

ORDINANCE NO. 1979-204

AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING THE PROPERTY OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH LOCATED AT 101 SOUTH WILMINGTON STREET IN THE CITY OF RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, A HISTORIC PROPERTY

WHEREAS, the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina authorized the creation of a Historic Properties Commission for the City of Raleigh and otherwise provided for the preservation of certain historic sites and buildings by the passage of Part 3B, Article 19, Chapter 160A North Carolina General Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the Raleigh Historic Properties Commission has made an investigation and recommended the following property be designated a Historic Property; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina State Department for Cultural Resources has made an analysis and recommendation that the following property be designated a historic property; and

WHEREAS, on the 4th day of September, 1979, a joint public hearing was held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, Raleigh, North Carolina, by the Historic Properties Commission and the City Council of the City of Raleigh to determine whether the hereinafter described property should be designated a historic property; and

WHEREAS, said hearing was advertised and the property owners of the property hereinafter described were notified by mail of the date and purpose of said public hearing at least ten (10) days prior to the date set for the hearing; and

WHEREAS, all requirements of Part 3B, Article 19, Chapter 160A of the North Carolina General Statutes, preceding the adoption of this ordinance, have been complied with.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RALEIGH THAT:

Section 1. The property of First Baptist Church located at 101 South Wilmington Street, in the planning jurisdiction in the City of Raleigh, North Carolina, be and is hereby declared a historic property. Said property being more particularly described as follows:

First Baptist Church on Wilmington Street, said property containing approximately 14,978.4 square feet, Block A-65, Lots 8 and 9, Wake County Tax Map and according to deed recorded in Book 925, Page 201, Wake County Courthouse.

Section 2. Those elements of the property that are integral to its historical, architectural, archaeological, or any combination thereof are as follows:

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, 1904
101 South Wilmington Street

The First Baptist Church on Wilmington Street, one of the four churches surrounding Union Square, is a conservative example of late Gothic Revival architecture. Built in 1904, the Church is gabled brick, buttressed structure accented with a tower and a spire placed at the corner intersection of Wilmington Streets. The church was built by a congregation which had been formed in 1868 by the withdrawal of black members from the congregation of the First Baptist Church on Salisbury Street.

Section 3. No building or structure that is designated in this ordinance located on the hereinbefore described site may be altered, restored, moved, remodeled, or reconstructed so that a change in design, material or outer appearance occurs unless and until a certificate of appropriateness is obtained from the Raleigh Historic Properties Commission or its successors.

Section 4. No building or structure which is designated in this ordinance on the hereinbefore described site may be demolished unless and until either approval of demolition is obtained from the Raleigh Historic Properties Commission or, after the Commission has received a completed request for demolition, one-hundred and eighty (180) days have elapsed.

Section 5. That all owners and occupants of the property hereinabove described, whose identity and addresses can be ascertained by the exercise of due diligence be sent by certified mail a copy of this ordinance.

Section 6. This ordinance shall be indexed under the property owner's name in the grantor and grantee indexes in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Wake County.

Section 7. City administration and the Historic Properties Commission are hereby authorized and directed to have erected an appropriate sign on the site hereinabove described setting forth the fact that said site has been designated a historic property by action of the Historic Properties Commission and the City Council of the City of Raleigh provided, should the owners of the hereinabove described property not consent to the erection of said sign on the described premises, City administration and the Historic Properties Commission are hereby authorized and directed to have said sign located on the public right-of-way adjacent to said property.

Section 8. In the event any building or structure is demolished in accordance with the ordinances of the City of Raleigh, this ordinance shall automatically be null and void.

Section 9. Any violation of this ordinance shall be unlawful as by law provided.

Adopted: 9/4/79

Effective: 9/4/79

CCLK/34tp

Distribution: City Manager
City Attorney
Planning Department (2)
Inspections Division (3)
Historic Properties Commission
Wake County Tax Supervisor
Wake County Tax Collector
Property Owner and/or Occupant
Register of Deeds

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA)
COUNTY OF WAKE)

CERTIFICATION

I, Gail G. Smith, City Clerk and Treasurer of the City of Raleigh, North Carolina, do hereby certify that the attached is a true and exact copy of Ordinance No. (1979) 204 adopted by the City Council at their meeting held on September 4, 1979.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and have caused the Seal of the City of Raleigh to be affixed this 30 day of November, 1979.



