



Two countries divided by a mere fence, 1930s (Courtesy Arreola Collection).

Reading Mexican Border Town Pasts with Photographic Postcards

by Daniel D. Arreola

A public presentation by Arizona State University Professor Daniel D. Arreola

Free and open to the public

When: Tuesday, April 21, 6:00 pm

Where: Pimería Alta Historical Society, 136 N. Grand Avenue, Nogales, Arizona

What did Mexican border towns look like in the past? Is there a way to reconstruct the visual past of these towns using popular imagery? The picture postcard is one way to rediscover that past. This project examines the use and application of photographic postcards to the historical geographic study of towns on the Mexican border. Arranged and analyzed systematically, picture postcards permit us to visualize a serial view of people and place thereby enhancing our understanding of changes in border towns.

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