



*The*

*Spring 1965*



Natural resources and a strategic location for carrying on trade are essential to the sustained growth and development of any city. But the ultimate difference between mediocrity and greatness for a city rests to a great extent on the attitude and general outlook of its populace.

Especially is this axiom true in the nation's sixth largest metropolis — Houston, Texas. Here is a city

facing a "future unlimited." As the Space Center of the World, Houston looks only to the future on the dawn of a new age, yet not unmindful of its glorious past and the all-important human element that shaped its present and set the stage for its tomorrow.

Houston was founded and built by people of vision, drive, and — most importantly — a positive

the unfinished city...

# HOUSTON



SOUTHWEST COLLECTION  
Texas Tech University  
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attitude. Succeeding generations have perpetuated this policy of positive and progressive thinking and resolutely clung to a determination to exercise a freedom of choice in chartering their city's course.

One notable example of this choice has been the people's determination to shun outside assistance in building their city. Perhaps the most spectacular example of urban renewal through private or civic

financing is Houston's own Cullen Center, started in 1948 when Hugh Roy Cullen, an oil millionaire and philanthropist-extraordinary, acquired residential properties that had degenerated into \$5-a-week rooming houses. The Center will ultimately be a \$125 million complex of office buildings, hotel, garages, apartment towers and plazas on a 12-acre plot in the southwest corner of Downtown Houston.

A black and white aerial photograph of Houston, Texas, showing a dense urban landscape with numerous skyscrapers and residential areas. The skyline is visible in the distance, with several prominent high-rise buildings. The foreground is filled with a dense grid of smaller buildings and houses.

# STON







Already constructed is a 21-story office building, an adjoining garage and a hotel. Two 25-story apartment houses and a 52-story office building with more than one million square feet of space are set for construction next.

Of course, natural resources and a suitable location for commerce cannot be overlooked as important assets for a city. Houston now is amply blessed with both, although an initial handicap afforded by its inland location had to first be overcome.

Proving to the world that a poor location need not necessarily be an unsurmountable liability, Houston opened its doors to world shipping and eventual recognition as a leading seaport by dredging a shallow bayou to Galveston Bay. Today Houston ranks second only to New York City among U. S. shipping centers, thanks to the positive attitude shown by the city's early residents.

Houston's rise to eminence has been nothing short of fantastic. One writer recently stated that "Houston's success-story history *must* be true. It is simply too strange to be fiction."

The smoke and dust of battle had barely settled at San Jacinto in April, 1836, when two brothers, John K. and Augustus C. Allen, decided to establish a city at the headwaters of Buffalo Bayou, a few miles upstream from the site of the decisive battle for Texas independence. Astute businessmen obviously with an eye for the future, they purchased for about a dollar an acre a plot of land from the pioneering John Austin family. On Aug. 30, 1836, they named their daringly-hopeful venture after the daringly-successful General Sam Houston, hero of the San Jacinto battle.

Despite extravagant promises in newspapers throughout the North and East about the glowing potential of the new city, success came slowly at first, due in part to a recurring epidemic of yellow fever. First a trickle of immigrants came. Then a stream. Finally, wave after wave flooded the area with a rising tide of population that reached high-water marks in the 1960 census — 938,219 for the city and 1,243,258 for the metropolitan area.

Four full years have elapsed since the latest nose count and it is a foregone conclusion that more than a million now live within the city limits of Houston.

One of the Allen Brothers' principal claims of fame for their new city was that Houston had been chosen the capital of the Republic of Texas on Nov. 30, 1836. The city enjoyed this status for a period of four years before the Texas Congress moved the capital permanently to Austin.

A great part of Houston's history can be told in terms of outstanding chamber of commerce leadership in solving crucial problems and taking advan-

tage of timely opportunities. Organized in 1840, the chamber immediately rose to the challenge of urgent needs fostered by the move of the capital. The designation of Austin as the capital had come as a particularly deadly blow to Houston at a time when a combination of disease epidemics and inflation (Texas dollars were worth only 50 cents in U. S. money) threatened to push the new community into oblivion.

It was about this time that the dominant spirit of cooperation so deeply imbued in the people of early Houston received a nudge from the chamber of commerce that resulted in the official establishment of the "Port of Houston." The Texas Congress quickly granted the city the right to remove obstructions from Buffalo Bayou and to improve navigation. Thus the shipping industry was born in Houston, bringing with it the life-blood for growth and eliminating the city's disadvantage of an inland location.

Construction has been one of the keys to Houston's phenomenal growth. And here, the city's reputation for bigness is not entirely unfounded. They think big and build big. Never restricted by a lack of lateral expansion room, Houston nevertheless has "reached for the sky" with a great many of its structures. Unlike many other cities that seem to concentrate their skyscrapers in the general downtown area, Houston has seen its high-rise structures mushroom almost anywhere, giving rise to its designation as the "city of many skylines." Those who leave the city and return a few months later often find it the "city of changing skylines."

This continuous building trend has prompted one resident of the city to remark that "I think I'll like to live in Houston — if they ever get it finished." But at the present, there is no end in sight — only plans for more and more skyscrapers.

It would be extremely difficult if not impossible to list in order of importance all the factors that go to make Houston a great city. One recent development that tended to boost the city's stock in world prominence was an announcement in Washington, D. C., in September, 1961, that the National Aeronautics and Space Administration would locate its Manned Spacecraft Center in Houston. The building boom touched off by the announcement continues to pick up momentum, skyrocketing construction by hundreds of millions of dollars.

Contrary to popular belief, rockets will not be fired from the center although every other facet of the NASA space program will be directed from the vastly complex installation. Once a manned mission is launched from Cape Kennedy in Florida, the Houston MSC will serve as command and control post for the flight.

World renown has also come to Houston through



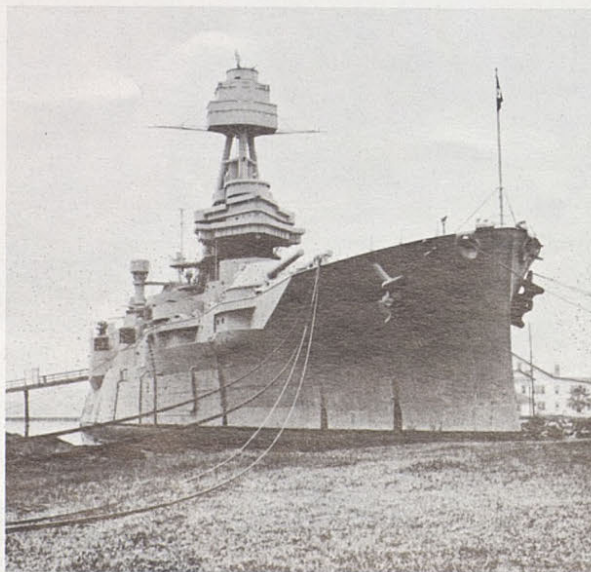
the Texas Medical Center, located near mid-town. Conceived and authorized in 1946 as a means of coordinating health-education, health-research, and patient-care as a health team, the Center now consists of 10 major hospitals and clinics, three medical schools and three research institutes representing an investment of more than \$125 million, exclusive of land values.

