RURAL HERITAGE- LANDSCAPES AND BEYOND PATRIMOINE RURAL - PAYSAGES ET AU-DELÀ



A LIVING HISTORY JOIN US

Graciela A. Mota



The serial nomination of 55 sites and five existing World Heritage sites lies along a 1,400 km part of the 2,900 km Camino Real de Tierra Adentro (the Royal Inland Road,also known as the Silver route), a route that extends north from Mexico City to Texas and Nuevo Mexico (New Mexico), United States of America.

The main trade in the first two centuries was in silver extracted from the mines of Zacatecas, Guanajuato and San Luis Potosí, and in mercury (needed for its working through the 'amalgamation' method), imported from Spain and at times Slovenia.

The silver was exported via Veracruz to Spain, where itmtransformed the economies of Europe, and via Acapulco to Manilla, where it it was exchanged for the silks and porcelains of Asia.



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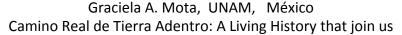
The Camino Real de Tierra Adentro was actively used as a trade route for 300 years, from the mid-16th to the 19th centuries. developed to serve the great mining initiatives in northern Mexico during the Spanish colonial period, with attendant farming, grazing and military support for mining activities.

Concurrently, evangelists devoted themselves to the spiritual life of indigenous people and settlers who accompanied the mining process as well as an structured communication system that intertwined cultural bonds and enabled the transfer of architectural aspects of the Baroque, neoclassicism and eclecticism extended to the northern most towns.



Fotografías: Catedral de Zacatecas: Archivos Tres Rios & UAEM

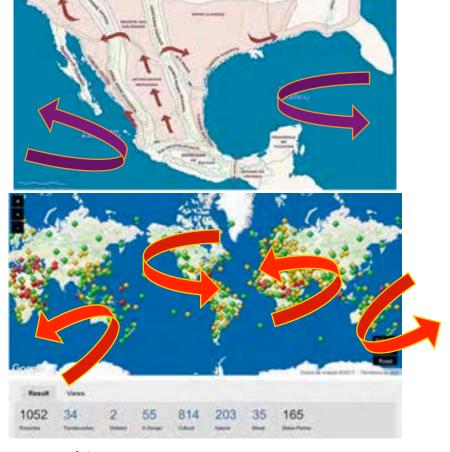




The Camino Real de Tierra Adentro was actively used as a trade route for 300 years, from the mid-16th to the 19th centuries. This American and continental road map that represents the iconic symbol of Arid America joined with its peculiar villages building by soil and land housing architecture, sacred sites, music, food, legends, cosmovision, roads, natural symbols, mining caves, rail roads and a complex technology infrastructure, holds the most important contemporary historic, cultural facts and political changes all the way long.

The Mining Flow in "La Nueva España"





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During 500 years the cultural route had been developed with different uses and practices but actually is a fact that there is not enough undersathding of the challengre of cooperation and cultural interchange that this itinerary should promote. Actually the challenge is to conceibed it as a cultural landscape and much more of it, as a rural one.

We most add the national identity an a lot of intangible values that include the cultural route.









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Mexican States

- City of México
- State of México
- Hidalgo
- Querétaro
- Guanajuato
- Jalisco
- Aguascalientes
- Zacatecas
- San Luis Potosi
- Durango
- Chihuahua

