

FOR REGISTRATION
Fredrick Smith
REGISTER OF DEEDS
Mecklenburg County, NC
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Historic Landmark Designation: Huntersville School #2

**ORDINANCE DESIGNATING AS A HISTORIC LANDMARK THE PROPERTY
KNOWN AS THE "HUNTERSVILLE SCHOOL #2" (TAX PARCEL 01908102),
INCLUDING THE EXTERIOR OF THE BUILDING AND THE APPROXIMATELY
2.787 ACRES OF LAND LISTED UNDER TAX PARCEL NUMBER 01908102 IN THE
MECKLENBURG COUNTY TAX OFFICE**

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 Board of Commissioners of the Town of Huntersville, North Carolina, have taken into full consideration all statements and information presented at a public hearing held on the 21st day of March, 2022, on the question of designating a property known as the Huntersville School #2 as an 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 14th day of March, 2022, on the question of designating a property known as the Huntersville School #2 as an historic landmark; and

Return to: HLC, 2100 Randolph Rd, Charlotte 28036
Prepared By: Huntersville Town Clerk

WHEREAS, the Huntersville School #2 was once part of the Rosenwald School system, a 1912 collaborative private/public initiative launched by the Julius Rosenwald Fund to neutralize the discriminatory impact of segregated public-school systems by fostering school construction and enhanced educational opportunities nationwide for rural African American children; and

WHEREAS, the Huntersville School #2, previously known as both the Huntersville Colored School and the “Little School,” was once one of more than 800 such facilities constructed in North Carolina between the 1910s and the 1930s (including twenty-six schools in Mecklenburg County), it is now one of only six Rosenwald Schools remaining in the county; and

WHEREAS, between its 1925 opening and its 1958 decommission, the Huntersville School #2 educated African American children who lived in the historic Pottstown community and surrounding neighborhoods, many of whom remained and contributed as valued members of the community; and

WHEREAS, the Huntersville School #2 thereby serves as a daily symbol of early- to mid-20th century grassroots resistance to racial discrimination and Jim Crow segregation, as well as representing the importance of education and community; and

WHEREAS, having become an integral and cherished community institution, the building that once housed the discontinued school was quickly adopted and repurposed by the local African American citizenry as a community center alternatively known as the Dellwood Center and the Torrence Lytle Community Center, thereby perpetuating the continuous and ongoing use of the Huntersville School #2 as well as the school’s local historic and cultural significance for more than ninety-six years; and

WHEREAS, based on the additional information further detailed in the Huntersville School #2 Designation Report (July 2021), all of which is incorporated herein by reference, the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission has demonstrated that the property

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known as the Huntersville School #2 possesses special significance in terms of its history, architecture, and/or cultural importance; and

WHEREAS, the property known as the Huntersville School #2 is owned by the Town of Huntersville.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the members of the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Huntersville, North Carolina:

1. That the property known as the “Huntersville School #2” (listed under Tax Parcel Number 01908102, including the exterior of the building and the approximately 2.787 acres of land listed under Tax Parcel Number 01908102 in the Mecklenburg County Tax Office, Charlotte, NC, as of November 1, 2021) is hereby designated as an 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 508 Dellwood Drive, Huntersville, NC. Exterior features are more completely described in the Huntersville School #2 Designation Report (July 2021).

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 State-wide 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, and amendments thereto, and hereinafter adopted.

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 owners of the historic landmark known as the Huntersville School #2 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 Town 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.

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Adopted the 21st day of March, 2022, by the members of the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Huntersville, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.

Janet P. Pison
Clerk to Town Board



Approved as to form:

Eden Sleep
Town Attorney