

**UN PASEO POR LA MONTAÑA, TAJO DE ZAPATA, PARRAS DE LA FUENTE, COAHUILA:
EL CÓMO Y POR QUÉ DE UNA GALERÍA FILTRANTE MEXICANA**

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ABSTRACT

This paper analyzes the use of filtration galleries tajos in the Parras region and discusses the construction periods and techniques over 1,200 meters into solid rock mountain. Tajos differ from ganat-kerez-etc. in that they were designed to carry water out of the mountain. Water utilization was meant to begin after leaving the rock confines and proceed through a series of open air canals, agricultural fields, reservoirs, recreation, generating plants, textile factories, pecan grove terraces, and finally to more agricultural fields, also as a source of domestic water. Whereas their Middle Eastern counterparts utilize vertical shafts to access water at specified intervals along the underground groundwater canal. In Mexico, the vertical shafts were/are used for construction and cleaning. Little is known of the Mexican filtration galleries.