

# HISTORIC AND DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION

October 07, 2020

**HDRC CASE NO:** 2020-422  
**ADDRESS:** 100 PLAZA DE ARMAS  
**LEGAL DESCRIPTION:** NCB 865 BLK LOT P-100 ARB CITY HALL  
**ZONING:** D  
**CITY COUNCIL DIST.:** 1  
**DISTRICT:** Main/Military Plaza Historic District  
**APPLICANT:** Mari Tamez/Canary Islands Descendants Association  
**OWNER:** CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
**TYPE OF WORK:** Historic marker installation  
**APPLICATION RECEIVED:** July 22, 2020  
**60-DAY REVIEW:** Not applicable due to City Council Emergency Orders  
**CASE MANAGER:** Rachel Rettaliata

## REQUEST:

The applicant is requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness for approval to install a historical marker at 100 Plaza de Armas.

## APPLICABLE CITATIONS:

*Sec. 35-645. - Signs and Billboards on Public Property or Right-of-Way.*

(a) General Provisions. All non-regulatory signage on public property, on the public right-of-way, or overhanging the public right-of-way shall conform to all city codes and must be approved by the historic preservation officer prior to installation. Permits must be obtained following approval of the application. The historic preservation officer may submit an application under this section to the historic and design review commission for their recommendation prior to approving, denying, or approving with conditions the application. Memorials, markers, naming rights of public property, and recognition of charitable donations given to the City of San Antonio shall be additionally governed by existing policies for memorials and markers and/or any formal action passed by city council. Temporary displays approved by the department exercising control of the public property are authorized if in accordance with chapter 28 of the City Code of San Antonio, Texas.

## FINDINGS:

- a. The property located at 101 Plaza de Armas is the location of San Antonio City Hall. The applicant is requesting a Certificate of Appropriateness to install an adorned bronze plaque mounted to a post on the east side of the property to commemorate the arrival of the Canary Islanders in 1731, who were sent by Royal decree to establish the first civil government in what is now Texas.
- b. **MARKER DESIGN** – The applicant is requesting approval to install an adorned bronze plaque. The plaque will be installed at the east side of the property flanking the north side of the entrance walkway to City Hall. The plaque will be located adjacent to an existing post-mounted Texas Historical Commission subject marker. The proposed plaque will be mounted on a pole and will measure a total height of 6 feet to match the existing Texas Historical Commission Plaque. Staff finds that the proposed plaque is in accordance with UDC Section 35-645 and is appropriate.
- c. **MARKER LOCATION** – The applicant has proposed to install the marker on the east side of City Hall grounds, on the north side of the entrance walkway parallel to the existing post-mounted Texas Historical Commission subject marker. The applicant has proposed this location, with the plaque facing east toward the San Fernando Cathedral, to honor the two locations tied to the genesis of modern-day San Antonio. The commemorative landscape of City Hall currently features approximately eight markers, plaques, and monuments. Staff finds the proposed location to be appropriate in relation to the location of existing monuments, markers, and plaques on City Hall grounds and because it will provide symmetry to the existing Texas Historical Commission subject marker.
- d. **MARKER POLICY** – The applicant has met all requirements of the City of San Antonio Monuments, Memorials, Markers and Plaques Policy. The applicant has assumed financial responsibility for the complete design, manufacturing, installation, and maintenance endowment to ensure the adequate quality care for the

marker. The applicant has provided evidence of existing funding for the proposed adorned bronze plaque and all associated costs. Improvements made on City lands become the property of the City of San Antonio. The final text on the plaque will be reviewed by the City's Cultural Historian.

- e. ARCHAEOLOGY – The project shall comply with all federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations regarding archaeology, as applicable.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval based on findings a through e with the following stipulation:

- 1. ARCHAEOLOGY – The project shall comply with all federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations regarding archaeology, as applicable.

