

# Cite Survey



## Home Stretch

Since 1987, the University of Houston College of Architecture's chapter of Habitat for Humanity has helped build Habitat units sponsored and designed by others in multi-unit projects in the Fifth Ward (Brewster Street, Rawley Court), Fellowship Forest (U.S. 59 near Little York) and Woodglen. But when Habitat came into a single donated site in the East End, assistant professor David Thaddeus and his students (background in photograph) decided to design and construct a house as a class project. The class divided into five teams last fall to produce plans that were reviewed (and passed on first submission) by the Building Permit Section of the Public Works Department of the City of Houston.

The 1,200-square-foot, three-bedroom house the class built this spring at 201 Delmar is the 94th unit to be completed as a Habitat project in Houston. It was occupied on 15 May by Martina, Leyda, Tomas, and Vanessa Zavaleta (left to right in photograph), who previously rented a 400-square-foot shotgun unit in Magnolia Park.

Tomas Zavaleta, an asbestos removal worker for the Houston Independent School District and a proficient amateur carpenter, put in long hours at the site after work and on weekends. The rest of the family pitched in too, although they had already more than fulfilled their 300-hour volunteer obligation to Habitat by working on other houses. When the Zavaleta house's sponsor withdrew at the last moment, Thaddeus's fingers walked miles through the Yellow Pages, gathering donations of all kinds of building materials and services in a never-to-be-repeated frenzy. Thaddeus hopes to continue to have students design and build houses on nearby sites, only next time with a sponsor that will stay nailed down.

## Welcome Wagon

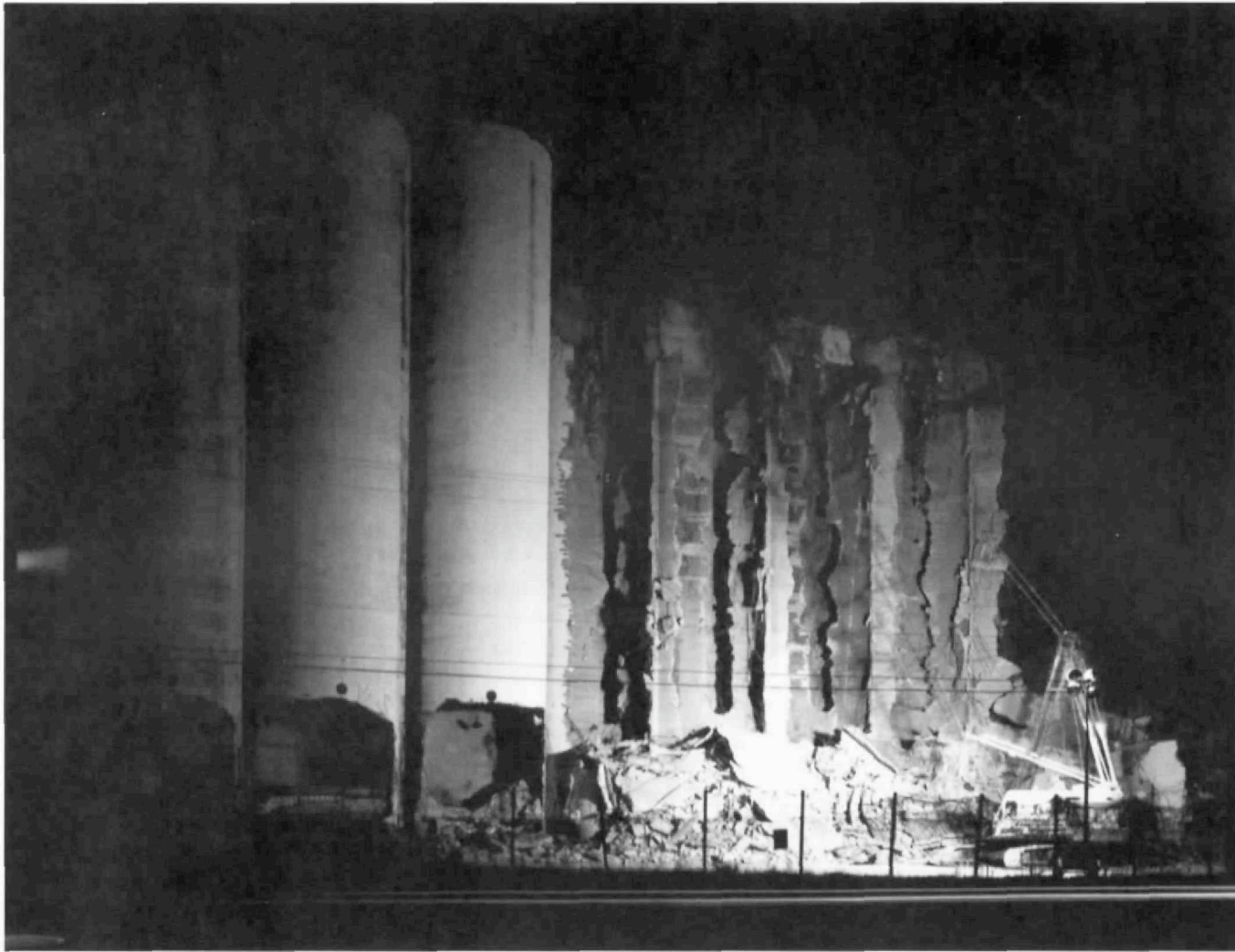
The Rialto Theater in the High Plains town of Brownfield, Texas (population 9,606 counting Joseph Carillo but not his dog Rocky), is going through a drought of its own despite the happy face painted above the marquee by Walter B. Burnett. This photograph, taken in 1994, is included in a collection of photographs of the High Plains by Peter Brown to be published next year, with an essay by Kathleen Norris, by the University of New Mexico Press.



