

**Hispanic place names of Uruguay in the context of linguopragmatics**

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**ABSTRACT**

Uruguay or the Eastern Republic of Uruguay (Spanish – República Oriental) is a state in South America, the toponymic corpus of which is based mainly on the official Spanish language. Different historical periods are marked with a struggle for the country's territory between Spain, Portugal, Argentina, Brazil and Great Britain, which led to the presence of not only Spanish but also Portuguese and English toponymic units in the nomenclature. The presentation contributes to the identification and linguistic analysis of Hispanic toponymic units of Uruguay and presents the first attempt to classify them. Due to historical factors and geographical location, the Uruguayan toponymic corpus over the centuries have been formed of the European (mainly Hispanic) and autochthonous (mostly Guarani) layers. The author groups geographical names of Spanish origin, giving multiple examples, explaining their etymology and identifying metonymic chains. Along with the description of Hispanic commemorative toponyms, religious allusions, zoo- and phytotoponyms, emotionally colored toponyms and geographical names containing numerals, the author assigns a separate place to folk etymology, shift and repeated names. Hispanic place names, forming the basis of the Uruguayan toponymicon, reflect the history, culture and identity of the Uruguayan people, the natural features of the region and the connection with Spain as a linguistic starting point. The research was supported by Russian Science Foundation (project No. 24-18-00702, Linguistic parameters of national identity: Latin American text. RUDN University) [<https://rscf.ru/project/24-18-00702/?ysclid=lxgb79u9cp246491389>]

Martynenko Irina Anatolyevna (Anatolyevna is a Russian patronymic name, you may skip it or add, it's up to you),

**KEYWORDS**

Toponymic; Phytotoponyms; Nomenclature; Uruguay

\*Doutora em Filologia, Professora associada do Departamento de Língua Inglesa, Kutafin Moscow State Law University. Ela tem vários interesses científicos: ensino de inglês jurídico, tradução e interpretação de inglês e espanhol, linguopragmática, variantologia e muito mais. Mas seu maior interesse está em nomes de lugares espanhóis ou hispânicos do mundo. Ela os estuda há 11 anos. Sua tese de doutorado em 2015 foi chamada de "Toponímias hispânicas dos EUA: análise linguopragmática" (220 páginas), e em 2023 ela apresentou e defendeu com sucesso sua dissertação de Doutorado em Filologia "Toponímia hispânica do mundo como um sistema geolinguístico" (428 páginas) resumindo a análise de nomes de lugares hispânicos de todos os continentes.

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# NOMES DE LUGARES DO URUGUAI DE ORIGEM ESPANHOLA NO CONTEXTO DA PRAGMÁTICA

HISPANIC PLACE NAMES OF URUGUAY IN  
THE CONTEXT OF LINGUOPRAGMATICS

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# LANGUAGES SPOKEN IN URUGUAY

