**Recuerdos | Souvenirs: A Nuevo Grand Tour**

Image:

Credit:

Caption:

Almost exactly the distance of the Grand Tour[[1]](#footnote-1), the tourism route for upper class Europeans that went south from London to Rome, this is the story of a different journey—one that stretches for 1,933 miles along the border with the United States. This *Nuevo Grand Tour* traces the consequences of a security infrastructure that stands both conceptually and physically perpendicular to human mobility. Historically, the artifacts that Grand Tourists would return home with—art, books, paintings and sculpture—became symbols of wealth and freedom. In contrast, along the border wall has become a barrier to movement to people arriving from the south, seeking opportunities not easily obtainable from their points of origin.

On this journey along the physical barrier that divides the U.S. from Mexico, we encounter a diverse set of experiences, which are presented in the form of stories of people, who on both sides of the border, transform the wall—giving it new meaning by challenging its very existence in remarkably creative ways. To memorialize these events, we have also collected an array souvenirs, or *recuerdos*—a Spanish term that defines both the trinkets one might purchase at tourist shops and memories. The *recuerdos* gathered along our border are tragic, sublime, and absurd, occasionally hyperbolized, and suggestive of alternative propositions for the wall, but in all cases based on our own observations, hopes and the actual events taking place in the liminal space that defines the southern boundary between the United States and Mexico.

**Board(er…) Game**

Image:

Credit:

Caption:

Border patrol has described apprehensions at the wall as a “cat and mouse” game, but it is much more complex than that. For many, the wall serves only as one of many obstacles in a journey northward. The wall is only one of the obstacles an immigrant from the south has in the journey north. Assault, robbery, harsh environmental conditions, rape and dehydration are only a few of the hardships encounters in a journey to the wall. Once across, racial profiling, one’s status as an undocumented immigrant, racism, poverty, and Border Patrol and Immigration are all conditions that would send someone back to their starting point.

**Border Calculus**

Image: 03\_bordercalculus.tif

Credit: Courtesy of U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Caption: Border Calculus is the criteria that determines what tactical infrastructure, such as border patrol agents, physical barriers or other technology are needed at various locations along the border given the geography and location to particular urban or rural conditions.

The Department of Homeland Security has a formula for assigning physical infrastructure, such as walls, as well as technology, such as security cameras, and border patrol offers. Defined by is mathematical rigor, the framework is called “Border Calculus”. The strategy implemented in this formula suggests that to create a successful security infrastructure, 3 criteria must be met. The first is that there is sufficient detection and tracking coverage. Secondly, sufficient tracking in depth to allow agent time to react before alien reaches a vanishing point. The third point is that there is sufficient capacity to handle the numbers of apprehended. The tactics take into account topography, and crossings in cities versus more remote areas. Ultimately, Homeland Security sees the wall as a 5-minute delay, and such a delay would increase the chance for apprehensions.

**Fence Lab**

Image: 04\_fencelab1.tif

Credit: Courtesy U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Caption: A vehicle traveling 40 miles per hour and weighted with 10,000 lbs rams into a wall prototype at Fence Lab

There are several ways to evaluate the success of designs proposed for the border wall and in February of 2007 a joint effort called “Fence Lab” was created to test commercial off-the-shelf and government designed fencing solutions.[[2]](#footnote-2) Funded by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Fence Lab was carried out at the Texas Transportation Institute test lab facility at Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas in partnership with Sandia Laboratories, The Boeing Company and the U.S. Border Patrol. The design testing process was to create a barrier strong enough to thwart one of the largest migrations in history from a friendly nation. Design requirements mandated by the U.S. government suggested that “the fence must be formidable but not lethal; visually imposing but not ugly; durable but environmentally friendly; and economically built but not flimsy.”[[3]](#footnote-3) The federal government did not want new fencing to look like a wall and according to Peter Andreas, a political science professor at Brown University who studies border security issues, the U.S Government wanted “to make it seem like you could shake hands through the fence.”[[4]](#footnote-4)

The eight-week, $17,500/day project[[5]](#footnote-5) involved testing eight different fence designs, including pedestrian fences and vehicular fences.[[6]](#footnote-6) Some fences were tested in a hand to wall combat fashion, where a team of U.S. Border Patrol agents, themselves physically attacked the barriers with axes, battery powered saws, grinders, blowtorches, crowbars and ladders.[[7]](#footnote-7) Surprising the engineers, the team of agents quickly dismantled the fences, which led to new fence designs that specify that hollow steel tubing, easily cut by blow torch is now filled with concrete, making it slower for immigrants to get through it. Also, rectangular posts, which were found easy to climb, have been replaced with taller fences with rounded tubing, which slow down, but not stop, climbers. To prove the capabilities of the fence to thwart encroachment by vehicles, remote control trucks, loaded with 10,000 pounds were slammed into the fence at 40 miles per hour. Fence Lab tested this capability by loading remote control vehicles and slamming them into the wall, setting a standard for cost-effective fence designs that could be rapidly replicated to meet the Border Patrol’s requirement to slow and deter pedestrians and vehicles from crossing the border between the ports of entry.[[8]](#footnote-8)

**Border Wall Bridges**

Image: 05\_border\_wall\_bridges.tif

Credit: U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Caption: A silver Jeep Cherokee attempting to drive over the 14-foot high floating wall is high centered and suspected smugglers driving the vehicle fled into Mexico.

Include other images of makeshift ramps?

While millions of dollars in research and development were being spent at Fence Lab to create solutions for preventing people from crossing the border, much research is also taking place in Mexico to develop low-tech solutions to surmount the wall. Perhaps one of the most ingenious methods by which people attempt to cross the wall is the creation of portable bridges using steel ramps to create paths for automobiles to drive over the fence. There are several types of bridges: Some bridges are attached to the back of pickup and flat-bed trucks, making them highly portable. Others must be carried by hand and put in place by several people. These bridges are used on the several different types of walls that exist along the border. Vehicular walls, specifically designed to stop automobiles, are the easiest walls to cross, because they are typically quite low and ramps are easily placed on both sides of the wall allowing vehicles to drive across them. But size is not necessarily a deterrent. Much more daring attempts have been made to drive across some of the taller walls as well.

Many of the border wall bridges have been discovered because the crossings were unsuccessful. For example, in 2009 on the Tohono O’odham Reservation near the San Miguel Gate, a pickup truck carrying 314 pounds of marijuana fell off a steel bridge that was placed over a vehicular barrier made of railroad ties. When the front wheels then became wedged between the rails of the metal ramp, it was unable to be recovered and the owners abandoned it to be discovered by border patrol agents.

In 2011, near Yuma, Arizona, Border Patrol agents discovered a 2001 Jeep Cherokee suspiciously driving at high speeds. When agents attempted to stop the vehicle, it changed directions and headed south towards Mexico and when the vehicle’s occupants encountered the fence, they escaped on foot, going around the fence and fleeing into Mexico. Inside the vehicle the agents discovered 1,000 lbs. of marijuana and later discovered that the vehicle had entered the U.S. by driving over a large ramp that was placed over the 12-foot tall border wall. The ramp was permanently attached to a truck that had the capability of creating a mobile bridge. One half of the ramp folded over itself, and when parked next to the border wall, it was folded over the other side touching ground in the U.S. so that the Jeep could drive up the back of the truck, over the wall, and down into the U.S. side[[9]](#footnote-9)—a low-tech version of the armored vehicle-launched bridges that are designed to assist in rapidly deploying tanks and other armored fighting vehicles across rivers.[[10]](#footnote-10)

Several other examples of these types of deployable vehicle-launched border wall ramps have been discovered and it seems that Jeep Cherokees are a preferred vehicle for driving over border wall bridges. The Yuma Sector also seems to be the place they like to cross. In the Imperial County Sand Dunes in California near Yuma, AZ, border patrol agents discovered a silver Jeep Cherokee high-centered and immobilized at the top of the infamous 14 foot tall wall crossing the Imperial Sand Dunes (see Floating Wall). A set of makeshift ramps had been placed on both sides of the wall allowing the Jeep to drive to the top of the wall. However, despite the Jeep’s capabilities as an off-road vehicle, it was found teetering (see Teeter Totter Wall) between the two countries at the top of the wall. While it is unclear what the vehicle was carrying, as it was found empty, it is suspected that it was attempting to smuggle marijuana and was emptied and abandoned when it became lodged atop the wall. Supervisory Border Patrol Agent James Jaques of San Diego, CA summed up the condition of vehicles driving across the tall border walls, stating, "It's like the old show 'The Dukes of Hazzard,' cars flying through the air."[[11]](#footnote-11)

**Projectiles**

Title: 06\_projectiles1.tif

Credit: AP Photo/Mexicali Public Safety Department)

Caption: An improvised cannon used to launch marijuana across the wall into California.

Link: <http://www.theatlantic.com/infocus/2013/05/on-the-border/100510/>

Title: 06\_projectiles2.tif

Credit: Patrick Crowley

Caption: Human cannonball David Smith Sr. is launched over the wall from Tijuana into the United States.

Title: 06\_projectiles3.tif

Credit: Courtesy U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Caption: Border Patrol agents working with the National Guard and Mexican authorities, discover a catapult used to launch marijuana over the wall.

Automobiles carrying people and drugs have not things “flying through the air”. Much like during the Middle Ages, with the rise of fortified castles and city walls, the catapult became an essential tool to launch objects and bodies[[12]](#footnote-12) over protective walls. The Middle Ages were also a time when the cannon, fired with the use of gunpowder, became a standard method to surmount walls. And like the catapult, the cannon has also been known to fire humans through the air.[[13]](#footnote-13) So it is unsurprising that the use of medieval technology, such as catapults and cannons would return as powerful tools to react to the medieval wall constructed along the U.S. - Mexico border.

For drug traffickers, launching marijuana over the wall is a less conspicuous means of smuggling the drug as packages of marijuana are more bulky than heroin and cocaine, which makes it more difficult to transport across through other clandestine methods.[[14]](#footnote-14) Among the projectile launchers created to hurdle the wall are catapults used by drug traffickers to hurl marijuana and other contraband over the border wall. The catapults that have been confiscated by Mexican authorities are built by converting an automobile axel into a trailer with a hitch that can be attached to a truck making them very portable. These “Pot-A-Pults”, which can be as large as 9-foot tall and constructed of a steel and a strong elastic band, can catapult marijuana bundled in bales weighing approximately 4.4lb each and these borderlands trebuchets have been discovered in use along the Arizona – Mexico border near the cities of Naco and Agua Prieta.[[15]](#footnote-15)

More powerful are the canons have also been used to launch packets of marijuana across the border wall into Calexico, California from Mexicali, Mexico.[[16]](#footnote-16) These homemade canons are fashioned from plastic pipe and a makeshift metal tanks that contain compressed air produced by an automobile engine or encapsulated compressed carbon dioxide. They have been known to fire 30lb canisters of marijuana about 500 feet[[17]](#footnote-17) and 33 such canisters fired out of one of these cannons, valued at $42,500, were discovered near Yuma, Arizona.[[18]](#footnote-18)

So have people also been launched over the wall? In an episode of the television program MythBusters (Season 3, Ep. 22. "Border Slingshot") tested the myth that in addition to drugs, immigrants themselves were becoming human projectiles and being flung two hundred yards across the border into the U.S. The show constructed a human sized slingshot to see if it was possible. The tests demonstrate the launch of a mannequin over a fictional U.S. / Canadian border and use a chain link fence topped with razor wire to mark the border—a vision clearly inspired by the U.S-Mexico wall. While they were able to propel the dummy 211 feet, it was concluded that it didn’t seem possible to launch a human accurately enough to ensure their safety.

So while there is no evidence to support migrants being launched over the wall, human cannonball David Smith Sr., who holds the record for being catapulted in the air a distance of 201 feet in 2002, is also the first documented person to be launched by cannon over the U.S. / Mexico border wall. In 2005, with passport in hand, which he waived to the crowd before blasting off from Tijuana, Mexico. He then sailed over the wall and landed squarely on a large net awaiting him in San Diego, California.[[19]](#footnote-19)

It it is illegal to enter the U.S. from Mexico in any way other than at an official port of entry, but U.S. Border Patrol Chief David Aguilar granted Smith permission to cross in this unconventional fashion. When Smith was asked why he did it, his reply was, “I did it for the money—I get paid!”[[20]](#footnote-20)

**Climbing Wall**

Image: 08\_climbing\_wall1.tif

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption: A group of “climbers” enjoy the challenge, while an unauthorized climber is detained.

Another image of people climbing the wall, or ladders or people climbing?

