INTRODUCTION

This appendix presents a series of posters that describe different Character Areas which appear in the historic districts. These are based on GIS data (shown in Appendix F) as well as field observations. They address distinguishing features that may be considered when identifying those aspects of a context area that are important for determining appropriateness of design proposals.

These Character Area posters provide descriptions of some of the key features that are found in various parts of the historic districts. They include some statistical data, such as the percentage of lot coverage, and range of house sizes, as well as some narrative about the degree of consistency or diversity that exists in terms of the percentage of contributing structures and size of buildings.

In a community workshop held in September of 2016, participants helped to edit these descriptions. (At that time, they were called Typologies, but are now named Character Areas.)
Character Area 1A has a high degree of consistency, in terms of building age and traditional development patterns. It retains a high percentage of buildings that “contribute” to a historic district. It has streets with curb and gutter (whereas Character Area 1B does not).

### Distinguishing Neighborhood Features:
- Rectilinear street grid
- Street widths range from 25 ft. to 30 ft.
- Parallel on-street parking
- Narrow, rectangular-shaped lots
- No alleys

### Distinguishing Site Features:
- Uniform front yard setbacks
- Front yards are open and inviting.
- Parking is typically in a detached garage, located in the rear of the lot. As a result, garages are visually subordinate to the street.
- Driveways create wider side yard setbacks on one side of each parcel. This results in a sense of a greater separation between buildings.

### Distinguishing Building Features:
- The majority of houses are one story in height.
- Most buildings date from the period of historic significance, typically from the 1920s.
- Home size is consistent throughout this character area. One-story homes with uniform lot sizes, floor-area-ratios, and parking in the rear are common. However, materials and styles vary.
- One-story porches are typical and orient to the street.
- Primary entrances face the street.

### Neighborhood Characteristics:

### Site Characteristics:
- Landscaping: Medium - Dense
- Consistency: Very Uniform
- Alleyway: No

### Building Characteristics:
- Building Height: 1-Story
- Building Size: 1,000 sf.-1,500 sf.
- Floor Area Ratio: Majority 0.20-0.29
- Building Age: 1920-1940
- Roof Form: Primarily Gable and Hip
- Porch / Entry: 1-Story Porch Connecting to Sidewalk

| Lot Orientation: Primarily North & South | Lot Depth & Width: 105’x50’ |
| Lot Size: 5,000 sf.-6,000 sf. | Lot Coverage: 30%-50% |
| Block End Cap: 0% | Setbacks: 10 ft.-15 ft. |
| Parking: Side Drive Leading to Rear Garage |
Character Area 1B has a high degree of consistency, in terms of building age and traditional development patterns. It retains a high percentage of buildings that "contribute" to a historic district. It has streets with no curb and gutter (whereas Character Area 1A does). This results in a sense of a greater setback and in many cases larger lawns. In some areas, however, this area is used for parking.

**Distinguishing Neighborhood Features:**
- Rectilinear street grid
- Street widths range from 25 ft. to 30 ft.
- Informal on-street parking
- Narrow, rectangular-shaped lots
- No alleys

**Distinguishing Site Features:**
- Uniform front yard setbacks
- Front yards are open and inviting.
- Parking is typically in a detached garage, located in the rear of the lot. As a result, garages are visually subordinate to the street.
- Driveways create wider side yard setbacks on one side of each parcel. This results in a sense of a greater separation between buildings.

**Distinguishing Building Features:**
- The majority of houses are one story in height.
- Most buildings date from the period of historic significance, typically from the 1920s and into the 1940s.
- Homes are modest in scale. Most range from 1,000 sf to 1,500 sf.
- New buildings and additions appear to be in scale with historic buildings.
- One-story porches are typical and orient to the street.
- Primary entrances face the street.

In general, homes in this character area have a consistent setback and streets include tree lawns and detached sidewalks. Curb and gutter are not present at the street edge in this character area.

