



## Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission

31 July 1991

CERTIFIED MAIL

Henry and Sandra S. Donaghy  
500 West John Street  
Matthews, North Carolina 28105

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Donaghy:

Enclosed is a copy of the Certified Ordinance designating as a local "Historic Landmark" the *Grier-Furr House* as required by State Law. An oval bronze plaque is provided free by the Historic Landmarks Commission to designated landmarks. Please call the HLC office to arrange pick-up of the plaque.

Any material alteration to a designated historic landmark requires a Certificate of Appropriateness. Please contact the HLC office if you plan to make any changes to parts of the structure and land designated in the ordinance; enclosed is an "Application for a Certificate of Appropriateness" to show you the procedures to follow. *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation with Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings* are used to determine the appropriateness of changes; an order form is enclosed. If you have any questions, please contact our office.

Sincerely,

Nora M. Black  
Architectural/Historical Consultant

Enclosures

c: Mr. J. Andrew Scales, HLC Chairman  
Dr. Dan L. Morrill, HLC Consulting Director  
Mr. R. Patrick Snoddy, Trustee for Citicorp Mortgage, Inc.,  
670 Mason Ridge Center Drive, St. Louis, Missouri 63141

ORDINANCE NUMBER 678

TOWN OF MATTHEWS, NORTH CAROLINA

Board Meeting of July 1, 1991

AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING AS AN HISTORIC LANDMARK THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS THE "GRIER-FURR HOUSE" TO INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING: BOTH THE INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR OF THE HOUSE AND THE PARCEL OF LAND UPON WHICH IT IS LOCATED, LISTED UNDER TAX PARCEL NUMBER 193-251-18. THE PROPERTY, OWNED BY HENRY AND SANDRA S. DONAGHY, IS LOCATED AT 500 WEST JOHN STREET, MATTHEWS, MECKLENBURG COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA.

WHEREAS, all of the prerequisites to the adoption of this ordinance prescribed in Chapter 160A, Article 19, as amended, of the General Statutes of North Carolina have been met; and

WHEREAS, the Members of Board of Commissioners of the Town of Matthews, North Carolina, have taken into full consideration all statements and information presented at a joint public hearing held with the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission on the 1st day of July, 1991, on the question of designating a property known as the "Grier-Furr House" as a historic landmark; and

WHEREAS, the "Grier-Furr House" was built between 1877 and 1888; and

WHEREAS, Julius S. Grier was a prominent farmer and furnishing merchant in the Matthews area; and

WHEREAS, Henry Baxter Furr, owner of the property from 1917 until his death in 1953, was a Matthews entrepreneur of local notoriety; and

WHEREAS, the "Grier-Furr House" is architecturally significant for exemplifying the vernacular interpretation of Folk Victorian housing with Greek Revival detailing; and

WHEREAS, the largely intact interior of the Grier-Furr House shows the pattern of living in the late 19th century; and

Please return to:  
Historic Landmarks Com.  
1225 South Caldwell St  
Box 9  
Charlotte, NC 28203

ORDINANCE -- Grier-Furr House

WHEREAS, the "Grier-Furr House" illustrates an important technological advance for housing - the advance from heating with the seven fireplaces to the use of stoves; and

WHEREAS, the "Grier-Furr House" provides a timeless landmark in the changing streetscape of Matthews; and

WHEREAS, the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission has jurisdiction over the interior because written consent for interior review has been given by the owners; and

WHEREAS, the current owners, Henry and Sandra S. Donaghy, have faithfully maintained the "Grier-Furr House" and have thereby made a substantial contribution to the cultural richness of Matthews and Mecklenburg County; and

WHEREAS, the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission has demonstrated that the property known as the "Grier-Furr House" possesses a structure having integrity of design, setting, workmanship, materials, and/or association; and

WHEREAS, the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission has demonstrated that the property known as the "Grier-Furr House" possesses special significance in terms of its history, architecture, and/or cultural importance; and

WHEREAS, the property known as the "Grier-Furr House" is owned by Henry and Sandra S. Donaghy,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Members of the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Matthews, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina:

1. That the property known as the "Grier-Furr House" (including the interior and exterior of the house and the parcel of land upon which it is located, listed under Tax Parcel Number 193-251-18 is hereby designated as historic landmark pursuant to Chapter 160A, Article 19, as amended, of the General Statutes of North Carolina. The location of said landmark is noted as being situated at 500 West John Street in Matthews, Mecklenburg County, N. C.

ORDINANCE -- Grier-Furr House

2. That said designated landmark may be materially altered, restored, moved or demolished only following the issuance of a Certificate of Appropriateness by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission. An application for a Certificate of Appropriateness authorizing the demolition of said landmark may not be denied. However, the effective date of such a Certificate may be delayed in accordance with Chapter 160A, Article 19, and amendments thereto, and hereinafter adopted.

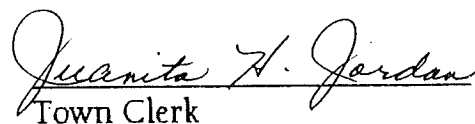
3. That nothing in this ordinance shall be construed to prevent or delay ordinary maintenance or repair of any architectural feature in or on said landmark that does not involve a change of design, material, or outer appearance thereof, nor to prevent or delay the construction, reconstruction, alteration, restoration, demolition or removal of any such feature when a building inspector or similar official certifies to the Commission that such action is required for the public safety because of an unsafe condition. Nothing herein shall be construed to prevent the landmark owners from making any use of this landmark not prohibited by other statutes, ordinances, or regulations.

4. That a suitable sign may be posted indicating that said property has been designated as historic landmark and containing any other appropriate information. If the owner consents, the sign may be placed on said landmark.

5. That the owners and occupants of the landmark known as the "Grier-Furr House" be given notice of this ordinance as required by applicable law and that copies of this ordinance be filed and indexed in the offices of the Town Clerk, Building Standards Department, Mecklenburg County Register of Deeds, and the Tax Supervisor, as required by applicable law.

6. That which is designated as historic landmark shall be subject to Chapter 160A, Article 19, and any amendments to it and any amendments hereinafter adopted.

Adopted the 1st day of July 1991 by the Members of Board of Commissioners of the Town of Matthews, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.

  
Town Clerk



Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission

PERMISSION OF OWNERS  
FOR  
INTERIOR DESIGN REVIEW

Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 160A-400.9(b),  
we, HENRY DONAGHY and SANDRA S. DONAGHY,  
owners of record, do hereby request designation of interior spaces as such  
spaces have been deemed to have architectural, cultural, or historical  
significance. We give permission to the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic  
Landmarks Commission to exercise jurisdiction for design review over all  
interior designated portions of the

Grier-Furr House

located at 500 West John Street, Matthews, North Carolina.

Signature: *Henry Donaghy*  
(Owner)

Name (Print): Henry Donaghy

Date: 3-21-91

Signature: *Sandra S. Donaghy*  
(Owner)

Name (Print): Sandra S. Donaghy

Date: 3-21-91

Please return Historic Landmarks Comm.  
1225 South Caldwell St.  
Box 9  
Charlotte, NC 28203