

### Jonesboro Historic Preservation Commission **1859 CITY CENTER WAY** June 20, 2024 - 5:30 PM

### **Agenda**

NOTE: As set forth in the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the City of Jonesboro will assist citizens with special needs given proper notice to participate in any open meetings of the City of Jonesboro. Please contact the City Clerk's Office via telephone (770-478-3800) should you need assistance.

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chairperson Betsy Wester
- II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
- IV. **OLD BUSINESS - NONE**
- V. **NEW BUSINESS - ACTION ITEMS** 
  - 1. Historic Preservation Commission to consider a Certificate of Appropriateness for Residence 111 Spring Street; Parcel No. 13241B B012; Paint / lime wash on existing brick in Historic Residential Overlay.
  - 2. Historic Preservation Commission to consider a Certificate of Appropriateness for Residence -(Blalock House) - 155 North Main Street; Parcel No. Parcel No. 13241B B007; Exterior revisions to existing residence in Historic District.
  - 3. Historic Preservation Commission to consider a Certificate of Appropriateness for Rosenwald School 155 Smith Street; Parcel No. 13241A B009; Improvements to historically designated building.

### VI. **ADJOURNMENT**





### CITY OF JONESBORO, GEORGIA COUNCIL Agenda Item Summary

Agenda Item #

COUNCIL MEETING DATE June 20, 2024

Requesting Agency (Initiator)

Sponsor(s)

Office of the City Manager

Community Development Director Allen

Requested Action (Identify appropriate Action or Motion, purpose, cost, timeframe, etc.)

Historic Preservation Commission to consider a Certificate of Appropriateness for Residence – 111 Spring Street; Parcel No. 13241B B012; Paint / lime wash on existing brick in Historic Residential Overlay.

Requirement for Board Action (Cite specific Council policy, statute or code requirement)

Section 86-97 R-2 District Purpose and Standards; 86-111 Historic Residential Overlay Standards

**Is this Item Goal Related?** (If yes, describe how this action meets the specific Board Focus Area or Goal)

Yes

Beautification, Community Planning, Neighborhood and Business Revitalization, Historic Preservation

Summary & Background

(First sentence includes Agency recommendation. Provide an executive summary of the action that gives an overview of the relevant details for the item.)

Agency recommendation – Approval; In late March, it was brought to our attention that the house at 111 Spring Street was being painted – from the original red brick color to a white. I went to the property and told the contactor to stop painting, as the painting / color change of unpainted brick facades in the Historic District and Historic Residential Overlay is not allowed.

- (g) Architectural design standards. The following standards shall control renovation, new construction and development in the historic residential overlay:
- (1) Rehabilitation. Careful maintenance of the existing historic design, materials and details of structures in the overlay is encouraged. Rehabilitative efforts shall include the use of materials compatible with the architectural style of the historic structure (see article VII, Architectural style and scale for guidance on specific historic styles and building materials traditionally found in Jonesboro).
- b. Building materials.
- 1. Historic building materials shall be maintained.
- 2. Unpainted brick facades shall remain unpainted.
- 3. Damaged exterior materials shall be treated with materials that will not cause further deterioration, including the use of an historic mortar mix of an appropriate color when repointing brick.
- 4. Maintenance of all building materials shall adhere to the secretary of interior's standards for rehabilitation and other resources on file with the office of downtown development.

Soon after, I heard from the new owner of the house, who said that she did not know it was in a historic area; she was just trying to spruce that house up with a new color for the brick and the shutters. She also said that the new coat on the exterior was a lime wash and not a true paint.

Limewash is a type of whitewash made from crushed limestone and water. Color pigments are often added to limewash. Limewash is painted on the brick with brushes and, like paint, is capable of slowing the deterioration of the brick.

FOLLOW-UP APPROVAL ACTION (City Clerk)				
Typed Name and Title Melissa Brooks, City Clerk	Date June, 20, 2024			
Signature	City Clerk's Office			



In November of last year, the Design Review Commission and the Historic Preservation Commission approved a lime wash for nearby 108 Pine Circle, also in the Historic Residential Overlay. (Both boards did not consider lime washing to be the same as painting.) This was the first case of this type heard by the boards. However, the final result was much covered by much more white than the example above. Nevertheless, the house looked good. It is staff's belief thay the house at 111 Spring Street also looks good now. It brightens up the house on a shady lot. The applicant also attempted to take some of the lime wash off the back, as requested, with mixed results (see enclosed photos). The house dates to 1948.

The proposed Architectural Guidelines for the City that both boards have been reviewing since last year needs to address some of the issues in this case:

- 1. Are buildings in the Historic Residential Overlay truly "historic?" (Staff does not believe that most are.)
- 2. Should the standards for buildings in the Historic Residential Overlay be as exactly strict as buildings in the Historic District? (Staff does not believe so.)
- 3. Standards for lime washing in the Historic Residential Overlay. In the Historic District too? What percent "white" should be the maximum?

Design Review Commission recommendation, 6.5.24: Approval of new brick color.

Fiscal Impact

(Include projected cost, approved budget amount and account number, source of funds, and any future funding requirements.)

Private Owner

Exhibits Attached (Provide copies of originals, number exhibits consecutively, and label all exhibits in the upper right corner.)

- Correspondence
- Original Exterior
- New Exterior
- Meeting Notice Letter

**Approval** 

### **David Allen**

From: Samantha Cook <SLC19@protonmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, April 11, 2024 2:59 PM

To: David Allen
Cc: 'Geovanny Olivera'

**Subject:** RE: Exterior Painting Material Selection for 111 Spring St.

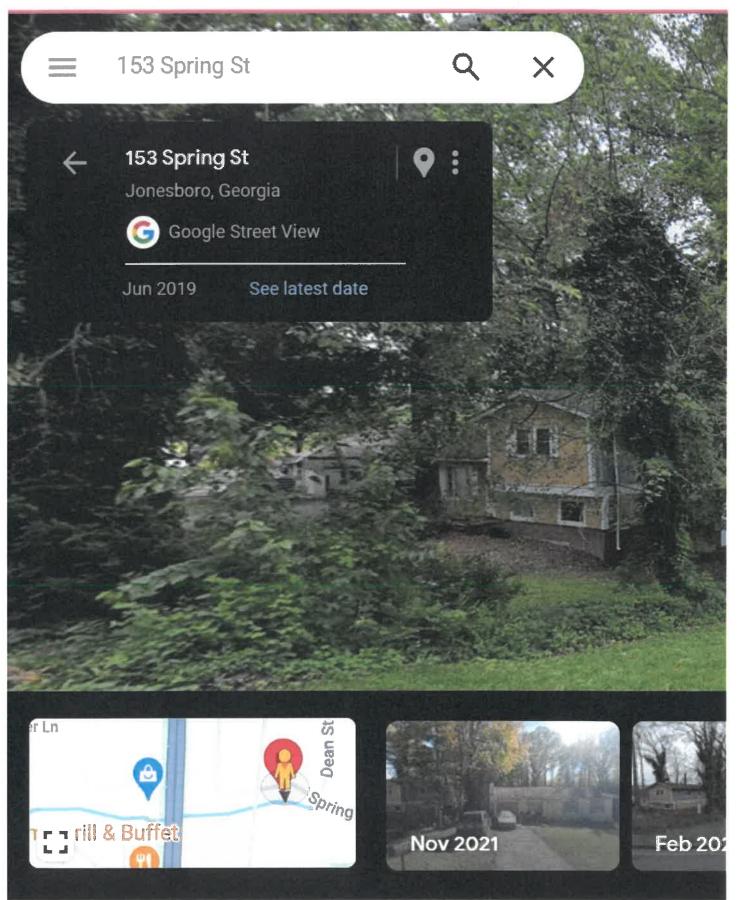
Hi Mr. Allen,

Thank you for your message. Thank you for meeting with me last week when we discussed the renovations I have made to my house on Spring St. As discussed, I would like to present my house/case to the Historical Preservation Board given that the renovation/limewashing was already applied at the time you visited and let my contractor know to stop work. After you visited, they tried performed a test removal on the back side of the house, where the lime wash was coming off very streaky and inconsistent.

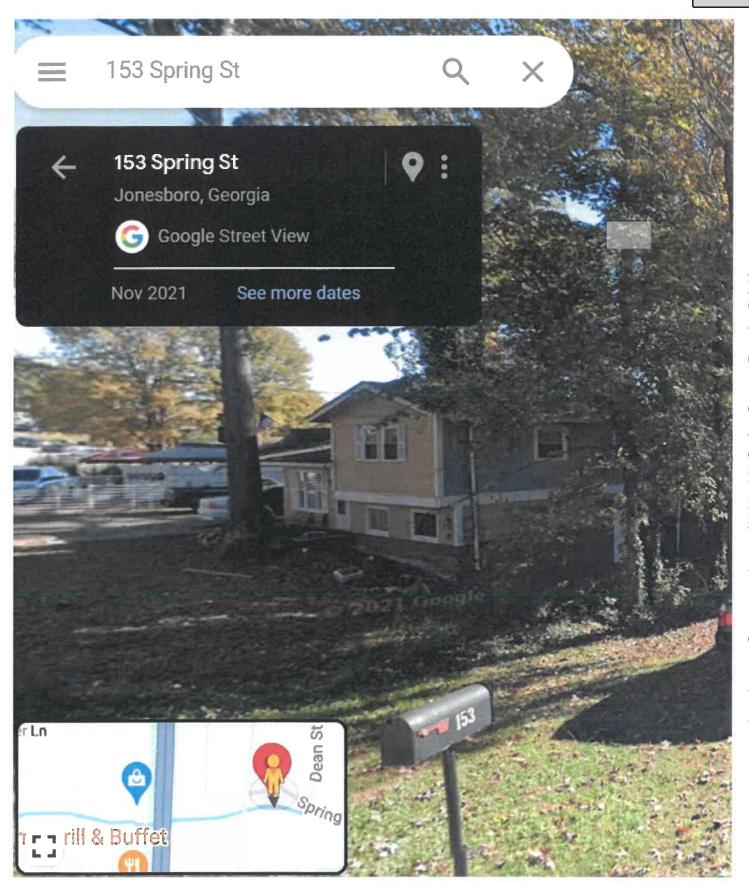


As a bit of background, when I bought my house in December 2023, I was not told at all by either my agent or the seller's agent (Mrs. Britt was represented by Bouvette Properties here in Jonesboro) that I was purchasing in a historic district, and that there were limitations on what I could or could not do to the house because of this historic designation. This is my first time encountering this, as previously I thought all restrictions for homes had to be conveyed through an HOA. Before my contractor and I decided to start work, we took a look at houses in the area as part of the inspiration, as we wanted to make sure any changes made fit in with the look of the neighborhood. While looking, we saw that a few other houses down the street from me (that I later learned are also in a historic district), also had painted over brick, so we were not aware that this was not allowed. Here are two examples of my neighbors down the street from me that have painted over their brick:

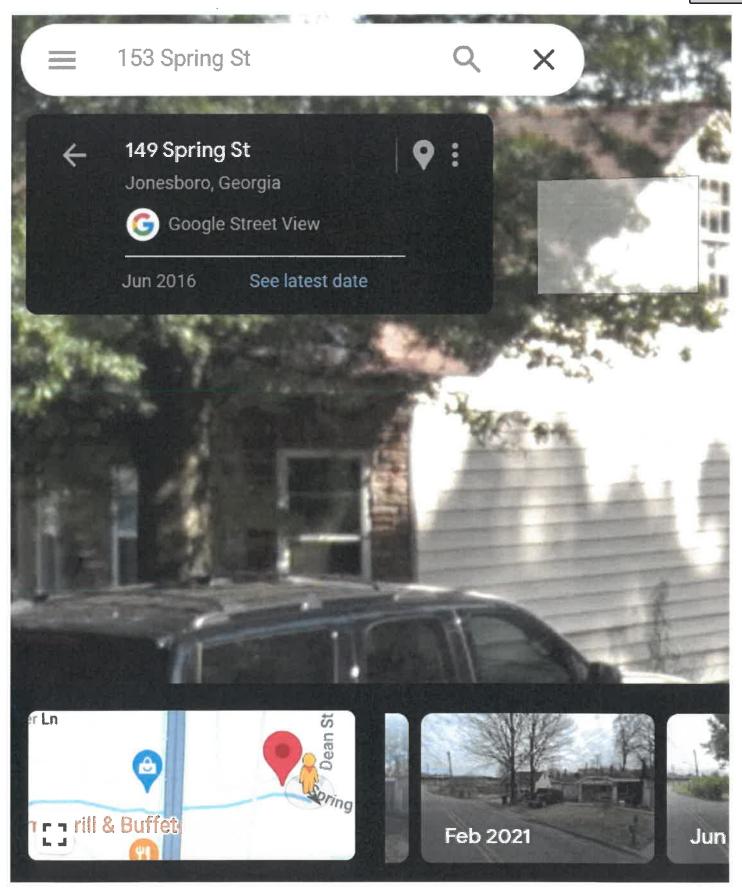
153 Spring St. in June 2019:

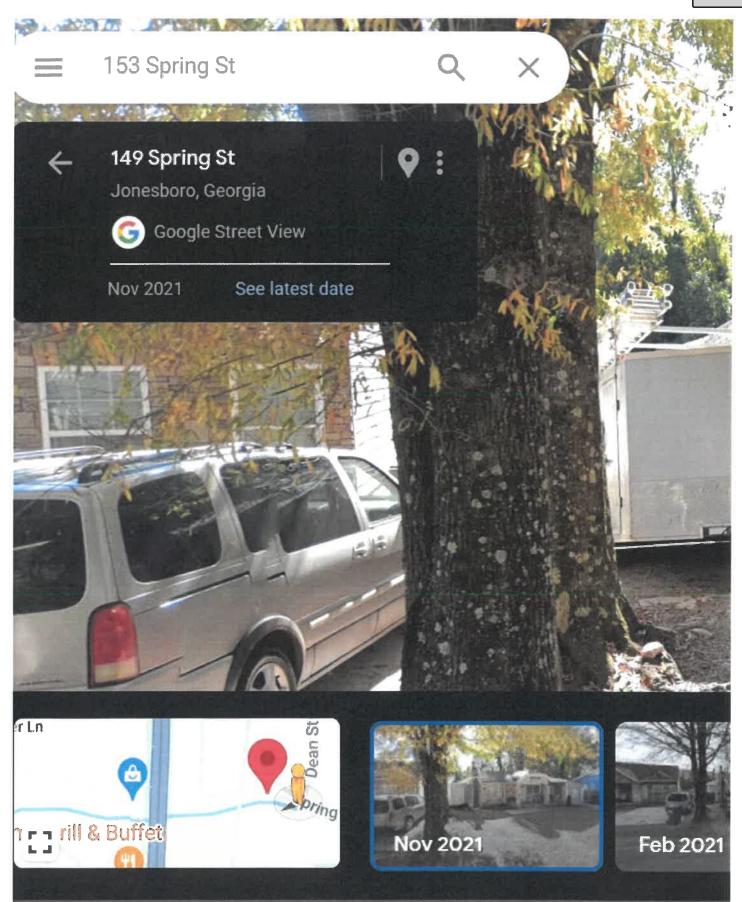


153 Spring St. as seen in November 2021, and is still painted over as of today, April 11 2024:



A few doors down, 149 Spring St has painted over their previously red brick chimney. According to the Google images, it has been painted over since at least 2021 and is still painted over as of today April 11, 2024:





If my neighbors were able to take any routes to keep their painted brick, please let me know how I can follow their steps and keep the renovation as is. My biggest hope is to avoid my house going from a beautiful renovation to a streaky eyesore in our neighborhood.

Thank you again and please let me know what the next steps are. Samantha Cook

Sent with Proton Mail secure email.

On Thursday, April 11th, 2024 at 8:55 AM, David Allen <a href="mailto:dallen@jonesboroga.com">dallen@jonesboroga.com</a> wrote:

Hello,

We need action on this very soon.

