Evolution of the South Gateway

The current trend is to fence and reject the street and sidewalk, creating a disjointed series of districts rather than a united urban framework.

1909 -
The area south of the plaza in 1909 was more developed than it stands today; it served as primarily a storage area and was built entirely out of adobe structures.

1929 -
Nearly 80 years ago the south gateway was developed as a series of homes, studios, storage areas and even a hall – all of which no longer exist. Multiple courtyards and enclosed public spaces were beginning to become evident.

1980's -
After the rise of the automobile, the area south of the plaza became primarily used for parking, with the exception of one green space at the corner of west plaza and Camino de la Placita which has since disappeared as well, leaving only a sea of asphalt as the existing south gateway.

2020
The simple urban parti is to connect to surrounding areas by identifying existing paths and districts and uniting them.
Restoration and connection

Looking North up Paseo del Pueblo Sur from Quesnel

Proposed site plan

SOUTH GATEWAY

KEY GOALS

Connect to the plaza and its existing alleys

Connect to Ledoux and Quesnel

Activate the street edge

Create legible parking away from the street edge

Create a large PV array which also harvests water

Provide spaces for vendors to sell art, food, clothes etc.
The proposed redevelopment of the south gateway is not an infill project, but a restoration project which seeks to bring back the density and green spaces which existed in the past. The south gateway connects alley’s to the plaza and splays out to visually connect to Ledoux street as well as Quesnel creating a unified, legible walking district.
Aerial view to the North over Camino de la Placita