The Center has gained a world-wide reputation, numbering among its patients European royalty and Far Eastern heads of state as well as a number of famous Hollywood movie stars.

If Houston is understandably pleased with its designations as Space Center and Medical Center, it is no less proud of its position, of Brainpower Center of the Southwest. Home of 17 institutions of higher learning with a combined enrollment of nearly 33,000 students, the city is rapidly emerging as an educational center of national prominence.

Rice University, through its pursuit of academic excellence, has attained a status as one of the most widely known technical and scientific schools in the Southwest. The nation's first college to establish a space science department, it imposes a rigid academic standard and restricts its enrollment to 2,000, usually the cream of the Texas scholastic crop.

One of the fastest growing institutions in the state, the University of Houston recently became a state-supported school. Its nearly 19,000 students places it second only to the University of Texas in total enrollment.



Visitors to the San Jacinto Battlefield southeast of Houston can climb aboard for a first-hand look at the battleship U.S.S. Texas, veteran of several engagements in two world wars, and permanently moored near the SJ monument. Admission is 30 cents for adults and 20 cents for children.

Several smaller colleges and universities call Houston their home, as do the University of Texas School of Dentistry and Baylor University School of Medicine, both a part of the Texas Medical Center complex.

In the promotion of cultural pursuits, Houston takes a back seat to none. The city is justifiably proud of its 50-year-old Houston Symphony that performed under the baton of Leopold Stokowski for six years. Jesse H. Jones Hall for the Performing Arts, when completed in mid-1966, will occupy ground hallowed by the performances of such notables as Caruso, Pavlova, Paderewski, Heifetz, Will Rogers and others.

The faint-of-heart should think twice before tackling Houston's intricate network of bustling expressways. With the city's automobile population skyrocketing every year (they expect to have 1 million cars registered there by 1970), the 245-mile, \$400 million expressway system is already obsolete — even before it is completed.

Typical of Houston's positive attitude toward progress is its preparation for tomorrow's needs today — one example being an intercontinental airport capable of handling supersonic aircraft. Though no such ships exist today for transporting passengers, Houston is betting \$150 million in facilities that it not only will be used for that purpose, but will also be one of the most functional airfields in the world.

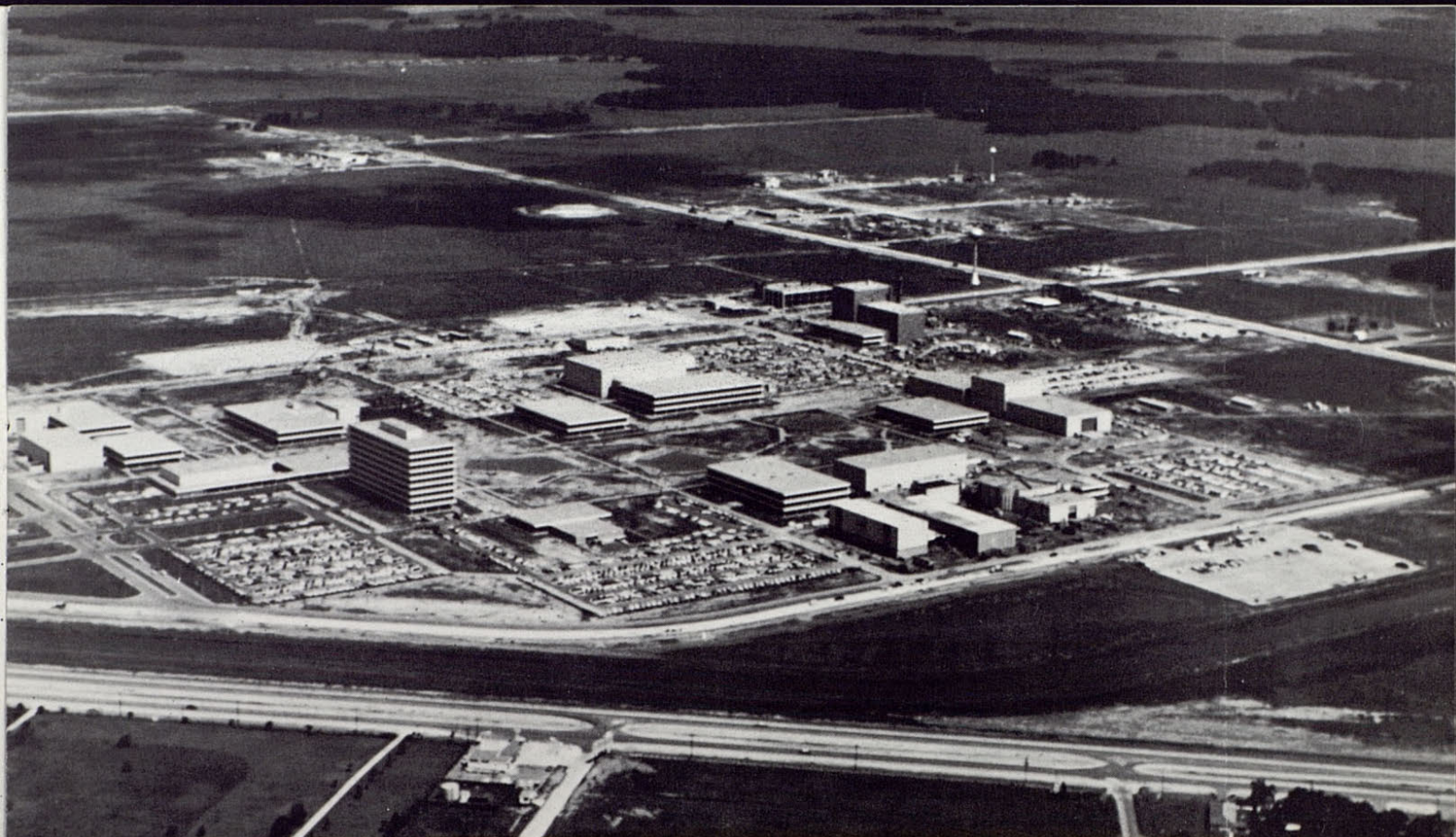
The field is expected to be operational by 1966, but officials say it could easily be 1970 before completion is realized. One runway is completed and a second is well on its way. Later in the summer, a contract for \$8 million is expected to be awarded — for apron and ramp areas alone.

