

Arthur Smith Studios

5457 Monroe Road, Charlotte, NC



The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission is recommending that the “Arthur Smith Studios” be designated as a historic landmark. The designation would include the exterior of the building and the land associated with the studio. The Arthur Smith Studios is significant for its association with Arthur Smith, a noted musician, songwriter, and entertainer. Smith, who lived in Charlotte from 1943 until his death in 2014, was arguably Charlotte’s the most successful, important, and influential musician. The Arthur Smith Studios is also significant for its association with many popular recording artists including Roy Orbison, Johnny Cash (a personal friend of Smith), Chet Atkins, Pat Boone, and James Brown, who in 1965 recorded his seminal hit “Papa’s Got a Brand New Bag” at the studio. The Arthur Smith Studios is an important artifact of the post-World War II music business in Charlotte. The Mecklenburg County Tax office has appraised the property at \$299,700. If the property is designated the potential amount of deferrable taxes on the property would be \$344.74 for City of Charlotte taxes, and \$599.96 for Mecklenburg County taxes.

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