

Old Pueblo Archaeology Center's
April 2026 Third Thursday Food for Thought Free Zoom Program



Ghost Canals of the Phoenix Area

Presentation by Salt River Project Archaeologist Daniel Garcia



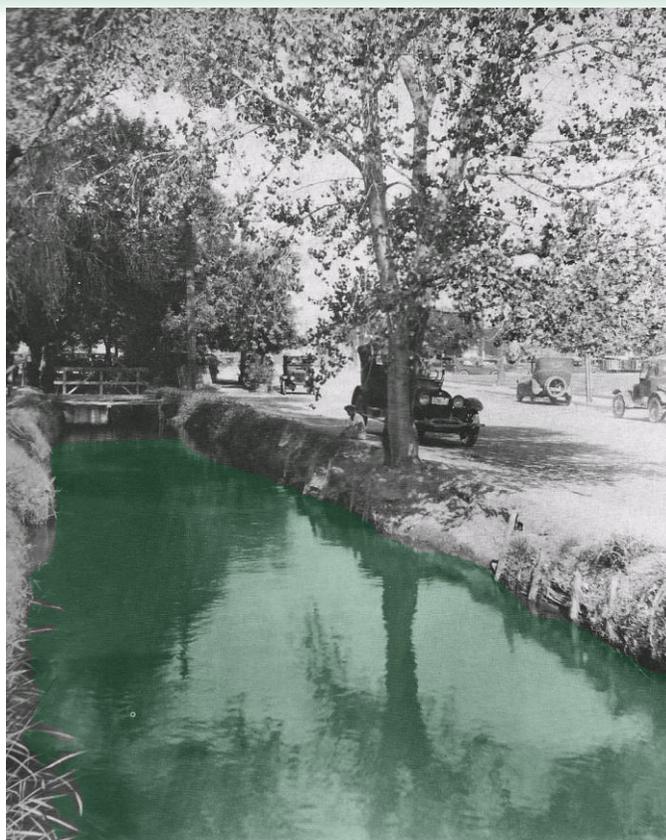
We're Going on a Ghost Hunt!

Daniel Garcia, Archaeologist for central Arizona's Salt River Project (SRP, a not-for-profit public power and water utility), will present the fascinating history of the oldest Arizona Territorial period irrigation canals in the Phoenix-Tempe metro area. These include the Salt River Valley, Maricopa, Hayden, and San Francisco canals.

Nearly half of the modern SRP canal system coincides with the courses of ancient Hohokam canals. Using aerial photography and digital mapping, Dan has traced and recorded many of these now mostly invisible ancient watercourses, showing how the hundreds of miles of precontact-era Hohokam canal networks continue to shape modern irrigation.

These remarkably precise ancient waterways nourished the Sonoran Desert for centuries before Euroamerican settlers repurposed them.

Join us as Dan takes us on a virtual ghost hunt to find the telltale persistent patterns of historic canals that have been incorporated into the urban landscape but that still can be traced – when you know just what to look for.



*The Salt River Valley Canal in downtown Phoenix, ca. 1920s
(Photo courtesy of Dan Garcia and SRP,
artificial color by Old Pueblo Archaeology Center)*

Thursday April 16, 2026

7 pm ARIZONA/Mountain Standard Time
(Same as Pacific Daylight Time)

To register for the Zoom program, click on this link:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_78dUCNv6S5qtX5uVabA

For more information contact Old Pueblo at info@oldpueblo.org or **520-798-1201**.

