

Society for the Preservation of Historic Oakwood



NEWS LETTER

POST OFFICE BOX 11137 • RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA 27604

July, 1976

Transportation Plans

Society Chairman Carolyn Parlato recently appointed Ann Reed to serve as Chairman of a committee to study traffic problems within the Historic District. The committee will report its findings to the Board and will prepare recommendations to the City of Raleigh. Ms. Reed suggested at a recent Board Meeting that a preliminary analysis has revealed the following problems, goals and means:

A. Problems

1. Excessive traffic noise
2. Dangerous streets & intersections
3. Vibrations caused by large trucks

B. Goals

1. The goal of the committee is to promote Oakwood as a quiet and peaceful residential community with a village atmosphere.

C. Means

1. A 25 m.p.h. speed limit
2. 4-way stops at all streets except Person Street
3. Ban on thru traffic for trucks
4. Convert Jones & Lane Streets to two-way streets within the District

Ms. Reed further stated that Oakwood has qualities peculiar to it which make necessary certain distinctions from general residential traffic laws. These differences include the following facts;

1. Residential districts normally are not so near a major business area and thus do not have the excess of through traffic experienced in Oakwood.
2. Residential districts normally have wide streets without excessive on-street parking.

3. Residential districts normally do not have old homes constructed from materials which are affected by excessive vibrations from heavy and fast traffic as are found in Oakwood.

4. Residential districts normally do not have excessive traffic of large trucks as experienced in Oakwood.

5. Residential districts normally include houses which are farther from the streets, in contemplation of traffic noise unlike Oakwood, which was constructed in an era when transportation was less noisy.

6. Oakwood is, unlike other residential areas, designated as historic in an attempt to save an inner-city residential district, and thus aids in the revitalization of downtown Raleigh. Certain distinctions must be allowed to achieve the image of Oakwood as a peaceful district in which to maintain a residence.

Annual July 4th Picnic

Annual neighborhood picnic to be held on Monday, July 5th at 6:00 p.m. - Stronach lot on 400 block of N. Bloodworth Street. Square dance afterwards on the 300 block of Polk Street.

Costumes are optional, however, we do encourage you to enter into the spirit of our Bicentennial Celebration and wear a costume. Prizes will be given for the most effective outfits.

Plan to attend and share a delightful evening with your neighbors!

American Flags

The Oakwood Garden Club is selling American Flags as a community service for the residents of Oakwood. They may be obtained by calling Mamie Bridgers at 832-4177 or Vallie Henderson at 832-3336.

Plaques

Anyone whose house is fifty or more years old may put a Society-sponsored plaque on the house. In order to obtain one of these plaques, the house must be researched back to the date of construction. This documentation must be submitted to the Plaque Committee before a plaque will be ordered for you. The plaques cost \$11.25.

Chairman of the Plaque Committee is Ted Nodell, who lives at 507 Oakwood Avenue. His telephone number is 828-2114. Please call Ted if you are interested in any further details.

Neighbor Park

From a vacant lot to a neighborhood park! Plans are underway to develop the small lot on Oakwood Avenue at Linden Avenue directly in front of the entrance to Oakwood Cemetery. The Society for the Preservation of Historic Oakwood and the Oakwood Garden Club will share in the development of the park, which will be done in stages. The first phase is to erect a picket fence around three sides of the lot. This work will start within a few days and the fence should be completed in a couple of weeks. Shade and flowering trees will be placed later along with native shrubs and blooming plants. Walkways will also be placed for the enjoyment of residents in the area. This will be another attraction to add to the Oakwood Walking Tour.

Neighborhood Notes

Please display your flag during Bicentennial Festival - now through July 5th.

Please pick up any trash you see around the neighborhood to keep Oakwood looking its best!

Tours

On July 2, 3, & 5, Society Tourguides will give walking tours at 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. These tours will begin at the Tucker Mansion, 414 N. Person Street and are available to anyone who would like to learn more about Oakwood.

If you are available to give one of these tours, please contact Dixie Crew at 834-4051 or Sara Stronach at 821-2491.

If you would like to go on one of these tours, please come and bring your friends.

North Central Task Force

The North Central Task Force is composed of residents of four neighborhoods: Oakwood, College Park, Idlewild and Madonna Acres. The first Tuesday of every month these residents meet to discuss community problems and their solutions.

Join us at 7:30 on meeting night in Boyer Hall on St. Augustine's campus. For further information, contact John Stokes, Chairman, at 833-0159.

Society for the Preservation of Historic Oakwood

Officers and Directors 1976

1. Chairman - Mrs. Charles Parlato
2. Vice-Chairman - Harvey Bumgardner
3. Corresponding Sec. - Ms. Ann Reed
4. Recording Secretary - Ms. Mamie Bridgers
5. Treasurer - Alfred Carlton
6. Historian - Mrs. Archie Henderson
7. Mrs. James C. Crew (Dixie)
8. Mrs. Clark L. Dudley (Bobbie)
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10. James M. McCloud
11. Barry Poe*
12. Miss Maggie Sears
13. Taylor McMillan
14. Shun Kanda
15. Dr. Sarah Lemmon (Honorary Board Member whose membership is continuing)

*Second year of two-year term