Home size is consistent throughout this character area. One-story homes with uniform lot sizes, floor-area-ratios, and parking in the rear are common. However, the materials and styles vary.

Tree coverage and landscaping have an effect on the privacy and visibility of design features.

Porch features define the character within the character area and provide a human scale to the structure.
### ACTIVITY #2

**DESCRIPTION:**

Character Area 2A has a moderate range of variation, in terms of building age and traditional development patterns. It retains a high percentage of buildings that "contribute" to a historic district. The lots are oriented to the North/South like 2C (whereas Character Area 2B lots orient to the East/West).

**Distinguishing Neighborhood Features:**

- Rectilinear street grid
- Moderate street widths
- Formal on-street parking
- Narrow, rectangular-shaped lots
- No alleys

**Distinguishing Site Features:**

- Uniform front yard setbacks
- Front yards are open and inviting.
- Parking is typically in a detached garage, located in the rear of the lot. As a result, garages are visually subordinate to the street.
- Driveways create wider side yard setbacks on one side of each parcel. This results in a sense of a greater separation between buildings.

**Distinguishing Building Features:**

- Both 1 & 2-Story houses are common.
- Most buildings date from the period of historic significance, typically from the 1920s and into the 1940s.
- Homes are modest in scale. Most range from 1,000 sf to 1,500 sf.
- New buildings and additions appear to be in scale with historic buildings.
- One-story porches are typical and orient to the street.
- Primary entrances face the street.

**STREET PATTERN:** Grid Pattern

**STREET WIDTH:** 25 ft.-30 ft.

**PUBLIC REALM:**
- Curb and Gutter
- Tree lawn between Street and Sidewalk

**LANDSCAPING:** Medium - Dense

**CONSISTENCY:** Narrow Range of Variation

**ALLEYWAY:** No

**LOT ORIENTATION:** Primarily North & South

**LOT DEPTH & WIDTH:** 100’ x 50’

**LOT SIZE:** 5,000 sf - 6,000 sf.

**LOT COVERAGE:** 30% - 50%

**BLOCK END CAP:** 0%

**SETBACKS:** 10 ft - 15 ft

**PARKING:** Side Drive Leading to Rear Garage

**BUILDING CHARACTERISTICS:**

Homes in this character area have consistent setbacks and streets include narrow tree lawns, detached sidewalks and curb and gutter at the street edge.

Homes in this character area have consistent setbacks and streets include narrow tree lawns, detached sidewalks and curb and gutter at the street edge.

The old-growth street tree canopy is dense throughout this character area.

Porches and side drive access to rear garages are consistent features.

**PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT**

March 15, 2017
Character Area 2B has a moderate range of variation, in terms of building age and traditional development patterns. It retains a high percentage of buildings that “contribute” to a historic district. The lots are predominantly oriented to the East/West (whereas the lots in Character Areas 2A and 2C orient to the North/South). Many lots at the block ends face cross-streets, which create a significant amount of Block End Cap conditions. Lot sizes are larger than Character Area 2A and Character Area 2C, as are building sizes.

**Distinguishing Neighborhood Features:**
- Rectilinear street grid
- Moderate street widths
- Formal on-street parking
- Large & deep, rectangular-shaped lots
- No alleys

**Distinguishing Site Features:**
- Uniform front yard setbacks
- Front yards are open and inviting.
- Parking is typically in a detached garage, located in the rear of the lot. As a result, garages are visually subordinate to the street.
- Driveways create wider side yard setbacks on one side of each parcel. This results in a sense of a greater separation between buildings.

**Distinguishing Building Features:**
- Both 1 & 2-Story houses are common.
- Most buildings date from the period of historic significance, typically from the 1920s and into the 1940s.
- Homes are moderate in scale. Most range from 2,000 sf to 3,500 sf.
- New buildings and additions appear to be in scale with historic buildings.
- One-story porches are typical and orient to the street.
- Primary entrances face the street.