Gail G. Smith
Gail G. Smith
City Clerk and Treasurer

Filed for registration at 3:15 PM o'clock 3 day of December, 1979,
and registered in the office of the Register of Deeds for Wake County,
in Book 2791, Page 67, December 3, 1979.

R. B. MCKENZIE, JR.
Register of Deeds
Jeane L. Johnson Deputy

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ADOPTED: 9/4/79

VICINITY MAP

LEGEND

- = Sample pit
- = New iron nail
- ⊙ = Existing survey
- ⊕ = City of Raleigh monument
- = corner monument set

TAXMAP PARCEL

28.8

DEED REFERENCES

- 207,24
- 207,25
- 207,26
- 207,27
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SCALE 1" = 200'

I, Robert T. Newcomb, III certify that under my direction and supervision this map was prepared from an actual field survey; that the error of closure as calculated by latitudes and departures is greater than 1/10,000; that the boundaries not surveyed by me are shown as broken lines plotted from deed information as noted; that this map was prepared in accordance with N.C. G.S. 47-30 as amended.

Witness my hand and seal this 26 day of November, 1979.

Robert T. Newcomb, III
Registered Land Surveyor L-2444

I, Corinne H. Little, Notary Public of Wake County do hereby certify that Robert T. Newcomb, III personally appeared before me this day and acknowledged the execution of the foregoing map.

Witness my hand and seal this 26 day of November, 1979.

Corinne H. Little
Notary Public

My commission expires 12-22-84

ROBERT T. NEWCOMB, III
REGISTERED LAND SURVEYOR
4000 OLD WAKE FOREST ROAD RALEIGH, N.C.

CONTROL CORNER
existing corner
North Carolina State Plane Coordinates
NAD 83 = 734792.498
EAD 83 = 2202970.796

EAST MORGAN STREET

SOUTH WILMINGTON STREET

BRICK CHURCH

2-STORY BRICK BUILDING
2472, 018

M.T. METZGER BLDG.
2562, 24

AREA
16,707 sq ft (0.429 ac)

PROPERTY OF
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

RALEIGH TOWNSHIP WAKE COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA

SCALE 1" = 20'

NOVEMBER, 1979

(Check W. West, center)

NORTH CAROLINA - WAKE COUNTY
The foregoing certificate of [Name] is certified to be correct. This instrument was presented for registration and recorded in this office.

This day of [Month] 19[Year] at [City], N.C.
R. B. McKenzie, Jr., Register of Deeds
Deputy Register of Deeds

RECORDED - Book of Maps _____ page _____

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 South Wilmington Street

Raleigh, North Carolina

(The following statement of significance was prepared by Miss Linda Harris, Raleigh City Planning Department, and Miss Mary Ann Lee, North Carolina Division of Archives and History, and is taken from An Architectural and Historical Inventory of Raleigh, North Carolina, 1978.)

The First Baptist Church, a conservative example of Late Gothic Revival architecture, is situated on the southeast corner of Capitol Square. It is one of the four churches surrounding the square. This church is known as the Wilmington Street First Baptist Church since its mother church, the Salisbury Street First Baptist Church (1859), is located on a site diagonally across the square. Ecclesiastical architecture on Union Square represents the Victorian builder's enthusiasm for eclecticism and revivalism. The First Presbyterian Church (1900) offers an adaptation of the Romanesque Revival style, while the other three exhibit evolutionary stages of the Gothic Revival. Christ Church (1854) and First Baptist Church (1859) are examples of the Early Gothic Revival and the Wilmington Street First Baptist Church (1904) is a Late Gothic Revival building.

The Wilmington Street Baptist Church was an outgrowth of the Salisbury Street First Baptist Church. The church was founded in 1812 as a bi-racial institution; however, in the late 1850s the black members discussed plans for separation. The first step was a segregated Sunday school, begun in 1865. Three years later the majority of the black members of the congregation requested complete segregation.