# City of San Antonio One Stop



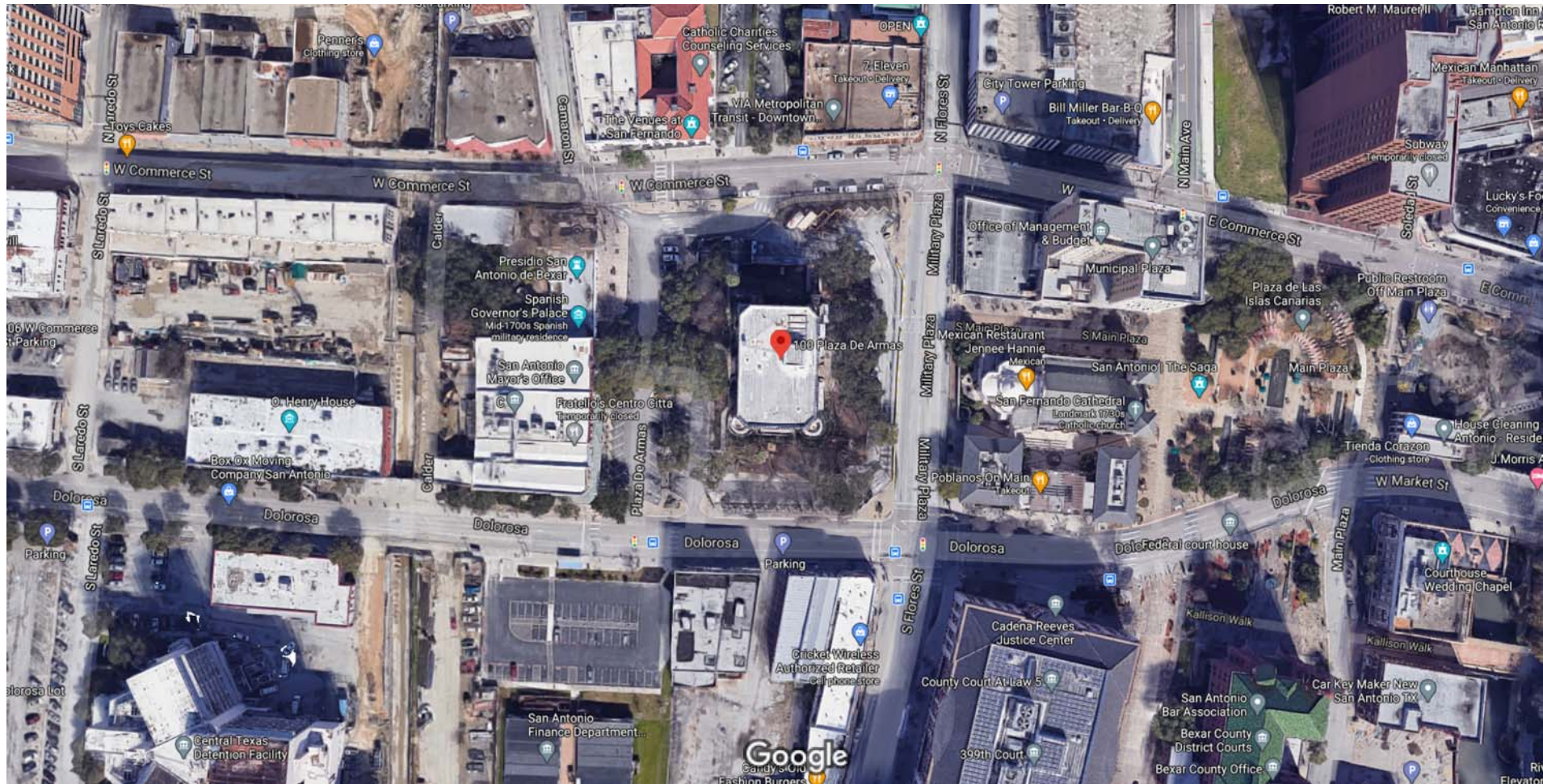
September 24, 2020

— User drawn lines

1:2,000  
0 0.015 0.03 0.06 mi  
0 0.0275 0.055 0.11 km



## Google Maps 100 Plaza De Armas



Imagery ©2020 Google, Imagery ©2020 CNES / Airbus, Maxar Technologies, Map data ©2020 50 ft