Initially, two "drive-in" square buildings will be connected by a battery-powered underground transportation system. Second-floor "flight stations," each of which can load five supersonic airplanes at one time, will be at each corner of these square units. Together the two units will provide 40 loading spaces, compared to a total of 19 planes which can load at the existing Houston International Airport.

Houston's sources of income are legion, but none has contributed more than the city's industrial development than petroleum and its allied operations. One-third of the nation's total refinery capacity is confined in the immediate area of Houston. The area also claims the distinction of leading the nation in the production of petrochemicals, a by-product of the petroleum operations.

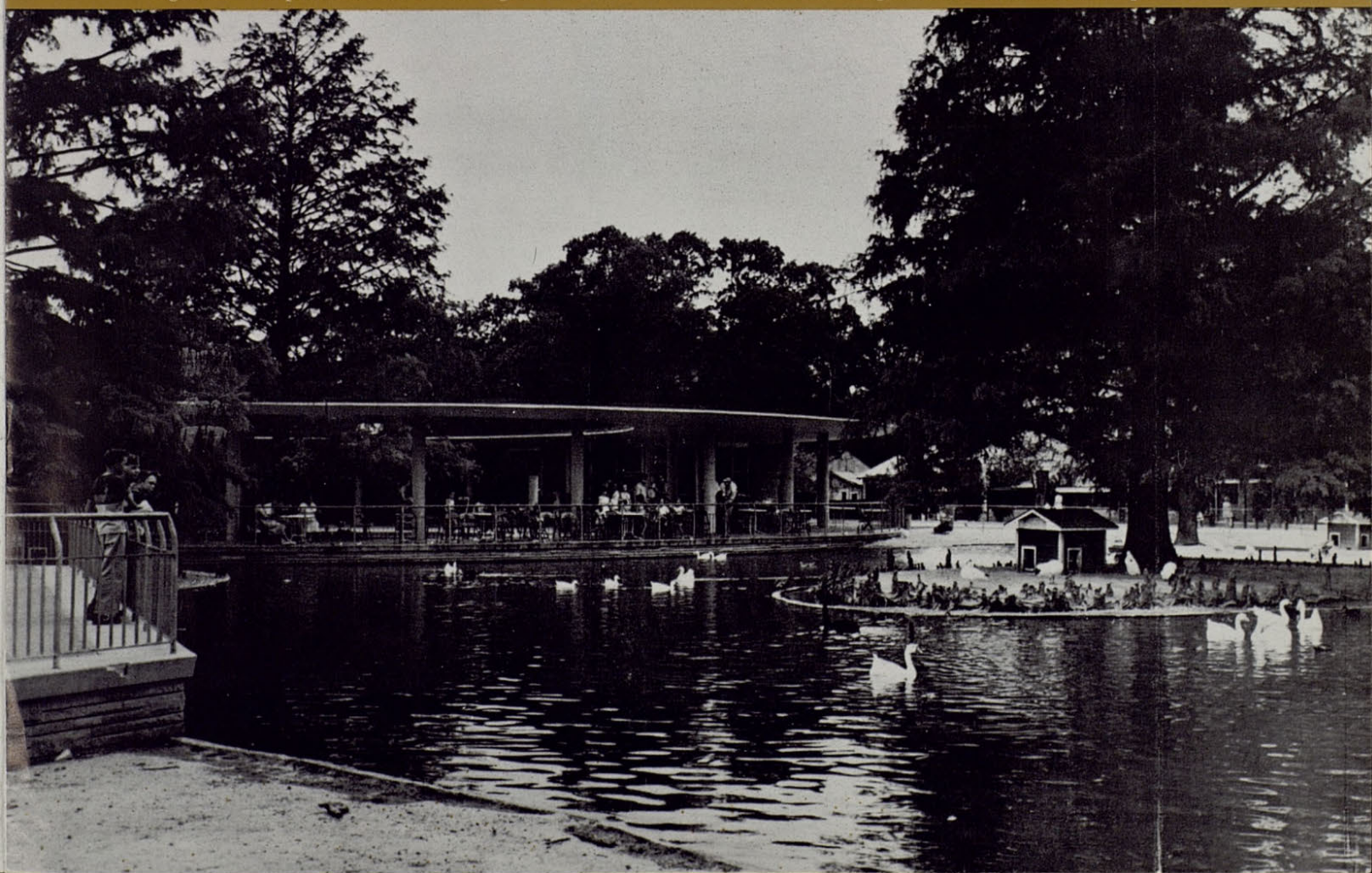
A visit to Houston should convince even the harshest skeptic that tales of the city's traditional wealth aren't too exaggerated. Houston spends freely. But it seems also to be spending wisely.





The Manned Spacecraft Center of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration is under construction at a cost of over \$200 million on the shores of Clear Lake, 22 miles from downtown Houston. From this center, above, astronauts and engineers will plan and control all flights to the moon.

Houston's Hermann Park, below, south of the downtown area, is one of many recreational facilities in the city. In addition to one of the area's largest zoos, the park also houses the Museum of Natural History, Miller Memorial Outdoor Theatre, golf and tennis facilities, and picnic areas.





*Come rain, snow  
hurricane or heat wave . . .*

# NO RAIN CHECK NEEDED HERE



For many years, Yankee Stadium in New York City—the mighty “House that Ruth Built”—has been considered the epitome of baseball parks. Due to its unusual triple-deck construction and to the legion of great personalities who have performed there, the famous stadium has become synonymous with greatness.

But in a gigantic plastic-capped edifice that stands like a glimmering gem in the South Texas sun is the Harris County Domed Stadium—“The House that Houston Built.” Brand new, it naturally has no history of memorable athletic accomplishments. But no other stadium in the world can match it for structural genius. As a versatile sports emporium, it has no peer.

Bigger than Rome’s ancient Coliseum, Houston’s Domed Stadium is quite a sports arena, even by Texas standards. You could lay two football fields end to end and still not span the gigantic circle. And for good measure, you could stand Houston’s famed 18-story Shamrock Hilton Hotel in the center—provided, of course, you first removed the sign from the top of the hotel.

