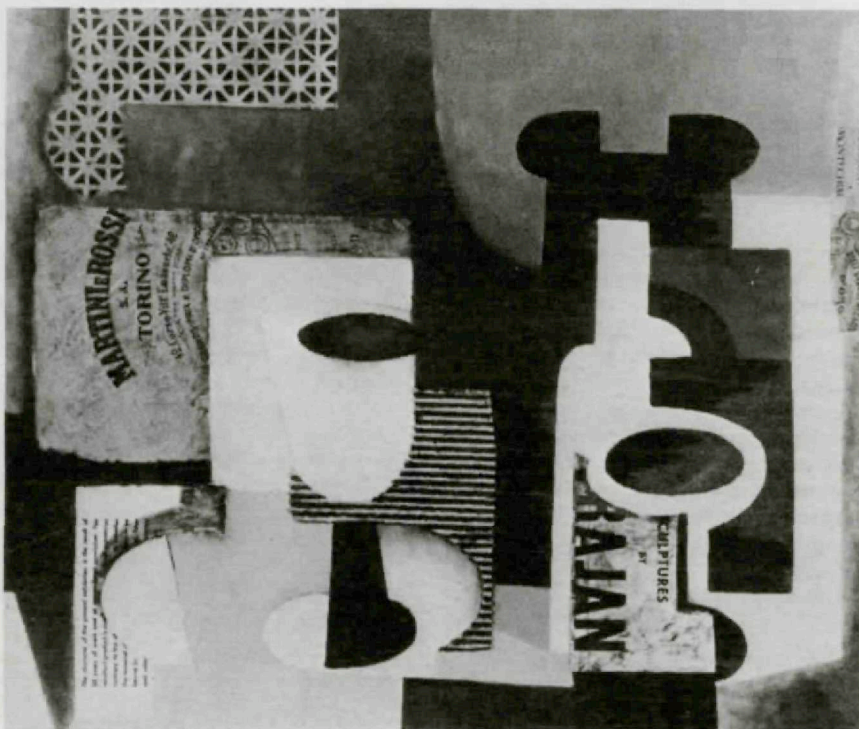


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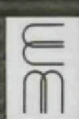
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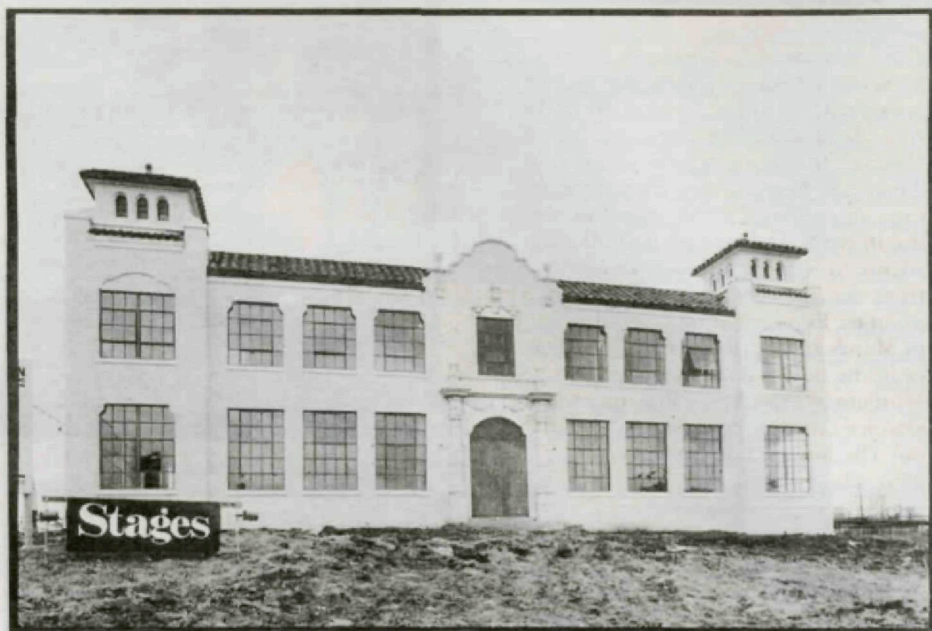
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Star Engraving Company Building, 1930, R.D. Steele, architect (Photo by Paul Hester)

A Rising Star for Stages

Along Allen Parkway are three prime examples of Spanish Colonial Revival style architecture: the Rein Company Building (1929, Howell and Thomas; renovated by Charles Tapley Associates in 1975 as the Mainland Savings Building), the Gulf Publishing Building (1928, Hedrick and Gottlieb), and a revitalized Star Engraving Building (1930, R. D. Steele). The latter, a long-dormant structure, now houses two theaters for Stages (W. O. Neuhaus Associates) and the architectural offices of W. O. Neuhaus Associates and Charles Keith and Associates. Later this spring, it will also house the Houston Children's Museum (Gensler and Associates). Raymond Hill, chairman of Mainland Savings, hopes that the Mainland Building and Development group's backing of the Star Engraving project will be the catalyst in their development of a mixed-use area. Mainland Savings is moving part of its offices across Rosine Street from Star Engraving to the Bayou Building (1955, Koetter and Tharp; currently being renovated by Charles Keith

and Associates). Also in the area is Appleseed Park, a children's creative alternate learning center, and plans are being developed for a landscaped plaza and fountain to the north of Star Engraving, as well as the adaptive re-use of an adjacent warehouse/factory to a gallery, office, and restaurant complex.