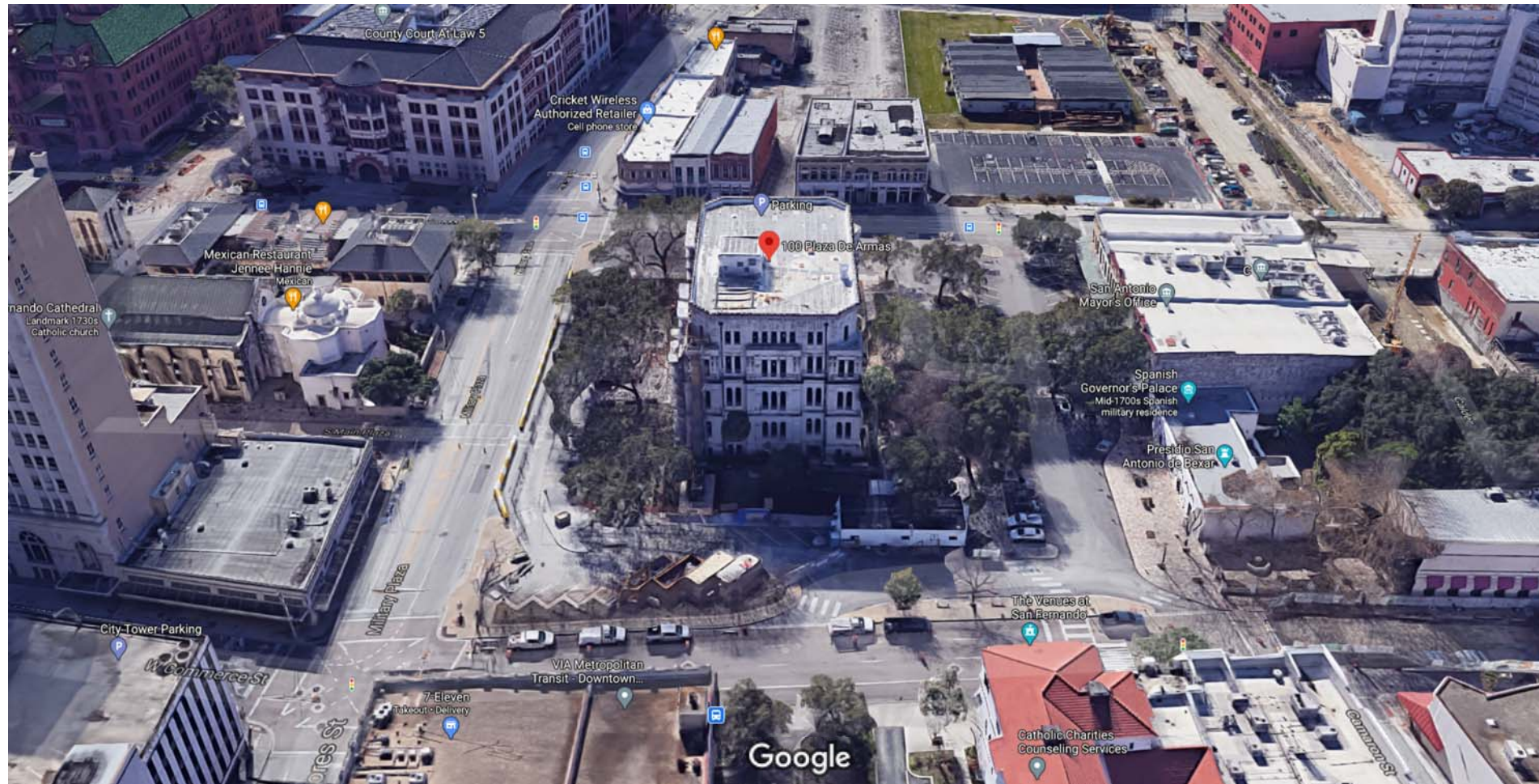
## Google Maps 100 Plaza De Armas



Imagery ©2020 Google, Map data ©2020, Map data ©2020 20 ft



