



PLANNING &  
DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT

Marcolutti

## Department of Planning and Development, Historic Districts II, Summer 2014

This HART, project brought together students from Architecture, Art History, Statistics and Computational Math, and Political Science and Policy Studies to assist the City of Houston's Department of Planning and Development in creating a more transparent and user- focused approach to Certificates of Appropriateness (COAs), which are required to alter structures in Houston's 21 historic districts. The team analyzed data from three historic districts in order to identify the range and typicality of 13 different structural features of historic homes within and across districts. These findings were included in their Reference Book for Evaluating COAs, which now serves as a guidebook for Planning and Development staff, members of the Houston Archaeological and Historic Commission, as well as architects, builders and homeowners seeking COAs. A future team will work with the Planning and Development Department to transform the guidebook into an interactive, online tool.

