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.

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,\(^1\) 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 Behera / 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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\(^1\) 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 farmhouses.

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 *Irigoien* are the aforementioned *hiri* ‘house’, ‘village’ and *goien* ‘uppest are’, which is the superlative of *goi* ‘upper area’. This might be a surname based on an oiconym or on a toponym. *Irigoien(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.

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 ur-, 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 Uharte-hiri (Basse-Navarre), and another one in Sara (Labourd), for instance.

Bolivia

José Maria Pérez de Urdininea (1828)

Urdininea 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 (Mitxelena 1950: 478, 1956: 184; Gorrotxategi 2000: 146), an Indoeu-
ropanean etymon related with Gothic *gībla* and Greek *kefalē* ‘head’, ‘upper area’. The evolution -l- > -r- is customary in Basque where, as an example of this change, Latin *angēlu* 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.


*Estensoro* is a well-known surname nowadays, but, although its Basque origin is obvious, its etymology is not completely clear, since the first element, *Ésten-*, 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.


*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 *Zugatzu* in Basque, spelled *Zubatzu*. 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 is 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’ + *sarrri* ‘(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)

*Erratzu(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 18th century, considering the current pro-
nunciation Erratzúriz. 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 Canartu 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’.

Aníbal 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 [ś] 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 bebé and cone. 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 ub-, 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 Ugartea 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 Aialba, 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 (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 Caycedo, 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 Ibargüen (1855-57)

Ibargüen is the western variant of Ibargoien, from ibar ‘valley’ and goien, a superlative of goi ‘high’, meaning either ‘the high(est) valley’ (= Ibargoiti in Navarre) or ‘the highest part of a valley’. There is a neighborhood called Ibargüen 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)

Ozpina ‘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 saltu, from where its Spanish equivalent soto also comes; -a is the definite article. Zaldu is the name of a neighborhood in Gordexola (Bizkaia) and Zaldua 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 Zarnoza (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’.

Zarnoza might be a deformed variant of Zornotza, the name of a Bizkaian village. It was also the denomination of a farmhouse in Zestoa (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) > *Gabiriàa (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 munó ‘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 > *bihbar > *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 Secúra*, which is based on the name *Secúrus* 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 (Abauurrepea, 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 Ascásubi, Sancho de Ascásuby) 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 Urvina (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, Urbieten* 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, Juangottena 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 zabar ‘old’, the whole meaning ‘the old stable’, ‘the old barn’.

Pedro Ignacio Lizarzaburu (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), Sárásaço (c. 1032), Saresaço (1034), Sarasazu (1055, 1099), Sarasaitz (1255). This means that the etymon was something like *Sarasaitzu and the Basque evolution the following: *Sarasaitsu > Zarásaitzu (with the familiar assimilation of the sibilants) > Zaraitzu (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: *Sarasáitzu > 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 Ėorrotça*, 1249).

**Carlos Freile Zaldumbide (1911-1912)**

*Zaldumbide* 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 Argiñao (Navarre), the name of a wood in Mendata (Bizkaia) and of a house in Bithir-iña (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)**

*Arizaga* 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 (*Aioroi z, Aiori-ritz...*), but it is probable that they were known in other regions as well, outside the territory where Basque was spoken.

See Ascensión Esquivel Ibarra (Costa Rica).

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

Arosemena 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, pike ‘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 eibo, 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, Oiztibarre, 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’, botz ‘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 saltu, 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)

Aigorre 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 ‘salt-mine’, ‘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)

Aicinena 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, Azurtza, 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, Zuhatzu. In this case the variant Suazo is even more romanized, due probably to the confusion existing in some Spanish-speaking areas between [ś] (<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 ‘Mitxel’s house’. *Mitxel, Mitxele* 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 Múquiz 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*, whith 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 Rodriguez 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 *Arribilaga*. 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 Inzuruaga (1876-1877)

There is no doubt about the Basque character of _Inzuruaga_, 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 _baran_ ‘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)

_Alamán_ (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 ety-
mon is gorta-, the compositional variant of the mentioned gorte, plus iiri ‘next to’,
‘close to’, with a monophthongized -ai- > -i, like in atairi > atari ‘doorway’ (< aste
‘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 Kort-
taria (< Gortaria < Gortairia) bear in Arizkun and in Lekaroz (Baztan valley, Na-
varre).

