



## HISTORIC SITE AND MONUMENT COMMISSION (HSMC)

Application for Historical Markers, Monuments, and Public Art **2025**

HSMC reviews all historical markers, monuments, and public art on public property; markers, monuments, and public art visible from the public right-of-way on private property within all local historic districts; murals visible from the public right-of-way.

Applications that do not provide documentation or required materials will be noted as incomplete and may result in delays in the Commission or Staff's review of the application and/or denial of the request. Revisions made to the applications after the submittal deadline

and prior to the Commission hearing may be continued to the following month's hearing. The Commission reserves the right to require additional information if it believes that the submission of such information is necessary to understand the nature of the intended activity.

**Submissions will only be accepted when emailed to [historic@thempc.org](mailto:historic@thempc.org). Ensure the file size does not exceed 10 MB.**

**For questions, email [preservationquestions@thempc.org](mailto:preservationquestions@thempc.org) or call 912-651-1440.**

**Do not email questions to [historic@thempc.org](mailto:historic@thempc.org).** If email is not available, contact the office for alternate arrangements.

File No.: \_\_\_\_\_ (staff only)

### Applicant Contact Information:

Name: Doretha Rice / Jaceln Johnson

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: Savannah

State Georgia

Zip 31045

Phone: 912-631-3942

E-Mail Address dorethar@hotmail.com

### Property Owner Contact Information and Consent (Complete only if the marker will be on private property):

Name: City of Savannah

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Official Correspondence: ☒ Applicant ☐ Owner ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_ (Check all that apply)

### Property Information: (PIN information can be found at [www.sagis.org](http://www.sagis.org).)

☒ Public Property ☐ Private Property PIN (Property Identification Number): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: Essex Avenue between 2nd and Corvair Street

### Scope of Work: (Check all that apply.)

HISTORICAL MARKER:	MONUMENT:
<input type="checkbox"/> Freestanding	<input type="checkbox"/> Person
<input type="checkbox"/> Wall-Mounted	<input type="checkbox"/> Place
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground-Embedded	<input type="checkbox"/> Event
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
<b>PUBLIC ART / MURAL (Commissioned or Existing Work):</b>	<b>NAMING AND RENAMING:</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Mural	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Property
<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Facilities
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Streets

**Project Description:** Describe the proposed project and scope of work in detail. Additional pages may be attached. Submit all supplemental documentation as required in the separate "Instructions: Submittal Criteria Checklist."

An Honorary Street Designation for Annie Bell Graham within Tremont Park neighborhood.

Located on Essex Street between 2nd and Coviar Streets.

**Contact staff to schedule a pre-meeting: [preservationquestions@thempc.org](mailto:preservationquestions@thempc.org) or call 912-651-1440.**

**Pre-meetings must be held a minimum of ONE WEEK before a deadline.**

**2025 Savannah-Chatham County Historic Site and Monument Commission Meeting Schedule:**

Application Deadline, by 3:00 P.M.	Meeting Date	4:00 P.M.
<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday, December 5, 2024	<b>Thursday, January 9, 2025</b>	<b>** rescheduled due to holiday</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> January 2	February 6	
<input type="checkbox"/> February 6	March 6	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> March 6	April 3	
<input type="checkbox"/> April 3	May 1	
<input type="checkbox"/> May 1	June 5	
<input type="checkbox"/> June 5	<b>July 10</b>	<b>**rescheduled due to holiday</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> July 3	August 7	
<input type="checkbox"/> August 7	September 4	
<input type="checkbox"/> September 4	October 2	
<input type="checkbox"/> October 2	November 6	
<input type="checkbox"/> November 6 (December 4)	December 4	<b>(January 8, 2026)</b>

Estimated Cost of the Proposed Work: \$ 150

**Filing Fee Schedule:**

No filing fee is required for HSMC review.

