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# Letters

## TEXAS PLACES



Cite ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN REVIEW HOUSTON

become urbanites or at least suburbanites," the whole displacement that of seemingly-eternal rural and small-town world by Webber's "non-place urban realm."

I don't think the world is ready for "New Jersey Places," but I've already begun seeing the Eastern megalopolis differently. Even here we have our equivalents of Blue Star Highway 59; as you say, you just have to look a little harder to see it.

So I thank you again for a beautiful and thoughtful piece of work that has already taught me where and how to look.

Robert Fishman  
*Professor of History*  
*Rutgers University*

### LOOKING HARDER

When I received the issue of *Cite* titled "Texas Places," my first thought was: "This issue is not for me."

But the pictures drew me in; I read the text with growing fascination, and I discovered my first thought was dead wrong. I am writing to congratulate you on one of the most impressive editorial achievements I've encountered in a long, long time.

What impresses me most about the issue is that it really achieves remarkable variety and beauty while always getting deeper into the profound themes of the small town and its loss. There is a special mix of voices in the interviews and articles that reinforces what you call "the concept of the authentic, the original." And, as a "word" person myself, I have a particular admiration for the way the wonderful black-and-white photos interact with the texts — always serving the texts, always enlarging them.

The issue has made me reflect as I really never had before on the energy that created the rural landscape and on the civic sense that make the towns into real places — only to be swallowed up or marginalized by our metropolitan regions. For example, I certainly want to search out McMurtry's Houston novels. I have written about suburbia from the perspective of people moving from ethnic urban neighborhoods to the fringe. But, as McMurtry points out in your interview, there is another story, perhaps even more significant in the larger history of this country: the movement from country to suburb, "country kids trying to

### TEXAS MOVIES

I find it remarkable that in his article in *Cite's* Texas Places issue (no. 39), Jon Schwartz makes no mention of the pioneering work of Don Graham (especially *Cowboys and Cadillacs: How Hollywood Looks at Texas*), and I want to congratulate him on his research.

Don Graham  
*English Department,*  
*University of Texas at Austin*

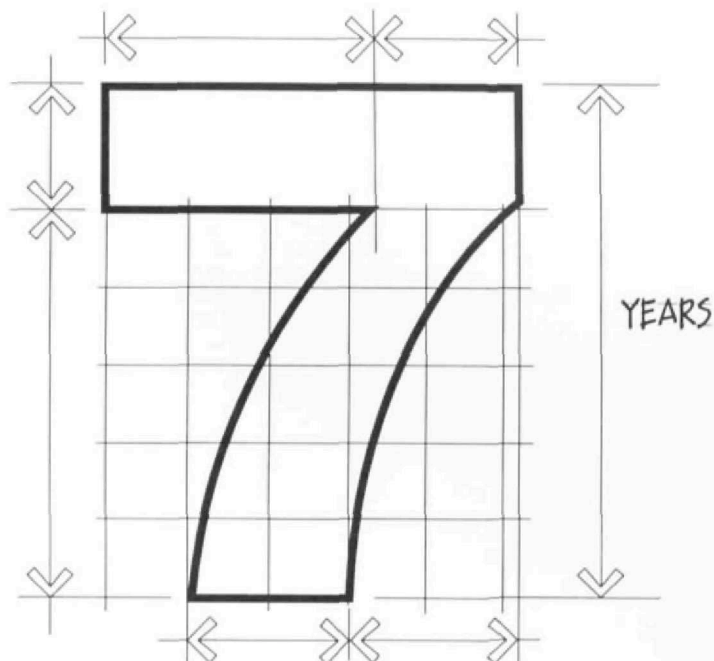
### THE FREE MARKET RULES

Rarely do we get to read true words of wisdom about Houston as a 21st-century city. Larry McMurtry's comments about Houston's strengths were wonderful for a native Houstonian to read.

