizartzaburu)	Lizaso
Macháin (Matxain)			Maruri Mendieta	
		Michelena (Mitxelena)		Mendoza (Mendotza)
				Mújica (Muxika)

Anthroponymic	Anthro-toponymic	Oiconymic	Oiconymic and/or toponymic	Toponymic
				Múzquiz (Muzkitz) Narvarte (Narbarste)
Ochoa (Otxoa)		Orbegoso (Orbegozo) Oreamuno	Oribe	
Ortiz (Ortitz) Ortuño Ospina (Ozpina)			Otalora Oyanedel (Oianeder)	Peralta
Sáenz (Saentz)			Plaza	
Sanz (Santz)		Salaverri (Salaberri)		Salazar (?) Salinas (?) Segura
Sorroza (Zorrotza)			Tellería (Telleria) Ugarte	Suazo (Zuatzu)
			Unanue Urdaneta	Ulate
		Urdinenea (Urdinenea)	Uriarte Uribe Uriburu	
		Uricoechea (Urikoetxea)	Urquiza (Urkitza)	
		Urriolagoitia	Urrutia	Usoz (Usotz) Verástegui (Berastegi) Vergara (Bergara) Vicuña (Bikuña)
		Yerovi (Ierobi)		
Zabala			Yrigoyen (Irigoien) Zabala Zaldúa (Zaldua) Zaldumbide (Zaldunbide)	Zañartu
			Zarnoza (Zornotza?) Zelaya (Zelaia)	Zuazo (Zuatzu)
			Zubiría (Zubiria) Zugasti (Zugasti) Zuloaga	

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