

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO:  
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12TH, A. D. 1939, 10:00 A. M.

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PRESENT: Honorable Maury Maverick, Mayor, presiding, and Commissioners Davis, Hein and Steffler. ABSENT: Commissioner Lipscomb.

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On motion of Commissioner Steffler, duly seconded and carried, the reading of the Minutes of the previous meeting was dispensed with and ordered approved.

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MEMORIALS AND PETITIONS

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On motion duly seconded and carried, the following petitions were read and referred to the Commissioner of Fire and Police:

- Jorrie Furniture Co. to install gasoline equipment at Quincy and San Pedro.
- Quality Tire Co. to install gasoline equipment at 212 E. Pecan St.

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Commissioner Davis introduced the following ordinance, which was read, passed and approved by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Maverick, Davis, Hein and Steffler. Nays, Lipscomb, absent.

NO. 513. AN ORDINANCE (738) *MQ-335*  
APPROPRIATING \$1,000.89 OUT OF THE POLICE & FIREMEN'S PENSION FUND TO PAY  
NOTE NO. 2 AND ACCRUED INTEREST.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Commissioners of the City of San Antonio, that, the sum of \$1,000.89, be and the same is appropriated hereby out of the Police & Firemen's Pension Fund payable to the National Bank of Commerce, San Antonio, Texas, to pay Police & Firemen's Pension Fund Note No. 2, \$1,000.00, maturing on or before June 30, 1940, and accrued interest \$.89.

PASSED AND APPROVED on the 12th day of October, 1939.

Maury Maverick  
Mayor.

ATTEST: J. J. Patterson  
City Clerk.

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Commissioner Davis introduced the following ordinance, which was read, passed and approved by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Maverick, Davis, Hein and Steffler. Nays, Lipscomb, absent.

NO. 514. AN ORDINANCE (739) - 336  
TRANSFERRING FUNDS TO THE MAYOR'S ACCOUNT - VILLITA STREET PROJECT

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO:-

1. That the sum of \$2500.00 be and the same is hereby transferred from the 1939 General Fund - Assessor's Account, to the 1939 General Fund - Mayor's Account - Villita Street Project.

2. PASSED AND APPROVED this 12th day of October, A.D. 1939.

Maury Maverick  
Mayor.

ATTEST: J. J. Patterson  
City Clerk.

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Mayor Maverick introduced the following ordinance, which was read, passed and approved by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, ~~M~~averick, Davis, Hein and Steffler. Nays, Lipscomb, absent.

NO. 515.

AN ORDINANCE (740) - *MQ-337*

APPROPRIATING \$188.90 OUT OF THE 1939 GENERAL FUND, TO REIMBURSE FIRE CHIEF C. A. HART FOR EXPENSES TO SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., AND RETURN.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Commissioners of the City of San Antonio, that, the sum of \$188.90, be and the same is appropriated out of the 1939 General Fund, payable to C. A. Hart, Fire Chief, to cover expenses account of C. A. Hart, Fire Chief, R. A. Gates, Master Mechanic, and O. W. Reitzer, Captain of the City of San Antonio Fire Department, on trip to San Francisco, Cal., and return, for the purpose of attending Annual Convention of International Association of Fire Chiefs, during the period of Sept. 14, 1939 to Sept. 25, 1939, account official City business as per expense account on file in the City Auditor's office, payable out of Fire Department Account.

PASSED AND APPROVED on the 12th day of October, 1939.

Maury Maverick  
Mayor.

ATTEST: J. J. Patterson  
City Clerk.

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Mayor Maverick introduced the following ordinance, which was read, passed and approved by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Maverick, Davis, Hein and Steffler. Nays, Lipscomb, absent.

NO. 516.

## AN ORDINANCE (741) - 338

APPROPRIATING \$103.00 OUT OF THE 1939 GENERAL FUND, PAUPER INTERMENT ACCOUNT, TO PAY FOR PAUPER BURIALS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, 1939.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Commissioners of the City of San Antonio, that, the sum of \$103.00, be and the same is appropriated hereby out of the 1939 General Fund, Pauper Interment Account, payable to Frank Cortez, Funeral Director, for burial of paupers for the month of September, 1939, as per approved bill on file in the City Auditor's Office.

PASSED AND APPROVED on the 12th day of October, 1939.

Maury Maverick  
Mayor.

ATTEST: J. J. Patterson  
City Clerk.

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Mayor Maverick introduced the following ordinance, which was read, passed and approved by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Maverick, Davis, Hein and Steffler. Nays, Lipscomb, absent.

NO. 517.

## AN ORDINANCE (742) - 339

APPROPRIATING \$4.00 OUT OF THE 1939 GENERAL FUND, HEALTH ACCOUNT, TO PAY FOR PRINTING.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Commissioners of the City of San Antonio, that, the sum of \$4.00, be and the same is appropriated hereby out of the 1939 General Fund, Health Account, payable to the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C., as per information on file in the City Auditor's Office.

PASSED AND APPROVED on the 12th day of October, 1939.

Maury Maverick  
Mayor.

ATTEST: J. J. Patterson  
City Clerk.

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Commissioner Hein introduced the following ordinance, which was read, passed and approved by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Maverick, Davis, Hein and Steffler. Nays, Lipscomb, absent.

NO. 518.

AN ORDINANCE (743) *MQ-340*

REPEALING \$8.75 OF COUNCIL APPROPRIATION NO. 367, DATED SEPTEMBER 7, 1939.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Commissioners of the City of San Antonio, that, the sum of \$8.75 of Council Appropriation No. 367, dated September 7, 1939, appropriated out of the 1939 General Fund, City Hall Building Account, be and the same is hereby repealed and the sum of \$8.75, be and the same is hereby appropriated out of the 1939 General Fund, Pioneer Building Account, payable as per Council Appropriation No. 367.

PASSED AND APPROVED on the 12th day of October, 1939.

Maury Maverick  
Mayor.

ATTEST: J. J. Patterson  
City Clerk.

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Commissioner Hein introduced the following ordinance, which was read, passed and approved by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Maverick, Davis, Hein and Steffler. Nays, Lipscomb, absent.

NO. 519.

AN ORDINANCE (744) *-341*

ACCEPTING THE ATTACHED PROPOSAL OF J. E. INGRAM EQUIPMENT CO., INSOFAR AS IT RELATES TO 15,000 POUNDS OF 3/16" SPLIT HICKORY FIBRE.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Commissioners of the City of San Antonio, that, the attached proposal of J. E. Ingram Equipment Co., be and the same is hereby accepted, insofar as it relates to furnishing the City of San Antonio Street Cleaning Department, with 15,000 pounds of 3/16" split hickory fibre @ \$4.50 CWT - FOB Car, City Material Yards, less 5% discount making a net total sum of \$641.25 and this amount of \$641.25 being hereby appropriated out of the 1939 General Fund, Street Cleaning Department, in payment of same.

PASSED AND APPROVED on the 12th day of October, 1939.

Maury Maverick  
Mayor.

ATTEST: J. J. Patterson  
City Clerk.

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Commissioner Hein introduced the following ordinance, which was read, passed and approved by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Maverick, Davis, Hein and Steffler. Nays, Lipscomb, absent.

NO. 520.

AN ORDINANCE (745) *-342*

ACCEPTING THE ATTACHED PROPOSAL OF A. STEIERT & SON, INSOFAR AS IT RELATES TO 12,000 POUNDS OF GUTTER BROOM WIRE @ \$12.84 1/3 PER CWT.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Commissioners of the City of San Antonio, that, the attached proposal of A. Steiert & Son, be and is hereby accepted to furnish the City of San Antonio Street Cleaning Department, with 12,000 pounds of Gutter Broom wire FOR Street Cleaning Department warehouse @ \$12.84-1/3 per CWT, less 1% discount, making a net total of \$1,533.50, and this amount of \$1,533.50 being hereby appropriated out of the 1939 General Fund, Street Cleaning Department in payment of same.

PASSED AND APPROVED on the 12th day of October, 1939.

Maury Maverick  
Mayor.

ATTEST: J. J. Patterson  
City Clerk.

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Mayor Maverick introduced the following ordinance, which was read, passed and approved by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Maverick, Davis, Hein and Steffler. Nays, Lipscomb, absent.

NO. 521.

AN ORDINANCE (746)

MQ-343

APPROPRIATING \$164.58 OUT OF THE 1939 GENERAL FUND, STOREROOM ACCOUNT TO  
PAY FOR RENTAL ON STORAGE TANK AND DRAYAGE OF GASOLINE.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Commissioners of the City of San Antonio, that, the sum of \$164.58, be and the same is appropriated hereby out of the 1939 General Fund, Storeroom Account, payable to R. E. Megee & Company for rental on storage tank and drayage of gasoline to various departments as per approved bill on file in the City Auditor's Office.

PASSED AND APPROVED on the 12th day of October, 1939.

Maury Maverick  
Mayor.

ATTEST: J. J. Patterson  
City Clerk.

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Mayor Maverick introduced the following ordinance, which was read, passed and approved by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Maverick, Davis, Hein and Steffler. Nays, Lipscomb, absent.

NO. 522.

AN ORDINANCE (747) - 344

APPROPRIATING \$17.50 TO PAY CATHERINE EDDY AND EMMA NETTIE FRECHETTE  
DAMAGES FOR LOSS OF CLOTHES AT SAN PEDRO BATH HOUSE.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO:-

1. That \$17.50 be and the same is hereby appropriated out of the 1939 General Fund-Judgements & Suits Account, to pay the following named persons the amount set opposite their names, as damages for loss of clothes at San Pedro Bath House, on July 30th, 1939.

