

MEGAN BARRY
MAYOR



METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY

Metropolitan Historic Zoning Commission
Sunnyside in Sevier Park
3000 Granny White Pike
Nashville, Tennessee 37204
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STAFF RECOMMENDATION
10604 Concord Road, Concord Baptist Church
December 21, 2016

Application: Historic Landmark Overlay for 10604 Concord Road, Concord Baptist Church (El Shaddai Christian Church)

Map and Parcel Numbers: 18100000800

Council Districts: 04

Applicant: Councilmember Robert Swope

Project Lead: Robin Zeigler, robin.zeigler@nashville.gov, 615-862-7970

<p>Description of Project: Councilmember Robert Swope requests that the Concord Baptist Church be adopted as a Historic Landmark.</p>	<p>Attachments A: Photographs</p>
<p>Recommendation Summary: Staff suggests the Commission recommend to City Council that the Concord Baptist Church be adopted as Historic Landmark and that the existing Historic Landmark Design Guidelines be used to guide future alterations.</p>	

Vicinity Maps



Aerials



Applicable Ordinance:

Article III. Historic Overlay Districts

17.36.120 Historic Districts Defined. B. Historic Landmark. An historic landmark is defined as a building, structure, site or object, its appurtenances and the property it is located on, of high historical, cultural, architectural or archaeological importance; whose demolition or destruction would constitute an irreplaceable loss to the quality and character of Nashville and Davidson County; and that meets one or more of the following criteria:

1. The historic landmark is associated with an event that has made a significant contribution to local, state or national history;
2. It is associated with the lives of persons significant in local, state or national history;
3. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction, or that represents the work of a master, or that possesses high artistic value;
4. It has yielded or may be likely to yielded archaeological information important in history or prehistory; or
5. It is listed or is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Background:

Concord Baptist Church (1804) began constructing their church building along Mill Creek in 1844. The Concord Baptist Church was an influential center of life in the Concord community (also called Liberty) and had both white and black members. According to former Brentwood City Historian, Vance Little, “many of the black members belonged to masters who were members of other religious denominations. Non-Baptist slave owners encouraged their slaves to attend the Baptist church because of the discipline enforced by that church.” The church enforced a strict code of conduct among its members, which in turn guarded the social life of the community: drinking, dancing, and swearing were strictly prohibited.

The church grounds saw some military action during the Civil War, and Union troops camped on the church grounds and likely used the church as a headquarters.

Concord Baptist Church was the founding place of the Concord Baptist Association, the oldest surviving Baptist association in Tennessee. After Mill Creek Baptist, the Concord Baptist Church was the most influential Baptist church in Middle Tennessee, and the church building was the site of some of the most controversial and influential discussions in Baptist history.

The building continued to be used by the church until 1997, when the Concord Baptist Church merged with Grandview Baptist. The first educational building was added in 1946. The sanctuary was remodeled in 1968, and the new entrance (front) added in 1969. The stained glass windows were installed in 1973.

El Shaddai Christian Church became the owner of the building in 2005 and occupied it until a flood in 2010 resulted in the building being unusable. The El Shaddai Christian Church is restoring the building.

Analysis and Findings:

The building is significant for its important association with the Baptist Church and an influential battle during the Civil War. According to the Tennessee Historical Commission, the building is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and so meets standard 17.36.120.5 of the ordinance.

Staff suggests the Commission recommend to City Council that the Concord Baptist Church be adopted as Historic Landmark and that the existing Historic Landmark Design Guidelines be used to guide future alterations.

PHOTOGRAPHS



This entrance was added in 1969.



The central portion on the left is the original church. A portion of the 1969 addition can be seen on the far left. The portion on the right was added in 1946.