**Public Notice for Historic Site and Monument Commission Meetings:**

The applicant is responsible for posting the Board Meeting signs provided by the MPC fifteen (15) days prior to the HSMC Meeting. Refer to *Chapter 9 of the Markers, Monuments, and Public Art Master Plan and Guidelines for the City of Savannah* for additional posting requirements.

**Signature of Legal Owner or Authorized Agent:**

I have read and understand all the information enclosed in this application form. I understand that an Escrow Payment is required for any historical marker erected on public property. I hereby certify that I am the legal owner or authorized agent for the legal owner of the subject property.

Signature: Doretha Rice

Digitally signed by Doretha Rice  
Date: 2025.02.28 10:28:21 -05'00'

Date: 2/28/25

**Submissions will only be accepted when emailed to [historic@thempc.org](mailto:historic@thempc.org). Ensure the file size does not exceed 10 MB. Please do not submit questions to [historic@thempc.org](mailto:historic@thempc.org). For questions, email [preservationquestions@thempc.org](mailto:preservationquestions@thempc.org) or call 912-651-1440. Please do not submit applications to [preservationquestions@thempc.org](mailto:preservationquestions@thempc.org). If email is not available, contact the office for alternate arrangements.**

A complete application submission consists of:

1. Complete, signed application
2. Complete, signed checklist(s) for each request
3. Checklist documentation
4. Payment receipt

Applications that do not provide documentation or required materials will be noted as incomplete and may result in delays in the Commission or Staff's review of the application and/or denial of the request.



## CITY OF SAVANNAH CITY COUNCIL

**Alicia Miller Blakely**  
**Alderwoman, At-Large Post 2**

February 12, 2020

To Whom It May Concern,

I, Alicia Miller Blakely, Alderwoman of the City of Savannah's Post 2, fully endorses the application to request an Honorary Street Naming of Annie B. Graham Street located at Essex Avenue Between 2nd Avenue and Corvair Street

Staff will review and formally make a recommendation of action to City Council at a later date. This endorsement is only an approval to move forward in the process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Alicia Miller Blakely', written over a horizontal line.

Alderwoman Alicia Miller Blakely  
Post 2 – At Large  
City of Savannah, Georgia



## **Annie Bell Graham – Tremont Park Matriarch**

### **March 6, 1925 – August 27, 2023**

In early 1941, Ms. Annie Bell Graham and her husband, Mr. Elliott Graham, settled in Tremont Park. She was the mother of twelve biological children and served as the legal guardian for approximately sixteen additional children.

Mrs. Graham was among the first African American property owners in the Tremont Park Community. Her three-bedroom home soon expanded to five bedrooms to accommodate the growing family.

Mrs. Graham served as the “Mother of the Church” of Tremont Park Missionary Baptist Church, located in Tremont Park, for nearly sixty years.

Mrs. Graham was a dedicated community organizer who hosted numerous fundraisers in her home during the early seventies to purchase land for the first Tremont Park Community Center. The center, built and governed by Tremont Park residents, greatly benefited from her efforts. She played a vital role in assisting other community leaders in securing a newly built community center through the City of Savannah. Whenever she couldn't attend a meeting or event, she ensured her voice was heard by sending a family representative. Mrs. Graham consistently contributed to the center by cooking hams, potato salad, and her award-winning sweet potato pies for community Thanksgiving dinners and Christmas parties. She remained actively involved in community events well into her nineties.

Mrs. Annie Bell Graham embodied the spirit of a Southeastern Pioneer Woman, showcasing remarkable resilience and resourcefulness. She provided food and clothing to numerous children in Tremont Park. Families would come to her home for a hot meal and often leave with a bag of food to take home. Those who knew her as “Grandma” understood she always had something to offer, whether it was food, clothing, or a monetary gift.

Mrs. Graham provided childcare in her home for both her family and the community, continuing this care well into her nineties. She often said, “Bring the children to me, (Nigh) and you go on to work.” She never charged for her childcare services and refused any money offered to her. Her home was always open to anyone in need of a place to stay. Over 500 people stayed at her home, whether for an overnight stay or for several months. With over 130 grandchildren, the number of people she sheltered could have easily been in the thousands, making her a foster grandmother to many.