In 1929, this area was dubbed the "crafts district" by *Civics for Houston* magazine. Buffalo Drive, now Allen Parkway, had just been completed. Various civic improvement plans (see *HindCite*, page 26) had stressed the importance of developing Houston's bayous as parks and landscaped roadways; Buffalo Drive was one of the few built examples of this proposal. Coincidentally, this new route to downtown spared residents of the recently opened subdivision of River Oaks the stoplights and unaesthetic aspects of West Dallas Street and the Fourth Ward. It is encouraging to see a revival of interest and a wide variety of projects beginning in this area. The intriguing notion of a "crafts district" may become a reality after almost 60 years.

Christopher Lappala

RDA Spring Features

The Rice Design Alliance will present a five-part series of public lectures during March and April called "Gardens." Featured will be Ellen Samuels, speaking on "The American Garden" (13 March); David Coffin on "The Italian and English Garden" (20 March); Deborah Nevins on "The English Garden: Picturesque and Arts and Crafts" (27 March); Hamilton Hazelhurst on "The French Garden" (3 April); and Maggie Keswick on "The Chinese Garden" (10 April). The series is organized by Karl Laurence Kilian and Lorraine Wild. All lectures will be held in the Brown Auditorium of The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston at 8 PM. Admission fee charged; reservations recommended.

On Wednesday, 1 May, the Rice Design Alliance will present a public symposium, topic to be announced, organized by Andrew John Rudnick. This will take place in the Brown Auditorium of The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston at 7 PM. Admission charged; reservations recommended.

In cooperation with IES Travel Group the Rice Design Alliance is organizing a four-day architectural tour of Newport, Rhode Island between 6 and 9 June. By special arrangement, several privately owned "cottages" will be open to participants, in addition to the museums of Ocean Drive and the 18th-century town center. Tour limited to 40 people.

For more information on any of these programs, call the Rice Design Alliance at 713/524-6297.



MFA Screens "City" Films

The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston is presenting a series of films this spring organized by Phillip Lopate. Called "Starring Metropolis: The City as Hero and Villain," the series includes 22 films by American, Japanese, and European directors, all grounded in the experience of living in cities. These range from 1920s silents to recently released films and range from fiction to documentaries to city symphonies. Films are shown on all Sundays in March and April (except 7 April) at 7 PM in the Brown Auditorium of The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. Admission fee charged. For more information, call The Museum of Fine Arts at 713/526-1361.

School Notes

This spring Houston-area architecture schools will present a number of public events on architectural design and theory.

The University of Houston has in progress a three-month-long series of lectures, symposiums, and exhibitions called "After the Avant-Garde." The College of Architecture's contribution is an exhibition, "Avant-Garde Architecture: Chamber Work - Architecture and Theater 1985," on display at the Lawndale Art Alternative, 5600 Hillman, through 15 March. In connection with the exhibition Daniel Libeskind will speak on Saturday, 9 March, at 7 PM. For more information, telephone the College of Architecture at 713/749-1187.

The College of Architecture also will stage a four-part History Lecture Series beginning in March. Entitled "Architecture and Poesis," it will feature Alberto Pérez-Gómez, Werner Oechslin, Mark Schneider, and Ben Nicholson. For information on dates, times, and locations, telephone the College of Architecture at 713/749-1187.

Inaugurating the Cullinan Visiting Professorship at the School of Architecture at Rice University will be Kenneth Frampton. Frampton will deliver four specially commissioned lectures on "The Rise of the Tectonic," focusing on the work of Auguste Perret, Louis I. Kahn, and Jørn Utzon. Lectures will be in early March, early April, and early May. For information on dates, times, and locations, telephone the School of Architecture at 713/527-4870.

The Farish Gallery of the Rice School of Architecture will exhibit "Chicago and New York: More Than a Century of Architectural Interaction" through 31 March. Containing architectural drawings, photographs, and fragments from the collections of The Chicago Art Institute and The New-York Historical Society, "Chicago and New York" examines the exchange of ideas and personalities between these two centers of American architectural development. The Farish Gallery is located in Anderson Hall on the campus of Rice University. Hours are noon to 5 PM daily. Admission free.

At Texas A&M University, the College of Architecture and Environmental Design will present a day-long symposium called "Putting Modernism in Place." Participants are Reima Pietilä, Stanford Anderson, Juan Pablo Bonta, and Malcolm Quantrell. The symposium is scheduled for Friday, 29 March, at the College of Architecture and Environmental Design on the Texas A&M campus at College Station. Hours are 9 AM-5 PM. For more information, telephone the college at 409/845-1015.

AIA Home Tour

The Houston Chapter of the American Institute of Architects will sponsor "Celebration of Architecture: Home Tour 1985" on Saturday and Sunday, 4 and 5 May. The work of six Houston architects will be open to the public. Included will be new houses and townhouses as well as remodeled dwellings. Preceding the tour will be a seminar on residential architecture, to be held at the Houston Design Center in Greenway Plaza from 10 AM to 12 noon on Saturday, 4 May. Admission charged for both tour and seminar. For more information, telephone the AIA at 713/520-8125.