Former U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano said of the wall: ``you show me a 50-foot wall and I'll show you a 51-foot ladder at the border'', which has become a mantra for describing the wall's inadequacies.[[21]](#footnote-21) In 2010 two young U.S. girls demonstrated this by climbing the wall in less than 18 seconds in a video that went viral on the Internet.[[22]](#footnote-22) And while many new fence types are designed to be more difficult to climb by using perforated metal or round steel columns, these challenges are often overcome as well. Perforated metal panels, which make it difficult to insert fingers or toes into in order to climb the wall, are used as guides for creating a climbing surface using screwdrivers.

Piles of ladders have also been found lying against the wall and some Texas ranchers, tired of costly repairs to fences damaged by illegal immigrants, have gone so far as installing ladders to provide an easier route over fences near the U.S.-Mexican border.[[23]](#footnote-23) Instead of creating walls that are more difficult to climb, perhaps instead, they should be intentionally more challenging, by using the routes and grading of rock climbing walls found in climbing gyms promoting health and exercise along certain stretches of the border.

Ladder image: <http://womenontheborder.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2012/07/Section-of-border-wall-and-ladders-built-by-migrants.jpg>

**Tunneling**

Image: 09\_tunneling.tif

Credit: Courtesy U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Caption: Otay Mesa drug tunnel

While some strategies aim at going over the wall, a number of subterranean trans-border smuggling operations have been created to go under it. Over 80 tunnels along the border have been discovered by U.S. law enforcement agencies since 2006, with most of them in California and Arizona. Many of these tunnels connect to homes and warehouses on both sides of the border. Entrances to tunnels include fireplaces, doors beneath sinks, or removable panels in floors. These lead to underground chambers, some of which are very sophisticated. One tunnel discovered in Otay Mesa, California ran for 2,400 feet and was 70 feet underground. Some tunnels are carefully engineered and have railroad tracks with carts, lighting, ventilation and water drainage systems in order to effectively transport drugs, people and other contraband. While the presence of walls may appear to some as a formidable barrier, it instead provokes the proliferation of creative strategies to bypass the security measures at the border. ~~Like an ant farm, the collective intelligence and skills creating a complex network of underground passageways is pure entertainment as we witness how crude obstacles are easily overcome.~~

Good images: <http://www.nbcnews.com/news/investigations/drug-smugglers-tunnel-under-u-s-mexico-border-n72166>

Note: don’t’ integrate the antfarm into the text…

**Bicycle & Pedestrian Wall**

Image: 10\_bicycle\_pedestrian\_wall1.tif

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

Image: 10\_bicycle\_pedestrian\_wall2.ai

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

Image: 10\_bicycle\_pedestrian\_wall3.tif

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

If the border wall is to remain as a barrier preventing pedestrian access north and south, perhaps it can on both sides facilitate pedestrian and bicycle movement east and west by being re-envisioned as a linear urban park through certain urban geographies. When supplemented with green spaces, connected to schools and other parks, there is no reason not to think of the wall as the organizing condition for an urban park, offering pedestrian and bicycle routes through cities. The linear park, in turn, has the potential to increase adjacent property values, reduce vehicular traffic and improve the quality of life on both sides of the border while providing an important green corridor through municipalities.

**Shoes**

Image: 11\_shoes1.tif

Credit: Courtesy U.S. Border Patrol

Caption: Smugglers wear “carpet shoes” to avoid detection by Border Patrol agents.

Also

Available: http://www.apimages.com/Search?query=mexico+border+shoes&ss=10&st=kw&entitysearch=&toItem=15&orderBy=Newest

Image: Brinco

Credit:

Caption:

Available: <http://www.apimages.com/Search?query=mexico+border+shoes&ss=10&st=kw&entitysearch=&toItem=15&orderBy=Newest>

Getting to the wall, and then up, over and under requires the right equipment. Immigrants can walk hundreds of miles in hot, arid, rocky and harsh conditions before arriving to the wall. During the journey, their shoes can wear out, causing blisters, twisted ankles, and other foot injuries. A common remedy to give added longevity to worn out shoes is to stuff them with leaves from the Yucca plant to protect the foot. Ironically, Native Americans in the border region historically fashioned shoes made of yucca fiber, but the Argentine artist Judi Werthein arrived at another solution.

The year before the Secure Fence Act of 2006 was passed, Werthein had designed shoes exclusively for border crossing migrants intending to take a journey to the desert and jump the wall. These cross-trainers are called *Brinco*, a term used by immigrants to describe their “jump” across the fence to the other side. A compass and flashlight are attached to the shoelaces, since most immigrants attempt to cross at night. They also have a small pocket for hiding money from *coyotes* and come with Tylenol pain relievers to alleviate the pain from injuries sustained on the journey. On the removable insole is a map of the border showing the most popular routes from Tijuana to San Diego. The sneakers are high-tops to protect the ankles from twisting on rocks or from descending the tall border wall. Additional protection is from Santo Toribio Romo Gonzalez, the patron saint of Mexican immigrants, who’s image adorns the back ankle (there is a belief among some Mexicans that the ghost of Santo Toribio, who was killed in 1928 and canonized by Pope John Paul II, in 2000, has appeared to some undocumented immigrants crossing the border to assist them in distress). On the heel is an abstraction of the Mexican eagle (golden eagle) and the pattern on the toe is an abstraction of the eagle found on the U.S. quarters (bald eagle) describing where one is coming from and where one is heading. Embroidered on the shoes is the statement “This product was manufactured in China under a minimum wage of $42 a month working 12-hour days”, to underscore the message of global trade and inequity the shoes, as an art piece, were designed to convey. The 1,000 shoes that were produced were commissioned by inSite San Diego where Werthein exhibited the shoes, but they were also placed for sale in a San Diego hip boutique for $215. On the other side of the wall, Werthein also distributed shoes at a migrant shelter in Tijuana for free.

In the small town of Sasabe, Sonora, another shoe design has emerged to aid in border crossing. For about $4 a shoe, customers can have the soles of their shoes covered with shag carpet or felt so that footprints would not be left in the ground making it more difficult to detect by border patrol agents. Others glue large pieces of foam to the bottom of their shoes. Smugglers and immigrants often employ these tactics as useful tools in the heavily groomed landscapes of dust created by border patrol agents dragging tires to smooth the landscape to increase footprint detection.

BP image: <http://www.kpho.com/story/15697305/border-patrol-arrests-man-with-marijuana-filled-backpack>.

More images: <http://azborderdefenders.org/pictures/>

**Tire Dragging**

Image: 12\_tire\_dragging1.tif

Credit: Courtesy U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Caption:

Image: tire\_dragging\_snowglobe

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

Near the town of San Luis, Arizona, much like in many other sites adjacent to the border wall, Border Patrol agents practice what’s called “pulling the drag”[[24]](#footnote-24) or “cutting”, referencing the traditional methods of hunting by cutting across a trail by weeping back and fourth across the predicted direction in order to pick up tracks a considerable distance ahead.[[25]](#footnote-25)

But when performed by border patrol agents, the tactic is accomplished by chaining several tires together (as many as eight), weighing them down with heavy steel bars, and dragging them with a chain behind an SUV border patrol vehicle, sweeping the ground to erase any disturbance in the zone near the fence by pulverizing and smoothing the ground to allow any footprint to be clearly visible to the agents. While this is an ongoing practice throughout the day, often the ground is swept at dusk, revealing new tracks in the morning highlighted by the long shadows created by the rising southwestern sun.[[26]](#footnote-26)

Somehow, these manicured landscapes are visually similar to the raked gravel in a traditional Zen garden—petrified landscapes, which seemed suspended in time—until the next intruder interrupts the serenity of the newly shaped *tabula raza* formed by the grooming, which creates clouds of dust long rows that define the wall from a distance as an ephemeral fence made of particles that disappear into the landscape.

As useful as these Zen gardens are to U.S. Border Patrol agents, there is little tranquility achieved by the constant raking. Desert soils can’t easily recover from compaction caused by the heavy traffic along the wall. The damage to the soil and vegetation also causes erosion and drainage problems. The Washington based group Defenders of Wildlife is also concerned about the affects that tire dragging has on the rare Sonoran pronghorn as the practice degrades vegetation and disturbs the animals.[[27]](#footnote-27) Ecologists also note that the practice crushes lizards sunbathing in the wide swaths that create these border patrol super highways.[[28]](#footnote-28)

**Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument**

Image: 6077358614\_87cb2d2f5e\_o.jpg

Credit: National Park Service

Caption: Isolated, intense rainstroms in the Ajo area on August 7, 2011, resulted in a flow event in one of the washes at Organ Pipe Cactus NM that is crossed by the pedestrian fence near Lukeville.

Link: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/npssodn/6077358614>

Also: http://science.nature.nps.gov/im/units/sodn/parks/images/ORPIIncursions.jpg

Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument was estab­lished in 1937 to preserve approximately 330,000 acres of the Sonoran Desert and in 1976, the monument was declared an Inter­national Biosphere Reserve by the United Nations. In 1978, Congress designated nearly 95% of monument lands as wilder­ness, which generally prohibits the use of motor vehicles in the reserve, except for special provisions for motor vehicle use when required in emergencies or as necessary for the administration of the area. Because of the provisions set fourth by the Secure Fence Act of 2006, which usurps any protections afforded the monument by the Wilderness Act, today, there are an estimated 2,553 miles of unauthorized roads and trails through the Monument. A majority (96%) of the all terrain vehicle tracks seen cutting between established roads are caused by the U.S. Border Patrol who are required to stay on designated roads except in the case of “exigent circumstances”.[[29]](#footnote-29) The political border itself is a highway of dust, devoid of any of the rich ecological fabric the park is intended to preserve, that traces the path of the $18 million, 23-mile long vehicular wall. These roads, both designated and unauthorized, cause erosion and damage the fragile ecosystem comprised of vegetation, wildlife habitat and soil and surprisingly, after the construction of the wall in 2006, both the amount of vehicle tracks and pedestrian foot trails increased.[[30]](#footnote-30)

**Cactus Wall**

Image: Cactus Wall

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

Perhaps a better solution to a wall of steel at the border in Organ Pipe National Monument would be redirecting the investment in maintaining a steel wall, and using it instead to create infrastructure of planting and mitigation of the natural ecology. Homeland security considers natural obstacles an effective barrier and through an intensive re-planting of indigenous plants along areas where the border wall and undesignated roads have been created by off-roading border patrol agents and smugglers. This new security infrastructure of prickly succulents, a Cactus Wall, would be created, both along and throughout the monument. While the artificiality of plantings might be seen as un-natural given the wilderness designation of the park, it is likely far more sustainable an option than the destruction of the fragile ecosystem of Organ Pipe National Monument.

**Dam Wall**

Image:

Credit:

Caption:

Link: <http://www.nbcnews.com/id/26396487/ns/us_news-environment/t/border-blunder-security-fence-causes-flooding/#.VA0QpEsTw7F>

While the walls constructed in the park do not seem to be stopping traffic. In 2008, a 5 mile-long pedestrian wall was also constructed in the park. Along it’s route, the wall crosses several natural washes, but the wall itself doesn’t allow for water to flow freely across it. A storm, where about 2.5 inches of rain fell the same year of its completion caused debris, mostly grass, leaves and limbs, to wash against the wall plug the holes in the metal grate, causing the water level behind to rise and push more debris against it. With nowhere to go, the water flowed towards the border towns of Lukeville and Sonoyta and Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument the fence acts as a dam, causing flooding and environmental damage.[[31]](#footnote-31) In July of 2008, 2 inches of rain falling within 90 minutes on Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument cased a flash flood that piled debris against the 15-foot-high wire mesh pedestrian wall. Because subsurface drainage was also not possible because of the 6-foot-deep foundation, water pooled up against the wall 7 feet high, turning the Army Corps of Engineers border wall into a dam. Subsequently, water began to flow parallel to the wall, inundating the towns of Lukeville and Sonoyta and causing damage to several buildings as well as damage to the wall itself. A similar flood occurred again in 2010, but this time, in addition to flooding the nearby port of entry, the wall itself failed and washed away forty feet of the $23.3 million wall.[[32]](#footnote-32)

The wall serving as an effective, if accidental, water collection system is not uncommon in other areas along the border. In 2008 a similar event happened in the cities of Nogales, Arizona and Heroica Nogales, Sonora causing disastrous flooding. The flood caused two people to drown and several hundred businesses and homes were inundated with water pooling to depths of 5 feet, causing many vehicles to float away in the desert city that became clogged with mud and debris. Once again, in July 2014, heavy rains washed debris into the wall dividing Nogales, Arizona and Heroica Nogales, Sonora, forcing the collapse of 60 feet of the gargantuan 18-26 foot tall border wall with 7-foot deep foundations.

