

Ordinance designating as a Historic Landmark a property known as the “Mecklenburg County Courthouse” (listed under Tax Parcel Number 125-032-01 as of August 20, 2001, and including the entire exterior of the building and the grounds between the north façade of the building and the right-of-way of East Trade Street, listed under Tax Parcel Number 125-032-01 in the Mecklenburg County Tax Office, Charlotte, North Carolina, as of August 20, 2001). The property is owned by Mecklenburg County and is located at 700 East Trade Street in the City of Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.

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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 17th day of December, 2001, on the question of designating a property known as the Mecklenburg County Courthouse as a historic landmark; and

WHEREAS, the Mecklenburg County Courthouse is a representation of Charlotte-Mecklenburg’s economic growth, and the development of Charlotte as a regional textile hub and the largest city in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, the Mecklenburg County Courthouse, erected in 1928 after a fierce battle between the city of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, is a tangible reminder of the separation between the urban community in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County’s surrounding rural farming communities during the early twentieth century; and

WHEREAS, the Mecklenburg County Courthouse was designed by noted Charlotte architect Louis H. Asbury; and

WHEREAS, the Neoclassical design of the Mecklenburg County Courthouse, a popular choice for public buildings during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, served as a fitting symbol of government authority, civic pride and cultural progress in center city Charlotte; and

WHEREAS, The Mecklenburg County Courthouse, along with its neighbor, C. C. Hook's City Hall building, is among the last of center city Charlotte's historic public buildings and retains almost all of its original exterior design features.

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

WHEREAS, the property known as the Mecklenburg County Courthouse is owned by Mecklenburg County.

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

1. That the property known as the "Mecklenburg County Courthouse" (including the entire exterior of the building and the grounds between the north façade of the building and the right-of-way of East Trade Street, listed under Tax Parcel Number 125-032-01 in the Mecklenburg County Tax Office, Charlotte, North Carolina, as of August 20, 2001) 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 700 East Trade Street in the City of Charlotte, Mecklenburg

County, North Carolina. The exterior is more completely described in the *Survey and Research Report on the Mecklenburg County Courthouse* (March 2001).

2. That said exterior is more specifically defined as the historic and structural fabric, especially including all original exterior 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.

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.

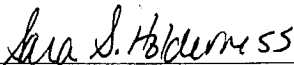
5. That a suitable sign may be posted indicating that said property has been designated as a historic landmark and containing any other appropriate information. If the owner consents, the sign may be placed on said historic landmark.

6. That the owners of the historic landmark known as the Mecklenburg County Courthouse 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.

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 17<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2001, by the members of the City Council of the City of Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.

Approved as to form:

  
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City Attorney

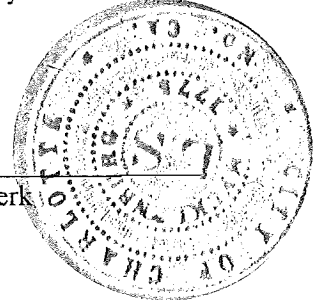
CERTIFICATION

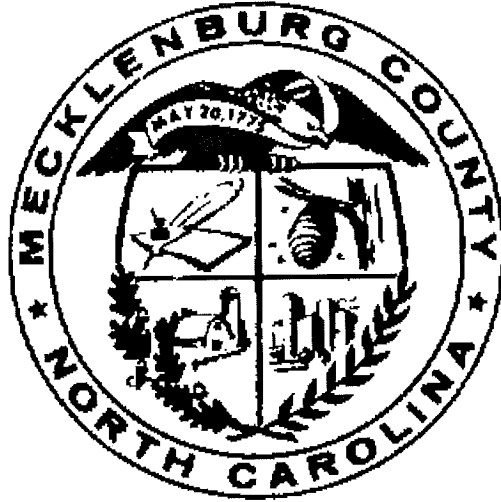
I, Nancy S. Gilbert, Deputy City Clerk of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of an Ordinance adopted by the City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, in regular session convened on the 17th day of December, 2001, the reference having been made in Minute Book 117, and recorded in full in Ordinance Book 51, Page(s) 407-411.

WITNESS my hand and the corporate seal of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, this the 18<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2001.

*Nancy S. Gilbert*

Nancy S. Gilbert, CMC, Deputy City Clerk





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

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Recorder: EMEM DREHER



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