Removing as much of the white paint and exposing the original red brick as possible.

From: David Allen

Sent: Monday, April 1, 2024 1:48 PM

To: 'Geovanny Olivera' <geostfsllc@gmail.com>; 'sendmethingshere@pm.me'

<sendmethingshere@pm.me>

Cc: 'slc19@protonmail.com' <slc19@protonmail.com>

Subject: RE: Exterior Painting Material Selection for 111 Spring St.

When are we going to start the power washing?

From: David Allen

Sent: Wednesday, March 27, 2024 9:55 AM

To: 'Geovanny Olivera' <geostfsllc@gmail.com>; sendmethingshere@pm.me

Cc: 'slc19@protonmail.com' <slc19@protonmail.com>

Subject: RE: Exterior Painting Material Selection for 111 Spring St.

Hello,

Thank you for your information.

At the previous lime washing that came before the Historic Preservation Commission (Pine Circle) it was approved with the understanding that it would still be the red brick mostly visible over the white. However, the actual application shows mostly white. This was a test case for us, and now we have the actual results. Therefore, we cannot distinguish between lime washing and painting of brick and cannot allow it in the future in the historic area.

The house at 111 Spring Street also shows mostly white. It must be returned to the red brick color prior to your recent painting as much as possible.

The house is in what is known as the Historic Residential Overlay.

Here are the renovation standards for it:

https://library.municode.com/ga/jonesboro/codes/code\_of\_ordinances?nodeId=PTIICOOR\_CH86 ZO\_ARTVDISTPEUS\_S86-111HIREOV

From: Geovanny Olivera <geostfsllc@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2024 3:53 PM

To: David Allen <a href="mailto:sendmethingshere@pm.me">dallen@jonesboroga.com</a>; <a href="mailto:sendmethingshere@pm.me">sendmethingshere@pm.me</a>

**Subject:** Exterior Painting Material Selection for 111 Spring St.

Subject: Exterior Painting Material Selection for Mrs. Samantha's House

Dear Mr. David Allen,

I hope this email finds you well. I am writing to provide you with detailed information regarding the material selection we have made for the exterior painting project at Mrs. Samantha's house in Jonesboro.

After careful consideration and thorough research, we have chosen Romabio Limewash as the primary material for the exterior painting of Mrs. Samantha's house. I would like to take this opportunity to explain the rationale behind this choice and the numerous benefits it offers.

Romabio Limewash is a premium, eco-friendly paint made from natural materials such as hydrated lime and natural pigments. One of the most striking features of this material is its ability to create a timeless, antique aesthetic that enhances the visual appeal of any surface it covers. By using Romabio Limewash, we aim to achieve a classic, sophisticated look for Mrs. Samantha's house that will undoubtedly elevate its curb appeal.

Here are some specific improvements and benefits that Romabio Limewash offers:

- 1. \*\*Timeless Aesthetic\*\*: The unique finish of Romabio Limewash adds depth and character to the exterior of the house, giving it a timeless appeal that complements various architectural styles.
- 2. \*\*Breathability\*\*: Unlike conventional paints, Romabio Limewash allows the underlying surface to breathe, preventing moisture buildup and potential damage to the structure over time. This breathability also contributes to the longevity of the paint job.
- 3. \*\*Durability\*\*: Romabio Limewash forms a durable bond with the surface, ensuring long-lasting protection against weathering, fading, and cracking. This durability translates to reduced maintenance requirements and long-term cost savings for Mrs. Samantha.
- 4. \*\*Environmentally Friendly\*\*: As an environmentally conscious choice, Romabio Limewash is free from harmful chemicals and volatile organic compounds (VOCs), making it safe for both the residents and the environment.
- 5. \*\*Versatility\*\*: Romabio Limewash offers versatility in terms of application techniques and color options, allowing us to achieve the desired aesthetic while accommodating Mrs. Samantha's preferences and the architectural features of the house.

In our commitment to preserving the historical integrity of the property while enhancing its visual appeal, we have opted for Romabio Limewash as the primary material for this restoration endeavor. Allow me to elaborate on why this choice is not only fitting but also advantageous for the town's appearance as a whole.

Given the unique charm and historical significance of Jonesboro's architecture, Romabio Limewash presents an exceptional opportunity to showcase the town's commitment to preserving its heritage while revitalizing its aesthetic appeal. Here are a few examples of how the application of Romabio Limewash can positively impact the appearance of Mrs. Samantha's house and contribute to the overall ambiance of the historical district:

- 1. \*\*Timeless Elegance\*\*: Romabio Limewash imparts a distinguished, aged appearance to the exterior surfaces, evoking the elegance and character reminiscent of Jonesboro's rich history. This classic aesthetic will harmonize seamlessly with the architectural styles prevalent in the historical district, enhancing the town's visual cohesion.
- 2. \*\*Historical Authenticity\*\*: By selecting Romabio Limewash, we are embracing a material that has been used for centuries in traditional European architecture, aligning perfectly with the historical authenticity that Jonesboro strives to maintain. This choice reinforces the town's dedication to preserving its heritage for future generations to appreciate and enjoy.
- 3. \*\*Community Pride\*\*: The meticulous restoration of Mrs. Samantha's house using Romabio Limewash will undoubtedly instill a sense of pride within the local community, serving as a shining example of Jonesboro's commitment to preserving its cultural legacy and maintaining the charm of its historical district.
- 4. \*\*Tourist Attraction\*\*: The revitalization of historic properties such as Mrs. Samantha's house with Romabio Limewash has the potential to attract tourists and visitors who appreciate architectural beauty and cultural heritage. This increased foot traffic can positively impact local businesses and further promote Jonesboro as a must-visit destination.

In summary, the selection of Romabio Limewash for the exterior painting of Mrs. Samantha's historic house not only honors the town's architectural heritage but also enhances its visual appeal, contributing to the overall attractiveness of the historical district. We believe that this restoration project presents a wonderful opportunity to showcase Jonesboro's dedication to preserving its past while embracing its future.

Should you have any further inquiries or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I eagerly anticipate your feedback.

Warm regards,

### **Geovanny Olivera**

Project manager at Geo's T.F.S LLC

Marietta Georgia

Mobile: +14049107130Work:

hectorge52.ho@gmail.com

Geostfsllc@gmail.com

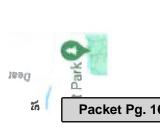
Save My Contact

### Google Maps 111 Spring St



Image capture: Feb 2023 © 2024 Google







5/28/24, 11:09 AM

108 Spring St - Google Maps

## Google Maps 108 Spring St



© 2024 Google Image capture: Feb 2023





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### Google Maps 116 Spring St

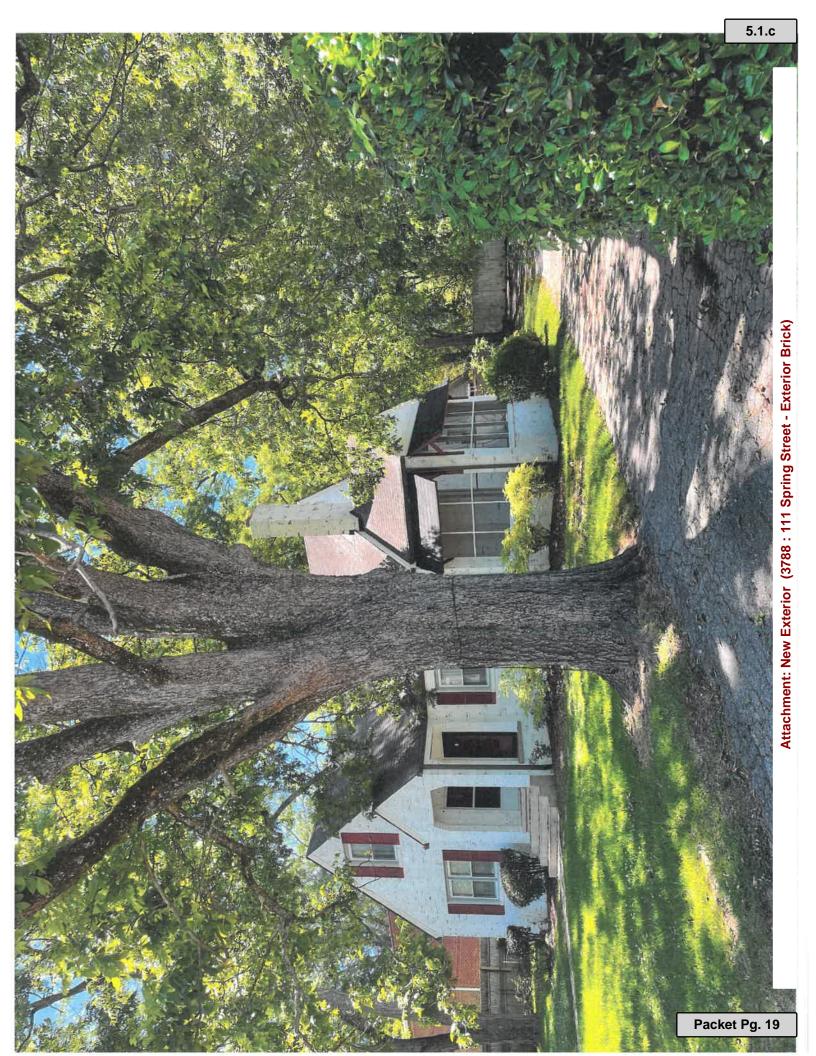
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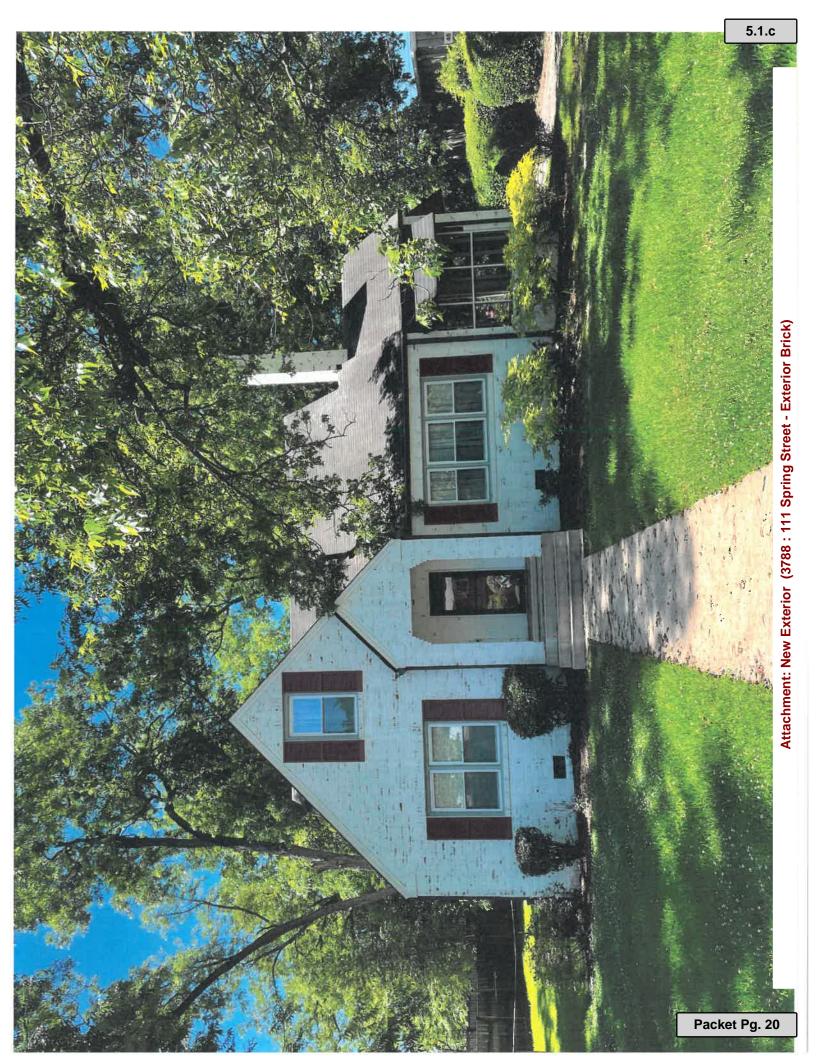


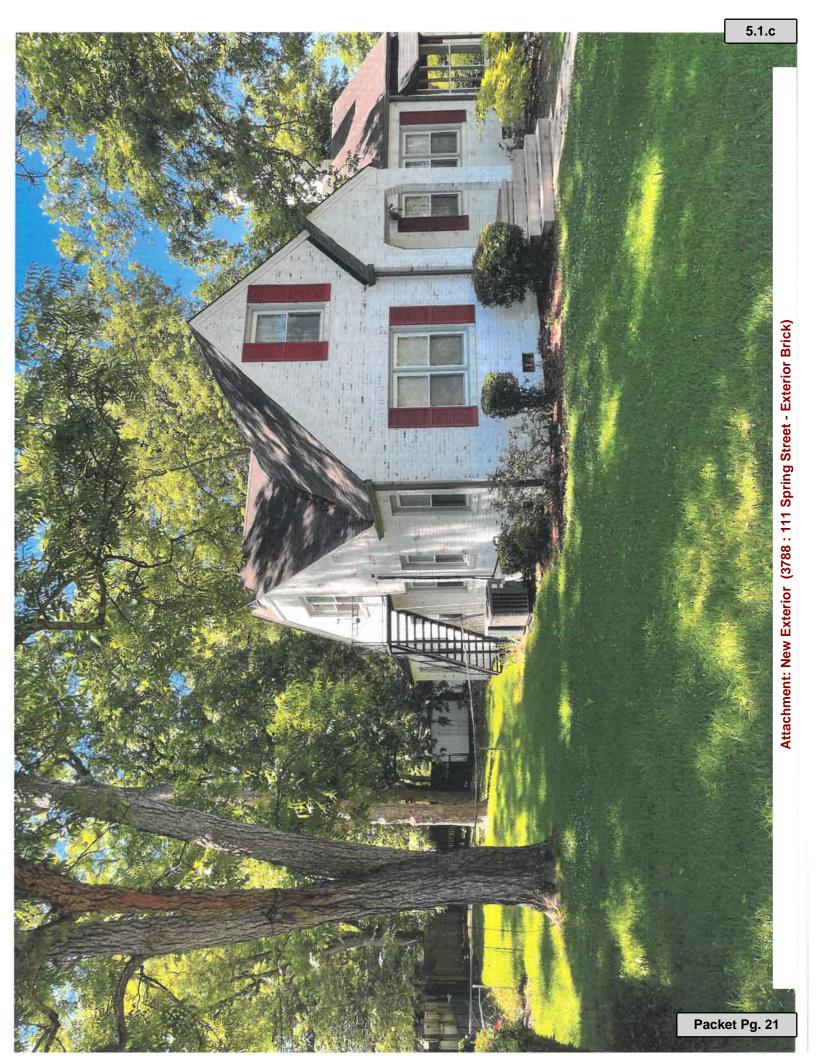
Image capture: Feb 2023 © 2024 Google













### MEMORANDUM

To: Samantha Cook

111 Spring Street Jonesboro, Ga. 30236

From: David D. Allen

City of Jonesboro 1859 City Center Way Jonesboro, GA 30236

**Date:** June 12, 2024

Re: Notification of Request for Historic Preservation Commission – Exterior Change,

111 Spring Street, Parcel No. 13241B B012

### Dear Applicant,

This letter is to serve as notification that the City of Jonesboro, Historic Preservation Commission, has accepted your request for a review of an exterior change located at 111 Spring Street, Jonesboro, Georgia 30236.

A hearing has been scheduled for Thursday, June 20, 2024 at 5:30 pm before the Historic Preservation Commission at 1859 City Center Way, Jonesboro to consider the request as described above. You are invited to attend if you wish. If you are unable to be a part of the meeting, then you will be informed of the recommendation on the following day.

