

ZONING CHANGE REVIEW SHEET

CASE NUMBER: C14H-2013-0001

HLC DATE:

January 28, 2013

PC DATE:

APPLICANTS: St. Paul Primitive Baptist Church and the City of Austin

HISTORIC NAME: Old David Chapel Baptist Church/St. Paul Primitive Baptist Church

WATERSHED: Boggy Creek

ADDRESS OF PROPOSED ZONING CHANGE: 2209 E. 14th Street

ZONING FROM: P-NP to)-H-NP

SUMMARY STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends the proposed zoning change from Public, Neighborhood Plan (P-NP) combining district zoning to Public – Historic Landmark – Neighborhood Plan (P-H-NP) combining district zoning.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR LANDMARK DESIGNATION:

The ca. 1940 church building is a vernacular African-American religious structure with strong associations with two historic African-American congregations in Austin.

HISTORIC LANDMARK COMMISSION ACTION:

PLANNING COMMISSION ACTION:

DEPARTMENT COMMENTS: The church is listed as a Priority 2 for research in the Comprehensive Cultural Resources Survey (1984) and as a high priority for preservation in the Chestnut Neighborhood Historic Structure Survey (2001).

CITY COUNCIL DATE:

ACTION:

ORDINANCE READINGS: 1ST 2ND 3RD

ORDINANCE NUMBER:

CASE MANAGER: Steve Sadowsky

PHONE: 974-6454

NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION: Chestnut Neighborhood Association

BASIS FOR RECOMMENDATION:

Architecture:

Two-story, rectangular-plan, flat-roofed, stuccoed frame church building with a central entry consisting of double-leaf doors framed with a Gothic-arched raised stucco molding; shaped and stepped parapet with a front-gabled pediment; Gothic-arched vent in the tympanum of the gabled pediment parapet; 1:1 fenestration.

Historical Associations:

The church building was constructed in 1940 by David Chapel Baptist Church, an African-American congregation that had its origins in 1924 in the Ceiling Hills Community in Travis County. The building remained the David Chapel Baptist Church until 1959 until that congregation constructed a new building at the corner of Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard and Chestnut Street, and the building became the home of St. Paul Primitive Baptist Church, which has maintained the building as their sanctuary since that time.

David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church began in 1924 when the Rev. Ben Wroe and the Rev. Connie Alexander established the congregation on the farm of the Horace Davis family. The original name for the church was Davis Chapel, commemorating the Davis family. There were 28 people in the founding congregation, which was led by the Rev. L.M. Marshall. The congregation met in a blacksmith shop until 1926, when they moved into Austin and built a tabernacle at the corner of 14th and Chestnut Streets. Rev. L.M. Marshall served until his death in 1937, and was succeeded by Rev. S.L. Davis, who then went on to establish Mount Calvary Baptist Church in East Austin in 1939. The congregation tore down their original tabernacle building and built the current structure in 1940, under the leadership of Rev. E.G. Gibbs, who served the congregation until 1948.

Rev. Gibbs was succeeded by Rev. W.I. Rector, who served until 1950. After a brief tenure by Rev. E.H. Branch in 1950, the congregation was led by J.L. Dawson, who served until 1963. Under Rev. Dawson's leadership, the church moved from its building at 14th and Chestnut to a new church at Chestnut and Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard in late 1958.

St. Paul Primitive Baptist Church was established by former members of Pilgrim Rest Primitive Baptist Church (2310 E. 11th Street) in 1957, led by the Rev. E.L. Lee. The members began to worship with the Willie Chapel Primitive Baptist Church (1906 Chestnut) under Rev. Washington, then moved to the Mount Moriah Baptist Church on Northwestern Avenue. In January, 1959, they moved into the old David Chapel building at 14th and Chestnut and have maintained their church home at this location since. After Rev. E.L. Lee died in 1961, he was succeeded by Rev. Wiley, who served until 1963. Rev. Wiley was succeeded by Rev. Watts, who led the congregation until 1977. Rev. Darby served St. Paul until around 1980, and was succeeded by Rev. Walter E. Moore, who served from 1980 to 1994. Rev. V. Spencer served from 1994-1996. Elder Hugh Smith led the congregation from 1996 until 2006, and was succeeded by Rev. F. Alexander, who continues to serve to this day.

