

SILVER SPIKE

Title: Silver Spike

Artist: Unknown

Date: 1983

Type: Monument

Medium: Marble

Location: Hermann Park



Silver Spike was dedicated on January 12, 1983, the centennial of the completion of the Southern Pacific Railway, which connected the major trade centers of the Gulf and Pacific Coasts and vastly improved Houston's position as a world port. It commemorates the driving of a silver spike as the final connection in the rail line in Eagle's Nest, Texas, and the 3,000 Chinese workers who made the project a success. The marble monument is incised with a dedicatory statement in both English and Mandarin, and lists four groups responsible for it: the Houston Association of Chinese Organizations, the Houston-Taipei Sister City Committee, the Houston Lodge Chinese American Citizens Alliance, and the Houston Young Chinese Council.

