

ORDINANCE NO. 18-K  
AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING A BUILDING KNOWN AS "BIDDLE MEMORIAL HALL"  
LOCATED ON THE CAMPUS OF JOHNSON C. SMITH UNIVERSITY IN THE CITY OF  
CHARLOTTE AS HISTORIC PROPERTY.

---

WHEREAS, all of the prerequisites to the adoption of this ordinance prescribed in Part 3B, Article 19, Chapter 160A of the General Statutes of North Carolina have been met; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has taken into full consideration all statements and information presented at the joint public hearing held with the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Properties Commission on the 19th day of January, 1976, on the question of designating a structure known as Biddle Memorial Hall as historic property; and

WHEREAS, Biddle Memorial Hall was constructed in 1884 and remains as the oldest surviving structure on the campus of Johnson C. Smith University. The structure's ornamentation and overall massing are typical of institutional architecture during the Victorian era. Its architectural significance in combination with its physical role in the development of the only black institution of higher education in Mecklenburg County make Biddle Memorial Hall truly important in Mecklenburg history.

WHEREAS, the present owner and occupant of the structure, Johnson C. Smith University, Inc., utilizes it as the general administration building and plans to continue such use. The University is directly interested in the preservation of historic properties generally and Biddle Memorial Hall specifically and does possess the financial responsibility necessary to maintain and preserve the building.

REGISTERED  
FEB 26 10 51 AM '76  
CHARLES E. CROWDER  
REGISTER OF DEEDS  
MECKLENBURG CO. N.C.



Ordinance No. 18-X (contd.)

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

1. That the structure known as Biddle Memorial Hall, located on the campus of Johnson C. Smith University within the City of Charlotte is hereby designated as historic property pursuant to Part 3B, Article 19, Chapter 160A of the General Statutes of North Carolina. For purposes of description only, the location of said structure is noted as being situated on a tract of property containing approximately 44.24 acres, a portion of the general northern boundary of said tract being formed by a portion of Mill Road, the general western boundary of said tract being formed by a portion of Beatties Ford Road, the general southern boundary of said tract being formed by a portion of West Fifth Street and by Martin Street and a portion of the general eastern boundary of said tract being formed by property owned by the Seaboard Air Line Railroad

2. That said structure may not be demolished, materially altered, remodeled or removed until ninety (90) days' written notice of the owner's proposed action has been given to the Charlotte-Meckburg Historic Properties Commission.

3. That nothing in this ordinance shall be construed to prevent the ordinary maintenance or repair of any exterior architectural feature in or on Biddle Memorial Hall that does not involve a change in design, material, or outer appearance thereof, nor to prevent the construction, alteration, restoration, demolition or removal of any such feature when a building inspector or similar official certifies

Ordinance No. 18-X (contd.)

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 property owners from making any use of this property not prohibited by other statutes, ordinances, or regulations.

4. That a suitable sign shall be posted indicating the structure's designation as historic property and containing any other appropriate information. If the owner consents, the sign shall be placed upon Biddle Memorial Hall. If the owner objects, the sign shall be placed on a nearby public right of way.

5. That all owners and occupants of Biddle Memorial Hall be given the 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, Mecklenburg County Register of Deeds, Building Inspection Department and Tax Supervisor as required by applicable law.

Approved as to form:

Henry W. Underhill Jr.  
City Attorney

Read, approved and adopted by the City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, in regular session convened on the 19th day of January, 1976, the reference having been made in Minute Book 63, and recorded in full in Ordinance Book 23, at Page 18-20.

Ruth Armstrong  
City Clerk

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, Ruth Armstrong, City Clerk of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of an Ordinance adopted by the City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, in regular session convened on the 19th day of January, 1976, and the reference having been made in Minute Book 63, at Page 12-14, and recorded in full in Ordinance Book 23, at Page 15-27.

WITNESS my hand and the corporate seal of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, this the 27th day of January, 1976.



---

Ruth Armstrong, City Clerk

MAIL:

Dan L. Morrill  
139 Middleton Dr.  
Charlotte, N.C. 28207