(photo here: <http://www.nbcnews.com/id/26396487/ns/us_news-environment/t/border-blunder-security-fence-causes-flooding/#.U-VzYlYTw7E>).

Good photo: <http://www.nomoredeathsvolunteers.org/apps/photos/photo?photoid=164226509> and <http://www.abqjournal.com/436938/news/flood-topples-part-of-border-wall.html>

flooding: <http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/laplaza/2011/08/border-fence-arizona-flooding-washed-away.html> and <http://science.nature.nps.gov/im/units/sodn/parks/orpi.cfm>

**Hydro Wall**

Image: hydro\_wall

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

Link:

The border wall has also caused severe flooding where rain has fallen, blocking natural drainage systems and damming in entire neighborhoods. When water collection is considered proactively, it can become a system with transformative consequences for the desert communities along the border.

For example, the city of El Paso levies storm water fees on all landowners based on the amount of their property’s impervious surfaces. They plan on raising $650 million for a system of storm water catchments to ameliorate the consequences of flooding.

Water and air quality in the border regions suffer a disproportionate amount of environmental degradation compared to each nation’s overall environmental standing. The 14 metropolitan areas along the border have abysmal air and water quality. Water is the most limited resource in this primarily arid region. Many migrant deaths are caused by dehydration as they cross the harsh desert. A Hydro Wall would collect water and store potable safe water over the span of several miles for distribution on both sides of the wall.

**New River**

Image:

Credit:

Caption:

Link: http://mexicalimaryann.com/2012/06/25/the-new-river-and-the-salton-sea/

The New River is considered the most polluted river in the United States.[[33]](#footnote-33) It flows north from Mexicali and crosses the border at Calexico. New River toxicity is comprised of chemical runoff; pathogens like tuberculosis, hepatitis, and cholera; and fecal coliform bacteria, which at the border checkpoint far exceeds US-Mexico treaty limits. At the moment the river reaches the border, the wall, which is designed to delay the flow of humans, opens to allow the polluted water to enter freely. The New River then flows through the Imperial Valley, which is a major source of winter fruits and vegetables, cotton, and grain. While the Secure Fence Act of 2006 was enacted, according to President Bush, to “help protect the American people” from illegal immigration, drug smuggling, and terrorism, the New River represents a far more dangerous flow north from Mexico in need of containment.[[34]](#footnote-34)

**Wastewater Treatment Wall**

Image: Wastewater Treatment Wall

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

Image: Wastewater Treatment Wall Section

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

A wastewater treatment wall located in the two-mile-long wasteland that buffers Mexicali from the Imperial Valley is a solution to the “illegal entry” of toxins to the US. The pollution problem is expected to worsen as Mexicali’s population, already at 1.3 million, continues to expand without adequate infrastructure.

For $33 million, the same cost as the wall that divides Calexico and Mexicali, it is possible to construct a wastewater treatment facility with the capacity to handle 20 million gallons per day of effluent from the New River. This proposed facility is composed of a linear pond filtration and purification system, creating a secure border infrastructure. The by-product of the wastewater treatment facility would include methane and water, a combination that could power a series of lit, green corridors, creating a healthy, social infrastructure that could join these growing border cities.

**Chamizal National Monument**

Image: Plan of shifting river

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

Include photo of Johnson shaking hands across divide

Between approximately 889 miles and 1,248 miles of the U.S.-Mexico border are defined by the *Rio Grande del Norte/Rio Bravo del Norte*. The approximation in length is due to the river being a geologic feature in flux. Defining the political border with the river has proved problematic at times and was the cause of a 100-year border dispute between the U.S. and Mexico where “not one shot was fired; not one war was waged” memorialized in a “Peace Park” called Chamizal National Memorial. So what was the 100-year argument about?

The Treaty of Gudalupe Hidalgo of 1848, which specified a new boundary between the two countries, settled the official end to the Mexican-American war. Much of the boundary for the new border was defined and specified as the center of the river regardless of any alteration to the river channel or banks and that any such transformations must result from gradual natural causes. If the river changes course, as rivers do, because of deposit of clay, silt, sand and gravel, the political border changes with the change in the course of the river. However, if the river changes course due to avulsion, the previous course of the river continues to define the border.

Just two years after the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, the Rio Grande River that separated the cities of El Paso and Juarez, began to shift south, especially in 1884 as the consequence of a flood. By 1873, approximately 600 acres that were previously south of the 1848 Rio Grande, were now north of the river, effectively becoming property of the United States and was settled and incorporated as part of El Paso. In 1895 a suit was filed in the Juárez Primary Court of Claims for the punitive owner of the land, Pedro I. García, who held title to the land since 1827.

As a consequence of this claim, Mexico and the United States agreed for the dispute to be settled by the International Boundary Commission, which had been created in 1889, to determine if the change in the river’s course had been gradual, whether the boundaries set by the treaties were fixed, and whether the 1884 treaty applied.[[35]](#footnote-35) The claims by Mexico were that the boundary never changed (only the river) and therefore the land was Mexican territory. The U.S. claimed that the boundary was a result of gradual erosion, therefore the 1884 treaty applied, thus making it U.S. soil.

The Commission’s recommendation was that a portion of land between the 1852 riverbed and the 1864 river would become U.S. territory and the remainder of the land would become Mexican territory. The U.S. rejected this proposal and during a period of that lasted several years without any decision, a parcel of land located in the middle of the river, called *Isla de* Córdoba, or Cordova Island, which was an island belonging to Mexico but inside U.S. territory, became a sort of free-zone that was not policed by authorities from either side. Cordova Island thus became a haven for criminal activity and illegal border crossings.

Between 1910 and 1963 many more initiatives were attempted to resolve the debate, but it was finally agreed upon on January 14, 1963 under President John F. Kennedy’s administration, which awarded 366 acres of the Chamizal area to Mexico as well as 71 acres east of Cordova Island. The U.S. was awarded 193 acres of Cordova Island from Mexico and the U.S. was also paid for 382 structures, thus 382 American works of architecture and building now became absorbed by Mexico. The make the separation clear, both nations agreed to re-channel the Rio Grande/Rio Bravo and share the costs. The American-Mexican Chamizal Convention Act of 1964 formally settled the dispute and in October of 1967, Presidents Lynden B. Johnson and Gustavo Díaz Ordaz met and shook hands across the divide.

**Avulsion Wall**

Image: avulsion masterplan

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

The fluctuations of the river and the subsequent political border could be used as a strategy for urban planning. Rather than attempt to stop the natural avulsions in a river by forcing them through concrete canals, allowing the river to meander within the riparian flood plain could be a vehicle for urban development… and immigration reform and amnesty.

with a How can the permanence and stasis reflected by a physical fence that defines a boundary be utilized to determine a context in flux?

**Swing Wall**

Image: swing\_wall

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

Image: swing\_wall section

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

with a How can the permanence and stasis reflected by a physical fence that defines a boundary be utilized to determine a context in flux?

The trade and labor relationships between the U.S. and Mexico are in delicate balance. Mexicans throng to the U.S. to find work, but often long to live comfortably in their own country. U.S. industry and agriculture is dependent upon immigrant labor pools, yet the Department of Homeland Security, Border Patrol, and Immigration and Naturalization Services have made it increasingly difficult to attract foreign labor. These proposals demonstrate the delicate balances between the two nations. The relationships that many have on both sides of the border. Segue to friendship park…

**Friendship Park**

Image:

Credit:

Caption:

Link: <http://la.indymedia.org/news/2008/08/219918.php>

Image: BorderFamilies1.jpg

Credit: Sandy Huffaker

Caption:

Alongside the U.S.-Mexico border in San Diego County in Border Field State Park exists a small site on Monument Mesa, where the U.S. – Mexico Boundary Commission met in 1849 and placed a monument marking the new international boundary. Since the boundary was placed, the site has taken on various meanings with the increased militarization of the border. In 1849, crossings in the “frontier” were unregulated. Later, the “line” was more heavily enforced. By 1924, when the United States Border Patrol was created, infrastructure was put into place to secure the “border”. After World War II, barbed wire marked the international boundary at the site of the monument.

In 1971, the surrounding 800 acres were inaugurated by First Lady Pat Nixon as Border Field State Park, and the area around the monument as Friendship Park—“a place of good will from both nations have gathered here to visit with family and friends across the line.”  Mrs. Nixon, in an effort to demonstrate the power of friendship instructed her security detail to remove the barbed wire fence in order to greet the crowd.

By the 1990’s a large fence was build using recycled Vietnam War era landing mats and metal grate. The views, the historic monument, and the beach, made friendship park a popular destination, despite the erection of a fence. In fact, in many ways, the fence brought people together and many activities, many of which inspired this book, from picnics, yoga to volleyball to religious services, took place there, witch participants from both sides of the wall sharing common experiences.

But following the Secure Fence Act of 2006 the general definition of the barrier dividing the two countries was a “wall”. In 2007, n 18 foot high wall was constructed to replace the previous, more fence-like structure, which was followed by in 2009 by a secondary wall 90 feet away from the previous to create a “security zone”, thus placing Friendship Park within the space of the two walls and closing the park.

While the Mexican side of Friendship Park is accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, today, after much negotiation from the community, U.S. Border Patrol allows only limited visitation of 25 people at a time on Saturdays and Sundays between 10:00 a.ml and 2:00 p.m. to, what we can only denote with quotes that serve as walls, a place called “Friendship Park”. What might Pat Nixon think? In 1971, while shaking hands through the thin strands of barbed wire with the residents of Tijuana, she was quoted as saying “I hope there won’t be a fence here too much longer.”[[36]](#footnote-36)

[**http://la.indymedia.org/news/2008/08/219918.php**](http://la.indymedia.org/news/2008/08/219918.php)

<http://www.friendshippark.org/#!history/c20x9>

Friendship Park was dedicated on 18 August 1971 by Pat Nixon. As reported in the Los Angeles Times, she declared, "I hate to see a fence anywhere." After a member of her security detail cut a section of the then barbed-wire barrier, she traversed the divide and embraced Mexican children, stating, "I hope there won't be a fence here too long."

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Friendship\_Park\_(San\_Diego–Tijuana)

**Yoga Wall**

Image: border\_yoga

Credit:

Caption: Dan Keane

Link: images also available at: http://www.apimages.com/Search?query=border+yoga&ss=10&st=kw&entitysearch=&toItem=15&orderBy=Newest

Sports are social activities where networks between people with common interests are formed. Social capital, a concept that refers to the value of social relations and the role of cooperation and confidence to achieve collective or economic results, can be produced by such networks and is a core element in the fabric of communities: social capital can produce safety and security, friendship and community, civic identity and economic value. Over time, social capital builds “social infrastructure,” in the form of parks and other civic amenities—a key element in the health of communities and sports have served as a way to cope with the realities of the wall.

In 2008 the Border Meetup Group, coordinated by Dan Watman, would arrange social events that promoted “cross-border understanding” on the divided Tijuana beach. One of these events was a bi-national yoga class where mats would be laid out on both sides of the wall for meditation and stretching across the border.

Photo: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/eastlincolnstreet/2615809974/>

**Walley Ball**

Title: walleyball.jpg

Credit: Reuters/Jeff Topping

Link: <http://www.theatlantic.com/infocus/2013/05/on-the-border/100510/>

Rights: <http://www.corbisimages.com/Search#p=2&q=Volleyball+border>

William G. Morgan invented the game of volleyball, or “Mintonette” as it was originally called, in 1895. Morgan observed that basketball, a sport, which was invented just four years earlier by his college classmate James Naismith, was much too demanding a sport for everyone and wanted to invent a sport that anyone could play—a sport where everyone had the opportunity for equal participation.

It is no surprise that 110 years after the invention of this sport of equality, that it would be used as an agent for demonstrating the similarities and relationships that exists on both sides of the borderwall. In 2006, Brent Hoff who was the editor of the DVD magazine, Wholphin, published by McSweeney’s, staged what he imagined to be the world’s first game of international border volleyball. Hoff’s premise raised many questions? Is such a game illegal? Does throwing a ball back and fourth constitute illegal trade? This version of the game was much more physical than traditional volleyball. Since spikes are impossible only powerful hits are able to send the ball arching up to 50 feet in the air as it sails back and fourth across the wall, causing bruises to the wrists and arms of the players.[[37]](#footnote-37) In addition to causing quite a stir in the international media, the simple game of beach volleyball over the border wall also did something remarkable. More than an act of political theater, the game conceptually dismantled the meaning of the wall, dematerializing the two story metal posts from an insurmountable obstacle into nothing more than a line in the sand, where the players on each side were keenly aware of the players on the other and the wall was nothing more than a rule that could be negotiated by the mind, body and spirit of the players, perhaps conceptually transforming the act more into the ritualistic game of *ulama*, which William G. Morgan was likely unaware of.

