

500 Words
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On the other side of this lovely new coyote fence is a single family home (Legal Description: LOT 2 BLK 4 DEVARGAS HGTS #2 UNIT 2) built in the legislated Santa Fe style. It is set back from the road and is rather hard to see, but we might, here and there, catch a glimpse of faux-dobe with turquoise painted trim.

That is of course, if we could see through the fence by squinting between the, lovely, new, cedar posts.

In the front yard, between the house and the fence, are a number of small trees typical to the region, mostly piñon and juniper, or PJ for short, as well as an assortment of smaller bushes and plants.

Directly beyond this fence is a standard two car garage, which has, as have most post-modern garages, been converted to storage. A walkway to the home's entrance, lined with various knick-knacks, extends along the left side of the garage. But we can't see any of that forest for the trees blocking the view.

Scanning from left to right, the first thing we see is the driveway with a gravel parking area for one or two vehicles. Next, in the distance, is a large piñón tree backed by more of its kind. On this side of the driveway is a slightly smaller piñón, and between the branches of this tree one can often see portions of the *Axle Contemporary* art-truck parked in front of the garage. Moving further to the right, the smaller piñón dissolves into some miscellaneous brush, including a variety of hardy bulb, leading to an older coyote fence along the eastern border of the property. Towards the back along this second fence, are some abandoned sculptural elements awaiting revival. All across the background there is more PJ. Always more.

The ground just on the other side of this fence sports some native grasses, twigs, and the usual assortment of rocks, dirt, and debris. Shortly after the recent fence construction there were also a number of spare cedar poles stacked between the tree and fence, but these may have been removed in the interim.

At one time, behind the trees on the left, beyond the driveway, there was a lawn chair covered by a colorful local blanket, but it is very hard to make out through the branches and it may, also, have been removed by now.

Robert Frost's 1914 poem "The Mending Wall" is credited with the phrase, "Good fences make good neighbors," however the general consensus is that he was poking fun at the idea since the construction and maintenance of fences -- except perhaps those which function to contain domestic animals -- often puts more stress on neighborly relations than necessary. According to the homework-help section of enotes.com: "The primary theme [of the poem] is the arbitrary separations that humans create between themselves."

Whether or not it is relevant to this, lovely, fence is not really for us to decide.