Sincerely,

David D. Allen

Community Development Director / Zoning Administrator





### CITY OF JONESBORO, GEORGIA COUNCIL Agenda Item Summary

Agenda Item #

June 20, 2024

Requesting Agency (Initiator)

Sponsor(s)

Office of the City Manager

Community Development Director Allen

Requested Action (Identify appropriate Action or Motion, purpose, cost, timeframe, etc.)

Historic Preservation Commission to consider a Certificate of Appropriateness for Residence -(Blalock House) – 155 North Main Street; Parcel No. Parcel No. 13241B B007; Exterior revisions to existing residence in Historic District.

Requirement for Board Action (Cite specific Council policy, statute or code requirement)

City Code Section 86-103 H-2 Historic District Standards; Secretary of Interior Historic Design Standards

Is this Item Goal Related? (If yes, describe how this action meets the specific Board Focus Area or Goal)

Yes

Beautification, Community Planning, Neighborhood and Business Revitalization, Historic Preservation

Summary & Background

(First sentence includes Agency recommendation. Provide an executive summary of the action that gives an overview of the relevant details for the item.)

**Agency recommendation – Approval of exterior alteration;** In May 2022, the following alterations were approved and done for the historic Blalock House at 155 North Main Street:

Replacement metal roof will be same 5-gauge galvanized metal. The roofline and other architectural features (chimney, dormers, etc.) will need to remain the same. The replacement metal roof will also need to be the same color as the original metal. The porch columns need to be repaired, not replaced, and shall have the same decorative features, style and color as before. Columns must be tested for lead paint prior to work. Replacement Hardiplank siding would be painted same color as existing wood siding. Replacement windows shall be replaced with wood windows of similar design. Shutters will go from green to black. Repairs to the front porch will not change the size or style of the porch, and the porch will retain its current style. Railings on porch must be reused.

The applicant is working with an architect to make some interior improvements, including the outdated mechanical system. In terms of the visible exterior: *Just for the record in regards to appearance everything's going back exactly like it was the balcony will be just a bit shorter.* 

Thus, this is not a balcony repair; The current balcony which stretches from the front door to the northeast corner of the house will be mostly removed and shortened to a "french balcony" in front of the center upstairs window above the front door. The applicant said he wants the lower front porch to be more open by not having the upper balcony above it.

Per Section 86-103:

- (I) Design standards. In order to preserve the physical character of existing historic structures in the H-2 historic district, every effort shall be made to adapt the property in a manner that complements the historic character of the area when making exterior alterations to the existing building, site, or environment. New construction shall also be appropriate for the district in design, placement, and scale.
- (1) Rehabilitation. Maintaining the existing historic design, materials, and details of structures in the H-2 district is encouraged. Rehabilitative efforts shall include the use of materials that are compatible with the architectural style of the historic building (see article VII, Architectural style and scale, for guidance on specific historic styles and building materials traditionally found in Jonesboro.)

FOLLOW-UP APPROVAL ACTION (City Clerk)				
Typed Name and Title Melissa Brooks, City Clerk	Date June, 20, 2024			
Signature	City Clerk's Office			

- 1. The addition of architectural details where none previously existed is prohibited.
- 2. Replacement of historic details shall be made with matching material, design, and scale versus stock details.
- 3. The removal of details from a structure is prohibited.

The balcony is being shortened, not completely removed. The applicant has stated that the balcomy was not part of the original house design. While there are not photos of the house without a balcony, the owner is said to have old drawings of the house showing no balcony. If that is the case, then the code is not being violated. French balconies are on many older houses in Savannah, etc.

Design Review Commission recommendation, 6.5.24: Approval of balcony shortening; Balcony shall be seen between wall and first column, metal brackets under; Need to see better rendering of final product.

### Other notes from meeting:

- Balcony is in bad shape and sagging now.
- Rotten pickets.
- Full balcony is not used now.
- Full replacement would require more columns, which would be unsightly and hinder the use of the bottom porch.
- Balcony is not part of original house (which has been altered several times).
- Shortened balcony proposed, with metal brackets underneath for support.
- They want a smaller, walkout balcony, with room for two peope to stand.
- 3 foot width and depth. 2 feet of space between balcony and closest column.
- They will reuse some existing railing portions.
- Center between columns or over door?

### Historic Preservation changes and clarifications from last meeting:

- They want to keep the shutters green instead of changing them to black.
- Want replacement siding (hardiplank) to be 6 to 8 inches wide. (Not specified clearly last time.)

Fiscal Impact

(Include projected cost, approved budget amount and account number, source of funds, and any future funding requirements.)

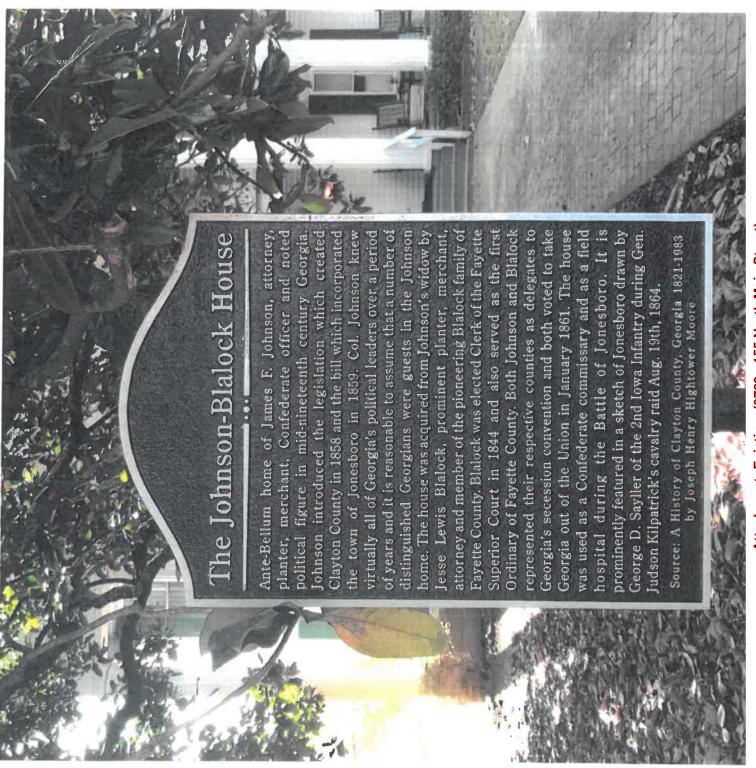
Private Owner

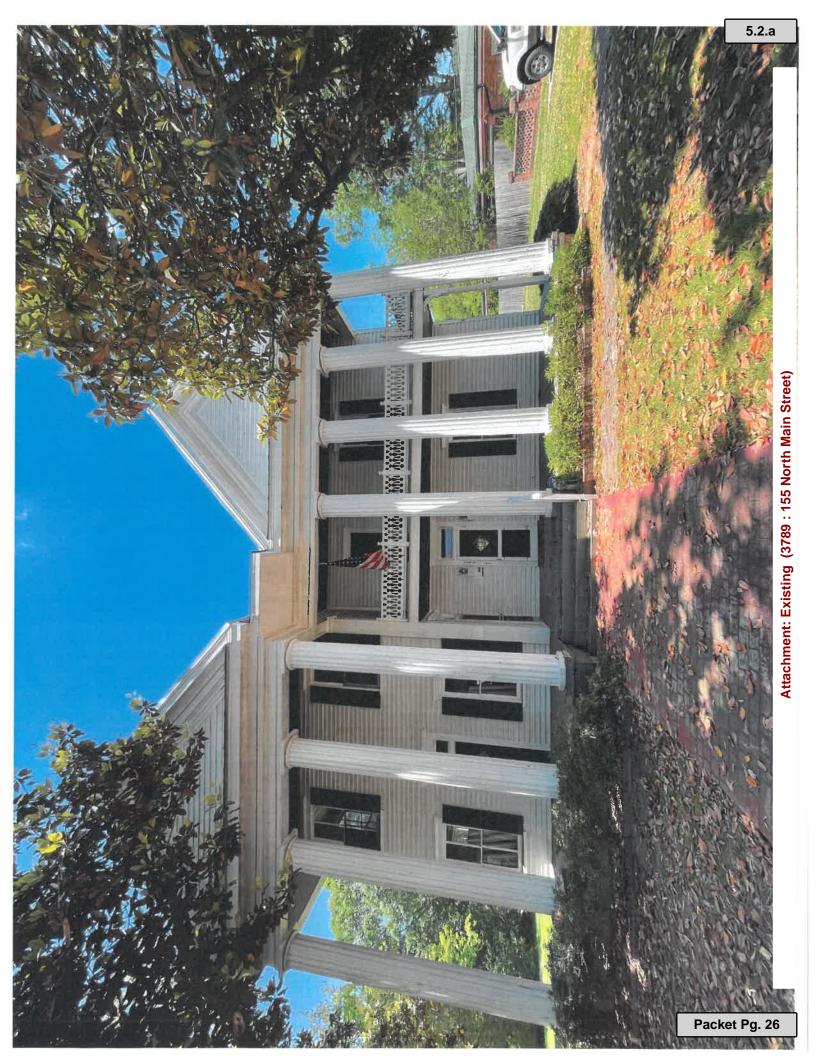
Exhibits Attached (Provide copies of originals, number exhibits consecutively, and label all exhibits in the upper right corner.)

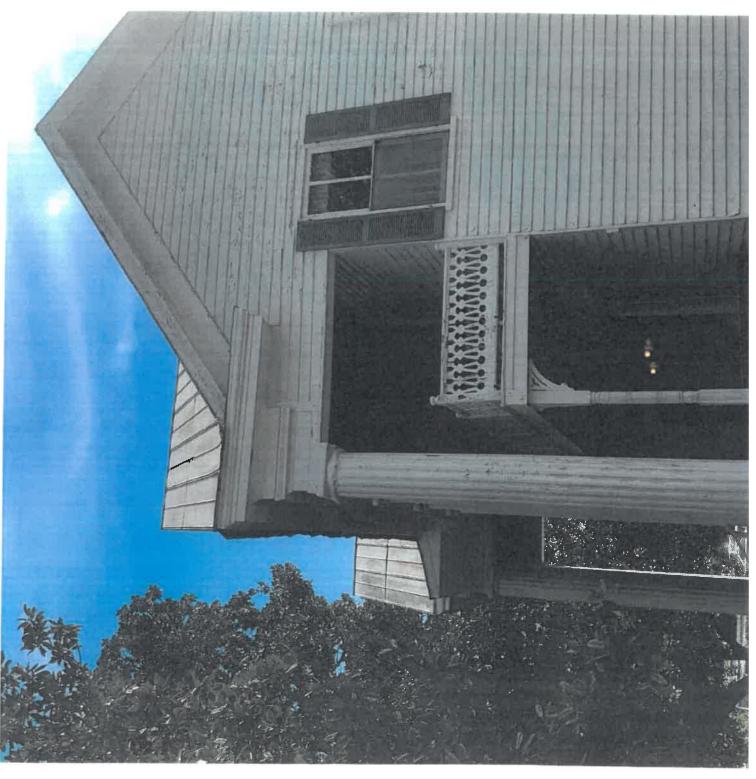
- Existing
- Previous Work
- New Balcony
- BalconyREV1
- Meeting Notice Letter

Staff Recommendation (Type Name, Title, Agency and Phone)

**Approval** 







# CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS



Historic Preservation Commission City of Jonesboro Jonesboro, Georgia 30236 124 North Avenue



## THIS DOCUMENT TO BE POSTED AT ALL TIMES

The City of Jonesboro Historic Preservation Commission in conforming with Sec. 42-28 of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Jonesboro, hereby grants permission for work to be performed on the premises listed in accordance with outline specification, PREMISES: Residence

Robin Rawls OWNER:

<u>ADDRESS:</u> 155 North Main Street

IYPE: Repairs

## HISTORIC PRESERVATION MEETING DATE: MAY 16, 2022

### Work Approved:

Replacement metal roof will be same 5-gauge galvanized metal. The roofline and other architectural features (chimney, dormers, etc.) will need to remain the same. The replacement metal roof will also need to be the same color as the original metal. The porch columns need to be repaired, not replaced, and shall have the same decorative features, style and color as before. Columns must be tested windows shall be replaced with wood windows of similar design. Shutters will go from green to black. Repairs to the front porch will not for lead paint prior to work. Replacement Hardiplank siding would be painted same color as existing wood siding. change the size or style of the porch, and the porch will retain its current style. Railings on porch must be reused.

Under penalty of law, I, the undersigned, assure that the work to be performed will be executed as specified under the terms of this Certificate. If it is determined that changes are necessary, I will apply for those modifications prior to the commencement of any work on those changes.

Approved:

Applicant

Approved:

Historic Preservation Commission Chairperson, Betsy Wester

Zoning Administrator, David D. Allen City of Jonesboro Note: An additional permit may still be required. All work shall be in compliance with all Building Codes and Zoning Regulations. This Certificate shall become void unless construction is commenced within six months of the date of issuance.

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### **David Allen**

From: Sent: Danny Lee Orr <orrlee5@gmail.com> Wednesday, May 29, 2024 1:09 PM

To:

David Allen

Subject: Re: Fwd:

David, The initial Certificate of Appropriateness was approved for Hardi board siding as well as a color change on shutters, but the home owner and designer would like to leave the shutters the original green thats there now please.

Thank you Sir!

Danny

On Wed, May 29, 2024 at 1:00 PM Danny Lee Orr < orrlee5@gmail.com > wrote: Your very welcome! No sir, just at the door up there on the left. one French balcony.

On Wed, May 29, 2024 at 12:57 PM David Allen < dallen@jonesboroga.com > wrote:

Thanks. So, basically a short French balcony over each upstairs window facing the front?

From: Danny Lee Orr < orrlee5@gmail.com > Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2024 12:54 PM
To: David Allen < dallen@jonesboroga.com >

Subject: Fwd:

Good afternoon David!

Please find attached documents for historical meeting pertaining to the Blalock house.

Thanks, Danny

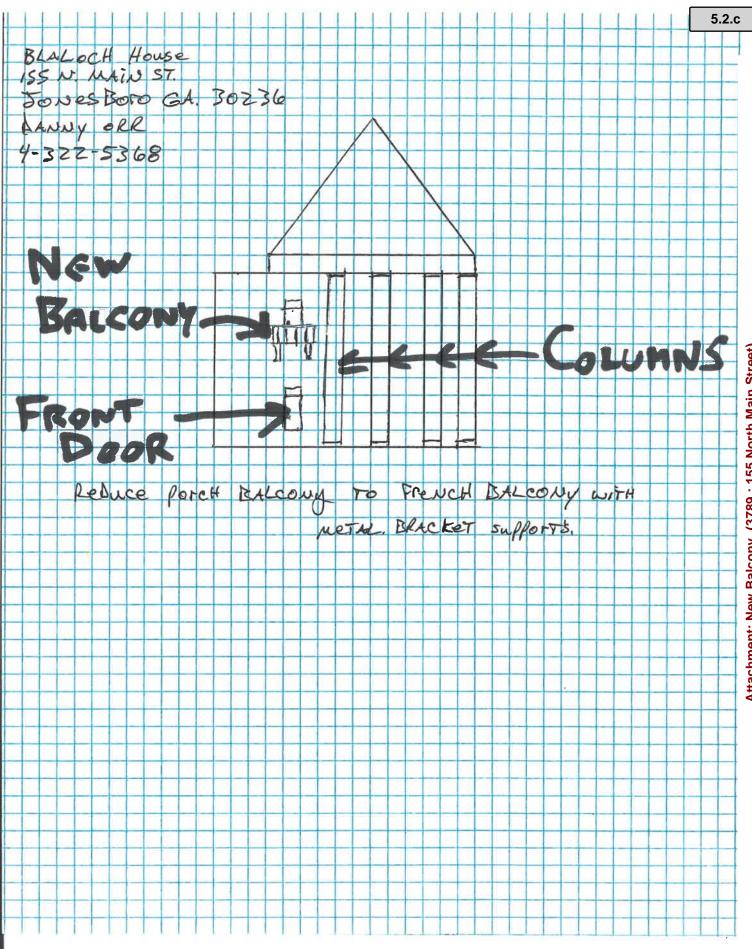
----- Forwarded message ------

From: Danny Lee Orr <orrlee5@gmail.com>

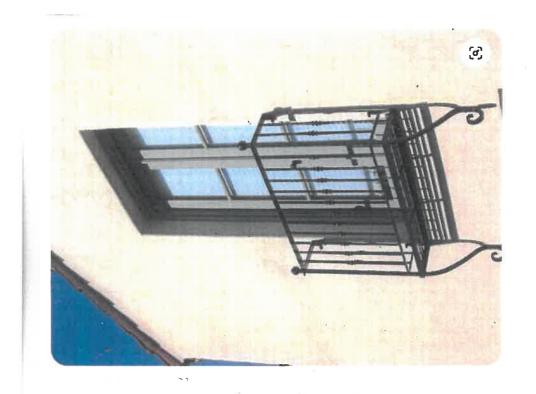
Date: Wed, May 29, 2024 at 12:27 PM

Subject:

To: <orrlee5@gmai.com>











### MEMORANDUM

To:

Danny Orr

Jonesboro, Ga. 30236

From:

David D. Allen

City of Jonesboro 1859 City Center Way Jonesboro, GA 30236

Date:

June 12, 2024

Re:

Notification of Request for Historic Preservation Commission - Front Exterior

Change; 155 North Main Street; Parcel No. 13241B B007

Dear Applicant,

This letter is to serve as notification that the City of Jonesboro, Historic Preservation Commission, has accepted your request for a review of an exterior change located at 155 North Main Street, Jonesboro, Georgia 30236.

