

**CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION  
LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY**



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**Bill Type and Number:** Ordinance 2022-88

**Introducer/Sponsor(s):** Council President at the request of the Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission

**Date of Introduction:** February 25, 2022

**Committee(s) of Reference:** LUZ

**Date of Analysis:** February 10, 2022

**Type of Action:** Designation of historic landmark; direction to Chief of Legislative Services, Property Appraiser and Zoning Administrator

**Bill Summary:** The bill designates the building at 604 N. Hogan Street (the former Gulf Life Building/First Baptist Church International Ministry Building) as a local historic landmark due to its contribution to the Downtown Jacksonville National Historic District and its satisfaction of 4 of the requisite criteria for historic designation. The bill directs the Chief of Legislative Services to notify the applicant, property owner and Property Appraiser of the designation and have the ordinance recorded in the official records of the county. The Zoning Administrator is directed to enter the historic landmark status in the Zoning Atlas.

**Background Information:** The building at the northwest corner of North Hogan and West Ashley Streets was purchased by from First Baptist Church by EJPC, LLC in early 2020 and the owner is in favor of the designation. The building was designed in 1947 by noted architect A. Eugene Cellar in the Art Moderne style and is one of the best remaining examples of that style in downtown Jacksonville. It served for many years as offices for the Gulf Life Insurance Company before being purchased by First Baptist Church. The Planning and Development Department staff report finds that the building is eligible for historic designation by virtue of meeting 4 criteria: its value as a significant reminder of the cultural, historical, architectural, or archaeological heritage of the city (development of the insurance industry); it is identified as the work of a master builder, designer, or architect whose individual whose work has influenced the development of the City (architect A. Eugene Cellar); it has distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style valuable for the study of a period, method of construction, or use of indigenous materials (one of the few Art Moderne buildings remaining in the city); and its suitability for preservation or restoration.

**Policy Impact Area:** Historic landmark designation

**Fiscal Impact:** None to City

**Analyst:** Clements