PARCEL NO.: 02101101070000

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Lot 6, Block 5, Outlot 34, Division B

ESTIMATED ANNUAL TAX ABATEMENT: \$ 0 – tax exempt

APPRAISED VALUE: \$72,500 (land only)

PRESENT USE: Church

CONDITION: Good

PRESENT OWNERS: St. Paul Primitive Baptist Church
2209 E. 14th Street
Austin, Texas 78702

DATE BUILT: ca. 1940




ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS: Two additions were made to the church in 1967.

ORIGINAL OWNER(S): David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

OTHER HISTORICAL DESIGNATIONS: None.

LOCATION MAP


$$1'' = 200'$$

-  SUBJECT TRACT
 PENDING CASE
 ZONING BOUNDARY

ZONING

ZONING CASE#: C14H-2013-0001

This product is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for or be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. It does not represent an on-the-ground survey and represents only the approximate relative location of property boundaries.

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St. Paul Primitve Baptist Church (ca. 1940)
2209 E. 14th Street

The History of David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church



The historic origin of David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church was the year 1924, and the site of its beginnings was a blacksmith shop. From that site, this body of believers moved to a tabernacle, a stucco building, and to its present site located on the corner of Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard and Chestnut Street.

In the year 1924, a few Christians living in the community of Ceiling Hills became concerned about the way the boys of the community were observing the Lord's Day—playing marbles. As a result of their concern, a meeting was called by neighbors at the residence of the Horace Davis family. A subsequent meeting was called and under the able supervision of two ministers, Reverend Ben Wroe and Reverend Connie Alexander, a church was organized on April 27, 1924. The church was named Davis Chapel, in honor of the Horace Davis family, on whose farm it was organized. There were twenty-eight persons who made up the first membership roll.

In another meeting, the Reverend L. M. Marshall was called to lead this newly organized body of Christians. A blacksmith shop was the first dwelling used until October 30, 1926, when the pastor and his members moved from the Ceiling Hills Community to the city of Austin. In Austin, a tabernacle was erected at the corner of 14th and Chestnut Streets. The name of the church was changed to David Chapel. After serving for twelve illustrious years, Reverend L. M. Marshall passed on to his reward on April 17, 1937. Another church in the city of Austin, Rising Star Baptist Church, was born with ten members from David Chapel's membership.

In 1937, the Reverend S. L. Davis succeeded Reverend Marshall and continued to lead the church in spiritual and financial growth. A house and three lots at the corner of 12th and Chestnut Streets were purchased. After Reverend Davis' tenure of service, Mt. Calvary was born out of David Chapel's membership and the Reverend E. G. Gibbs was called as pastor in 1940. Under his pastorate, the indebtedness of the church was liquidated. The old tabernacle was torn down, July 4, 1940, and the building of a new \$8,000.00 stucco structure began. The indebtedness of this building was paid in less than four years. Another church, Zion Hill came out of David Chapel's membership.

The Reverend W. I. Rector succeeded the Reverend Gibbs in 1948. One of the spiritual highlights of Reverend Rector's ministry was the establishment of the Week Day Church. Serving a short fruitful period of one year and five months, Reverend Rector was called by God to his heavenly reward.

In the year 1950, the Reverend E. H. Branch answered the Macedonian call of the church, but after answering, with much prayerful deliberation, found that the Spirit did not endorse his

coming. Shortly after his departure, the Reverend J. L. Dawson, was called in 1950. The church membership outgrew its facilities, and in 1958, a larger site was purchased on the corner of 19th (now Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.) and Chestnut Streets. The planning, construction, and financing of the new edifice were provided by persons of African-American descent. The architect was John S. Chase; the contractor was Oliver B. Street; and the St. John Regular Baptist Association financed our building efforts which are a testimony of what God can do through His people.

On the first Sunday in January of 1959, Pastor Dawson led the congregation into the new edifice. In 1963, Reverend Dawson went on to greater fields of endeavors, leaving many sad hearts behind.