2. Upon execution and delivery of release, approved by the City Attorney, the Auditor is directed to deliver city warrants as follows:

Catherine Eddy . . . . .	\$ 10.00
Emma Nettie Frechette . . . . .	7.50

3. PASSED AND APPROVED this 12th day of October, A. D. 1939.

Maury Maverick  
Mayor.

ATTEST: J. J. Patterson  
City Clerk.

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Commissioner Davis introduced the following ordinance, which was read, passed and approved by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Maverick, Davis, Hein and Steffler. Nays, Lipscomb, absent.

NO. 523.

AN ORDINANCE (748) - 345

TRANSFERRING \$12.00 FROM THE PAYROLL ACCOUNT TO THE 1938 GENERAL FUND.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Commissioners of the City of San Antonio, that, the Commissioner of Taxation, as ex-officio City Treasurer, and the City Auditor, be and they are hereby directed to transfer or cause to be transferred the sum of \$12.00 from the City of San Antonio Payroll Account to the 1938 General Fund.

This sum represents the following three checks of the July, 1938, payroll, (Warrant #78), which has been outstanding over one year:

Check # 74 for \$4.00 payable to H. Caperton	
" #270 " \$4.00 " " J. R. Moreno	
" #290 " \$4.00 " " F. Reyna	

PASSED AND APPROVED on the 12th day of October, 1939.

Maury Maverick  
Mayor.

ATTEST: J. J. Patterson  
City Clerk.

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Commissioner Steffler introduced the following ordinance, which was read, passed and approved by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Maverick, Davis, Hein and Steffler. Nays, Lipscomb, absent.

NO. 524.

AN ORDINANCE (749) *MQ-346*

APPROPRIATING \$80.00 OUT OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO EXCAVATION TRUST  
ACCOUNT FOR REFUNDS AND REPAIRS.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Commissioners of the City of San Antonio, that, the sum of \$80.00, be and the same is hereby appropriated out of Street Excavation Trust Account for refunds and repairs, as per City Engineer's letter of October 11, 1939, as follows:

Lucchese Bros. Corp.	refund	\$	9.00
E. V. Stewart	"		.70
Charley Banks	"		9.00
Mrs. F. Pozzi	"		9.00
City of San Antonio	repairs		52.30
		\$	80.00

PASSED AND APPROVED on the 12th day of October, 1939.

Maury Maverick  
Mayor.

ATTEST: J. J. Patterson  
City Clerk.

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Commissioner Steffler introduced the following ordinance, which was read, passed and approved by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Maverick, Davis, Hein and Steffler. Nays, Lipscomb, absent.

NO. 525.

AN ORDINANCE (750) - *347*

APPROPRIATING \$143.96 OUT OF THE STREET IMPROVEMENT FUND OF 1937 TO PAY  
FOR CURBING ON ALAMO PLAZA.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Commissioners of the City of San Antonio, that, the sum of \$143.96, be and the same is appropriated hereby out of the Street Improvement Fund of 1937, payable to Rodgers & Stewart, Inc. to pay for curbing on Alamo Plaza as per approved bill on file in the City Auditor's Office.

PASSED AND APPROVED on the 12th day of October, 1939.

Maury Maverick  
Mayor.

ATTEST: J. J. Patterson  
City Clerk.

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Commissioner Steffler introduced the following resolution, which was read, passed and approved by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Maverick, Davis, Hein and Steffler. Nays, Lipscomb, absent.

A RESOLUTION - *348*

ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL OF T. E. BARNES, JR. TO PURCHASE OR TRADE LOT 12,  
CITY BLOCK 6394, IN THE SUM OF NOT TO EXCEED \$400.00, FOR THE EXTENSION  
OF SOUTH PINE STREET TO FAIR AVENUE.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Commissioners of the City of San Antonio, that, the proposal of T. E. Barnes, Jr. be and is hereby accepted to purchase or trade Lot 12, City Block 6394, in the sum of not to exceed \$400.00, for the extension of South Pine Street to Fair Avenue.

PASSED AND APPROVED on the 12th day of October, 1939.

Maury Maverick  
Mayor.

ATTEST: J. J. Patterson  
City Clerk.

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Commissioner Hein introduced the following ordinance, which was read, passed and approved by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Maverick, Davis, Hein and Steffler. Nays, Lipscomb, absent.

AN ORDINANCE (752) - *349*

ACCEPTING AN EASEMENT ON LAND FOR DUMPING PURPOSES.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO:-

1. That the Mayor of the City of San Antonio be and he is hereby authorized to

accept for the City of San Antonio, the instrument executed on September 18th, 1939, by A. B. Martinez and Joe M. Prado, whereby said parties do grant and license the City of San Antonio to put burned ashes and cans from the Incinerators of the City of San Antonio on Lots 1 and 2, Block 1, County Block 4059, which grant and license is hereby referred to and made a part hereof as though repeated verbatim herein.

2. PASSED AND APPROVED this 12th day of October, A.D. 1939.

Maury Maverick  
Mayor.

ATTEST: J. J. Patterson  
City Clerk.

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Mayor Maverick introduced the following ordinance, which was read, passed and approved by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Maverick, Davis, Hein and Steffler. Nays, Lipscomb, absent.

AN ORDINANCE (753)

APPOINTING INCUMBENTS OF CERTAIN POSITIONS OR PLACES OF EMPLOYMENT IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO.

( For full text of this ordinance, see Ordinance Book "I", page 583 )

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Mayor Maverick introduced the following ordinance, which was read, passed and approved by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Maverick, Davis, Hein and Steffler. Nays, Lipscomb, absent.

AN ORDINANCE (754)

CHANGING THE NAME OF WOMBOLD ALLEY TO KING PHILIP V. STREET.

( For full text of this ordinance, see Ordinance Book "I", page 584 )

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Mayor Maverick introduced the following ordinance, which was read, passed and approved by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Maverick, Davis, Hein and Steffler. Nays, Lipscomb, absent.

AN ORDINANCE (755)

AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK TO CHANGE AN ORDINANCE AND THE RECORD THEREOF.

( For full text of this ordinance, see Ordinance Book "I", page 584 )

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Commissioner Steffler made the following recommendations, which were adopted on vote:

Modern Neon Corp. for permit to erect neon sign at 755 E. Mulberry. Granted.

Texas Neon Sign Co. for permit to erect neon sign at Majestic Building. Granted.

Texas Neon Sign Co. for permit to erect neon sign at Majestic Building. Granted.

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Mayor Maverick introduced the following ordinance, which was read, passed and approved by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Maverick, Davis, Hein and Steffler. Nays, Lipscomb, absent.

AN ORDINANCE (756)

AUTHORIZING CERTAIN PARTIES TO AFFIX THEIR SIGNATURES AS ADDENDA TO THE ORDINANCE CREATING "LA VILLITA", OUTLINING ITS PURPOSES AND ETC. AND PASSED THIS DATE.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO:-

1. That the following persons are hereby accorded the honor of affixing their signatures to the ordinance passed this date, creating "La Villita" and outlining its purposes:

- R. W. Mickler . . . . . Executive Director
- Fenner Roth . . . . . N.Y.A. District Administrator
- O'Neill Ford . . . . . Project Architect
- Col. M. L. Crimmins . . . . . Research Agent
- Hamilton Magruder . . . . . Manager for City
- J. Blanding Sloan . . . . . Arts & Crafts
- Atlee B. Ayres . . . . . Consulting Architect
- Dahl Dewees . . . . . Consulting Architect
- George Johnson . . . . . N.Y.A. Architect
- James T. Perry . . . . . N.Y.A. Structural Engineer
- E. M. Todd . . . . . Project Supervisor
- Thos. Coghill . . . . . City Engineer
- Wm. B. Blanchet . . . . . Legal Advisor
- Stewart King . . . . . Trees, Shrubs, Flowers, Vegetables
- E. J. Altgelt . . . . . Land Agent
- Mrs. Mildred Taylor Sloan . . . . . Journalist
- Maury Maverick . . . . .
- Floyd McGown . . . . .

2. All of said parties have been of great assistance to the City of San Antonio in matters pertaining to the Villita Street Project and are still lending every endeavor for its promotion and success. Therefore, it is desired by the City that they affix their signatures to said ordinance in the recognition of their valuable service and assistance that they have rendered.

3. PASSED AND APPROVED this 12th day of October, A.D. 1939.

Maury Maverick  
Mayor.

ATTEST: J. J. Patterson  
City Clerk.

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Commissioner Steffler that the following petitions be granted, which motion was adopted by unanimous vote:

- A. Harwood, for approval of vacating and subdivision plats of City Block 1936. Granted.
- Fred H. Nicholson for approval of vacating and subdivision plats of Lot 1, City Block 2550, and Lot A-3, City Block 2551. Granted.
- William F. Schutz, agent for Lorita Moore Keann, Genevive W. Ware, et al, for approval of subdivision of Lots 28 to 35, County Block 5741, Waremoore Estates. Granted.

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Mayor Maverick then addressed the Commission and a packed Council Chamber. Present were leading citizens, members of historical, scientific, literary and civic groups.

Mayor Maverick: Gentlemen of the Commission and citizens of San Antonio:

We present today the Villita Ordinance. I want the people of San Antonio to know that in presenting the Villita Ordinance it is not merely a plan to fix up some old place for citizens to get entertainment, but it is for the social, moral, cultural, physical and financial benefit of the people - for the progress of human beings - who live in San Antonio.

