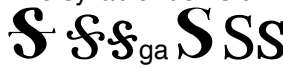


The syllable “de” is difficult to construct. The Cherokee syllabary also has two other S like characters:

  $\text{S}_{ga}$   $\text{SS}_{du}$ . I think it is important to make these as distinct from each other as possible.


  
de  
Cherokee  
(official font)

  
de  
Plantagenet  
Cherokee

  
de  
Agamemnon  
β36

  
de.alt01  
Agamemnon  
β36

  
de.alt02  
Agamemnon  
β36

  
de  
Sequoia's  
model

The model drawn in the document attributed to Sequoiah, the glyph has what appears to be C shape with a horizontal serif on top and a horizontal extender below, with what appears to be a trailing cedilla-like shape attached underneath. The Official font attempts this construction but comes up blobby and indistinct, showing the bottom curve as a separate stroke but losing the horizontal at the bottom of the upper curve. The Plantagenet and my own initial version attempt an S shape with horizontal top serif and a center horizontal bar. These are both highly derivative of the Latin S and neither closely resemble Sequoia's model. My first attempted alternate went for symmetry, becoming similar to a, integral sign with horizontal serifs. While the form is distinct enough to not be mistaken for the other S-like glyphs, it left out the center horizontal bar feature. I think the second alternate is more successful. It preserves the construction of Sequoia's model, while being graphically balanced and departing significantly from the Latin S form. Whether this will be acceptable to those who use the Cherokee language, I do not yet know. When expert commentary comes I will heed their advice.

Jason Pagura  
type designer  
3 Feb, 2010