

**CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION  
LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY**



**JEFFREY R. CLEMENTS**  
Chief of Research  
(904) 255-5137

117 West Duval Street  
City Hall, Suite 425  
Jacksonville, FL 32202  
FAX (904) 255-5229

**Bill Type and Number:** Ordinance 2023-700

**Introducer/Sponsor(s):** Council President at the request of the Jacksonville Historic Preservation Commission

**Date of Introduction:** October 10, 2023

**Committee(s) of Reference:** LUZ

**Date of Analysis:** October 12, 2023

**Type of Action:** Designation of local historic landmark; direction to Legislative Services Division and Zoning Administrator

**Bill Summary:** The bill designates the residential structure at 3239 Dellwood Avenue as a local historic landmark. It directs the Chief of the Legislative Services Division to notify the applicant, property owner and the Property Appraiser of the designation and to have it recorded in the official Public Record. The Zoning Administrator is directed to enter the landmark designation in the Zoning Atlas.

**Background Information:** The residence at 3239 Dellwood Avenue in the Murray Hill area was the home of Mae Boren Axton, a songwriter, music promoter, and mother figure to Elvis Presley. As a concert promoter in Northeast Florida in the 1950s Ms. Axton met and befriended the young Elvis Presley and introduced him to his long-time manager, Colonel Tom Parker. She wrote his first major hit song, *Heartbreak Hotel*, in the home being designated, and is credited with writing nearly 200 songs for stars such as Patsy Cline, Jerry Lee Lewis, Glenn Campbell, Conway Twitty and Tanya Tucker. Ms. Axton's son Hoyt Axton attended Lee High School and became a well-known singer, songwriter and movie actor.

The Historic Preservation Commission recommends approval of the historic designation based on the building meeting three requisite criteria: 1) Its status as the site of a significant local, state, or national event; 2) its identification with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the development of the city, state or nation; and 3) its suitability for preservation or restoration.

**Policy Impact Area:** Historic landmark designation

**Fiscal Impact:** None

**Analyst:** Clements