

CITY HERITAGE ORCHARDS AND FARMS IN SANTA CLARA VALLEY**
Prepared by the VIVA Foundation, April, 2003

- Sunnyvale Heritage Orchard, Sunnyvale.....10 acres
- Emma Prusch Farm, San Jose.....43 acres
- Deer Hollow Farm, Mountain View.....10 acres
(owned by Mid Peninsula Regional Park District and maintained by City)
- Saratoga Heritage Orchard, Saratoga.....18 acres
(around Saratoga Library)
- Los Altos Heritage Orchard, Los Altos.....3 acres
(orchard around Civic Center)
- Picchetti Winery and Homestead House, Los Altos.....308 acres
(owned by Mid Peninsula Regional Park District)
- Mountain View Heritage Orchard, Mountain View.....
(Cuesta Park Annex in process)
- Ardenwood Farm, Fremont.....208 acres
(owned by Mid Peninsula Regional Park District and maintained by City)
- Packard Foundation Orchard, Los Altos.....about 60 acres
(owned by Packard Foundation and used by schools and for education)
- Hidden Villa Farm and Wilderness Preserve, Los Altos.....1600 acres
(nonprofit organization, major funder is Packard Foundation)
- Guadalupe Park Heritage Orchard, San Jose.....3 acres
- Orchard Heritage Park, Cupertino.....
- Environmental Study Area, De Anza Community College, Cupertino...2 acres

**NOTE: There are only two major Santa Clara Valley cities that have no heritage orchard or farm. They are Santa Clara, The Mission City, and Los Gatos. All of the Valley's cities use their heritage orchards and farms for educational purposes in their school systems. This could be a disadvantage to the Santa Clara Unified School District in the future as the city grows and becomes more densely populated. It is important to note that the soil in the Valley floor is excellent producing higher quality and quantity of food than in the foothills and at Alviso. Also, Santa Clara has no public community gardens. The original Mission had orchards and vegetable gardens around it but this history has been lost. Also, the Botany and Environmental Studies Departments at Santa Clara University and Mission Community College have no place to study native plants and animals like De Anza Community College's Environmental Study Area. San Jose State University has a small one but it needs to be larger. San Jose Community College, the closest community college to BAREC, has none.

Santa Clara was named for St. Clare of Assisi. She lived in an enclosed garden and her life nourished the communities around her. Her thirteenth-century biographers compare her to flowing water and to a fruitful tree. Her mother, Ortolana, which means "good gardener," and her friend, St. Francis, called her "little plant." St Francis visited St. Clare's garden to bring him closer to nature, to gain a sense of peace, and to find a haven to pray. Is Santa Clara observing its historical roots particularly as it relates to St. Claire's garden legacy? What would St. Clair and St. Francis think about the way Santa Clara's citizens are allowing the historical BAREC agriculture land become another housing project?