

MEMORANDUM
September 20, 2016

TO: Mayor and Board of Aldermen

FROM: Judy Daniel, AICP
Director of Planning

SUBJECT: Appeal of Decision of Historic Preservation Commission
Case #388 – Joshua A. Turner
Business Sign for 1403 E. Jackson Avenue

Joshua Turner requested a Certificate of Appropriateness to install a business sign for his law office in the front yard of a structure (a home now functioning as a business office) at 1403 E. Jackson. The structure is contributing to the historic district, built ca. 1845, in the Gothic Revival style. A photo of the proposed sign and pine post for mounting is attached. Mr. Turner stated in his application that it is made of reclaimed wood (from a tree on the University campus) and measures 42"x24" with jagged edges. He proposed to have it mounted on the pine structure in the photograph, and placed in the yard (perpendicular to the house) at the location where a previous business sign was located.

This case was first scheduled for the July 12 meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission. The recommendation of the Historic Preservation consultant was denial. The consultant's report stated that the sign met required dimensions, but "the building is contributing to the Historic District and the sign is not compatible with the architectural design of the house".

Mr. Turner was not present for that hearing, but sent a friend. The Commissioners had several questions about the sign, but the friend did not know the answers. They deferred consideration and requested that Mr. Turner attend at the next meeting. The case was next scheduled for the August 9 meeting, and the staff once again presented Mr. Turner's request, and he was again not present. As this was the first item on the agenda, the Commission deferred consideration until the end of the agenda in case Mr. Turner was running late, but he did not come in.

After considering the request the Commission denied the sign request by unanimous vote. The basis of the denial was the criteria of Section 54.26 and the Signage section of the Oxford Design Guidelines (page 158). The criteria in Sec. 54.26 of primary concern was the formal, traditional Greek Revival architectural design of the structure in relationship to the casual, painted letters on a wood panel with uneven edges style of the proposed sign. The Commission takes into account the structure, the materials to be used, and the relationship between a structure and a proposed sign. The Design Guidelines state that signs should "relate to the overall design and historic period of the storefront." The storefront in this case is the façade of this former home, now used as offices. The Commissioners felt that a more formal style of sign would be more appropriate. Mr. Turner appealed this decision in a letter received on September 8, 2016.



**Oxford Historic Preservation Commission
August 9, 2016**

COA application: Case #388 (Deferred from July Meeting)

Applicant: Joshua A. Turner

Address: 1403 East Jackson Avenue

COA Request: Business sign

COA History: #155 – October 2011 – Sign approval
#147 – August 2011 – Exterior Lighting

Staff Comments: Josh Turner proposes to install a business sign for his law office in the front yard of this structure at 1403 E. Jackson. The structure is contributing, built ca. 1845, in the Gothic Revival style. The entry has a pedimented portico supported by Doric box columns.

The proposed sign is a 42"x28" wood, with irregular edges. It is to be mounted on a pine structure, and placed in the yard.

Consultant Comments: See Attached



A2H # 15360

August 1, 2016

Meeting Date: August 9, 2016

OHPC Case #388

COA for Joshua A. Turner

Property Address: 1403 East Jackson Ave

A2H PLLC Comments:

1. Addition of a business sign: sign meets dimension requirements but the building is contributing to the Historic District and the sign is not compatible with the Architectural design of the house.

Historic Preservation Ordinance references: Sec. 54-26. (1-3)

Design Guideline references:
Section 15 – Signage

A2H, PLLC

Debbie Wilbanks Cherry, AIA, NCARB
Senior Associate Principal

Marissa Nowlin
Designer, Historic Preservationist

OXFORD HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS APPLICATION
107 Courthouse Square, Oxford, MS 38655

RECEIVED

JUN 15 2016

Per Jm

I. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

Name of Applicant: Joshua A. Turner, Attorney at Law P.A. Phone: 662-801-3838
Applicant and/or Designated Agents email address: oxfordlawyer@gmail.com
Mailing Address: P.O. BOX 2448, Oxford, MS 38655
Applicant's Relationship to Property: Owner Architect Contractor Rent
Name/Address of Owner: 1403 East Jackson Avenue, Oxford, MS 38655
Name/Address of Architect: _____
Name/Address of Contractor: _____

II. FEE SCHEDULE: Fees shall be submitted with an application for Certificate of Appropriateness and are due 21 days before regularly scheduled Commission meetings.

Minor alterations of less than \$10,000.00 in total alteration costs..... \$25.00
Major alterations of more than \$10,000.00 in total alteration costs..... \$100.00
Demolition/removal of structure..... \$75.00
New Construction..... \$200.00
Preliminary Conference..... No Charge

WORK PERFORMED IN THE ABSENCE OF A CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS WILL RESULT IN THE DOUBLING OF FEES OUTLINED ABOVE.

III. PROPOSED WORK: (Please continue on a separate sheet of paper if necessary)

Address of Property Subject to Application: 1403 East Jackson Avenue, Oxford, MS 38655
Please provide a written description and photographs of each existing condition and each proposed modification. Plans and/or drawings of proposed work MUST accompany this application when filed. If request is for a demolition permit, indicate if the site is to remain vacant.

1. Adding a sign for my business. A picture is enclosed

2.

It is warranted in good faith that the statements above and on attached page(s) are true and correct. I understand that, if this application is approved, it becomes a part of the Certificate of Appropriateness and that I have received approval ONLY for the work specified herein, subject to any conditions or modification imposed by the Commission. I acknowledge that if the owner, contractor, or any subcontractor(s) constructs, alters, relocates, or demolishes any resource in violation of the City of Oxford Preservation Ordinance, it shall be required to restore the resource to its appearance or setting prior to the violation and that the City of Oxford may bring forth civil and/or criminal prosecution and penalties for such violation.