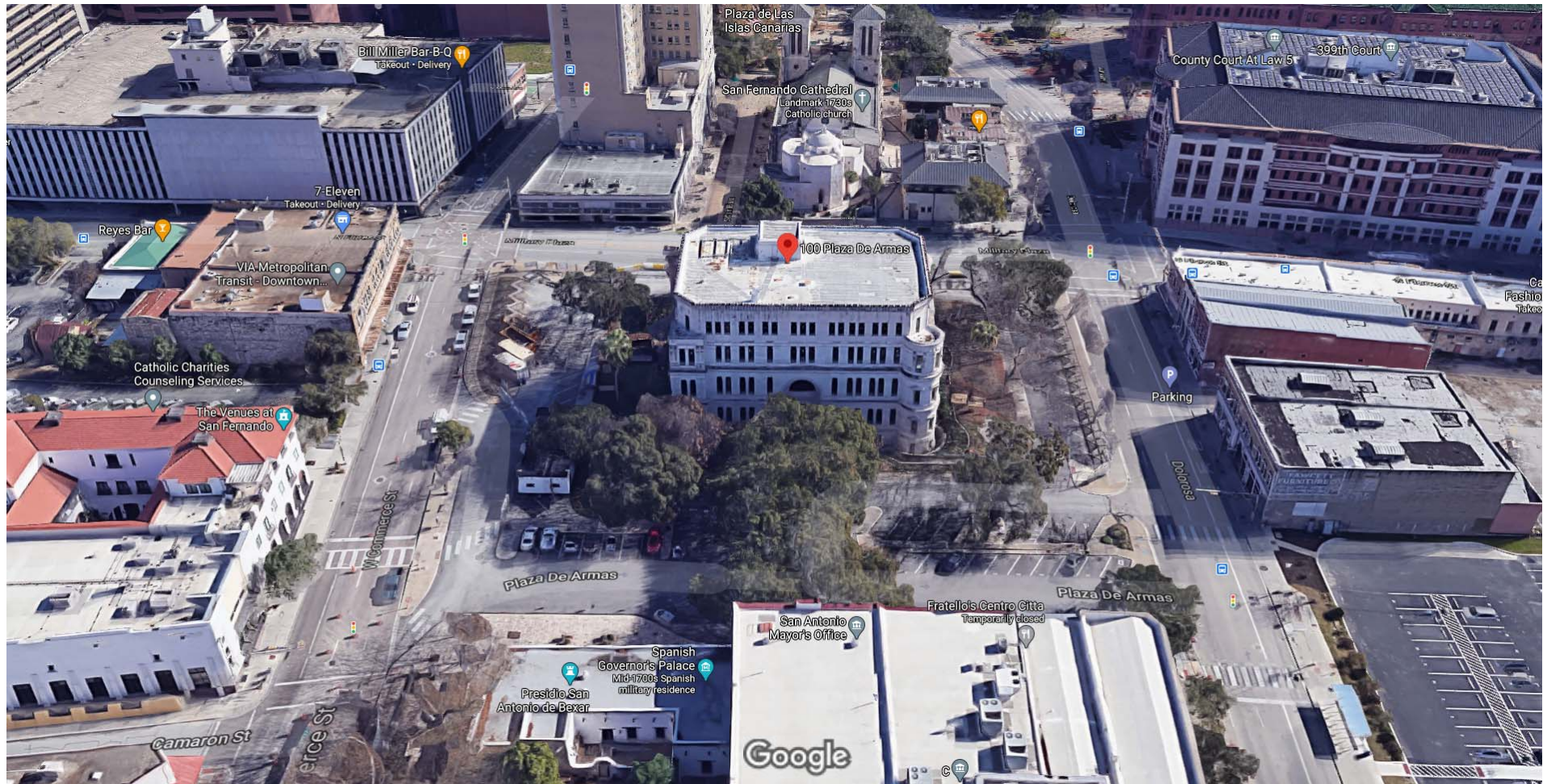
## Google Maps 100 Plaza De Armas



Imagery ©2020 Google, Map data ©2020, Map data ©2020 20 ft



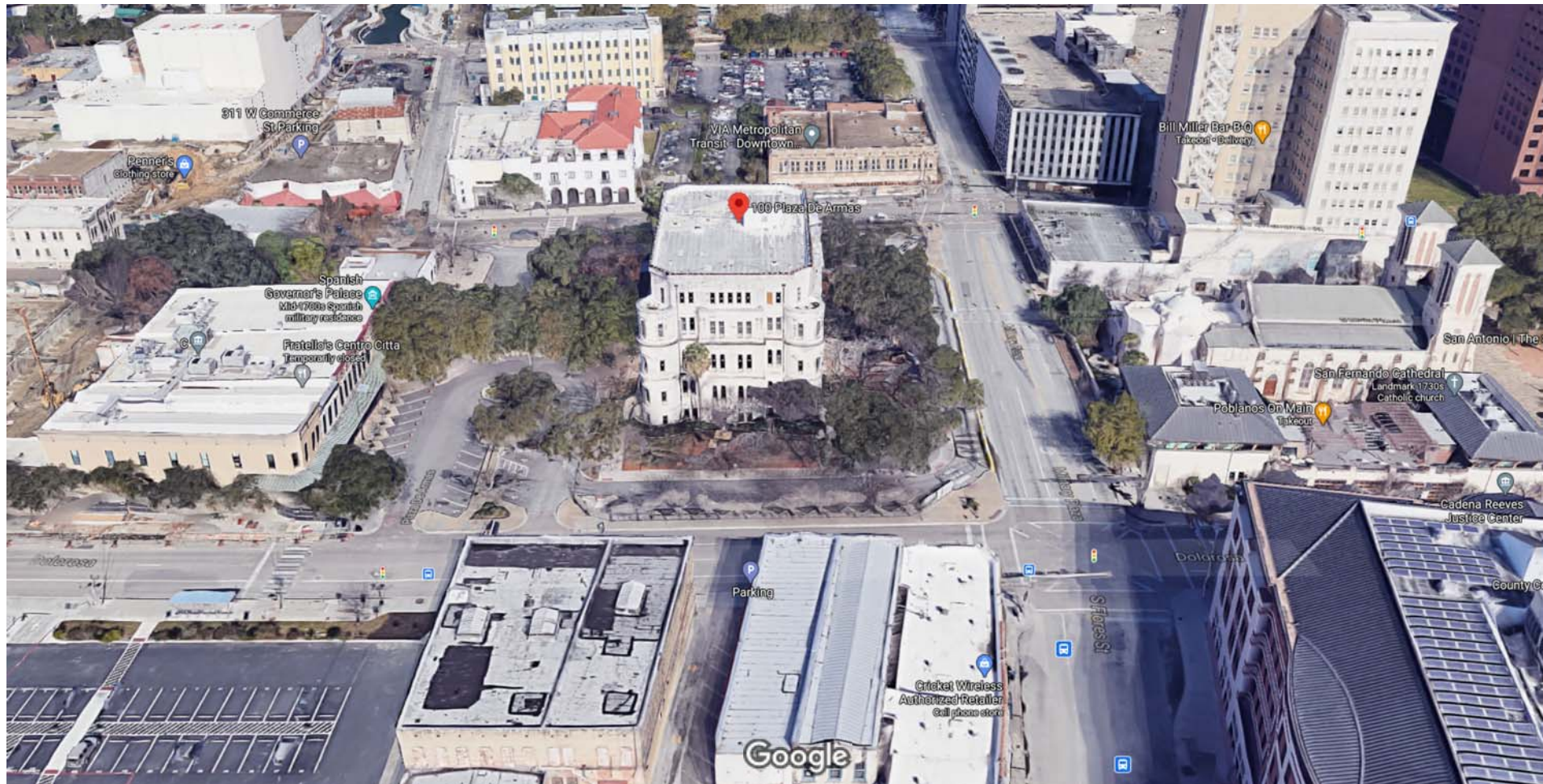
## Google Maps 100 Plaza De Armas



Imagery ©2020 Google, Imagery ©2020 CNES / Airbus, Maxar Technologies, Map data ©2020 Google 50 ft