Unlike the Coliseum and Yankee Stadium, the Domed Stadium will need no rain checks. Around

and above the spectators will be the largest clear-span steel and plastic dome in history. Elements will force no postponements of sports events. Come rain, snow, hurricane or heatwave, the show will go on as scheduled in Houston’s air conditioned new pride and joy.

The fabulous structure actually came about as the fulfillment of one man’s dream “to combat heat, cold, rain and mosquitos.” Roy Hofheinz, former mayor of Houston and current president of the Houston Sports Association, owners of the Houston National Baseball League Astros, took on the task of bringing major league baseball to the city.

“I got into this because the city has needed a multi-purpose stadium from the beginning. The stadium actually served as the vehicle to get major league ball here,” he said.

But wishing alone didn’t build the Domed Stadium. Countless hours of figuring, engineering, planning and consulting went into the project. Details were worked out with the Harris County judge and commissioners, allowing the Houston Sports Association to operate the stadium under a 40-year lease calling for \$750,000 annual rental.

If financing posed a big problem, engineering the largest clear-span dome in the world presented

a gigantic one. Architects were faced with such Herculean problems as how to span 642 feet with a dome, how to grow grass in an enclosed and air conditioned stadium, and how to move 10,000 seats to handle different types of sporting events.

*There were those who scoffed and said it couldn’t be done. And there were those who knew it could—and did it.*

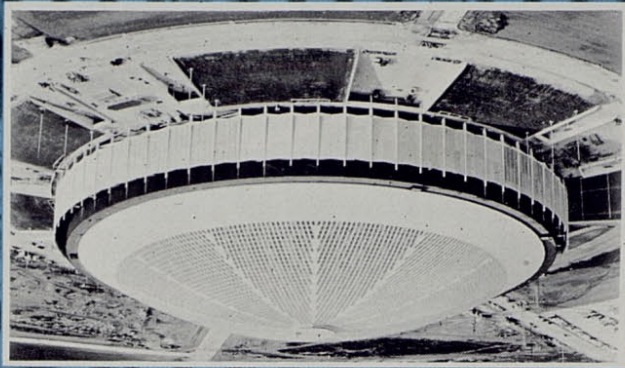
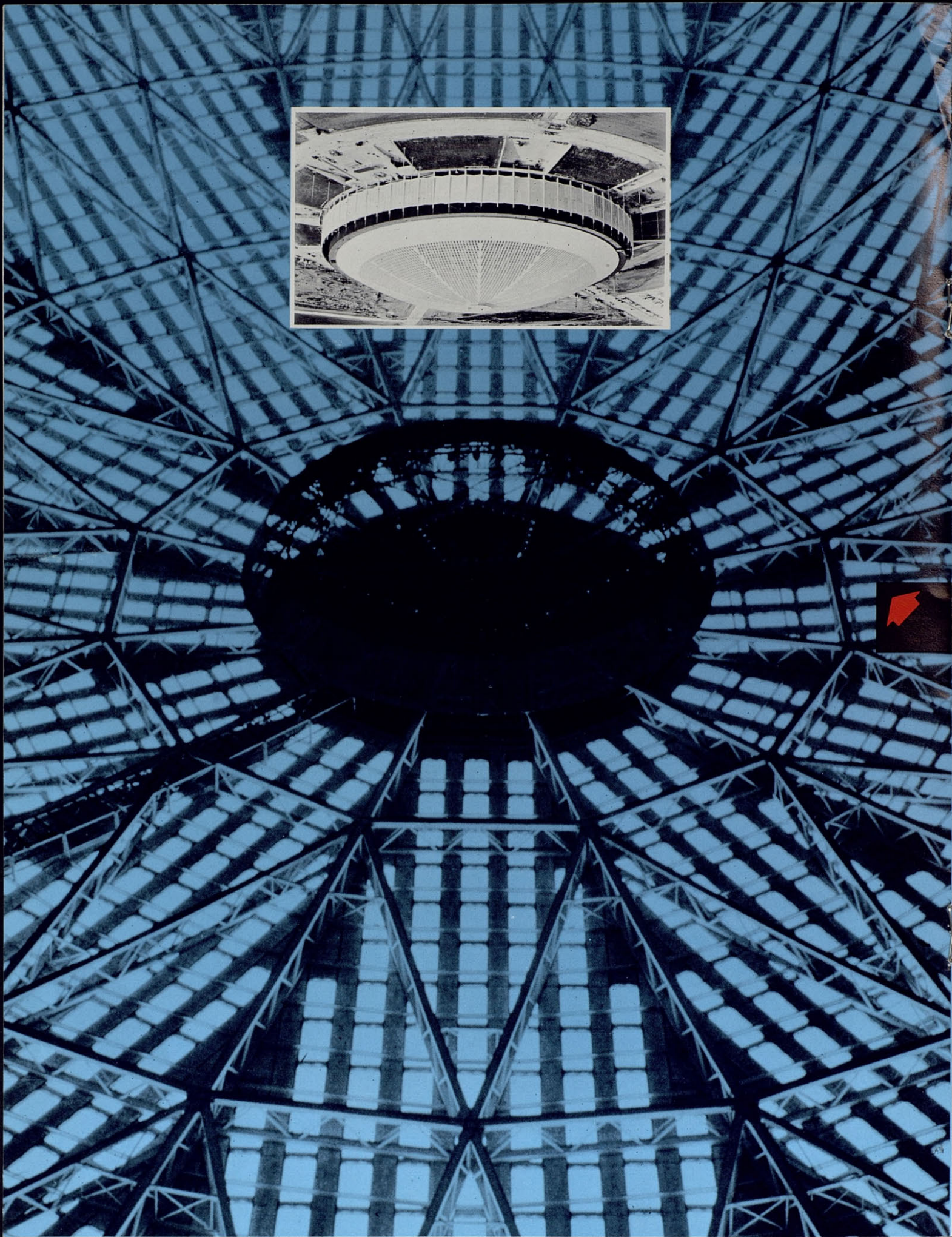
The huge dome itself presented the toughest engineering problem of all. No one had ever undertaken such a project; no precedent had been set to guide the planners. But after carefully considering many schemes, the architects settled on a design consisting of a steel lamella frame incorporating trussed beams arching upward to meet at the center and bracing in a diamond pattern.

This steel skeleton supports a roof containing 4,596 skylights 7’2” by 3’4” and each made of a cast acrylic sheet, a transparent plastic substance. To assure proper acoustics, half of the dome’s skin is of cement-bound wood excelsior panels. The bottom third of the dome is completely covered with the substance.

