

Multimedia Library Collection: Archival Gems

Photograph: Canal río San Francisco, 1930

Acuña, Luis Alberta



Canal río San Francisco (Photographed by Acuña, Luis Alberto [1930]). San Fransisco River Channel, 1930.

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Canal río San Francisco. A channelized part of the San Francisco River in Colombia. (Photograph by Luis Alberta Acuña. Courtesy of Museo de Bogotá.)

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Channeling and diverting urban rivers to place them out of sight and smell was the solution prompted from the second decade of the twentieth century. The first targets were the San Francisco and San Agustín rivers: terrains adjacent to the channeled rivers were paved and became urban avenues and squares with ornamental, hygienic and mobility purposes. They were then transformed into collectors integrated to the sewer system, finally expelling their load outside the urban perimeter when they reached the Bogotá River, the main stream of the Bogotá Savanna.

—Stefania Gallini, Laura Felacio, Angélica Agredo, and Stephanie Garcés

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