Ulama is a ball game still played by a few communities in Mexico, and is one of the oldest continuously played sports in the world, as well as the oldest known sport for using a rubber ball. The sport could be described as a wall-less volleyball, where players from each side attempt to keep a rubber ball in their air, passing the ball over a line drawn in the sand, using only their hips. Despite the fact that there is no barrier between the two sides, it is a rough, physical game and the hard ball being propelled by the hips of the players to the other side has been known to cause grave injury to the players, even death. In many ways both Morgan’s volleyball and ulama speak to many of the issues surrounding the relationships between people on two sides of the border, whether demarcated by an imaginary line or a wall. The pain and suffering, the equality, the friendship, the competition and the desire to transcend barriers are all present in the rules of the game and in the daily lives of those who engage the wall on a daily basis.

And just as Morgan may have been unfamiliar with ulama, most certainly Hoff did not know that his was not the first game of international volleyball ever played. In 1979, 27 years before Hoff took the beach in Friendship Park to serve it up against players on the other side, a humble game of volleyball was played between the citizens of Naco, Arizona and Naco, Sonora. It was part of the Fiesta Bi-Nacional, which is a celebration intended to defy the physical divisions imposed upon the residents of the sister cities and the larger region.[[38]](#footnote-38) In addition to booths, food, picnic tables and drawing events set up directly along the wall, a volleyball court was designated on both sides of the 13’ tall wall where the U.S. and Mexico first came together to play a sport whose historical origins developed independently in each of their respected countries. The games have been played many times since that first game of “wallyball” at the Fiestas Bi-Nacionales. But the outcome of that first game, as games do have winners an losers, and despite the U.S. side having the advantage as the top of the barbed-wire topped wall was tilted toward the Mexican side, resulted in the Mexican side winning. While barriers had been broken during that first Fiesta Bi-Nacional game, the wall-cum-net dividing the two teams only allowed for three fingers of a “good-game” handshake of friendship at the conclusion of the game, which was all of the hand that could fit through the metal grate.[[39]](#footnote-39)

Perhaps only coincidental, but worth noting nonetheless, was that perhaps the Naco game wasn’t first game of Wallyball. 1979, the first year that the borderwall game of volleyball was played in the two Nacos, and perhaps unknown to anyone there, was also the year that the official game of Wallyball, a fast-paced game of volleyball played in a racquetball court, was invented by Bill Dejonghe in Calabasas, California. According to the American Wallyball Association, there is a player base of over 15,000,000 around the world. And just like the historic game of ulama, which by 800 A.D. was played in both what is now the U.S. and Mexico, the ball used in Wallyball must be made of rubber.

**Communion Wall**

Image:

Credit:

Caption:

Link: http://www.apimages.com/metadata/Index/APTOPIX-Mexico-Border-Celebration/67d6eaf16b7743e29c9597e40eb7d36e/17/0

In 2014, a group of Catholic bishops, from as far away as Atlanta, GA and Guatemala gathered at the wall in Nogales, Arizona to celebrate a Mass in remembrance of immigrants who died attempting to cross the border and to also show their support for immigration reform. People on both sides of the border attended the bilingual Mass and those on the Mexican side of the wall were offered communion by the bishops, a ritual that unites Christians as individuals and groups with each other and with Jesus Christ by sharing sacramental bread. The bishops reached through the rusty wall to offer the bread to the attendees.

This is not the first time communion has been delivered through the wall. Every Sunday since 2008 Holy Communion has been given through the fence by John Fanestil, an ordained Elder in the United Methodist Church and Executive Director of San Diego Foundation for Change, at The Border Church, located at Friendship Park. Increasingly the ritual of communion was seen as an act of civil disobedience. In 2009, Border Patrol agents forcibly removed Fanestil from the area to prevent him from performing the rite. Despite this setback, Fanestil still continues the practice each Sunday from 1:00pm – 2:00pm.

**Confessional Wall**

Image: confessional\_wall

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

Image: confessional\_wall\_plan

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

Other spiritual practices are possible at the wall. If the double sided perforated wall were designed with a cruciform plan that allowed private convesations to take place, the wall could serve as an opportunity for confession. If the compartments required for privacy in this rite meant the wall became the screen oriented perpendicular to the border, perhaps confessions of a different type would have to be made by both priest and confessor—that of the trespass each of them made by crossing the border they each crossed, technically illegally, in order to enter the booth and perform the rite.

, with both confessor and priest must ask that his trespasses be forgiven, as they must transcend the border to perform the rite.

If whispers of confession can transcend the wall, perhaps other means of communication can as well.

**Whispering Wall**

If whispers of confession can transcend the wall, perhaps other means of communication can as well. **For several years around 2004**, border poet and activist Daniel Watman organized cross border poetry readings through the porous wall dividing Tijuana and San Diego. After the expansion of the wall to a triple wall, which separated people on either side by a 150 foot no-mans-land, the readings became even more creative. Giant sound disks were constructed on either side of the walls[[40]](#footnote-40), reminiscent of the concrete acoustic mirrors used for detecting incoming enemy aircraft by the sound of their engines in Great Britain before World War II. In this case, however, the sound of language is the weapon used to transform the wall into a forum for the release of creativity. These giant ears, or “whispering dishes” constructed of tape and fabric, allowed for conversations across the great divide. Even more profound than these “whispers” was language communicated through silence across the distance between the two outer walls. The deaf community in Mexico and the United States came together to read poetry and have discussions across the divide, using binoculars and sign language—translating from English to American sign language to Mexican sign language to Spanish and vice versa, conceptually crossing not only a physical barrier, but several language barriers as well. Watman saw that the deaf community in Tijuana lived on the fringes of society, but through his events, he’s surmounted barriers comprised of three walls and four languages on both sides of the wall.

**Xylophobia**

Image: xylophone snowglobe

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

Image: xylophone map

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

Image: image of glenn weyant

Credit:

Caption:

In an episode of the animated series, “The Simpsons”, the residents of Springfield construct a wall around their town so that residents of the neighboring town do not come in and take jobs away from them. In the episode, Homer Simpson attempts to find commonalities with his daughter by telling her, Lisa, “I share your xylophobia”, to which Lisa replies: “No, Dad, you mean *xenophobia*. Xylophobia would be the fear of xylophones.” Homer retorts: “I *am* afraid of xylophones—it’s the music you hear when skeletons are dancing!”

Homer’s fear of his neighbors is just as unreasonable as his fear of xylophones. Rather than constructing walls along the border as a manifestation of the irrational fear of that which is foreign, perhaps it would be far more reasonable to construct xylophones along the border.

In fact, what if the wall was instead the world’s largest xylophone, played by thousands of people across the two countries? A Xylophone Wall would allow for multi-person/bi-national informal and formal performances on the border, bringing people from both sides together to create a single, sonic experience that conceptually transforms the space of the existing wall into a performance.

Musician, Glenn Weyant, believes that instrument has already been constructed, and by accepting the challenge of learning to play the wall, he is deconstructing its meaning and transforming it into “an instrument so that people on both sides can have open dialogue and communication.”[[41]](#footnote-41) Instead of being an implement of division, the wall was transformed into an instrument of creation with the power to unite.[[42]](#footnote-42)

He plays the wall as a percussive instrument using drumsticks, mallets, violin bows and sticks found on the ground—implements of mass percussion, as he describes them, referencing the “weapons of mass destruction”, that were partly responsible for the existence of the wall.[[43]](#footnote-43) He also sees it as a string instrument, rubbing cello bows across the rusty steel to explore a new frontier of sounds as part of his Sonic Anta (sonic pertaining to sound and *anta*—a Sanskrit word meaning border or end of known territory).

His performances have been monitored and inspected by armed agents of The U.S. Border Patrol, The Department of Homeland Security and The City of Nogales Police Department. Border Patrol agents have also been passive and active participants in his performances—either by being recorded by him when they approach to question his actions, or being invited by Glenn to pound on the fence with him to explore, what he describes as, an ever-changing borderland sound ecology.

See the image of the border patrol agent playing the fence here:

<http://www.latimes.com/local/la-na-ff-c1-border-music-20140130-dto,0,3650473.htmlstory#axzz2x6zxJt8d>

**Vert Wall**

Image:

Credit:

Caption:

The introduction of the double fence in many areas offers an opportunity to activate this interstitial zone. Vert Wall understands this area as a space of play, while also challenging the strategy of crossing. The double barrel section is reminiscent of initial security schemes that involved double ditches. This section also allows for the containment and distribution of water along the border channeling overflow away from flooded regions and diverting water to areas experiencing drought.

**Tortilla Wall**

Image:

Credit:

Caption:

The “Tortilla Wall” or, *el muro* (or *la cerca*) *de la Tortilla*, as it is called in Mexico, is the name given to the 14-mile section of border wall extending from friendship park to Otay Mesa Border crossing. It is one of the oldest sections of large-scale wall construction completed in 1990. Part of operation gatekeeper?

**Burrito Wall**

Image: burrito\_wall\_snowglobe

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

Image: burrito\_wall\_section

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

Image: burrito\_wall\_section

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

Image: IMG\_0320.JPG

Credit: David Figueroa/Bulbo, Courtesy of Dignicraft.

Caption: Border Patrol Agent purchases paleta through fence

Casual exchange is common across the border wall ranging from small talk, long visits with friends and family, and commercial exchanges of items ranging from food and bracelets to illegal merchandise. Occasionally, even border patrol agents participate in this process, despite the illegality of their actions. When combining food culture with the wall itself, it accommodates built in infrastructure for food carts and seating on both sides of the wall so that food, conversation and culture, in the shade of the security overhand, are shared across nations.

**Library Wall**

Image: library\_wall

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

Image: library\_wall\_section

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

The Haskell Free Library and Opera House, built in 1904, was built directly on the U.S. – Canada border of between the towns of Stanstead, Quebec and Derby Line, Vermont. The was an intentional move by the builders, American Carlos Haskell and his Canadian wife, Martha Stewart, so that the library’s collection would be available to both countries. The building is sometimes referred to as "the only library in the U.S.A. with no books". The international boundary, indicated with a thick black line on the floor, runs diagonally across the center of the library’s reading room. What if this same ingenuity and graciousness for sharing across borders was incorporated into the design and implementation of the border wall? A bi-national library, straddling ambos Nogales, would allow for transnational exchanges of books, ideas and knowledge in a cross-border book exchange program. The border wall itself would be transformed into the bookshelf, encouraging dialogue, conversation, language, culture and exchange through the wall itself.

**Theater Wall**

Image: theater\_wall

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

The Opera House portion of the Haskell building is often called "the only opera house in the U.S.A. with no stage". The theater is divided in half, with the stage and half of the seats in Canada and the remainder of the seats in the U.S. A Theater Wall constructed on the border might that took a perpendicular strategy to the international boundary could create an environment that subverts the hierarchical nature between the performer and the stage. Bi-national performances could take place with talents performing on both sides of the wall, either separately or together. The audience would also play a role in the performance, as the tension created by the wall would serve to bring people together as they gazed across through the diaphanous screen dividing the space.

**El Parque Eco Alberto**

Image:

Credit:

Caption:

Another type of border theater takes place approximately 700 miles south of the U.S.-Mexico border, in the State of Hidalgo, is the 3,000 acre *Parque EcoAlberto,* a large natural ecological preserve comprised of rivers, canyons, wildlife and attractions, managed by the indigenous *HñaHñu* community where another type of theater takes place. In the past several years, the HñaHñu saw their villages become ghost towns due to the community immigrating to the U.S. en masse. Hidalgo is one of the top three Mexican states in terms of population loss to the U.S. and as of 2012 the HñaHñu lost 80 percent of their population to Arizona and Nevada.[[44]](#footnote-44) In recent times they have seen their numbers dwindle to only a few hundred permanent residents.