But let me get some of these other things over first, which are at least indirectly connected with Villita.

For instance, several days ago I received a health report on venereal diseases and Tuberculosis from the Public Health Service of the United States. It is a little shocking. The report will be released piecemeal to the press as we digest it. It is released piecemeal in order that the people will really get it. I consider the report critical of this administration and we are always glad to receive honest criticism from any source. The critical factor, however is due to our inherited health problems. I am offering to the press this morning the portion of the report that relates to T. B.

In San Antonio the death rate from T. B. in 1938 was 128.6, and in 1937 was 148.5, per 100,000 population. The death rate in three of the largest populated counties in Texas, in comparison, were:

Dallas	78
Tarrant (Ft. Worth)	53
Harris (Houston)	77

Ours is the largest, and is 50% more than the rate of any other city in Texas.

As Mayor, it is my duty to tell the people the truth, although I may suffer for it, but I am going to continue to tell the truth until we all fully realize our true situation, and determine to try to correct them and make San Antonio a decent, free born, healthy American town.

For the purpose of this report the deaths are recorded according to Anglo-Americans, Latin-Americans and Negroes. Per 100,000 people during a three year period the death rate for Anglo-Americans in San Antonio was 52 persons; for Latin-Americans it was 302 persons; the tragic fact is that the Latin-American rate was six times as high as that of the Anglo-Americans. Why? It is due to improper housing, bad sanitation and lack of medical care in that portion of the city where the bulk of the Latin-American population resides.

We Anglo-Americans need not be smug about this, because disease is no respecter of races. A germ is a germ; all it needs is a human body. The first thing San Antonio should do is to make war on T. B. so that the city can cut the disease rate, and aspire to be free of it. The colored death rate was four times as high as the Anglo-Americans, 135 deaths per 100,000 people.

I mention these things because while we are talking of Spanish-Mexican culture and "beautiful Villita", let us frankly admit that the Latin-American people do have a high death rate from T. B. and other diseases, and that the reason is poverty and bad housing. While we are establishing a community center and preserving Spanish culture, let us establish health centers too, preserve the health of Spanish-Americans. A beautiful monument to Spanish culture is not half as pretty as a clinic to preserve the living Spanish-Americans, and of course all human beings. The point I am trying to make is that in re-establishing Villita, let it not be a mere shell of the dead past, but a re-creation of a living force, a service to living human beings and not merely a memorial to the dead.

Gentlemen of the Commission. I have conceived the idea that Wombold Alley, bordering on Villita, should be raised to the dignity of a street. Philip the Fifth was our right royal, noble and valiant king of Spain during the time of the founding of the Villita, and I propose that we elevate Wombold Alley to the high estate of King Philip V. Street.

#### AN ORDINANCE

##### CHANGING THE NAME OF WOMBOLE ALLEY TO KING PHILIP V. STREET.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO:-

1. That the name of Wombole Alley be and is hereby changed to "King Philip V. Street"; said street being a street within the corporate limits of the City of San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas; same being closed during the construction work on the Villita Street Project; upon completion of said construction work and formal opening of "La Villita", said street shall be formally opened.

2. PASSED AND APPROVED this 12th day of October, A.D. 1939.

Maury Maverick  
Mayor.

ATTEST: J. J. Patterson  
City Clerk.

I want to make an announcement. I hope that in the future when you bring tourists to see La Villita you will take them to this great and memorable, not too venerable street, and say, "This is King Philip V Street", in a tone that will imply that this was always King Philip V Street - and try to believe it yourselves. (Applause and laughter from the audience.) Look solemn when you say it. Order in the council chamber!

Mr. Steffler, will you have the signs on that street changed at once, please? Raise high the name of our once King, the brave Philip the Fifth, King of Spain, Aragon and the Spanish colonies beyond the seas, even La Villita, here in San Antonio.

I will not call on Commissioner Davis, who has co-operated fully on this, like all the other Commissioners. I want Mr. Davis to introduce an ordinance he has and make his talk

Commissioner Davis: I have here an ordinance transferring \$2500.00 from the 1939 General Fund, Assessor's Account to the Villita Project. I judge that this may appear to be a rather small sum for so worthy a project, however, when it is understood that my department operates on a very small proportion of the City budget, approximately 4% of the total, it will be seen that \$2500.00 is a large percentage to be contributed out of my budget, which is about \$105,000.00

As a matter of fact, based on a percentage of the total budget this amounts to two times that of the \$5000.00 contributed by the Street Department; ten times that of the \$2500.00 contributed by the Fire and Police Department, and three times that of the \$5000.00 contributed by the Parks Department, since those departments all operate on a much larger budget. Notwithstanding the fact that I shall be forced to cut corners, I am glad to be able to contribute and help this project along.

AN ORDINANCE *MQ-350*

TRANSFERRING FUNDS TO THE MAYOR'S ACCOUNT - VILLITA STREET PROJECT.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO:-

1. That the sum of \$2500.00 be and the same is hereby transferred from the 1939 General Fund - Assessor's Account, to the 1939 General Fund - Mayor's Account - Villita Street Project.

2. PASSED AND APPROVED this 12th day of October, A.D. 1939.

Maury Maverick  
Mayor.

ATTEST: J. J. Patterson  
City Clerk.

The ordinance was passed by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Maverick, Davis, Hein and Steffler.

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Mayor Maverick: A little later when I begin to explain this ordinance, you will know what I mean when I say that about fifteen people worked on this ordinance. When I do read this and you hear something very literary, I may have written it myself, but most likely I did not.

So I want to introduce an ordinance authorizing certain people to affix their names to this so that they will be remembered. These people have worked hard for the re-creation of Villita, as did numerous others, and their names should be here to show that they actually helped in the writing of this law, or enactment.

The first one is Robert Mickler, a local business man who has spent many dollars of his own on this project.

You know this is an N. Y. A. (National Youth Administration) project. We have had most enthusiastic cooperation from the N. Y. A. I want to tell you that there has never been anyone more enthusiastic than they. I hope that some of these fine people who have come to San Antonio with these administrations will decide to stay in San Antonio.

Mr. Fenner Roth is the man in charge of the N. Y. A. here. He is energetic and able. O'Neill Ford, one of the most distinguished architects on indigenous Texas architecture is to be another of the signers. Blanding Sloan, another N. Y. A. official, will be in charge of Arts and Crafts. The N. Y. A. resident architect is a young man who came here just a few days ago - Mr. George Johnson.

The man with whom I did not have much trouble was Bill Blanchet, Assistant City Attorney, when we wrote this Villita Ordinance. Not much trouble, I said, for he is a lawyer, and like all lawyers he is full of heretofores and thereases. Now, this is the first

in the history of San Antonio, or in the world for that matter, which was illustrated; also, I told him not to put in any "whereas's" and "heretofore's" and "hereinbefore's", or else- (laughter) I estimate three or four hundred of these would ordinarily appear in a legal document of this many words, but sirs, I proclaim it wonderful, in this one we have only found four! There, I have scratched out.

Indeed, it is the only ordinance in the history of the world not filled with "whereas's", "heretofore's", and "hereinbefore's", and sentences dead and boresome ever since lawyers took over the Forum in Rome.

Now, Ira Kercheville, our City Attorney, and Henry Dielmann, our First Assistant, are both fine gentlemen - but I think that they are a little skeptical about this ordinance. But they can listen to drama, and see pretty pictures, if not legal phraseology. Indeed, I will put this up before anyone - a whole pack of Philadelphia lawyers - that it is all legal. Some lawyers fear that if the whereas's, heretofore's and hereinbefore's are left out, the day is lost. But I say, a fig, or an alley apple for all your "said's", "aforesaid's" and "hereinbefore's". It is the present and hereafter we better worry about!

So, I will introduce Mr. Blanchet, who drafted this ordinance, and may his name shine evermore as the man who slew "whereas", the dragon. You see, I finally got me a junior attorney to write so I could tell him how to do it. (laughter and applause)

(Mr. Blanchet bows, looks slightly embarrassed, but proud of his handiwork)

Mayor "Maverick: Colonel Martin Crimmins is going to keep the Villita Register. He is a dog, a very bloodhound for history. He is going to compile all the histories of Villita and what concerned it. He just gave me a letter Travis wrote in which he mentions - it is the last letter written by him before the Alamo fell - and he mentions in it the part the Villita played in the battle of the Alamo.

Before I start reading this ordinance, I want to tell about our trip to Mexico, because Villita was a Mexican, or Spanish village. Now, this was a very nice trip. Twelve or fifteen people from here went down. I am particularly enthused about this trip. I think it was the best trip I ever took to Mexico.

Listen, this is not a reflection on anyone, because, perchance, it applies to me too. When we went to Mexico in the old days, we had 150 Chamber of Commerce heroes in the crowd and by noon nearly everyone was tight, and by supper-time most of the crowd would all be very drunk and would engage in telling how good the Americans were and how backward and uncivilized the Mexicans were. By night there would have been 4 or 5 fights and the Mexicans would have been well insulted.

On this trip not one person got drunk. Everybody stayed sober. Yes, our wives were along. Mrs. Maverick, Mrs. McGown, Mr. McGown, Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Hein, Commissioners Hein and Davis were there. Mr. Steffler wanted to go but Mrs. Steffler was ill so he stayed home. Besides, there was the Honorable W. H. (Bill) Furlong, Dr. "El Rio", Mr. de la Garza, both of the latter Americans of San Antonio, Colonel Etheridge of the Express, Mr. Davis of Station K M A C, Mr. Henson of the Public Service Company, and Mr. Thomas of the Chamber of Commerce.

