

**Ordinance designating as a Historic Landmark a property known as the “Dr. Charles W. and Vivian L. Williams House” (listed under Tax Parcel Number 03712312 and including the exterior of the house and the land listed under Tax Parcel Number 03712312 in the Mecklenburg County Tax Office, Charlotte, North Carolina as of May 1, 2025). The property is located at 5906 Crestwood Drive in Charlotte, North Carolina, and is owned by Charles L. Assenco and Linda W. Comer.**

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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 25th day of August, 2025, on the question of designating a property known as the Dr. Charles W. and Vivian L. Williams 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 11th day of August, 2025, on the question of designating a property known as the Dr. Charles W. and Vivian L. Williams House as a historic landmark; and

WHEREAS, the Dr. Charles W. and Vivian L. Williams House (circa 1963) is historically significant for its association with Dr. Charles Warren Williams, the first Black doctor to practice at the once-segregated Charlotte Memorial Hospital, who was also one of the first four Black doctors accepted for membership in the North Carolina Medical Society, involved in several Black-focused developments within Charlotte, including the Northwest Clinic and the East Independence Plaza office tower, and helped to establish the community health center that today bears his name; and

WHEREAS, the Dr. Charles W. and Vivian L. Williams House is also historically significant for its association with Vivian L. Williams, an educator with Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools who – along with her husband Dr. Williams – was instrumental in the 1962 design and development of Hyde Park Estates, a suburban upper-middle class neighborhood on the Beatties Ford Road corridor that was specifically developed for Black professionals in an era when the city’s residential developments were still largely segregated by race; and

WHEREAS, the Dr. Charles W. and Vivian L. Williams House is also architecturally significant as a well-preserved example of a large split-level ranch home with contemporary details that typify the architectural trends of homes and residential developments of the 1960s and 1970s; and

WHEREAS, the land upon which the Dr. Charles W. and Vivian L. Williams House is situated 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 *Landmark Designation Report for the Dr. C. Warren and Vivian L. Williams House* (March 2025), all of which is incorporated herein by reference, the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission has demonstrated that the property known as the Dr. Charles W. and Vivian L. Williams House possesses special significance in terms of its history, architecture, and/or cultural importance; and

WHEREAS, the property known as the Dr. Charles W. and Vivian L. Williams House is owned by Charles L. Assenco and Linda W. Comer.

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

1. That the property known as the “Dr. Charles W. and Vivian L. Williams House” (listed under Tax Parcel Number 03712312 and including the exterior of the house and the land listed under Tax Parcel Number 03712312 in the Mecklenburg County Tax Office, Charlotte, North Carolina as of May 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 5906 Crestwood Drive in Charlotte, North Carolina. Exterior features are more completely described in the *Landmark Designation Report for the Dr. C. Warren and Vivian L. Williams House* (March 2025).

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 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 Dr. Charles W. and Vivian L. Williams 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.

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Clerk to City Council

Approved as to form:

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Senior Assistant City Attorney