Nicaragua

Joaquin 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 Machain (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 Sal-
aberri 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 Uriar巴斯que Legacy in the New World

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 Navar-
re, 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 Escurra (1902-1904)

*Escurra* 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.


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 Baquíjano (1827, 1827-1829, 1834, 1834-1835)

See what we have said above about the name of the Ecuadorian president Vicente Lucio Salazar. Baquíjano, 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 elex-, which is in turn a compositional variant of elexa ‘church’, from eleiza, and in the last term, from Latin ecclēsia. 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 teileria [těleria], 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 Orbegozo 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 [ś] (⟨s⟩). Orbegozo 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 19th century.

Felipe Santiago Salaverry (1835-1836)

Salaberri, Salaberry 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 (Donoztiri 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 Salaberry 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 [∫] > [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: *(vília) buxandana [buxsanda] the property of *Buxandus > *Buxandâa > Buxanda / Bujanda or, otherwise, *(vília) 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’ (etxain 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 Dorregaraia, 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 Dorragaia in Erratzu (Baztan valley, Navarre) in 1726, and nowadays, in the same village, there is another house called Dorregaraiko borda ‘the farm / the lesser house to the main house named Dorregaraia’.

Manuel Cándamo Iriarte (1895, 1904)

Iriarte seems to be an anthroponym that names the person born in the house called Iriartea. We find the oiconym Iriartea in Arizkun, Ezkurra, Orbaizeta, Zugarramurdi (Navarre), Sara (Labourd, attested also as Hiriartea), 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’, Iriartea ‘the middle neighborhood’ and Iribarrena ‘the lower neighborhood’.

Eduardo López de Romaña Alvizuria (1899-1903)

Albitzuria 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 Berroko 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, which is the female equivalent of Gomez, Gomiz, 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 *Gomentzsoro, 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).

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2 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 Donoztiri, 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 Campísteguy (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 Zubiría (1956)

Zubiría 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 Txorierri 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]’).

Martin 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) in Uharte-hiri (Basse-Navarre), Itzalle and Zugarramurdi (Navarre).

Faustino Harrison Usoz (1962)

Usotz 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 Maria Bordaberry Arocena (1972-1976)

Bordaberri is a surname based on the oiconym Bordaberryia and consists of borda ‘farm’, ‘secondary house’ and berri ‘new’. There is a Bordaberria in Amorotze-Zokotze, in Basse-Navarre, another one in Uharte-hiri, 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 Sal-dias (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 [mú∫ika] and has evolved in Spanish into Mújica [muxika]. 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 Bolíbar, a neighborhood in Bolíbar-Ziortza, located in the Bizkaian region of Lea-Artibai. Bolíbar 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 Bolíbar, due to the dissimilation of the rhotic (r - rr > l - rr). In short, the evolution has probably been the following: Molinibar > Borinibar > *Boribar > Bolíbar.

Andrés Narvarte (1835, 1836-1837)

Narbarte 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 Narbarte is clearly arte ‘the area situated in between (two things)’.

Wolfgang Larrazábal (1958)

Larrazabal is a compound whose members are larra-, a compositional variant of lare ‘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 ‘anthrotoponymic’: 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, Iturrelde, 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), Eguquisuza (central-west), Ibargüen (west), Indaburu (central-eastern), Uriceochea (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), Gabiria (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 Alavese 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, Ayacinena, Echenique, Errázuriz, Gangotena, Lastiri, Urdisneia. 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, Zubiría.

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:

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References


—, 2011, «Sobre el sufijo occidental -ika y otras cuestiones de toponimia vasca», FLV 113: 139-176.

