

**Ordinance designating as a Historic Landmark a property known as the “Foard House” (listed under Tax Parcel Number 10717219 and including the interior and exterior of the house and the land listed under Tax Parcel Number 10717219 in the Mecklenburg County Tax Office, Charlotte, North Carolina as of March 1, 2026). The property is located at 7410 Shady Lane in Charlotte, North Carolina, and is owned by Virginia L. Walker.**

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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 22nd day of June, 2026, on the question of designating a property known as the Foard 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 8th day of June, 2026, on the question of designating a property known as the Foard House as a historic landmark; and

WHEREAS, the Foard House (circa 1968) is historically and architecturally significant as a striking example of the Contemporary Modernist style notable for its adherence to the tenets of “high style” modernist architecture; and

WHEREAS, the Foard House’s flat-roof design, exterior and interior uses of modern materials, and efficient overall design, as well as the integration of the structure into the landscape, make the Foard House a unique and important artifact of post-World War II architecture in Charlotte; and

WHEREAS, the Foard House is an exceptional artifact of the swift and radical transition of East Charlotte from rural to suburban after World War II; and

WHEREAS, the Foard House is also historically significant for its association with the house’s builders and owners – Cecil Jerome Foard and Nancy Foard – whose progressive and creative work and personalities are appropriately reflected in the modern and progressive design of the Foard House. As the owners of the Charlotte-based outdoor advertising firm Sign Arts, the Foards were responsible for producing, designing, and installing signage for Charlotte’s burgeoning banking industry, as well as many of the city’s other commercial enterprises, thereby significantly influencing Charlotte’s commercial built environment for much of the latter half of the twentieth century; and

WHEREAS, the Foard House has retained a high degree of integrity with respect to its numerous original exterior and interior architectural features, including without limitation the interior and exterior brickwork, interior trim and exposed structural members, windows and doors, interior staircase, ceiling and wall materials and finishes, and terraced landscaping; and

WHEREAS, based on the additional information further detailed in the *Designation Report on the Foard House* (February 2026), all of which is incorporated herein by reference, the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission has demonstrated that the property known as the Foard House possesses special significance in terms of its history, architecture, and/or cultural importance; and

WHEREAS, the land upon which the Foard 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, the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission has jurisdiction over portions of the property known as the Foard 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 Foard House is owned by Virginia L. Walker.

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

1. That the property known as the “Foard House” (listed under Parcel Identification Number 10717219 and including the interior and exterior of the house and the land listed under Tax Parcel Number 10717219 in the Mecklenburg County Tax Office, Charlotte, North Carolina as of March 1, 2026) 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 7410 Shady Lane in Charlotte, North Carolina. Interior and exterior features are more completely described in the *Designation Report on the Foard House* (February 2026).

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 Foard 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 \_\_\_\_\_, 2026, by the members of the City Council of the City of Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.

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Clerk to City Council

Approved as to form:

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Senior Assistant City Attorney

Attachment:

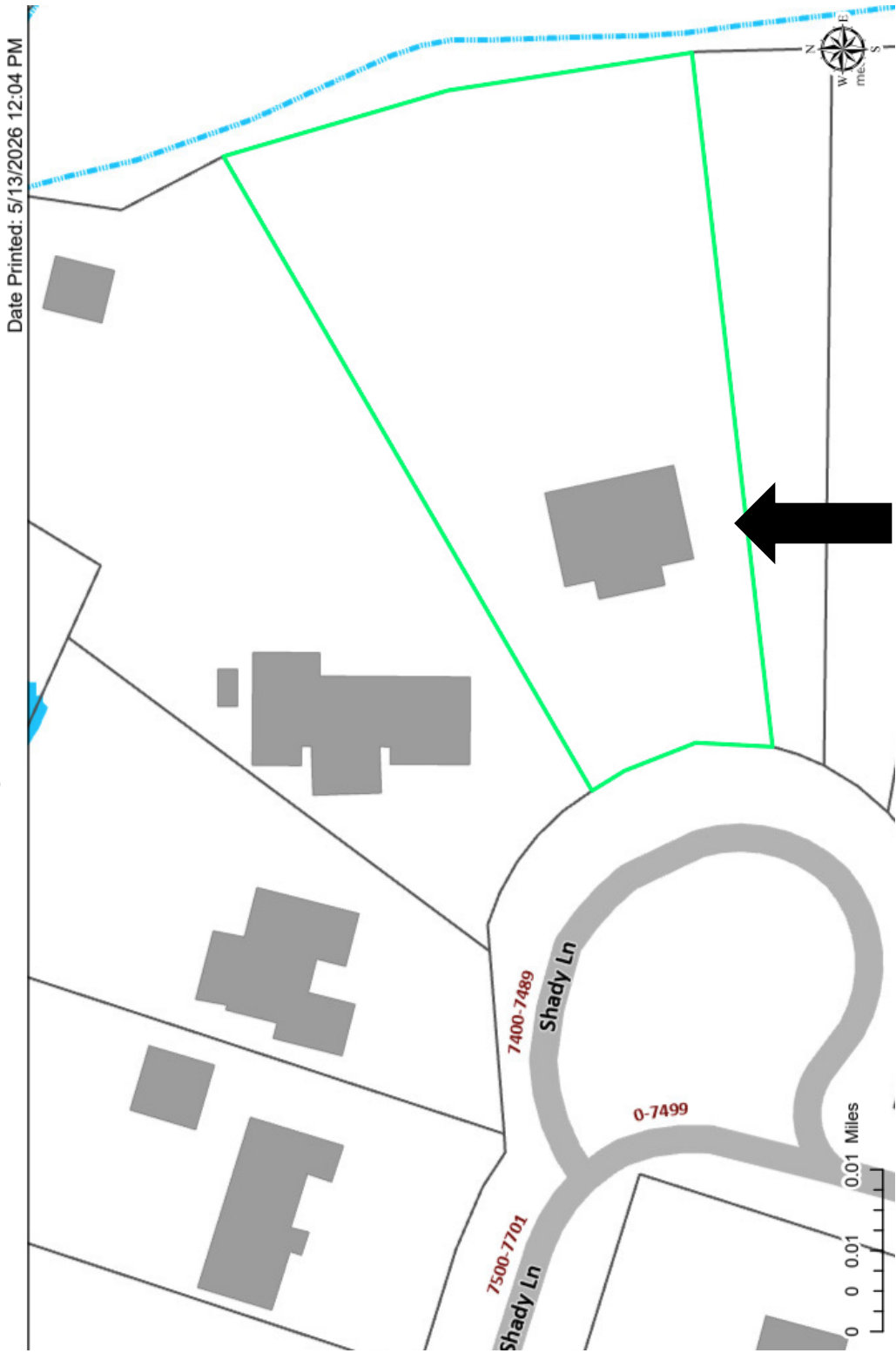
Exhibit A: Polaris Map of Foard House, 7410 Shady Lane, Charlotte, PIN 10717219.

Exhibit B: Executed Permission of the Owner for Interior Design Review, dated March 10, 2026.

**Exhibit A: Polaris Map**

**Polaris Map – Mecklenburg County, North Carolina**

Foard House, 7410 Shady Lane, Charlotte, PIN 10717219



**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,  
Virginia L. Walker


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: The Foard House

Street Address of Building or Buildings: 7410 Shady Lane

City, State, and Zip: Charlotte, NC, 28215

Tax Parcel Number or Numbers: 10717219

Signature   
Owner

Name (Print) Virginia L. Walker

Date 3.10.26