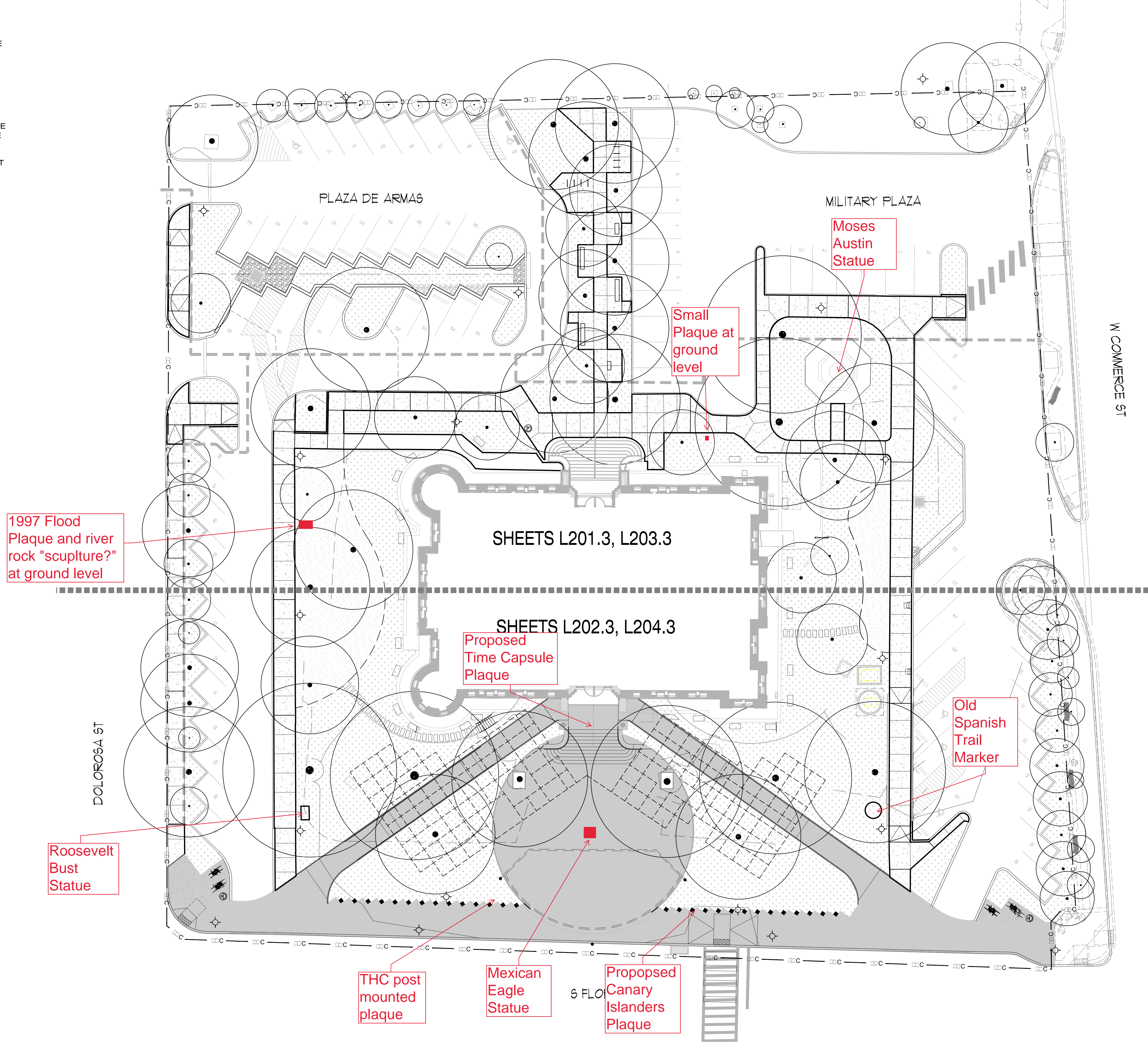


## Google Maps 100 Plaza De Armas



Imagery ©2020 Google, Imagery ©2020 CNES / Airbus, Maxar Technologies, Map data ©2020 Google 20 ft