Bread—and—Butter Improvements: A Courthouse Beautification

During the latter half of 1984, the Harris County government had the SWA Group, landscape architects located in Houston, examine existing conditions and propose initial and long-range improvements for the 16 downtown blocks surrounding the Harris County Courthouse. Much of the land is owned directly by the county and includes the sites occupied by the new county jail, various courthouse annexes, the family law center, administration building, and criminal courts building. This area, bounded by Main to the west, Austin to the east, Preston to the south, and Commerce to the north, is in a state of disrepair. Since much of it is covered by parking lots, it is not inviting to the thousands of users who work or have business in the area.

El Franco Lee, county commissioner for Precinct 1, which includes the courthouse district, described the proposed upgrading of the area as "bread-and-butter improvements" when he introduced John Cutler of the SWA Group to the Downtown Houston Association on 10 January 1984. Cutler presented an analysis of existing conditions and a two-phased plan for improving the amenities of the area.

In the first phase, street trees will be planted adjacent to county properties, sidewalks repaired (or added where none now exist near the county jail), more matched trash cans and benches provided, and area signing coordinated. The second phase of the project elaborates upon these "ideas" with the further suggestion that Congress Avenue be transformed into a four-block linear park. One important aspect of the plan, the saving and restoration of the historic Pillor Building, is tenuous at best as the county only marginally supports efforts to save the structure.

What these "common sense" improvements did not address was the issue of the symbolic placement of the Harris County Courthouse. For instance, the notion of a linear park along Congress is in clear violation of the concept of the traditional central courthouse square used in this state for the last 150 years. While the landscape architects' mandate was no doubt extremely limited by the county, the plan as presented appeared limited in its understanding of the past and its vision of the future. The county, while necessarily prudent in its expenditure of funds, does occupy a central historic area. The plan should be broader in scope even if current economics make quick implementation of all aspects unlikely.

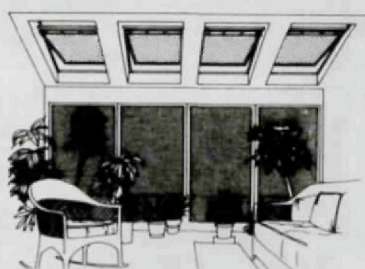
These first efforts should not be belittled; they are a start in the right direction. Unfortunately, the evident desire that these improvements will change the character of the area is doubtful. The improvements will not affect the unsavory aspects of a large jail and the transient nature of much of the business (i.e., license renewals) which bring people into the area. If the ultimate goal is to make the area attractive, more uses, such as retail and entertainment, must be encouraged to augment the existing activities. People who would otherwise never enter the district must be given reasons to come.

Opportunities are indeed available for meaningful place-making in the area, both in a historical and contemporary sense. In undertaking these initial improvements and setting the course for long-range plans, Daniel Burnham's statement is again relevant: "Make no little plans. They have no magic to stir man's blood and probably themselves will not be realized."

John Kaliski

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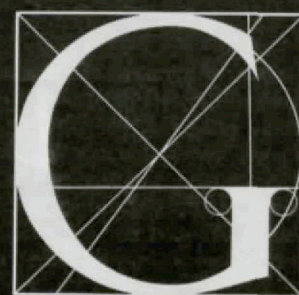
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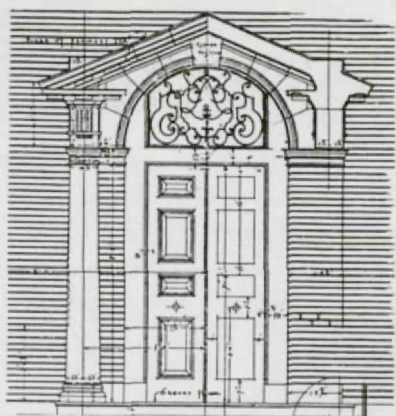
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Beauty and the Billboard: Whitmire's State of the City



Billboards and signs along Westheimer
(Photo by Paul Hester)

On 14 January 1985, Houston Mayor Kathy Whitmire presented the annual "State of the City" address to the sponsoring Houston Chamber of Commerce. While much of the attention of the news media focused on whether the mayor would mention the then-upcoming jobs discrimination referendum, buried beneath all the rhetoric was a litany of recent accomplishments and future plans that ultimately will affect Houstonians of all lifestyles.

Announcements of groundbreaking of the past year and those scheduled for 1985 were emphasized in the mayor's talk. During 1984 the first of four police command stations were started, and Metro opened transit centers, park-and-ride lots, and completed work on the Katy and North transitways. Improvements at Hobby Airport were completed and work was begun on another runway at Houston Intercontinental Airport. The Mayor promised seriously to consider the establishment of a fourth airport on the far west side of town while trumpeting the establishment of the 10,500-acre Cullen Park in the same general vicinity.

The mayor suggested that for most Houstonians the major accomplishment of 1984 was the passage of the \$595-million Capitol Improvements Program (CIP). Whitmire claimed that the CIP was, in effect, a "five-year planning program" for a city famous for a lack of public planning. She attributed the voter's acceptance of this measure to the thoughtful participation of people from all walks of life, community organizations, and the city council.

Although the press noted mainly Whitmire's platitudes against prejudice, planning was, in fact, Whitmire's major theme. The mayor acknowledged the founding of the Houston Economic Development Council, with Stuart Orton as president, as a crucial support group in partnership with the city to evaluate Houston, inform people and industries outside of Houston about the city's strong points, devise and implement strategies to diversify the economy, and promote international trade. The hope is that the Houston business community will recognize their own self-interests and publically cooperate (i.e., no more smoke-filled back rooms) and help establish priorities for Houston's future.