Houston's success lies in the fact that we have no zoning. In addition, the fact that we can annex unincorporated population areas has kept the core of our city alive and well. The free market rules in Houston, and thus it is a people's city, not a zoning committee's plan.

Kenneth M. Williams  
*Houston*

WE'VE SPENT  
THE LAST SEVEN YEARS  
BUILDING  
THE HISTORY  
OF TOMORROW

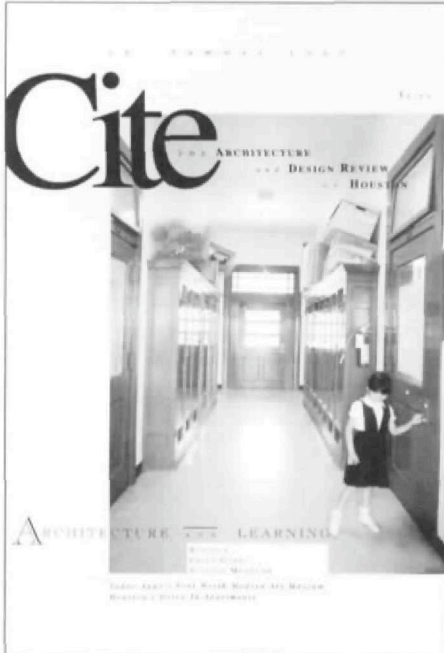


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## HISD RESPONDS

Although there were several articles of interest in *Cite* 38, I found two particularly relevant to the mission of the Houston Independent School District. The article "Houston, We Have a Problem" by Drexel Turner that outlined the beauty and history of school design shows the level of commitment toward education once held by Houstonians. As progress to becoming an international city occurred, citizens made sure that the educational marketplace kept pace. Today, there appears to be some question of our commitment. I am proud to say that HISD has made great strides in providing efficient and effective educationally associated services to the children of our city. I can only hope that we will recapture the public's trust in our ability to make

sound business decisions and perhaps garner their support for improving existing facilities as well as building much-needed new schools.

The article entitled "Eastwood Elementary" by Elisa Hernandez Skaggs, pointing to the Mission style of school construction embraced in 1916, also showed how school population growth contributes to facility expansion. Inside the article (p. 12) there is an illustration listing five occasions of adding classrooms to the original 1916 campus. Drexel Turner's article (p. 8) spoke about concerns over the number of children housed in transportable classrooms. Combined, these articles document the challenge HISD faces as we try to educate a mobile citizenry. Transportable classrooms allow us the flexibility to educate increasing enrollments in various parts of town as populations shift. It is difficult to project a need for school expansion, due to growth and demographics, when apartment complexes housing hundreds can be built so rapidly. As you know, HISD does not have the revenue to set aside enough funds for building a new school or expanding an old school to keep up with population instabilities. Thus, transportable classrooms give us an acceptable alternative.

I wish you continued success with the review of architecture, urban planning, and design. It appears that after 16 years, RDA has done much to advance the theory of educational facility planning through discussion. Your editorial contributions to the welfare of HISD are appreciated.

Rod Paige  
Superintendent of Schools, HISD

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Havelock Ellis, 1923

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# Cite

*Cite* 41 Spring: Architecture of Bryan-College Station

*Cite* 42 Summer: Summer in the City

*Cite* 43 Fall: Spiritual Spaces

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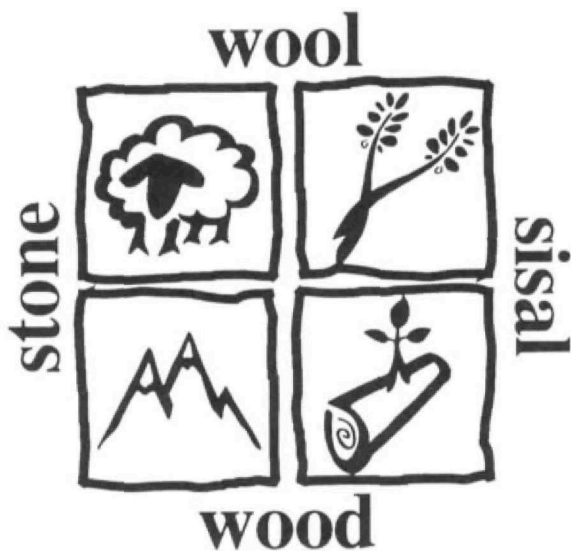