A hearing has been scheduled for Thursday, June 20, 2024 at 5:30 pm before the Historic Preservation Commission at 1859 City Center Way, Jonesboro to consider the request as described above. You are invited to attend if you wish. If you are unable to be a part of the meeting, then you will be informed of the recommendation on the following day.

Sincerely,

David D. Allen

Community Development Director / Zoning Administrator





### CITY OF JONESBORO, GEORGIA COUNCIL **Agenda Item Summary**

Agenda Item #

COUNCIL MEETING DATE
June 20, 2024

Requesting Agency (Initiator)

Sponsor(s)

Office of the City Manager

Community Development Director Allen

Requested Action (Identify appropriate Action or Motion, purpose, cost, timeframe, etc.)

Historic Preservation Commission to consider a Certificate of Appropriateness for Rosenwald School – 155 Smith Street; Parcel No. 13241A B009; Improvements to historically designated building.

Requirement for Board Action (Cite specific Council policy, statute or code requirement)

Exterior Renovations the Historic Rosenwald School at 155 Smith Street

**Is this Item Goal Related?** (If yes, describe how this action meets the specific Board Focus Area or Goal)

Yes

Beautification, Community Planning, Neighborhood and Business Revitalization, Historic Preservation

Summary & Background

(First sentence includes Agency recommendation. Provide an executive summary of the action that gives an overview of the relevant details for the item.)

**Recommendation:** Approval; Though it is outside of the Jonesboro Historic District and Historic Residential Overlay, the historic Rosenwald School at 155 Smith Street (across from the City Center) was designated a historic property in June 2022, due to its large historical and cultural significance as an early twentieth-century African-American school. The historic designation is also intended to protect the property from demolition (should it be privately owned at some point in the future) and to guide any renovations or alterations to the building.

After raising several million dollars, Clayton County is now ready to begin internal and external improvements to the building, which has started to fall into disrepair. Internal changes include necessary repairs, taking out non-historic materials and walls, and highlighting historic features inside. The exterior changes will mainly consist in removing the boards from the front window areas, installing new windows, enhancing the front lobby, and installing new sidewalks and ADA ramps to the entrance. Though relatively simple in scope, the exterior improvements seek to honor the original design.

Design Review Commission, recommendation, 6.5.24: Approval, but more color consistency, black gutters, black frames on windows, and look into possibility of more open vestibule.

### Other meeting notes:

- Why is ramp not more in a direct line to the door?
- Tan roof? Darker roof would be better.
- Window frames black or white?
- Is there an actual blue tint to the vestibule windows?
- Would open area in front of main door be better, instead of opening two doors?
- Need more consistency with building features.

Fiscal	Impact

(Include projected cost, approved budget amount and account number, source of funds, and any future funding requirements.)

County Funds

FOLLOW-UP APPROVAL ACTION (City Clerk)				
Typed Name and Title Melissa Brooks, City Clerk	Date June, 20, 2024			
Signature	City Clerk's Office			

- Application
- Jonesboro Rosenwald School Addendum (1)
- Local Designation\_Letter\_Jonesboro
- Jonesboro Ord. 2022-Historic Designation of Rosenwald Building
- Property Pictures
- 155 SMITH STREET JONESBORO GA 30236\_elevations plans\_V1
- Meeting Notice Letter

Staff Recommendation (Type Name, Title, Agency and Phone)

**Approval** 

March 8, 2022

To: Clayton Historic Commission

From: Clayton County Public Schools

#### **Dear Commission Members:**

I am writing on behalf of the Clayton County Public School District to request that the former Rosenwald School located at 155 Smith Street, Jonesboro, GA be considered for Designation of a Historical Site, worthy of preservation. The building holds great significance, in that, it was originally built and purposed as one of the hundreds of Rosenwald Schools throughout the South. The schools were the brainchild of Booker T. Washington and Julius Rosenwald. Mr. Washington died early in the project to build schools for African American Children: Commonly called schools for Colored or Negro Children in the time period. Mr. Rosenwald was the President of the Sears and Roebuck and Company. Mr. Rosenwald began the Rosenwald Fund to assist Communities of Color to build schools for its children across the segregated South. In the spirit of Booker T. Washington's philosophy of self-help, African Americans raised 4.7 million dollars over eight years, surpassing the 4.2 million dollars of the Rosenwald Fund.

The schools were very successful and provided basic and vocational education for African American children throughout the South. However, after the Brown V. Topeka Board of Education decision, the schools became somewhat obsolete as segregation began to disappear over the years. The Rosenwald schools began to close and many have fallen in disrepair or lost to the elements or development of other properties.

Jonesboro is fortunate to have an existing building that was originally a Rosenwald School. The building has been a school, and it has been an office building. It now stands empty and in need of repair and repurposing. It is the desire of the Clayton County Public School District to invest in the preservation and restoration of the structure for repurposing for possible events and a place to display artifacts of the time period. Many citizens of Jonesboro attended this school. It is only right to preserve its rich history for future generations.

Respectfully,

Dr. Sid Chapman, Ed.D.

**CCPS** Historian

Packet Pg. 39

#### March 17, 2022

Included are floor plans, records, photos, and other artifacts of evidence of the historical significance of 155 Smith Street.

There are records in Arts Clayton, Clayton Daily News, and other organizations that have previously attempted to preserve the building.

A number of city leaders, including: Mayor Joy Day, City Manager, Ricky L. Clark, Clayton County Public Schools Deputy Superintendent, Dr. Anthony Smith, Julie Segner, Cable Glen-Brooks, Rodney Virgil, Karen Sullivan, Rosenwald Graduate, Helen Meadows, and Dr. Sid Chapman, Clayton County Public Schools Historian.

The building's ownership is the Clayton County Public Schools. Dr. Morcease Beasley and The Board of Education support the preservation and restoration of the school and have allocated the initial \$2M for the project.

It is our intent to seek other forms of funding via grants, donations, etc. for the restoration project.

\*If more information is needed, please contact me at Sidney.chapman@clayton.k12.ga.us or 770-473-2700 (ex 700204)

Respectfully,

Sid Chapman, Ed.D.

February 3, 2022

6/hg 212-22

Initial steps for the restoration and repurposing of the former Rosenwald School located at 155 Smith Street, Jonesboro, GA for a Museum Celebrating the School's History of providing a quality education for African American children during the segregated South.

## 10 Tips for Getting Started

- determine ownership of the school building and property. Will the owner sell, donate, or give permission for you to repair and use the building?
- **☑ identify the immediate threats.** Demolition?

Water intrusion? vandalism? animals? insects?

- Seek professional help. Call the Rosenwald Schools initiative of the national trust to discuss your project.
- get organized. Who will lead the project? Fundraise? volunteer? Determine partners and alliances that can help your project succeed. Consider forming your own 501(c)(3) nonprofit group.
- do your research. You can use this information to garner support and to understand the school's historic significance.
- Seek official designation. Listing in the national Register of Historic Places or state or local register will be especially helpful when applying for grants. Contact your state historic preservation office (SHPo) for more information about this process.
- determine a new use that will be financially sustainable and compatible with the building. a community needs assessment can be especially helpful.

# FW: Rosenwald School Project -- Jonesboro: RESENDING SUBMISSION

External Inbox



**Melissa Jest** 

Tue, Feb 22, 3:10 PM

to me, Kemith

Hello Mr. Chapman, Mr. Thompson.

Below is the information I have compiled per my Feb 8th email.

Also, here is additional info regarding National Register eligibility assessment and nomination (if positive eligibility determined) from HPD's National Register specialist Don Roonev\*\*

(\*\* Mr. Rooney is your contact for ALL NR questions - Donald.Rooney@dca.ga.gov)

The first step in the process of nominating the building will be to determine whether the property is eligible for the register. In order to pursue this assessment, you'll want to download and fill out the (Individual) preliminary eligibility application available at this webpage: <a href="https://www.dca.ga.gov/georgia-historic-preservation-division/national-register-research-survey/national-register-0/steps">https://www.dca.ga.gov/georgia-historic-preservation-division/national-register-research-survey/national-register-0/steps</a> - and mail it in to our office with the required supporting documentation. This will allow us to get a broad overview of the property's integrity and potential significance, and advise you as to whether this property appears to be eligible for full nomination.

Mr. Rooney recommends upfront that you look over this webpage: <a href="https://www.dca.ga.gov/georgia-historic-preservation-division/national-register-research-survey/national-register-historic">https://www.dca.ga.gov/georgia-historic-preservation-division/national-register-research-survey/national-register-historic</a> and the linked "National Register Nomination Process in Georgia" page - the National Register process is pretty well-defined there, as are the basic ground rules that generally establish National Register eligibility, such as:

- The property needs to be at least 50 years of age
- The property needs to retain sufficient historic integrity
- The property needs to be significant per one of the four National Register criteria
- Listing requires owner permission

Lastly, I am enclosing the link to the NPS/ Sec'y of Interior (SOI) Standards for treatment of historic properties. The SOI guidelines specifically advice on acceptable treatment/repairs of "historic properties" seeking to remain on the National register. Pls see the link below:

https://www.nps.gov/tps/standards/treatment-guidelines-2017.pdf

Please share these guidelines with the district's facilities superintendent + staff, and/or with ALL contractors set to bid on stabilization and rehabilitation.

If you desire to investigate preservation consultants to assist you in project planning etc. , I have enclosed another link to the electronic consultants' directory and a printable copy of it too.

https://www.dca.ga.gov/georgia-historic-preservation-division/consultants-directory

While I appreciate and support your/the school system's decision to preservation and activate the Jonesboro Rosenwald school, as a state HPD staffer with a territory of 159 counties and duty to support constituents within each, I am not able to provide singular, detailed planning services to individual projects.

HPD is available for informational support.

Thank you again for contacting HPD.

#### Melissa Jest

African American Programs Coordinator Georgia Department of Community Affairs Direct 4044866395 Melissa, Jest@dca.ga.gov



From: Melissa Jest < Melissa Jest@dca.ga.gov > Sent: Tuesday. February 15, 2022 3:43 PM

To: Sidney Chapman <sidney.chapman@clayton.k12.ga.us>

Cc: Allison Asbrock < Allison.Asbrock@dca.ga.gov>
Subject: RE: Rosenwald School Project — Jonesboro

Greetings Mr. Chapman.

As a follow up to your call last week, I am writing to offer info/contacts to support the 3 main areas identified:

Advocacy support to draft a strong case for preservation and to secure District funding;

Planning information to support delineation of each phase of this long-awaited project;

And Engagement methods to identify those constituent groups and other partners needed for implementation.

Under advocacy, I must refer you to the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation; Ben Sutton, director of preservation programs would be the best contact -- Ben Sutton bsutton@georgiatrust.org

Under planning, please find attached an educational handout/overview of the US Sec. of Interior Standards (for sensitive rehab) and for a preservation plan (strongly recommended to guide such an effort).

Regarding community engagement, I must refer you to local groups with "winning" advocacy records. Preservationists have engaged local PTA chapter, local NAACP chapters, and even political action committees along with Neighborhood Associations. As an outreach coordinator, I can also provide an listening ear as you draft your outreach/engagement approaches. I have cc'd my program manager here as well. Lastly, you requested a short list of extant Rosenwald schools that are preserved/ open and their respective stewards. Please find said suggestions below:

Noble Hill School 2-Teacher type, built 1923. Steward: Noble Hill-Wheeler Memorial Center, Inc., Ms. Valerie Michelle Coleman, Director; Email: <a href="mailto:colemanv16@yahoo.com">colemanv16@yahoo.com</a> | 770-382-3392. Address: 2361 Joe Frank Harris Pkwy NW Cartersville, GA30123

<u>Cusseta Industrial & High school</u> 2-Teacher type, built 1930, Address: 113 Sandy Road, Cusseta GA 31805. Steward: Historic Preservation Society, Mrs.

Gwanda Place Email: ceramicwood@bellsouth.net | 706 989 3554

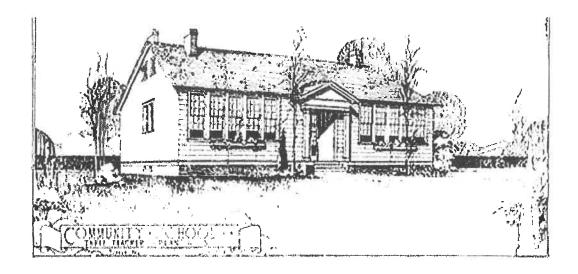
TJ Elder Industrial & High School 6-Teacher style built 1927-28, Address: 316 Hall St, Sandersville, GA 31082. Steward: The Washington County Elderite (Alumni) Association, Mr. Peacock 478 251 0802 (NO email)

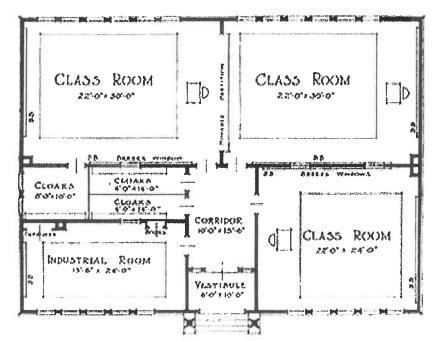
<u>Dooly County Training School</u> (Vienna) built 1925-26, Address: Ninth Street, Vienna GA 31092 Current Steward: Dooly County Board of Education in Partnership with City of Vienna Janet Joiner, City Community Development Director Email: <u>Janet.Joiner@cityofvienna.org</u> | 229-268-4920

<u>Hiram Colored School</u> 2-Teacher type built 1930, Address: 732 Hiram Douglasville Highway Hiram, GA 30141. Current Steward: Hiram Rosenwald School Preservation Committee Inc. in Partnership with City of Hiram Leo Parker <u>LParker@Hiram-Ga.gov</u> | 678 776 9060

Again, thank you for your willingness to revitalize the Jonesboro school. Please feel free to contact HPD as you and your team plan and implement this preservation project.