The mayor waited until the end of her speech to mention two of the more significant groundbreakings of the last six months. The George R. Brown Convention Center and Wortham Theater Center,

both located downtown, figure prominently in Whitmire's stated goal of encouraging Houston's emergence as a major center for the arts.

Jack Rains, chief executive officer of 3D/International and vice chairman of the chamber, also addressed the assembly on the issue of planning for Houston. He spoke of the need for grass-roots involvement to establish a regional agenda for growth. While Rains's comments were directed more towards policies which engender growth and create jobs, he did comment upon two areas of concern to the chamber which affect the physical shape of Houston. The first is the necessity for Houston to maintain its right to annex new areas of growth in the five-county area, thereby ensuring the city's economic viability in years to come. The second area of concern is the control of "visual pollution," or billboards.

In her address, the mayor's description of the same dilemma of civic messiness was a call for the "improvement of public amenities." She spoke of the need to defend the city's billboard-control legislation in the state legislature and then announced the creation of city-run trash depository sites for heavy refuse. Both the mayor and the chamber want to clean up Houston.

This reporter was cheered by the talk of the need for public beauty. While outsiders are consistently impressed with the vitality and even cleanliness (disregard the billboards) of Houston, few ever leave the city describing it as beautiful. Yet one wonders if the control of billboards is the issue at all. If there were no billboards in Houston would the city really be more attractive? While the control of billboards is a laudible goal, Houstonians need to better define the city's beauty. Just as the city cooperates with the private sector to achieve social and economic goals, the definitions and interrelations of the latter with regard to beauty need to be discussed, rather than assumed, with public and design professionals alike.

Whitmire's and the chamber's ambitious plans for Houston are an admirable beginning. Yet if Houston is to be a well-planned and beautiful city, the tearing down of billboards and the planting of trees is not enough. In addition to these first steps all Houstonians need to join in the debate about how they want their city to look and to feel. No sure answers exist in this quest except that beauty is difficult to define, harder to regulate, and that Houston, whatever it is, should be uniquely Houston.

John Kaliski

Citelines

Preservation Update

At the end of January, the Freedmen's Town Historic District in the Fourth Ward was listed in the National Register of Historic Places (see "A Fourth Ward Overview," *Cite*, Winter 1984). Designation of the 42-block district had been sought by the Freedmen's Town Association, a neighborhood organization. Its purpose was to secure official recognition of the area's historical significance and to deflect plans by the City of Houston's Planning and Development Department and the Fourth Ward Property Owners Association, representing owners of 85 percent of the land in the neighborhood, to raze all but six blocks of the Fourth Ward and offer the cleared property for redevelopment. The listing, which can be legally challenged by property owners, complicates the city's plan to use federal funds to clear the neighborhood and relocate present residents, most of whom are renters. Efraim S. Garcia, Director of Planning and Development, has proposed that the obstacle of federally-mandated environmental review procedures might be circumvented by creating an in-town utility district. This would allow a real-estate developer to sell bonds to finance the infrastructure improvements that are a prerequisite to any redevelopment in the Fourth Ward. The bonds would be retired by taxing subsequent purchasers of the improved property.

The decade-long battle to preserve the Pillot Building (see "Easement Down the Road - Good News for Preservation?" *Cite*, Fall 1983) shows no signs of abating. On 10 December 1984, Harris County Judge Jon Lindsay went before the Texas Antiquities Committee in Austin to request that it permit the demolition of the 127-year-old building, located at the corner of Congress and Fannin, adjacent to the Harris County Administration

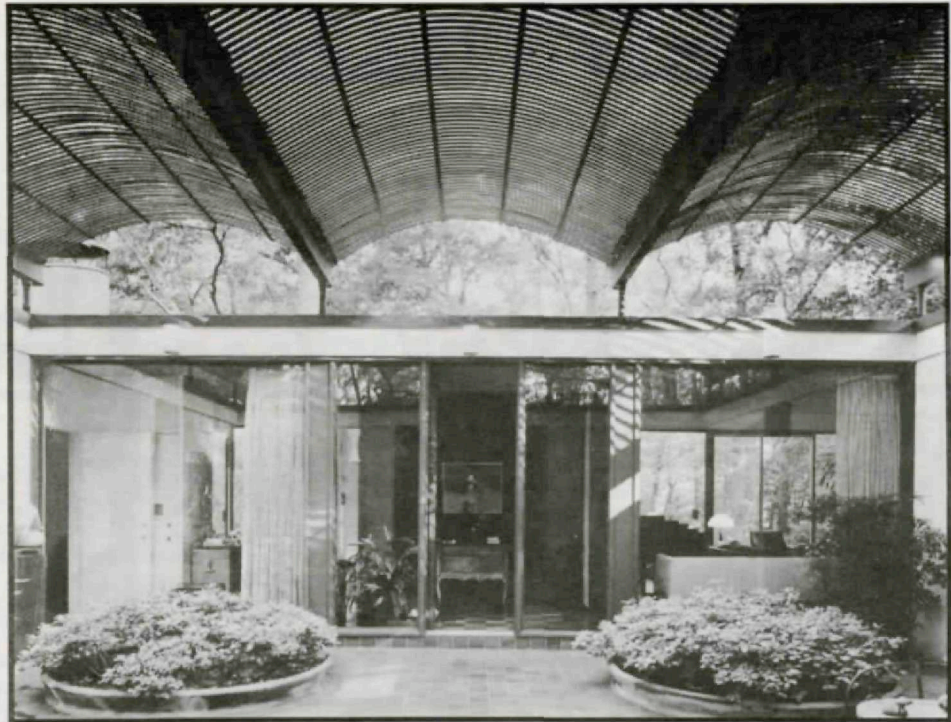
Building, and owned by Harris County since 1974. Because the Pillot Building is a publicly owned State Archeological Landmark, the county is required legally to obtain permission from the Antiquities Committee to demolish it. Among those who appeared to oppose the request was Beverly Pennington, president of the Greater Houston Preservation Alliance, which has led the fight to save and restore the three-story Pillot Building. Mrs. Pennington presented committee members with a report compiled by the Preservation Alliance documenting in detail the neglect to which the Pillot Building has been subject since it was acquired by the county.