Members of the community, mostly youth, who pursued the harrowing journey north to the U.S. and lived to return to tell about their experiences, arrived at an idea which would bring income to the community, but also serve a valuable lesson to those considering making the journey north. In addition to tours, recreational zip lines, kayaking, hiking, and rappelling, to bring tourist dollars to their community, in 2005 the HñaHñu began to organize a nightly event that simulates an border crossing, complete with faux *coyotes (fauxyotes)*, border patrol agents, flashing lights, dogs, gun shots and fencing. Of all the attractions in Parque EcoAlberto, *La* *Caminata Nocturna*, or the Night Walk, is the most popular attraction. For 200 Pesos ($16 U.S.) one can take an 11-mile journey thought the parks rough terrain, where they encounter many of the obstacles that immigrants encounter during their journeys north. Visitors have a glimpse of the suffering and risks one might endure—slipping though barbed-wire fences, rocky and steep hills, traversing rivers, and encounters with bandits. “Border Patrol Agents” shout with a perfect *Gringo* accent, sirens blare and gunshots are fired, when participants are discovered, despite the fact that Border Agents rarely use sirens or deploy firearms.[[45]](#footnote-45) Being captured by agents, wrestled to the ground and “deported back to Mexico” are all part of the experience and the faux-*mojados (fauxados)*, return dirty, tired, and sustain a few bumps and bruises along the way.The experience is also accompanied by a message from the hosts, which is that immigration is bad for local communities and local economies. And while criticism of the park has suggested that Parque EcoAlberto serves as a training ground for illegal aliens, the theme park mostly attracts thrill-seekers, middle class Mexicans, and college-age students—groups who are unlikely to attempt the actual journey north.

**Fake Wall**

Image:

Credit:

Caption:

In 1962 three prisoners held at Alcatraz Island were able to dig through the concrete wall of their cells and build a false wall made of painted cardboard. Similar ingenuity has been observed on the border wall. 4 miles) east of San Luis Rio Colorado, Sonora (south of Yuma, AZ), five meters (about 15 yards) of the metal international border fence were destroyed by unknowns with a blowtorch. In one section the metal posts used as vehicle barriers and replaced them with dummy posts, made from camouflaged cardboard, fooling border patrol agents.[[46]](#footnote-46) The metal tubes were cut with a blowtorch and replaced with cardboard tubes, which were painted to resemble the originals.[[47]](#footnote-47) These tubes were easily removable allowing them to be moved so vehicles could drive through.

**Mock Wall**

Image:

Credit:

Caption:

In 2011, students from the Univeristy of Arizona in Tucson erected a mock border wall in the middle of the campus. The wall, approximately 1,000 feet long, 6 feet tall and topped with barbed wire, was constructed to raise awareness among the campus community of the issues affecting the border regions in both the United States and the Middle East. The student activists dubbed the project *Wall to Wall — Concrete Connections/Conexiones Concretas* and installed in the south lawn of the campus mall, blocking of access to several buildings and forcing students to walk around the wall. The 50,000 students affected by the fence were forced to experience, in a small way, the crisis caused by the wall. The wall was protected as an expression of free speech and literally and physically divided the campus.

From April 20 to May 1st, 2011, the UMass Amherst campus was divided along its North-South boundary by a to-scale photographic replica of the vehicle fence that runs along the international boundary in southern Arizona. (http://www.ikatun.org/kanarinka/the-border-crossed-us/)

In contrast, and also in 2011, students at Washington State University's Pullman campus, just 181 miles south of the U.S. Canada border, also erected a mock border wall on campus, but this time in protest of illegal immigration and to support the construction of a wall on the southern border.

At Baylor University, photographs made public of young female students wearing ponchos, sombreros, mustaches and makeup meant to resemble dirt on their faces as they climbed over a makeshift wall, prompted an official university inquiry into whether the costumes were racist. Only the costumes, and not the construction of the wall, were called into question.

**University Wall**

Image:

Credit:

Caption:

The mission of the University of Texas at Brownsville is, in part, to draw “upon the intersection of cultures and languages at the southern border” by promoting the close ties it has with Mexico. The university hosts courses in both Spanish and English, is a source for bilingual teachers and about 400 of the university’s 17,000 students commute from Mexico. However, in 2008, The U.S. Customs and Border Protection service planned an 18 foot-tall border wall to be constructed directly through the heart of the campus. The wall would have required some students to move through border checkpoints with passport in hand to attend their classes. It would have also cut off the university’s golf course, built in the 1950s for Mexican-Americans who couldn't play the local country club, and part of the baseball field from the main campus (see Field of Dreams), and ironically and conceptually cede Fort Texas, an important stronghold in the Mexican-American War, back to Mexico by placing it on the “Mexican side” of the wall. The federal government also threatened to condemn and seize the land in the event of opposition to the project using powers of eminent domain.

University officials requested that a federal judge force government officials to work on alternatives to the wall and later the Department of Homeland Security sued the university for refusing to allow surveyors onto its property.[[48]](#footnote-48) U.S. Customs and Border Protection did present an alternative proposal to the wall, however—to station a border patrol agent every 50 yards around campus, which would cost $71 million in salaries alone (see Human Wall).

Ultimately, the university accepted a plan that an existing fence on campus be “upgraded” to a $1.04 million, 10-foot high wall that features cameras and sensor technology that will serve as a laboratory for security infrastructure. The Fort Brown Memorial Golf Course, which is surrounded on three sides by the international boundary, and now on it’s fourth side by a wall, now exists in a geographic limbo on the “Mexican side” of the wall—somewhere between Texas and Mexico. To add to the confusion, a sign, near the 16th hole tee box reads: DO NOT HIT GOLF BALLS INTO MEXICO — VIOLATORS WILL BE PROSECUTED.

**Birthing Wall**

Image:

Credit:

Caption:

Much of the arguments that occur surrounding the issue of immigration in the U.S. has to do with what some call “anchor babies”—an offensive description for a child born on U.S. soil to immigrant parents and thus given automatic citizenship. Casa de Naciemiento was a natural birthing center located in El Paso, Texas whose clients were often pregnant woman from Juárez, arriving crossing the bridge into El Paso for the day to give their children the advantage, courtesy of the 14th Amendment, to be U.S. citizens. For many years, the owner, Linda Arnold, was one of the “busiest midwives in the state”, with a steady stream of clients—women with a long tradition of crossing back and fourth across the border, sometimes being pulled across the Rio Grande on an inner tube and coming into the birth center with their pants still wet.[[49]](#footnote-49) In 2011, Casa de Nacimiento closed, “in compliance with Texas Birth Center Regulations”, as it states on the company website.[[50]](#footnote-50)

But with an estimated 40,000 acres of U.S. soil that lie on the “Mexican side” of the border wall, perhaps women need not cross the border. Mobile birthing clinics could simply park along-side the wall, firmly on U.S. soil, giving automatic citizenship to those trapped behind a wall while further exposing the it’s inadequacies.

**Stone Wall**

Image:

Credit:

Caption:

Throwing rocks, bottles or other debris, like chunks of asphalt or concrete, across the borderwall is the most common form of assault against border patrol agents.[[51]](#footnote-51) These “rockings”, as they are known among agents[[52]](#footnote-52), have caused injury to border patrol agents and their equipment. In some instances, rock throwing is a random act of violence against U.S. Border Patrol agents, and in others, throwing rocks is a tactic to distract border agents, allowing for people to cross in a different location or a response to an apprehension on the U.S. side by those on the Mexican side.

There have been devastating consequences to this phenomena, both as a direct cause of rock throwing from the Mexican side, and the reaction from the U.S. side. Injury to U.S. Border Patrol agents is perhaps the most direct outcome of rockings. Between 2011 and 2013 there were 524 rock attacks against agents on the border.[[53]](#footnote-53) Rock throwing also has resulted in damage to equipment, particularly Border Patrol vehicles.

Perhaps the most profound damage to equipment was the downing of the helicopter, 74 Fox, when it was struck by a stone struck the chopper’s tail rotor when it was flying at low altitude surveying the area near the Tijuana River in 1979. The chopper crashed on it’s side, but fortunately both passengers survived. This was not the only incident of a rock bringing down a helicopter. [[54]](#footnote-54) In 2005, an A-Star helicopter flying near the U.S. Port of Entry at Andrade, California, was struck by a rock, damaging the rotor and causing it to make an emergency landing.

One response to rock throwing by U.S. Border Patrol agents has been firing weapons at the rock throwers. Between 2010 and 2012 U.S. agents killed 8 people as a reaction to being pelted with rocks, 6 of whom where on the other side of the wall and on Mexican soil.[[55]](#footnote-55) In the 524 rock attacks between 2011 and 2013, agents responded by firing a gun 55 times at attackers. While some contend that the use of firearms as a disproportionate use of lethal force, other see the use of a rock as a deadly weapon, although no agent has died in a rock attack.[[56]](#footnote-56) In 2012 the The Department of Homeland Security began examining its policy on deadly force along the U.S.-Mexico border.[[57]](#footnote-57) However, despite a recommendation by The Police Executive Research Forum, a nonprofit group that advises law enforcement agencies, to end the practice of using deadly force against rock throwers, Customs and Border Protection in 2013 advised their agents to use deadly force if they have a reasonable belief that their lives or the lives of others are in danger.[[58]](#footnote-58)

http://www.cbp.gov/sites/default/files/photo/11\_bp011hires.jpg

**Field of Dreams**

Image: field of dreams closed

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

Image: field of dreams open

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

Image: bp011hires.jpg

Credit: U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Caption:

Image: NationalGeographicBackstop.jpg

Credit: DIANE COOK AND LEN JENSHEL/National Geographic Creative

Caption:

Another response to rock throwing has been the erection of baseball backstops to prevent rocks from damaging vehicles or injuring border patrol agents. For example, in Nogales Arizona, border patrol agents erected an old baseball backstop near the border wall to protect themselves and their vehicles from rocks and other objects being thrown over the fence from Mexico. In other places, the backstops have become much more a part of the design of the system of barriers, often placed between a double wall where patrol vehicles drive back and fourth.

Rock throwing is often a result of the frustrations caused by the inequality created by the wall. In one scenario, agents along the border near the Mexican town of Anapra, outside of Juarez, would give dollars and candy to children across the border through the wall. When agents stopped this (illegal) practice, the children became frustrated and taunted the agents. Agents retaliated verbally and the children, in turn, began to hurl rocks at the agents and their vehicles.[[59]](#footnote-59)

What if instead of this type of childish one-sidedness, a different kind of play was promoted at the border that promoted equality and dismantled the single-sidedness of the border? For example, walls could be designed to accommodate backstops, which could be accessible to children in the small border towns to play baseball, which is the most popular sport in Mexico in the border regions of Sonora and Baja California.

At certain times, agents could open gates that allow players to enter onto the baseball field, patrolling the outer perimeter of the wall. At other times, when the field was not in use, agents would open the gates to the field and patrol near the backstop.

What would this mean for players of the game, who hit a homerun? Perhaps, if agents were nearby, they would simply hurl the baseball back across to the other side.

**Teeter Totter**

Image: teeter-totter\_wall snowglobe

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

Image: teeter-totter\_wall map

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

Image: teeter-totter\_wall section

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

One sidedness. The trade and labor relationships between the U.S. and Mexico are in delicate balance. Mexicans throng to the U.S. to find work, but often long to live comfortably in their own country. U.S. industry and agriculture is dependent upon immigrant labor pools, yet the Department of Homeland Security, Border Patrol, and Immigration and Naturalization Services have made it increasingly difficult to attract foreign labor. These proposals demonstrate the delicate balances between the two nations.

**Human Wall**

Image:

Credit:

Caption:

The longest human wall ever formed, a barrier created by individuals holding hands, was created 11 December 2004 when over 5 million people joined hands to form a human chain 652.4 miles long, stretching from Teknaf to Tentulia, Bangladesh in protest of….[[60]](#footnote-60) Hands across America, an event intended to raise money to fight hunger and homelessness, also was comprised of approximately 5-7 million people who joined hands, almost seven million people joined hands to form a line that stretched 4,152 miles – from New York City's Battery Park to the RMS *Queen Mary* pier in Long Beach, California, however the line was discontinuous. Connecting bodies, either by joining hands or legs, is also a common life saving technique when attempting to extract someone who has fallen into the ice.

However, it seems to be considered by some that as long as the economic disparity between Mexico and the United States remains as large as it is, Mexicans will continue to enter the U.S. illegally, and one possible security measure would be for U.S. Border Patrol agents form a human wall along the 1,969 mile border, which would require only 3 million border patrol agents.[[61]](#footnote-61) Considering that Hands Across America raised $34 million in a single day, the effort could be a considerable cost savings to the Department of Homeland Security.

In 2013, The Gang of Eight[[62]](#footnote-62), a bi-partisan group of eight Senators crafting the 2013 comprehensive immigration reform bill, included in the bill an amendment by Senators Bob Corker (R-TN) and John Hoeven (R-ND) called the border surge amendment. The amendment proposed, among other things, the addition of 20,000 more border patrol agents along the southern boundary, increasing the total number of border patrol agents to 40,000. Shawn Moran, then the National Border Patrol Council’s at-large vice president said of the amendment, “No one consulted us prior to this coming up. We don’t even have the infrastructure to handle 40,000 agents right now.”