Best, Melissa Jest

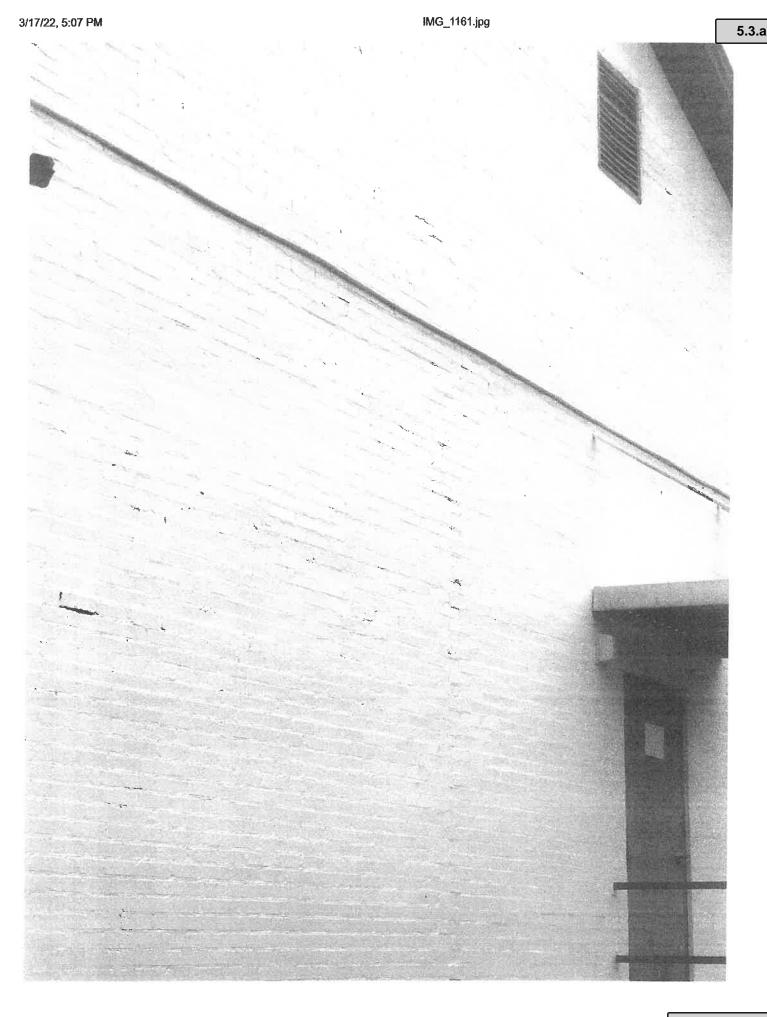


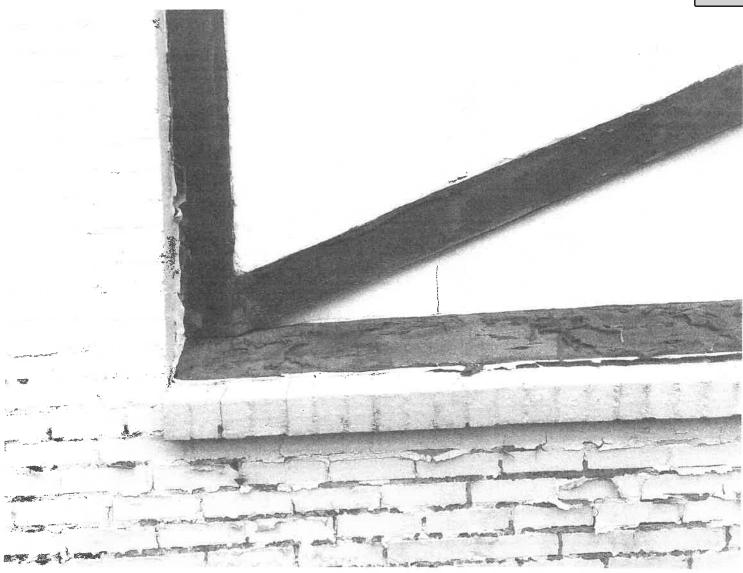


FLOOR PLAN NO 8
THREE TEACHER COMMUNITY SCHOOL
TO FACE LAST OR WEST ONLY









successors and assigns, so that neither the Grantor, its successors, nor any person claiming under it shall at any time, claim or demand any right, title or interest to the aforesaid described premises or its appurtenances.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Grantor has caused this instrument to be executed in its name by two of its officers and its corporate seal to be thereto attached.

GEORGIA EDUCATION AUTHORITY (SCHOOLS)

BY: (L.S.).

Ernest H. Davis, Vice Chairman

John E. Sims, Secretary

(Corporate Seal)

SIGNED, SEALED AND DE-

LIVERED IN THE PRESENCE

OF:

William X Ross
Unofficial Witness

otary Public

My Commission Evolves

"心"(连社)

(Porm No. 417)

NOW THEREFORE THIS INDENTURE, made this NINETEENTH
day of DECEMBER
Thousand Nine Hundred And . SIXTY-NINE
by and between Georgia Education Authority (Schools), successor to the State
School Building Authority by an Act of the General Assembly of Georgia (Ga. Laws
1967, pp. 871, 873), of the State of Georgia and County of Fulton, Party of the
First Part, hereinafter called "Grantor", and
CLAYTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
of the State of Georgia and County of . CLAYTON
hereinafter called "Grantee".

#### MIINESSEIH

(\$1.00) and other good and valuable considerations in hand paid, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, has bargained, sold and does by these presents bargain, sell, remise, release, convey and forever quitclaim to the Grantee, its successors and assigns, all the right, title, interest, claim or demand which the Grantor has or may have had in and to the real property described in that certain deed from to the State School Building Authority, dated . . MARCH 3 

B BECK 559 PAGE 272

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#### QUITCLAIM DEED

STATE OF GEORGIA,

FULTON COUNTY:

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WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority of an Act of the General Assembly
of Georgia (Ga. Laws 1951, pp. 241, 260), the
CLAYTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
of the State of Georgia and County of
Authority certain real property; and
WHEREAS, certain improvements were placed upon the said real property
at the request of the
CLAYTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
by the State School Building Authority under a bond issue denominated Series
1953-A
WHEREAS, those certain improvements were leased by the State School
Building Authority to the
CLAYTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
in order to provide funds for the payment of said bond issue; and
WHEREAS, the said bond issue has now been fully funded and the said
CLAYTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
is entitled under the terms of the aforesaid lease to a quitclaim deed for the
said real property:
(Form No. 417)

BCCK 559 PAGE 272 CLERK SUPERIOR COURT
OLAYTON COLLET GA REC'D THE NO. 14420
REC'D THE NO. 14420
PAGE NO. 14420
DATE
JOE B. MUNDY CLERK

#### QUITCLAIM DEED

STATE OF GEORGIA.

FULTON COUNTY:

V

a far

Form No. Z17)

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority of an Act of the General Assembly
of Georgia (Ga. Laws 1951, pp. 241, 260), the
CLAYTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION:
of the State of Georgia and County of
, did on . MARCH 3
Authority certain real property; and
WHEREAS, certain improvements were placed upon the said real property
at the request of the
CLAYTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
by the State School Building Authority under a bond issue denominated Series
1953-A
WHEREAS, those certain improvements were leased by the State School
Building Authority to the
CLAYTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
in order to provide funds for the payment of said bond issue; and
WHEREAS, the said bond issue has now been fully funded and the said
CLAYTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
is entitled under the terms of the aforesaid lease to a quitclaim deed for the
said real property:

party of the second part, their successors in office and assigns

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the said party of the first part has hereunto set their hands and affixed their seals, the day and year

(Seal)

Walter Brown (Seal)

Walter Brown (Seal)

M. Grad (Seal)

As Trustees Jonesboro

Colored School.

Signed, sealed and delivered in presence of:

THIS INDENTURES made this the 7th day of September, in the restron questions one Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirty One between A. D. Lockhart, John Hanes, J. W. Arnold, Walter Burnett and Rance Clean as Trustees of the Jonesboro Colored School, and their successors to office of the dissipation of the Jonesboro Colored School, and their successors to office of the dissipation of the Jonesboro Colored School, and their successors to office of the dissipation of the Jonesboro Colored School, and their successors to office of the dissipation of the Jonesboro Colored School, and their successors to office of the dissipation of the Jonesboro Colored School, and their successions of the Jonesboro Colored School and Jonesboro Colored Sch

Yangev, W. I. Onlinear, W. E. Buie and A. P. Born as members Board of adducation Clayton County, Georgia, and their successors in office of the second part.

WITNESSETH: That the said party of the first part in consideration of the sum of One and NO/100 (\$1,00) Dollar in hand paid at and before the saaling and delivery of these presents, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, and other valuable considerations, has granted, bargained, sold and conveyed, and by these presents do grant, bargain, sell and convey unto the said party of the second part, their successors in office and assigns,

all that tract or parest of land lying and being in tand Lot Mc. 241 of the 13th District of Clayton County, deorgia, and in the City of Jonesboro, being more particularly described as follows: Commencing on the North side of Mill Street, at the Southeast corner of lot of Mary E. Davis, running thence East along the North side of said Mill Street 106 feet to made corner; thence North 416 feet to a made corner on the South side of said Smith Street; thence West along the South side of said Smith Street 311 feet to made corner; thence a Southeasterly direction 213 feet to made corner; and thence South 210 feet to point of beginning. Said tract consisting of Lots Nos. 4 and 5 of Block A, and 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8, of Block B, as per plat of said property for Arrie Fields made November 12, 1914 by W. J. Lee, Surveyor of said County, Recorded in Plat Book No. No. No. page 51, office of the Clerk of Superior Court of said County.

with all and singular the rights, members and appurtenances thereof, to the same being, belonging or in any wise appartaining, to the only proper use, benefit and behoof of the said party of the second part, their successors in office and assigns, forver, IN

and the said party of the first part, for themselves, and their successors in office, will warrant and forever defend the right and title to the above described property unto the said I ne Rosenward roundation also assembled lists of suggested books to include in school libraries. The images below are excerpts from the 1936 edition of *The Herald*, a publication by the Georgia Teachers and Education Association, showing an example of such a li including cost and how to obtain books on the list.



Page 27

#### ROSENWALD ELEMENTARY LIBRARY

We are neading you horwith the bluery like which has been mountained this year by the Joline Bonemark! From the distributions in Fogge discountary activals. These (Saletta-German Books Born Bone accredity) charts from some like born of the bone accredity charts from some like bone of the Fried in constitution with Eliza Jonal for Yan Giran. Specialist in Obliticaria Literature, American Library Association Litterature, Janes Killish Hoos, Librarian or the Fraider Echnol, Euroshin Hoos, Elizarian or the Fraider Echnol, Euroshin Hoos, Elizarian or the Fraider Echnol, Euroshin Hoos, Elizarian Shikeshin Sale Sale (Saletta-German Shikeshin Hoos), The Saletta Saletta Shikeshin Saletta Saletta Shikeshin Saletta Saletta Shikeshin sanayi of the Bones, The Elizary has the boutfloot embers-

The cost of this library is \$45,00, of which DOLAS is to be possible the belief Riverstands Frank and \$50,00 frame healt Spain. The Evenewald Frank will may all transportabile thinges to the nearest freight address. With such set of books a say of Binary supplies and a substantially bolik weeden healthcan will. In mark

When \$64.00 has been raised facally with which to precious thin destrable out watch while act of herits planes with not for application blanks and destro temperature.

> J. C. Dinen, Supervier Pages Education State Department of Education Athelia, Georgia.

#### **ELEMENTARY LIBRARY LIST—1936**

Author	Title	Publisher
Flumberg	Revene, These Det and the Blackberries	Albert Whitman
Casa	Under the 4-H Play	Lippinunt
Chick	Poppy Book Cobin	Dophicky, Doran
Calles	Caralling Dusk	Marper
Eccking	Little Gardeners	Albert Whiteen
Event	Araminta	Mains, Bakh & Company
Fauset	For Freedom	Franklin
Finck	Ank Mr. Bour	discussion
Flork	Tim Tulpide and the Great Bullfrog	Doubledon, Dorne
Orishian	Peter Pea	Frederick & Steins
Hader	Firmer in the Ball	MacMilan
Hillyer	Child's Geography of the World	Application-Century
Hillyer	Child's History of the World	Applicat-Century
Hogen	Dear Yelse	Datesa
Lang	Hire Fairy Book	Longinser, Green & Company
LeForte	Circk, Moure and Litts- Ret Hen	Macros Parith & Primpany
Orton	Little Lext Pige	Frederick States
Peteraham Peteraham Peteraham Peteraham Peteraham	Suery About Clother Stary About Coal Stary About House Stary About House Stary About Transportation	Witanion Witanion Witanion Witanion Witanion Witanion
Bend	Brandfather's Farm.	Serilous
Bend	Simy Abent Sout-	Serilous

HERALD

Ringer

Domid and Brenthy in the City and Country

Siron

Syrth

Habin on the Mountain

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Syrth

Thornies

Diversion

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Such of Feasible

Earl of the Sun and Weck of the Moon

Thornies

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Such of Feasible

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Jenko Mother Encryclopedin

Besidy Reference Alkus

Thornies

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Besid Reference Alkus

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Read McMally

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#### BOOKS BY AND ABOUT NEGROES

Firstiss, of frequent requests from high schools in the South and from several state departments of referralism for a small hierary of books by and sheen Nagrossa. He list of books pushed below two been convibil indicated by officials of the Jellies Requested Front in committation with Herszkore and cinclears for distribution to both while and reduced high archest, 400 acts have been preclased at a costclear for per set, of which account the Fired will pay 55 (conclude the cost) plot irranguration chargeet. Any light achood distribute to account the Hensey may do so by raising 410 from any account, and madding to the state department of education. The sets will be obtyped promptly on receipt of applications, as long or the supply lastis.

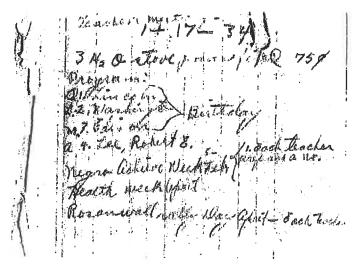
Auther	Title	Publisher
Johnson	American Negro Poetry	Harcourt, Brace
Culvertee	Anthology of American Negro Literature	Modern Library
Embree	Burn America	Viking Press
Inharmo	God's Tromboum	
Canasky	The Green Pastures	Viking Petas
		Farrar and Rimbart
Bellack	In Spite of Hondicage	Aspelation Peers
Johnson	Negres in American Civilization	Heary Holt
Weeksan	Nagara Makans of History	Associated Publishers
Work	Stgra Tent Heak	Negro Year Book Pub. Co.
Hughes	Not Without Laughter	Kninf
Hickordson	Plays and Peganets from the Life of the Negro	Associated Publishers
DuBola	Scole of Block Felis	
Weshington	Up from Shreer	McCharg
as emissendinen	Ab tion onisia	Rust

samp regre nigh schools in Georgia have already purchased this set of books. In some comties this set of hooks his been purchased and to being used as a circulating Henry for Magne Teachtrs.

Schools destring to purchase this set of Scales by sed about Negmen should send to A. C. Burm Separators of Negme Blacestine, Adianta. a Sissay Order for \$18.00 coals appendix to M. D. Cellina Sixts inches Superintendent. If the books will be ordered from the Researchild Fund and be abligated to the second of the second of

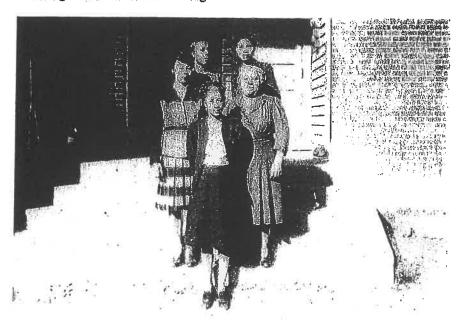
The Herald (1936)
[Box 7, Folder 21, Images 001-003]

- Event flyers for school events after 1932 do not include reference to fundraisers, suggesting that the school had its new building.
- According to Georgia State Board of Education Annual Reports for 1938-1939 and 1940-1941, held at the Georgia State Archives, the Jonesboro Colored School is the only colored school in Clayton County to be built of brick, have a library, have running water for drinking purposes, and have flush toilets. The building and lands valued at \$5,000 sits on 2.5 acres of land It holds 200+ students in its four-room building, and there are seven teachers at the school, all with some level of college education.
- Julius Rosenwald and his foundation are referred to several times in the collection, including a poem about the philanthropis and mentions of Rosenwald Rally Day events, such as that shown on Eula Arnold's note below from a teacher's meeting hel on January 17, 1934.



