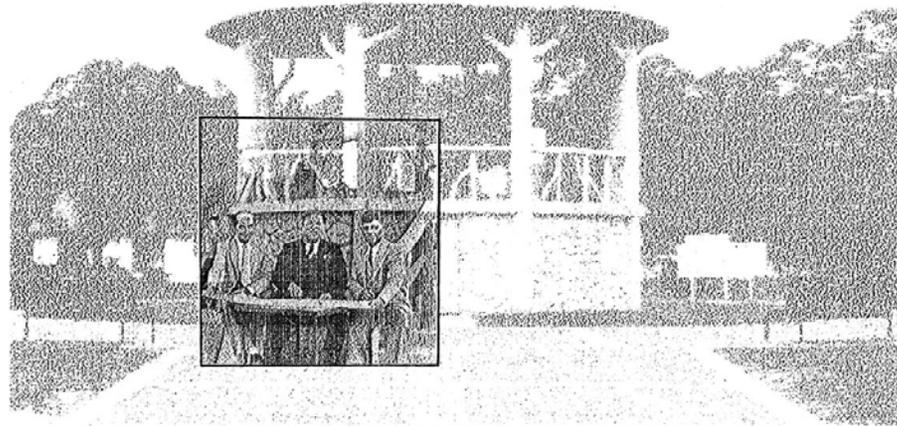


HIDALGO PARK QUIOSCO

THE QUIOSCO IN HOUSTON'S HIDALGO PARK WAS BUILT FOR USE AS A BANDSTAND AND SERVED FOR MANY YEARS AS AN ACTIVE FOCAL POINT FOR THE SURROUNDING BLUE-COLLAR MEXICAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY. AT GRADE BELOW THE ELEVATED FLOOR OF THE PAVILION IS AN ENCLOSED STORAGE SPACE. THE BUILDING IS CONSTRUCTED ENTIRELY OF REINFORCED CONCRETE. ALL EXPOSED SURFACES ARE COVERED WITH HAND-WORKED TEXTURED CONCRETE: THE EXTERIOR WALLS BEAR A STONE TEXTURE, THE FLOOR RESEMBLES WOOD PARQUETRY; THE ROOF SUGGESTS SHINGLE AND THE CEILING RESEMBLES THATCH. THE RAILING IS MADE TO IMITATE TREE BRANCHES AND THE EIGHT COLUMNS ARE FORMED LIKE TREE TRUNKS, EACH WITH A DIFFERENT BARK TEXTURE.

IN 1929, MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY BEGAN A FUND DRIVE TO BUILD THE QUIOSCO AS A GIFT TO THE CITY. THE STRUCTURE WAS SUBSEQUENTLY DESIGNED AND BUILT BY HOUSTON RESIDENT VIDAL LOZANO, AND WAS COMPLETED IN 1934. SHORTLY THEREAFTER, THE CITY INITIATED PARK IMPROVEMENTS UNDER THE DIRECTION OF KANSAS CITY LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS HARE & HARE. ALTHOUGH THE PARK LAYOUT HAS SUBSEQUENTLY CHANGED, MOST ORIGINAL TREES REMAIN. ASIDE FROM THE ADDITION OF NEW LIGHT FIXTURES AND A SENSITIVE EXTERIOR RESTORATION IN 1994, THE QUIOSCO REMAINS IN ITS ORIGINAL CONDITION.



1935 PHOTOGRAPH OF PARK DEDICATION. DESIGNER-BUILDER VIDAL LOZANO IS SEATED ON THE RIGHT

THE QUIOSCO HAS BEEN DETERMINED ELIGIBLE FOR LISTING ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER. THE BUILDING IS IMPORTANT FOR THREE REASONS: IT IS THE EARLIEST DOCUMENTED STRUCTURE IN HOUSTON DESIGNED AND BUILT BY A MEXICAN-AMERICAN; IT IS THE ONLY REMAINING HISTORIC PUBLIC STRUCTURE IN THE VICINITY OF THE PORT OF HOUSTON; AND IT IS THE BEST EXAMPLE OF TEXTURED CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION WHICH HAS ITS ORIGINS IN THE TRADITIONAL ARTS OF MEXICO.

DOCUMENTATION WAS UNDERTAKEN IN THE SUMMER OF 1997 BY GRADUATE STUDENTS MOHAMMED AL-SHARIF, BLAS ORTIZ, CARLA SHANNON, CHRISTOPHER SHAW, AIMEE ST. CYR AND DARRELL WHATLEY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON, UNDER THE DIRECTION OF JAMES P. ARNOLD WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF DAVID WAHLSTROM, J.P. M.S. AND KAREN SKAER-SOH. TOTAL STATION SURVEYING TECHNOLOGY AND DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY WERE UTILIZED IN THE FIELD AND MICROSTATION WAS USED IN THE PREPARATION OF THE FINAL DRAWINGS.

THIS PROJECT WAS ORGANIZED BY ADJUNCT PROFESSOR BARRY MOORE, FAIA, DIRECTOR OF THE CENTER FOR HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE AT THE GERALD D. HINES COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON.

THIS WORK WAS SUPPORTED BY THE CITY OF HOUSTON DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION, THE HOUSTON METROPOLITAN RESEARCH CENTER OF THE HOUSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY, THE EAST END AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, THE TEJANO ASSOCIATION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION, AND THE SUSAN VAUGHAN FOUNDATION.

HOUSTON MEXICANS TO THEIR CITY V LOZANO

INSCRIPTION FOUND ON STEPS OF "QUIOSCO"

THE CHARLES PETERSON PAPER IS AN ANNUAL STUDENT COMPETITION TO PRODUCE ALIAS BURNINGS, SPONSORED BY THE HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY OF THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE AND THE KATHLEEN LAW PRINCE FOUNDATION. THIS SET OF DRAWINGS WAS AWARDED AS MOST ORIGINAL DRAWING IN 1997.

DRAWN BY: JAMES P. ARNOLD
CENTER FOR HISTORIC ARCHITECTURE
UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON
HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HIDALGO PARK QUIOSCO
HOUSTON
HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
SERIES 1, P. 9 SHEETS
DRAWING NO. TX-3471

BY ARCHITECTS, PLEASE CHECK FOR ACCURATE ARCHITECTURAL DATA, MATERIALS AND FINISHES, AND FOR INCLUSIONS, DATE OF REPAIRS