Mrs. Annie Bell Graham's legacy endures through the countless lives she touched. She is a true legend and will forever be known as the “Matriarch of Tremont Park.”

Honorary Street Designation Request-

**Purpose**

Honorary street name designations are intended to recognize individuals who have made significant contributions to the community. The designation is temporary assignment of the honorarium and shall not interfere with the official name of the street. Honorary Street Designations DO NOT change the official name of the street, they are only symbolic.

**Proposal**

**Current Name:** Essex Avenue  
**Proposed Honorary Name:** Annie B. Graham Street  
**Location:** Essex Avenue Between 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and Corvair Street  
**Petitioner:** Doretha Rice 912-631-3942/ Jacelyn Johnson 912-655-7628





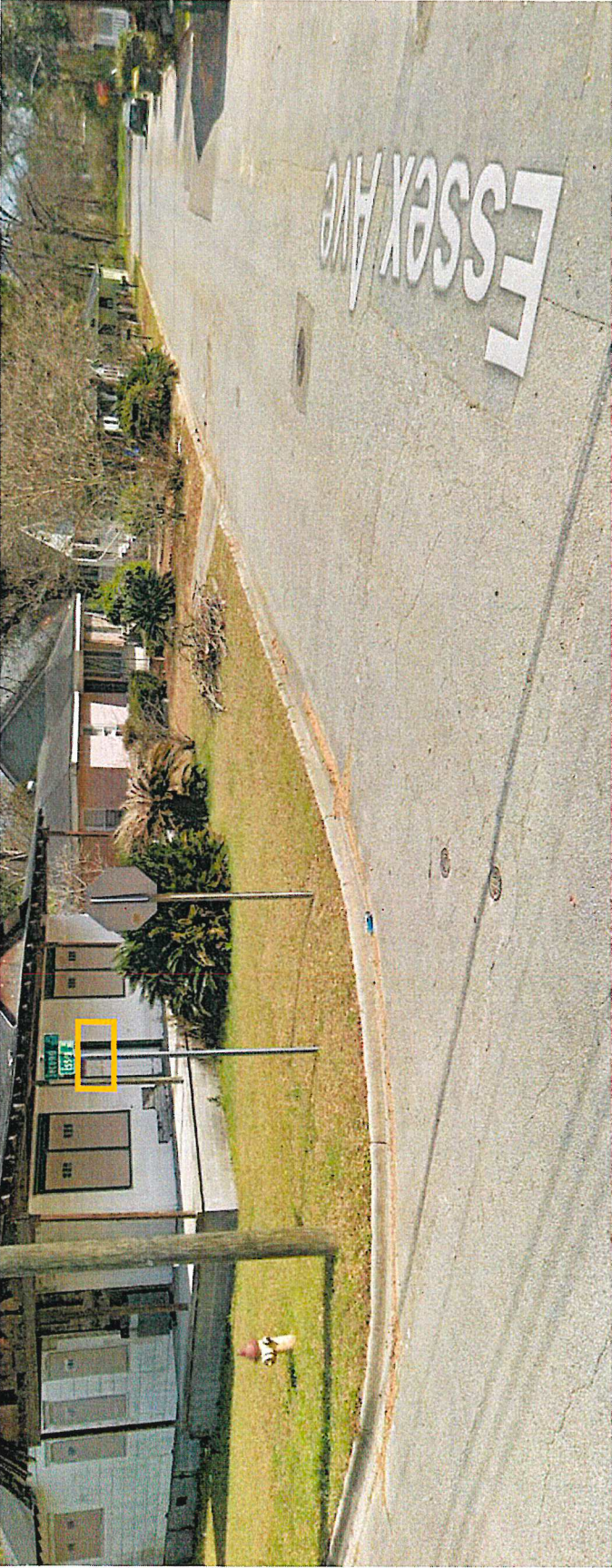




Street Sign Locations- Honorary Street Sign will be attached below the actual street name and Honorary Sign will be brown in color.