In 2008 only 1,480 border patrol agents patrolled the border between the U.S. and Canada, which is 5,521 miles long.[[63]](#footnote-63)

**Wildlife Wall**

Image: deer\_snowglobe

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

Image: deer\_at\_wall.jpg

Credit: ???

Caption:

Image: Wildlife Wall

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

The borderland between the United States and Mexico includes grasslands, mountains, and desert habitats that support a diverse range of wildlife. Many ecologists and wildlife specialists cite the detrimental effects that the wall has on wildlife. The wall, existing and proposed, cuts through or is adjacent to, several wildlife refuges and nature reserves. This was possible as the Secure Fence Act of 2006 waived environmental laws for the wall’s construction despite potential damage to habitat.

The Lower Rio Grande Valley alone hosts seventeen endangered or threatened species. Preventing the free movement of critically endangered species between Mexico and the United States will have detrimental impacts on breeding and genetic diversity for those animals. It also prevents animals from traveling their natural migration paths in search of water and food. The biggest concern is that the barrier will break small populations of animals into even smaller groups resulting in fewer animals interacting. For these animal populations with smaller populations and specialized habitats, the wall reduces range as much as 75%.[[64]](#footnote-64) The wall could ultimately threaten entire species. The Arroyo toad, California red-legged frog, black spotted new, Pacific pond turtle and the jaguarondi are among the species most threatened by the construction of the wall and are already on threatened and endangered species lists.

While some walls have small openings for wildlife to cross, the openings do not accommodate larger animals and most animals do not go around looking for holes in fences to cross. Nor is there any evidence that animals are actually using the holes that were designed for them. Furthermore, animals can not burrow beneath the wall easily since in some cases the foundations for the wall are 9 foot deep.

Terrestrial creatures aren’t the only ones affecting by the wall. While birds can fly over the wall, the destruction of habitat, particularly riparian habitat along the Rio Grande/Rio Bravo means fewer places for birds to live. Low flying ferruginous pygmy owls avoid large open areas and the denuded landscape near the border wall will likely limit their movements. Furthermore, fewer than a quarter of owls flights are ever higher than the approximate height of the border wall, which will have further impact on the animals range.[[65]](#footnote-65) Electric lighting also poses a huge threat to wildlife. Floodlights are likely to disorient and confuse animals like the ocelot and jaguarondi and negatively affect nocturnal animals movements of bats and several bird species.

Ecosystem connectivity is crucial for maintaining a healthy wildlife population. A Wildlife Wall with gaps, ramps, sensors and built at with varying heights that are sufficient to allow passage of animals while meeting security requirements is needed. It would create opportunities for shelter and safe nesting spots. Possibly, it would invert the entire nature of those who cross the border and those who visit wildlife sanctuaries, creating more freedom for animals but constraining the areas for people to occupy these ecosystems, while allowing visitors from each country to experience nature on both sides of the border.

**Sabal Palm Wall (check this text) Forest Wall**

Image: sabal\_palm\_wall

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

Image: sabal\_palm

Credit: Nature Conservancy

Caption:

Once found across much of the lower Gulf Coast, sabal palm forests have all but vanished under the plow. While some scattered trees can be found on private lands in the region, the significant remaining stands of these towering trees are located at Lennox Foundation Southmost Preserve, the Sabal Palm Audubon Center and the Lower Rio Grand Valley National Wildlife Refuge. All three of these conservation areas lie in the path of the border fence. In order to save the sabal palms that would otherwise be leveled by fence construction, the Conservancy is partnering with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Audubon Texas, in coordination with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, to transplant the palms to safe ground, one tree at a time. The trees, which grow as tall as 65 feet and are up to 100 years old, are being uprooted and hauled to a number of locations, most within a mile of their original site, where they are then carefully replanted. It is a massive undertaking and a race against the clock. Each of the approximately 300 trees must be thoroughly trimmed and the root balls carefully unearthed intact to ensure survival. The project, which is already underway, is expected to last through the summer.

Simultaneously, along the border with Eagle Pass, Texas, Mexicans, with support from their government, have begun to plant the first of 400,000 tees to form a “green wall” in protest of the fence. The tree-line will eventually stretch for 318 miles along the border between the Mexican state of Coahuila and Texas.

Forest Wall adapts the tree-line protest by proposing a double fence condition around the sabal palm preserve, thus addressing security concerns and protecting our environmental heritage.

A forest surrounded by a double or triple fence is a perverse take on a reserve – a preservation of an ecology that in a post-border condition could serve to stitch the two sides back together again.

The Rio Grande Valley, in coastal Texas, contains one of two remaining stands of native Mexican sabal palms. The solid metal and concrete fence, around 5.5 metres high, with an 18-metre-wide strip of open land on either side, runs through a preserve created to protect the trees.[[66]](#footnote-66)

Hyde Park…

**Solar Wall**

Image: solar\_wall

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

Image: solar\_wall section

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

In 2011, Republican presidential candidate Herman Cain announced his idea for improving security at the U.S.-Mexico border by building an electrified fence that would kill anyone trying to cross the border. When considering how one might power such a fence, solar energy comes to mind. The most untapped potential for solar development in the United States lies along the U.S./Mexico border. Solar farms, in turn, are highly secure installations. What if we were to reallocate some of the funds used simply to construct and maintain the border wall for the construction of energy infrastructure along the border? We would actually create scenarios in many instances that are more secure than the existing wall, and that simultaneously provide solar energy to the energy hungry cities of the southwest. Consider the 100-mile stretch of border between Nogales, Arizona and Douglas Arizona. There, 87 miles of border wall have been constructed at a cost of $333.5 million. Compare that figure to the cost of the largest solar farm in the world, the Olmedilla Photovoltaic Park in Olmedilla, Spain, which cost $530 million. For $333.5 million, 54 miles of profit generating solar farm could have been constructed, 40 feet wide providing 60 Mega Watts of electricity. While this falls 33 miles short of the existing wall, it would also produce enough for 40,000 households. Electricity is an important bi-national commodity. Many border towns share electrical grids and electricity could be sold across the border. Because transmission lines would also be put in place along the border, reliable electrical infrastructure would be available for both nations to tap. The latent potential of a solar border is corroborated by the U.S. Department of Energy, who stated in a recent brief that: “one square foot of solar energy production along the border can power a dishwasher for 1 year”. A powerful precedent for the endemic effects of a successful alternative energy program is Germany, a leader in the new solar economy; Germany’s solar farms can produce over 6,200 GWh a year and have generated over 10,000 jobs.

**Hot Water Wall**

Image: hot\_water\_wall

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

In urban environments, the border wall can be coupled with hot water production, creating low-cost additional resources that supplement the infrastructure of rapidly growing border cities. The massive steel walls are enormous heat absorbing agents, and they could easily be retrofitted with panels that produce hot water, which is a much-needed amenity in border cities. Heated water could be stored underground in insulated tanks, taking advantage of the natural insulation of the earth. The hot water could then be used in markets, clinics, hospitals and schools on both sides of the border.

**Life Safety Beacon**

Image: life\_safety\_beacon

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

Image: life\_safety\_beacon section

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

When solar energy is coupled with water collection, it also offers a key component for the establishment of life safety beacons along the border. The principal cause of death among migrants attempting to cross the border illegally is dehydration. Solar generated electricity could power beacons that inform border patrol of both immigrants or American citizens who find themselves in danger in the harsh extremes of the southern deserts. The photovoltaic panels would also be designed to collect water runoff; to power atmospheric water extractors; or to pump water from wells or rivers that could be stored, purified and dispensed as needed to distressed crossers in the desert. Engaging the water dispenser, or even approaching the life safety beacon would alert border patrol. Such devices could also improve wildlife’s access to water when the border wall has cut off the natural routes.

**Wall of Death**

Image:

Credit: © Tomas Castelazo, [www.tomascastelazo.com](http://www.tomascastelazo.com/) / [Wikimedia Commons](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Main_Page) / [CC-BY-SA-3.0](http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/)

Caption: This is a monument for those who have died attempting to cross the US-Mexican border. Each coffin represents a year and the number of dead. It is a protest against the effects of Operation Guardian. Taken at the Tijuana-San Diego border.

Link to image:

http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:US-Mexico\_border\_deaths\_monument.jpg

Border Patrol reports that there have been 5,691 border deaths between 1998 and 2013. A spike in border deaths occurred the years corresponding to the passages of the Real ID act in 2005 and the Secure Fence Act of 2006. From 1998 to 2004, the average number of deaths per year totaled 313. From 2005-2013, the average number increased to 423. [[67]](#footnote-67) According to the United States Government Accountability Office deaths of border crossers have doubled since 1995. These numbers do not reflect those who’s bodies have never been found, suggesting that the numbers of those who have died attempting to cross the border are underestimated. [[68]](#footnote-68) And while recent statistics show a decrease in the number of people caught illegally entering the United States from Mexico, the average increase in deaths might suggest that since the increased implementation of the wall as a security measure in 2005 less people are being caught crossing illegally, less people are attempting to cross, but more people are dying. The increase in deaths has been attributed to urban areas being walled off, forcing desperate migrants to re-route through isolated and rugged geographies where exposure to extreme temperatures can cause hypothermia, heat exhaustion and dehydration and flash flooding in dry riverbeds to cause drowning.

Bodies recovered in the Divided States are collected and lie in cold storage, until they are identified and returned to Mexico. And for those immigrants who died along their journey, unable to reach the “American dream”, but are never identified—they are placed in a particleboard coffin and buried in a paupers graveyard under a headstone with the American name, John or Jane Doe.[[69]](#footnote-69)

**Cemetery Wall**

Image: cemetery\_wall\_snowglobe

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

The Tohono O'odham Native Americans have for thousands of years inhabited an area extending South to Sonora, Mexico to Central Arizona, west to the Gulf of California and east to the San Pedro River in an area known as the Papagueria.[[70]](#footnote-70) Today, the Tohono O’odham, whose population number around 20,000 living on reservation lands are confined to the third largest reservation in the United States (approximately 4,450 square miles). The Tohono O'odham are one of only a few American Indian tribes that have never been relocated from their ancestral lands.[[71]](#footnote-71) Unlike native groups along the U.S.-Canada border, the Tohono O’odham were not given dual citizenship after the Gadsen Purchase.[[72]](#footnote-72) Many of the customs of the Tohono O’odham consist of ceremonies requiring back and fourth movements across the border—something they did freely for decades. Many of the Tohono O’odham are also Mexican born.

In 2007 the U.S. Border Patrol begin construction on a 75 mile vehicular border wall through the Tohono O’odham lands, effectively dividing the multi-national sovereign nation in half. During construction the remains of direct ancestors of five families living on the reservation were unearthed.[[73]](#footnote-73) Homeland Security destroyed 69 graves. In direct violation of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990, three hired archaeologists who boxed, bagged and removed the remains from the burial site and their cultural director failed to report the finding to the tribal government until two days had passed. The graves were among 11 archeological sites identified before the construction of the wall.[[74]](#footnote-74) Tohono O'odham Chairman Ned Norris, Jr. evoked the vision of the horror of this event at a Congressional field hearing, stating, "Imagine a bulldozer in your family graveyard."

**Horse Racing**

Image:

Credit:

Caption:

Link: http://www.apsoncezar.com/el-zaino.php

On March 17, 1957 a horse from Agua Prieta, Mexico named *Relampago*, Lightening in English, but also known as El Zaino, for his chestnut color, was the winner of a very important race against a horse named *El Moro*, from the town of Cumpas, to become the champion of Sonora. El Moro was a famous horse in the region—he had won many races, but moreover, El Moro was seen as the horse of the people, representing the rural and poor. Relapago, however, was perceived as the horse of the rich city folk. His owner, Rafael Romero, was the proprietor of the Copacabana nightclub in Agua Prieta and Relampago was born in California—“the other side”.

The dichotomies between rich and poor and the U.S. and Mexico gave this race much more importance. So much so, that the race inspired one of the most well known *corridos* of all time, *El Moro de Cumpas* by Leonardo Yañez, but made famous by Vicente Fernandez. Later, in 1977, a film, also titled *El Moro de Cumpas* (directed by Mario Hernández)*,* was made about the race between El Moro and Relampago and starred the famous musician Antonio Aguilar.