Higher Educational Level











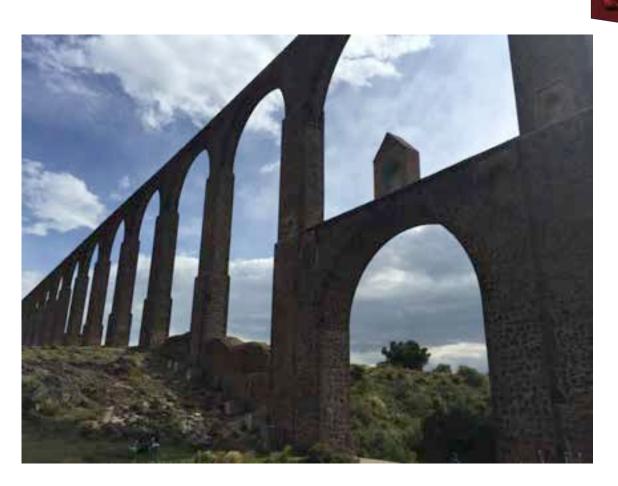




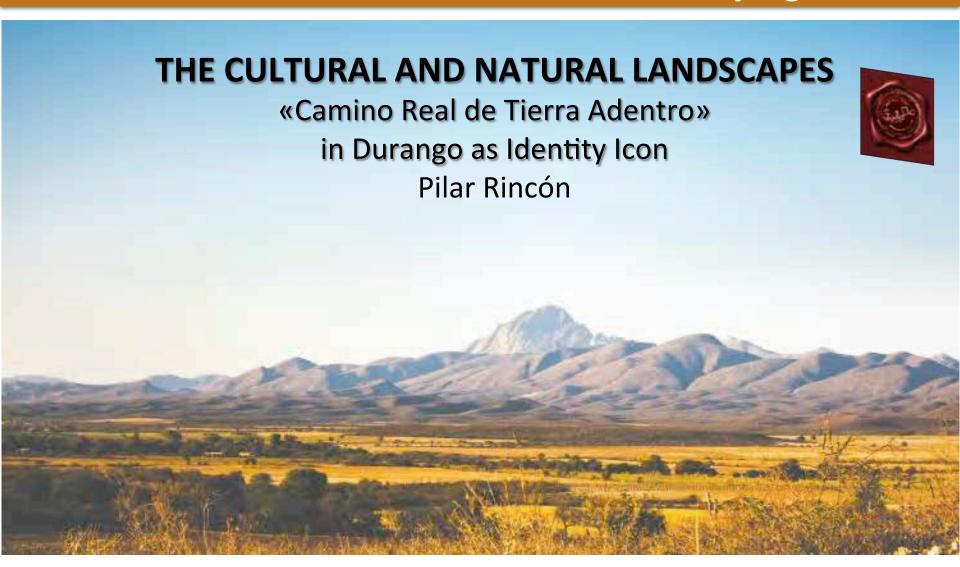
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Pilar Rincón Torres. ICOMOS Durango, México The Cultural And Natural Landscapes of The «Camino Real de Tierra Adentro» in Durango as Identity Icon

The called "Camino Real de Tierra Adentro" was the oldest and longest road in North America, with an extension of about 2,500 kilometers, linking Mexico City with the town of Santa Fe in New Mexico. On its route it was deployed on the current Mexican plateau, on the east side of the Sierra Madre Occidental.

Each of the regions through which the road passed presented peculiarities that gave it different landscapes, some of them as visual references that still distinguish them.



Pilar Rincón Torres. ICOMOS Durango, México The Cultural And Natural Landscapes of The «Camino Real de Tierra Adentro» in Durango as Identity Icon



To be included in the list of World Heritage, a site must have an "exceptional universal value" and must meet a selection criterion, which in the case of the itinerary in question was defined by criterion IV which contemplates the following "Offer an eminent example of a type of building, architectural, technological or landscape set that illustrates a significant stage in human history. "Therefore, this presentation focuses on the aspect of the landscape, an important element that earned recognition as a world cultural heritage.



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Several fields of study use the concept of landscape differently. Landscape will be understood as "Part of the territory whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and human factors, as perceived by the population".

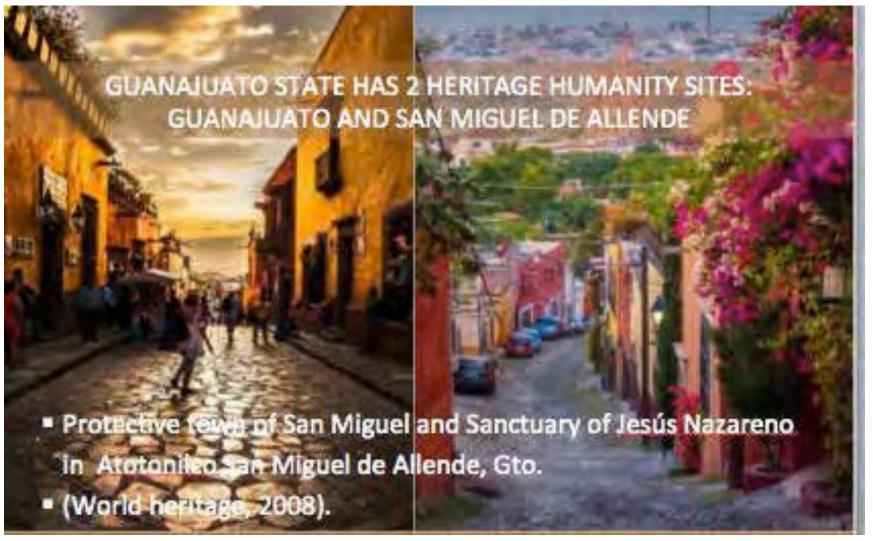
Therefore, landscape is a complex notion, whose conceptual delimitation and critical and historical sense must be analyzed.

The landscape is, or can be, a physical fact, a cultural representation, an aesthetic construction, and a political category.



Sara E. Narváez Martínez. ICOMOS Guanajuato, México Camino Real de Tierra Adentro: Section of The Tunal Grande Branch



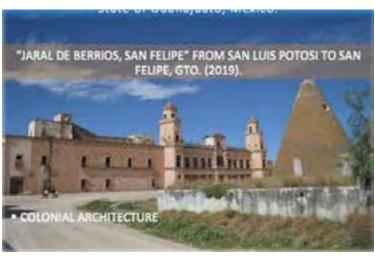


Sara E. Narváez Martínez. ICOMOS Guanajuato, México
Camino Real de Tierra Adentro; Cultural Landscape and Local Management Challenges; Section of The Tunal Grande Branch











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