The Antiquities Committee deferred its response until 21 January 1985 when it affirmed an agreement giving the Harris County Commissioners Court until 21 May to accept a proposal to rehabilitate the Pillot Building by a private developer. If a developer is not found by that time, the Antiquities Committee will consent to the demolition of the Pillot Building. The agreement, secured by Houston architect Harry A. Golemon, chairman-elect of the Texas Historical Commission, was the result of intensive, behind-the-scenes negotiation with Judge Lindsay and the Preservation Alliance.

Good News - Bad News

Two commercial rehabilitation projects of some magnitude presently are underway. Texas Commerce Bank is carrying out a \$50 million certified rehabilitation of the Gulf Building, Houston's landmark *Art Deco* skyscraper (Sikes Jennings Kelly, architects for rehabilitation). Having had the Gulf Building listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1983, Texas Commerce Bank can qualify for a 25 percent Investment Tax Credit and 100 percent depreciation of rehabilitation expenditures because the work is being carried out according to guidelines established by the U.S. Department of the Interior. The rehabilitation of the Gulf Building is one of the biggest tax-act projects in the United States.

Arnold Development Company of Dallas expects to open El Mercado del Sol on 5 May in the former Lottman-Myers



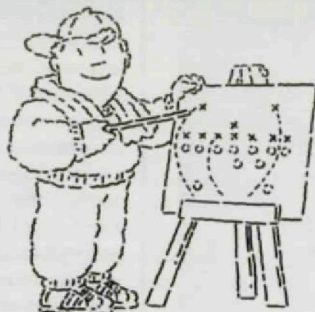
Cullinan House, 1953, Cowell and Neuhaus, architects; demolished 1984 (Photo by Paul Hester)

Manufacturing Company buildings (1904 and 1923), a complex of masonry and concrete industrial structures. Located on a prime 16-acre site on Buffalo Bayou at Runnels and Lottman streets, the Mercado will contain 400,000 square feet of retail lease space. The Mercado's Hispanic theme is intended to attract both neighborhood and city-wide shoppers. The rehabilitation of the Lottman-Myers complex (PDR, architects for rehabilitation) is the first in a series of neighborhood improvement projects planned by the city's Department of Planning and Development and encouraged by long-term, low-interest loans from the city's Community Development block grant funds. A second project, now underway, was to rehabilitate the former Sears, Roebuck and Company building at Harrisburg and 69th (1947, Kenneth Franzheim, architect). However in December, the developer, Weingarten Realty, Inc., obtained the city council's approval to demolish the low-slung, one and two-story block, faced with patterned brick and cast stone work, and replace it with a one-story building of

approximately the same size. A third project, still in the planning stage, will involve rehabilitation of Houston's first mall-type shopping center, Palms Center, at Griggs and Martin Luther King (1955, Irving R. Klein and Associates, architects).

Demolished in September and October was the Detering Lodge at 10010 Memorial Drive. Built in the 1930s by Mr. and Mrs. Carl Detering on a 300-acre estate in Spring Branch, the lodge was one of two buildings in Texas designed by Frank J. Forster, a New York architect celebrated for his romantic evocations of medieval French farm houses. In November, one of Houston's most exquisite modernist landmarks was demolished. This was the small, Miesian courthouse that Hugo V. Neuhaus, Jr. designed for Nina J. Cullinan at 3694 Willowick in River Oaks (1953). The Detering Lodge will be replaced by condominiums; the Cullinan House by a bigger, less unpretentious, single-family house.

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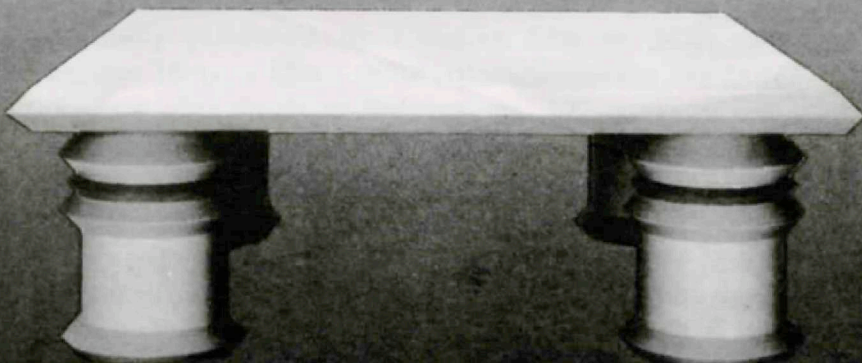
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The Woodlands: A Perfect 10?