The impression we made on the Mexican people and officials was a good one; I don't think I ever did anything good for the United States in Mexico until this last trip. We were met at the City Gates by the Mayor of Monterrey and were brought into the City where they had a special meeting of the City Commission in our honor. The Mexican Mayor and Aldermen all made speeches about Latin-American friendship, and they were sincere about it. We made speeches about the same thing, and were also sincere. We purchased a number of things and a number of things were given to the Maverick family.

Now about San Antonio - In the life of any City there comes a time when the City fills a great destiny. Athens, Rome, Paris and many others have done it. San Antonio is the greatest Latin-American city outside of Latin America. It is looked to by Latin America and this nation as the greatest. When I was in Washington and New York I went to the Pan-American Building and the Hispano-American Museum - rich, expensive buildings, but the Villita may be more important than any of those in the preservation of the peace of Latin-America, and possibly the world. That is true because it is a part of the life of the people, it will continue to grow out of the people and the earth. That is the reason this may be one of the greatest places in the world.

Before I read this I want to say we should all try to fulfill our destiny. It is at this time that we feel that if we can have a spirit of friendship and if we can live in peace, the American Continent's example may be one of peace for the whole world.

"La Villita" is presented as something we hope is beautiful and something we also hope will be profitable. We must not be decadent style mongers at a loss, but builders of the present and future at a profit, both material and human. I hope this ordinance is written in such a way that it will be interesting to you all. Now let me read.

# VILLITA

(Pronounced Vee-Yee-Tah)

The Little Spanish Village re-created by the side of Skyscrapers in  
SAN ANTONIO



## THE VILLITA ORDINANCE

Adopted October 12, 1939 by the City of San Antonio

*[Handwritten signature]*

*Re-creating the Little Spanish Village:  
For the Promotion of Understanding and  
Peace between the American Nations;  
To preserve Spanish and Southwestern Culture:  
To foster Arts and Crafts.*

Enacted in Lively Narrative Form, with Illustrations  
Exact copy of original

A PROJECT SPONSORED BY  
**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO**  
MAURY MAVERICK, *Mayor*  
NATIONAL YOUTH ADMINISTRATION  
AUBREY WILLIAMS, *Administrator*



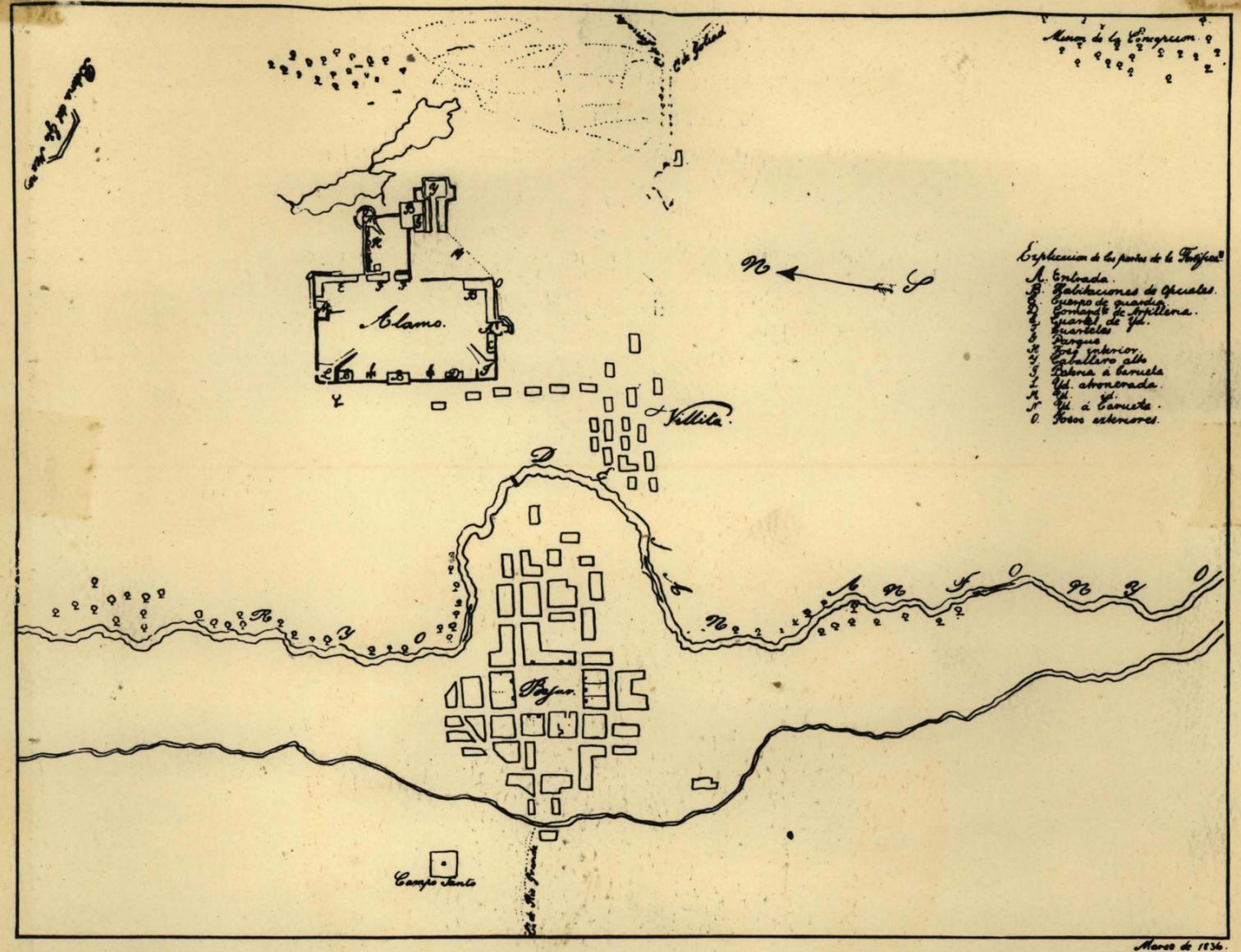
#### THE VILLITA ORDINANCE

RE-CREATING "LA VILLITA" AS A PROJECT OF SAN ANTONIO:  
PROVIDING FOR ITS RESTORATION, PRESERVATION AND CON-  
TINUATION; ENUMERATING CERTAIN IDEALS, HOPES, AND PUR-  
POSES: SETTING FORTH IN NARRATIVE FORM SOME OF ITS  
INTERESTING HISTORY; AT THE SAME TIME ORDAINING THAT  
VILLITA SHALL NOT BE A DEAD MUSEUM FOR MINCING SCHOLARS,  
BUT A PLACE FOR THE LIVING, AND THOSE NOT YET BORN.

#### FOREWORD

The Corporation of San Antonio has obtained  
ownership of "La Villita," the old Spanish "little  
village."

A military map, drawn while the guns of Santa  
Anna roared in bombardment of the Alamo, is here shown:



*Plano de la Ciudad de S. Antonio de Bexar y fortificacion del Alamo, levantado y labado por el Cor. Ignacio de Labastida Comandante de Ingenieros del Ejercito del Norte, quien lo dedica al G. S. General D. Vicente Filisola 2º en Log. del mismo Ejercito S.*

In this map can be seen the Villita, which is of great historical importance, and which is now on the border of the business district of San Antonio, antiquity standing side by side with the modern age.

"La Villita" was established by the Spaniards in 1722. The pattern of her destiny has been made by wars, depressions, floods, and the onslaughts of time - over it have flown six flags, - those of France, Spain, Mexico, the Republic of Texas, the Confederate States of America, and the United States of America.



Today it stands as a forlorn ghost of vivid life and stirring events. Once the scene of art and culture, time has brought it down to a vile slum. Early steps must therefore be taken for its re-creation.

Tomorrow it will stand as a symbol of the accomplishments and sacrifices of the past, and as a Light pointing to the future.

Realizing the spiritual value and social possibilities of "La Villita," Mayor Maverick obtained for the City a major portion of the land required. It was obtained by trade from the San Antonio Public Service Company with land owned by the City of equal value, but the Public Service Company is to be highly commended for its enthusiasm and willingness in making



this project possible. In the original acquirement of the lands owned by the Public Service Company, as well as progressive accomplishments since, Mayor Maverick has been enthusiastically assisted by his colleagues:

- C. Ray Davis  
Commissioner of Taxation,
- Henry F. Hein  
Commissioner of Sanitation,  
Parks, and Public Property,
- Louis W. Lipscomb  
Commissioner of Fire and Police,
- and
- Paul E. Steffler  
Commissioner of Streets  
and Public Improvements.

For the improvement of this project, the National Youth Administration (NYA) under Mr. Aubrey Williams, National Administrator, has made an allocation of approximately \$50,000 and will allocate \$50,000 more when and if necessary, making \$100,000 available. Mr. Williams is enthusiastic, as is also Mr. Dave Williams, Assistant Administrator, who is a native Texan and distinguished authority on early Texan architecture. From these high officials, the project is receiving personal and sympathetic support.

Not only the NYA officials, but President Franklin D. Roosevelt is familiar with "La Villita" through personal visits and explanations by Mayor Maverick, and by official reports from the NYA.

The project is also known by members of the Cabinet of the United States, other high officials, governors, many prominent business men, newspaper publishers, and educators over the nation.