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# C A L

## RICE DESIGN ALLIANCE

### RDA LECTURES FURNITURE, FASHION, AND DESIGN

Wednesdays, March 4 through April 1  
8:00 p.m., Brown Auditorium,  
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston.  
713.527.4876.

Furniture, fashion, and design are ruled by what is temporary vs. timeless, what is useful vs. excessive, what is signed vs. anonymous. Chairs, dresses, or buildings are all similarly produced by teamwork, the use of models, and the pursuit of technological innovation. They are also consumed in similar ways through wide distribution, imitations, and constant transformation according to stylistic demands.

The architectural implications of furniture and fashion offer renewed sources of inspiration for the practice of architecture and provide designers with new resources for their education.

March 4  
MASSIMO VIGNELLI  
Principal of Vignelli Associates  
Designers, New York

March 11  
CARL MAGNUSSON  
Design director, Knoll

March 18  
RICHARD MARTIN  
Curator of costumes,  
Metropolitan Museum of Art

March 25  
GAETANO PESCE  
Furniture and industrial designer

April 1  
ANN COLEMAN,  
David & Roberta Logie curator  
of textiles and costumes,  
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

### RDA WALKING TOUR MUSEUM DISTRICT

Sunday, March 17  
2:00 p.m., Museum of Fine Arts,  
Houston, 713.527.4876.

In conjunction with FotoFest '98 the RDA is sponsoring a tour of the museum area, which contains a series of Houston's major cultural institutions grouped together in a landscaped setting of remarkable urban beauty. This tour will focus on the

planning and architectural history of the area. It will begin at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, progress along Bissonnet to the Broadacres Historic District, then return to the Cullen Sculpture Garden through the Turner Addition.

### RDA TOUR MODERN HOMECRAFT: KATHARINE & HARRY MOTT HOUSES

Saturday and Sunday, April 25 and 26  
Annual members-only tour.  
713.527.4876.

Katharine B. Mott began her career designing houses in Indianapolis in the 1920s. When she and her husband, Harry L. Mott, moved to Houston in 1927, she brought her carpenter and brickmason to maintain her high building quality. Mott, with Burns & James Architects, eventually built more than 20 houses in River Oaks, Riverside Terrace, Edgemont, and Devonshire Place. RDA will feature several of these houses on its 1998 tour.

### RDA LECTURE HOUSTON'S MOTT HOUSES

April 22, 8:00 p.m.  
STEPHEN FOX, Brown Auditorium  
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston  
713.527.4876

### FILM GAUDI

April 4, 7:30 p.m. and April 5, 2:00 p.m.  
Brown Auditorium, Museum of Fine  
Arts, Houston. 713.527.4876.

Directed by Hiroshi Teshigahara, this beautifully photographed, delicately scored (by Japanese composer Toru Takemitsu) film is a study of the cathedral that has a deliberately slow pace. An interview with Gaudi's assistant provides the only dialogue. Co-sponsored with the MFAH.

### UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON HINES COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE

### UH EXHIBITION VISIONARIES IN EXILE

January 27 through February 20  
Gallery, Gerald D. Hines College of  
Architecture, University of Houston  
713.743.2400.

# E N D A R

Interactive CD ROM presentation of the work of 19 Australian architects who emigrated to the United States before the Second World War. Sponsored by the Austrian Cultural Institute.

## UH LECTURES

Auditorium, Gerald D. Hines College of Architecture, University of Houston.  
713.743.2400.