No cost has been spared to assure complete comfort for the spectators in the Domed Stadium. Fans will sit in upholstered theater-type seats

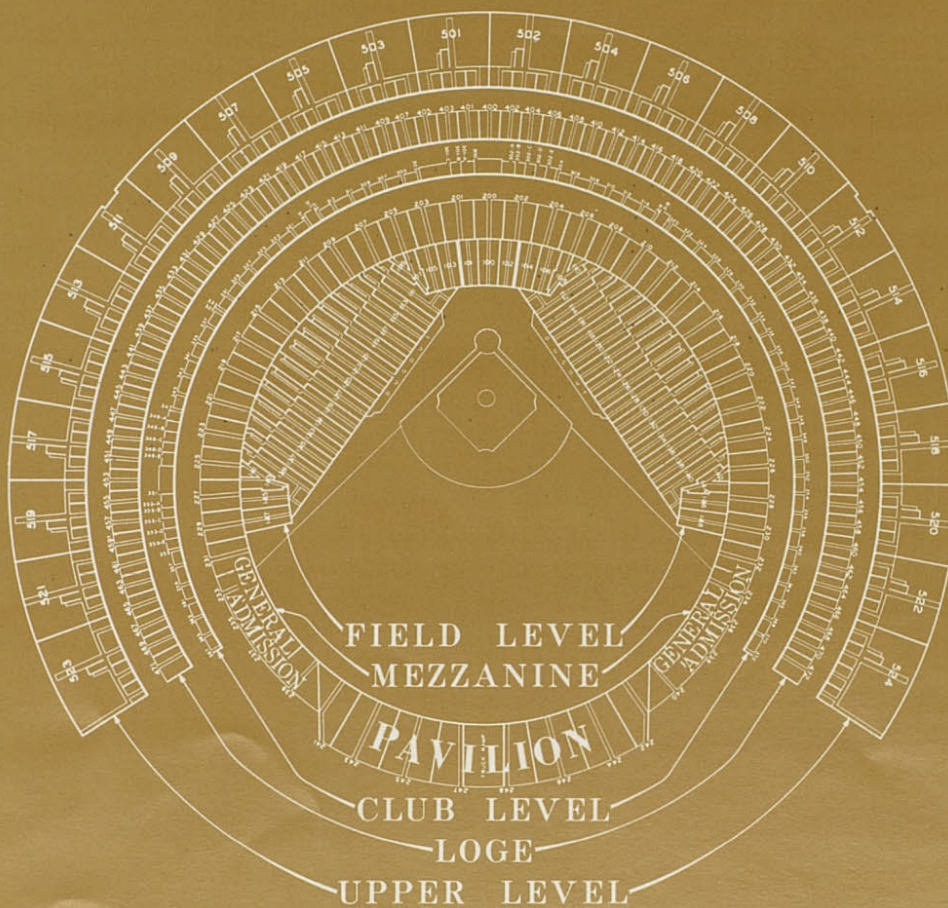
At right is a worm’s-eye view of Houston’s famous Domed Stadium, showing the apex of the plastic roof. Descending from the apex is a catwalk for photographers. An eye-in-the-sky television camera will fit in the center for overhead shots of athletic games.







## ASTRODOME SEATING CHART





throughout except those seated in the center field pavilion. Here the fans will "rough it" on upholstered seats with wooden backs.

Nor will the infamous sweltering summer heat of South Texas detract from the spectators' comfort, thanks to 6,600 tons of cooling capacity. Air inside the dome will be circulated at a rate of 2½ million cubic feet a minute while at the same time, 250,000 cubic feet of fresh air will be drawn in and air conditioned every 60 seconds.

Cigarette haze from 60,000 fans? No problem in the Domed Stadium! Recirculating air will be cleaned by electrostatic filters and activated charcoal filters will remove odors. The air conditioning, engineers say, will produce the effect of a light breeze. To avoid heat and humidity build-up, the air conditioning system will run continuously.

Football and baseball games are extremely injurious to any turf. The planners of the Domed Stadium were faced with the problem of developing a grass that would prove hardy and at the same time grow and thrive in an air conditioned enclosure. Texas A&M's Experimental Station produced the solution in Tiffway Bermuda.

Lighting the stadium presented still another important consideration in the construction project. This problem was easily solved with the inclusion of a double layer of skylights for daytime lighting. An outer layer of clear plastic permits a maximum transmission of sunlight while an inner layer diffuses it to scatter it evenly to all portions of the field. At night, the stadium is illumined by 1,960 floodlights. Total electrical consumption of 18,000 KVA in the stadium would light a city of about 9,000.

While the financing, dome construction, grass development and air conditioning rated top priority consideration, the stadium's planners by no means ignored the more minor details so essential to spectator convenience. Acoustical problems were licked by a low-level sound system composed of 6,000 electronic speakers, each adjusted so that sound and voice control can be perfectly tuned to all portions of the stadium.

Six levels of seating could have presented a degree of inconvenience for those on the top tier. But the planners of the Domed Stadium thought of that, too. Spectators will enter the stadium at about mid-point since the playing field is 25 feet below ground level. Thus vertical movement is minimized while gently-sloping ramps and escalators will carry fans to their desired levels.

Those who desire luxurious living while watching their ball games have also been considered. Strictly "top drawer," nothing like the miniature private clubs provided for this class of clientele has been seen anywhere. Featured in these carpeted 24- or 30-seat top level "space boxes" will be closed

circuit TV, refrigerators, telephones, private rest rooms, private elevators and catered hors d'oeuvres.

Fans driving to the stadium will discover that the planners have also remembered their problems. Paved parking areas for 500 buses and 30,000 cars completely surround the stadium and eight traffic arteries radiate from the circular structure in every direction. The system is so designed that the entire parking lot can be emptied into the city's street system in 22 minutes.

Further evidence that the builders of the Domed Stadium skimmed on nothing is seen in the Texas-sized scoreboard. Adaptable to all spectator sports and reaching more than 400 feet in length, the board includes a telélite picture screen in direct center field, an autogram message board, and three additional boards for information such as lineups, scores, balls and strikes, batting averages, etc.

The outstanding feature about the \$2 million scoreboard will be an electrical show lasting 40 seconds when the home team hits a home run.

Four-base clouts won't come easily in the Domed Stadium. Distances down each foul line measure 340 feet with center field being 406 feet from home plate. It would take a towering poke of 208 feet to reach the top of the dome, practically assuring few, if any, skylights broken by baseballs from within. It is also doubtful that any will be broken from without since the dome is designed to withstand hurricane winds of 135 miles per hour and gusts up to 165 mph.