Peter Wood

The Woodlands, George Mitchell's people place in the trees, celebrated its tenth birthday in October, much to the surprise of some critics and much to the relief of the development company (The Woodlands Corporation), Montgomery County, and the residents. With suitable fanfare - kids, balloons, pets, and parades - the celebration was quite a success. In ten years The Woodlands has grown to a population of 18,250, housed in 8,050 dwellings, with 5,600 jobs in 4,207,000 square feet of non-residential space, all of which is spread across the 25,000 acres of pine-forested terrain. But beyond numbers, how is the community really doing?

The Woodlands is a nice place to come home to but it's not yet a "real hometown" as the bumper stickers, T-shirts, and other paraphernalia would have one believe. There are plenty of churches (16), and a couple of bars. The schools are okay, but you have to ride the bus. Cops and fire fighters are friendly and fast (average response time is four to six minutes). Shopping is sporadic, except for Jamail's where you always meet someone you know. There is nothing for the teenagers - no Big Macs, Dairy Queens, Whataburgers exist within the town limits - although there are many deserted places to go parking at the end of undeveloped roads. There are 25 miles of bike-and-hike paths, bird watching, PTO, cable TV, a sense of security and safety, no big unsightly signs along the main streets, only two gas stations, no used-car lots, no junk yards, no exotic pets, and no floods. The drive to Houston ranges from 30 minutes to three-and-one-half hours, depending upon the traffic. All in all, it is a slightly atypical suburban, American community of the 1950s, '60s, '70s, and '80s.

There are some special things distinguishing The Woodlands from many other places - part is the dream, part is the reality. The dream, a city for 150,000 to 175,000 people nestled in the deep East-Texas pines, is alive and continually reinforced by the successes and survival of the community. There is little to suggest that the eventual reality of the dream is at all in question. Standards have been maintained, design controls remain in place, and the community presently thrives. Due to the craftiness of placing The Woodlands within the extraterritorial jurisdiction of the City of Houston, there is no talk of incorporation or other official, governmental moves by the residents (much to the relief of the developer).

On the reality side, many of the trees are still standing - Hurricane Alicia removed more than the homebuilders. The design controls have been more or less attended to, particularly with commercial development, while the residential controls have slipped to allow some rather distinctive colors and an occasional misplaced fence.

Recently, there was public excitement over a proposed Exxon station to be located on a corner, complete with garish lighting. After considerable uproar from residents and a number of review cycles, the station was built on the corner but is not as bad as it could have been. However, after all this careful consideration, a Mobil station popped up exhibiting most of the offensive features of the original Exxon station.

There also was a bit of a stir when moves were made to shut down the local ice-skating rink. Although an economic case



Panther Creek Village Shopping Center, 1984, David Klages, architect (Photo by Peter Wood)

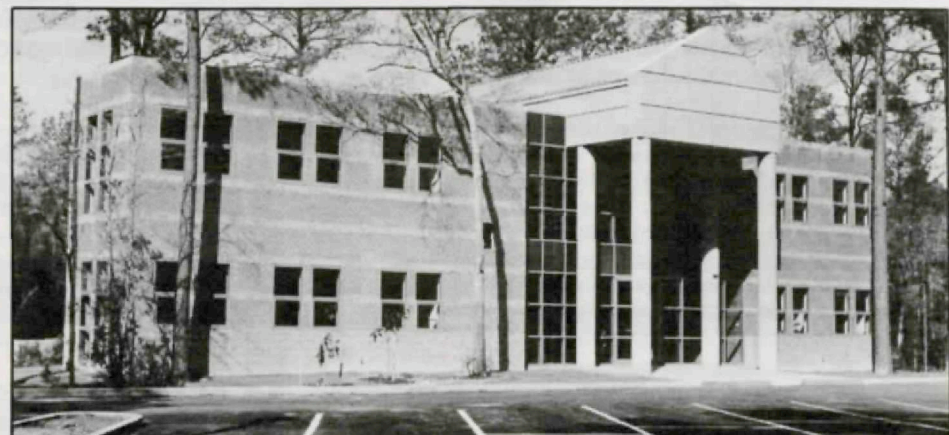
might be made for closing the old facility, it has remained one of the more enjoyable people-watching places. After some effort, the ice rink has been preserved, yet one gets the feeling that time is not on the side of its survival.

As for architectural design, things are a little confusing. There have been some fairly creative low-budget churches, but terrible school design (inside and out); some interesting, even good, housing by Scott Mitchell, and a lot of commercial stuff that both defies description and its roots in The Woodlands. For example, it's a little hard to understand the insertion of a contemporary Spanish-style village shopping center (complete with bell tower) into the East-Texas pines. One might almost think that in The Woodlands the options are limited to wrapping buildings in mirrors or digging up distilled organic designs and absolutely painting them brown.

Other pieces of the reality that are cropping up in the community in the trees are Lake Woodlands (203 acres, to be finished in 1986), a regional shopping mall (five major department stores, 1 million square feet - obviating the need for any pedestrian-oriented, hometown shopping), an amphitheater, a 5,000-acre Metro Center (which will include office developments, hotels, restaurants, and entertainment facilities), a marina, a University of Houston campus, a hospital (under construction), and a riverwalk - without the benefit of a river. This is an impressive list of goodies that might, just might, make a "real hometown."

