

ERECTED IN MEMORY OF MRS. JOHNNIE MAE CHAPPELL

At this location on the evening of March 23, 1964, during a month marked by racial violence in Jacksonville, Mrs. Johnnie Mae Chappell was targeted by four men in a passing vehicle and killed by one of them due to the color of her skin. Her murder went unsolved for months and, when the case was finally prosecuted, the killer was convicted and served just three years of a ten-year sentence for Manslaughter. Johnnie Mae Chappell was a devoted wife to Willie, a dedicated mother of ten, a housecleaner, and a proud resident of Jacksonville's Pickettville neighborhood. This marker serves as a tribute to Johnnie Mae Chappell, whose children were forced to grow up without their mother and whose life was cut short by a racist who did not even know her name when he aimed the gun and pulled the trigger. May this marker preserve Mrs. Chappell's legacy, serve as a reminder of a tragic incident in Jacksonville's past, and stand as an inspiration for a future dedicated to peace, equality, and justice for all residents of our City.