

Houston, Texas

THE DRANGE SHOW





Photo: Paul Hester, 1984

The Orange Show is a fantastic and visionary work of folk art that is considered by artists and historians to be one of the finest examples of its kind in the U.S. It is the work of one man, Jeff McKissack, who dedicated 26 years of his life to its creation.

McKissack was a 52 year old Postal Service letter carrier when he began to build his private utopia. He worked alone, using found objects to construct his "health show." Through it, he hoped to inspire others to follow his philosophy of hard work and belief that the orange was the perfect food. He died in January, 1980 at age 77, having lived to see his monumental task complete. The Orange Show Foundation, a nonprofit organization, was then formed by twenty-two concerned citizens so that this magical environment could be preserved for everyone to enjoy. The Foundation's goal is the preservation of The Orange Show and its development as a major cultural resource for the City of Houston.

> Jeff McKissack (1902-1980) Photo: Susan Boger Stem, 1978

West wall, The Boat Show Photo: Paul Hester, 1984 Entry, The Side Show Photo: Paul Hester, 1984 Overview: The Boat Show Photo: Paul Hester, 1984 Detail: Wagon wheel Photo: Paul Hester, 1984 Detail: Narrative exhibit Photo: Paul Hester, 1984 Detail: McKissack bird Photo: Paul Hester, 1984

Overview: Front entry

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