**January 27**, 8:30 p.m.

ADOLPH STILLER, *Visionaries in Exile*

**February 5**, 6:30 p.m.

RAIMUND ABRAHAM, *Recent Work*

**February 11**, 3:15 p.m.

MERRILL ELAM, *Recent Work of Scogin, Elam & Bray*

**February 28**, 6:30 p.m.

EDWARD SHAW AND TOMAS SHAW, *Saving Salamone*

## UH EXHIBITION

### SAVING SALAMONE

**February 28 through March 21**

Gallery, Gerald D. Hines College of Architecture, University of Houston  
713.743.2400.

Photographs by Edward Shaw and Tomas Shaw of buildings by the Argentine architect Francisco Salamone (1898-1959). Organized by the Pan American Cultural Exchange. [See this issue of *Cite*, page 8.]

## UH JEFFERSON SYMPOSIUM

### JESSE H. JONES HALL

**April 16**, 7:00 p.m.

Auditorium, Gerald D. Hines College of Architecture, University of Houston.  
713.743.2400.

Charles Lawrence, design architect of Jones Hall for CRS; James Gatton, project manager for CRS; Tom Bullock, president, CRS; and Ann Holmes, fine arts critic, *Houston Chronicle* will participate in the fourth annual Jefferson Symposium sponsored by the Center for Historic Architecture, University of Houston.

## RICE SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

### RSA LECTURES

**Spring 1998**, 7:00 p.m.

Farish Gallery, 713.527.4864.

Stan Allen, Jan. 12; Aaron Betsky, Feb. 16; Sheila Kennedy, Feb. 23; Ted Krueger, Mar. 9; Sulan Kolatan, Apr. 13.

## CHINATI SYMPOSIUM

### ART and ARCHITECTURE

**April 25-26, 1998**

Chinati Foundation, Marfa, Texas  
915.729.4362

#### Speakers:

JAMES ACKERMAN,  
Professor Emeritus, Harvard University

MICHAEL BENEDIKT,  
Professor of Architecture,  
University of Texas, Austin

FRANK GEHRY, Architect, Santa Monica

JACQUES HERZOG & PIERRE DE MEURON,  
Architects, Basel

RONI HORN, Artist, New York City  
ROBERT IRWIN, Artist, San Diego

CLAES OLDENBURG &  
COOSJE VAN BRUGGEN,  
Artists, New York City

#### Moderator:

WILLIAM E. STERN,  
Architect, Houston

## In Memoriam



## Jonathan King, Hon. A. I. A.

Former partner and officer of Caudill Rowlett Scott, director of CRS's construction management subsidiary, CM Inc., and most recently director of the CRS Center at Texas A & M University, Jonathan King died at age 71 of cancer on November 19, 1997. Mr. King was born in New York City and graduated from Columbia University.

In the 1960s Mr. King was vice-president and treasurer of Educational Facilities Laboratories in New York, established by the Ford Foundation. EFL grants subsidized the first geodesic dome for school athletic facilities, the first open-space schools, the first schools with movable walls, and a broad systems development program that used economical, standardized, industrial elements to build nonstandard schools. Construction of thousands of schools throughout North America resulted from these EFL-funded innovations.

Mr. King was the author of more than 40 articles published in national journals and magazines such as the *Harvard Business Review* and *Architectural Record*. During his years at CRS he was also an adjunct professor of architecture at Rice University. From 1976 to 1986 he was professor of architecture at the University of Michigan, and he directed the Architectural Research Laboratory there until 1983. In 1992 Mr. King returned to Texas as visiting professor at Texas A & M's College of Architecture where he served until his retirement in 1996 as the first director of the CRS Center. In July 1997 he completed the manuscript *CRS: The Autobiography of an Architecture Firm, an Oral History*.

## Cite

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### The Rice Design Alliance

The Rice Design Alliance, established in 1973, is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the advancement of architecture, urban design, and the built environment in the Houston region through educational programs; the publication of *Cite*, a quarterly review of architecture and design; and active programs to initiate physical improvements. Membership in the RDA is open to the general public.

