

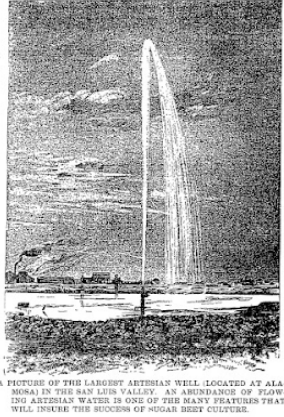



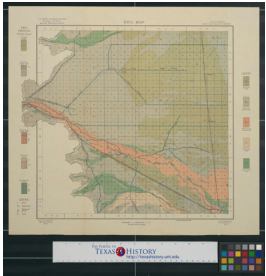



## Farming and Water around 1900: Primary Source Set

José Victor García, a rancher in Conejos County, 1890s, who served in the Colorado Territorial Legislature and held many political appointments.	Brothers Francisco and Raymundo Gallegos, ranchers near San Luis, 1895	Picture of largest artesian well in the Valley, in Alamosa	Artesian well in Del Norte	An artesian well being drilled in Antonito
			<p>Del Norte is elated over the prospects for an artesian well. Contractor Hoine is down over a hundred feet and the water rises almost to the surface. A good flow is anticipated at two hundred feet, or less. Del Norte has wanted artesian water for a long time and we are glad to see her desire gratified.</p>	<p>S. P. Hoine has the artesian well at Antonito down about 160 feet and is expecting water every day. The layer of lava rock at the point where he is drilling is 52 feet thick. Sam says he is not going to make himself rich off of this well but he has demonstrated to his own satisfaction that the lava beds in that vicinity can be drilled through with the proper machinery.</p>
From Auraria Library Digital Collections <a href="#">Resource link</a>	From Auraria Library Digital Collections <a href="#">Resource link</a>	From <i>Alamosa Journal</i> , October 16, 1902, p.2 <a href="#">Link to this article</a>  <a href="#">Link to full issue in Colorado Historic Newspaper Collection</a>	From <i>San Luis Valley Courier</i> , November 20, 1889, p.1 <a href="#">Link to this article</a>  <a href="#">Link to full issue in Colorado Historic Newspaper Collection</a>	From <i>San Luis Valley Courier</i> , March 13, 1889, p.8 <a href="#">Link to this article</a>  <a href="#">Link to full issue in Colorado Historic Newspaper Collection</a>