Thus "La Villita" has already received widespread and substantial national recognition. The Villita Ordinance follows:

#### AN ORDINANCE

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO:-

"LA VILLITA" is hereby  
officially re-created, and by  
this ordinance recognized as a  
project of the Corporation of  
San Antonio, and a part of the  
life of its people.

The OBJECTIVES, PURPOSES, AND AIMS OF "LA VILLITA" are ORDAINED and DECLARED as follows:

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I.

PRESERVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF PAST;  
BUILD FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW

The present objective is to obtain possession, complete titles and physically clean "La Villita" and to restore and develop it into a comprehensive community center for the "life, liberty, and happiness" of the local citizenry. It shall be for the old and young alike; for the preservation of worthwhile things of the past, but always aiming to meet the needs of TODAY and TOMORROW. Planning shall be flexible enough to be adapted to the needs of generation after generation.

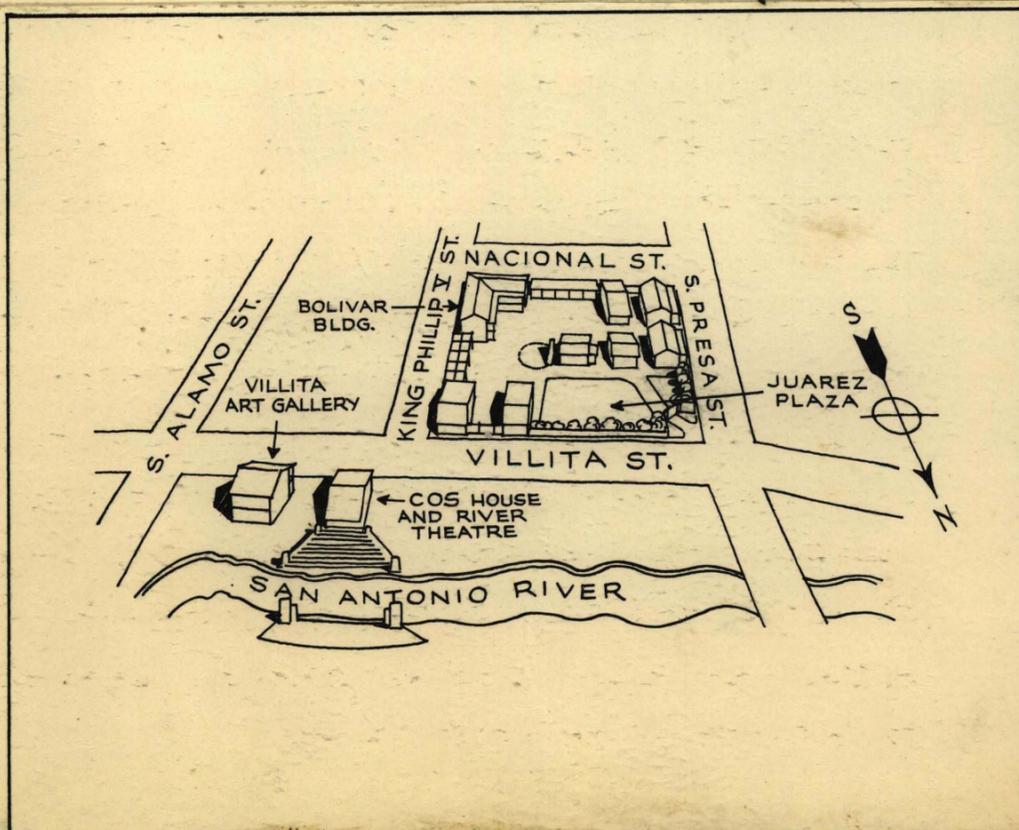
II.

DESCRIPTION OF LA VILLITA AND SURROUNDINGS

The physical outlines of "La Villita" are as follows:

a. "LA VILLITA," usually understood as that property in the neighborhood of Presa, Villita, Alamo and Nueva Streets, but for the purposes of this ordinance it shall consist of the lands, houses, gardens, wells, cisterns and little plaza bounded by Nacional, Presa, Villita and King Phillip V streets;

b. "THE COS HOUSE," on Villita Street across from "La Villita." This property takes its name after General Martin Perfecto Cos, the brother-in-law of Santa Anna, who lived there a number of years and in December, 1835, at this place signed Articles of Capitulation to the Colonial Troops of Texas after the Battle of San Antonio.



c. THE RIVER BANK THEATRE, with its seats and structures behind the Cos House, now being completed as a part of the River Beautification Project. Here people can congregate and produce their own historical pageants and contemporary plays, with folk songs of the Southwest, or with choral singing of all nations; where also, facilities can eventually be offered to meet the mechanical, lighting, and technical requirements of modern stage productions in what may become the New Theatre of America.

d. VILLITA ART GALLERY, also across the street from "LA VILLITA," one of the newer structures, having been built in 1849. This building, with its already developed and developing art life, shall be continued in its present nature, a community workshop gallery.

### III.

#### PLANNING, ARCHITECTURE, RESTORATION

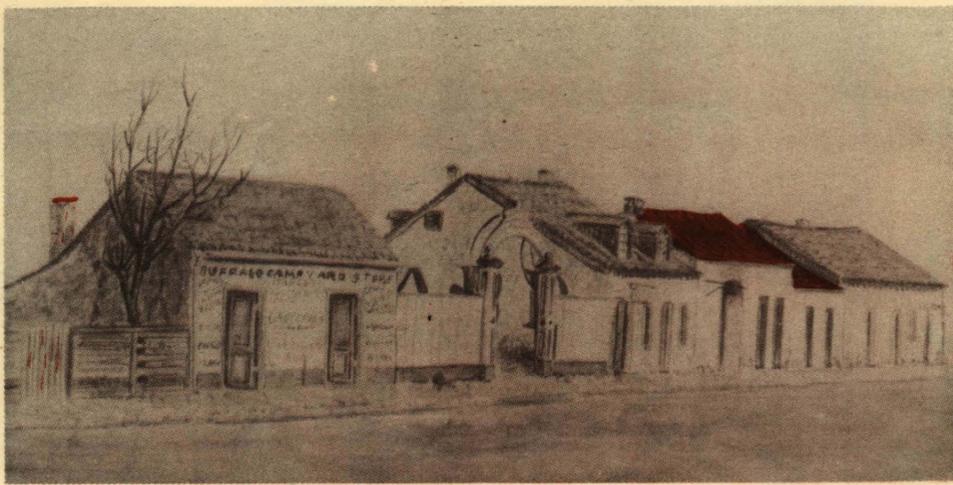
The contemplated ideas and work plans of "La Villita," bounded by Nacional, Presa, Villita, and King Phillip V Streets and described in II - a, shall be shown in more detail in this section.

In this block are seven original homes. They are to be restored. On the vacant land a plaza is planned, as well as an interior street, a building for a museum-library-forum-restaurant, and various minor structures. The whole property shall be properly landscaped with Texas trees, shrubs and flowers; - and especially shall there be vegetable as well as flower gardens; there shall be proper drainage, with streets, sewers, and other public improvements.

Indeed, there shall be a definite plan - both as to physical lay-out and structures, and of future activities and purposes. These plans are hereby adopted by the City Commission, and made a part of the law and policies of the Corporation of San Antonio. The purpose of this Commission shall therefore be to carry out the plans here contemplated, but it must be borne in mind that blind adherence to a fixed plan when not found feasible is stupid; therefore, the plans should be sufficiently flexible to meet mistakes in planning when recognized and as there are changes in social, political, and economic conditions not now contemplated.

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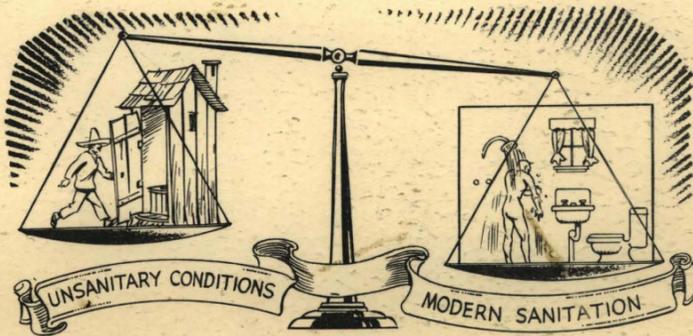
Restored Villita will be a living example of indigenous Texan architecture, in itself an expression of our pioneer forefathers' reactions to



LA VILLITA IN EARLY TEXAS DAYS

the hardships and necessities of the times. Settled by the Spanish, "La Villita" was never-the-less on the far frontier and therefore original and independent in its conceptions. As time rolled on there came other influences, French, Anglo-Colonial, German-American, and climatic, which latter had relation to the indigenous character of the architecture.

The restoration shall not be theatrical; nor will it be a mere lifeless copy, a sterile, strangled art form. And although restoration shall be faithful, convenience shall not be sacrificed. All houses and buildings shall have modern conveniences, sanitation, shower-baths and tubs, electricity, heat, light, air and air-conditioning if possible. There is no sense in being uncomfortable and unhealthy in order to be "authentic", - - to say the least, modern plumbing is as necessary as the preservation of the past.





Benito Juarez

IV.

NAMES OF PLACES: JUAREZ, BOLIVAR BUILDING, AND HIDALGO:

The Plaza shall be called Plaza Juarez, in honor of the great Benito Juarez, patriot and president of our sister Republic of Mexico. Juarez, a simple Indian peasant, had a sublime understanding of constitutional government and the freedom of the people. Indeed, he was a patriot of all the Americas, for it was Juarez who deposed and had shot Emperor Maximilian, the European interloper; he it was who saved constitutional government in Mexico, and by this act constitutional government for the American continents as well. It is the purpose of this Commission eventually to place a statue of Juarez on this plaza.



