**January 6, 2022 Historic Sites and Monuments Commission Meeting**

**Petition 21-006810-HM**

**City of Savannah – Yamacraw Art Park Renaming to *Yamacraw Square***

**Mr. Jerome Meadows** stated he is the artist/designer of Yamacraw Square. He was commissioned in 1997 to create a park that would function as a square. He visited the existing squares to get an idea as to how they function. He found that they were an outdoor living room to enjoy the space and each other. They also spoke of Savannah’s history. With Yamacraw being in a predominantly African American community and paying honor to First Bryan Baptist, it was designed to function as such. It is on a one-way residential street; the trees provide the living room function. Bay Street provided ‘banner supports’ that announce that an active community was near and to have visitors want to return and see it. The panels in the center were to provide a historical accounting of the area for locals and visitors to enjoy and respect for the African American history that is unfairly overlooked. The restoration is fantastic, considering it has been in disarray for decades, which is painful. He looks forward to it becoming comparable to any square in the City.