Is there trouble in this woody paradise? Nothing major. The staying power of the developer is commendable although the dropping price of oil might at some point cause problems for The Woodlands Corporation, a subsidiary of Mitchell Energy & Development Corp. Some rules have recently been bent a little during some of Houston's tougher economic times, but some lessons were learned that should be applied in the future. One might hope that the 20-year-old plan for The Woodlands will get a thorough review sometime soon, involving the community as well as the hired experts. The original assumptions should be reviewed, lessons from the past incorporated, and the dream reinvented.

The bottom line is that The Woodlands is worth the trip up I-45. Although you may not find the ideal city, the perfect 10 that we all hoped for, things are proceeding well. Perhaps now, after ten years, is the time for The Woodlands to dream about an 11, which for this community is at least a renewed quest for a 10 without the present headaches. ■



The Water Resources Building, The Woodlands, 1985, Taft Architects, architects (Photo by Peter Wood)

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In less than two years, rowing has caught on as one of the most popular forms of home exercise — with good reason. It provides rhythmic aerobic exercise without the space needs of jogging or cycling. It exercises arms, chest, back, shoulders, legs and midriff at the same time — all the body's large muscles. It is private. It gives a complete workout faster than almost any other form of exercise. Now Vitamaster has taken a top-grade hydraulic home rowing machine and added a few clever refinements that turn it into a multi-action home gym. The MA-500 enables you to do shoulder presses, curls, bench presses, squats, arm extensions — all in addition to rowing. The result is a versatile economical exercise machine that meets the needs of the whole family. Tension settings are variable. One-twist height adjustment. Fold-up storage requires only 10" depth. The Vitamaster MA-500 costs a surprisingly reasonable **\$169.00** (\$18.95) #A1251.

ULTRA-HUMIDIFIER



Here's one of the hottest houseware products of the past decade. With good reason — the ultra-sonic humidifier does an important job extraordinarily well. It uses extremely high frequency sound waves to break up water into a mist so fine that just one tabletop unit can humidify an entire 1500 sq. ft. apartment or house. It is also ultra-safe — the vapor stream is cold (even though it looks like hot steam) so it is impossible to get a burn. It is ultra-quiet — virtually noiseless, unlike every conventional humidifier. It is ultra-portable — measures only 16" x 8½" x 12½", weighs 8½ lbs. and can be situated almost anywhere. The removable reservoir holds 1.3-gallon and is fillable at any sink. This ultra-sonic humidifier by Samsung has mist volume control for selection of mist intensity and a humidistat that automatically turns the unit on and off to maintain preselected humidity levels. Unit automatically shuts off when empty, emitting nozzle swivels 360°. Cost is **\$109.00** (\$10.95) #A1313. To keep your humidifier operating at peak levels we recommend using Humidifier Water Treatment to control mineral release into the air of your home and Humidifier Cleaner to remove any mineral deposits from your humidifier's reservoir. The set of four (2 each of the 16 oz. bottles) costs **\$12.00** (\$2.95) #A1296.

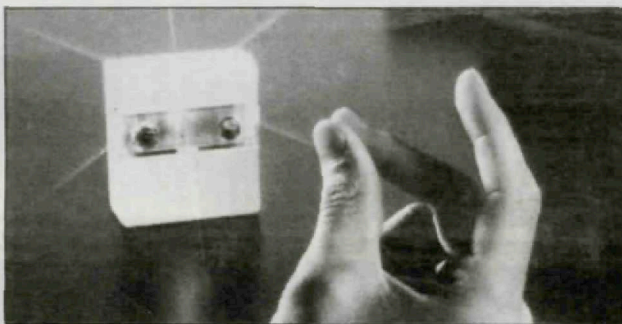
DEEP HEAT RELIEF

Heating pads and hot water bottles mainly warm the surface of the skin — their heat does not penetrate deep into muscles and joints. Infrared heat goes deep beneath the skin to reach the actual site of inflammation and discomfort. It has been used for years by doctors and therapists, in place of medication, to gain natural relief of pain. Now there is a home unit, the Infralux, that allows you to apply infrared heat yourself, as often as you like. Fast (5-10 minutes), effective relief of pain from sinus headache, arthritis, bursitis, backache, neuralgia, sprains, muscular aches and pains. Perfectly safe to use. Hi/low settings. 6" long. Plugs in normal household outlet. Comes with carry case for **\$45.00** (\$3.95) #A1175.



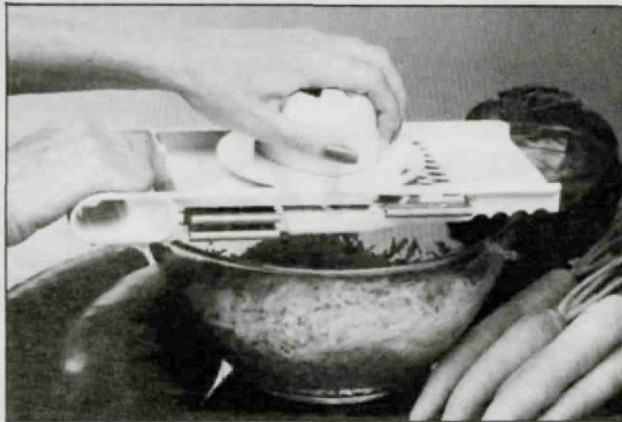
SNAP LIGHT

Snap your fingers, clap your hands — this sound-activated night light instantly rewards you with illumination. Photoelectric eye assures that light operates only at night, prolongs battery life. Single 9-v battery (not included) provides 1000 light-ups. Perfect on night table, next to telephone, near stairway, for closet, car or hotel room. Sound sensitive to 20'. Comes with double-stick tape for wall mounting. **\$10.00** (\$2.95) #A1309 each. Set of two **\$17.00** (\$3.95) #A13092. You'll never have to search for a light switch in the dark again!

