

Historic Preservation Design Review

June 27, 2013

HP-13-12, Downtown Market Wall Mural (City)

I. THE REQUEST

Applicant: City of Sumter (Howie Owens)

Status of the Applicant: Property Owner

Request: Wall mural portraying produce

Location: Downtown Sumter Historic District- 14 E. Liberty St.

II. BACKGROUND

The City of Sumter had a wall mural painted portraying various types of produce to identify and embellish the area where the Downtown Market is held. Although this is not considered a sign, *per se*, it is located on an exterior wall in the downtown historic district and therefore falls under the guidelines of design review. The dimensions of the mural area are +/- 29.5' x 6.5' or approximately 191 SF. The wall surface that the mural was painted on is actually the interior wall of the building that was formerly on this parcel. A protective surface was applied to this interior wall and then the mural was painted on top of this surface.





Above: A closer view of the mural shows its artistic quality and a good representation of the colors used in the design.

III. PROCESS

For the record, there is no specific guidance for wall murals in the *Design Review Guidelines Manual*.

IV. STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff supports efforts to distinguish and add character to the Downtown Historic District as a community asset in the City of Sumter. The design of this mural adds tremendous aesthetic quality to the downtown and helps to promote the downtown market adjacent to it. The addition of high quality artistic works in the downtown enhances the district and staff therefore recommends approval.

V. DRAFT MOTIONS

I recommend approval of the downtown market produce wall mural as contained in HP-13-12.

VI. HISTORIC PRESERVATION DESIGN REVIEW – JUNE 27, 2013

The Sumter Historic Preservation Design Review committee at its meeting on Thursday, June 27, 2013, approved this request as presented.