The Reverend James E. Obey Sr. was called as pastor in 1963 and arrived on the first Sunday in January 1964. Under his guidance and leadership, many accomplishments were realized, including the air-conditioning of the entire church plant, construction of a new parsonage and sponsorship of the Marshall apartments, a 1.2 million dollar rent supplement housing project, under FHA's 221 (D)3 Program. The Church mortgage was burned in 1969. The Church is very proud of this record of solvency brought about by Pastor Obey's keen foresight and leadership.

On May 18, 1992, God called Pastor Obey home, and the church was greatly saddened by the loss of this great leader. Following the home-going of Pastor Obey, the mantle of leadership was placed upon the Reverend Joseph C. Parker, Jr., Esq., who was called as pastor on September 29, 1992. Prior to being called as David Chapel's Undershepherd, Reverend Parker served as Associate Pastor for Christian Education for about ten (10) years. Pastor Parker is the first ministerial son of David Chapel to serve as pastor.

The Church praises and thanks God for the able leadership which He has provided for us through Reverend Parker. During his tenure as pastor, the financial and facility management systems have been revised. The church has experienced an increase in both membership and finances. We now have mission and vision statements that help to guide us toward being the church God wants us to be; and our facilities are being used to minister to the community.

On April 3, 1994, David Chapel acquired the property at 2301 East Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard. In the Annual Stewardship Meeting on January 31, 1995, Pastor Parker presented a plan to refurbish the church sanctuary with new pews, carpet, and a baby grand piano. By the time David Chapel entertained the 80th Session of the State Congress of Christian Workers in August 1995, God had blessed us to accomplish that plan, with no outstanding debt.

In June 1997, an application was submitted to the City of Austin, pursuant to a pilot neighborhood planning program, for David Chapel to give leadership to a neighborhood plan for the Chestnut area, the neighborhood in which our church facilities are located. The plan would focus on public safety, housing, environmental infrastructure, economic development, youth, health, and human services. In August 1997, the Mayor and City Council selected the geographical area designated in the Chestnut application as one of three neighborhoods in the city for a plan, with David Chapel and Pastor Parker giving leadership to the plan. The plan is expected to be approved by the Mayor and City Council in May 1999.

In 1997, the Marshall Fellowship Hall was expanded to double its size and better accommodate the members' many activities. This was the first major addition to the church facility since its construction in 1959.

In January 1998, Pastor Parker led us to adopt *David Chapel 2000 and Beyond*, our comprehensive approach to planning for ministries to our members and the community. As part of our plan, in June 1998 we hired our first full-time Minister of Education and Ministries Development, Rev. Beverly J. Sennier. From January - March 1999 we conducted *United We Build*, a successful intensive capital stewardship campaign to secure pledges for free-will offerings from our members to finance a Community Life Center to house our ministries, programs, activities, and staff.

Continuing in the pattern of the first century church, we study, hear, and do God's word. Seeking God's will and following the leadership and vision God has revealed to our pastor, this church—God's beacon—gives God all the Glory!



David Chapel's Mission Statement

We, the David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church of Austin, Texas, are a growing fellowship of believers, united and empowered by the Holy Spirit, committed to glorifying God by leading people to accept the Lord Jesus; developing, equipping, and empowering them for a dedicated life and ministry through proclaiming, teaching, and studying God's Word; promoting Christian love and fellowship, and demonstrating a Christ-like presence in the community and the world in order to magnify God.



The David Chapel Vision Statement

David Chapel's vision is that it is to be a church geared to the needs, lifestyles and interests of persons who seek and share a Christian commitment to offer holistic ministries which address spiritual, human, urban, and community needs in Austin, Texas. These ministries are to be characterized by a loving, forgiving and accepting Christian environment. In order to accommodate these and other ministries, David Chapel is planning a multi-purpose community life center (cover photo) that will help families and the community survive and thrive.