PLAZA DE ARMAS

MILITARY PLAZA

W COMMERCE ST

SHEETS L201.3, L203.3

SHEETS L202.3, L204.3

DOLOROSA ST

S FLO

Moses  
Austin  
Statue

Small  
Plaque at  
ground  
level

1997 Flood  
Plaque and river  
rock "sculpture?"  
at ground level

Proposed  
Time Capsule  
Plaque

Old Spanish  
Trail  
Marker

Roosevelt  
Bust  
Statue

THC post  
mounted  
plaque

Mexican  
Eagle  
Statue

Proposed  
Canary  
Islanders  
Plaque



Cast Bronze

Project - Canary Island Descendent Association

PLAQUE 1

The Southwell Co.

502 S. STAPLES • CORPUS CHRISTI, TX 78403  
PH. (361) 884-4801

QUOTE # 69393  
JOB # N/A  
P.O. # N/A  
DRAWN BY: D. MONDRAGON  
DATE SUBMITTED: 7/2/2020

CUSTOMER:  
MARI TAMEZ  
SAN ANTONIO, TX 78212

SHIP TO:  
TBD

REVISED  
7.15.20  
D.M.

REVISED  
7.17.20  
K.W.

REVISED  
9.1.20  
K.W.

REVISED  
9.8.20  
K.W.

18"

24"

Motivated by a request by King Felipe V, a group of 56 tenacious, resilient residents of the Canary Islands, Spain settled near here on March 9, 1731 and founded la villa San Fernando de Bexar. The 56 Canary Islands settlers were recorded as 16 families with the heads of the families being:

- First Family – Juan Leal Goraz
- Second Family – Juan Curbelo
- Third Family – Juan Leal
- Fourth Family – Antonio Santos
- Fifth Family – Joseph Padron
- Sixth Family – Manuel De Niz
- Seventh Family – Vicente Álvarez Travieso
- Eighth Family – Salvador Rodriguez
- Ninth Family – Francisco de Arocha
- Tenth Family – Antonio Rodriguez
- Eleventh Family – Joseph Leal
- Twelfth Family – Juan Delgado
- Thirteenth Family – Joseph Cabrera
- Fourteenth Family – Maria Rodriguez Robaina
- Fifteenth Family – Maria Meleáno
- Sixteenth Family – Phelipe and Jose Antonio Perez
- Martin and Ignacio Lorenzo de Armas; two sets of brothers.

In August of the same year, based on the direction of King Felipe V, the Presidio Captain, Juan de Almazán oversaw the first elections held here, establishing the first municipal government in Texas.

The men that made up the first Texas government were:

- First Alcalde – Juan Leal Goraz
- Second Regidor – Juan Curbelo
- Third Regidor – Antonio Santos
- Fourth Regidor and Second Alcalde – Salvador Rodriguez
- Fifth Regidor – Manuel de Niz
- Sixth Regidor – Juan Leal
- Escribano – Francisco de Arocha
- Mayordomo – Antonio Rodriguez
- Alguacil Mayor – Vicente Álvarez Travieso

Donated by the Canary Islands Descendants Association 2020

18" Ogee Blade  
Post and cap painted  
to match plaque background

(3) 1/4" set screws  
with JB weld

3" ID post  
7' long shipping  
separately  
painted to match  
plaque background

Elevation  
Scale: 1/4" = 1"

PROOFS!

PLEASE SIGN & RETURN ONE COPY OR  
PLAQUE WILL NOT GO INTO PRODUCTION!