The museum-library-forum-community building shall be known as the Edificio Bolivar (pronounced Beau-lee'-vahr) or Bolivar Building, after the great patriot of South America, Simon Bolivar. From youth to the grave he fought with his blood for the independence of South American countries, and its exploited Indian populations, notwithstanding he was of noble Spanish family and one of the wealthiest men of all Latin-America.

168-L

His life was marked in early marriage by the tragic death of his beautiful wife, followed by spectacular, tenacious, bitter fighting for independence through all the years. He died without a centavo, his enormous estates having been sacrificed for his patriotic ideals and love for his people.

He, like Juarez, is a patriot of all the Americas, and his name is thus especially honored in order to assure South America and Central American republics of the sincere friendship of the North American people for those of Central and South America.

The single interior street shall be known as Calle Hidalgo, after the Washington of Mexico, Father Miguel Hidalgo y Castillo, who proclaimed the Independence of Mexico on the 16th of September, 1810. He was a brave and honest man. This great patriot was degraded as a priest and was shot as a traitor and rebel in 1811, but the blood he spilled on the soil of the American continent meant liberty for a great nation, and an example of sacrifice, Christian life, and patriotism to all the world.



Miguel Hidalgo

V.

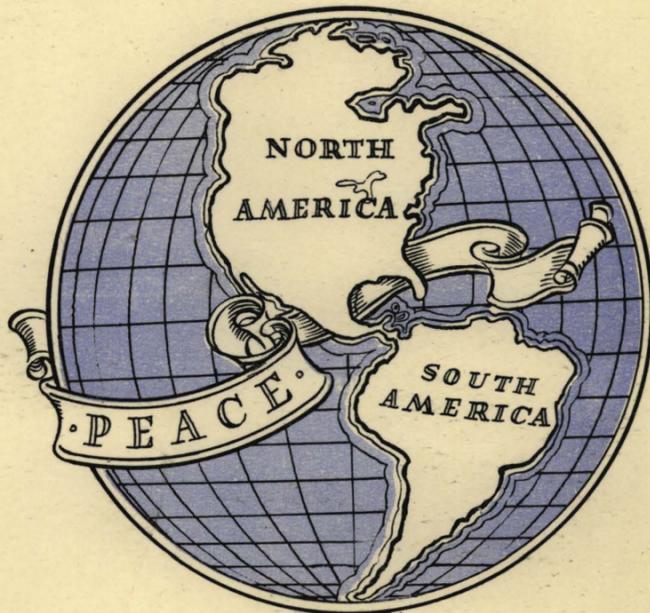
DECLARED A PUBLIC UTILITY

For the purpose of this ordinance, the property set out as "La Villita" in Section II - a and more fully described as to planning in Section III and IV of this ordinance shall be known as a public utility, a community center, to be used, operated and governed by the City for public purposes, upon rules and regulations set up by the Mayor, and such ordinances as shall appear necessary. It is the function and duty of this Commission to complete titles to the property, at reasonable prices and as soon as practicable, and upon the rights and powers of this municipality in eminent domain if necessary.

VI.

A PURPOSE: PROMOTION OF WORLD PEACE

Among the high and most important purposes of "La Villita" is the promotion of peace, friendship and justice between the United States of America and all other nations of the Western Hemisphere, as well as of nations of the world. In special dedication of Peace and Good Will, and Pan-American understanding is the Bolivar Building, Plaza Juarez, and Hidalgo Street.



VII.

ANOTHER PURPOSE: PRESERVATION OF  
EARLY TEXAS AND SPANISH CULTURE:  
ARTS AND CRAFTS

The heritage of Early Texas, of great value, must be preserved. Likewise, San Antonio has a population of 90,000 Spanish-Mexican-Americans, many whose ancestors have lived here over two hundred years; it is desired to preserve their culture and traditions, and to always accord them the prestige and dignity to which they are justly entitled.

To this end of a living Community Center, "La Villita" shall have, maintain and operate, in several of the restored buildings, Arts and Crafts Shops in which under-privileged youth through the facilities of the NYA, the City of San Antonio and their successors, will be given work experience in the designing and making of ceramics, glass, tile, pottery, sculpture; Woodwork - furniture, wood carving, puppets; the making of authentic reproductions of early Texan objects, furniture, etc.; Weaving - rugs, serapes, blankets, basketry; Leather work - bookbinding, saddlery; Metal Work - wrought iron, decorative tin, jewelry; Fine Prints - woodcuts, etching, blocks prints, lithography.

All this will help in establishing a standard of fine design and workmanship both for the worker and the buyer, and open the way to financial independence of those who pre-apprentice and produce here.

It is reasonable and proper to note, however, in this ordinance and resolution that the recent revival, or attempts at revival of arts and crafts have often proved failures in this country. This is because we Americans have refused to admit that we are in an age of machine mass production. Conscientious and romantic-minded ladies have rushed to the mountains of Tennessee to teach a handful of hill-billies how to spin and weave; graduates of Columbia, dressed in shorts and wearing blue Basque caps, have invaded Santa Fe to teach the Indian his tribal customs and just exactly how to sing, dance, and hammer silver as a happy Ex-Warrior should in all good conscience do.

Through it all the hill-billy and the Indian and the poor citizen wanted a regular job, an automobile, a home, medical care, electricity, clothing, education groceries and the conveniences of mass production. Such



people have not been satisfied by the low living standard, gained by the production of "arts and crafts" in which they had little interest, and which articles, often ugly perversions, useless, and of poor quality, are panned off on credulous and gaping tourists.

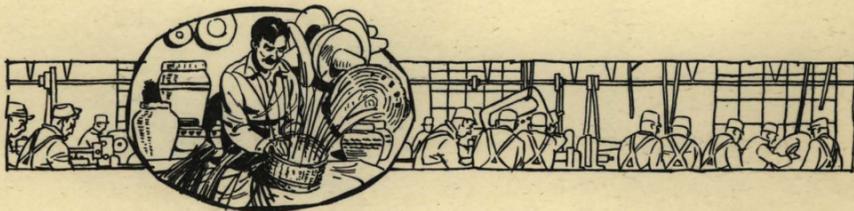
Therefore "Villita" shall not be a mere center of wearers of quaint costumes who live detached lives, and do not understand the problems of the day. Indeed, modern life is on the one hand, production by machine, and on the other disposition of surplus time into study, re-creation, work one likes to do, and a way of life.

The objectives of "Villita" in this particular field shall therefore be two:

First: fostering the production of arts and crafts which are useful, true in design, of good quality and workmanship, and which can be sold at a profit; and

Second; the training of youth to fit into the modern complex life of a merciless machine age.

With such special objectives, "La Villita" may assist in solving the problem of mass production to meet ordinary utilitarian needs, and likewise that of a way of life, where there is beauty, happiness and culture.



VIII.

RENAISSANCE OF CULTURE OF THE GREAT SOUTHWEST



An important purpose shall be the study of the Great Southwest - roughly speaking all of the land of the Republic of Texas, twice the size of the present state, - Oklahoma, Southern Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, and Southern California. The history of the South-

west has been largely neglected; let there be a Renaissance of the culture of the Southwest, with its center at "Villita." Indeed, historic "Villita" once restored will enable this and succeeding generations to visualize in their true setting the significant events and personages in early Texan and American history of the Southwest.

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IX.

SOCIETIES' BUILDING - HISTORICAL,  
LITERARY, SCIENTIFIC  
AND CONSERVATION

It is the purpose to establish in one of the restored houses a "Societies' Building." This building shall be for the convenience at reasonable rentals, of the various societies approved by the Mayor for all historical, literary, scientific and conservation purposes, being such organizations as the Villita Art Gallery, The Yana Guana Society, Conservation Society and others of a similar nature.

X.

BOLIVAR BUILDING - MUSEUM, LIBRARY,  
FORUM, COMMUNITY CENTER

In the Bolivar Building shall be established the Spanish-Mexican-Texan museum-library-forum-community center with hall, reading and study rooms, patio, pools, and gardens. It shall be the purpose of this place to aid in research, study - especially in visual education - for amusement and happiness, to the average citizen as well as the scholar. The City's Spanish archives shall be stored within, as well as any other Spanish writings; the purpose being to preserve the early history of the City and Texas, and to have a repository of Spanish literature, old and new, both for its actual value and for the promotion of Inter-American Peace. There shall also be literature concerning Spain and Latin-America written in the English language. By the same token, included shall be the history and literature in English, of early Texas. These activities in the Bolivar Building shall also be:-

a. An integral part of the Carnegie Library and a branch thereof, all in harmony with Section 66 of the Charter of the City of San Antonio and ordinances passed under this section, this branch library being hereby blanketed in as a part of the Carnegie Library. The Library Board is hereby directed to include this objective in the annual budget, making preparation for occupancy and the management and selection of books and literature at once.

b. A branch of the Witte Museum, having such pieces and exhibits as are suitable to "La Villita." The governing board of the Witte Museum is also directed to

take and include this objective in their annual budget and by making preparation for occupancy and management, and the selection of proper museum pieces and art works.

c. A Tourist Information Center, or Travel Bureau, or "House of Hospitality" with proper facilities for comfort and complete information needed by tourists and travelers. In the discretion of the Mayor, this Tourist Center may be placed in another part of "La Villita."

