

ORDINANCE 96-27

**TO AMEND TITLE 8 OF THE BLOOMINGTON MUNICIPAL CODE,
ENTITLED "HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND PROTECTION"
TO ESTABLISH A HISTORIC DISTRICT
Re: 420 S. Fess Avenue and 424 S. Fess Avenue
(Sarah and Janice Clevenger, Petitioners)**

WHEREAS, the Common Council adopted Ordinance 95-20 which created a Historic Preservation Commission and established procedures for designating historic districts in the City of Bloomington; and

WHEREAS, the owners of properties at 420 and 424 South Fess Avenue have petitioned the Historic Preservation Commission to consider recommending historic designation of those properties; and

WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Commission held a public hearing on September 4, 1996 for the purpose of allowing discussion and public comment on the proposed historic district designation; and

WHEREAS, at the September 4, 1996 meeting the Historic Preservation Commission found that both properties have historic, architectural and cultural significance that merits the protection of the properties as historic districts; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has prepared a map and written report which accompanies the map and validates the proposed districts by addressing the criteria outlined in BMC 8.08.010;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDAINED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLOOMINGTON, MONROE COUNTY, INDIANA, THAT:

SECTION I. The map setting forth the proposed historic district for the property at 420 S. Fess Avenue is accepted by the Common Council, and said historic district is hereby established. The legal description of 420 S. Fess Avenue is:

Lot Number 6 and the North one-half of Lot Number 9 in Smith's Addition to the City of Bloomington, Indiana, as shown by the plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book No. 2, at page 46, in the Office of the Recorder of Monroe County, Indiana, less 10.00 feet of even width off the entire East side thereof.

SECTION II. The property at 420 S. Fess, Bloomington, Indiana, is classified as "Notable." Said property shall be exempt from the requirement of obtaining a Certificate of Appropriateness for changes in paint colors.

SECTION III. The map setting forth the proposed historic district for the property at 424 S. Fess Avenue is accepted by the Common Council, and said historic district is hereby established. The legal description of 424 S. Fess Avenue is:

Lot Number 12 and the South half of Lot Number 9 in Smith's Addition to the City of Bloomington, as shown by the recorded plat thereof, less 10.00 feet of even width off the entire East side thereof.

SECTION IV. The property at 424 S. Fess, Bloomington, Indiana, is classified as "Notable." Said property shall be exempt from the requirement of obtaining a Certificate of Appropriateness for changes in paint colors.

SECTION V. Chapter 8.20 of the Bloomington Municipal Code, entitled "List of Designated Historic Districts," is hereby amended to include the properties located at 420 S. Fess Avenue and 424 S. Fess Avenue.

SECTION VI Severability. If any section, sentence, or provision of this ordinance, or the application thereof to any person or circumstances shall be declared invalid, such invalidity shall not affect any of the other sections, sentences, provisions, or applications of this ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are declared to be severable.

SECTION IV. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington and approval of the Mayor.

PASSED and ADOPTED by the Common Council of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, upon this ____ day of _____, 1996.

JIM SHERMAN, President
Bloomington Common Council

ATTEST:

PATRICIA WILLIAMS, Clerk
City of Bloomington

PRESENTED by me to the Mayor of the City of Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, upon this ____ day of _____, 1996.

PATRICIA WILLIAMS, Clerk
City of Bloomington

SIGNED and APPROVED by me upon this ____ day of _____, 1996.

JOHN FERNANDEZ, Mayor
City of Bloomington

SYNOPSIS

This ordinance designates 420 and 424 S. Fess Avenue as a historic district. The current owners, Sarah and Janice Clevenger, have petitioned the Historic Preservation Commission for the designation of these properties. The Commission has reviewed their petition and has found the properties merit historic designation with a rating of "Notable." The designation is justified by their "historic" and "architectural" significance. The historic significance of 420 S. Fess is due to its association with the beginnings of the fraternity and sorority system at Indiana University, and the historic significance of 424 S. Fess is due to its construction in 1915 by Judge and Mrs. Jesse Lafollette. And, the architectural significance of both these properties is due to their shared eclectic architectural features, which show influences of the American Foursquare vernacular house type, along with characteristics of the Bungalow Style and Arts and Crafts style.