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Hi Yo

## Silver

A sellout crowd of more than 700 people, dressed in black tie and silverwear, attended the 25th anniversary celebration of the Rice Design Alliance on Friday, November 14. The annual fundraising gala, "Hi-Yo Silver," was held in the Petroleum Club of Houston on the 43rd floor of the Exxon Building. RDA president Gwen Goffe and gala chairs Jo and Jim Furr greeted the guests as they arrived upstairs to the beautiful 360-degree views of the Houston skyline. During the cocktail hour Steve Draper entertained, and a silent auction was held. A hundred items were gathered by a committee led by Cindy Toles.

Guests seated in two ballrooms danced during dinner to the music of Commercial Art and Ezra Charles and the Works. The environment, coordinated by Wynne Phelan, featured silvery table decorations with shining silver-covered programs designed by graphic artist Deborah Brochstein. Handcrafted luminarias of the Houston skyline were made from tin flashing by students at the Rice School of Architecture. For party favors, guests were given a set of cookie cutters depicting the Transco Tower, the San Jacinto Monument, and the Astrodome, designed especially for the evening by Kathy Heard.

Past presidents of the Rice Design Alliance served as an honorary committee and were each given an engraved silver medal. Past presidents attending the gala were Drexel Turner, Anne Bohnn, Bill Stern, Jim Murdaugh, Raymond Brochstein, Frank Douglas, Elizabeth Glassman (who flew in from Santa Fe), Edie Archer, Jim Furr, Jay Baker, Leslie Davidson, Barrie Scardino, Charles Maynard, and Louis Skidmore.

In its first 25 years the RDA, established in 1972 by David A. Crane, then dean of the Rice School of Architecture, has brought to Houston leading designers, critics, theorists, and planners to participate in its educational programs. Through October 1997, RDA has sponsored nearly 250 lectures, 49 panel discussions and symposia, 26 architecture tours, 16 exhibitions, 7 film series, 3 national design competitions, and 40 issues (including this one) of its award-winning publication, *Cite*.

A special 25-year award was presented posthumously to Jesse H. Jones (1874-1956). This year marks the 60th anniversary of the founding of Jones's foundation, Houston Endowment Inc., and 1998 will be the centennial of his

arrival in Houston. Jesse Jones more than any other single individual was responsible for initiating the growth and expansion that Houston has experienced throughout this century. From 1908 until the present time, his name has been synonymous with development and civic leadership, and his prophetic optimism continues to influence significant architecture and design in the city of Houston today through Houston Endowment Inc. Descendants of Jesse Jones were hosted by his great-niece, Susan Booth Keeton. Houston Endowment Inc.'s Steven Fenberg and Ann Hamilton also attended. Steven and Barrie Scardino produced trading cards picturing 25 of Jesse Jones's Houston buildings, and gala guests scrambled to collect an entire set.

The 1997 Award for Design Excellence was given to Anne Schlumberger Bohnn Brown, one of the moving forces behind the formation of an architectural culture in Houston. Through the Anchorage Foundation of Texas, which she founded and over which she presides; the Rice Design Alliance, of which she is a past president; the Orange Show Foundation; the Houston Center for Photography; Inprint; and the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Anne has given her energy and inspiration to Houston architecture.

Anne Bohnn grew up in Houston and began her architectural associations as a patron, working twice with Howard Barnstone to remodel her own residences. She moved on to a serious study of architecture, graduating from the University of Houston's College of Architecture. In 1984, with Ed Eubanks, she founded the architectural firm Eubanks/Bohnn, of which she is a principal. Interested in historic preservation since her student days, Anne was responsible in 1980 for the listing of one of Houston's epic neighborhoods, Broadacres, in the National Register of Historic Places. With her husband, architect and urbanist Peter H. Brown, Anne backed the planning initiative "Making Main Street Happen."

