



GUANAJUATO UNIVERSITY

VALLE DE SANTIAGO CITY HALL 2012-2015

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# Gallery of Art and Technology

## Ex-Station Valle de Santiago, Gto.

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### Implementation of Technology and Art Gallery in Railway Ex-Station Valle de Santiago, Guanajuato.

#### Justification

The variety and interconnection of emerging concepts and artistic practices from several decades categories, identified with a new geography of art, production, linking and public has as a result that many of the current proposals are called by the name of intervention.

The intervention is associated with those artistic practices relating context and content of the work. These practices refer to the expansion of spaces and circumstances in which art can be produced, including interest of popular culture and *mass-media* as well as non-artistic interests and art forms.<sup>1</sup>

Today Western society suffers constant changes that have caused a very remarkable use of urban space as a territory dedicated to mobility, social contact and enjoyment of the environment, as a result to the needs that society itself creates, because society needs more than a constructed space, it needs to build up itself, a space of coexistence and growth.

When referring to urban space is not intended to be thought as one more space in the city, but as the city itself, it is the place of reality, the discursive space of society. A space designed by the same people and destined for them, where they can converge diverse artistic and cultural manifestations of the new generations of artists emerging and where the intervention that is made to the space Works as a link that joins artistic and cultural activities with daily activities of the population, thus being able to provide and and bring the opportunity to get closer to population centers that are still very close to these types of events.

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<sup>1</sup> Fernández, Blanca. NUEVOS LUGARES DE INTENCIÓN: Intervenciones artísticas en el espacio urbano como una de las salidas a los circuitos convencionales: Estados Unidos 1965-1995. © 2004. Publicaciones de la Universidad de Barcelona – Centre de Recerca Polis.

## Historical Background

Currently some of the disused railway stations have been re-used for commercial purposes, culture, or restored in hopes for a better use. The station in the city of Valle de Santiago, which concerns us on this occasion, has great potential if we consider that is only at 20 minutes from the Engineering Division of Campus Irapuato-Salamanca. It is desirable that once renewed, this station, through legal mechanisms, could be used as a Gallery of Art and Technology at the University of Guanajuato thereby promoting interest in both areas in the region thereby creating an audience for the arts and technology and strengthening the educational and cultural development of its people.

Changes in the policies of the Mexican government led to the privatization of National Railways of Mexico in the year 1995 under the leadership of then-President Ernesto Zedillo.

Once privatized, profitable networks became managed by private companies, mostly foreign. In the particular case of the railway linking the cities of Jaral Del Progreso with Valle de Santiago (19 km) and Salamanca (23 km), Guanajuato were canceled and dismantled its tracks.

The history of the railway station building dates back to early last century<sup>2</sup>. The Valle de Santiago station was built on the old railway line from Salamanca railroad to Valle de Santiago, through grant number 96, which established first a decree dated August 30, 1888 which authorized Mr. Domeneq the construction of this railroad with the chance of being extended to Jaral. However, the decree of 25 March 1892 amended the above provision, authorizing the extension of this road to link it in Morelia with the Mexican National Railway.

It was inaugurated on May 19, 1904, when the Constitutional Mayor was Mr. Augustine Lanuza. The connection covered 35 km and connected with the main centers of agricultural and industrial production in the region through its interconnection with the trunk road Celaya-Leon in Salamanca city.

By the restructured conditions of National Railways of Mexico, the service is currently canceled, plus it has been deteriorated from abandonment and vandalism.

In 2008 the entire rail network of rails and sleepers has been removed, taking a step back in the history of the railway in the town.

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<sup>2</sup> [http://sic.conaculta.gob.mx/ficha.php?table=fnme&table\\_id=39&estado\\_id=11](http://sic.conaculta.gob.mx/ficha.php?table=fnme&table_id=39&estado_id=11)

## **Objectives**

To rescue the old Railway Station in Valle de Santiago

To create Public in the area of Digital Arts

To Interest in the study of Technology

Study unit through Digital Arts Library formation

To guard Cultural Heritage

## **Development**

The project plans to carry out in three stages.

1st. stage

Request for use of the property to the Federal Government through H. City Hall of Valle de Santiago, Guanajuato. for usufruct of the University of Guanajuato to the attention of the local and foreign public.