## Soft Touch

Claes Oldenburg's 1995 lithograph of the Presidio County Courthouse in Marfa, Texas (Alfred Giles, architect, 1886) "Soft Rotating Capitol," is available for \$1,200 in a limited edition of 100 from the Chinati Foundation. Proceeds will benefit the preservation of large-scale installations by Donald Judd and other artists at the former Fort D. A. Russell near Marfa, and other programs sponsored by the foundation. For further information contact the Chinati Foundation, Marfa, TX 79843; telephone (915) 729-4362; fax (915) 729-4597.





Paul Neale & Lee Robinson © 1996

**Down and Out**

The Blue Ribbon Rice elevators at Studemont Drive and Washington Avenue, relics of the late 1950s, were demolished this spring. The pre-dawn detonation times of implosion charges were announced in the press and, in between, conventional cranes and wrecking balls chiseled away at what refused to come tumbling down at once. In ruin, the elevators were almost as impressive as when they had been intact.

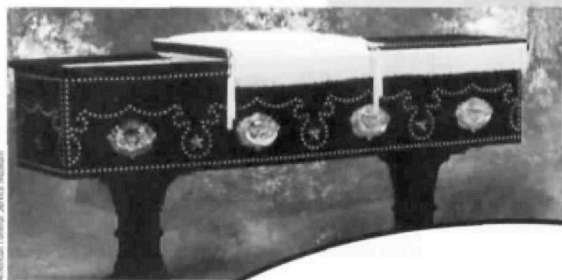
**122 M-Z MUFLERS—MUSEUMS**

CALL Swbyp's CONSUMER TIPS FOR HELPFUL INFORMATION

**Museums**

- A FS Training 415 Barren Springs-----876-9152
- AMERICAN AIRLINES INC**
- C R Smith Museum
- 4601 Hwy 360-----817 967-1560
- American Funeral Service Museum
- 415 Barren Springs-----876-3063
- Antique Car Museum The
- 505 North Loop West-----868-2243
- BAYOU BEND COLLECTION AND GARDENS** 1 Westcott-----520-2600

*Continued on next page*



American Funeral Service Museum

Houston's wide variety of museums is scattered geographically and intellectually. Yellow Page listings include such zany amusements as the American Funeral Service Museum in north Houston, with the country's largest collection of funeral memorabilia, from antique horse-drawn hearses to basket caskets.

