

FOR REGISTRATION JUDITH P. GIBSON  
REGISTER OF DEEDS  
MECKLENBURG COUNTY, NC  
2005 DEC 20 03:17 PM  
DK: 19785 PG: 670-675 FEE \$0.00  
INSTRUMENT # 2005253913



2005253913

Ordinance - Elizabeth Lawrence House and Garden

ORDINANCE NO. 3172-X

**Ordinance designating as a Historic Landmark a property known as the "Elizabeth Lawrence House and Garden" (listed under Tax Parcel Number 15114210 as of September 1, 2005, and including the interior and the exterior of the house, the features and landscape of the garden, and the parcel of land listed under Tax Parcel Number 15114210 in the Mecklenburg County Tax Office, Charlotte, North Carolina as of September 1, 2005). The property is owned by Mary Lindeman Wilson and is located at 348 Ridgewood Ave. in the City of Charlotte, 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 the City Council of Charlotte, 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 19th day of December, 2005, on the question of designating a property known as the Elizabeth Lawrence House and Garden as a historic landmark; and

Return to: *Charlotte-Mecklenburg  
Historic Landmarks Commission  
2100 Randolph Rd,  
Charlotte, NC 28207*

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WHEREAS, Elizabeth Lawrence (1904-1985) is considered to have been among the most influential and most widely read American garden writers of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, writing several books considered to be classics, including: *A Southern Garden* (1942), *The Little Bulbs: A Tale of Two Gardens* (1957), and *Gardens in Winter* (1971).

WHEREAS, the Elizabeth Lawrence House and Garden, constructed in 1948-1949, was the home of Elizabeth Lawrence from 1949 to 1984, and is the single surviving property in North Carolina that holds strong associations with the distinguished career of the celebrated garden writer and plantswoman.; and

WHEREAS, the Elizabeth Lawrence Garden is the most intact and best preserved work of Miss Lawrence, who was the first woman to earn a degree in landscape architecture from present-day North Carolina State University; and

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

WHEREAS, the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission has jurisdiction over portions of the property known as the Elizabeth Lawrence House and Garden, because consent for interior design review has been given by the Owner; and

WHEREAS, the property known as the Elizabeth Lawrence House and Garden is owned by Mary Lindeman Wilson.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the members of the City Council of Charlotte, North Carolina:

Ordinance - Elizabeth Lawrence House and Garden

1. That the property known as the "Elizabeth Lawrence House and Garden" (listed under Tax Parcel Number 15114210 as of September 1, 2005, and including the interior and the exterior of the house, the features and landscape of the garden, and the parcel of land listed under Tax Parcel Number 15114210 in the Mecklenburg County Tax Office, Charlotte, North Carolina as of September 1, 2005) is hereby designated as a 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 348 Ridgewood Avenue in the City of Charlotte, North Carolina. Exterior and interior features are more completely described in the *Survey and Research Report on the Elizabeth Lawrence House and Garden (2005)*.

2. That said exterior and interior are more specifically defined as the historic and structural fabric, especially including all original exterior and interior architectural features and the original contours of landscaping.

3. That said designated historic landmark may be materially altered, restored, moved or demolished only following 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, except if such landmark is judged to be of State-wide significance by duly authorized officials of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History. However, the effective date of such Certificate may be delayed in accordance with Chapter 160A, Article 19, and amendments thereto, and hereinafter adopted.

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4. 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 in 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 owner of the historic landmark from making any use of the historic landmark not prohibited by other statutes, ordinances or regulations. Owners of locally designated historic landmarks are expected to be familiar with and to follow *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings*, the guidelines used by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission to evaluate proposed alterations or additions.

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

6. That the owners of the historic landmark known as the Elizabeth Lawrence House and Garden 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 City Clerk, Building Standards Department, Mecklenburg County Register of Deeds, and the Tax Supervisor, as required by applicable law.

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7. That which is designated as a historic landmark shall be subject to Chapter 160A, Article 19, of the General Statutes of North Carolina as amended, and any amendments to it and any amendments hereinafter adopted.

Adopted the 19<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2005, by the members of the City Council of the City of Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina:

  
Deputy Clerk to City Council

Approved as to form:

  
Assistant City Attorney

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Stephanie C. Kelly, Deputy City Clerk of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of an Ordinance adopted by the City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, in regular session convened on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2005, the reference having been made in Minute Book 123, and recorded in full in Ordinance Book 53, Page(s) 79-83.

WITNESS my hand and the corporate seal of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, this the 20<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2005.



  
Stephanie C. Kelly, CMC, Deputy City Clerk



JUDITH A. GIBSON  
REGISTER OF DEEDS, MECKLENBURG  
COUNTY & COURTS OFFICE BUILDING  
720 EAST FOURTH STREET  
CHARLOTTE, NC 28202

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Filed For Registration: 12/20/2005 03:17 PM  
Book: RE 19785 Page: 670-675  
Document No.: 2005253913  
ORD 6 PGS  
Recorder: GRACE TUCKER



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