☐ approved (no corrections) ☐ revise and resubmit

Signed by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

QUANTITY: ONE (1)  
MATERIAL: BRONZE  
FINISH: DARK OXIDIZED  
BORDER: RAISED, SATIN, BEVELED BRONZE COLOR  
LETTERS: Times Roman RAISED, SATIN, BRONZE COLOR  
LOGO: N/A  
TEXTURE: PEBBLE  
MOUNTING: Post Mount with 8' post

SPECIFY MOUNTING ATTACHMENTS

- ☐ CONCEALED (MASONRY)
- ☐ WOOD SCREWS W/ROSETTES
- ☐ EXPANSION BOLTS W/ROSETTES
- ☐ TOGGLE BOLTS W/ROSETTES (HEAVY PLAQUES)
- ☐ (SHEETROCK / HOLLOW WALLS)
- ☒ POST MOUNT (SEE DRAWING)

THE DESIGN OF THIS PLAQUE HAS BEEN MADE USING  
COMPUTERIZED GRAPHICS. THE ACTUAL PATTERN  
USED IN CASTING WILL BE MADE BASED ON FINAL  
APPROVAL OF THIS SUBMITTAL DRAWING. THE  
FORMAT, LETTER STYLE,  
LETTER SIZE, SPACING AND  
MOUNTING ARE BASED ON  
INDUSTRY STANDARDS AND  
OUR CAPACITIES TO PRODUCE  
A HIGH QUALITY CASTING.



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YOU ARE THE FINAL  
PROOF-READER



YOUR ORDER WILL BE PRODUCED FROM THE ARTWORK YOU SEE HERE. IF YOU APPROVE THIS ARTWORK  
AND IT CONTAINS ERRORS, YOU WILL BE HELD FINANCIALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE WORK WE REDO.  
PLEASE CAREFULLY CHECK THAT ALL IS CORRECT REGARDING SPELLING, DESIGN, COLOR AND SIZE



## **Canary Islands Descendants Association Project with the City of San Antonio**

**Purpose:** To heighten awareness of the formation of the first civil government in Texas with the recognition that it was formally established in San Antonio in 1731.

This will solidify the importance of the Plaza de las Islas Canarias area (Main Plaza) which the City of San Antonio recognized during the TriCentennial. This will help tell the story of where it all began and will strengthen the story telling of the site, that is now the location of the municipal buildings ie... City Hall, Municipal Plaza and the City Frost Bank Tower. This is an opportunity to have a larger narrative, as tour guides could use this marker to broaden their scope of their downtown storytelling to include City Hall. It will allow for the Spanish Governors Palace and the proposed CIDA/ City Hall marker or monument in the front to have a significant impact in the telling of the area. This telling of the Spanish Colonial period is essential in expanding our World Heritage statement as to the development of the region and the important role this area played in the development of the region.

The project will inform locals and visitors alike of the first municipal government (attached) and we ask that the City of San Antonio (OHP) recommend any suggestions to the narrative. We see this project as part of the celebration and completion and of the City Hall restoration project.

**Location:** We propose that the selected site be facing San Fernando Cathedral as to tie in the entire footprint of the beginnings of San Antonio. Site 1 A marker located by the walkway steps of City Hall. Site 2 A rock base monument with a bronze plaque on the left hand side of the City Hall grounds facing San Fernando. Site 3 A rock base monument with a bronze plaque on the right hand side of City Hall grounds facing San Fernando.

**Structure:** CIDA has selected Southwell as the designer of the plaque. We propose for site 1 a bronze plaque located on the walls to the stairs leading up to City Hall. On Site 2 & 3 we recommend a 3 ft. rock monument with a bronze plaque affixed. We recommend using material consistent with City Hall as to be aesthetically pleasing, possibly rock or granite and the plaque in bronze. The Canary Islands Descendants Association will pay for the marker and will donate the marker to the City of San Antonio in perpetuity. We will pay for the installation and any necessary cost associated with placing the plaque on City property.

**Cost:** CIDA will be paying for the cost of the marker which Southwell has designed. Our cost for the bronze plaque is \$2500.00. If another site is selected that requires a base CIDA will also provide the price for that and will pay for that cost.