CONCLUSION

A WAY OF LIFE: HUMAN BETTERMENT

All the foregoing having been enacted and declared, it is well to repeat that the center shall not and must not be a restoration and reconstruction of the dead past, and a ghost village for the mincing walk and dusty ways of scholars, but likewise for the average living citizen. Even a jitter-bug has the same constitutional right of life and liberty as the scholar who is crammed with knowledge and will not disgorge it. Moreover, there are more jitter-bugs than scholars.



ABOVE ALL, THIS PROJECT  
WILL BE FOR HUMAN GOOD, FOR LETTING  
PEOPLE LEARN HOW TO MAKE A LIVING,  
TO HAVE A WAY OF LIFE; FOR CONSTI-  
TUTIONAL DEMOCRACY, PEACE AND  
FREEDOM -----

and further, that the physical scope of the area shall be increased as time goes on; that included also shall be expanding activities in human betterment, such as health education, social welfare, and the progress of the times.

By motion previously adopted, the Villita Committee, its members being the joint authors of this DECLARATION, RESOLUTION AND ORDINANCE, have been authorized by the City Commission to affix their names to this original document, as of special honor, and that in the future their names shall not be forgotten:

J. Walter Feigenbaum  
Asst. City Attorney

Mayor Joseph  
County Council of Mexico  
in San Antonio.

San Antonio Public Works  
Charles N. Clark  
Mr. J. S. Ellis  
Director General  
Carrington  
Rommel  
John Bellotti  
Mrs. John Bellotti  
Mrs. J. S. Ellis

R. E. Telasco  
Pres. 1901  
Jury Aubrey Keating  
Vallarta Art Gallery

Mrs. Lou Taylor  
Com. 1901  
J. J. Jimenez  
Pres. 1901  
Society

Ignacio Lozano  
Publisher "La Prensa"  
Mano M. Machado  
George A. Vane  
Dallas

*E.M. Todd*

E.M. Todd  
Project Supervisor

*J.C. Norby*

J.C. Norby  
Project Supervisor

*Thos. A. Coghill*

Thos. Coghill  
City Engineer

*Wm. B. Blanchet*

Wm. B. Blanchet  
Legal Advisor

*Stewart King*

Stewart King  
Trees, Shrubs,  
Flowers, Vegetables

*E. J. Altgelt*

E. J. Altgelt  
Land Agent

*Mildred Taylor*

Mrs. Mildred Taylor Sloan  
Journalist

*Maury Maverick*

Maury Maverick

*Floyd McGown*

Floyd McGown

*C. L. Fries*

City Clerk

*James P. Pappas, Sr.*  
Requinal Governor Lubac

*Frank B. Calhoun*  
Judge, Corporation  
Court

Elizabeth Okalau  
Ch. Old Building  
San Antonio Conservation Society

*R. W. Mickler*

R. W. Mickler  
Executive Director

Ruth Cox  
#

Yus. Traver y Nouze

R. E. O'Neil

Mayor of San Antonio

*Fenner Roth*

Fenner Roth  
N.Y.A. District Administrator

*O'Neill Ford*

O'Neill Ford  
Project Architect

*M. L. Crimmins*

Col. M. L. Crimmins  
Research Agent

*J. B. Hamilton Magruder*

Hamilton Magruder  
Manager for City

*J. Blanding Sloan*

J. Blanding Sloan  
Arts and Crafts

*Atlee B. Ayres*

Atlee B. Ayres  
Consulting Architect

*Dahl Dewees*

Dahl Dewees  
Consulting Architect

*George L. Johnson*

George Johnson  
N.Y.A. Architect

*James P. Perry*

James P. Perry  
N.Y.A. Structural Engineer

Henry B. Dushman  
Trustee White Memorial Museum

Melesher Radwell

J. P. Herberle  
City Engineer

Maynard P. Peck  
Com. de la Com. de la C. P. S.

J. J. Amundson  
Architect

Ext work in Arkansas

S. A. Senior Chamber of Commerce  
by Carlton Odgers Jr.

Juan Velazquez  
Antonio Valdivia  
Alberto Gomez  
Jacob C. Lopez  
- C. Escamilla

Francisco Garza  
Martin Aguero  
F. P. Flores

Ellis Island  
Frank L. O'Neil

Due to the high opinion the Commissioners, with the Mayor, have of this project, all officials, Mayor and Commissioners, hereunto attach their names, desiring also to share in the honor of establishing this great project.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 12th day of October, 1939, in the two hundred and seventeenth year of original "La Villita," and in the first year of its re-creation.

Mayor Navarck  
MAYOR

Ray Davis  
Commissioner of Taxation

Henry P. Klein  
Commissioner of Sanitation,  
Parks, and Public Property

Louis W. Lipscomb  
Commissioner of Fire and Police

Quice E. Stiffler  
Commissioner of Streets  
and Public Improvements

*File R. Williams  
Administrator  
N- 7-1*

ATTEST:

J. J. Patterson  
City Clerk

*Henry Hillman*

Following the reading of the ordinance, Mayor Maverick announced that he wished to show the map of La Villita to the assemblage, and proceeded to explain the plan of the Villita, using a large wall map to indicate the places he named.

Mayor Maverick: As some of you people well know, San Antonio has never had a unique or artistic place where 500 or more people can sit down in the open and be entertained. We want to have a place where this can be taken care of and where a large number of people can see a program or listen to music and have a supper or a convention, and enjoy themselves. Villita will also be the tourist information center, which will mean that a building can be taken over by the Chamber of Commerce and the Municipal Information Bureau of the City of San Antonio. A tourist who wants to know something about roads or places to go can go there and get a road map from Bill Furlong and while he is getting the map Mr. Furlong is supposed to say that this is a beautiful place and we want you to see it; then there would be some people outside to take over the tourist and show him everything and get some of his money. (Laughter) Oh, and give him his money's worth and make him happy.

These seven original houses (indicates on a large map, shown also in miniature in ordinance) that are standing now are not to be changed in any way except that we will have to reconstruct them where walls are falling down. No new small houses are to be built. One has been there as long as 200 years. Others have been there over 75 years. One thing, however, we must have light and air. The darkness and dirt of houses, and the mud of ancient streets must go out. There is no glory in darkness, disease and inconvenience.

This is going to be (indicating on map) the Plaza Juarez, where we hope to put up a statue of Juarez eventually. This is Calle Hidalgo, and this is Bolivar Building, three great Americans - two of Mexico and one of South America, whom we honor. The woodwork project will begin at once. There will be a place for weaving and one for all the different sorts of crafts.

In other cities - Los Angeles, for instance - they have what is called "Olivera Street." Why, that is a completely new place. One of the buildings is sort of old, but it is not nearly as old as anything we have here. This La Villita will be the most authentic thing of its kind - comparable with the Williamsburg Project in Virginia. For that project, \$16,000,000 has been donated by the Rockefeller family, John D. Jr., I think. So far, San Antonio has spent practically nothing on this, and it will probably eventually cost a quarter of a million dollars, and the City will pay an exceedingly small amount of that. Practically all the money will come from the Federal Government.

My good fellow citizens, it is the habit of Mayors of the time to chisel the Federal Government. That is one of my sacred or profane duties. We will not go into our philosophies of government, or into the ethical side of the question, but I am going to get federal money for San Antonio's La Villita while the money is available. Indeed I am. Thank you very much. (applause)

We now have read "The Villita Ordinance", and it is presented to the Commission of San Antonio and to the people of San Antonio.

I am going to ask the City Clerk to call the roll, and when he calls the name, I would like for the Commissioners to say a few words for the record and we will have what each one says entered into the record along with the Ordinance.

City Clerk: Commissioner Hein!

Commissioner Hein: Your Honor and members of the Commission, Ladies and Gentlemen: I believe that we will be negligent in our duties if we do not go the limit of this La Villita

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Project. The value of it has been brought to our attention. We should do our duty along that line, and for that reason I vote "Aye" and sign my name.

Mayor Maverick: I want to announce that the persons who sign this ordinance will be given a key to the Villita - on one side it says "City of San Antonio" and on the other side "La Villita". It has the five points of the Texas star. I hope it will open a new life. All of those who sign this ordinance will get a free key. All those who want to buy them can get them for 75¢.

City Clerk: Commissioner Davis!

Commissioner Davis: It would be difficult indeed, to add anything to the ordinance itself as it has been read to you here this morning, except to say that I am particularly proud and happy to be associated with the program for the restoration of this wonderfully historic property. I vote "Aye".

City Clerk: Commissioner Steffler!

Commissioner Steffler: It is indeed a pleasure for me to have been able to contribute a small part toward the restoration of this historic spot which will live long in the annals of the City of San Antonio. "Aye".

Mayor Maverick: I want to call the attention of the Commission to the fact that the Declaration of Independence was not signed in a day, all at once. I want to move that Mr. Lipscomb be allowed to sign the ordinance when he gets back, and that it also be permitted that his remarks be included in the record just as though he were here. (Motion seconded and carried)

Commissioner Lipscomb: From a historical standpoint, the Villita Project is the greatest step forward taken in San Antonio in the last quarter of a century. We all must do out utmost to protect and re-establish everything of a worthwhile nature. The Villita Project is once again making tangible one of San Antonio's great assets.

Mayor Maverick: There are a number of people here to sign this ordinance. We have some other business to take care of and we will meet again this afternoon to do that. When we recess, the people who are to sign can come up here and sign and we will give them a key.

