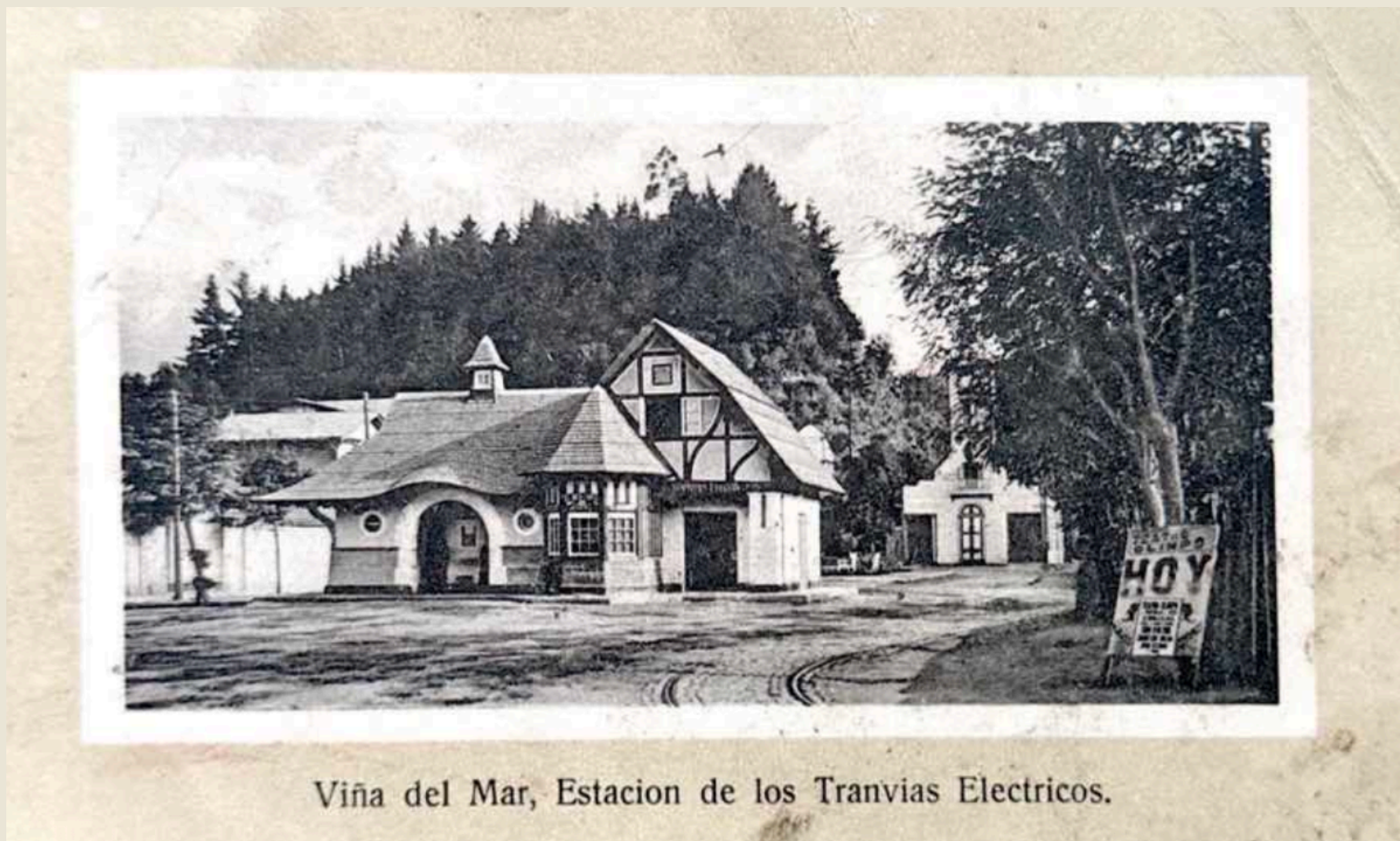


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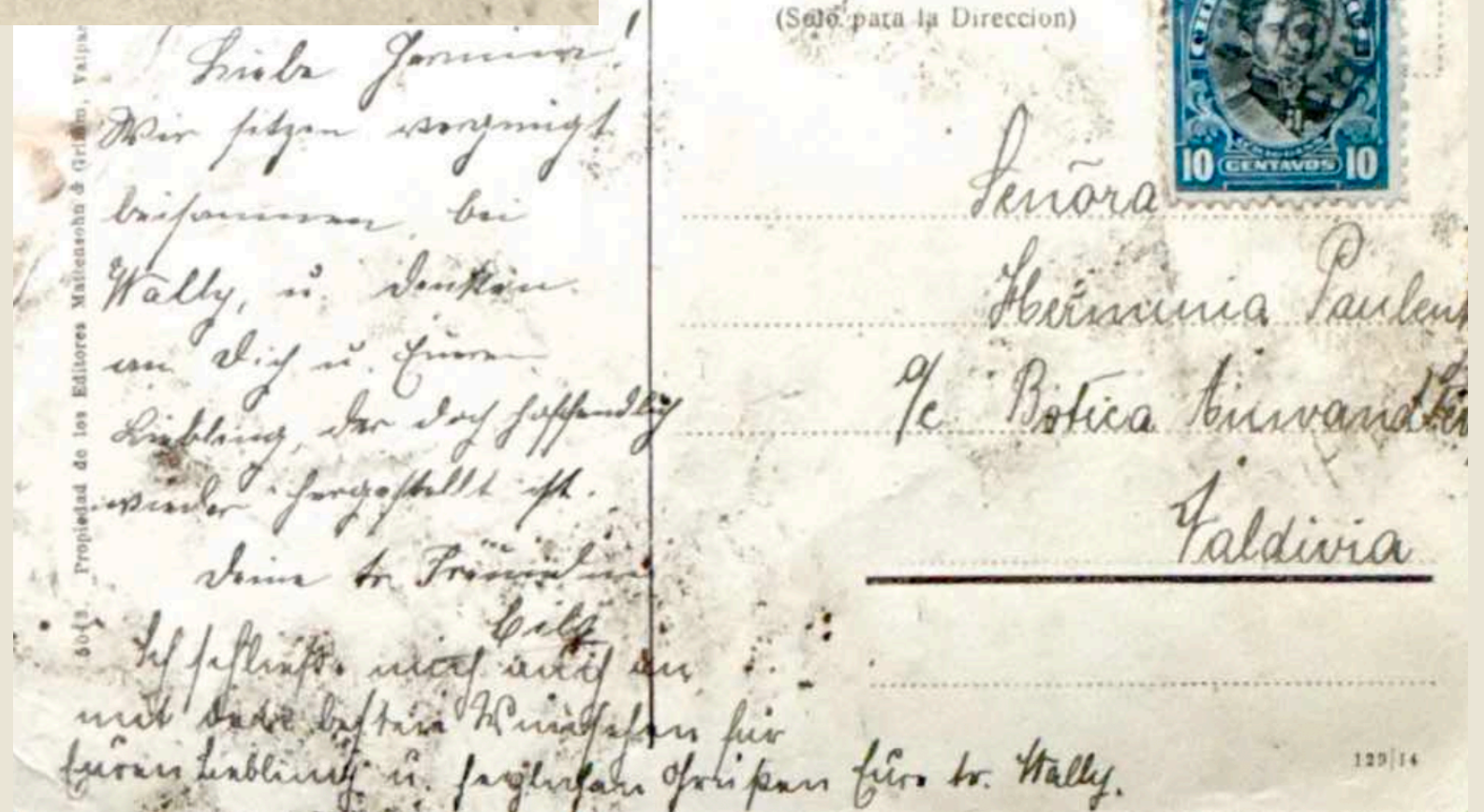
# LETTERS IN TRANSIT: UTILIZING FAMILY LETTERS FOR MIGRATION HISTORIES



Viña del Mar, Estacion de los Tranvias Electricos.

TUESDAY  
MAY 26TH  
2:30 PM

BUNCHE 6275  
CONFERENCE ROOM  
AND ON ZOOM



PRESENTED BY

LUCIA ALVAREZ 2<sup>ND</sup> YEAR EUROPE FIELD

Letters as a source base for framing migrants and their experiences provide an intimate perspective on the fluidity of their movement and the precarity of their situations. In this presentation, I will trace the utilization of family letters for framing a transnational narrative in historical research, drawing from previous historical literature on letters. I will contextualize these methods for letters between a German-Chilean family in West Germany and Chile -1960s to 1980s-, to posit how letter-writing reveals and expands the networks migrants formed and sustained. Presenting the possibilities of leveraging family letters, underscores the prevalence of serial migration obscuring national identities and origins. These snapshots of movement reveal overlooked social and cultural dynamics in migration patterns between Germany and Latin America. This will be a preliminary presentation for a virtual symposium at the Berlin Ibero-Americanische Institut in June.