I understand that no changes may be made to the approved drawings/plans or Certificate of Appropriateness application without prior approval from the Oxford Historic Preservation Commission and if such violation is found civil and/or criminal penalties may be brought forth for such violations.

I understand that a **CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS IS A PRE-REQUISITE TO OBTAINING A BUILDING PERMIT AND NO WORK MAY BEGIN UNTIL A BUILDING PERMIT IS OBTAINED.**

Applicant must sign: [Signature] Date: 6/15/16

State of Mississippi
 Department of Archives and History
 P.O. Box 571
 Jackson, MS 39205

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

| | | |
|--|--------------------------|--|
| 1.a. Property Name, Historic | | 14. MDAH Inventory Code 134 |
| 1.b. Property Name, Common | | 15. County Lafayette |
| 2. Property Address 1403 Jackson Avenue | | 16. City Oxford |
| 3. Legal Description 86R:127C | | 20. USGS Quad Map |
| 19. Ownership private | 22. Condition fair | 21. UTM Reference |
| 4. Former/Historic Uses residence | 5. Present Use office | 24. Principal Materials timber frame |
| 6 & 7. Significant persons, events, themes, including dates of association | | |
| 8. Date of Construction ca. 1850 | 9. Historic Changes | 23. Post Historic Changes |
| 10. Architect | 11. Builder/Contractor | 25. Architectural Style Greek Revival |

13. Outbuildings or Secondary Features (use sep. form if important)

12. Brief Description: One-story, five-bay, frame center hall cottage with Greek Revival influence, built ca. 1845. Side gable roof covered with asphalt shingles, with box cornice and frieze. Exterior walls covered with weatherboard siding. Windows are 9/9 double-hung sashes. Partial-width, tetrastyle, pedimented portico supported by Doric box columns. Entrance contains a single-light, two-panel double door set in a semi-circular arched reveal.

30. Historical Information: This structure is shown on the first Sanborn map series of 1885.

31. Historical Contexts:

33. Sources of Information:

32. Additional Remarks or Information:

35. Owner's Name and Address

36. Photographer/Source
John Hopkins

37. Photo Roll/Frame
3559:24

38. Photo Date
January, 2000

39. Form by Hopkins & Associates, Memphis, TN

40. Survey Project Oxford

Date of Form January, 2000

Attach Photograph



MDAH INFORMATION

26. Category

27. Functional Type

28. Registration Status/Dates
NHL
Listed NR
In NR District
Federal DOE
State Landmark
Local Landmark
In Local District
HABS/HAER

29. District Name

Rating C/N C
Inventory #

42. Other HPD Information

43. Evaluation

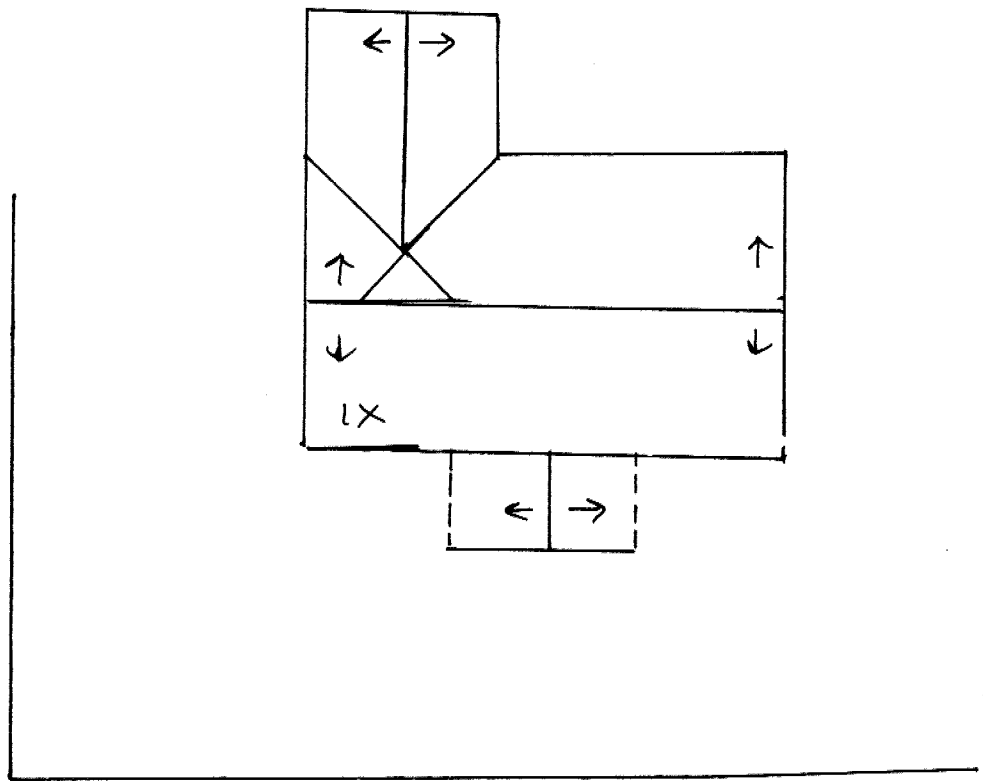
a. Already Listed NR
Individually Eligible
Eligible if Restored
Contribute to District
Apparently Not Eligible
Insufficient Information
Not Extant

b. Area(s) of Significance

c. Evaluated by/date

1403 Jackson

N. 14th



1403 Jackson

↑ N



Joshua A. Turner

Attorney at Law

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