

(Oct. 1990)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

1. NAME OF PROPERTY

HISTORIC NAME: Buckeye Park Gate
OTHER NAME/SITE NUMBER: N/A

2. LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER: 1600 West Wildwood			NOT FOR PUBLICATION: N/A	
CITY OR TOWN: San Antonio			VICINITY: N/A	
STATE: Texas	CODE: TX	COUNTY: Bexar	CODE: 029	ZIP CODE: 78201

3. STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this (nomination) (request for determination of eligibility) meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property (meets) (does not meet) the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant (nationally) (statewide) (locally). (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

_____	_____
Signature of certifying official	Date
State Historic Preservation Officer, Texas Historical Commission	
State or Federal agency and bureau	

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

_____	_____
Signature of commenting or other official	Date
State or Federal agency and bureau	

4. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet		
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other (explain): _____	_____	_____

5. CLASSIFICATION

OWNERSHIP OF PROPERTY: Public – local

CATEGORY OF PROPERTY: Structure

NUMBER OF RESOURCES WITHIN PROPERTY:	CONTRIBUTING	NONCONTRIBUTING
	0	0 BUILDINGS
	0	0 SITES
	1	0 STRUCTURES
	0	0 OBJECTS
	1	0 TOTAL

NUMBER OF CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES PREVIOUSLY LISTED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER: 0

NAME OF RELATED MULTIPLE PROPERTY LISTING: *The Sculpture of Dionicio Rodriguez in Texas*

6. FUNCTION OR USE

HISTORIC FUNCTIONS: Recreation and Culture / Work of Art = gate

CURRENT FUNCTIONS: Recreation and Culture / Work of Art = gate

7. DESCRIPTION

ARCHITECTURAL CLASSIFICATION: OTHER: Faux bois sculpture

MATERIALS: FOUNDATION
WALLS
ROOF
OTHER CONCRETE

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (see continuation sheets 5)

8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

APPLICABLE NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA

- A** PROPERTY IS ASSOCIATED WITH EVENTS THAT HAVE MADE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE BROAD PATTERNS OF OUR HISTORY.
- B** PROPERTY IS ASSOCIATED WITH THE LIVES OF PERSONS SIGNIFICANT IN OUR PAST.
- C** PROPERTY EMBODIES THE DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERISTICS OF A TYPE, PERIOD, OR METHOD OF CONSTRUCTION OR REPRESENTS THE WORK OF A MASTER, OR POSSESSES HIGH ARTISTIC VALUE, OR REPRESENTS A SIGNIFICANT AND DISTINGUISHABLE ENTITY WHOSE COMPONENTS LACK INDIVIDUAL DISTINCTION.
- D** PROPERTY HAS YIELDED, OR IS LIKELY TO YIELD, INFORMATION IMPORTANT IN PREHISTORY OR HISTORY.

CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS: N/A

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Art

PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE: c.1926

SIGNIFICANT DATES: c.1926

SIGNIFICANT PERSON: N/A

CULTURAL AFFILIATION: N/A

ARCHITECT/BUILDER: Dionicio Rodriguez (attributed)

NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (see continuation sheet 5).

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

BIBLIOGRAPHY (see continuation sheet 5).

PREVIOUS DOCUMENTATION ON FILE (NPS): N/A

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

PRIMARY LOCATION OF ADDITIONAL DATA:

- State historic preservation office (*Texas Historical Commission*)
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository:

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF PROPERTY: less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES	<u>Zone</u>	<u>Easting</u>	<u>Northing</u>
1.	14	546374	3261188

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: The nomination encompasses only the gate and the ground upon which it stands, an area approximately 18 feet wide and 2 feet deep. The gate is located at the north entrance to the park at 1600 W. Wildwood, San Antonio, Texas

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION: The nomination boundary is drawn to include only the gate itself. The park has not yet been evaluated due to the specific focus of this theme (*Sculpture of Dionicio Rodriguez*), but it does appear to eligible as a site. The legal description for the park is *NBC 8849, Lot No. 1-8, 13-20*.

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE: Patsy Light and Maria Pfeiffer

ORGANIZATION:

DATE: January 2003

STREET & NUMBER: 300 Argyle

TELEPHONE: (210) 824-5914

CITY OR TOWN: San Antonio

STATE: Texas

ZIP CODE: 78209

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

CONTINUATION SHEETS

MAPS

PHOTOGRAPHS (see continuation sheet 5)

ADDITIONAL ITEMS (see continuation sheet Plan-6)

PROPERTY OWNER

NAME: City of San Antonio, Parks and Recreation Dept. (ATTN: Malcolm Matthews, Director)

STREET & NUMBER: 115 Plaza de Armas

TELEPHONE: (210) 207-8480

CITY OR TOWN: San Antonio

STATE: Texas

ZIP CODE: 78205

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section Plan Page 5

Buckeye Park Gate
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

7. DESCRIPTION

A whimsical structure of two curving “tree trunks” provides an unusual entrance to Buckeye Park on Hermosa Drive, northwest of downtown adjacent to Interstate 10 in San Antonio. The gate is made of two curving “tree trunks” that intersect at the apex, where one of “trunks” is notched and the corresponding “trunk” passes through the notch. Bracing the vertical sculpture are smaller curving “logs” attached to sidepieces of smaller “logs.” The structure, with heavily textured “bark” with “knots” and “insect borings,” is approximately 8’5” tall, and the total width is 17½ feet. The gate, with some remnants of color remaining on the underside, shows evidence of inept repairs, and could use some careful restoration. The log on the right front of the gate bears a portion of an inscription that reads, “Hugo Traupmann, Director of Parks,” and the numerals “83327-10.” The remainder of the inscription is undecipherable. Although it has no signature, the structure bears trademarks of Rodriguez’s work— heavily textured bark with knots and insect holes.

8. SIGNIFICANCE

The entry gate at Buckeye Park at 1600 West Wildwood Street the Los Angeles Heights Subdivision in San Antonio is unusual, in that it is a free standing structure, and there is no adjoining fence present as found at the similar gate at the former office of Alamo Portland Cement Company. Although Rodriguez worked in several city parks throughout the United States, this is the only other park site in Texas, besides Brackenridge Park, that has a remaining sculpture attributed to him. The gate is not signed, but bears all of the trademarks of Rodriguez’s style, and according to Carlos Cortes, it was sculpted by Rodriguez (Cortes to Light), and it is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C, in the area of Art, as a work of art attributed to noted sculptor Dionicio Rodriguez.

The City of San Antonio purchased the original 0.73 acre park (formerly Los Angeles Heights Park) from H.L. Davis for \$1,650 in 1945 (Bexar County Deed Records, Volume 2127, page 227-228). In 1958, the State of Texas purchased 0.215 acres of the property for the right-of-way for Interstate Highway 10. The subsequent highway construction cut the park in two diagonally, resulting in the current triangular shape to the northeast of IH-10.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

Cortes, Carlos. Interview with Patsy Light; February 20, 1998.

PHOTO LOG

Buckeye Park Gate
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas
Photographs by Patsy Light
March 1998
Negatives on file with Patsy Light

Camera facing north
Photo 1 of 2

Detail - camera facing north
Photo 2 of 2

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Buckeye Park Gate
San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas

Plan (no scale)