



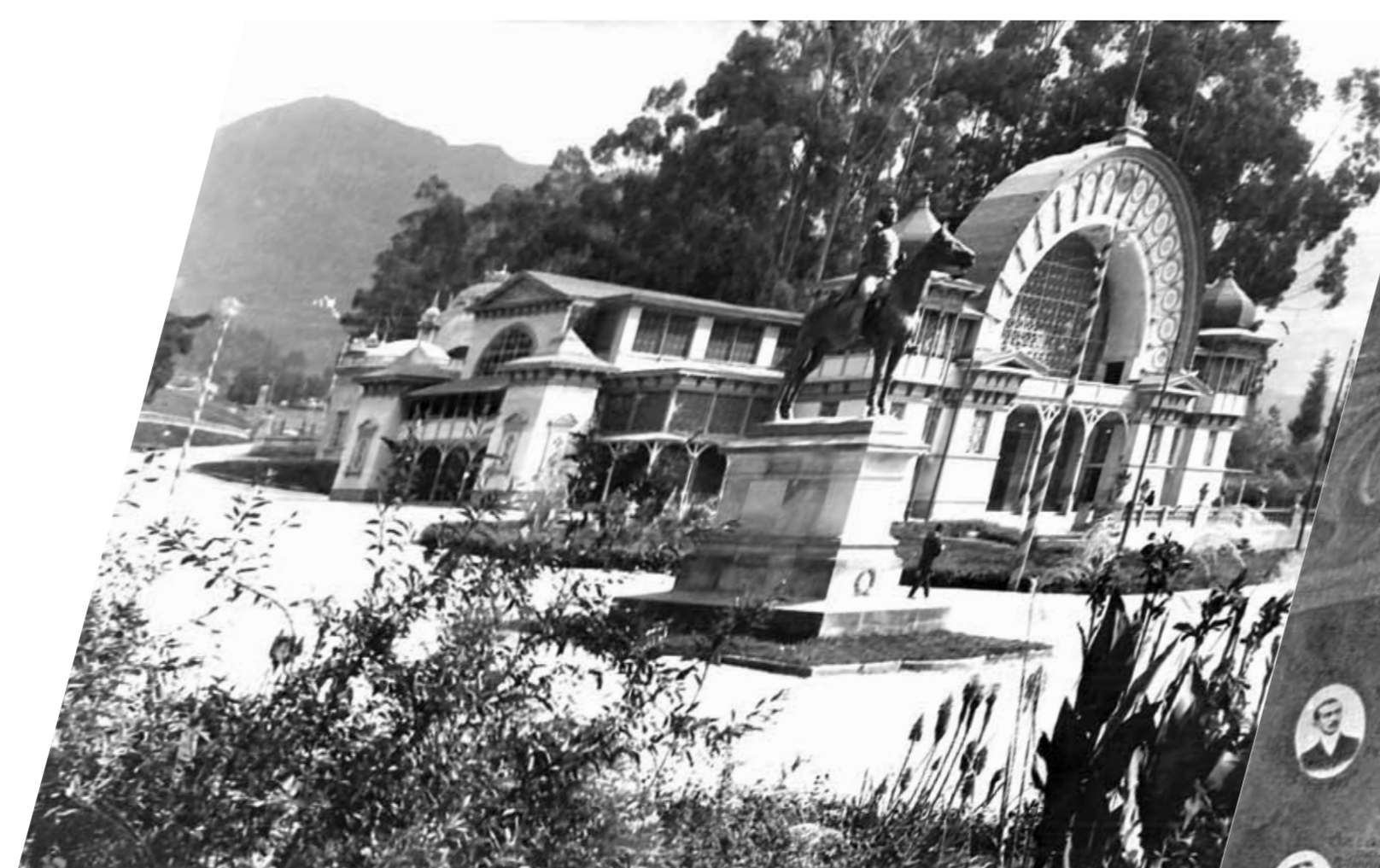
**Allegoric carriage of Cartagena's Independence. November 11<sup>th</sup> 1911. As a reaction to the centralist proposal, the cities where assemblies were also made in 1810 reaffirmed the national character of their respective celebrations.**

*Comparsa en la conmemoración del Centenario de la Independencia de Cartagena · Noviembre 11 de 1911 · Copia en gelatina · Fundación Fototeca Histórica de Cartagena de Indias*

## 9 / The first one hundred years

The image of execution of patriots in this stamp was rejected by the Spanish government, since it proclaimed anti-Hispanic feelings. This emission was incinerated and only a few copies remained.

Colombia Independencia Nacional. Centenario 1810 - 1910. American Bank Note Co. · Estampilla · 1910 · Colección Filatélica, Banco de la República



### Independence Park

Estatua ecuestre de Simón Bolívar y Pabellón de la Industria · ca. 1912 · Fotografía · Museo de Bogotá - Fondo L. A. Acuña



**At the first International Student Congress in La Gran Colombia a greater cultural and intellectual exchange was proposed between Colombia, Venezuela and Ecuador, as well as the convenience of not handing the national companies to nations with "imperialist tendencies" in allusion to the United States.**

*Cuadro alegórico del Primer congreso internacional de estudiantes de la Gran Colombia. [En Primer Centenario de la Independencia, Escuela tipográfica salesiana] · Domingo Moreno Otero · Aristides Ariza · 1911 · Impreso · Museo Nacional de Colombia*



### Bello's textile factory

Rafael Mesa · Medellín el veinte de julio de 1910 · Impreso · Biblioteca Pública Piloto de Medellín

**I**N THE EARLY XX CENTURY, THE One Thousand Day War, the Panama separation and Rafael Reyes' dictatorial government put the nation into a crisis situation before which the government proposes the Independence Centenary as a "new beginning" from national unity discourses.

### One national memory?

The national meeting's Centenary celebration acts had a strong centralist character. For instance, the imposition to all of the nation's regions of the July 20<sup>th</sup> as the national day was reiterated and the image of the capital city and Bolívar's image were assumed as national symbols, disregarding allusions to regional heroes and memories.

### Colombia: A civilized country?

The centenary demanded for a balance of the first republican century. On an intellectual level the work of Jesús María Henao and Gerardo Arrubla was awarded, and adopted as a history teaching textbook until the 1970 decade. On an economic level the agricultural and industrial expositions showed the country's wealth and its main industrial advancements. Infrastructure, monuments and public utility installation were progress indicators. Nonetheless instability and the state of poverty evidenced the difficulty of carrying out most of these projects, as well as the nonexistence of a national unity.



### Commemorative medal

*Primer Centenario de la Proclamación de la Independencia de la República de Colombia 1810 - 1910 · A. Halse · 1910 · Troquelado en oro · Museo Nacional de Colombia*