SPANISH  
PORTUÑOL  
PORTUGUESE DIALECTS OF URUGUAY  
RIVERENSE PORTUÑOL

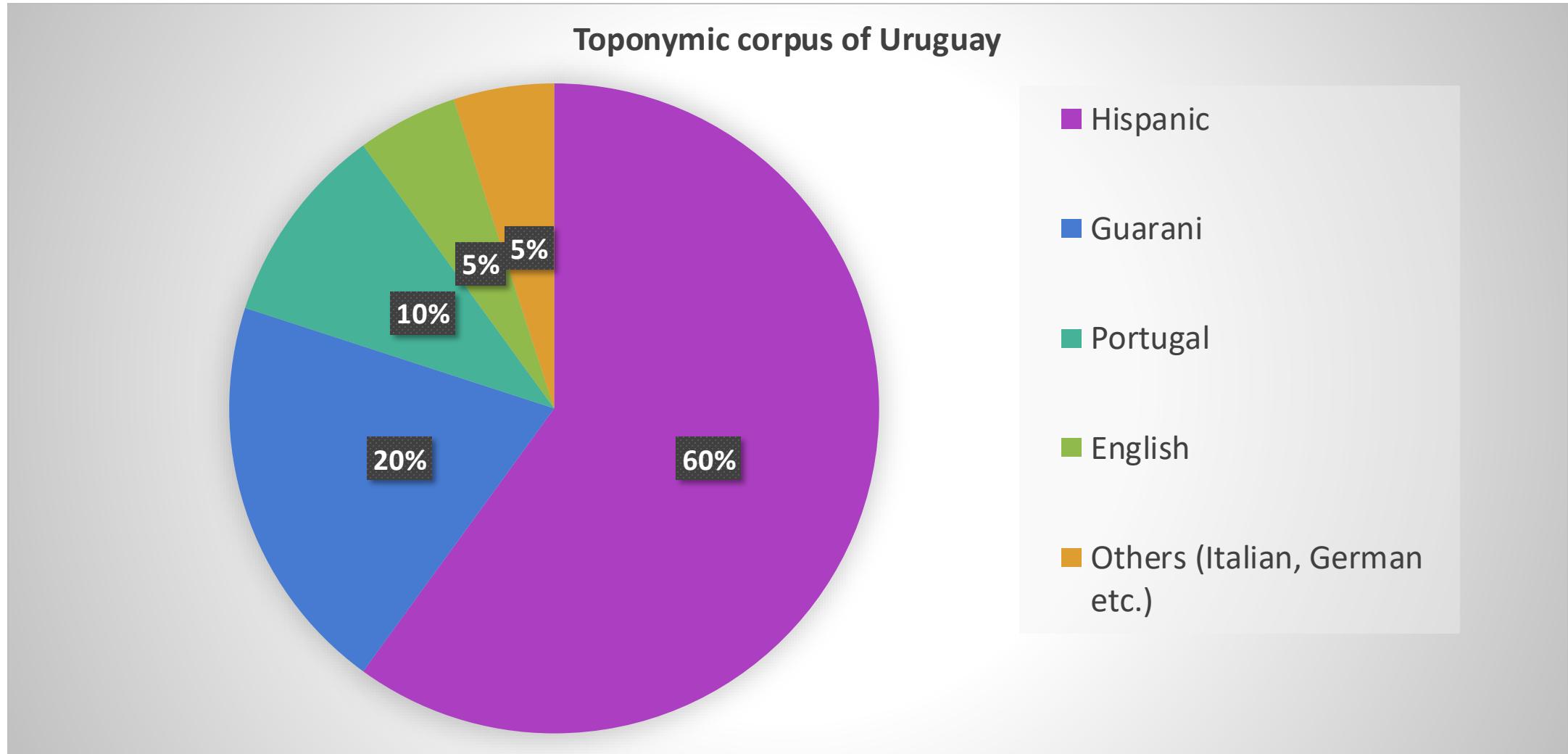


Title	Translation	Abbreviated title
Ciudad Capital	Capital	CC
Ciudad	City	Ci
Villa	Town	Vi
Pueblo	Small town	Pu
Caserío	Village	Ca
Balneario	Resort	Ba
Fraccionamiento	Microdistrict, housing estate	Fr
Barrio	District	Br
Chacra	Farm, ranch	Ch
Centro Poblado	Populated area	Cp
Estancia	Large-scale agriculture	-

# GENERAL PECULIARITIES

**ORONYMY** - PRESENCE OF THE COMPONENT *CERRO* IN 98% OF CASES AND A STRUCTURE OF 2-3 ELEMENTS (E.G., *CERRO NEGRO*, *CERRO VICHADERO CHICO* ETC.).

**HYDRONYMY** OF THE REGION, IT IS TYPICAL THE USAGE OF THE COMPONENT *ARROYO* (E.G., *ARROYO PANDO*, *ARROYO CARRASCO*).





## GUARANI PLACE NAMES

- RIVERS: *Tacuarembó, Chamangá, Yí, etc*
- MOUNTAINS :*Cerro Grande de Aceguá, Cerro Tupambae, etc.*
- NAME OF THE COUNTRY:  
*Uruguay*



# PORTUGUESE PLACE NAMES

- *Santo Domingo de Soriano Reservation* - 1624
- *Colonia del Sacramento* – 1680
- Then: *La Capuera, Barrio Pereira, Achar, Cardozo, Sequeira, Durazno, Getulio Vargas*



## ENGLISH PLACE NAMES

- *Pinamar-Pinepark, Barker, Ocean Park, Young, Chamberlain*
- *Pueblo Anglo, Barrio Anglo*

# HISPANIC PLACE NAMES

military toponyms, **religious, descriptive**, emotive units,  
zoo- and phytotoponyms, **anthropotoponyms**,  
toponymic units containing numerals, and namesake  
toponyms



# FIRST EUROPEAN SETTLEMENTS IN URUGUAY

SAN LAZARO - 1527  
SORIANO - 1624 (SANTO DOMINGO  
SORIANO - VILLA SORIANO - SORIANO)



# MONTEVIDEO

*Ciudad de San Felipe del Puerto de Montevideo*

**Monte vide eu** is perhaps the most common explanation for the etymology, according to which the name comes from the Portuguese phrase meaning 'I saw a mountain', said by one of the members of the expedition of Fernand Magellan allegedly uttered when looking at Cerro de Montevideo (ARAÚJO, 1900, p. 486).