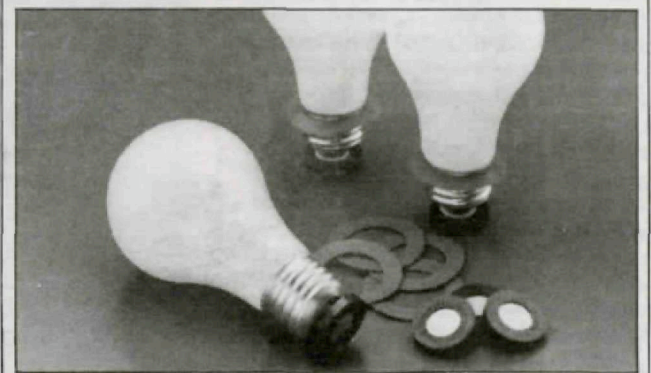


GOOD NATURED GRATER

Conventional flat and box-shaped graters have a nasty habit of abrading your knuckles — unless you are willing to waste a goodly portion of whatever you are grating so as not to risk a close encounter of the scraping kind. But waste not, wince not with the Leifheit 4-in-1 grater. A sure-grip food holder lets you work at top speed with no fear of flaying your fingers. Molded hand-grip gives sure control, indentations seat the grater securely atop bowls from 4½" to 9½" diameter. Blades are stainless steel, store right in grater frame, and provide choice of small and large shredders, medium grater, and ground-edge slicer. The unit itself is made of tough ABS plastic, dishwasher safe. Imported from West Germany. It's the first truly civilized grater we've seen. **\$19.00** (\$3.95) #A1233 each.

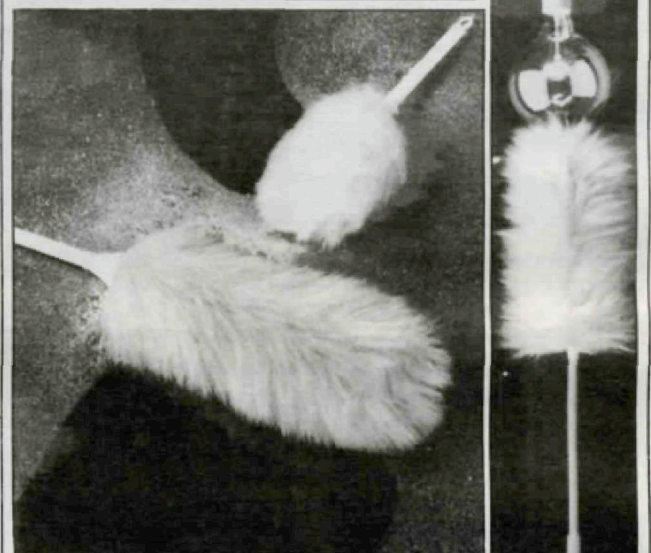


UL LIGHT BUTTONS



They are familiar household conveniences now, the little half-wave rectifier buttons that attach to the bottom of light bulbs and extend their life up to 90 times, sparing you the trouble of bulb changing for years at a stretch while you save a bundle in bulb replacement costs. But the patented Screwge Bulb Saver is one of the first to be UL-listed, meaning it has survived nearly two years of strenuous independent laboratory testing and been certified safe for home and commercial use. It provides security along with savings, safe enough even for high-temperature recessed fixtures. You'll notice that Screwge Bulb Savers reduce light output so you may want to increase bulb wattage. We are offering 4 for **\$9.00** (\$2.95) #A1318, 10 for **\$19.00** (\$2.95) #A13181 and 20 for **\$35.00** (\$3.95) #A13182. The manufacturer provides a 5-year warranty.

DUST MAGNET™



Tools for Living has introduced tens of thousands of people to the delights of lambswool dusting. The static charge in the lambswool causes dust literally to leap off surfaces. This magnetic attraction is just the thing for dusting bric-a-brac, china, crystal, pictures and other fragile items. Our dusters are imported from New Zealand where climate conditions produce the highest quality lambswool in the world! Our telescoping duster (right) extends to more than four feet — lets you reach high corners, top shelves, overhead lights. It collapses to 28" and costs **\$11.00** (\$2.95) #A1317. We offer a set of three lambswool dusters: the telescoping duster, our popular 27" long duster for everyday use and a mini-duster for extra fragile objects for **\$17.00** (\$2.95) #A1316.

ORDER INSTRUCTIONS AND GUARANTEE: We ship via United Parcel Service wherever possible to insure prompt delivery. The price of each item is shown followed by its shipping and handling charges in (). Be sure to add the item price plus shipping and handling charge for each item ordered to arrive at the total price of each item. If you are not satisfied for any reason, return the article to us within 30 days, and we'll exchange it or refund the item price, per your instructions.

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