**Street Pattern:** Grid Pattern
**Street Width:** 25 ft.-30 ft.
**Public Realm:** Curb and Gutter
**Landscaping:** Medium - Dense
**Consistency:** Narrow Range of Variation
**Alleyway:** No

**Lot Orientation:** Primarily East & West
**Lot Depth & Width:** 130’x60’
**Lot Size:** 6,000 sf-10,000 sf.
**Lot Coverage:** 30%-50%
**Block End Cap:** 78%
**Setbacks:** 10 ft.-15 ft.
**Parking:** Side Drive Leading to Rear Garage

In general, homes in this character area have consistent setbacks and streets include narrow tree lawns, detached sidewalks and curb and gutter at the street edge.

Well-maintained historic homes are present throughout this character area area.

Block end-caps are present on approximately half of the side streets.

Homes and two-story homes with varied massing, materiality, floor-area ratio, and parking in the rear are present. Lot sizes are considerably larger than those in Character Area 2A.
Character Area 2C has a significant range of variation, in terms of building age and traditional development patterns. It retains a moderate percentage of buildings that “contribute” to a historic district (fewer than in Character Areas 2A and 2B). The lots are predominantly oriented to the North/South, similar to 2A (whereas the lots in 2B are oriented to the East/West). Its streets have a mix of those with curb & gutter and those without. This results in different parking patterns and garage locations.

**Distinguishing Neighborhood Features:**
- Rectilinear street grid
- Moderate street widths
- Narrow, rectangular-shaped lots
- No alleys

**Distinguishing Site Features:**
- Uniform front yard setbacks
- Front yards are open and inviting.
- Parking varies greatly. As a result, more parked cars can be noticed in front and side yards.
- Driveways are not always present. This results in less space between buildings.

**Distinguishing Building Features:**
- Both 1 & 2-Story houses are common.
- Most buildings date from the period of historic significance, typically from the 1880s and into the 1920s.
- Homes are modest in scale. Most range from 1,000 sf to 1,500 sf.
- A moderate percentage of new buildings and additions appear to be out of scale with historic buildings.
- One and two-story porches are present and orient to the street.
- Primary entrances face the street.

In general, homes in this character area have consistent setbacks and streets include wide tree lawns, detached sidewalks and a mix of curb and gutter, and no curb and gutter at the street edge. Home sizes and styles vary throughout this character area. One and two-story homes with varied massing, materiality, lot size, floor area ratio, and parking in the front and rear are present. Landscape vegetation is less dense than previous typologies.

Second story porches are consistent throughout this character area area. Some porches connect directly to the sidewalk.

**KEY:**
- Building/Garage
- Driveway Access
- Building Setback
- Property Lines

**STREET PATTERN:** Grid Pattern
**STREET WIDTH:** 20 ft. (some 30 ft.)
**PUBLIC REALM:** Mix of Curb and Gutter and No Curb and Gutter
- Tree lawn between Street and Sidewalk
**LANDSCAPING:** Medium
**CONSISTENCY:** Significant Variation
**ALLEYWAY:** No

**LOT ORIENTATION:** North & South
**LOT DEPTH & WIDTH:** 100’x50’
**LOT SIZE:** 5,000 sf - 6,000 sf.
**LOT COVERAGE:** 30%-50%
**BLOCK END CAP:** 32.5%
**SETBACKS:** 10 ft - 15 ft.
**PARKING:** Mix of Parking, Side Drive Leading to Rear; Front Garage; On-Street; etc...

**BUILDING HEIGHT:** 1 & 2-Stories
**BUILDING SIZE:** 1,000 sf - 1,500 sf.
**FLOOR AREA RATIO:** Majority 0.20 - 0.34 (with some higher)
**BUILDING AGE:** 1880s - 1920
**ROOF FORM:** Primarily Gable and Hip
**PORCH / ENTRY:** 1 & 2-Story Porches Connecting to Sidewalk
Character Area 3A has a high degree of consistency, in terms of building age and traditional development patterns. It retains a high percentage of buildings that “contribute” to a historic district. The lots are predominantly oriented to the East/West. Streets have no curb & gutter. Lots are relatively large, with modest 1-story homes. This results in a lower FAR throughout this character area.