Domed Stadium makes no claim on the largest seating capacity of U. S. stadiums — 45,000 for baseball, 52,000 for football, 60,000 for conventions and 66,000 for boxing — but it challenges any to match it for comfort, convenience and versatility.

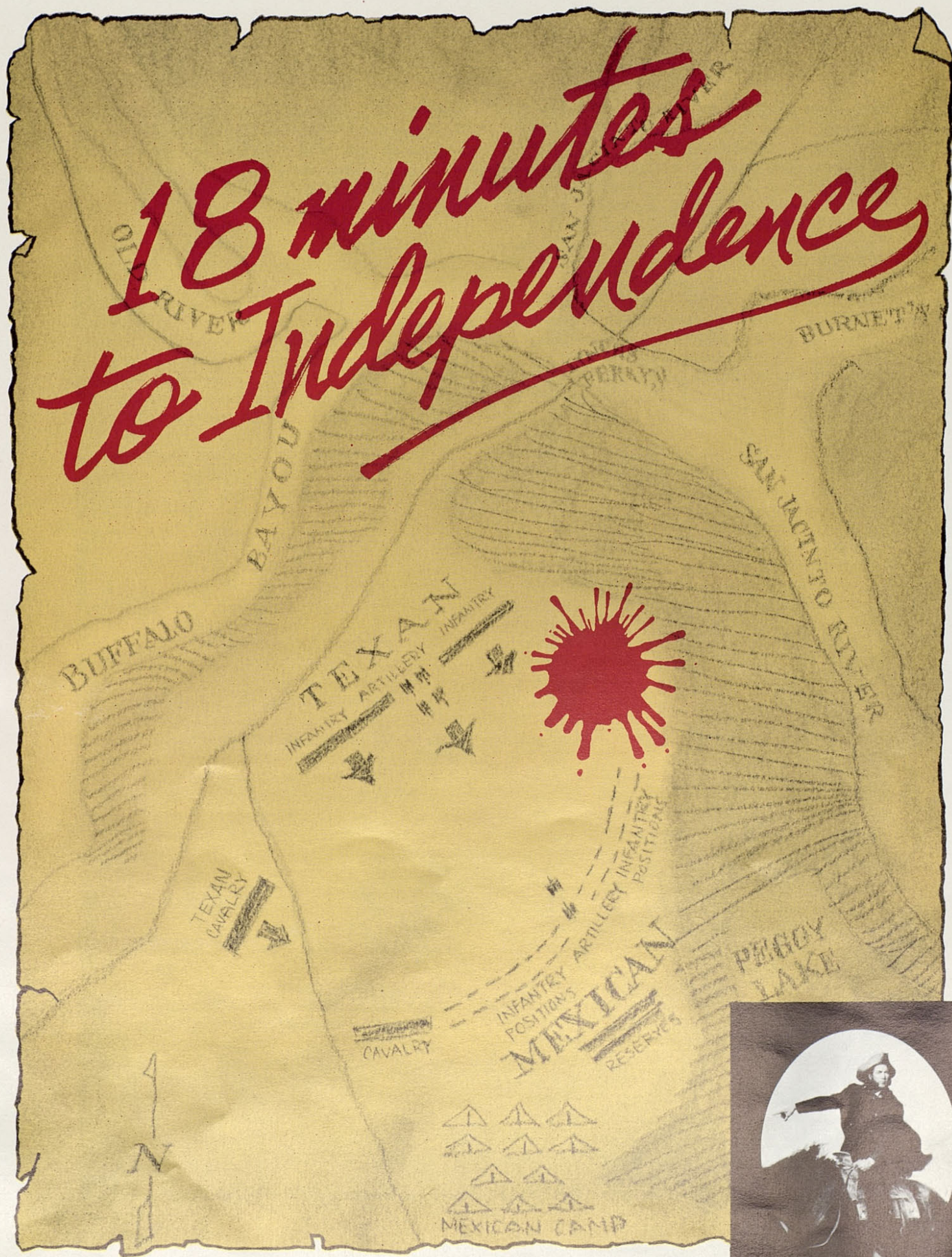
Take, for instance, the stadium's unique system for converting from baseball to football seating. At field level, two 5,000-seat sections on steel rails move to form a V-shape paralleling first and third base lines of the baseball diamond. A push of a button rotates the sections 35 degrees to parallel the sidelines of the football field.

The cost of this lush complex? The stadium alone carries a price tag of \$20 million. Another \$3 million was spent for the land while access roads and parking lot costs hiked the total to slightly more than \$31 million — infinitesimally low by Houston's usual standards of measuring progress.

Home of the Astros, the Houston Oilers of the American Football League, and the University of Houston Cougars, the Domed Stadium will also feature stock shows and rodeos, conventions, religious conclaves, shows and circuses, and "other sports and functions." No golf matches are planned for the stadium confines, but in light of Houston's "think big" philosophy, don't take any bets that one won't be staged.



# 18 minutes to Independence





**A** GREAT many chapters of Texas history have been written in blood. The Alamo. Goliad. Adobe Walls. And countless other Indian battles. Few have been any bloodier — or of more far-reaching consequence — than the glorious chapter written by a small heterogenic band of ragtag colonists in the decisive battle of San Jacinto.

It is doubtful that a close examination of battle records from time immemorial could reveal an 18-minute period with a more profound influence on the destiny of a nation, its people and posterity than one such period on April 21, 1836. Then, on the sloping plains of Southeast Texas near the present city of Houston, upwards of 900 men swiftly and convincingly put down the tyrannical dictates of Mexican despotism, soundly avenged two brutal and fiendish massacres, and assured the independence of the Texas republic.

Had conditions been different on that fateful day, those 18 minutes of battle might have produced a complete reversal of results that surely would have altered the course of the world for the next 130 years. But fortunately for the cause of freedom, fate decreed that the yoke of oppression should be cast off that day and the door opened for the establishment of a new world.

Politically, conditions in the late 1820s were becoming unbearable for men who had moved to the new Texas Frontier in search of livelihood. Colonies established in Texas by Stephen F. Austin had flourished and grown under the liberal democratic Mexican government, but in 1830 a military dictatorship took over. With it came the seeds of trouble that were to blossom soon into complete revolution.