Through the Anchorage Foundation of Texas, Anne has been instrumental in the production of architectural guidebooks to Houston, Galveston, and San Antonio; in the inclusion of a substantial number of entries on Texas architects in the 1996 *New Handbook of Texas*; and in making it possible for innumerable visitors and journalists to receive architectural tours of Houston. Anne and the Anchorage Foundation have been a sustaining presence in the publication of *Cite: The Architecture and Design Review*

of Houston since its founding in 1982. She began a new project of the foundation in 1995 with Houston photographer Richard Payne and graphic designer Mark Judson — the Anchorage Press. Its first two books, to be released this year, will be co-published with the University of Chicago Press.

RDA president Gwen Goffe presented the award to Anne Bohnn, a handsome "Magnolia" Steuben glass bowl donated by Neiman Marcus. Anne, in turn, congratulated RDA for its continued commitment to the city, through educating the general public about the importance of design and the built environment.

Underwriting chair Tom Bellows and his committee broke all records with this year's event. More than \$265,000 were raised from table sales and the auction to support the educational programs of the Rice Design Alliance and the publication of the RDA journal, *Cite*. The RDA board of directors would like to thank all of the gala committee chairs and volunteers as well as the RDA staff for making this such a successful event. We would also like to recognize our generous underwriters and auction donors, whose contributions will help make possible the 1998 programs of the Rice Design Alliance.

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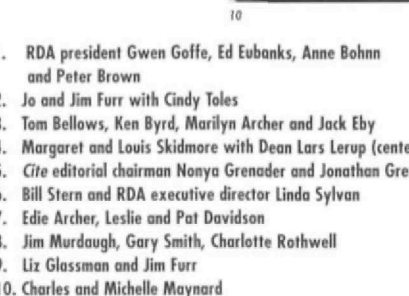
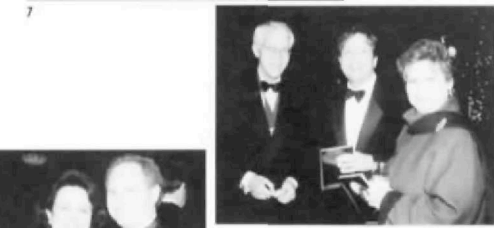
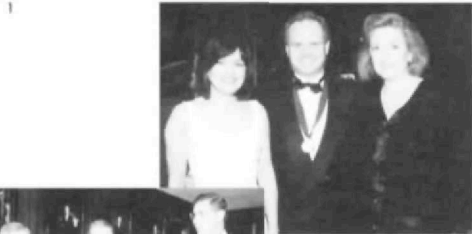
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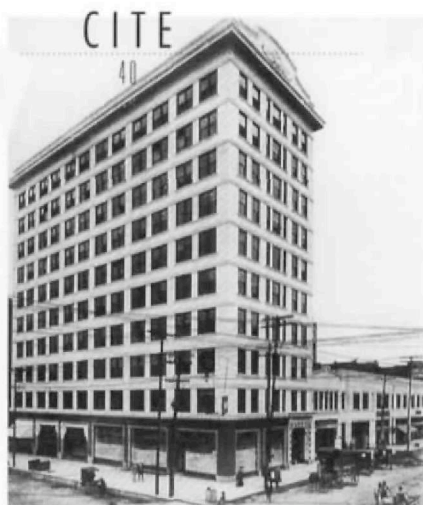
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1. RDA president Gwen Goffe, Ed Eubanks, Anne Bohnn and Peter Brown
2. Jo and Jim Furr with Cindy Toles
3. Tom Bellows, Ken Byrd, Marilyn Archer and Jack Eby
4. Margaret and Louis Skidmore with Dean Lars Lerup (center)
5. *Cite* editorial chairman Nonyo Grenader and Jonathan Grenader
6. Bill Stern and RDA executive director Linda Sylvan
7. Edie Archer, Leslie and Pat Davidson
8. Jim Murdaugh, Gary Smith, Charlotte Rothwell
9. Liz Glassman and Jim Furr
10. Charles and Michelle Maynard

