



PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

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An Adventure in Historic Preservation

HOUSTON, December 20, 2012 – “Houston Lives On: An Adventure in Historic Preservation” is an activity and coloring book aimed at helping students understand the value in local preservation. The 26-page book is filled with concepts and terms that introduce young people to the subject.

Colorful characters, such as Squeak, the inquisitive young ant, and his guide, Aunt Lucy, take children on a tour to learn about some of Houston’s most popular historic buildings.

“This activity book is intended to present this concept to elementary-age children so that they, hopefully, will become aware of the importance of historic preservation and the need to save our valuable structures, as well as our historic neighborhoods, for future generations of Houstonians,” said Betty Chapman, chair for the Education Committee of the Houston Archaeological and Historical Commission.

The book engages readers by using puzzles, games and other activities that are fun, educational and age appropriate for use at school, home and extra-curricular activities.

The narrative and its accompanying exercises are appropriate for elementary-aged children, particularly in grades 2 and 3. This adventure is intended for use in classrooms, with groups such as Scouts or even in an informal family setting. An accompanying teacher’s guide is available for instruction.

“Educators believe that it is important for students to know the history of the place where they live. Houston has a phenomenal history—rich in stories of people, locations and events that have created our hometown,” Chapman said.

“Houston Lives On: An Adventure in Historic Preservation” was created by the Education Committee of the Houston Archaeological and Historical Commission, which makes recommendations to City Council on historic properties. The 13 member board reviews requests for historic district designations, historic landmarks, archaeological sites and for work on historically designated properties.

The Activity book and Teacher’s Guide are available online at www.HoustonPreservation.org. A limited number of print copies are available from the City of Houston Planning and Development Department. Please email historicpreservation@houstontx.gov.

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