New laws were passed forbidding further immigration of North Americans into Texas and increasingly heavy tariffs were imposed on the settlers. One unfair tariff-collecting incident led to another until a showdown finally came in June, 1835. A group of about 20 settlers elected a young lawyer named William Berret Travis as their captain and forthwith marched on the customs house at Ana-

huac, a 6-pound cannon in tow. On the morning of June 30, the Mexican troops stationed there capitulated after a brief struggle and delivered 64 stands of muskets and bayonets to the attacking Texans. Under promise to leave the territory immediately and never again to serve against the people of Texas, the captured men were released.

Other minor skirmishes followed in the next few weeks, but it was not until Oct. 2, 1835, that the differences between the Texans and the mother government in Mexico flamed into fullscale revolution.

Gen. Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna y Perez de Lebron — or Santa Anna, as he was more famously known — had taken over as president and dictator of Mexico. Determined to enforce the laws and to disarm the people of Texas, he sent 180 soldiers to Gonzales to recover a 6-pound cannon used by the settlers for defense against Indians. There the Mexican troops were met by upwards of 400 Texans who sent them scurrying toward San Antonio.

The Texans continued to carry the fight to the Mexicans and victories followed at Goliad and San Antonio. But they were to prove costly. Easy success caused them to place too low an estimate on Mexican fighting ability and to conclude that the war was over.

Santa Anna entertained no such thoughts of tossing in the towel. Regrouping his forces, he struck back with savage fury that turned the tide in favor of the Mexican cause and resulted in the butcheries at the Alamo and Goliad.

While Santa Anna's hordes were holding siege at the Alamo, delegates were gathering in convention at Washington on the Brazos "with ample, unlimited, or plenary powers as to the form of government to be formed." On March 2, 1836, they adopted a declaration of independence for the Republic of Texas and followed up that action by appointing Gen. Sam Houston as "Commander in Chief of all land forces of the Texas army, both regulars and militia, while in actual service."



Gen. Sam Houston, left, helped to secure independence for Texas on April 21, 1836, when his forces defeated Mexicans under Gen. Santa Anna, right, in the decisive Battle of San Jacinto in Southeast Texas.



These two men played important roles in the San Jacinto battle. Mirabeau Lamar, left, commanded Texas cavalry troops while Erasmus (Deaf) Smith, right, apprehended a Mexican courier with secret information that revealed Santa Anna's military plans to Texas forces under Gen. Houston.



Grand in manner and looks at 6' 2" and 235 trim pounds, Houston was an extraordinarily forceful man. Many years of living with the Cherokee Indians had instilled in him a keen sense of cunning, an attribute that was to prove exceedingly useful in the months ahead.

His selection as leader of the revolutionary forces was ultimately to prove a wise one, although at times he appeared to give his constituents just cause to doubt the veracity of their choice.

Upon leaving the convention, Houston proceeded directly to Gonzales where he found 374 men "without two days' provisions, many without arms and others without ammunition." From this group he had hoped for sufficient strength to march to the aid of the besieged Alamo.

Word of the disaster in San Antonio reached him moments after his arrival at Gonzales. In light of that development and in consideration of his troops' condition, Houston quickly decided that discretion was the better part of valor and struck a hasty retreat toward the Brazos.

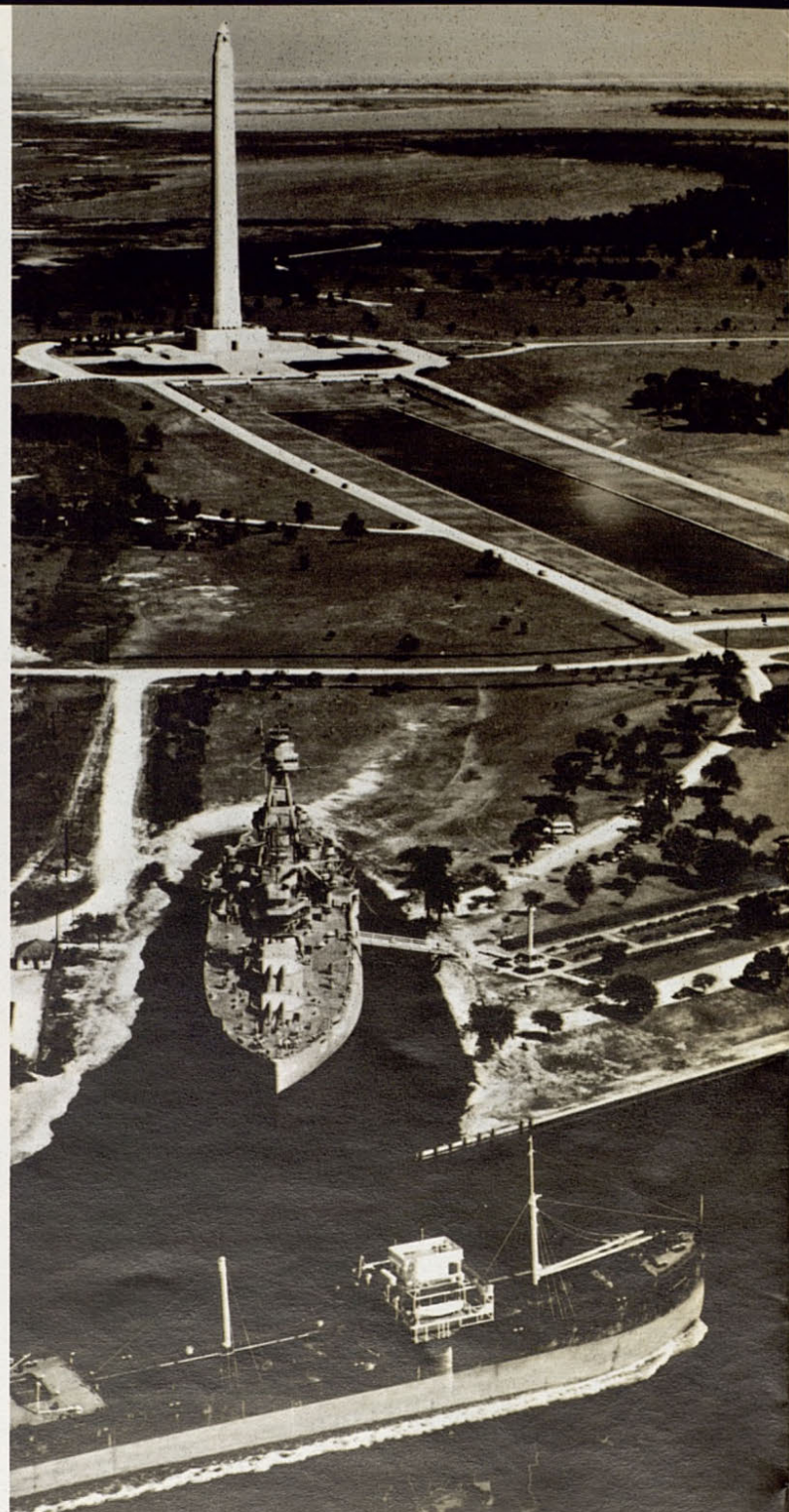
News of this retreat was quick to reach the people — and the government. Berated by David G. Burnet, president of the *ad interim* government, for fleeing from battle with Santa Anna's forces, Houston explained his move: "I consulted none — I held no councils-of-war. If I err, the blame is mine." Still there were those who held little stock in the general's philosophy of "strategic retreat."