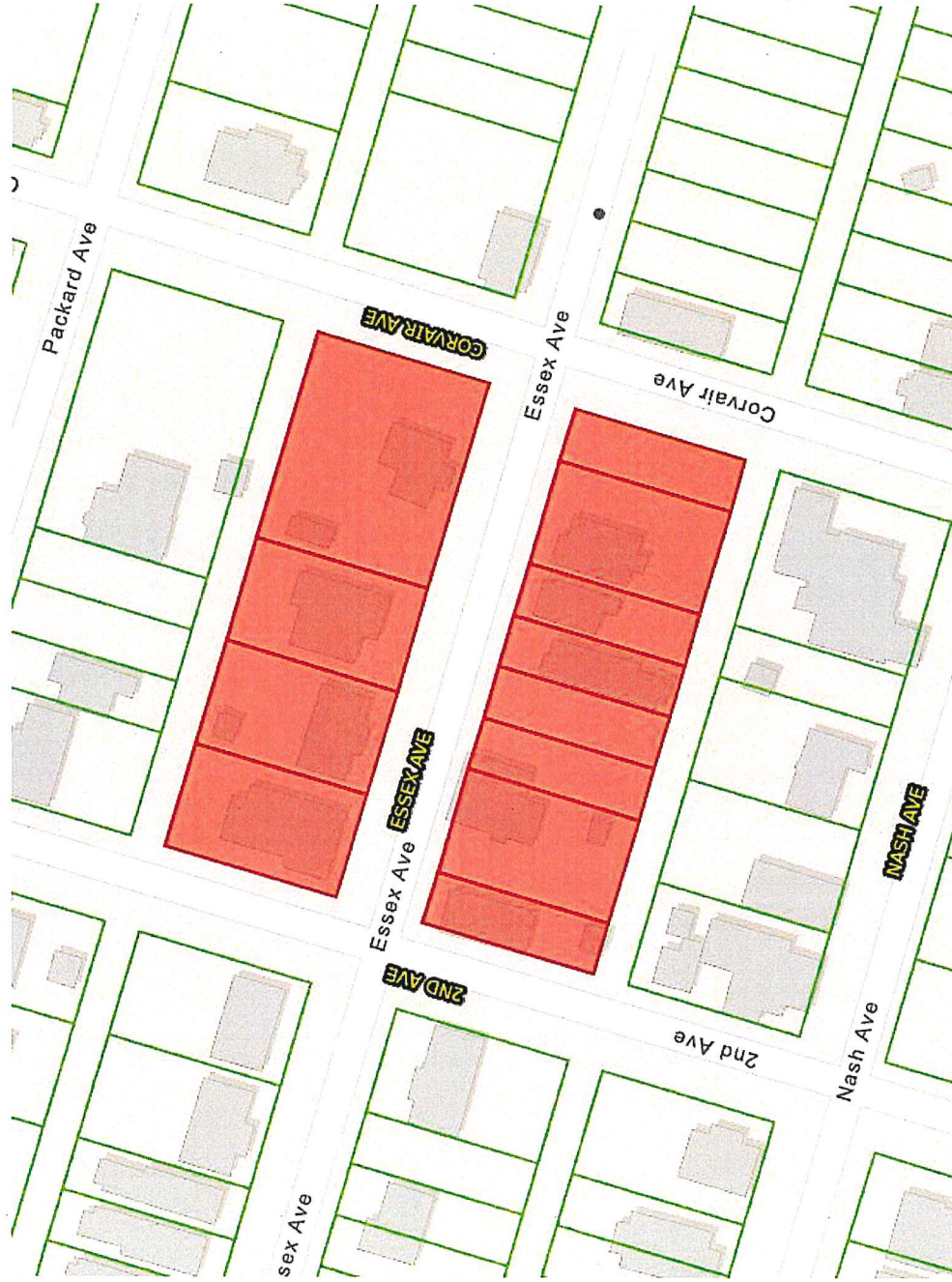






Statement of Reason- Community Contribution submitted by Petitioner

**STATEMENT REQUIRED**



12 total property owners  
7 approval's required to move petition forward

Owner	Mailing_Address	Address	Approval
1. GRANT, SR. ARTHUR L.	1414 ARCADIAN ST.	2012 ESSEX AVE	Y
2. LOWMAN MAMIE	348 CANEBRAKE RD	2200 ESSEX AVE	Y
3. GRAHAM ANNA BELLE	2015 ESSEX AVE HIGHWAY PARK	2015 ESSEX AVE	Y
4. HINES LARRY WILLIAM	105 RUNAWAY POINT RD	ESSEX AVE	Y
5. GRANT MYRTIS T	PO BOX 14455	2009 ESSEX AVE	Y
6. GRANT MYRTIS TERENTIA	PO BOX 14455	ESSEX AVE	Y
7. BAPTISTE ANTOINE	PO BOX 24261	2017 ESSEX AVE	
8. GRANT, SR. ARTHUR L.	1414 ARCADIAN ST.	2010 ESSEX AVE	
9. ODOM CARLEEN & BENJAMIN K*	2002 NASH AVE	2005 ESSEX AVE	
10. GREEN TERRANCE &	307 GRIST MILL COURT	2007 ESSEX AVE	Y
11. SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, AN OFFICE	810 VERMONT AVENUE NW	2008 ESSEX AVE	
12. GRAHAM ANNA BELLE	2015 ESSEX AVE HIGHWAY PARK	ESSEX AVE	



12 total property owners  
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Owner	Mailing Address	Address
1. GRANT, SR. ARTHUR L. <i>Grant, Sr. Arthur</i>	1414 ARCADIAN ST.	2012 ESSEX AVE
2. LOWMAN MAMIE <i>Lowman Mamie</i>	348 CANEBRAKE RD	2200 ESSEX AVE
3. GRAHAM ANNA BELLE <i>Hines Larry William</i>	2015 ESSEX AVE HIGHWAY PARK	2015 ESSEX AVE
4. HINES LARRY WILLIAM	105 RUNAWAY POINT RD	ESSEX AVE