Under the leadership of the Reverend William Warrick, a lot was selected on Salisbury Street between North and Johnson streets, and the church which was built soon after housed the group until 1904. In the 1870s the black parishioners acquired a lot on Wilmington Street. Under the pastorate of the Reverend Dr. W. T. Coleman the present First Baptist Church was erected in 1904.

The First Baptist Church on Wilmington Street is a pivotal building in the Capitol Square Historic District, as it represents the successful establishment of one of Raleigh's prominent religious institutions. All four of the Capitol Square churches had their origin in the State House and have remained in proximity to the founding site. The rich variety of religious architectural styles that can be witnessed around the square illustrates the changes of taste over the past century and the desire of an institution to express its convictions through architecture.

1812

HISTORY OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
101 S. WINNINGTON ST., RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

1975

II. A Bi-Racial Church was organized.

First Baptist Church began as a biracial church March 7, 1812. The founding members came from the Baptist Church of Christ at Cool Spring in Wake County. Twenty three members organized the First Baptist church in Raleigh. Nine of the founding members were white and fourteen were black. Of the nine white organizing members, five were female and four were male. Of the fourteen black members, nine were female and five were male.

The church was organized in the State House (Capitol). The membership remained be-racial from 1812-1868, a span of fifty six years.

Elder Robert T. Daniel was called as the first pastor of the church. He served as pastor until 1815. By the year of 1815, the black membership had increased to twenty-five. Over a period of six years, (1815-1821) three pastors served the church. Reverends Josiah Crudup, Thomas Crocker and James Woodberry.

The first church building was erected on Person Street between Hargett and Martin in 1816 at a cost of approximately \$700.00.

In 1822, The Reverend Robert T. Daniel began his second tenure as pastor and served until 1826. During this time the church was moved to Moore Square which was later to be known as Baptist Grove.

By 1823 the memberships had increased to two hundred and twenty-six; one hundred and fifty-six blacks and seventy whites.

The Reverend P. W. Dowd served as pastor of the church from 1827-1832. He was succeeded by the Reverend William Hill Jordan who served until 1839. He was followed in the pastorate by the Reverend Amos J. Battle who served until 1844. During the pastorate of the Reverend Battle, the church purchased the lot on the corner of Wilmington and Morgan Streets from Willie Jones and constructed a church at the cost of \$6,000.00 The Reverend Louis Depre succeeded Reverend Battle and served for a short period.

In 1844, the Reverend J. J. Finch was called as pastor and served until his death in 1848. The Reverend T. W. Tobey succeeded The Reverend Finch.

The Reverend Thomas E. Skinner served as pastor from 1856 until 1868. During his pastorate the church purchased the lot on the corner of Salisbury and Edenton Streets from Jim Atkins, a black member at the price of \$6,000.00 The present edifice was built on this site.

II. Separation of White and Black Members

The Reverend Thomas H. Prichard served as pastor from 1868-1874. In 1867 the black members purchased a site on Salisbury Street for the sum of \$612.00 and built a church. In 1868, Henry Jett and approximately two hundred other black members asked for and on motion of Peter F. Pescud, received their letters of dismission on June 5, 1868, to go to their newly formed church on Salisbury Street. The Church remained on this site for thirty-six years (1868-1904).*

III. A Separate Church Begun.

After the separation, First Baptist maintained its founding date of 1812. After the separation, the first pastor to serve was the Reverend William Warwick who served from 1867-1874. In February 1874, the Reverend J. J. Worlds began the first of two tenures as pastor. He served until 1880. At the end of his first pastorate, the Reverend William A. Green was called (1880). He served until his death in 1886. Born in Canada, educated in Boston Massachusetts and Howard University, the Reverend Green aided the church in much growth. n

The Reverend J. J. Worlds was called a second time in 1886 and served until 1902. During his pastorate the church purchased the site at Wilmington and Morgan Streets at a cost of \$2,000.00 The trustees to whom the property was deeded were: Allen Love, Brodie Rogers, Henderson Crossin, Richard Plummer and Booker Hardie.