Note from Teachers Meeting (January 17, 1934) [Box 2, Folder 38, Image 003]

- An undated photograph of a group of teachers outside the school building includes the school principal, Roberta Thompson Smith, as well as teachers Eula Welborn, Mary Baxter, Eula V. Arnold, and Lois Jenkins Bass. Another undated photograph shows individuals standing outside the same building.



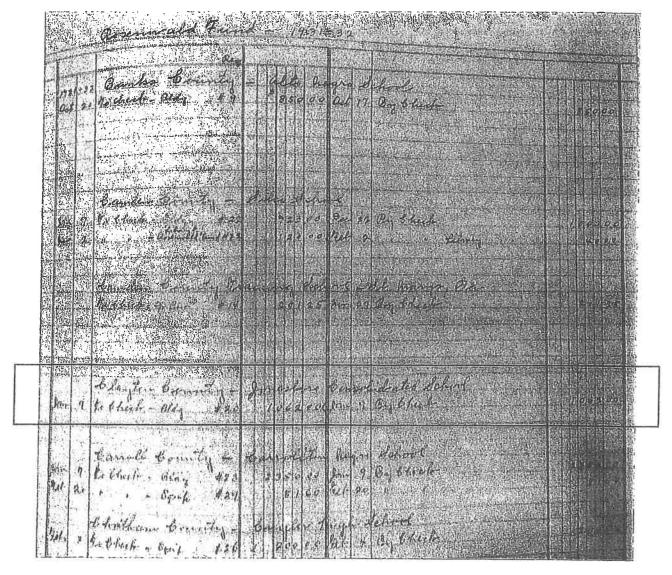
Photograph of Jonesboro School Faculty (No Date) [Box 10, Folder 23, Image 0001]

Mrs. Roberta Thompson Smith, principal, Ms. Eula Welborn, Mrs. Mary Baxter, Ms. Eula V Arnold, and Mrs. Lois Jenkins Bass Fisk University records show that the Jonesboro Rosenwald School was a three-teacher school built on two acres of during the 1931-1932 budget year. Below is the official entry for the Jonesboro Rosenwald School located in the Fisk University database:

Historic Name:	Jonesboro School	Total Cost:	\$5325.00
<b>Building Plan:</b>	Three-teacher type	Notes:	Ins. \$3,500
<b>Building Type:</b>	School	Funding Sources:	
Budget Year:	1931-32	» Negroes	\$850.00
Land (Acreage):	2.00	» Whites	\$500.00
County:	Clayton	» Public	\$2,913.00
State:	Georgia	» Rosenwa	ld \$1,062.00
Application #:	3-K		

\*Note: Funding of Rosenwald School construction typically resulted from four funding sources. The funding source listed above as "Public" refers to the monies raised through rallies and other fundraisers. The Negro and White communities were also expected to each contribute a predetermined amount toward the building, in addition to funds contributed by the Rosenwald Foundation.

According to records of the Georgia State Board of Education held at the Georgia State Archives, the Rosenwald Fund issued a check for the Jonesboro Consolidated School in Clayton County, Georgia on January 9, 1932 for the amount of \$1,062.



Negro Education Disbursement Ledgers, 1923-1937
Georgia State Board of Education Records, Georgia State Archives

April 15, 2022

To: Clayton/ Jonesboro Historic Commission

From Clayton County Public Schools

**Dear Commission Members:** 

This is an addendum requested by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs Director, Paige Jennings. This is to supplement the original documents. The "Jonesboro Colored School", aka "Jonesboro Elementary" a Rosenwald School was a blessing to the community. Until the original three (3) teacher building was built, the only educational opportunities in the area for African American children were in homes and the churches for the most part.

The original building which is the focus of preservation sits on two (2) acres between Smith and Mill streets, along Souder Way. The area is rich in heritage as a community of African Americans in Jonesboro. There are predominately African American churches in view from the school. There are many memories that are associated with the area and the school, which reflect the rich heritage of African Americans in Jonesboro and Clayton county.

Some of Jonesboro/ Clayton County's most notable citizens attended or taught at the 155 Smith Street address. Ms. Helen Davenport, now in her 90s attended the Rosenwald School and went on to high school, college, and returned to teach in Clayton county for 38 years. Ms. Davenport is the mother of Georgia State Senator, Gail Davenport and Carolyn Davenport. Sen. Davenport still serves in the Georgia General Assembly, and Carolyn is a Clayton County retired teacher. Carolyn taught many years at George M. Kilpatrick elementary school and was very active in the Georgia Teacher and Education Association (GT&EA), which later merged with the Georgia Association of Educators. She was a building representative of the local affiliate the Clayton County Education Association. The Davenport family has been very active in the life of the Andrews Chapel United Methodist Church in Jonesboro and the family has been positive servants of the community in numerous roles, notably with the Rosenwald School and Fountain School in Forest Park.

Other notable alumni are Helen Meadows along with siblings, the late Daniel and Mary Ann Meadows, and other living siblings: Jim, Peggy, Alice, and Ethelene all attended the Rosenwald school and have been active citizens in the community. Helen Meadows lives near the school site and is very active in the Shiloh Baptist Church, which is in view from the Rosenwald site.

Other notable alumni that are active in the Jonesboro area are the Souder family members. Annie Lois Souder was a teacher at Jonesboro Elementary (Rosenwald), and her daughter Joyce was also a teacher in Clayton County. Donald Souder is also a notable alumnus of the School.

The Simpson family, Clay family, Smith family and others are alumni who are active members of the Jonesboro/Clayton Community.

The Roberta T. Smith Elementary School in Clayton County Public Schools is named for the former Principal of the Jonesboro Rosenwald School. Ms. Smith was highly revered in the community. Along with these Rosenwald notables, Ms. Eula Arnold was a teacher at Rosenwald School and was the daughter of Jonesboro philanthropist J.W. Arnold for which Arnold Elementary School in named.

Ms. Eula Wilborn Ponds Perry was a well- respected teacher at the Rosenwald School. The Eula Wilborn Ponds Perry Learning Center, named in honor of this Rosenwald teacher, is located near the Rosenwald site, is a state of the art school for alternate routes to graduation and other learning opportunities.

Other notable alumni and connected families of Jonesboro /Clayton County include: Marion Wadley Dorsey (her Mother, Lorena Wadley was PTA President). Charlie Wadley, Sr. Charlie Wadley, Jr, Elizabeth Wadley, Esther Wadley. Mr. Leroy Walker, Barbara Brown, Fannie Mae Low, Ralph Stovall, David Stovall, Wallace Stovall (Fourth Grade Teacher at Rosenwald), and Mable Brown Murphey.

Maudie B. (Burnette) owned the café across Souder Way. The café was a place which provided lunch for teachers during pre and post planning and was a favorite 'hangout' for students waiting for buses. The students often danced to the music played by Ms. Burnette. Maidie B. made sure children had something to eat whether they could pay or not!

It is clear that the historical significance and impact of the Rosenwald School to Jonesboro and Clayton County is impossible to measure. There is no telling how many lives were touched because of its existence in a time of Jim Crow segregation in the South. Due to the self-help concept of Booker T. Washington and Julius Rosenwald, African Americans were able to build schools throughout the segregated South. Thousands of these schools existed and now only a few of the buildings have survived the neglect that happened after the Brown V Topeka Kansas Board of Education Supreme Court decision that declared segregated public schools unconstitutional. There was opportunity after the Brown decision for African Americans to go to newer and better funded schools. The Rosenwald Schools' historical and cultural value was realized later; however, many had fallen into disrepair and obscurity. In recent years a valiant effort has been made to restore the remaining buildings and bring attention to their place in history. Jonesboro has a great opportunity and responsibility to assure that its Rosenwald building survives!

The building in question was built originally to be a three (3) teacher building. It had the famous tall windows and high vaulted ceilings for ventilation. It was a building built on two (2) acres of land circa late 1920s to early 1930s with large folding doors to separate the classrooms and to open for combined assemblies. The building also had a small industrial room for teaching of trades and home economics to its students. As the years passed there were auxiliary buildings to accommodate the expanding number of students attending. At one point there were 4 buildings, according to graduate, Helen Meadows, which were used to separate grade levels. Two of those

buildings remain. The intent of the Clayton County Public Schools is to restore the original three (3) classroom building to repurpose it for a museum of African American History and as a community meeting building for various events.

The attached documents show the original floor plan of the building in question and its design for three classrooms and an industrial room for practical training. The building had outside entries from Smith Street and the back toward Mills Street. The building was altered on the Mills Street side for the addition of rest rooms and a small kitchen. The outside was originally red brick and was later painted white. The outside sketch on the floor plan does not reflect the exterior that actually existed (It was brick and did not have an original side entrance according to interviewed students).

Since the close of the school, circa 1950-60s, it was repurposed for economic opportunity training by the late Rev. Charles W. Grant, Pastor of Mt. Welcome Baptist Church (Decatur) and Civil Rights Leader (Charles W. Grant Parkway is named for Rev. Grant). Later, office space for the school system and other entities from the county were added. The attached floor plan that shows the remodeling for offices is reflective of its current condition. The ceilings were lowered and the building was partitioned with numerous offices. The signature windows of the Rosenwald plan were closed up (visible from the attached photos with an X like covering). An additional entry was added to the side facing Souder Way with an enclosed glass lobby which is reflected in the photos attached in original packet. The interior walls are primarily paneling and sheet rock for partitioning of the small offices in the amended floor plan which is included in the original packet. The photos of the exterior reveal changes that are obvious from the outside from the original plan. With further exploring beyond the suspended ceiling, it was discovered that some of the original "tongue and groove" woodwork was still intact. The floors now have carpet and tile. The original floors were hardwood. The hardwood floors will be restored.

The photos attached and structural issues described here reveal that there are issues that will be addressed during the building's restoration. An architect acquired by the Clayton School District and Foundation will prepare the plan of restoration. Adequate funding has been set aside by the District and Foundation to assure the success of restoration and repurposing

The Clayton County Public Schools district is resolved to restore this important historical building and repurpose it for a museum and community meeting building. The Clayton County Public Schools Superintendent, Dr. Morcease Beasley and the Board of Education have declared their support and intent of this project. The Clayton County Public Schools Foundation (501c) will take custody of the building for renovation and funding and future usage.

The historical significance is particularly special to African Americans who have struggled for equality and equity in the United States, even prior to becoming an independent nation. Through years of legalized enslavement and segregation, the African American community has continued to strive for the ideals of our nation of liberty and justice for all. The Rosenwald Schools were one of the many rungs in the ladder of this lofty quest. It is requested with great passion that this original building be found worthy of protection by the Jonesboro Ordinance naming endangered historical structures and establishing it as a place worthy of restoration and usage in the

community's history and its future. This action benefits all of Jonesboro's citizens for posterity and enhances tourism opportunities.

Respectfully Submitted on behalf of the Clayton County Public Schools Board of Education, Ms. Jessie Goree, Chair, Dr. Morcease Beasley, Superintendent/CEO, Dr. Anthony Smith, Deputy Superintendent, Mr. Kemith Thompson, Executive Director of Operations.

Dr. Sidney (Sid) L. Chapman

**CCPS** Historian

Central Office South

770-478-2700 EX 700204

770 - 480-0222 Cell

404-217-7753 District Cell

Sidney.chapman@clayton.k12.ga.us

Sid.chapman1015@gmail.com

Brian P. Kemp Governor





04/18/2022

David Allen **Community Development Director** 124 North Avenue Jonesboro, Georgia 30236

**RE: Local District Designation Report** 

Dear Mr. Allen:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Local District Designation Report for the City of Jonesboro. The Historic Preservation Division has been given this opportunity to review the Local Landmark Designation Report in accordance with Georgia Historic Preservation Act § 44-10-26 (2)(a), Georgia's Certified Local Government Application and Procedures, and at the request of the local government.

The Historic Preservation Division has found that the Local Landmark Designation Report is well documented and assembled with maps, representative photographs, physical and historic descriptions, and descriptions of property renovations; however, the nominated property does not meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standard for Historic Preservation and Archaeology. The Jonesboro Elementary Rosenwald School has lost its architectural integrity as the building has undergone extensive alterations since it's original construction in the 1930's, which is also the period of significance for the property's nomination. As a result of these alterations, several of the character defining features of the building, including the windows on the front façade and the originally entry, have been lost.

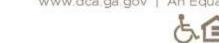
Due to extensive alterations and lack of integrity to the property, the Historic Preservation Division does not recommend the designation of the Jonesboro Elementary Rosenwald School. We recognize and support your local priorities and authority to make this decision on the local level. Out office supports projects that would acknowledge and honor the historical significance and communal impact of the Jonesboro Elementary Rosenwald School to the City of Jonesboro.

We support your community's commitment to preservation planning and appreciate the opportunity to collaborate. We will keep the submittal and determination on file for public record. If you, the HPC, or any community members have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me directly by email at paige.jennings@dca.ga.gov.

Sincerely,

Paige Jennings

Certified Local Government Coordinator



# STATE OF GEORGIA CITY OF JONESBORO

#### ORDINANCE NO. 2022-\_\_\_

- 1 AN ORDINANCE TO DESIGNATE THE FORMER ROSENWALD SCHOOL BUILDING
- 2 AND GROUNDS AS A HISTORIC PROPERTY; TO AMEND THE OFFICIAL ZONING
- 3 MAP OF THE CITY TO SHOW SAID HISTORIC DESIGNATION; TO PROVIDE FOR
- 4 SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE AN ADOPTION DATE; TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE
- 5 DATE; AND TO PROVIDE FOR OTHER LAWFUL PURPOSES.
- 6 WHEREAS, the City of Jonesboro, Georgia (the "City") is a municipal corporation
- 7 created under the laws of the State of Georgia; and
- 8 **WHEREAS**, the duly elected governing authority of the City is the Mayor and Council
- 9 thereof; and
- 10 WHEREAS, Section 42-29, Article II, Chapter 42 of the City's Code of Ordinances
- 11 provides procedures for the City and its Historic Preservation Commission ("Commission") to
- designate properties meeting certain criteria as a historic property; and
- WHEREAS, the Clayton County Public School District ("CCPS"), owner of the subject
- property, submitted an application to the Commission requesting that the former Rosenwald
- 15 School Building and surrounding grounds ("Rosenwald Property") be designated as a historic
- 16 property; and
- WHEREAS, the Commission held a public hearing to consider the proposed historic
- designation at its May 16, 2022 meeting and recommend that the City Council approve the
- 19 designation;

20	WHEREAS, the City Council held a public hearing to consider the proposed historic
21	designation and zoning map amendment related thereto at its June 6, 2022 meeting; and
22	WHEREAS, after due consideration, the City Council desires to designate the Rosenwald
23	Property as a historic property in accordance with Section 42-29.
24	WHEREAS, the adoption of this Ordinance will benefit the health, safety, and welfare of
25	the citizens of the City of Jonesboro.
26	NOW THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR
27	AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JONESBORO, GEORGIA and by the authority
28	thereof:
29	Section 1. The former Rosenwald School Building and surrounding grounds located at
30	155 Smith Street (Clayton County Parcel No. 1341A B009), which is further described in the
31	application attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit A, is hereby designated as a Historic
32	Property. Such historic property designation is to be noted on the official City of Jonesboro Zoning
33	Map approved by Mayor and Council as soon as reasonably possible following adoption of this
34	Ordinance along with an editorial note on the official City of Jonesboro Zoning Map specifying
35	the parcels affected by this Ordinance and the date of adoption of this Ordinance, which shall be
36	kept as public record to provide notice of such designation. CCPS shall obtain a certificate of
37	appropriateness from the Commission prior to performing any material change or alteration to the
38	appearance of the property.
39	Section 2. The preamble of this Ordinance shall be considered to be and is hereby
40	incorporated by reference as if fully set out herein.

