

# DOWNTOWN HISTORIC WALKING TOUR

What if stepping back in time was as easy as strolling through Downtown Hickory? The City of Hickory Historic Preservation Commission, in partnership with the Hickory Landmarks Society, has created a Downtown History Walking Tour to help you discover the rich heritage and architectural beauty of several historic landmarks located in the City's vibrant downtown district.

## HICKORY LANDMARKS SOCIETY

Since 1968, the Hickory Landmarks Society has been preserving our community. A non-profit organization, the Hickory Landmarks Society is committed to serving the Hickory, North Carolina region by leading in the protection of historically or architecturally significant neighborhoods, individual landmarks and traditions.

## HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

The purpose of the Historic Preservation Commission is to safeguard the heritage of the City of Hickory by preserving properties, which embody important elements of its cultural, social, economic, political, or architectural history. The Commission reviews applications for Certificates of Appropriateness when modifications are proposed for a property in a historic district. In addition, it works to identify individual landmarks of historic significance, recommending their designation as historic properties to the City Council. The City of Hickory and the Historic Preservation Commission thank the Hickory Landmarks Society for its continued partnership in creating opportunities, like the Downtown Historic Walking Tour, to remind citizens of our region's past and how historical landmarks have shaped our community.

### OLD HICKORY TAVERN



This monument was constructed by the Daughters of the American Revolution in 1954 to commemorate the location of the original Hickory Tavern from which the city got its name.

### UNION SQUARE



This area is the central commercial area of Hickory. It developed in the center of a parcel of land originally owned by Henry W. Robinson. The name Union Square was first used in 1913. Originally a street ran in front of the shops, but now the area has been redeveloped as a pedestrian mall with parking adjacent to the railroad tracks. The area also serves as the home of the Hickory Farmers Market on Wednesdays and Saturdays between April and November.



In April 2019, renovations began on the historic Union Square. The design maintains the historic feel of the Square, while modernizing aesthetics and enhancing the space.

### SOUTHERN RAILROAD PASSENGER DEPOT



The depot was built in 1912. It was the third depot built in the City of Hickory and the second designed exclusively for passenger train service. The building now houses the Olde Hickory Station restaurant and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places because of the role that the railroad played in the development of Hickory.

### WORLD WAR I MEMORIAL



This 210 mm German howitzer was surrendered to the United States and placed in Hickory in memory of the men who participated in the war. According to the description of the marker, the gun was erected by Hickory Legion Post 48 on May 30, 1927.

### FORMER HICKORY MUNICIPAL BUILDING



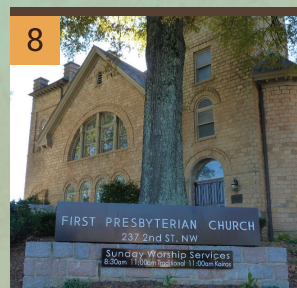
Charles Christian Hook designed this building, which was constructed in 1921. The building originally contained the city administrative offices, the council chamber, the fire department, the police department, the jail with a capacity for 22 prisoners, the water department, the city court, and an auditorium with a seating capacity of 1160. In 1977, the City offices moved into the new municipal building located on North Center Street. The Hickory Community Theatre currently occupies the building.

### CAROLINA THEATER



This movie theater was designed by M.R. Marsh of Charlotte and opened on Christmas Eve 1934. The first two stories of the theater have been altered with modern materials. The third story, however, retains its tan brick façade with classical detailing and its centerpiece — a low relief sculpture by master stonemason James W. Inman, representing the head of Blackbeard the Pirate. The theater currently shows second run movies on two screens.

### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Hickory's First Presbyterian Church was founded in 1873 as a small mission in the newly incorporated town of Hickory, and has grown to become one of Catawba County's largest and most influential churches. The present church building was constructed in 1906 and remains the most outstanding example of the Romanesque Revival style in Catawba County. The granite church is complemented by the 1928 three-story granite education building of Romanesque Revival influence and the modern two-story granite education building erected in 1957.

### HARRIS ARCADE



The Arcade was constructed in 1938 by the Harris brothers, George H. Harris and Carroll W. Harris, who were the sons of Harvey Ward Harris, a general store operator, wholesale grocer, and feed dealer. One of the few commercial arcades in the states, it may have been patterned after the 1914 Latta Arcade in Charlotte or the 1926 - 1929 Grove Arcade in Asheville. A portion of the ground floor was occupied by a billiard parlor for most of its existence. That space is now occupied by a restaurant serving breakfast and lunch.

### HARPER HOUSE AND HICKORY HISTORY CENTER



Constructed in 1887, the 2.5 story Shuler-Harper House is the finest surviving Queen Anne structure in the City of Hickory and one of the most elaborately detailed late-19th century houses in the state. The site currently operates as a house museum and the Hickory History Center.

### CORINTH REFORMED CHURCH PARSONAGE



Built in 1895, the parsonage is a two-story, German-sided, Queen Anne-style house with seven gables. The house was originally built at the southwest corner of Third Avenue and Third Street, but was relocated two times. It has been located within the Ivey Arboretum at Sally Fox Park since it was restored by the Hickory Landmarks Society in 1985.

