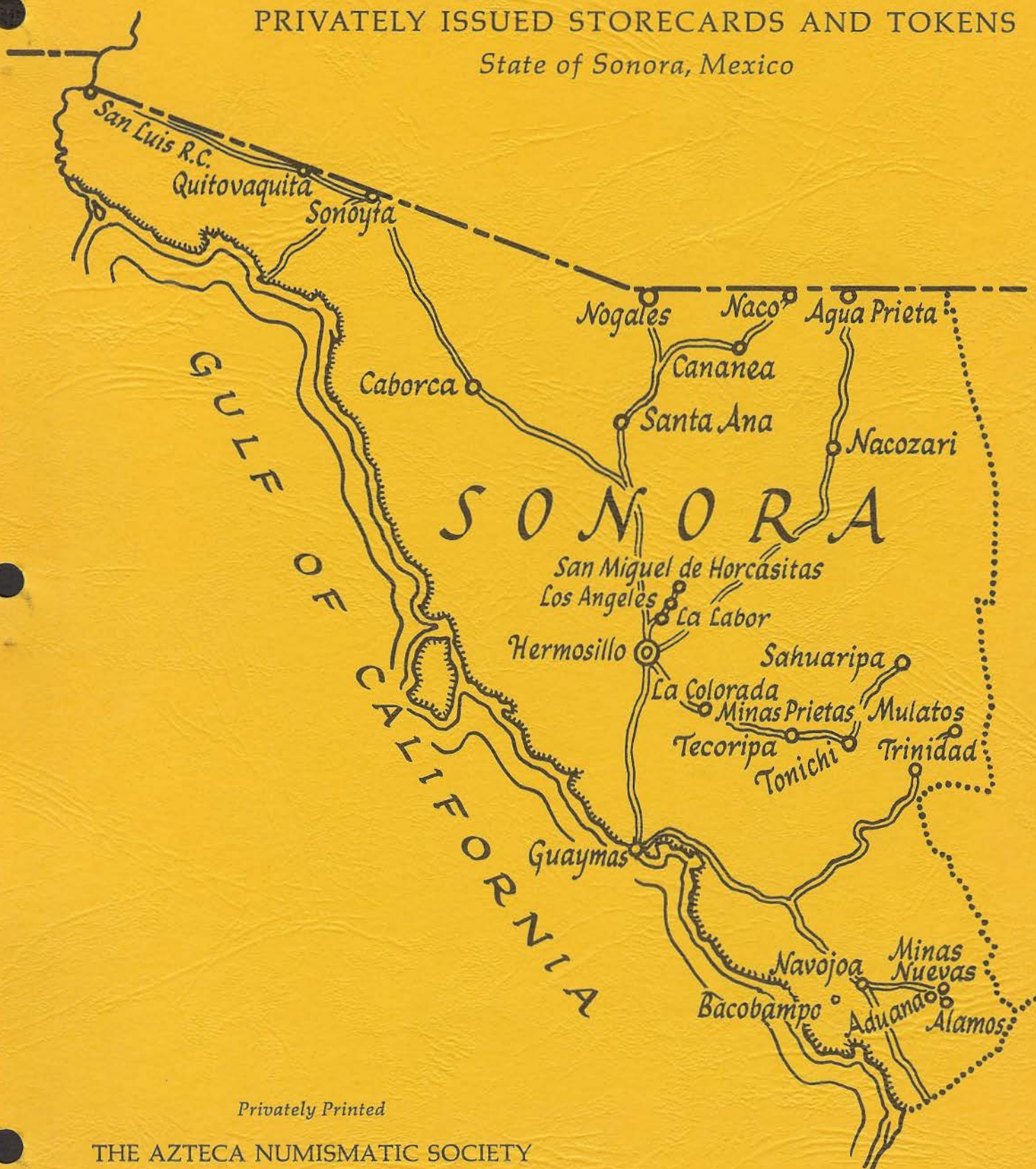


PRIVATELY ISSUED STORECARDS AND TOKENS

State of Sonora, Mexico



Privately Printed

THE AZTECA NUMISMATIC SOCIETY



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STATE OF SONORA, MEXICO - PRIVATELY ISSUED STORECARDS AND TOKENS

This study made possible through the cooperation of numerous collectors with special mention of:

Dr. Alberto F. Pradeau, for the historical research

Elwin C. Leslie, for the art work

Robert Lamb, for photographs

And to these others for supplying specimens and information:

Hal Birt, Jr.