5. GRANT MYRTIS T <i>Myrtle P. Grant</i>	PO BOX 14455	2009 ESSEX AVE
6. GRANT MYRTIS TEREINTIA <i>Grant Myrtle P.</i>	PO BOX 14455	ESSEX AVE
7. BAPTISTE ANTOINE	PO BOX 24261	2017 ESSEX AVE
8. GRANT, SR. ARTHUR L.	1414 ARCADIAN ST.	2010 ESSEX AVE
9. ODOM CARLEEN & BENJAMIN K* <i>Green Gertrude</i>	2002 NASH AVE	2005 ESSEX AVE
10. GREEN TERRANCE & <i>Green Gertrude</i>	307 GRIST MILL COURT	2007 ESSEX AVE
11. SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, AN OFFICE	810 VERMONT AVENUE NW	2008 ESSEX AVE <i>gione</i>
12. GRAHAM ANNA BELLE	2015 ESSEX AVE HIGHWAY PARK	ESSEX AVE

Requirements for Honorary Street Naming Designations. (Sec.4-1104)

Purpose

- ✓ Honorary street name designations are intended to recognize individuals who have made significant contributions to the City. The designation will be a temporary assignment of the honorarium and shall not interfere with the official name of the street.

Restrictions

- ✓ Roadways under the control of the Federal Highway Administration, Georgia Department of Transportation or Chatham County are not subject to honorary naming.
- ✓ Honorary designations shall be limited to one approved designation per City Council member per calendar year.
- ✓ Individual family tributes, commercially concerned and corporate-related recognitions shall not be eligible for honorary designation.

