

## Farnsworth and Chambers Building (AKA Gregg Building) 2999 South Wayside Drive



Designed by noted architects MacKie and Kamrath and completed in 1956-1957 for the construction firm of Farnsworth and Chambers, the Farnsworth and Chambers Building is historically significant as the first Houston home of NASA. Also known as the Gregg Building, NASA's Manned Spacecraft Center (MSC) was located here from 1962 to 1964 while the Johnson Space Center was being developed in Clear Lake. When the MSC moved in, NASA's Mercury Program was underway and the remaining Mercury flights were planned by engineers and scientists who worked in this building. The Farnsworth and Chambers Building became a City of Houston Protected Landmark in 2008 before undergoing a sensitive rehabilitation in order to improve the functionality of the building. Rehabilitation included the installation of nine new skylights, new egress doors, the lengthening of existing ribbon windows and the replacement of a window wall and sliding glass door system which was too damaged for restoration. Many of the interior elements such as the mahogany paneling were retained. The Farnsworth and Chambers Building has served as the headquarters of the City Parks and Recreation Department since 1976.