The next pastor of First Baptist was the Reverend Dr. J. W. Kirby who was called in 1902. He was educated at Hampton Institute and Richmond Theological Institute. He served only eight months. His pastorate was cut short by death.

The Reverend Dr. W. T. Coleman followed Kirby as pastor. He was born in Uniontown, Alabama, educated at Selma, Alabama and Richmond Theological Seminary. Doctor Coleman was called to the pastorate of First Baptist Church in 1903 and served until 1912. During his pastorate, the present structure was built and the cornerstone was laid in 1904.

The next pastor of the black First Baptist Church was Doctor C. E. Askew (1912-1921). Dr. Askew was educated at Shaw University. Among his outstanding contributions to the church was the liquidation of the heavy indebtedness in a short time and the purchasing of a pipe organ which was used in worship until 1974 when a new pipe organ was built and installed. He resigned in 1921 to accept pastorates elsewhere.

* List of first trustees, yearly members, See FBC 1812-1962 p.7

In August of 1921, Dr. Oscar Sidney Bullock began the longest tenure of any pastor in the history of First Baptist Church. He was born in Vance County, North Carolina and received his early education there. His college and theological training was acquired at Lincoln University, Oxford, Pennsylvania. He received honorary degrees from several schools. Under his pastorate, the church purchased a Sunday School bus which was among the first buses to be purchased by any church in the state. He led the church to see the need for expanded educational facilities and a three story educational building was erected at a cost of approximately \$20,000.00 and re-organized the Sunday School departments. In 1945 an additional building was purchased at a cost of \$25,000.00 (Bullock Building). Ten thousand additional dollars were spent on renovating and adapting this building to a Sunday School facility and multi-purpose room. A parsonage was purchased at the cost of \$9,000.00 and a second parsonage was built on Bloodworth Street at Cabarrus at the cost of \$7,000.00. The church was air conditioned at the price of \$10,000.00 and pews were installed in the sanctuary costing \$5,000.00. First Baptist Church was the first black church in Raleigh to conduct a vacation Bible School for the children of Raleigh.

IV. The Present Chapter in First Baptist History

Dr. Charles W. Ward came to the pastorate of First Baptist Church as its eighth black pastor July 1, 1959. Dr. Ward is a native of LaGrange, Georgia. He attended public school in LaGrange and the college degree was received from Morehouse College in Atlanta Georgia. He received the Bachelor of Divinity degree from Howard University-School of Religion, Washington, D. C., and a certificate in Psychosomatic medicine from Bowman Gray School of Medicine Winston-Salem, North Carolina. In 1967, Shaw University conferred upon Reverend Charles Ward, the Doctor of Divinity degree. During the sixteen years that Doctor Ward has been pastor of First Baptist, many physical and spiritual renovations and additions have been made.

The steeple has been renovated and stair well to balcony refurbished and a new heating system was installed. A new roof has been installed on the Bullock Building. The old organ was renovated several times. The basement under the sanctuary has been completely renewed and re-furnished. The art stained windows have been releaded, renovated and storm windows installed. A new copper roof has been installed over the sanctuary. A new fourteen rank Moller pipe organ has been installed. The interior of the sanctuary has been restyled and renovated, a new freezer-fridge locker has been installed in the kitchen, a new piano has been installed in the sanctuary, New equipment throughout renovated areas has been installed. A new Sunday School bus has been purchased all at a cost of approximately \$310,000.00. Four fifths of the cost of these renovations and additions have been on a cash basis.

In addition to the physical renovations and additions approximately eight hundred new members have been added to the roll of the church. *The present membership stands at approx. 1100*

One additional phase of the renovation program remains to be completed, that is the renovation of the Bullock Building.

Continual renewal of spiritual values remain the goal of First Baptist Church. Through the long history of First Baptist, loyal members have remained loyal. Pastor Ward surmises that this is the most important ingredient in the formula for the future of a great church---loyalty of its dedicated members.

The trustees whose chairman is Mr. W. C. Davenport have supervised the work of renovating the church. Mr. J. W. Eaton served as Chairman of the organ committee, Mr. W. W. Hurdle served as chairman of the renovation committee. Members of the several committees can be found in the 1975 edition of the Dédication and Rededication of the Church.