Ordinance 2020-09
Helper-Walley House Landmark Designation

TOWN OF DAVIDSON BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS (the “Town Board”) adopts the following ordinance designating as an Historic Landmark a property known as the “Helper-Walley House” (listed under Tax Parcel Number 00326313 and including the exterior of the house, and the land listed under Tax Parcel Number 00326313 in the Mecklenburg County Tax Office, Charlotte, North Carolina as of September 1, 2020). The property is owned by Betty C. Walley and Richard D. Walley, and is located at 603 North Main Street in Davidson, 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 Town Board of Davidson, North Carolina, have taken into full consideration all statements and information presented at a public hearing held on the 10th day of November 2020, on the question of designating a property known as the Helper-Walley House as an historic landmark; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission have taken into full consideration all statements and information presented at a public hearing held on the 9th day of November 2020, on the question of designating a property known as the Helper-Walley House as an historic landmark; and

WHEREAS, the Helper-Walley House is one of the few remaining hall-and-parlor houses in the town of Davidson, and is one of the few pre-1900 residential structures remaining on historic North Main Street; and

WHEREAS, the Helper-Walley House is also one of the best extant early examples in Mecklenburg County of the transitional nature of architecture. The original ca. 1896 hall-and-parlor form of the Helper-Walley House was retained while the Craftsman features were applied to the house during a remodel in the 1920s, making clear the two styles of architecture. The Helper-Walley House is an important example of the fact that architectural style is not static; and
WHEREAS, based on the additional information further detailed in the Designation Report on the Helper-Walley House (August 1, 2019), all of which is incorporated herein by reference, the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission has demonstrated that the property known as the Helper-Walley House possesses special significance in terms of its history, architecture, and/or cultural importance; and

WHEREAS, the property known as the Helper-Walley House is owned by Betty C. Walley and Richard D. Walley.

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

1. That the property known as the “Helper-Walley House” (listed under Tax Parcel Number 00326313 and including the exterior of the house, and the land listed under Tax Parcel Number 00326313 in the Mecklenburg County Tax Office, Charlotte, North Carolina as of September 1, 2020) 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 603 North Main Street in Davidson, North Carolina. Exterior features are more completely described in the Designation Report on the Helper-Walley House (August 1, 2019).

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

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 on the 8th day of December 2020 by the members of the Town Board of Davidson, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.

Attest:

Elizabeth K. Shores
Town Clerk

Stephen P. Gambill
Interim Town Attorney