David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church Charter Members

Brother Jim Arnold
Sister Carrie Cain
Brother F. G. Cain
Brother Henry Cain

Sister Bertha Davis
Brother Charlie Davis
Brother Eardie Davis
Brother Horace Davis

Brother Leroy Davis
Reverend Luther Davis, Sr.
Sister Maggie Davis
Brother Walter Davis

Sister Troy Elder
Sister Itasca Franklin
Sister Lenora Franklin
Sister Mamie Franklin

Brother Willie Franklin
Brother Alf Johnson
Sister Diana Johnson
Sister Mary Johnson

Sister Betty Marshall
Brother Buddie Marshall
Brother Henry Marshall
Sister Rosie Marshall

Sister Sedalia Marshall
Sister Ula Marshall
Brother Milton Nobles
Sister Bessie Shelton

David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church

75th Anniversary

1901-1976

Pastoral Heritage



REV. L. M. MARSHALL
1924-1937



REV. S. L. DAVIS
1937-1939



REV. E. G. GIBBS
1940-1948



REV. W. I. RECTOR
1948-1950



REV. J. L. DAWSON
1950-1963

SAINT PAUL'S PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH HISTORY

AUSTIN, TEXAS

Some of the former members of Pilgrim Rest Primitive Baptist Church meet at Brother Cal Wright home to organize a Church. Later on they met at Deacon S. M. Williams home. The members began to worship with the Willie Chapel Primitive Baptist Church under the leadership of Reverend Washington. At a much later date the members begin to worship with the Mount Moriah Baptist Church on Northwestern Street of Reverend Brown.

Saint Paul Primitive Baptist Church was

organized by the Presbtery Board of the Providence District on July 17, 1957, after which the Reverend E. L. Lee was called to pastor Saint Paul. We continued to worshipped with Mount Moriah until the second Sunday in January 1959 when we entered the Church building of our home at 2209 East 14th Street. Reverend E.L. Lee, Moderator of Providence District remained with us until his death.

After the death of Reverend E.L. Lee, Reverend Wiley was called to pastor Saint Paul in July, 1961. He served as Pastor for 2 years.

Reverend Watts was called to pastor in 1963, where he served for 14 years, until 1977.

Reverend Darby was called to pastor, where he

served for approximately 2 years.

*Reverend Walter E. Moore was called to pastor.
Reverend Moore served from November 1, 1980
until January 16, 1994, until his death.*

*Reverend V. Spencer was called to pastor for 2
years from 1994 until 1996.*

*Elder Hugh Smith came to Saint Paul in 1996
and served for 13 years and resigned on
January 18, 2006,*

*Reverend F. Alexander was call to pastor Saint
Paul in 2006, and is currently serving as pastor.*

	David Baptist Church	2209 E. 14th St.
37	-	5 6 -

Glenwood Addn.

open shed for church (temporary)

19923 - 7-2-40

None

Building permit to David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church for the construction of an open shed (1940)

	David Mission Baptist Church	2209 East 14th St.
37	34	5 6 -

Glenwood Addn.

destroy church

19922 - 7-2-40

None

Building permit to David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church to demolish their original tabernacle building (1940)

Church
Davis Chapel Baptist

2209 E. 14th St.

37 34 5 6 -

Glenwood Addn.

stucco church building

19974 - 7-10-40

None

Building permit to David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church for the construction of the
present building (1940)

OWNER St. Paul Prim.Bapt. Chr. ADDRESS 2209 E 14th Street

PLAT 38 LOT 6 BLK 5

SUBDIVISION of outlot 34

OCCUPANCY Dining Area & Kitchen

BLD PERMIT # 102449 DATE 2-17-67 OWNERS
ESTIMATE 5,000.

CONTRACTOR owner NO. OF FIXTURES see plans

WATER TAP REC # Exist SEWER TAP REC # Exist

One Story Addition to Church

800 sq.ft.

16 8 53

Building permit to St. Paul Primitive Baptist Church for the construction of an addition
(1967)

OWNER	St. Paul Primitive Baptist Church	ADDRESS	2209 E. 14th. St.
PLAT	38	LOT	6
		BLK	5
SUBDIVISION	of O. L. 34		
OCCUPANCY	Enlarge dining area & kitchen		
BLD PERMIT #	105749	DATE	11-8-67
		OWNERS ESTIMATE	500.00
CONTRACTOR	Owner	NO. OF FIXTURES	several
WATER TAP REC #	Existing	SEWER TAP REC #	Existing
	Addn. to church bldg.		320 sq. ft.

Building permit to St. Paul Primitive Baptist Church for the construction of an addition
(1967)