Presentation of possible rehabilitation of the building and proposed use of spaces such as exhibition halls, library, wine cellar and administrative area.

2nd. stage

Request governmental and private support for the equipment and organization of exhibitions, workshops and conferences.

3rd. stage

Organization and implementation of program for Digital Artists Stay in collaboration with the State Government, the City of Valle de Santiago and the University of Guanajuato.

## **Impact/Benefit**

### **Tourism**

If the gallery Project is finalized, it will not only attract visitors but also the resort will confluence of inter-disciplinary areas of study given the same characteristics of the project and the various conditions of the participants who will be involved in exhibitions and meetings on art and technology.

The above will improve the economic flow of the city, because foreign visitors will require additional food services and amenities which will leave an economic benefit and promote the natural protected area of the craters.

## **Golds**

To Implement the most important exhibition and education space in Digital Arts and Technology of the region.

Set a space for creation, display and diffusion of electronic art.

Assist in the creation of a space for collaboration with educational institutions by implementing plans consultancies in the area of digital arts. La restructuración del tejido social mediante el impacto sociocultural.

Leveraging architectural heritage for the development of cultural projects for artistic purposes.

Claiming the built heritage as a social capital that contributes to sustainable development by contributing to improving the life quality of the population.

To permeate society new social / cultural conditions of the future work in the gallery.



Image 1. Property

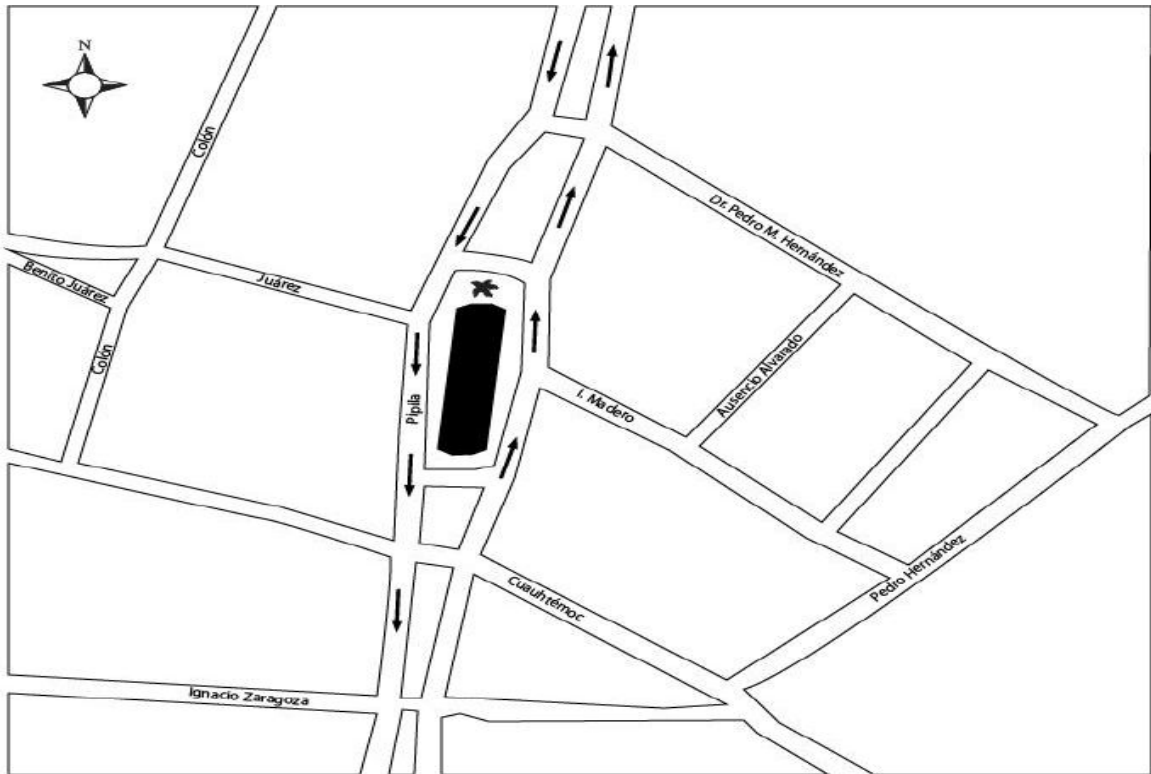


Image 2. Geographic Location

