

Ordinance – Kelly M. and Margaret G. A. Alexander House

Ordinance designating as a Historic Landmark a property known as the “Kelly M. and Margaret G. A. Alexander House” (listed under Tax Parcel Number 06917103 and including the interior and exterior of the house and the land listed under Tax Parcel Number 06917103 in the Mecklenburg County Tax Office, Charlotte, North Carolina as of August 1, 2025). The property is located at 2128 Senior Drive in Charlotte, North Carolina, and is owned by the Helen and Alfred Alexander Living Trust.

WHEREAS, all of the prerequisites to the adoption of this ordinance prescribed in Chapter 160D, Article 9, 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 public hearing held on the 24th day of November, 2025, on the question of designating a property known as the Kelly M. and Margaret G. A. Alexander House as a 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 10th day of November, 2025, on the question of designating a property known as the Kelly M. and Margaret G. A. Alexander House as a historic landmark; and

WHEREAS, the Kelly M. and Margaret G. A. Alexander House (circa 1962) is historically significant as the home of renowned civil rights leader Kelly Miller Alexander, Sr., whom one journalist wrote “may have been Charlotte’s most important black leader”; and

WHEREAS, Alexander – a second-generation funeral director and president of what is believed to be Mecklenburg County’s oldest African American owned and managed business – is best remembered for his longstanding involvement with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), including a thirty-six-year tenure as President of the North Carolina State Conference of the NAACP Branches, a thirty-five-year tenure as a member of the National NAACP Board of Directors, and service as chair of that National Board; and

WHEREAS, through Alexander’s leadership, the North Carolina State Conference became the NAACP’s largest state conference in the United States; and

WHEREAS, his wife Margaret Gilreece Alexander Alexander, a notable Charlottean in her own right, partnered with her husband in civil rights advocacy, supporting his professional and civic activities as his executive secretary for some thirty-one years while raising their two sons and devoting more than 50 years to community service; and

WHEREAS, the Kelly M. and Margaret G. A. Alexander House was also the childhood home of Kelly and Margaret Alexander’s two sons, both of whom continued their parents’ NAACP service: Kelly, Jr., who also served in the North

Carolina General Assembly and resided in the family home for much of his adult life; and Alfred, who has served as President of the family's business for more than forty years; and

WHEREAS, the Kelly M. and Margaret G. A. Alexander House was the site of one of four racially motivated bombings on November 22, 1965, that unsuccessfully targeted the families of Kelly, Sr. and three other prominent Charlotte civil rights leaders, acts of domestic terrorism that garnered significant national attention; and

WHEREAS, the mid-century modern Kelly M. and Margaret G. A. Alexander is also architecturally significant as an excellent example of the ranch-style homes built between 1955 and 1962 as part of Charlotte's University Park community for middle-class Black professionals; and

WHEREAS, the land upon which the Kelly M. and Margaret G. A. Alexander House is situated – as identified on the map of said property attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference – appropriately reflects and preserves the historic location and setting of the structure, and therefore possesses its own special historical significance independent of the structure; and

WHEREAS, based on the additional information further detailed in the *Local Landmark Designation Report for the Kelly M. and Margaret G. A. Alexander House* (August 2025), all of which is incorporated herein by reference, the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission has demonstrated that the property known as the Kelly M. and Margaret G. A. Alexander 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 Kelly M. and Margaret G. A. Alexander House, because consent for interior design review of the building has been given by the owner(s), a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit B; and

WHEREAS, the property known as the Kelly M. and Margaret G. A. Alexander House is owned by the Helen and Alfred Alexander Living Trust.

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

1. That the property known as the “Kelly M. and Margaret G. A. Alexander House” (listed under Tax Parcel Number 06917103 and including the interior and exterior of the house and the land listed under Tax Parcel Number 06917103 in the Mecklenburg County Tax Office, Charlotte, North Carolina as of August 1, 2025) is hereby designated as a historic landmark pursuant to Chapter 160D, Article 9, as amended, of the General Statutes of North Carolina. The location of said landmark is noted as being situated at 2128 Senior Drive in Charlotte, North Carolina. Interior and exterior features are more completely described in the *Local Landmark Designation Report for the Kelly M. and Margaret G. A. Alexander House* (August 2025).

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

features, 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 Statewide 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 160D, Article 9, of the General Statutes of North Carolina as amended.

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 owner(s) of the historic landmark known as the Kelly M. and Margaret G. A. Alexander 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 160D, Article 9, of the General Statutes of North Carolina as amended, and any amendments to it and any amendments hereinafter adopted.

Adopted the ____ day of _____, 2025, by the members of the City Council of the City of Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.

Clerk to City Council

Approved as to form:

Senior Assistant City Attorney

Attachments:

Exhibit A: Polaris Map of Kelly & Margaret Alexander House, 2128 Senior Drive, Charlotte, PIN 06917103

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Exhibit B: Executed Permission of the Owners for Interior Design Review, dated October 16, 2025.

