Ordinance designating as a Historic Landmark a property known as the "Torrence-Lytle School" (listed under Tax Parcel Number 01909304 in the Mecklenburg County Tax Office, Charlotte, North Carolina as of June 1, 2005, and including the interior and exterior of the 1937 school building and the attached north and south wings as shown on Exhibit "A" and a portion of the land associated with Tax Parcel Number 01909304 as shown on Exhibit "A".) The property is owned by Mecklenburg County, and is located at 302 Holbrooks Road in 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 the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Huntersville, 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 7th day of November, 2005, on the question of designating a property known as the Torrence-Lytle School as a historic landmark; and
Ordinance – Torrence-Lytle School

WHEREAS, the Torrence-Lytle School represented the first opportunity for most African-American residents of North Mecklenburg County to attend a public high school; and

WHEREAS, the Torrence-Lytle School is one of the older remaining African-American school buildings in Mecklenburg County and is, therefore, important in understanding the broad patterns of the county’s history; and

WHEREAS, the Torrence-Lytle is representative of a movement in the 1930’s to bring high school education to rural blacks in Mecklenburg County; and

WHEREAS, the Torrence-Lytle is significant as an important example of early 20th-century school building architecture; and

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

WHEREAS, the property known as the Torrence-Lytle School is owned by Mecklenburg County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the members of the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Huntersville, North Carolina:

1. That the property known as the "Torrence-Lytle School" (listed under Tax Parcel Number 01909304 in the Mecklenburg County Tax Office, Charlotte, North Carolina as of June 1, 2005, and including the interior and exterior of the 1937 school building and the attached north and south wings as shown on Exhibit "A" and a portion
Ordinance – Torrence-Lytte School

of the land associated with Tax Parcel Number 01909304 as shown on Exhibit “A”.) 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 302 Holbrooks Road, Huntersville, North Carolina. Features are more completely described in the “Survey and Research Report on the Torrence-Lytte School” (2004).

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, or restored, 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 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
Ordinance - Torrence-Lyte School

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 this 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 and occupants of the historic landmark known as the Torrence-Lyte School 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.

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.
Ordinance – Torrence-Lytle School

Adopted the 21st day of November, 2005, by the members of the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Huntersville, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.

[Signature]
Clerk to Board of Commissioners

Approved as to form:

[Signature]
Town Attorney
1937 school building and attached wings are identified with hatching.