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Creative Flooring Resources  
Da Camera  
Dacapo's Cafe on the Parkway  
Daily Review Cafe  
State Representative Debra Danburg  
Dr. Patrick Davidson/The Montrose Veterinary Clinic  
The Decorative Center of Houston  
DiverseWorks  
Ferenc Dreef  
Pamela Dreef  
Suzanne and Tom Dungan  
earZi's  
Elegant Additions  
Emmet Perry & Co.  
Express Theatre  
Foelber Pottery  
Stephen Fox  
Framework, Inc.  
Fresh Scents  
Jo and Jim Furr  
Hazel Ganze  
Gensler  
Elizabeth Glassman  
J. Gray Photographs  
The Gunlocke Company  
HRS Design, Inc.  
Phyllis Hand Photography  
Harding Design  
Hilary Harnischfeger  
Molly Head  
Heng-Hui Design Studio  
Hermes of Paris  
High Gloss  
Hines  
John Holt Antiques  
Houser Group, Inc.  
Houston Ballet  
Houston Grand Opera  
Houston Museum of Natural Science  
Houston Polo Club  
Houston Public Television  
Houston Symphony  
The Houstonian Hotel Club & Spa  
Katherine Howe, The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston

Kathy Huber, Houston Chronicle  
Impressions in Wood  
ITT Sheraton Luxury Collection Hotel  
George O. Jackson  
Jackson Hicks/Jackson and Company  
Jerry Jeanmard/Wells Design  
Kinko's in the Village  
Kirksey and Partners Architects  
Knoll  
La Chine Imports  
La Valerosa Restaurant  
Lancaster Hotel  
Larsen Inc.  
L'Esprit Salon in West University  
Ligne Roset  
Marshal and Victoria Lightman  
Mai's Nail Perfection  
Mark's  
Isaac Martinez  
Kaye Marvins Photography  
Maxim's Restaurant and Piano Bar  
Mayer Brown & Platt  
McGonigel's Mucky Duck Pub  
Jack Meier Gallery  
The Menil Collection  
The Moose Cafe  
Michelangelo's Italian Ristorante  
Mitchell Energy & Development Corp.  
The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston  
Nit Noi Thai Restaurant in the Village  
Norton Ditto  
Omni Houston Hotel  
The Orange Show Foundation  
Ouisie's Table  
Patty's Tea Parlor & Gift Shoppe  
Monica Pope's Boulevard Bistrot  
The Positive Image Photography  
Redwood Grill  
Restoration Hardware  
Rice Athletic Department  
Rice Media Center  
Rice University Campus Store  
Rice University School of Continuing Studies  
Rosemary & Sage Catering  
Charlotte Rothwell  
Frank Rynd  
George Sacaris Studio  
Karen Sachar Photographer  
Saint Arnold Brewing Company  
Sierra Restaurant  
Six Flags Houston  
Margaret and Louis H. Skidmore, Jr.  
Smith & Hawken  
Society for the Performing Arts, Hoyt T. Mattox  
Southampton Interiors  
Star Pizza Inc.  
Starbucks Coffee  
Francesca Stedman  
Steelcase Inc.  
Stetzel & Associates  
Trish Strangmeyer Photography  
Sunset Settings  
Surroundings  
Technical Risks, Inc. and Cameron Armstrong  
Thompson + Hanson Nursery & Garden Center  
Anya Tish Gallery  
Novalene Toles  
Travel Agency in the Park  
Treebeards on Market Square  
Anne Tucker, Curator of Photography, Museum of  
Fine Arts, Houston  
Tricia Tusa  
University of Texas Press  
Camille Waters, Heirloom Gardener  
Weingarten Realty Management Company  
Lea Whittington  
The Wyndham Warwick  
Chas. P. Young Co.

above and right: 1997 gala trading cards of  
Houston buildings developed by Jesse H. Jones.  
photos courtesy Houston Endowment Inc.