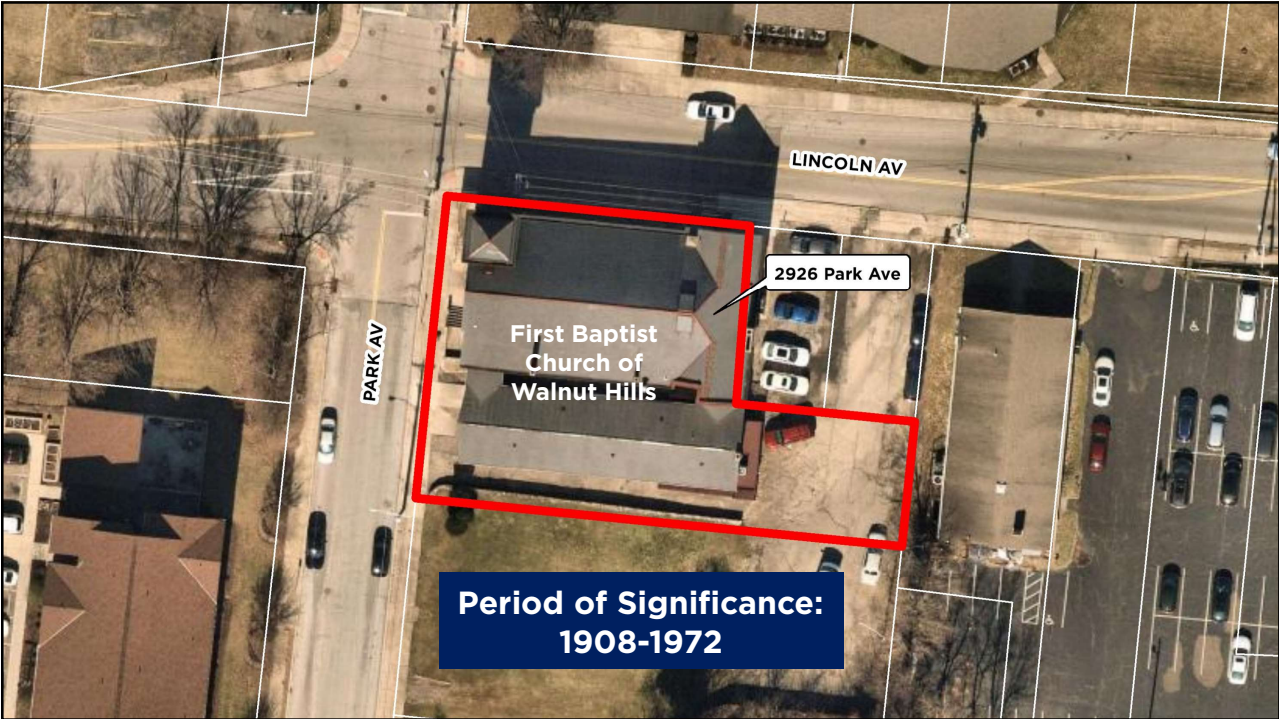




PROPOSED LOCAL LANDMARK DESIGNATION OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF WALNUT HILLS

Equitable Growth & Housing | January 30, 2024

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Historic Significance

A structure may be deemed as having historic significance if it has at least one of the following attributes:

- 1) Association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history;** or
- 2) Association with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- 3) Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, method of construction or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction;** or
- 4) That has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

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Historic Significance

Criteria 1: Historic Events

- One of the first African American congregations in Walnut Hills
- Hosted the 1915 and 1921 convention of the National Association of Teachers in Colored Schools
- Music program, led by Clinton Gibbs, regularly hosted large events
- Education addition provided classrooms for Sunday School and community classes



Criteria 3: Gothic Revival

- Bell tower with pyramidal roof
- Arched stained glass windows
- Raised stone foundation
- Split entry staircase



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Public Comment and Notification

Joint Virtual Public Staff Conference – October 10, 2023

- Applicants, City staff, and one member from the public were in attendance
- One phone call in support
- Letter of Support from Walnut Hills Area Council

Historic Conservation Board Public Hearing – October 23, 2023

- Three members of applicant team spoke in support
- No other correspondence
- HCB recommended approval

Consistency with Plans

Walnut Hills Community Plan (1992)

Goal: “Preserve the architectural resources and historic character of the neighborhood”

Strategy: “Use historic conservation legislation as a tool to enhance the historic character of Walnut Hills”

Plan Cincinnati (2012)

Sustain Initiative Area

Goal: “Preserve our natural and built environment”

Recommendation

The City Planning Commission recommends that City Council take the following actions:

- 1. APPROVE** the proposed designation of First Baptist Church of Walnut Hills as a Local Historic Landmark at 2926 Park Avenue in Walnut Hills under criterion 1 and 3 of the Cincinnati Zoning Code; and
- 2. ADOPT** the conservation guidelines.