Having won the race, Relampago became very well known and many challenges to his speed were issued on both sides of the border. One challenger, a fiery horse named *Chiltepin*, named after a wild chile that grows in the region (the ancestor of the domesticated chile pequín), was set to race Relampago. Chiltepin was a very seasoned horse and had run the Kentuky Derby. But Chiltepin was from Pirtleville, Arizona, just outside of Douglas. While the two owners wanted to race, a hoof-and-mouth epidemic made it impossible for either horse to cross into the other’s country to race. Therefore, an ingenious solution was reached: A bi-national race that would take place parallel to the border with each horse running along side the boundary! On September 14, 1958, marking the 200th anniversary of the city of Douglas, Arizona, the race was set.[[75]](#footnote-75) Hundereds of people lined up on both sides of the border, cheering and betting. Relampago came off the starting line late—Chiltepin in the lead. Within meters, Relampago soon caught Chiltepin—the winner after the quarter mile race? Relampago![[76]](#footnote-76)

This elevated Relampago’s status from the horse that represented the rich, beating the horse that represented the poor (El Moro) to the Mexican horse that defeated the horse from the U.S. Like the wall itself, the perceptual divide between the two countries had become more solidified by the race and Relampago became a beloved horse in Agua Prieta, yet his legacy remains in the shadow of El Moro. Today, a statue of El Moro de Cumpas can be found in the city of Sonora and while El Moro is well known throughout Mexico, outside the region little is known about Relampago.

However, 43 years after this infamous race between Relampago and Chilpetin, the event has been revived to celebrate the love of equestrian sports, but also to commemorate an event that brought people together across the divide, as well as an event that recognized the *transfronterizmo* nature of people (and horses) in the borderlands.

On May 5th, 2001, two miles of barbed wire dividing the U.S. from Mexico were taken down and replaced by thin, white plastic pipes. The 500 meters of pipes marked the division between the U.S. and Mexico, but also the centerline for another horserace—the Cinco de Mayo International Border Horse Race—perhaps the only horserace in the world to take place simultaneously in two countries (Agua Prieta, Mexico and Douglas, Arizona). Grandstands were set up on both sides of the border for spectators and nearly 20,000 people lined the track shouting to the competition across the border with jeers, cheers and bets on who would win. The horses reached speeds of 50mph in races that lasted between 13 to 20 seconds.[[77]](#footnote-77) These races have continued to take place despite the increased security along the border. No longer can the fence be taken down, but the horses still run beside the X-foot-tall barbed wire topped borderwall.

And what became of Relampago and El Moro? In XXXX, Relampago’s owner offered a re-match to El Moro’s owner. The 30-some-year-old horses were far along in age and El Moro’s owner declined to race El Moro, but offered another horse instead to race Relampago. Relampago’s owner accepted the offer, despite the challenger being a spry 3 years old. Old Relampago was slow off the starting line again this time, but perhaps due to age. He was behind much of the race, but slowly caught up to the challenger and at the finish line, RELAMPAGO!

This solidified Relampago’s respect in the region. In 1975 Relampago was diagnosed with cancer, and was given lethal injection and given a hero’s burial. In some strange way, Relampago’s life was very much a reflection of the wall. His birth in the U.S. and migration to Mexico, and the perception of the socio-economic status tied to the perception of the horse by race fans. Also, his rise to a hero, after racing along the fence and claiming a title of a horse of the people, after winning from the original horse of the people, El Moro. Strangely, his relationship with the wall as an architectural element that divides continues today. As a “gift to the Mexican people”, his owner, Rafael Romero had Relampago’s head removed from his body and mounted where he graces the living room wall of the grandson of the original owner.[[78]](#footnote-78) (fact check)

**Light Wall**

Image: ISS030-E-83463.jpg

Credit: Image courtesy of the Earth Science and Remote Sensing Unit, NASA Johnson Space Center

Caption:

Link: http://eol.jsc.nasa.gov/scripts/sseop/photo.pl?mission=ISS030&roll=E&frame=83463

In many sections of the border, the border wall is illuminated from twilight till dusk by large stadium lights. Many border towns have lost their night because of these lights. To a certain extent, the wall has not only been a measure to stop migration from the south, but also to stop the dark. In actual stadiums, these lights can be used as grow lights to maintain the turf on the playing field. This wall of light can be seen from space at night. The lines of stadium lights creating a wall of light can be seen from space at night. “Tower kills” is the phenomena that causes large numbers of birds to fatally collide with light structures or each other when confused by intense artificial light.[[79]](#footnote-79) The effects to nocturnal animals are also detrimental as it changes animal behavior and forces them to avoid the light. It also affects humans.

Images here: <http://visiblesuns.blogspot.com/2014/07/us-mexico-border-at-night-from-space.html> and <http://www.citiesatnight.org/>

**Greenhouse Wall**

Image: greenhouse\_wall\_map

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

Stadium lights are used in several miles of border fence. Big stadiums in northern climates, such as the Green Bay Packers’ Lambeau Field grow lush grass during the winter months of football season using stadium grow lights. If our border security illumination system was coupled with this same technology, a much more productive border would be possible. Rather than miles of wall, perhaps miles of green houses could be constructed that enjoy the sunny borderland region for growing food 24 hours a day. Since the sun never sets on these militarized landscapes, perhaps they could increase productivity by using stadium grow lights to continue the growing process during the nighttime hours as well. One can only speculate how this might enhance or complicate the U.S. reliance on foreign labor for agriculture, especially in the borderland regions, such as The Yuma and Imperial low-desert areas, which are called the Winter Vegetable Capital of the Nation or the Central Coast and Central Valley of California, which is known as the Salad Bowl of the World. One wonders if the border itself were a mega agricultural zone how that would affect migration north of the long stretches of mega productive greenhouse walls that could be possible.

Today, the legalization of marijuana in several U.S. states is hurting Mexican drug cartels.[[80]](#footnote-80) Perhaps growing medical marijuana in these mega greenhouses would further cripple the drug trades that are causing excessive violence in border cities and throughout Mexico.

**Gallery Wall**

Image:

Credit:

Caption:

**Virtual Wall**

Image:

Credit:

Caption:

Not all walls constructed along the border are physical. In 2006 Secure Borders Initiative (SBI), launched SBInet, a program for introducing technology infrastructure to create a virtual wall along the U.S.

**President** [**Barack Obama**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barack_Obama) **ordered a halt to the expansion of the "virtual fence," the Department of Homeland Security announced on March 16, 2010.[26] The money would be used to upgrade current border technology.**

**Floating Wall**

Image:

Credit:

Caption:

Aerostat blimps

**Gated Communities**

Image:

Credit:

Caption:

In some stretches of the border, particularly in the lower Rio Grande where the river’s geography, an array of avulsions that create countless oxbows, compete with the border wall’s straight-line vector. The natural features in the river, combined with an international treaty that prevents building the wall in the flood zone, has resulted in the placement of the wall at a distance of more than 1 mile, in several places, from the political border defined by the meandering river. This has left several private landowners isolated behind the 15-18 foot tall borderwall. Placing their land, much of it farm land, and in several cases their houses, on the “Mexican side” of the borderwall.

Residents are allowed access in and out of this liminal territory using government issued passcodes that open large sliding panels in the wall. These motorized gates, which require electricity to open and close, are designed to unlock in the event of a power outage.[[81]](#footnote-81) Despite the fact that the gates stay open for several hours each day, this is at the discretion of the Border Patrol, and residents can be shut behind the gates, feeling trapped in a no-mans-land that was once their home.

There is the story of Max Pons, who is a 5th generation Texan. He’s also the manager of the Nature Conservancy’s Lenox Foundation Southmost Preserve, the “Jewel of the Rio Grande”. Both the land he manages and his home, have been walled off by the construction of a 15 foot tall steel barrier that is more than 1 mile north, in several places, of the political border.

While gates have been installed to allow Pons to travel back and fourth across the barrier, large sliding panels in the fence controlled by passcodes that when shut behind him, he finds himself isolated in a no-mans land sandwiched between the actual border and the wall. The motorized gates, which require electricity to open and shut are designed to unlock in the event of a power outage.[[82]](#footnote-82) And while the gates stay open for several hours each day, this is at the discretion of the Border Patrol, and residents can be shut behind the gates, feeling trapped. When the borderwall was constructed, much of it through the preserve, Pons saw several animals disturbed from that natural habitat, needing to find new migratory routes to food and water. Pons eventually needed to find a new migratory route as well and moved back into the U.S.—to the city of Port Isabel, 25 miles from his natural habitat.

And then there is Tim Loop. Not far from the Southmost Preserve is Tim Loop’s home. And less than 400 feet from Tim Loop’s front porch stands the 18 foot tall steel fence.[[83]](#footnote-83) His family has lived on this land, tucked into the southernmost tip of Texas, for three generations where he and is family have grown cotton, soybeans, wheat, cabbage, corn, sorghum and sugar cane. Only now, when Tim stands on his front porch, he looks beyond the fence into the rest of the United States, which is accessible to him only by a passcode given to him by U.S. Border Patrol.

Pamela Taylor

Eloisa Tamez is 75 years old and lives on land granted to her ancestors by the king of Spain in 1767.[[84]](#footnote-84) , She was offered $13,500 by the government for a 50-foot-wide strip of land that run across her three acres west of Brownsville, Texas. She refused the offer.

International Treaty that prevents building the wall in the flood zone

Landowner Reference Guide

Gated community makes one feel secure?

Property values dropping.

Segue from this article into the 40,000 acres of land behind the borderwall and the border house.

Since 2008, hundreds of landowners on the border have sought fair prices for property that was condemned to make way for the fence, but many of them received initial offers that were far below market value.

<http://content.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,1808405,00.html>

<http://news.yahoo.com/blogs/lookout/texas-americans-live-wrong-side-border-fence-christmas-183312787.html>

http://www.truth-out.org/news/item/7147-the-border-wall-the-last-stand-at-making-the-us-a-white-gated-community

**House Divided**

Image: house divided plans

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

The border wall cuts through private property, walling off residents on the southern side of the fortress. Sometimes the wall comes very close to the houses people live in. What if the Army Corps of Engineers planned the wall to cut through single family homes? What if new construction had to take the wall into consideration when being designed? How would the differing economies, needs for space, and materials found on each side of the border come together to create a single house with a wall cutting through the bedroom? The kitchen? The bathroom?

fourth wall?

Mailbox pic: http://www.ryot.org/immigration-reforms-first-hurdle-is-the-border-secure/100149

**Earth Wall**

Image: 3481746319\_88c344515d\_o.jpg

Credit: [Romel Jacinto](https://www.flickr.com/photos/37degrees/)

Caption:

Link: https://www.flickr.com/photos/37degrees/3481746319

Smuggler’s Gulch was once a narrow canyon of coastal scrub defined by two mesas just a few miles from the Pacific Ocean. The canyon’s namesake came from it’s storied past of being a conduit for cattle thieves, drug smugglers, and booze runners during prohibition. Later, it was considered a dangerous landscape where bandits would attack immigrants attempting to cross through the canyon and a place where even border patrol agents did not venture alone. The gulch is also a natural drainage that carries episodic streams from Mexico into the Tijuana River estuary, which for several decades has been part one of the nations largest wetland restoration projects comprised of 520 acres of its culturally and ecologically inter-tidal ecology.

In 2008, however the canyon was filled with approximately 2 million cubic yards of dirt[[85]](#footnote-85) cut from the two surrounding mesas piled 180 feet high filling approximately half of the length of the gulch.[[86]](#footnote-86) Road, stadium lights and a 15-foot tall triple wall built atop the berm, which was part of a $60 million project to install 3.5 miles of wall. At the base of this enormous Earth Wall is a 680 foot-long culvert that hastens watcher into the estuary, causing flooding to ranches and depositing silt, erosion from the massive earthwork project, into the estuary damaging the habitat of native plants and animals.

**Fire Wall**

Image: IMG\_6684.JPG

Credit: Manuel Coppola/Nogales International

Caption:

Link: <http://www.nogalesinternational.com/news/blaze-in-nogales-sonora-battled-from-both-sides-of-the/article_3267761e-9b0d-11e1-85e7-001a4bcf887a.html?mode=image>

In construction, a firewall is a barrier that prevents the spread of fire between or through buildings. But when a fire erupted at the Hotel San Enrique in Nogales, Sonora, known to house migrants waiting to attempt to cross the border into the U.S., the border wall almost served as a barrier to effectively douse the flames. 10 Mexican fire trucks responded to the blaze, but putting out the flames wasn’t easy until Nogales, Arizona fire department arrived on the scene with the city’s never before used $827,000 ladder truck with a 5 inch hose. The truck raised it’s tall ladder into the air, up and over the fence, extending into Mexican air-space, and quickly helped contain the flames from spreading to the neighboring building (and country).