Theodore V. Buttrey, Jr.

Clyde Hubbard

Sonya P. de Morillon

José Rocha Ramos

Harold Schmal

Published as a numismatic contribution for the members of the Azteca Numismatic Society.

Edited and compiled by: Erma C. Stevens

0 50 100 150 200 250 300
STATUTE MILES

A R I Z O N A

S O N O R A

G U L F
O F
C A L I F O R N I A

San Luis R.C.

Quitovaquita

Sonoyta

Nogales

Naco

Agua Prieta

Caborca

Cananea

Santa Ana

Nacozari

San Miguel de Horcasitas

Los Angeles

La Labor

Hermosillo

Sahuaripa

La Colorada

Minas Prietas

Tecoripa

Tonichi

Mulatos

Trinidad

Guaymas

Navojoa

Minas Nuevas

Bacabampo

Aduana

Alamos

STATE OF SONORA, MEXICO

PRIVATELY ISSUED - STORE CARDS AND TOKENS

Tokens and store cards reflect a way of life that, in Mexico, has passed. Political and legal decrees have brought to an end their use as payment of wages, and modern methods of coining and adequate transportation has ended the need for privately issued small currency that once existed.

Commonly grouped under the term "Hacienda Tokens", most of those listed herein are store cards, for use in the company owned stores, on ranches, at mines, and in industries. Often used to make change in cantinas, at mercantile establishments, etc., they could, in turn, only be redeemed at the same facility. Given in payment of wages, they were redeemable only at that firm's company owned stores. Obviously, this worked some hardships upon the employees, for many times they were forced to pay higher prices than was being charged in public establishments. However, due to the frequent changes of government, and the depreciation of Federal copper issues, the workers placed more reliance upon these private issues than on the coins of the various governments, which were in a constant state of revolution.

*"The 1917 Constitution, Article 123, Section X, stipulated that all wages had to be paid in legal tender, not in merchandise, orders, counters, or tokens. Section XXIV ended servitude by making debts payable by the one who contracted them, and not by his family." (This ended one of the grave injustices practiced). "In order to wipe the slate clean, Transitory Article 13 cancelled all debts of the worker contracted from his master, up to January 13, 1917."

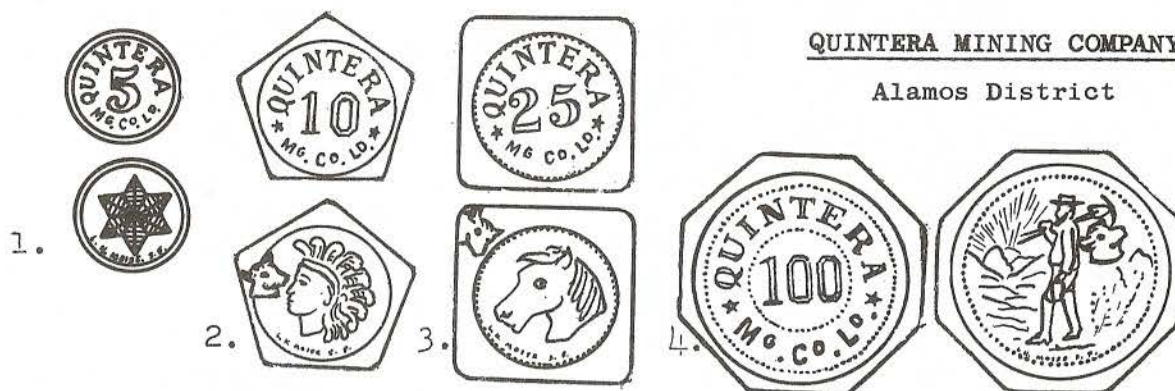
This brought to a virtual end the peonage system that had been in effect throughout Mexico.

These small, often ignored, pieces of metal played an important part in the history of Mexico, and as such, surely rate inclusion in any collection of Mexican numismatics.

*Store Cards and Tokens - A. F. Pradeau

Drawings represent actual size of token specimens examined.

STATE OF SONORA, MEXICO - PRIMATELY ISSUED STORE CARDS AND TOKENS.



