Houston’s Historic Preservation Ordinance

Discussion Questions

1. What does the ordinance regulate?
2. What does the ordinance not regulate?
3. What are the criteria for designating a site as historic?
4. What are the criteria for designating a district as historic?
5. Who may request such designations?
6. What does a property owner do if she wants to make changes to a site?
7. What is the 90-day Waiver Certificate?
8. When may a historic site be demolished?
9. What are the advantages of having one’s property designated as historic?
10. What might be the incentives for having one’s property designated as historic?
11. What are the drawbacks to having one’s property designated as historic?
12. What are the advantages and disadvantages of a neighborhood being designated as a historic district?
13. What are the advantages and disadvantages of a jurisdiction having a historic preservation ordinance?