

D/DRC Case

2221 Washington Street

Individual Landmark

TMS: 11407-14-14

**DESIGN/DEVELOPMENT REVIEW COMMISSION
DESIGN REVIEW DISTRICT
CONSENT AGENDA
EVALUATION SHEET
Case # 3**

ADDRESS: 2221 Washington Street

APPLICANT: Melvina Rawlinson, Treasurer, Bishop's Memorial AME

TAX MAP REFERENCE: TMS#11407-14-14

USE OF PROPERTY: Religious Institution

REVIEW DISTRICT: Individual Landmark, Group I

NATURE OF REQUEST: Request Certificate of Design Approval for new sign

FINDINGS/COMMENTS:

This is a sign for the Bishop's Memorial AME Church, which was completed in 1908. The sign will actually be located two lots over from the church, facing east onto Oak Street. Therefore it will have a minimum visual impact on the building.

PROPOSAL

The proposed sign is show in the attached rendering. Signs for landmarks are reviewed for their compatibility with the associated historic building and their impact on the historic building due to their location, size, illumination and materials. This sign is 4' tall by 8' wide, made of an aluminum box, with a broken pediment feature at the top highlighted by a central cross. The original proposal featured a plastic inset so that it could feature internal illumination, however this type of lighting is not complementary to historic sites. The applicant has agreed to use spotlights instead of internal illumination.

Since internal illumination was originally proposed for this sign, staff assumes that a large portion of the façade has to be a somewhat transparent plastic material. Plastic is discouraged on signs for landmarks and staff would recommend a metal panel for the front of the sign, which could still accommodate the channels for the changeable letters. Metal is an appropriate sign material for landmarks.

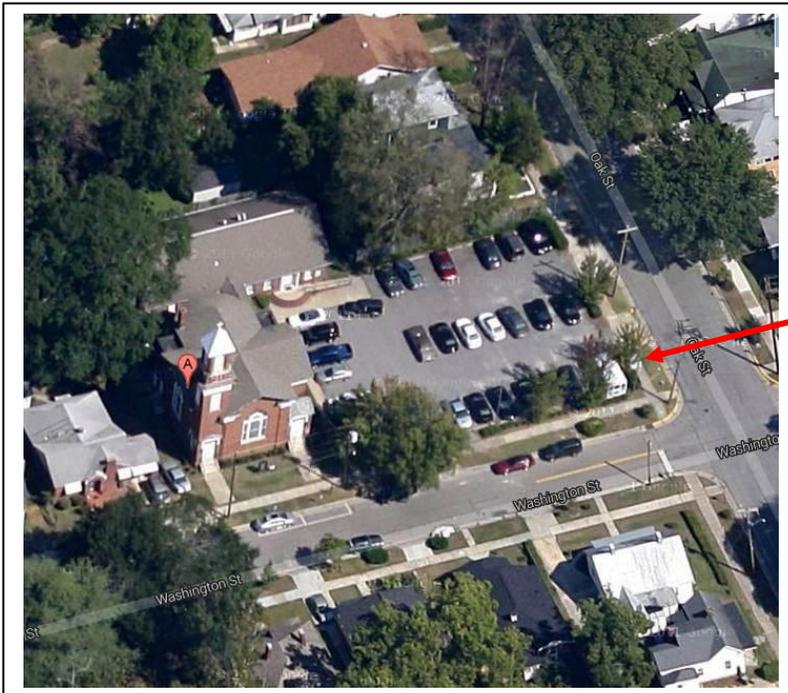
The size of the sign is appropriate for its location, which is along a streetfront and within a planted border around the parking lot. It will replace a small tree. This location minimizes the visual impact on the historic landmark.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Staff recommends that the request for Certificate of Design Approval be approved with the condition that the plastic panels be replaced with metal and that exterior spotlight illumination replace the internal illumination.



Location of proposed sign



Location of proposed sign
Google image



Proposed sign, submitted by applicant.