QUINTERA MINING COMPANY

Alamos District

Discovered in Spanish Colonial days by a peon named Quintera.* Operated under various owners until 1909, when work on a large scale was suspended. BRASS tokens, manufactured by L. H. Moise, of San Francisco, California. These are usually found with a c/s of a bovine head. Known to compilers, in only one example each, are the (1) and (4), without the c/s. The Medio Pasaje token of Ocharan y Ca. exists with the Quintera c/s. **It must be assumed that these were put to a later use on the ranches or stores of this mining company. The mines are located at Aduana, near Alamos, Sonora.

#1 - Hal Birt, Jr.

#2, 3, 4, 5 - Stevens' Collection.



5.

DEL TIRO MINES

South of Altar, Sonora*
Owner, Agustin, L. Serna
Discovered about 1779.

ALUMINUM Tokens. All
obverse designs are the
same.



6.

7.

8.

9.



(Obverse Design)

In 1910, these mines were being operated by the Llanos Company.

Stevens' Collection.

LA TRINIDAD MINING COMPANY

No. 10 is struck in aluminum
No's. 11 and 12 are of a zinc-lead alloy
All specimens seen by compiler of No. 12,
have been c/s with joined TMC initials.
Both sides of all tokens are of the same
design. A "2" is reported (25 mm) Mines
located in Sahuaripa County.

Stevens' Collection



10.

11.

12.

Photo and specifics of #1 supplied by Hal Birt, Jr., and Robert Lamb.

*Store Cards and Tokens of Mexico by A. F. Pradeau

**plus Ultra - June 1969

HACIENDA ZACATON M.G.



13.

Located in the county of Hermosillo, 2 km. from Zamora railroad station, and 26 kms. north of Hermosillo City. Owner, Miguel Gandara. Prior to the 1910 revolution, this was one of the largest and most productive ranches of the state. (About 5,000 acres). Irrigated by the San Miguel river.

ALUMINUM Token, c/s with incuse design resembling a wagon wheel.

Stevens' Collection

HACIENDA TOPAHUE*



14.

Location about 26 km.N.E. of Hermosillo. Owned by heirs of Manuel Gandara, former Governor of the state who was active in politics from 1838 to 1866.

ALUMINUM Tokens, issued about 1891, "Good for a day's wages." The specimen shown is counterstamped with same device as on the Hacienda Zacaton token.

Stevens' Collection



15.

10 Centavos copper 1919 Federal issue with the counterstamp of above Hacienda pieces. No explanation known for this occurrence.

Morillon Collection

HACIENDA REALITO



16.

Located in the county of Hermosillo, owned by Muñoz Hermanos y Sobrino (brothers and nephew). E. D. Muñoz, G. F. Muñoz, M. P. Muñoz, C. E. Muñoz, and E. Muñoz. Over 2500 acres producing sugar, cane, cotton, grapes, wheat, corn, etc., and 2500 acres lying idle. Employed 300 men. Irrigated by the Sonora river.

ALUMINUM Token, manufactured by L. A. Rubber Stamp Company. Value one-fourth days' wages.

Incuse Brand c/s

Stevens' Collection

HACIENDA LABOR



17.

Owned by Juan Y. Lukens, and located about 35 miles N.E. of the city of Hermosillo. Employed 200 men on the 500 acres where they produced wheat, corn, beans, and cotton.

ALUMINUM Tokens, manufactured by L.A. Rubber Stamp Company., (other values suspected). Joaquin M. Aztiazaran, Governor of Sonora, 1871 - 1875, partisan of Maximilian and decorated by him, died in 1885, and is buried in the private cemetery of the Lukens family at "La Labor".

Photo by Robert Lamb - Specifics by Hal Birt, Jr.



18.

*Store Cards and Tokens - A. F. Pradeau.



REY DEL ORO MINING COMPANY

Mulatots, county of Sahuaripa, north of La Trinidad. This was a gold producing property, employing 100 men.

ALUMINUM Token, manufactured by Patrick and Company, San Francisco.

#19 - Hubbard Collection

#20 - Hal Birt, Jr.

Other denominations perhaps exist.



NEGOCIACION MINERA DE MULATOS

There were at least two mines in this area, and we are not able to attribute these specifically. The 6 centavos piece is in BRASS, manufactured by L. H. Moise, San Francisco. The 1 Real is in "pot metal", manufacturer unknown.

#20, 21 - Stevens' Collection.