### IVEY ARBORETUM AT SALLY FOX PARK



This seven acre arboretum was purchased by the City in 1904. Besides its place as the City's first true park, the space became a large outdoor arboretum originally containing some 250 different species of trees and plantings, of which many have survived. George F. Ivey, a local furniture manufacturer, was responsible for planting and labeling the many species, some of which were imported from other countries.

**HICKORY LANDMARKS SOCIETY**  
542 SECOND STREET, NE  
HICKORY, NORTH CAROLINA 28601

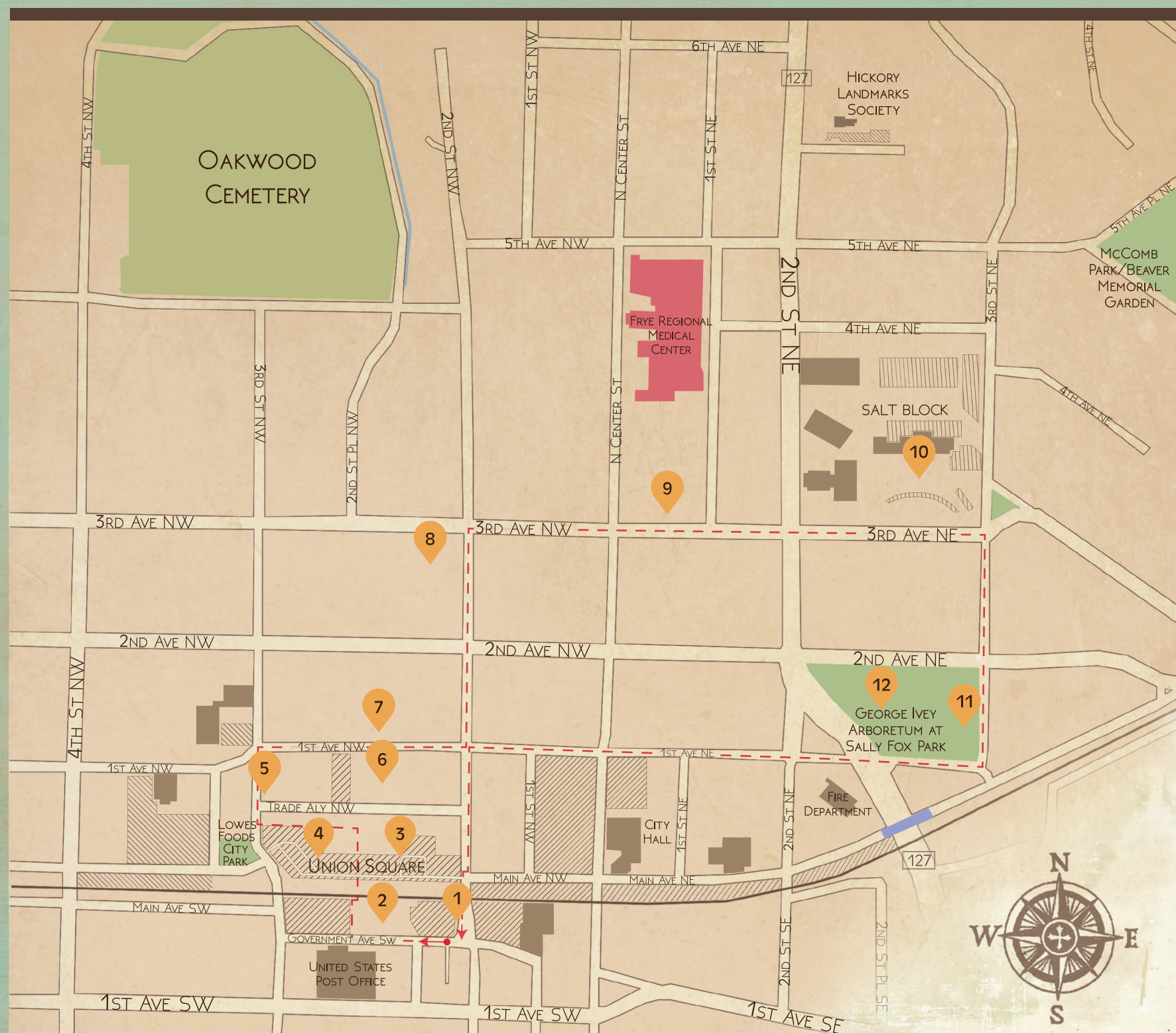
INFO@HICKORYLANDMARKS.ORG  
[WWW.HICKORYLANDMARKS.ORG](http://WWW.HICKORYLANDMARKS.ORG)  
828-322-4731

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### HISTORIC LANDMARK KEY

1. Old Hickory Tavern
2. Southern Railroad Passenger Depot
3. Union Square
4. World War I Memorial
5. Former Hickory Municipal Building
6. Harris Arcade
7. Carolina Theater
8. First Presbyterian Church
9. Harper House and Hickory History Center
10. Former Claremont High School
11. Corinth Reformed Church Parsonage
12. Ivey Arboretum at Sally Fox Park

### LEGEND

- Park
- Hospital
- Bridge
- Building
- Parking
- Walking Route
- Railroad
- Creek
- 127 Highway
- Historic Landmark S top



QR code link to an online version of the tour for smartphones



Life. Well Crafted.

