

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910793710003321
Autore	Alvarez C. J.
Titolo	Border land, border water : a history of construction on the US-Mexico divide // C. J. Alvarez
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Austin, Texas : , : University of Texas Press, , [2019] ©2019
ISBN	1-4773-1903-4 1-4773-1902-6
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (301 pages) : illustrations, maps
Disciplina	972.1
Soggetti	Building - Mexican-American Border Region Public works - Political aspects - Mexican-American Border Region - History Waterworks - Mexican-American Border Region - History HISTORY / General Mexican-American Border Region History
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di contenuto	The border environment in the nineteenth century -- The border and the Mexican revolution -- Police and waterworks on the border : aspirations to control through building -- Police and waterworks on the border : systemic flaws -- Building the border of today -- Epilogue.
Sommario/riassunto	From the boundary surveys of the 1850s to the ever-expanding fences and highway networks of the twenty-first century, Border Land, Border Water examines the history of the construction projects that have shaped the region where the United States and Mexico meet. Tracing the accretion of ports of entry, boundary markers, transportation networks, fences and barriers, surveillance infrastructure, and dams and other river engineering projects, C. J. Alvarez advances a broad chronological narrative that captures the full life cycle of border building. He explains how initial groundbreaking in the nineteenth century transitioned to unbridled faith in the capacity to control the movement of people, goods, and water through the use of physical structures. By the 1960s, however, the built environment of the border

began to display increasingly obvious systemic flaws. More often than not, Alvarez shows, federal agencies in both countries responded with more construction—"compensatory building" designed to mitigate unsustainable policies relating to immigration, black markets, and the natural world. *Border Land, Border Water* reframes our understanding of how the border has come to look and function as it does and is essential to current debates about the future of the US-Mexico divide.