LA COLORADA MINES PRIETAS STORES



MAROON VULCANIZED RUBBER Token. *Value, 10 centavos, 30 mm in diameter, 3 mm thick, manufactured by Moise Klinker Company, San Francisco. There were 13 mines within a radius of 3 miles in the Hermosillo district, Sonora. Because of the evidences of ruins of houses and smelting works as well as piles of scoriae, the general belief was that the area is of the long lost "Real de Tayopa", famous in early Spanish annals. Once worked by the community, it later went through a series of ownerships and various names, "Minas Prietas", and "Creston Colorado Mining Company", being two of the later firms. The mines produced gold, copper and sulphur-ettes.

*Storecards and Takens - A. F. Pradeau

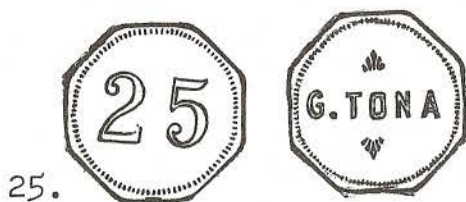


COOPERATIVA DE TRANSPORTES - NOGALES

ALUMINUM Tokens, "Good for one passage", issued by a transportation company in Nogales, Sonora. Operation of this company is now suspended.

Stevens' Collection.

G. TONA**



ALUMINUM Token, issued by Gabriel Tona, for the store at Tonichi, county of Ures, State of Sonora. This is in a mining district still in existence, but was founded in 1622 as a mission by the Jesuit, Diego Vandersipe. Other values are assumed to exist.

Pradeau Collection



NEGOCIACION DE CABORCA - BORQUEZ Y GARCIA*

BRASS Tokens, issued about 1880, by the owners, Modesto Borquez and Benigno V. Garcia, dealers in grain, flour, and operators of the "Mina Grande", which produced gold and silver. Since these tokens call for redemption in Caborca, it is assumed that they were redeemed in a store in that locale. (Caborca was the site of the Henry Crabb filibuster in 1857, which was successfully defeated by the residents). The 1 Real exists also with a brand type counterstamp, as shown, and attributed to a nearby ranch owned by Lopez Santiago.

#26 - Pradeau, Others, Stevens' Collection



LA POBLANA - MIGUEL PALAFOX, CABORCA, SONORA

NICKLE Token, issued by Miguel Palafox, merchant in Caborca, Sonora. Value 10 centavos. No historical background could be found on either store or owner. Other values probably exist.

Jose Rocha Ramos Collection



J. GARCIA DIAZ - CANANEA, SONORA

BRASS Tokens, issued by the merchant, Jose Garcia Diaz, in Cananea. This man is listed as late as 1920, as a farmer and merchant. Obverses same on both. "Good for Merchandise".

Robert Lamb, Photo - Specifics by Hal Birt, Jr.

*Store Cards and Tokens of Mexico - A. F. Pradeau

**Plus Ultra - Vol. II, No. 24.

MAQUINARIA DE LOS ANGELES - M. YNIGO*

33.



34.



BRASS Tokens, issued by Manuel Ynigo, owner and operator of the only textile plant that existed in the state of Sonora. Founded in 1834, by 3 partners, M. Ynigo, whose facsimile signature appears on the tokens, had gained full control by 1855, when the tokens were first issued. Location of the plant was at (San Miguel de) Horcasitas. The plant was dismantled and moved to Guadalajara, Jal. in 1948. TRIAL STRIKES: 1 and $\frac{1}{4}$ R's in copper, and $\frac{1}{4}$ R in white metal.

Stevens' Collection

FELIPE SALIDO



35.



36.

BRASS Tokens, manufactured by Moise, San Francisco. Felipe Salido was an engineer (Architect) and a teacher. He built the City Hall of Alamos, Sonora, and the Federal Palace of Hermosillo (now occupied by Federal offices: Post Office, Telegraph, Assay Office, Collector of Customs, etc. Formerly the site of the Hermosillo Mint. Sr. Salido was a principal in the schools in Alamos and Hermosillo; was an officer in the Federal Army; graduated from the Military Academy at Chapultepec in 1884. We surmise these tokens were used for work payments on his building projects.

Same design, obverse and reverse.

Stevens' Collection.

AGUSTIN MONTEVERDE

37.



BRASS Token, "Good for one day's work, Tuesday". Tokens manufactured by L. A. Rubber Stamp Company. Research gave no hint as to the type of work for which these were payment. Since this specimen is stated for the day "Martes" (Tuesday), it is logical to assume tokens exist for other days.

Photo, Robert Lamb - Specifics, Hal Birt, Jr.

QUITOVAQUITA - "EN LA TIENDA"**

(In the store)

38.



