Bill Type and Number: Ordinance 2024-157

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

Date of Introduction: February 27, 2024

Committee(s) of Reference: LUZ

Date of Analysis: February 29, 2024

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

Bill Summary: The bill declares a parcel of property on Arlington Road between Westdale Drive and Sprinkle Drive in Council District 1 to be a local historic landmark. It directs the Chief of Legislative Services to notify the applicant, property owner and Property Appraiser of the historic designation and directs the Zoning Administrator to enter the designation in the Zoning Atlas.

Background Information: The designated parcel is the site of a former outdoor swimming pool associated with the Eagle Studio and Norman Film Studio complex built for filming water scenes during Jacksonville's silent movie industry boom of the early 20th century. The pool has been in-filled and is not currently visible. The acquisition by the City of the remaining privately owned portions of the Norman Studios complex to reassemble the entire studio property was previously approved by City Council in 2023. The main movie production building was designated as a historic landmark in 2014.

The bill finds that the property meets the following 4 criteria meriting historic designation:
1. Its value as a significant reminder of the cultural, historical, architectural, or archaeological heritage of the City, state or nation.
2. Its location is the site of a significant local, state or national event.
3. It is identified with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the development of the City, state or nation.
4. Its suitability for preservation or restoration.

Policy Impact Area: Historic landmark designation

Fiscal Impact: None

Analyst: Clements