**Museums -(Cont'd)**

- Brown Frank J Heritage Museum
- 108 Skyview-----482-7390
- CHILDREN'S MUSEUM THE**
- 1500 Binz-----522-1138
- Confederate Museum The 2740 Fm 359-----342-8787
- Contemporary Arts Museum
- General Information 5216 Montrose-----526-3129
- Daughters Of The Republic Of Texas Log House Museum The
- 1513 N MacGregor Dr-----522-0396
- Diverse Works Inc
- 1117 East Frwy-----223-8346
- Fort Bend Museum
- Program Office 500 Houston Ric-----342-6478
- Business Office 500 Houston Ric-----342-1256
- Heritage Society Museum
- Yesteryear Shop 1100 Bagby-----655-9114
- HERITAGE SOCIETY MUSEUM**
- HISTORIC HOME TOURS DAILY**
- TEA ROOM • MUSEUM • GIFT SHOP**
- 1100 Bagby-----655-1912
- Holocaust Education Center & Memorial
- Museum of Houston 2425 Fountain View---789-9898
- Houston Center For Photography
- 1441 W Alabama-----529-4755
- Houston Fire Museum 2403 Milam-----524-2526
- HOUSTON MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCE**
- Wortham IMAX Theatre, Burke Baker Planetarium
- Cockrell Butterfly Center, George Observatory
- Challenger Learning Center
- One Hermann Circle Drive-----639-4629
- Lawndale Art & Performance Center
- 4912 Main Houston-----528-5858
- Lis Palmis Ice House 7204 Wallisville-----673-2535
- Lone Star Flight Museum
- 2002 Terminal Dr
- Galveston Tx-----Apollo Tel No 480-7722
- Menil Collection-Cy Twombly Gallery
- 1519 Branard-----525-9450
- Menil Collection The
- Parking At 1515 West Alabama
- 1515 Sul Ross-----525-9400
- Military Museum Of Texas 6012 Centralcrest-957-1007
- MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS**
- 1001 Bissonnet-----639-7300
- Museum of Fine Arts 1 Westcott-----520-2600
- Museum Of Printing History 1324 W Clay-----522-4652
- Nature Discovery Center
- 7112 Newcastle-----667-6550
- Orange Show Foundation The 2402 Munger---926-6368
- Proctor Museum Of Natural Science
- 630 Uvalde-----453-8363
- Railroad Museum Of Gulf Coast Chapter
- NRHS 7390 Mesa Dr-----631-6612
- Rothko Chapel The 1409 Sul Ross-----524-9839
- Science Center-----365-4175

**Mushrooms**

**Houston Framework**

The Cultural Arts Council of Houston/Harris County has announced a new project, *Houston Framework*, funded by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, Houston Endowment Inc., the Houston Architectural Foundation, the Susan A. Vaughan Foundation, and the Fondren Foundation for a total of \$110,000.

*Houston Framework* will be a compilation of existing urban design and cultural plans. Over the course of this year, the project team will study physical and social qualities of the region, analyzing existing plans, resources, and current initiatives. Finally, this information will be organized into three broad categories: "places & linkages as catalysts," "public policy & legislation as catalysts," and "communication & education as catalysts."

CACHH executive director Marion McCollam and Jessica Cusick, director of CACHH's Public Art and Urban Design Program, will head the project. A team of consultants includes William R. Morrish and Catherine R. Brown, respectively director and coordinator of special projects at the Design Center for the American Urban Landscape of the University of Minnesota; Houston visual artist Fletcher Mackey; and landscape architect Kevin Shanley, of the SWA Group, Houston. Rafael Longoria, associate professor of architecture at the University of Houston and principal with Longoria/Peters, serves as leader of the consultant team and liaison to the CACHH board of directors, of which he is a member. *Gabriella Gutiérrez*