

## Inspiration for Public Art at Grant-Oracle

Influences for the public art that will be created for the Grant-Oracle intersection:

- **The Natural History:** Tucson and the Sonoran Desert - *elegant, charismatic desert plants with boldly shaped colorful blooms.*



- **Culture:** The flower is a powerful and mysterious presence in the Yoeme (Yaqui) culture of the Pascua village,



just to the southwest of the Grant-Oracle intersection. This concept has more complexity and hidden beauty than the outside observer will understand: the rest of the world might just peek in and catch a glimpse of an inner world. The idea of the flower could be presented as an abstract geometric construction rather than as an attempt at faithful reproduction of an actual specimen.

- **History:** Markers created by the first US-Mexico boundary survey in the 1850's. Found-object sculptures were placed to indicate the boundary and as way markers and indicators of progress on a journey.



Each one was unique, but similar to the others in the use of materials found in the Sonoran desert: fabric, stones, bones, sahuaro ribs, cactus skeletons.

As prominent monuments that stood out from their desert surroundings these markers relate to the idea of gateway sculptures in the Public Art Master Plan for Grant Road which recommends the placement of five gateway artworks along the project's five mile roadway.