Requirements

- ✓ The proposed namesake made a sustained contribution over an appreciable time period, exerted efforts of benefit or significance to local, state or national affairs and/or demonstrated leadership in governmental, cultural or historical affairs, humanitarian efforts, or community development;
- ✓ The proposed namesake made contributions that beneficially changed the nature and characteristics of the community;
- ✓ The proposed namesake resided in the City for at least 5 years.
- ✓ A statement of reasons supporting the honorary naming request, including a discussion of the historical significance, contributions, heroic service or personal sacrifice by the honoree to the City, state or nation;
- ✓ Identification of the particular section or block of an existing City street for which the honorary designation is sought.
- ✓ A supporting petition signed by not less than 51 percent of all property owners abutting the subject right-of-way
- ✓ An endorsement by the current Mayor, an at-large alderman or the alderman representing the district in which the property is located.
- ✓ A check for \$150 made to the City of Savannah



1. Jacquelyne G Johnson
2. Rosine Graham
3. Antonio Graham Jr.
4. Jordan Graham
5. Antonio Graham SR
6. Bernard Johnson Sr.
7. Charles E Simon Jr
8. Carey B Graham
9. Talana Graham
10. Michael Weathers
11. Jaquan McCombs
12. Samuel McCombs
13. Chelsea McCombs
14. Samir McCombs
15. Fred Herman Walker
16. Antwan Braxton
17. Akia Braxton
18. Lemuel James Arkwright
19. Shise Arkwright
20. Shenelle Weathers
21. Caden Roberts
22. Ana Weathers
23. Antonio Graham III
24. Herman Fields III
25. Naziyah McCombs
26. Nashakeya Emin
27. Jimmia Graham
28. Ahmaria W. Graham
29. Brianna Jones
30. Lenora Axon
31. Courtney Himm
32. Shantel Blount
33. Stevie Ellison
34. Caleb Jones
35. Shanell Wilkerson
36. Resnold Simmons
37. Resnold S. Simmons R
38. Sharon Sadler
39. Henry Gimlet
40. Diane Holmes
41. Denae Holmes
42. Lorenzo Holmes
43. Monica Holmes
44. Hunter Braxton
45. Fsiadah Braxton
46. Antwan J. Braxton
47. Antwanera T. Braxton
48. Jamir Wilkerson
49. Ty'Rae Jenkins
50. Shanell Wilkerson
51. Marrice Lopez

41. Mary Ann Graham  
48 Ramonte Hall  
49 Jamel Jackson  
50 Kerisha Chambers  
51 Jahaira Jackson  
52 Jeremiah Jackson  
53. Malik Jacobs  
54. ALFRED WILSON  
55. Janice Wilson  
56 LaTran Wilson  
57 JAMES TAPP  
58. Romario Axon  
59. Jamarie Axon  
60. Christopher Walker  
61. Javian Jacobs  
62. Tyjuan Quarlesman  
63. Norman Fields  
64. Mikel Smart  
65. Shaw Williams  
66. Kendall Carter  
67. Marquis London  
68. Zach Patterson  
69. Clarence Axon SR  
70. Aubrey Graham  
71. Cornelia Graham  
72. Naziah Axon  
73. Clarence Axon SR.  
74. Shamia Brown

75. Diamond Gillard  
76. Dominique Johnson  
77. GREG Banner  
78. Navonia Graham  
79. Margetah Graham  
80. Watrell Errin  
81. Ahmarja Graham  
82. Wal' Shakeya Errin  
83. Pailsey Errin  
84. Tajneer Muhammad  
85. Tajara Muhammad  
86. Raven Weathers  
87. Reginald Weathers  
88. Christopher Glover  
89. Jazmine McCombs  
90. Naziyah McCombs  
91. London McCombs  
92. Spain McCombs  
93. Jayden West  
94. Kiani McCombs