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<p>Most of the farmers in Antonito, a town which is less than 8 years old, are Hispanics; their fine farms are under good cultivation</p>	<p>Technique used by “some of our Mexicans owning large ranches” to get rid of Loco Weed</p>	<p>In description of death of his son, Jose Garcia of Conejos was said to be a large holder of sheep who shipped them to Chama, NM by train for lambing</p>	<p>Triangular towers guarding Eastvale Dam no. 2, April 10, 1909</p>	<p>Sugar beet farming can be profitable in Valley, especially around Alamosa, due to water and abundance of “Mexican” labor</p>
<p>Antonito is not eight years old. It contains a population of between four and five hundred. The inhabitants hail from all sections of the globe. There are Americans, Germans, Saxons, Irish, English and French. The farming portion are mostly Mexicans who own fine farms all under a good state of cultivation. The town people all have business or trades, and are prospering. Many of whom came to Antonito working for wages are now independent, and surrounded with the comforts of life.</p>	<p><b>Sure Death to Loco Weed.</b>  <b>SAN LUIS, Costilla Co. Colo., July 3, 1884.</b>—The so frequent remarks in many of the newspapers, referring to the so-called “loco weed industry” spreading now almost all over the state, induce me to inform you of successful experiments, which, for the last two years, have been made here by some of our Mexicans owning large ranches, in exterminating the “loco.” They simply keep those places (meadows, etc., etc.) where patches of loco exist, for from ten to fifteen days. When the water is off such places and runs not quickly and entirely (turning into a reddish yellow), and do not re-appear. They generally do this here during May, and June. Others turn the water on after boating down the loco plant. Both ways seem to have been successful. The latter is perhaps the quickest. You may, should you deem it worth while, call to this the attention of such of your readers who take sufficient interest to try it. It would, at all events, be to them a cheap experiment, and, if confirmed, be perhaps the means of their finally saving to the state paying such a ridiculous bounty, which, at the very least, benefits only one or two individuals in some of our enterprising loco-producing counties.  Respectfully Yours,  LOUIS COMB.</p>	<p>Mr. Garcia has become a large holder of sheep within the last few years. It became necessary that they be shipped to Chama for lambing purposes, and Alejandro was assigned the duty of overseeing the herd and the herders. The herd arrived at Chama a few days ago and went into camp a few miles above that town. Alejandro thinking the pasture was better on the other side of the river, went to investigate and crossed in the presence of the herder, the herder going back to camp. That night the</p>	 <p>Triangular tower for operating gates at Eastvale Dam No. 2. In above and to the south, on upstream side of dam. April 30, 1909</p>	<p><b>SUGAR FACTORIES IN THE SAN LUIS VALLEY.</b>  Denver Republican: The report that a sugar factory is to be erected in Alamosa in time to handle a crop of beets to be grown next season is in line with the judgment of well informed men concerning the possibilities of sugar production in the San Luis valley. Experiments have shown beyond question that sugar beets can be grown there. Neither the altitude nor the length of the season prohibits successful production. An objection was at one time advanced on the ground that the season would be too short to allow the beets to mature. But the tests that have been made refute this, showing that beets can be grown. Another objection advanced was based on the allegation that it would be difficult to secure the labor necessary to care for the growing crops. The contrary is shown to be true by the fact that near the Colorado-New Mexico line there are numerous settlements of Mexicans and other people where an abundance of labor might be secured. Mexican labor has been brought to the Arkansas valley from Trinidad and other points farther south, and what can be done in this respect in the Alamosa valley could even more readily be done in the vicinity of Alamosa. A sugar factory at Alamosa would be strongly supported by the farmers of the valley because they would find the best crop a peculiarly valuable one for them. Their isolation and distance from markets renders the production of staples like wheat and other cereals less profitable than in some other parts of the state. But freight rates would play but a small part in marketing sugar, and hence the industry would be especially valuable to farmers near Alamosa.</p>
<p>From <i>San Luis Valley Courier</i>, April 17, 1889, p.5</p>	<p>From <i>Alamosa Journal</i>, July 10, 1884, p.3</p>	<p>From <i>Alamosa Journal</i>, May 26, 1905, p.1</p>	<p>From Auraria Library Digital Collections</p>	<p>From <i>Alamosa Journal</i>, October 16, 1902, p.2</p>
<p><a href="#">Link to this article</a>  <a href="#">Link to full issue in Colorado Historic Newspaper Collection</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Link to this article</a>  <a href="#">Link to full issue in Colorado Historic Newspaper Collection</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Link to this article</a>  <a href="#">Link to full issue in Colorado Historic Newspaper Collection</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Resource link</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Link to this article</a>  <a href="#">Link to full issue in Colorado Historic Newspaper Collection</a></p>

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Soil Map of San Luis Valley, showing soil composition, township grid, agricultural canals, and railroads during the early twentieth century. Made by Holmes J. Garnett, 1903	300 skilled sugar beet raisers coming to Monte Vista, La Jara, and Romeo from Globeville, CO (NE of Denver)	The Lucero family pose by an adobe wall on the White Mountain Ranch in Costilla County, San Luis Valley. Undated photo	Trujillo homestead, near Mosca, built by Pedro Trujillo, a first generation Hispanic-American, in 1879. He was a small-scale pioneer cattle rancher	Trujillo house before preservation. It is interesting that a Hispanic-American settler chose to build a two-story log house rather than an adobe building.
	About three hundred skilled beet raisers from Globeville, Colorado, came through Alamosa yesterday morning to take up the culture of sugar beets in the valley. They will be distributed between Monte Vista, La Jara and Romeo. Most of them have had considerable experience in the beet fields of northern Colorado and they are said to be a very desirable class of citizens for the valley.			
From The Portal to Texas History website	From <i>Alamosa Journal</i> , May 12, 1911, p.3	Denver Public Library, Western History Collection	History Colorado, online photograph collection	History Colorado, online photograph collection
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See also: "Farm Resettlement Project, 1930s," "Farming, 1930s onward," and "Hispanic Sheepherders vs. Anglo Cattlemen around 1900"