Distinguishing Neighborhood Features:
- Rectilinear street grid
- A mix of moderate and narrow street widths
- Large & deep, rectangular-shaped lots
- Alleys are present throughout

Distinguishing Site Features:
- Uniform, deep front yard setbacks
- Front yards are occasionally fenced.
- Parking is typically in a detached garage, located in the rear of the lot. As a result, garages are visually subordinate to the street (a few, more recent houses have front-facing garages).
- Driveways create wider side yard setbacks on one side of each parcel. This results in a sense of a greater separation between buildings.
- Moderate amount of Block End Cap conditions.

Distinguishing Building Features:
- The majority of houses are one story in height.
- Most buildings date from the period of historic significance, typically from the 1920s and into the 1940s.
- Homes are modest in scale. Most range from 1,000 sf to 2,000 sf.
- A low percentage of new buildings and additions appear to be out of scale with historic buildings.
- One-story porches are typical and orient to the street.
- Primary entrances face the street.

LOT ORIENTATION:
East & West
LOT DEPTH & WIDTH:
135’x50’
LOT SIZE:
5,000 sf.-8,000 sf.
LOT COVERAGE:
30%-50%
BLOCK END CAP:
50%
SETBACKS:
20 sf.-25 ft.
PARKING:
Side Drive Leading to Rear Garage

In general, homes in this character area have consistent setbacks and streets include tree lawns and detached sidewalks with pathways leading to a front door.

Home size is consistent and throughout this character area. One-story homes with a large lot size, floor-area ratio, and side access to parking in the rear are common.

Lot variation is much greater than with previous character area.

Narrow streets with wide tree lawns and no curb and gutter give front yards a larger appearance.
**CHARACTER AREAS**

**DESCRIPTION:**
Character Area 3B has a moderate degree of consistency, in terms of building age and traditional development patterns. It retains a high percentage of buildings that “contribute” to a historic district (but somewhat less than Character Area 3A). The lots are predominantly oriented to the East/West. Streets have no curb & gutter, creating the appearance of larger lawns. In some areas, however, this area is used for parking.

**Distinguishing Neighborhood Features:**
- Rectilinear street grid
- Narrow street widths
- Large & deep, rectangular-shaped lots
- Alleys are present throughout

**Distinguishing Site Features:**
- Slightly varied, deep front yard setbacks
- Front yards are occasionally fenced
- Parking is typically in a detached garage, located in the rear of the lot. As a result, garages are visually subordinate to the street (a few, more recent houses have front-facing garages).
- Driveways create wider side yard setbacks on one side of each parcel. This results in a sense of a greater separation between buildings.
- Moderate amount of Block End Cap conditions.

**Distinguishing Building Features:**
- Both 1 & 2-Story houses are common.
- Most buildings date from the period of historic significance, typically from the 1920s and into the 1940s.
- Homes are modest in scale. Most range from 1,000 sf to 2,000 sf.
- A low percentage of new buildings and additions appear to be out of scale with historic buildings.
- One-story porches are typical and orient to the street.
- Primary entrances face the street.

**SITE CHARACTERISTICS:**

**LOT ORIENTATION:**

**LOT DEPTH & WIDTH:**

**LOT SIZE:**

**LOT COVERAGE:**

**BLOCK END CAP:**

**SETBACKS:**

**PARKING:**

**STREET PATTERN:** Grid Pattern

**STREET WIDTH:** 20 ft.

**PUBLIC REALM:**
- No Curb and Gutter
- Tree lawn between Street and Sidewalk

**LANDSCAPING:** Medium

**CONSISTENCY:** Significant Variation

**ALLEYWAY:** Yes

**BUILDING CHARACTERISTICS:**

Homes in this character area have a slightly varied setback and streets include tree lawns and detached sidewalks. Curb and gutter are not present at the street edge throughout this area.