Polaris Map – Mecklenburg County, North Carolina

Exhibit A - Kelly & Margaret Alexander House, 2128 Senior Dr., Charlotte, PIN 06917103

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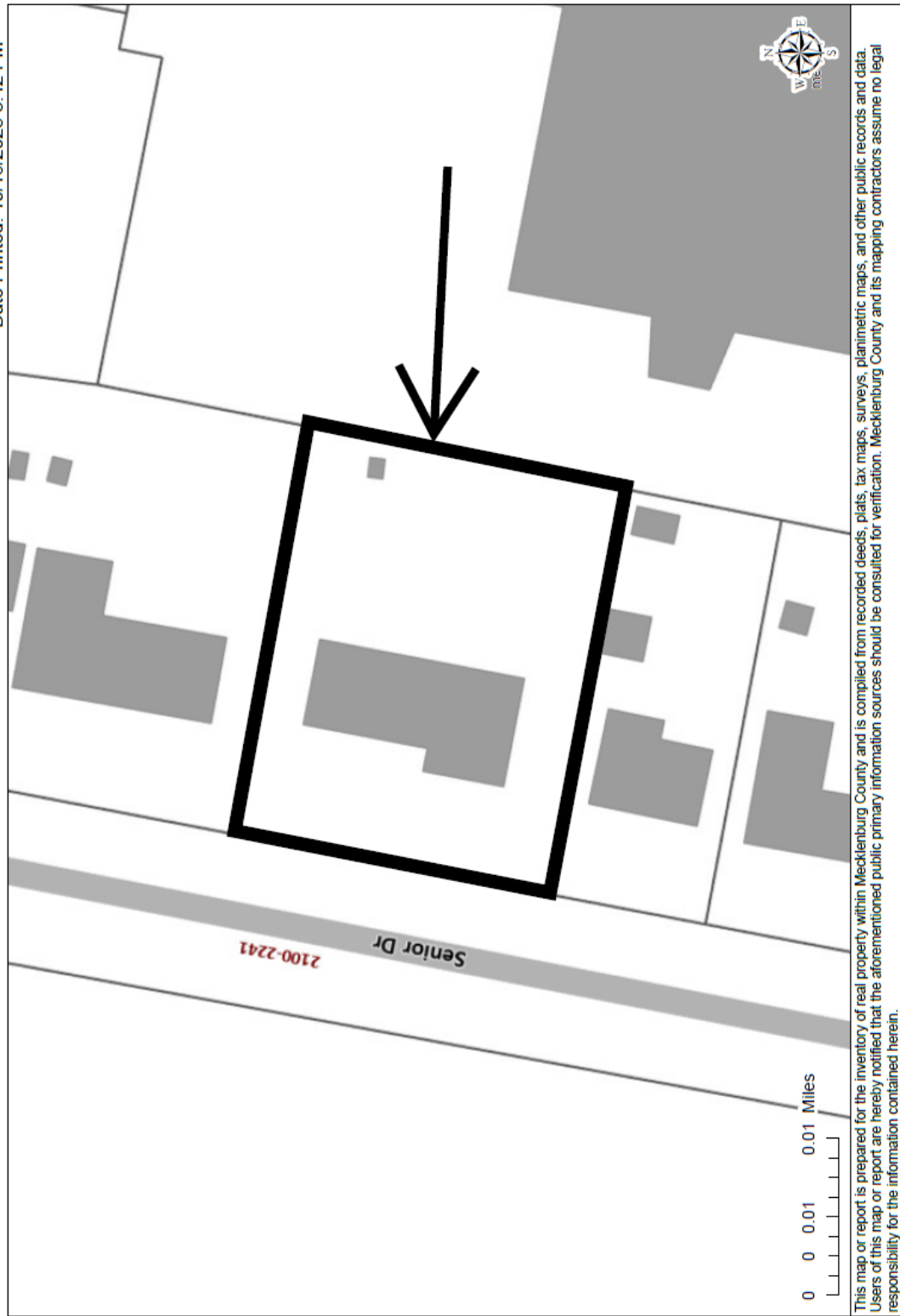


Exhibit B: Executed Permission of the Owner

PERMISSION OF OWNERS FOR INTERIOR DESIGN REVIEW

(Please complete this portion of the application only if interior is included in the designation.)

Pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 160D-947(b) on historic landmarks, we,

Alfred and Helen Alexander,

owners of record, do hereby request designation of interior spaces as such spaces have been deemed to have architectural, artistic, cultural, or historical significance. We understand that changes to designated portions of the property are subject to design review for compliance with The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings. We give permission to the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission to exercise jurisdiction for design review over all interior designated portions of the following building or buildings located at:

Name of Historic Landmark: Kelly Alexander, Sr. Family Home

Street Address of Building or Buildings: 2128 Senior Drive

City, State, and Zip: Charlotte, N.C. 28216

Tax Parcel Number or Numbers: 06917103

Signature Alfred L. Alexander
Owner

Name (Print) ALFRED L. ALEXANDER

Date 10-16-25

Signature Helen A. Alexander
Owner

Name (Print) Helen A. Alexander

Date 10-16-25