<u>Section 3.</u> (a) It is hereby declared to be the intention of the Mayor and Council that all sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and phrases of this Ordinance are or were, upon their enactment, believed by the Mayor and Council to be fully valid, enforceable and constitutional.

(b) It is hereby declared to be the intention of the Mayor and Council that, to the greatest extent allowed by law, each and every section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is severable from every other section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance. It is hereby further declared to be the intention of the Mayor and Council that, to the greatest extent allowed by law, no section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is mutually dependent upon any other section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance.

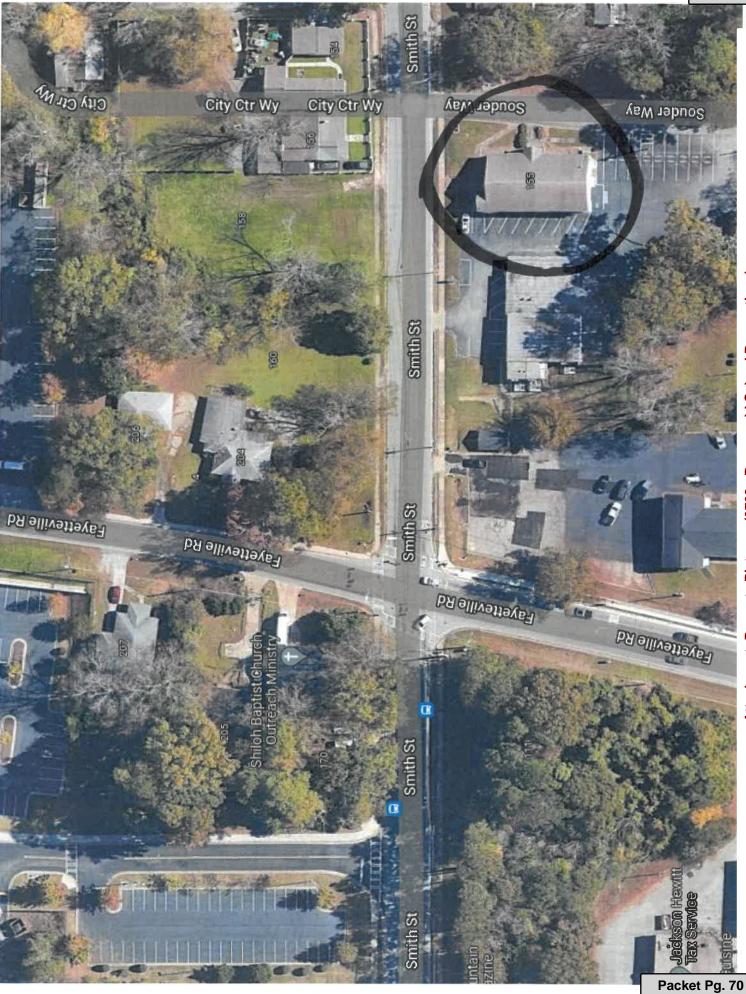
(c) In the event that any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this Ordinance shall, for any reason whatsoever, be declared invalid, unconstitutional or otherwise unenforceable by the valid judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, it is the express intent of the Mayor and Council that such invalidity, unconstitutionality or unenforceability shall, to the greatest extent allowed by law, not render invalid, unconstitutional or otherwise unenforceable any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs or sections of the Ordinance and that, to the greatest extent allowed by law, all remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs and sections of the Ordinance shall remain valid, constitutional, enforceable and of full force and effect.

<u>Section 4.</u> All ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby expressly repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Section 5. Penalties in effect for violations of the Zoning Ordinance of the City of
Jonesboro, Georgia at the time of the effective date of this Ordinance shall be and are hereby made
applicable to this Ordinance and shall remain in full force and effect.
Section 6. The effective date of this Ordinance shall be the date of adoption unless
otherwise specified herein.
<b>SO ORDAINED,</b> this day of, 2022.
CITY OF JONESBORO, GEORGIA
JOY DAY, Mayor
ATTEST:
RICKY CLARK, Jr., City Clerk
APPROVED AS TO FORM:
City Attorney

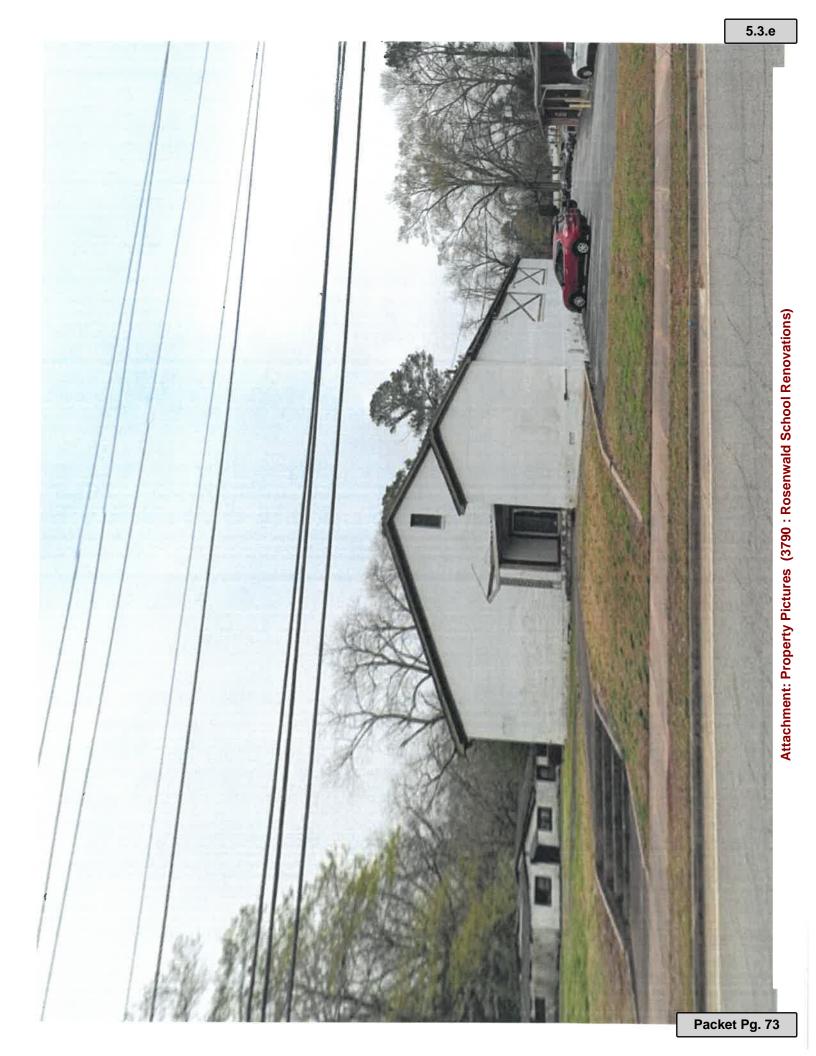
# **EXHIBIT** "A"

[Application Attached]



Attachment: Property Pictures (3790: Rosenwald School Renovations)





SHEET NUMBER

**OWNER** CLAYTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION CONTACT:

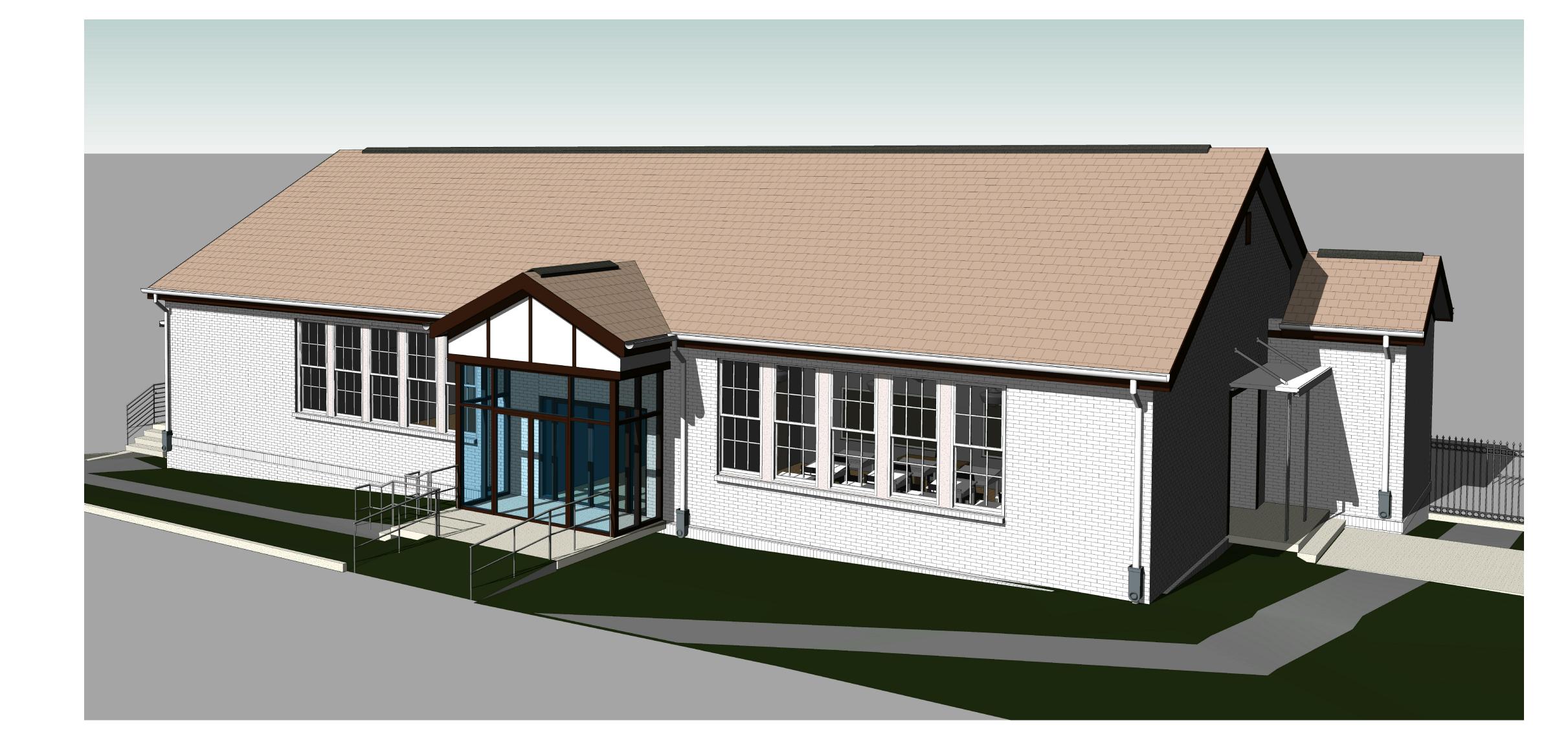
**CHRISTY CRAWFORD** DIRECTOR, CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT CLAYTON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS EMAIL: CHRISTY.CRAWFORD@CLAYTON.K12.GA.US **PH#:** (770) 473-2805 EXT. 160117

**ARCHITECT** J.W. ROBINSON & ASSOCIATES, INC. 1020 RALPH DAVID ABERNATHY BLVD., SW ATLANTA, GA. 30310 **CONTACT: STANLEY JENNINGS A.I.A. EMAIL:** STANLEY@JWROBINSON.COM **PH#**: 404-753-4129

**FAX#:** 404-753-4435

STRUCTURAL CONSULTANT **STABILITY ENGINEERING** 1376 CHURCH STREET, SUITE 200 DECATUR, GA 30030 **CONTACT:** ALLEN MORRIS, PE, SE **EMAIL:** AMORRIS@STABILITYENGINEERING.COM **PH#**: 404.377.9316 EXT. 112

**MEP CONSULTANT** HAMMOND & ASSOCIATES CONSULTING ENGINEERS **CONTACT:** NATE HAMMOND, P.E. **EMAIL: NATHANH@HAMMONDENGINEERS.COM PH#**:404-769-6636

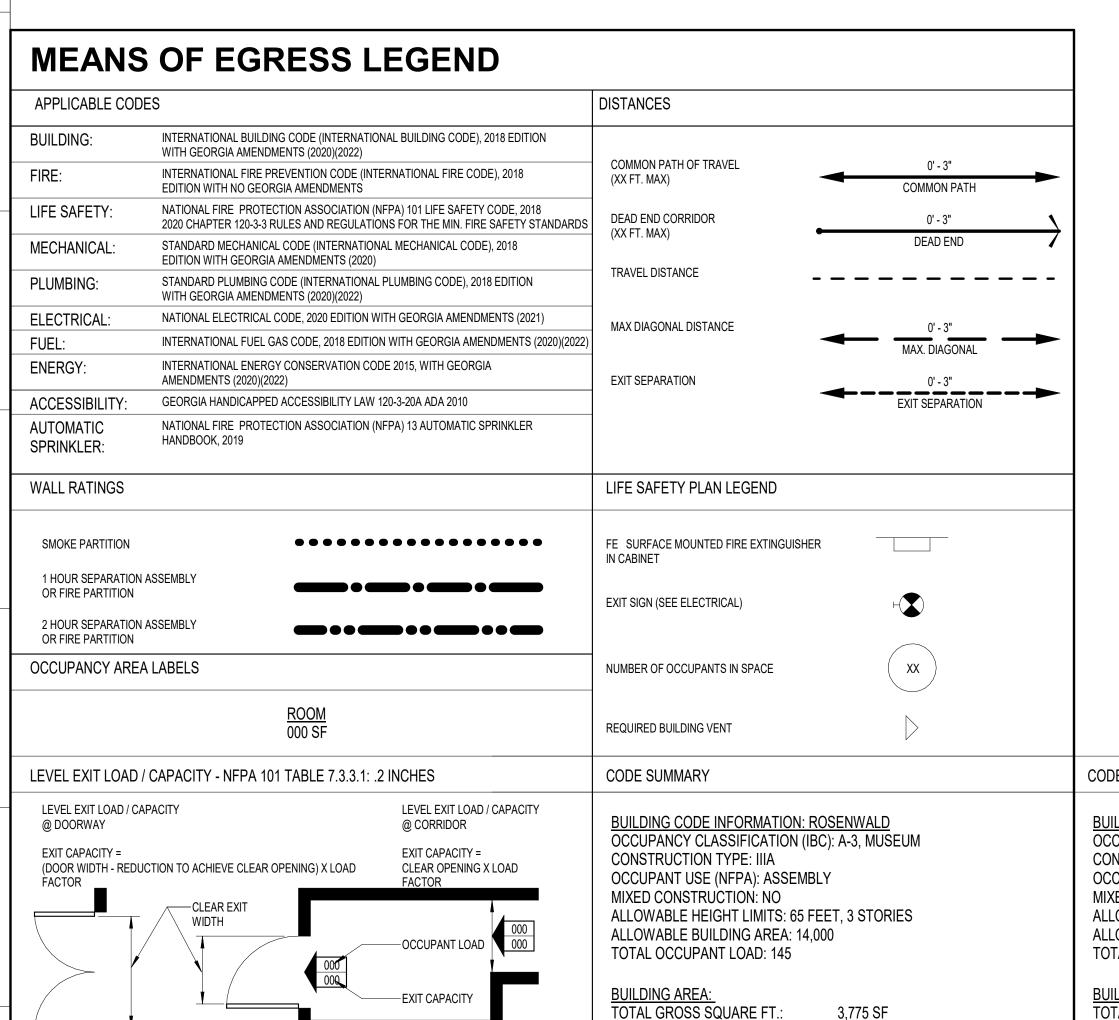


# ROSENWALD RENOVATIONS

155 SMITH STREET JONESBORO, GA 30236

CLAYTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENT BID SET September 4, 2023



STRUCTURAL FRAME - 1 HR

EXTERIOR - 2 HR

INTERIOR - 1 HR

FLOOR CONSTRUCTION - 1 HR

ROOF CONSTRUCTION - 1 HR

NONBEARING WALLS AND PARTITIONS, INTERIOR - 0 HR

EXIT TRAVEL DISTANCE - NON SPRINKLED BUILDING

COMMON PATH OF TRAVEL - NON SPRINKLED BUILDING

ASSEMBLY: A COMMON PATH OF TRAVEL SHALL BE PERMITTED FOR THE

FIRST 20' FROM ANY POINT WHERE THE COMMON PATH SERVES ANY

NUMBER OF OCCUPANTS, AND FOR THE FIRST 75' FROM ANY POINT

WHERE THE COMMON PATH SERVES NOT MORE THAN 50 OCCUPANTS.