Houston's rearward march took him through San Felipe to Groce's some 20 miles up the Brazos where he remained about a fortnight, resting his men and recruiting additional strength.

Santa Anna, ever in hot pursuit of the fleeing Houston, suddenly changed his tactics when he learned from Mexican intelligence reports that Burnet and his Cabinet were in Harrisburg. Included in the Cabinet was Vice President Lorenzo de Zavala, long-time personal enemy of the Mexican general. Houston could wait; "bigger game" demanded his immediate attention.

Arriving at Harrisburg too late to capture Burnet's group, Santa Anna turned north toward Lynch's Ferry. It was on April 20, 1836, that he took up position where the San Jacinto River joins Buffalo Bayou. His troops pitched camp with open country to their left, the San Jacinto on their right, and the bayou before them — the first of two mistakes that were to prove fatal to the Mexican cause.

Houston, despite his policy of strategic retreat that was interpreted by many as an unwillingness to fight Santa Anna, was not without a well-operating intelligence system of his own. While in camp near Harrisburg on April 18, his faithful scout, Erasmus (Deaf) Smith, brought in a cap-



Heroes of the Battle of San Jacinto are commemorated by this gleaming monument that towers over the battlefield where Texas gained her independence from Mexico in 1836. At 570 feet, it is the world's tallest and was built in 1936-39 at a cost of \$1½ million. In the foreground is the battleship *U.S.S. Texas*, only survivor of the dreadnaught class and a veteran of two world wars. The ship was presented to Texas by the U. S. Navy and is permanently moored at the battlefield.



tured Mexican courier with dispatches that clearly revealed Santa Anna's plans and movements. Houston's course was clear. He began his move.

Crossing to the south of Buffalo Bayou, Houston proceeded with nearly 900 effective troops to the vicinity of Lynch's Ferry, near the confluence of the San Jacinto River and the bayou. With the bayou to his rear and open prairie on the front and right flanks, he had only to await the strategic moment to attack.

Houston's intelligence indicated a force of about 600 Mexicans faced his troops across the short expanse of prairie. Then, for reasons evidently known only to himself, Houston stood his position and looked on as General Cos, a brother-in-law of Santa Anna, joined the Mexican forces with a contingent of men that raised the total enemy strength to somewhere near 1,200 men.

Still, Houston decided that in spite of the additional enemy strength, Santa Anna had committed the mistake for which he had waited by placing an inferior force in such a position that retreat was impossible. On the afternoon of April 21, Houston prepared to attack.

The Texans formed a line of infantry that extended about 1,000 yards, broken only by a battery of artillery that boasted two cannons. Some 60 cavalry troops under the command of Mirabeau B. Lamar protected the Texans' right flank and guarded against a Mexican breakthrough to the prairie.

Shortly after 4:00 p.m., Houston's rich baritone voice rang out with the order the men had been waiting to hear — "Trail arms! Forward!" The fight for liberation had begun!

While a slight swell in the terrain afforded the attackers cover to within about 200 yards of the enemy, the complete surprise by which the Texans took the Mexican forces still has modern military strategists scratching their heads. One explanation that appears to be most valid is that the Mexicans were in their daily siesta. That, plus the fact that Santa Anna held the Texas fighting force in com-

plete contempt, seems to offer the only logical excuses for more than 1,200 men being completely unaware of the approach of nearly 900 men in broad daylight.

At any rate, the inattention of the Mexicans added up to Santa Anna's second mistake in 24 hours.

By Houston's official report, the battle lasted but 18 minutes. In that interval, 630 Mexicans were swiftly and unceremoniously ushered into the Promised Land — a rate of about 46 a minute — by musket ball, bayonet, artillery fire and saber. Another 700 followers of Santa Anna received superficial to serious wounds and found themselves in custody of their enemies before nightfall.

And what price did the Texans pay for this victory? Incredible as it sounds, only nine lost their lives and 30 others were wounded — figures almost unbelievable in consideration of the circumstances under which they fought.

Santa Anna, in the meantime, managed to effect a temporary escape. Some historians claim eyewitness accounts tell of him leaping upon a horse at the first warning of battle and quickly galloping off, leaving the direction of the troops to his subordinate officers. There are others who maintain he was closeted in his quarters with Emily, a mulatto girl, who detained him long enough after the first word of attack that order could not be quickly restored.

Despite the inconsistencies of the accounts of Santa Anna's behavior, it has been definitely established that the general was captured the following day. Held for a considerable time as a hostage against further Mexican attacks, he eventually was released to Mexico where he later was elected to the office of president on four different occasions.

Houston, who survived the Battle of San Jacinto with no less than a shattered ankle bone despite having two horses shot from under him, recovered in time to be inaugurated on October 22, 1836, as the first President of the Texas Republic.

**COVER STORY**... "Game called by rain" has become an outmoded expression in Houston. With the Harris County Domed Stadium completed, the show will go on as scheduled for the Houston Astros, Texas' only major league baseball team. Spectators will sit in complete comfort while a plastic

roof keeps out any inclemencies the weatherman may send. The view on our cover is from center field, looking toward the stands along the left field foul line. First activity scheduled for the Domed Stadium will be April 9 when the Astros host the New York Yankees in an exhibition baseball game.



*"Dedicated to the Progress  
of the Great Southwest  
and Rocky Mountain Area."*

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# SMOOTH-POWER CLOUD MASTER



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of the city.

Point it toward the open road. Velvet  
smooth, effortless cruising plus a bonus  
of raw power to take you out of a tight  
spot.

If you drive a high-performance thor-  
oughbred, you can't feed it better than  
a steady diet of Shamrock.

CLOUD MASTER . . RIGHT FOR ACTION—RIGHT FOR THE LIFE OF YOUR CAR.