

What is a preservation study?

A preservation study is an examination of the historic integrity of a place or area. In a preservation study, the author evaluates the age of any structures, the style of architecture and researches the past of that structure for historic relevance – like an historic event or influential person that occurred or lived in the structure – to determine if the property meets the City’s standard for historic preservation. This is done through a Designation Report. After determining if a property is historic, the preservation study outlines the types of requirements that would assist in preserving the historic integrity of the property or group of properties. This outline is called the Preservation Standards.

Why is the City doing a preservation study on my neighborhood?

Preservation planning is an action that the City has undertaken to implement its Comprehensive Plan. One of the goals set by the community is to protect the long-term viability and appeal of established neighborhoods in College Station. Preservation planning is one of the tools the City is using to help identify elements that contribute to strong neighborhood character and identity. The City is studying the Oakwood area to begin better understanding and cataloging the historic and cultural resources in our community as required by the Comprehensive Plan.

What is a Designation Report?

A designation report is a report that is part of a preservation study. It catalogs the historical, cultural, and architectural significance of a place or area. It includes the following:

- A listing of the architectural, archaeological, paleontological, cultural, economic, social, ethnic, political, or historical characteristics of a place or area
- A description of the historical, cultural, and architectural significance of the structures and sites
- Identify contributing and non-contributing resources
- A description of the boundaries of the study

A designation report will also evaluate the period of significance for the study based on the time frame in which most of the historic structures were originally constructed.

What does contributing and non-contributing mean?

A contributing structure is a structure that was built prior to or during the period of significance for a preservation study and retains historic features, materials, and character that can be preserved – or it is historically or culturally significant to College Station’s past. However, sometimes historic structures have been changed too much from the original structure and it may no longer qualify as a contributing structure. Non-contributing structures are structures that are not historic either because of too much change to a historic structure that it no longer can be considered for historic preservation or it was built after the period of significance.

What are Preservation Standards?

Preservation Standards are a guide to how to protect a historic place or area. These standards help to identify the different requirements that could be put in place to guide exterior construction activity in a historic place or area in order to protect the historic importance of the structure. As part of a preservation study, these requirements are only recommendations and do not affect how a property develops, but would become regulatory guidelines if adopted as part of an Historic Preservation Overlay.

What happens after the Preservation Study is completed?

After a study is completed, the City will provide the documentation to the property owners in the area and the community. If the owners of an historic place or area would like to formally adopt the recommendations of the Preservation Study, they would need to put forth a complete application for a rezoning or request the City Council to initiate a rezoning.

I have questions and need more information, who can I contact?

If you have any questions about the process or the Preservation Study, please contact the following:

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or

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979-764-3570

Information is also available on our website: <http://www.cstx.gov/index.aspx?page=3474>