Image of firefighter dousing water over the wall

<http://www.nogalesinternational.com/news/blaze-in-nogales-sonora-battled-from-both-sides-of-the/article_3267761e-9b0d-11e1-85e7-001a4bcf887a.html?mode=image>

**Monumental Wall**

Image: monument\_keychains

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

Image: historic monument with fence arount it

Credit:

Caption:

The wall itself is a monumental construct. Evidence of the wall’s presence will remain long after the the optimistic possibility of the walls removal in the environmental, genetic, cultural, topographic, geologic and ecological transformations it has created. But since the very inception of the border as a physical entity, monuments were laid out to mark the border. The first monuments were in the form of karins, piles of stones stacked by the earliest surveyors of the border. Later, formal monuments were constructed—cast in concrete or bronze and situated along the political border. Walls were often coupled with these monuments and since the erection of these early structures, walls were constructed around them. Today, many of these historical monuments have been walled off, some intersecting the wall, others inaccessible behind the wall, and some, surrounded by the border wall, inaccessible from view.

Perhaps these proposals can be seen as stand-alone monuments someday as well, left to recall the memory of the beautiful ways people engaged the wall.

**Labyrinth Wall**

Image: labyrinth\_wall

Credit: Rael San Fratello

Caption:

The primary difference between a labyrinth and a maze is that while a maze has a number of complex branching choices along the route (multicursal), and the design is intended to make one lost in the journey. A labyrinth has only single path (a unicursal maze) that leads from the entrance to the goal by the most complex and winding route. Both types of mazes might describe the journey one takes to get to the wall and it is surprising that an equally tortuous (and expensive) labyrinth of walls has not yet been envisioned by the Army Corps of Engineers. Such a labyrinth would be much more difficult to cross, making the 3 tiered walls seems like child’s play.

Make this the concluding essay…

**Notes:**

Do I add the Fog Wall (San Diego)

1. Using Google Maps to chart a course through several of the popular destinations of the Grand Tour, from London through Paris, Barcelona, Rome and Naples is 1,937 Miles by car [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. <http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/border_security/ti/ti_projects/ti_fence_lab.xml> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. <http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-fence16nov16,0,7764283.story> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. <http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2007-11-19/news/0711180218_1_aircraft-landing-mats-fence-styles-border-patrol> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. <http://books.google.com/books?id=zaZmitYm3lgC&pg=PA3&lpg=PA3&dq=fence+lab+funding+border&source=bl&ots=tO4NrNKvj3&sig=1avPAvcFLaJBRrvs0EiNcCnXL0I&hl=en&sa=X&ei=ixHbUaKpB4r29gT034GwDg&ved=0CHMQ6AEwCA#v=onepage&q=fence%20lab%20funding%20border&f=false> page 2 [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. <http://books.google.com/books?id=puiB_8pQhHsC&pg=PA25&lpg=PA25&dq=%22fence+lab%22+border&source=bl&ots=Tvvkl0oh-5&sig=HcEY1Lk316QbJ_5bWbEiZRDexb0&hl=en&sa=X&ei=Ev_aUcmHKIHW9AThuYCgDg&ved=0CGwQ6AEwCA#v=onepage&q=%22fence%20lab%22%20border&f=false>

   Page 25 [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. <http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2007-11-19/news/0711180218_1_aircraft-landing-mats-fence-styles-border-patrol> [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. <http://www.oig.dhs.gov/assets/Mgmt/OIG_09-56_Apr09.pdf> page 4 (this is also a good document that describes fence types) [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. http://www.yumasun.com/news/border-69033-fence-ramp.html [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/AVLB [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. http://www.reuters.com/article/2008/03/10/us-usa-border-smugglers-idUSN0662194320080310 [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. The first accounts of biological warfare involved the use of catapults, where the bodies of diseased humans were launched over walls to infect the populations protected by the walls. [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. The first human cannonball, was a 14 year old girl named Rossa Matilda Richter, who in 1877 was launched from a cannon, and later toured with the P.T. Barnum Circus. [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. http://www.insightcrime.org/news-briefs/mexicos-army-finds-catapults-used-to-fire-drugs-into-us [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. http://www.myfoxphoenix.com/story/18135705/drug-smugglers-use-catapult-at-border-fence [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
16. http://www.theatlantic.com/infocus/2013/05/on-the-border/100510/ [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
17. http://hypervocal.com/news/2013/marijuana-cannon/ [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
18. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M1hPGF6pbmY [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
19. The event, a performance art piece, entitled *One Flew Over the Void,* was conceptualized by Venezuelan artist Javier Tellez as part of InSite, which conceptualized the spatial and mental nature of borders. [↑](#footnote-ref-19)
20. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OX9S\_m7W4UA [↑](#footnote-ref-20)
21. Napolitano, 2007 [↑](#footnote-ref-21)
22. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XHjKBjM1ngw [↑](#footnote-ref-22)
23. http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/06/17/AR2006061700175.html [↑](#footnote-ref-23)
24. http://www.cbp.gov/xp/CustomsToday/2003/December/narcotunnel\_final1.xml [↑](#footnote-ref-24)
25. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tracking\_(hunting) [↑](#footnote-ref-25)
26. http://newdev.viiphoto.com/articles/inmigracion-topgrafia-the-incineration-of-migrant-dreams/ [↑](#footnote-ref-26)
27. http://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=894&dat=19981224&id=1hEwAAAAIBAJ&sjid=dE0DAAAAIBAJ&pg=6757,2897978 [↑](#footnote-ref-27)
28. http://www.hcn.org/issues/163/5285/print\_view [↑](#footnote-ref-28)
29. https://www.azpm.org/p/home-featured/2013/7/23/25656-border-national-monument-is-center-of-conflict/ [↑](#footnote-ref-29)
30. For more information on Border Wall related impacts, see Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. 2011. Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument: Superintendent’s 2010 Report on Natural Resource Vital Signs. National Park Service. Ajo, Arizona. [↑](#footnote-ref-30)
31. See “Report: Faulty Design Turned Border Fence Into Dam,” *Arizona Daily Star*, August 15, 2008. [↑](#footnote-ref-31)
32. Cost of wall: http://tucsoncitizen.com/morgue/2007/05/04/50527-200-miles-of-border-barriers-being-erected/ [↑](#footnote-ref-32)
33. George B. Frisvold and Margriet F. Caswell, “Transboundary Water Management Game-theoretic Lessons for Projects On the US-Mexico Border,” *Agricultural Economics* 24 (2000): 101-111. [↑](#footnote-ref-33)
34. George W. Bush, “Introductory Speech at the Signing of the Secure Fence Act,” Washington DC, October 26, 2006. [↑](#footnote-ref-34)
35. *Los Angeles Times* (Mar 13, 1963) Ruben Salazar, "Texas Due to Return 450 Acres to Mexico" [↑](#footnote-ref-35)
36. For more historical information on the history of Friendship Park one can visit: http://www.friendshippark.org [↑](#footnote-ref-36)
37. http://www.laweekly.com/2006-07-27/columns/viva-border-volleyball/2/ [↑](#footnote-ref-37)
38. http://books.google.com/books?id=aZiij0JbCqMC&pg=PA81&dq=naco+volleyball&hl=en&sa=X&ei=WtNVUvPFA8fn2AWF4YCIBA&ved=0CC8Q6AEwAA#v=onepage&q=naco%20volleyball&f=false [↑](#footnote-ref-38)
39. http://www.funcork.com/i/3870 [↑](#footnote-ref-39)
40. http://voiceofsandiego.org/2009/08/25/breaking-through-the-border-fence-by-hand/ [↑](#footnote-ref-40)
41. <http://www.latimes.com/local/la-na-ff-c1-border-music-20140130-dto,0,3650473.htmlstory#ixzz2x731TcxI> [↑](#footnote-ref-41)
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46. <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB123370523066745559.html> and <http://books.google.com/books?id=OetM6YrPD5AC&pg=PT222&dq=cardboard+border+fence&hl=en&sa=X&ei=GLPoUd60MZGC9gSg-oD4Dg&ved=0CEAQ6AEwAg> [↑](#footnote-ref-46)
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48. http://usatoday30.usatoday.com/news/nation/2008-06-27-3637785531\_x.htm [↑](#footnote-ref-48)
49. <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/07/31/magazine/life-on-the-line-between-el-paso-and-juarez.html?pagewanted=all&gwh=B9DCE90E13C61D620F184871F104F4FA&gwt=pay> [↑](#footnote-ref-49)
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51. http://www.csmonitor.com/USA/Justice/2012/1203/Bullets-vs.-rocks-Border-Patrol-under-fire-for-use-of-deadly-force/(page)/2 [↑](#footnote-ref-51)
52. http://www.hstoday.us/blogs/the-kimery-report/blog/dangerous-rock-attacks-on-border-patrol-agents-are-up-chopper-brought-down-by-rock-in-79/56d720dfd2a031fd9638f6e8123a5ca0.html [↑](#footnote-ref-52)
53. http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/11/05/border-patrol-killing\_n\_4218334.html [↑](#footnote-ref-53)
54. http://www.hstoday.us/blogs/the-kimery-report/blog/dangerous-rock-attacks-on-border-patrol-agents-are-up-chopper-brought-down-by-rock-in-79/56d720dfd2a031fd9638f6e8123a5ca0.html [↑](#footnote-ref-54)
55. http://www.npr.org/2012/11/24/165822846/border-killings-prompt-scrutiny-over-use-of-force [↑](#footnote-ref-55)
56. http://www.csmonitor.com/USA/Justice/2012/1203/Bullets-vs.-rocks-Border-Patrol-under-fire-for-use-of-deadly-force/(page)/2 [↑](#footnote-ref-56)
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58. http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/11/05/border-patrol-killing\_n\_4218334.html [↑](#footnote-ref-58)
59. Interview with a group of children from Anapra, Mexico in Fall, 2008. [↑](#footnote-ref-59)
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61. The Independent Review, v. 14, n. 1, Summer 2009, ISSN 1086–1653, Copyright © 2009, pp. 101–133 [↑](#footnote-ref-61)
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    Sen. [Richard J. Durbin](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_J._Durbin), [D](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Democratic_Party_(United_States))-[IL](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Illinois)

    Sen. [Jeff Flake](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeff_Flake), [R](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Republican_Party_(United_States))-[AZ](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arizona)

    Sen. [Lindsey Graham](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lindsey_Graham), [R](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Republican_Party_(United_States))-[SC](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Carolina)

    Sen. [John McCain](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_McCain), [R](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Republican_Party_(United_States))-[AZ](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arizona)

    Sen. [Bob Menendez](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bob_Menendez), [D](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Democratic_Party_(United_States))-[NJ](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_Jersey)

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    Sen. [Chuck Schumer](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chuck_Schumer), [D](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Democratic_Party_(United_States))-[NY](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_York)[4] [↑](#footnote-ref-62)
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65. http://www.americanscientist.org/issues/pub/dont-fence-me-out [↑](#footnote-ref-65)
66. http://www.nature.com/news/2011/110802/full/news.2011.452.html#B1 [↑](#footnote-ref-66)
67. http://www.cbp.gov/sites/default/files/documents/U.S.%20Border%20Patrol%20Fiscal%20Year%20Statistics%20SWB%20Sector%20Deaths%20FY1998%20-%20FY2013.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-67)
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69. The use of John and Jane Doe is common in the U.S. and Canada, but not in other English speaking countries. [↑](#footnote-ref-69)
70. http://www.tonation-nsn.gov/history\_culture.aspx [↑](#footnote-ref-70)
71. http://www.reuters.com/article/2007/06/24/us-security-usa-indians-idUSN2216828020070624 [↑](#footnote-ref-71)
72. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tohono\_O'odham [↑](#footnote-ref-72)
73. http://ww4report.com/node/4106 [↑](#footnote-ref-73)
74. http://books.google.com/books?id=N-9ZJBkuKvcC&pg=PT180&dq=tohono+o'odham+graves+border+fence&hl=en&sa=X&ei=LwccUuXsGoH9igK6tIGICw&ved=0CEYQ6AEwAg#v=onepage&q=tohono%20o'odham%20graves%20border%20fence&f=false [↑](#footnote-ref-74)
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84. http://articles.latimes.com/2011/feb/28/nation/la-na-texas-fence-20110228/2 [↑](#footnote-ref-84)
85. <http://books.google.com/books?id=mEyjMx7EV8IC&pg=PA1714&dq=smuggler's+gulch&hl=en&sa=X&ei=86PvU8_ZFsrtoASz2oHgCw&ved=0CCgQ6AEwAg#v=onepage&q=smuggler's%20gulch&f=false> page 1714 [↑](#footnote-ref-85)
86. http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=100336089 [↑](#footnote-ref-86)