Before this, I want to make special reference to some other people. Just as I went on the floor of the Council Chamber this morning I found out that I had not invited the Mexican Consul, Mr. Omar Josefe. I had him called right away and told him that we would send a police car after him if he did not come. He is a fine fellow and he knows I did not intend to overlook sending him a formal invitation, and he came right over. There he is now, and I want him to come up here and say a few words and be presented with a key. You do not have to say much, Mr. Josefe, but you can say what is on your mind.

Mr. Omar Josefe: Your Honor, Commissioners, Ladies and Gentlemen: We have heard what I consider to be the most wonderful and ambitious project that a town could undertake. The Mayor has explained to us the meaning and the scope of the restoration plan that he has in view to achieve for San Antonio on the most picturesque, historic and authentic spot that will make San Antonio more interesting, not only for us Mexicans and Latin-Americans, but for all residents and visitors. I think it is really a great idea and I only wonder if the City will carry it through in all its scope, not because I doubt the capacity of the Administration, both technical and financial, but because it is not a question of mere architectural restoration, for the Ordinance calls for the creation of a living eighteenth century bit of a village right in the heart of a twentieth century modern city. That is why I consider it a quite far-reaching plan and I only hope to be here to see it accomplished. I thank you (addressing the Mayor) for the honor you have conferred on me inviting me to sign the minutes of

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the Ordinance whereby the "La Villita" project is enacted and in presenting me with one of the symbolic keys. I appreciate likewise your explanation about the oversight in inviting me earlier. Fortunately, I got here in time to hear your report about your recent trip to Monterey and all of the plans for the "Villita" restoration.

Mayor Maverick: I want to present to you Mr. C. N. Chubb, local head of the San Antonio Public Service Company. I have said three or four times, and I want to say it again now for the record, that I took up with the Public Service Company the matter of obtaining the La Villita property, and if they had traded like some people have in the matter of purchase of lands, they could have demanded a much higher price. They did not do this, however, but made us a trade of lands of equal value, and it is a special courtesy that we were not held up for this land. I am asking him to speak on the Villita matter, and sign the ordinance, if his business connections will permit him to do so. Mr. Chubb!

Mr. Chubb: For our Board of Directors and the officials of the San Antonio Public Service Company I should like to say that we are glad to have been in a position to help with this project, which we are sure is going to be for the benefit of San Antonio.

It is always the purpose of the Public Service Company to help further the interests of the City of San Antonio.

Mayor Maverick: The next person I want to call on is Mrs. J. C. Griswold. After that I want to call on Mr. Velasco, President of the Mexican Chamber of Commerce. I want to tell you about Mrs. Griswold. For twenty years she has been the head of the Pan-American Round Table here, and is the foremost advocate of Pan-American peace in the South and one of the foremost in America. I would like for her to say a few words and I want to give her a key and ask her to sign the ordinance.

Mrs. J. C. Griswold: On behalf of the Pan-American Round Table, I wish to thank you and to offer you our congratulations. For twenty-three years the members of the Pan-American have worked untiringly to create a warmer sentiment and better relations between the Anglo-American and the Latin-American countries. As I said in a letter to Mr. Cordell Hull, it is education, and not legislation that will bring the peace we hope for. We know that the education part of this project will be most helpful and constructive in this. We of the Round Table have long ago appreciated that Texas is the great stone on which to build the peace of Pan-America. We feel that the spirit of the Alamo and at Goliad made sacred this State; that it is therefore the one stone on which the Mexican and Central American countries and our United States together can achieve and the thing we strive for. To do this we have to try to understand the problems of peace of the United States. To this end I know that the United States will always stand against foreign aggression in this hemisphere.

Mayor Maverick: I want to call on Mrs. Lane Taylor and either Mrs. Keating or Mrs. Norval Welsh to come up here. Get ready to talk, my friends.

I want now to have the pleasure of introducing Mr. R. E. Velasco, and I want to tell him something. The other night we had a reception at the Governor's Palace for the famous Ecuadorean Consul General. The trouble was, we had about twenty South American officers and they did not know how to speak English and none of us knew how to speak much Spanish. I want to tell Mr. Velasco and Mr. Lozano, of La Prensa, that you Latin-Americans should not stand around and let Anglo-Americans who do not know any Spanish, entertain these famous Latin-American people without your being there. We feel like dummies! Speak out, Mr. Velasco.

Mr. Velasco: Indeed it is a pleasure and an honor that has been bestowed on me personally and on the Mexican Chamber of Commerce, as its President, when called upon to sign

La Villita Ordinance. We feel that this project and other undertaking Mayor Maverick has taken along this line are foundations for better understanding and finer friendship between the United States and Latin-American countries. We keenly appreciate these efforts on his part. We think these steps are based on justice and in this way we of the American Continent will get along in the right spirit in the present and at future times. I would like personally to keep the La Villita key that Mayor Maverick will present me, but it rightfully belongs to the Mexican Chamber of Commerce of San Antonio and we will make a special place for it there in memory of this event and of Mayor Maverick.

Mayor Maverick: <sup>THANK</sup> That you, Mr. Velasco. And now I want Mrs. Keating to talk to you and sign the ordinance.

Mary Aubrey Keating: We want to thank Mayor Maverick and the Commissioners for preserving La Villita. It will serve to remind us of the faith and courage which the early settlers, who established this little village, had so abundantly. The roots of a City must be continually protected and nourished in order to keep growth and progress health and in keeping with the founder's vision.

Mayor Maverick: I will now ask Mrs. Lane Taylor to address us.

Mrs. Lane Taylor: For fifteen years the Conservation Society has worked faithfully and enthusiastically to preserve the charm and beauty of old historic San Antonio.

Our first appearance before the City Council was back in the years when Mayor John Tobin was in office, where we met an appreciative response.

The restoration of Villita Street has been for years a hope (if a dim one), for it seemed a financial impossibility.

Mayor Maverick's brilliant idea of trading for property, his sympathetic understanding of the value of the old buildings - coupled with his initiative in securing the interest of the general public, and the help of the N. Y. A. is worthy of our admiration and support, which we now pledge to the completion of the wonderful project for San Antonio. Mayor Maverick, you may ask upon our cooperation.

Mayor Maverick: And now I want to introduce Mr. Tom Banks, President of the Yanaguana Society, which has collected all the important material concerning the Villita and other important historical matter in Texas. Their headquarters has been in the Cos House for several years, and now the City owns the house. Mr. Banks!

Mr. Thomas Y. Banks: I think sufficient has already been said in praise of this project, and I can add little to the unanimous approval voiced here today. The Yanaguana Society, which takes its name from the first Indian village on the site of San Antonio, has been occupying the Cos House, one of those included in the project, for the past three or four years, and in consequence is greatly interested in the accomplishment of the restoration work. The Mayor is assured of our unbounded support in continuance of the program to the end it will be fully accomplished; we are happy to co-operate with him.

Mayor Maverick: Is Mr. McIntosh of the Light or Mr. Huntress of the Express, or both of them, in the audience? I want to ask the newspapers to sign. I am sorry they are not here. But I want to introduce to you the publisher of a very fine newspaper. I am not a scholar in his language, but I am informed by scholars that it is a very well edited journal.

I should call on Colonel Crimmins and Rena Maverick Green and numerous other people but our time is growing short and I know they will forgive me.

Mr. Lozano is editor of La Prensa - I want him to come up and sign the ordinance and speak to you. Look at what we got in Mexico, first. (Indicating the table in front of the council chamber, on which were displayed articles of glass, silver, china, etc., which were

given him and Mrs. Maverick or purchased by them on their recent trip to Mexico)

Mayor Maverick: This is some of the stuff my wife and I got in Mexico. This is not silver (indicating plate), it is glass plated with silver. The Governor of Nuevo Leon gave us some of these things; some of it we bought. This is a very beautiful blanket which was especially woven for us by the Governor of Coahuila. Alright, Mr. Lozano, we will be pleased to hear you.

Mr. Ignacio Lozano: It is indeed an honor to be invited to sign this book on this occasion. The twelfth of October marked the discovery of America. We, the Latin-American people of San Antonio, celebrate it every year, and we are more than glad that this project - that the introduction of the ordinance on "La Villita" - coincided with the celebration we have.

A people without a tradition is a people without a history. I am very glad that San Antonians can, with this project, in their time keeping up something that speaks about the old days and the old civilization without hurting the feelings of the Latin-American people. We are more than glad for that. We congratulate Mayor Maverick and all of the others on this project for their fine point of view. The Latin-Americans of San Antonio are more than willing to co-operate in any possible way with you. My sincere congratulations for this - and my hearty thanks for giving me the occasion of not paying twenty-five cents for the key.

Mayor Maverick: Now, ladies and gentlemen, I want to make a few announcements. Tonight is the celebration of the Latin-Americans in the Auditorium, and also the Indian festival of the Conservation Society.

Mrs. Leighton: Mayor Maverick, the Conservation Society's Indian Festival has been postponed until Saturday night.

Mayor Maverick: Thank you - both of these are beautiful - the Fiesta de la Raza tonight at the Auditorium, and the Indian Festival Saturday. Mrs. Leighton is the chairman of the Indian Festival. Mrs. Maverick and I will attend both.

I want everyone who is supposed to sign this register to come by here and sign it. (a large group of people signed).

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On motion duly seconded and carried, the meeting adjourned.

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APPROVED:

*Mary Maverick*  
MAYOR.

ATTEST:

*J. J. Patterson*  
CITY CLERK.

*This was an extremely  
interesting session -  
Mary*