BEARING WALLS:

ASSEMBLY:200'-0"

\* REFERENCE "MEASUREMENT OF MEANS OF EGRESS" UNDER STAIR EXIT

MEASUREMENT OF MEANS OF EGRESS: THE WIDTH OF MEANS OF EGRESS SHALL BE MEASURED IN THE CLEAR

STAIR EXIT LOAD / CAPACITY

AT THE NARROWEST POINT OF THE EGRESS COMPONENT UNDER CONSIDERATION. PROJECTIONS WITHIN THE

MEANS OF EGRESS OF NOT MORE THAN 4 1/2" IN STAIR (4" OTHERWISE) ON EACH SIDE SHALL BE PERMITTED AT

STAIR EXIT LOAD / CAPACITY - NFPA 101 TABLE 7.3.3.1: .3 INCHES

OF WALL TO FACE OF

-38" HIGH X 4.5" WIDE

AREA ON EACH SIDE

-42" HIGH GUARD RAII

RAISED STRINGER:

LOCATED WITHIN

PROJECTION AREA

ALLOWABLE PROJECTION \_\_

34" HIGH HANDRAIL: LOCATED

WITHIN PROJECTION AREA

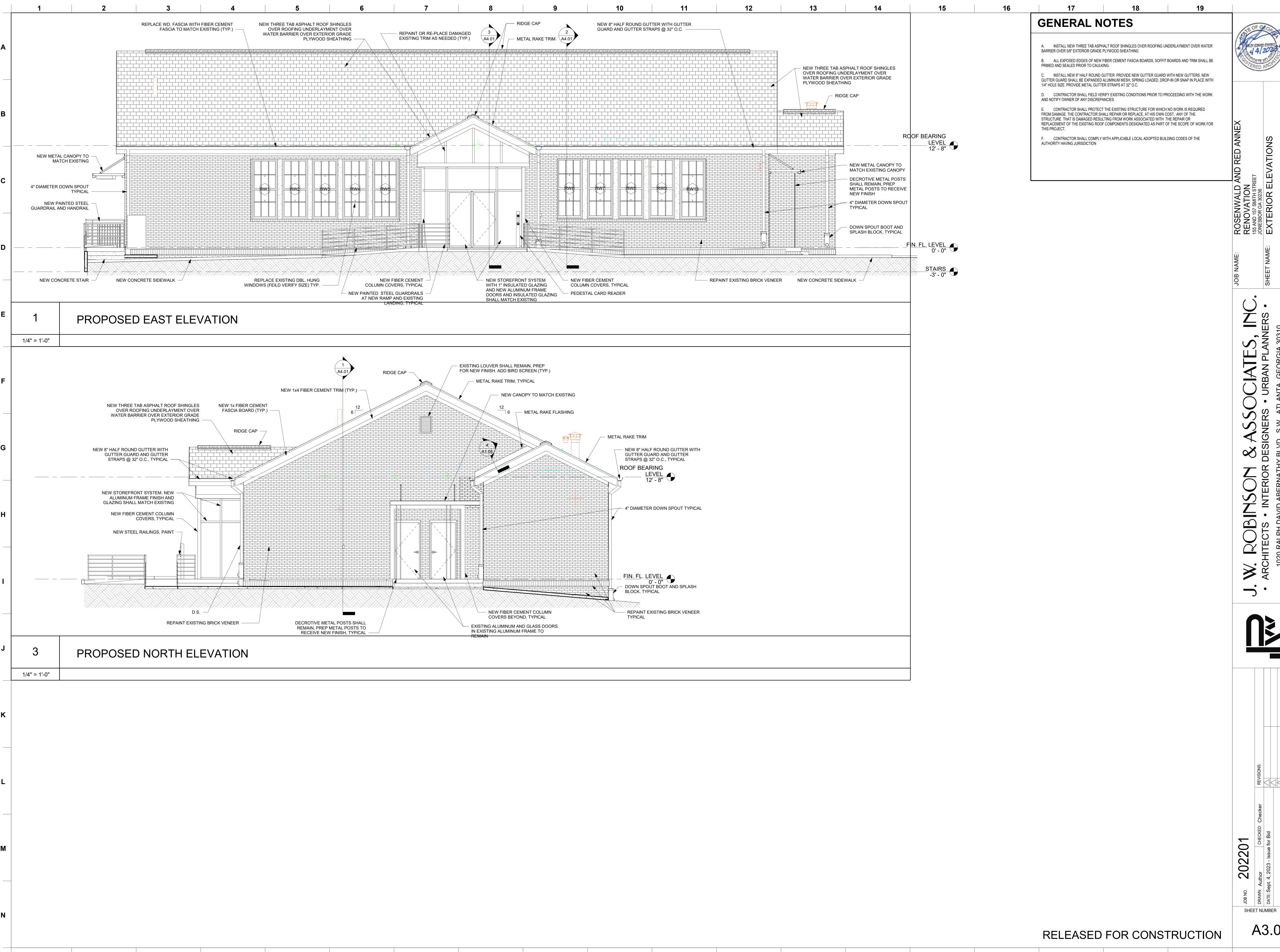
A HEIGHT OF 38" AND BELOW.

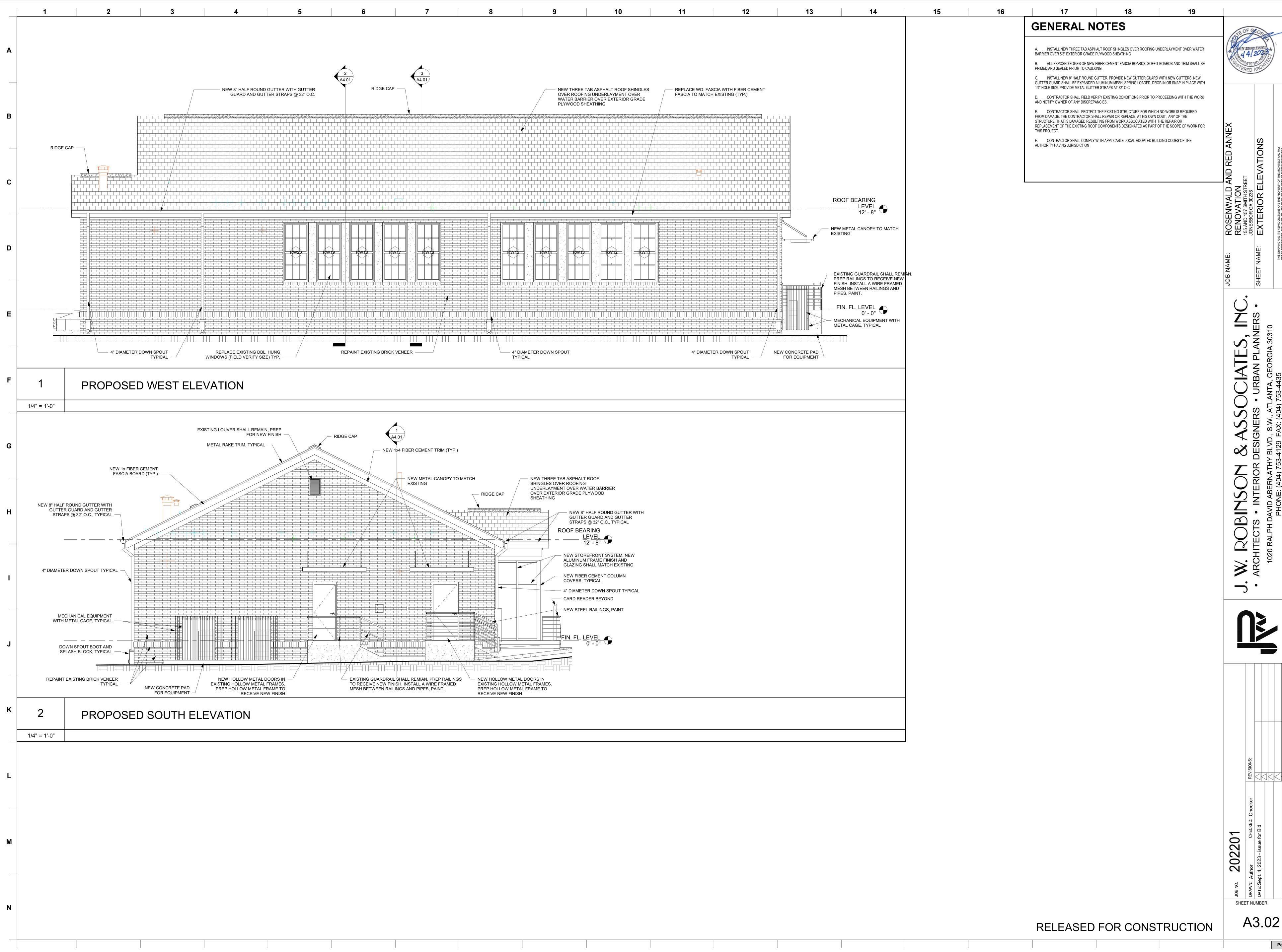
**CODE SUMMARY** <u>BUILDING CODE INFORMATION: RED ANNEX</u> OCCUPANCY CLASSIFICATION (IBC): BUSINESS CONSTRUCTION TYPE: IIA OCCUPANT USE (NFPA): BUSINESS MIXED CONSTRUCTION: NO ALLOWABLE HEIGHT LIMITS: 65 FEET, 5 STORIES ALLOWABLE BUILDING AREA: 37.500 SF TOTAL OCCUPANT LOAD: 106 TOTAL GROSS SQUARE FT.: FIRE-RESISTANCE RATING REQUIREMENTS FOR BUILDING ELEMENTS FIRE-RESISTANCE RATING REQUIREMENTS FOR BUILDING ELEMENTS STRUCTURAL FRAME - 1 HR **BEARING WALLS:** EXTERIOR - 1 HR INTERIOR - 1 HR NONBEARING WALLS AND PARTITIONS, EXTERIOR; (SEE TABLE 602, 2018) NONBEARING WALLS AND PARTITIONS, EXTERIOR; (SEE TABLE 602, 2018 NONBEARING WALLS AND PARTITIONS, INTERIOR - 0 HR FLOOR CONSTRUCTION - 1 HR ROOF CONSTRUCTION - 1 HR

EXIT TRAVEL DISTANCE – NON SPRINKLED BUILDING

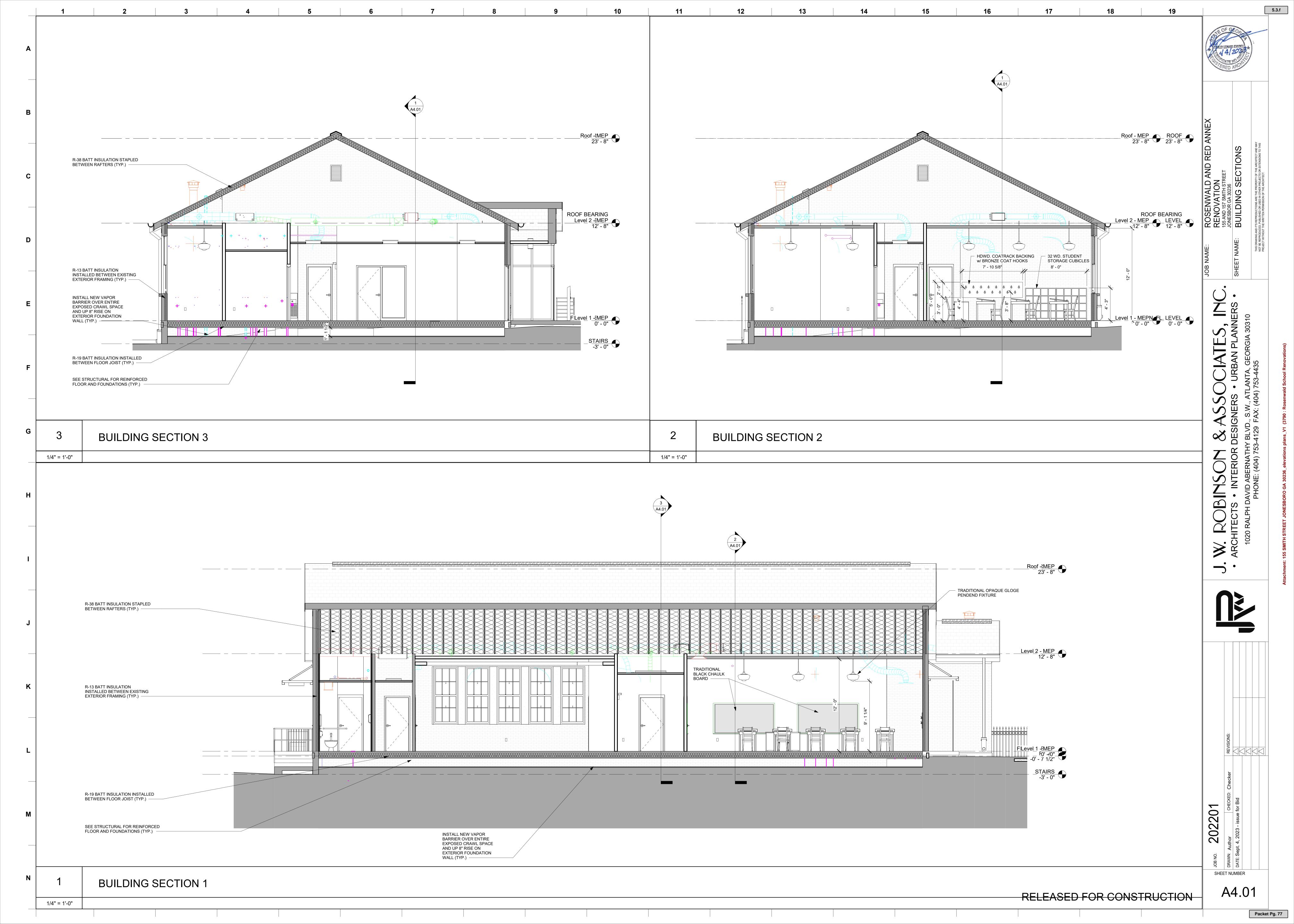
COMMON PATH OF TRAVEL - NON SPRINKLED BUILDING

BUSINESS: 200'-0"





\_\_\_\_





### MEMORANDUM

To: Sidney Chapman

Clayton Co. Schools Jonesboro, Ga. 30236

From: David D. Allen

City of Jonesboro 1859 City Center Way Jonesboro, GA 30236

**Date:** June 13, 2024

**Re:** Notification of Request for Historic Preservation Commission – Exterior

Renovation; 155 Smith Street; Parcel No. 13241A B009

Dear Applicant,

This letter is to serve as notification that the City of Jonesboro, Historic Preservation Commission, has accepted your request for a review of an exterior renovation located at 155 Smith Street, Jonesboro, Georgia 30236.

A hearing has been scheduled for Thursday, June 20, 2024 at 5:30 pm before the Historic Preservation Commission at 1859 City Center Way, Jonesboro to consider the request as described above. You are invited to attend if you wish. If you are unable to be a part of the meeting, then you will be informed of the recommendation on the following day.

Sincerely,

David D. Allen

Community Development Director / Zoning Administrator