39.



ALUMINUM Tokens, an official Mexican Dept. of Agriculture map and an old map from the National Geographic Society Show Quitovaquita in Sonora, between San Luis R.C. and Sonoyta. This varies with some books whose authors place it in Arizona. The denominations being in Mexican funds adds further evidence that the store was in Mexico.

#38 - José Rocha Ramos Collection

#39 - Stevens' Collection

*Storecards and Tokens of Mexico - Pradeau

** Plus Ultra Vol. II - #16 Page 4



40.

VOLANTIN DE HERMOSILLO - R. J. CASTRO

BRASS Token, manufactured by L. H. Moise, S.F. "UN BOLADO" = one ride. "VOLANTIN" usually attributed to a "Merry-go-round".

Hubbard Collection - Also Hal Birt, Jr.



41.



42.

TIENDA DE NACOSARI

LEAD Token, issued for use in the store at Nacozari, Sonora, in the county of Moctezuma, N.E. part of the state (south of Douglas, Ariz.) with which it is connected by a railroad 125 km. long, built in 1900. The Moctezuma Copper Co. was active here and it is assumed that these tokens were issued by them. (Town name is spelled with an "s", although current maps give the spelling with a "z").

#41 - Courtesy of Hal Birt, Jr.

#42 - Anonymous - Rubbing



43.

HACIENDA BACOBAMPO - IDELFONSO SALIDO

ALUMINUM Token, value "UN BOTE". Name of owner misspelled, should be ILDEFONSO, who resided in Alamos and in 1906 brought into the Portal City the first auto, a red, two-seater Reo. He was alive and registered to 1912, but in the records of 1920-22, the property is listed in the name of Ildefonso Salido Sucesores (Successors). The Hacienda is in the county of Navojoa, municipality of Etchojoa, it produced corn, wheat, garbanzo, also jerky, lard, hides, cows, pigs, horses, sheep and goats. Slaughtering the cattle produced tallow, used for candle making. UN BOTE - a term used for a cannister or can, probably referred to large containers of lard or tallow. Cattle brand registered → 2-I

Stevens' Collection

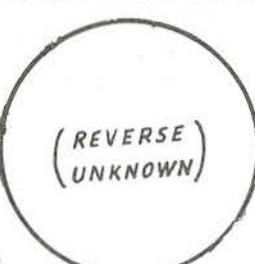


44.

CERVECERIA DE SONORA - (HERMOSILLO BREWERY)

Token of unknown metal. Drawings made from restrikes of dies from L.A. Rubber Stamp Co. Supplied by Harold Schmal. Tokens were given to employees for a container of beer with their lunch.

Information by José Carreno - Hermosillo



45.

HACIENDA DEL AIGAME Y REPESO - MATANZA

Metal unknown of these tokens, also the design of the reverse. Drawings made from restrike of L.A. Rubber Stamp Co. die supplied by Harold Schmal. Any information on this token will be appreciated and printed in a future issue of Plus Ultra.

LA COPA DE ORO



BRASS Token, "Good for 1.00 (peso) in liquor". A Cantina (bar) in Hermosillo, Sonora, (misspelled HERMOSILLA). Token manufactured by L. A. Rubber Stamp Company. "H" counterstamped in two areas on the specimen examined.

Sonya Morillon Collection

EL PATIO BAR, CANANEA, SONORA



BRASS Token, "Good for one selection". We assume this was used for a music box.

Photo by Robert Lamb

Submitted by Hal Birt, Jr.

Hubbard Collection

CONCORDIA CLUB, NOGALES, SONORA



BRASS Token, denomination 12½¢ suggests they were for English speaking trade. Date of issue unknown, denomination (value of 1 Real) suggests it was pre-1905.

Photo by Robert Lamb

Submitted by Hal Birt, Jr.

FLAMINGO CLUB - AGUA PRIETA, SONORA



ALUMINUM Token. This said to be a check given to "B" girls for each drink they entice customers into buying. Redeemable at end of day for 3 pesos each in lieu of wages.

Stevens' Collection

MANHATTAN CLUB, SAN LUIS, R.C.



ALUMINUM Token, uniface, no value stated. No information available.

Stevens' Collection

RAYMUNDO MURGA M. - GUAYMAS, SONORA*



BRASS Token, for "one drink". Date unknown. Guaymas, the principal seaport of Sonora.

*#17 - (Store Cards) - A. F. Pradeau