Ordinance No. 2467-X

Ordinance designating as a Historic Landmark a property known as the "Robert and Elizabeth Lassiter House" (listed under Tax Parcel number 155-132-11 as of September 1, 2003, and including the interior and the exterior of the house, and the parcel of land listed under Tax Parcel Number 155-132-11 in the Mecklenburg County Tax Office, Charlotte, North Carolina as of September 1, 2003). The property is owned by Elizabeth F. Lassiter Family LP and is located at 726 Hempstead Place in the City of Charlotte, 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 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 15th day of December, 2003, on the question of designating a property known as the Robert and Elizabeth Lassiter House as a historic landmark; and

WHEREAS, the Robert and Elizabeth Lassiter House is significant as the oldest identified surviving Modernist Style home in Charlotte; and

WHEREAS, the Robert and Elizabeth Lassiter House is one of the earliest examples of the work of A.G. Odell Jr., one of the most important and prolific North Carolina architects of the 20th century; and

WHEREAS, the Robert and Elizabeth Lassiter House is extremely rare in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County as a fully realized example of Modernist Style residential architecture; and
WHEREAS, the Robert and Elizabeth Lassiter House is important as an early example of the movement after World War Two to apply technology to residential architecture; and

WHEREAS, the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission has demonstrated that the property known as Robert and Elizabeth Lassiter House 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 Robert and Elizabeth Lassiter House, because consent for interior design review has been given by the Owner; and

WHEREAS, the property known as the Robert and Elizabeth Lassiter House is owned by Elizabeth F. Lassiter Family LP.

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

1. That the property known as the "Robert and Elizabeth Lassiter House" (listed under Tax Parcel number 155-132-11 as of September 1, 2003, and including the interior and the exterior of the house, and the parcel of land listed under Tax Parcel Number 155-132-11 in the Mecklenburg County Tax Office, Charlotte, North Carolina as of September 1, 2003) 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 726 Hempstead Place in the City of Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina. Exterior and interior features are more completely described in the *Survey and Research Report on the Robert and Elizabeth Lassiter House* (September 2003).
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.

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 “Robert and Elizabeth Lassiter 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 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 15th day of December, 2003, by the members of the City Council of the City of Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.

[Signature]
Clerk to City Council

Approved as to form.

[Signature]
City Attorney
December 15, 2003
Ordinance Book 52, Page 615

CERTIFICATION

I, Brenda R. Freeze, 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 15th day of December, 2003, the reference having been made in Minute Book 120, and recorded in full in Ordinance Book 52, Page(s) 611-615.

WITNESS my hand and the corporate seal of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, this the 17th day of December, 2003.

[Signature]
Brenda R. Freeze, CMC, City Clerk