## ANTHROPOTOPONYMS

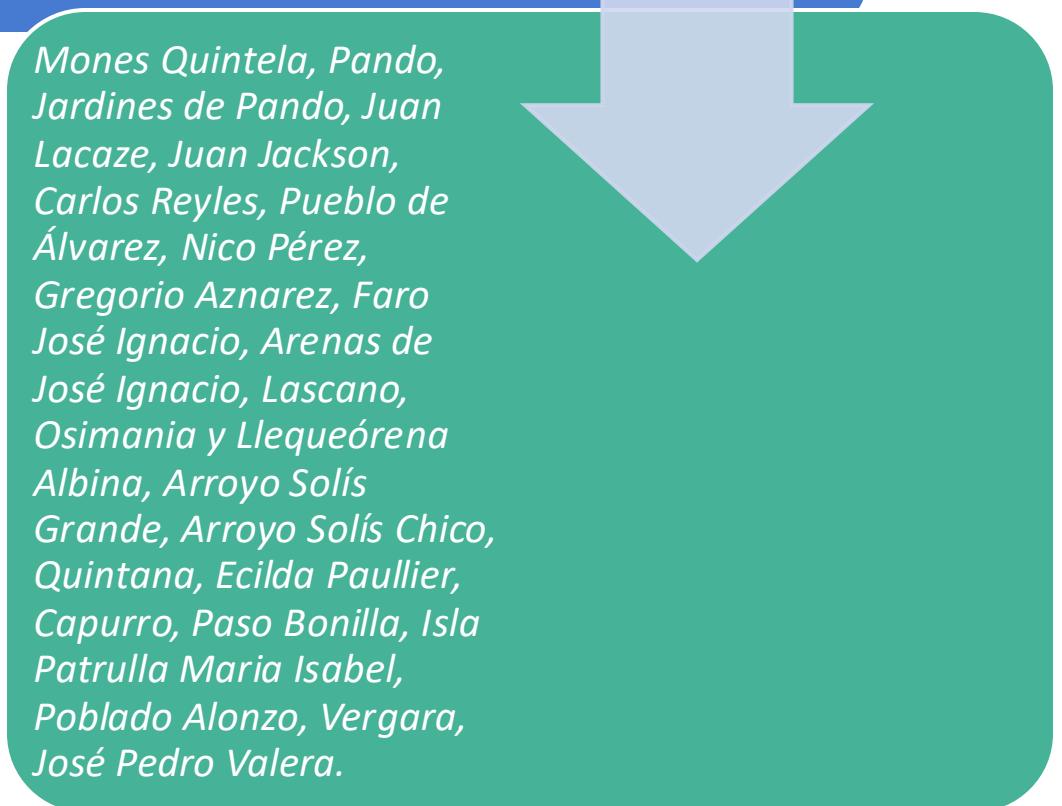
1) Named after  
politicians and  
fighters for  
independence:

*Artigas, Tomás Gomensoro,  
Bernabé Rivera, Diego  
Lamas, Rincon de Pacheco,  
Joaquín Suárez, Paso  
Espinosa, Bolívar, Getúlio  
Vargas, Florencio Sánchez,  
Ombúes de Lavalle, Ismael  
Cortinas, Jandro Gallrolaago,  
Rincon de Pacheco, Villa  
General Borges, Juan Soler,  
Barrio Pereira, General  
Enrique Martínez, Olivera,  
Coronado, González, Melo.*



## ANTHROPOTOPONYMS

- 2) Named after first settlers and local residents (founders of settlements, businessmen, engineers, owners of local lands, journalists):



*Mones Quintela, Pando,  
Jardines de Pando, Juan  
Lacaze, Juan Jackson,  
Carlos Reyles, Pueblo de  
Álvarez, Nico Pérez,  
Gregorio Aznarez, Faro  
José Ignacio, Arenas de  
José Ignacio, Lascano,  
Osimania y Llequeórena  
Albina, Arroyo Solís  
Grande, Arroyo Solís Chico,  
Quintana, Ecilda Paullier,  
Capurro, Paso Bonilla, Isla  
Patrulla María Isabel,  
Poblado Alonzo, Vergara,  
José Pedro Valera.*



## ANTHROPOTOPONYMS

3) Named after artists:

*Velázquez* (Spanish artist),

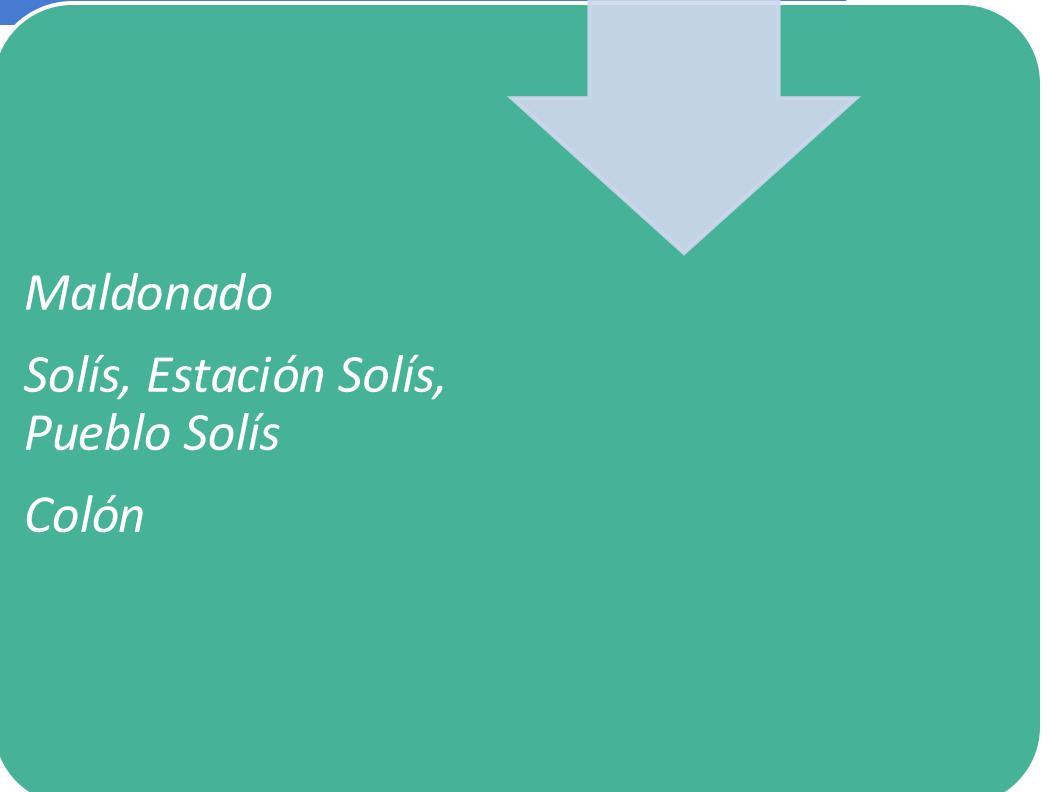
*Javier de Viana* (Uruguayan writer),

*Juan José Castro* (Argentinean composer and conductor).



## ANTHROPOTOPOONYMS

4) Named after  
seafarers and  
pioneers:



*Maldonado*  
*Solís, Estación Solís,*  
*Pueblo Solís*  
*Colón*

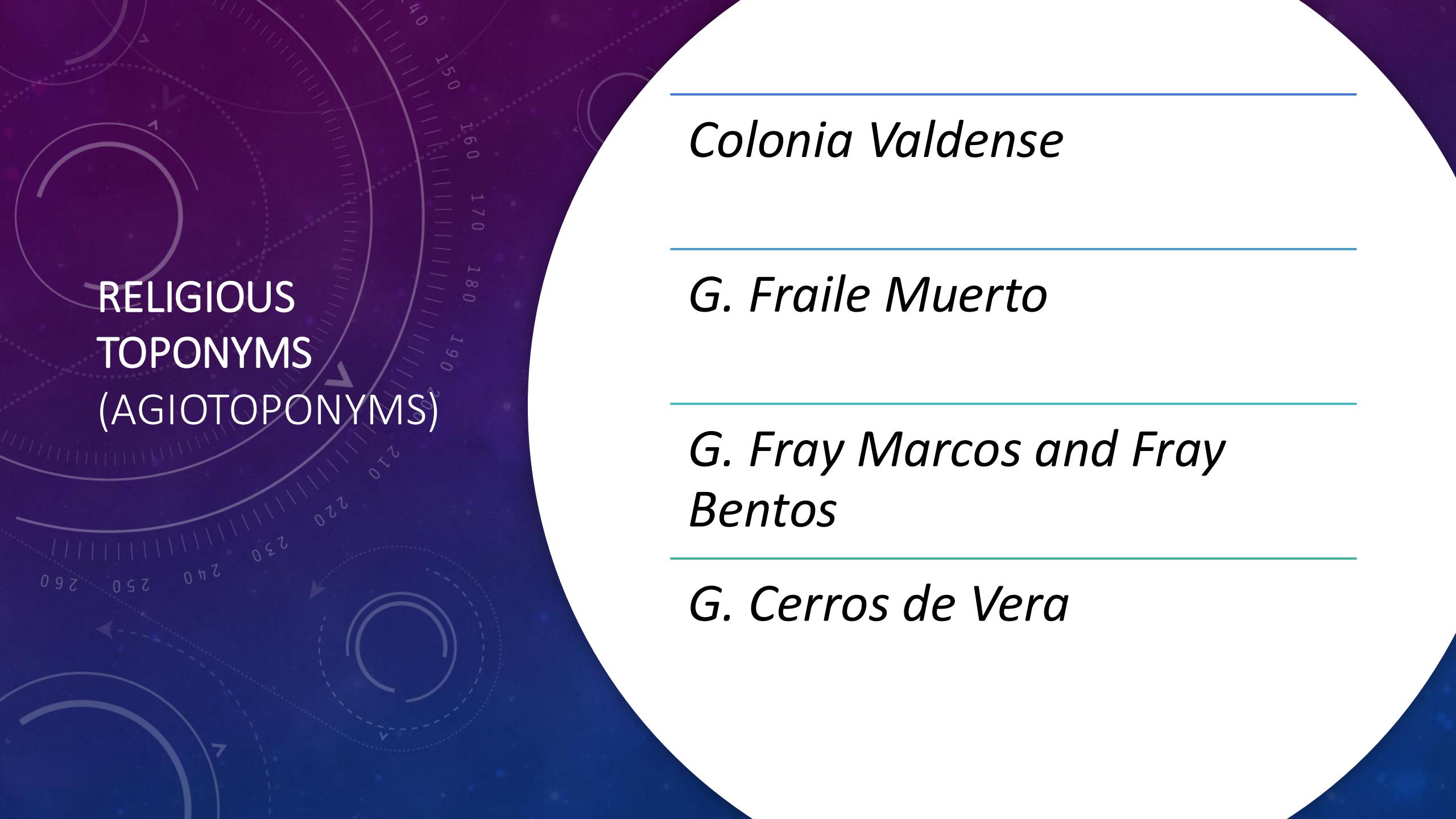
# RELIGIOUS TOPONYMS (AGIOTOPONYMS)

*Cerro San Eugenio, Santa Lucia, Villa Crespo  
y San Andrés, San José de Carrasco, San  
Ramón, San Jacinto, Santa Rosa, San  
Bautista, San Luis, San Bernardo, Fortín de  
Santa Rosa, Santa Lucía del Este, Santa Ana,  
Villa San Felipe, Villa San Cono, Santa Ana,  
San Pedro, Los Cerros de San Juan, Santa  
Regina, Santa Bernardina, San Jorge, San  
Gabriel, San Francisco de las Sierras etc.*

*Barrio Asunción, Trinidad, El Edén,  
Edén Rock, Belén, Chacras de  
Belén, La Cruz, Cruz de los  
Caminos, Colonia del Sacramento,  
Playa Pascual, Cerro de las Iglesias*

RELIGIOUS  
TOPONYMS  
(AGIOTOPONYMS)





RELIGIOUS  
TOPONYMS  
(AGIOTOPONYMS)

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*Colonia Valdense*

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*G. Fraile Muerto*

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*G. Fray Marcos and Fray  
Bentos*

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*G. Cerros de Vera*



## DESCRIPTIVE PLACE NAMES

*Costa Azul, Bello Horizonte, Blanca Arena,  
Playa Azul, Playa Hermosa, Aguas Buenas,  
Aguas Dulces, Bella Vista, Piedras  
Coloradas, Punta Colorada, Laguna Blanca,  
Las Piedras, Piedra Sola, Piedras de Afilar,  
Pintado, Pintadito, Agraciada, Monte  
Grande, Cerro Pelado, Playa Verde etc.*



## DESCRIPTIVE PLACE NAMES

- *Ciudad del Plata, Parque del Plata, Brisas del Plata, Río de la Plata.*
- *Ciudad de la Costa, Barros Blancos, Cerillos, Montes, Salinas, La Montañesa, Cerro Ejido, Parada Cabrera, Estación Tapia, Pueblo Nuevo, Estación Pedrera, La Pedrera, Estación Rincón, La Loma, Lagos del Norte etc.*

# METONYMIC CHAINS

*San Luis* (river,  
town, cape),

*Pan de Azúcar*  
(mountain, town),

*Bella Vista*  
(locality, mountain  
range, mountain,  
small river), etc.

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THANK YOU FOR  
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