



SAVANNAH-CHATHAM COUNTY HISTORIC SITE AND MONUMENT COMMISSION

PETITIONER: City of Savannah
FILE No.: 23-004795-HM
LOCATION: Abercorn & Wayne Streets, Taylor Square
DATE: September 21, 2023

NATURE OF REQUEST:

The applicant is requesting approval to update the proposed text from a previously approved installation of a granite ground marker in a landscaped bed within Taylor Square, located at Abercorn and Wayne Streets [23-003803-HM].

The previous text, approved by the Historic Site and Monument Commission reads as follows:

TAYLOR SQUARE
LAID OUT 1851
1851-2022 NAMED CALHOUN SQUARE
IN HONOR OF JOHN C. CALHOUN
2023 NAMED IN HONOR OF SUSIE KING TAYLOR
Erected by the City of Savannah 2023

The proposed revision is as follows:

TAYLOR SQUARE
LAID OUT 1851
1851 NAMED FOR JOHN C. CALHOUN, 7TH U.S. VICE PRESIDENT
2022 CITY COUNCIL REMOVED THE NAME CALHOUN, A STAUNCH DEFENDER OF SLAVERY
2023 NAMED IN HONOR OF SUSIE KING TAYLOR, TEACHER AND NURSE
Erected by the City of Savannah 2023

FINDINGS:

The following standards from the Historic Site and Monument Commission Guidelines for Markers, Monuments and Public Art apply:

Monuments and Public Art. Monuments may take on many forms including works of art, benches, statues, sculptures, obelisks, sundials, etc. Monuments are typically commissioned, site-specific pieces.

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Text. The text for a marker, monument or work of art is considered part of the overall design concept. Placement of the text, font type and size, etc. should be included with the final design drawings.

Text should be well-researched and based on historically accurate, documented facts.

The text should accurately and effectively convey to the reader the desired message.

The standards are met. The text is historically accurate information that effectively conveys the desired message to the readers.

Text should avoid offensive, obscene, or inflammatory language.

There is no offensive, obscene or inflammatory language in the proposed text.

Donor names may be included provided the names are in an identical but smaller font than the rest of the text and that no slogans or corporate logos are included.

There are no donor names but within the same category, the applicant proposes to include the text “Erected by the City of Savannah 2023” in smaller font than the rest of the text. The standard is met.

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STAFF DECISION:

Upon the provision of the City of Savannah Zoning Ordinance, Article 3.19.7, the Preservation Officer (MPC Executive Director designee) does hereby approve the update to the proposed text from a previously approved granite ground marker within Taylor Square, as requested because the proposed work meets the standards in the Master Plan and Guidelines for Markers, Monuments, and Public Art.

DocuSigned by:

Leah G. Michalak

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Leah G. Michalak

Director of Historic Preservation

September 21, 2023

Date

DocuSigned by:

Melanie Wilson

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Melanie Wilson, Executive Director

Chatham County-Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission

September 21, 2023

Date