**LOT SIZE:** 5,000 sf - 8,000 sf.

**BUILDING WEIGHT:**
- 1 & 2-Stories

**BUILDING SIZE:** 1,000 sf - 2,000 sf.

**FLOOR AREA RATIO:** Majority 0.15-0.24 (with fewer higher)

**BUILDING AGE:** 1920-1940

**ROOF FORM:** Primarily Gable and Hip

**PORCH / ENTRY:** 1-Story Porch Connecting to Sidewalk

**KEY:**
- Building/Garage
- Driveway Access
- Building Setback
- Property Lines

**Landscape vegetation is less abundant than other typologies. Some areas lack sidewalks.**

**Block end-caps are present on the majority of the side streets in this character area.**

**Homes size varies throughout this character area. One and two-story homes with a large lot size, varied floor-area-ratio, and parking in the rear are common. Materiality and architecture style of the buildings also varies.**
ACTIVITY #2

DESCRIPTION:
Character Area 3D has a significant range of variation, in terms of building age and traditional development patterns. It has a low percentage of buildings that “contribute” to a historic district. The lots are predominantly oriented to the East/West. Streets have curb & gutter throughout (unlike other Group 3 Character Areas). Building setbacks have a moderate degree of variance due to a shallower pattern from new development.

Distinguishing Neighborhood Features:
- Rectilinear street grid
- Narrow street widths
- Formal on-street parking
- Large & deep, rectangular-shaped lots
- Alleys are present throughout

Distinguishing Site Features:
- Front yards are occasionally fenced.
- Parking varies greatly. Garages are accessed from both front yards and alleys.
- Driveways are not always present. This results in less space between buildings.
- Moderate amount of Block End Cap scenarios.

Distinguishing Building Features:
- Both 1 & 2-Story houses are common.
- A low amount of buildings date from the period of historic significance, typically from the 1920s and into the 1940s. A significant amount of new buildings have been constructed since the 1980s.
- Homes size varies significantly. Most range from 1,000 sf to 3,500 sf.
- A significant percentage of new buildings and additions appear to be out of scale with historic buildings.
- One-story porches are typical and orient to the street.
- Primary entrances face the street.

STREET PATTERN: Grid Pattern
STREET WIDTH: 20 ft. (E/W) & 35 ft. (N/S)
PUBLIC REALM: Curb and Gutter
- Tree lawn between Street and Sidewalk
LANDSCAPING: Medium
CONSISTENCY: Significant Variation
ALLEYWAY: Yes

LOT ORIENTATION: East & West (Few N/S)
LOT DEPTH & WIDTH: 135’x50’
LOT SIZE: 5,000 sf.-10,000 sf.
LOT COVERAGE: 30%-60%
BLOCK END CAP: 50%
SETBACKS: 15 ft.-20 ft.
PARKING: Mix of Parking, Side Drive Leading to Rear; Front Garage; On-Street; etc...

BUILDING CHARACTERISTICS:

Homes in this character area have shallow setbacks with greater variation than other areas. Streets include tree lawns and detached sidewalks. Curb & gutter is consistent at the street edge.

Homes and lot sizes vary throughout this character area. Parking and access varies greatly based on new developments. Architectural styles of the buildings also varies due to the mix of new homes and modified lots.

New townhome developments provide rear garage access from the alleys.

Subdivided lots have been redeveloped with a large mix of architectural styles in some areas.

KEY:

- Building/Garage
- Driveway Access
- Building Setback
- Property Lines

Hous ton, TX: H istoric D istrict D esign G uidelines P roject

S UBSTANTIAL V ARIATION

ONE & TWO-STORY MASSING
MIX OF PARKING LOCATIONS
HIGH MIX OF LOT SIZES

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