

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Linden Ave. Amendment to Oakwood Historic District

Section number 1-6 Page 1

1. Linden Avenue Amendment to the Oakwood Historic District

2. Location: East side of Linden Avenue and north side of 700 block of E. Lane Street, adjacent to the boundaries of the Oakwood National Register Historic District. Raleigh, Wake County (183), North Carolina (NC).

3. Classification: Private ownership
District
13 Contributing and 4 Noncontributing buildings, none previously listed in the National Register

4. State Historic Preservation Office Certification

 Date 8-11-87
Dr. William S. Price, Director, N. C. Division of Archives and History and State Historic Preservation Officer.
109 E. Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27611

5. National Park Service Certification

Signature of the Keeper Date _____

6. Functions or Use

Historic Functions	Current Functions
Domestic/single dwelling	Domestic/single dwelling
Commerce/department store	Commerce/department store
	Religion/religious structure
	Domestic/multiple dwelling

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

Queen Anne
Classical Revival
Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials

foundation: brick
walls: weatherboard
 shingle
roof: asphalt

As noted in the 1974 nomination for the Oakwood Historic District, Oakwood is "a quiet Victorian neighborhood composed of free-standing dwellings, both cottages and imposing residences, with...small front yards and narrow streets. The dwellings, set so densely that minute differences in architectural detail are significant, include examples of late Greek Revival, Second Empire, Queen Anne, sawnwork and bracketed vernacular Victorian, and Neo-Classical Revival styles." Deriving its name from proximity to Oakwood Cemetery, the neighborhood's extent is loosely defined, consisting of a continuity of urban fabric, developed between 1850 and 1930, along the east side of the city on ridges that slope down to the cemetery.

This amendment includes two blocks of frame buildings, primarily residences, constructed between 1907 and 1925. This area is stylistically and developmentally contiguous with the adjacent district, consisting as it does largely of small one-story Queen Anne and Classical Revival style houses, together with a pair of Craftsman style residences and a corner store. These two blocks at their rear decline to a creek branch which provides a natural boundary between Oakwood and traditionally Black neighborhoods to the east. Linden Avenue is also the approach road for the main entrance to Oakwood Cemetery. There are 13 contributing properties in the amendment and 4 non-contributing ones.

Inventory List

Significance Key: C-Contributing
 NC-Noncontributing

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E. Side 200 Block Linden Avenue

1. 202 Linden Avenue-(C)

This two-story, Craftsman style frame duplex was constructed ca. 1925 on the site of a corner grocery store. Its first occupant was Henry M. Sedberry, a cashier at The Texas Company. Originally a single dwelling, an additional front entrance has been added within the last five years. The first floor of the rectangular house is clapboarded, the second floor covered with wood shingles. A shallow, three-sided bay projects from the front under the overhang of the deep-eaved, hipped roof. Centered in the front plane of the roof is a hipped, shingle-sided dormer. A one-story porch stretches across the first floor front, with square columns on brick piers and modern square-baluster railings. Window sash are three over one. (City Directories; 1914 Raleigh Sanborn Map)

2. 204 Linden Avenue-(NC)

Constructed ca. 1950, this one-story, gable-roofed frame house is covered with asbestos shingles and has a concrete block foundation.

3. 206 Linden Avenue-Norfleet B. Gulley House(C)

Constructed in 1907 for contractor Norfleet B. Gulley, this one-story frame Queen Anne style cottage was the first house on the block. Gulley sold the house in 1911 to W. G. Matthews, a co-owner of the remainder of the block. The three-bay, cross gable house has the usual front gable and hipped front porch with turned columns and simple brackets. Quatrefoil louvers ornament the gables. There is a gable-roofed ell at the southeast corner of the house and a shed-roofed wing inside the ell. The main roof is of panelled tin shingles. Window sash are two over two, except for a small rectangular window cut to the right of the front door, which also has a rectangular transom. (Wake County Deeds; 1914 Raleigh Sanborn Map; City Directories)

4. 208 Linden Avenue-(C)

This one-story, frame, Queen Anne style cottage was constructed ca. 1909 for Wayland G. Matthews of William P. Matthews and Son, Grocers. The cross-gable frame house has a front gable and a gable-roofed ell at the northeast corner. Quatrefoil vents ornament the gables. A hipped-roofed porch with turned columns and simple brackets stretches across the front three bays. The

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front door has a rectangular transom, and the window sash are two over two. The front porch railings are modern replacements. (Wake County Deeds; City Directories; 1914 Raleigh Sanborn Map)

5. 212 Linden Avenue-(NC)
Ca. 1950 one-story, gable-roofed concrete block church.

6. 214 Linden Avenue-(C)
Constructed ca. 1911, this one-story, frame, Classical Revival-styled house was first occupied by Mrs. Dora C. Stephenson, Miss Goldie P. Stephenson and Landon H. Stephenson, a florist. Basically gable-roofed, the rectangular house has a small gable at one front corner, alongside of which a hip runs up to a gabled peak. A full-width porch at front has Tuscan columns with square section balustrade between them. The ground slopes sharply beneath the house, and a two-story, shed-roofed porch has been added in front of a door on the north elevation. A one-story, gable-roofed ell has been added to the rear on the lower level. A large chimney with corbelled cap projects front the north side of the roof. Window sash are two over two. (City Directories; 1914 Raleigh Sanborn Map)

7. 216 Linden Avenue-(C)
Allen E. Oglesby, an agent with the American National Insurance Company, was the first occupant of this simple, gable-roofed, rectangular, Queen Anne style frame cottage. The house has one story above grade, with another below it at the rear where the lot slopes steeply. A one-story, hipped porch covers the two-bay front porch of the house. This porch has turned columns with simple brackets and railings with turned balusters. The house has two over two windows and a diamond-shaped louver in the front gable. (City Directories; 1914 Raleigh Sanborn Map)

8. 218 Linden Avenue-William P. Matthews House(C)
In 1909 William and Wayland Matthews purchased all of this side of the block, except one lot. William P. Matthews was a grocer and later a partner in a cider company on E. Martin Street. A house was built for Matthews at the corner in 1909 or 1910, a house which was also initially occupied by Wayland G. Matthews. The hipped-roofed, Classical Revival style house has gables at the front and north sides, and a rear gable-roofed ell with above grade basement. A hipped front porch with square columns runs across the front and north elevations of the main portion of the house. A square-section balustrade has replaced the original

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one of turned balusters. The central front entrance is flanked by one over one windows, and there is a secondary entrance on the north side under the porch. The porch foundation has been enclosed and stuccoed. (Wake County Deeds; City Directories; 1914 Raleigh Sanborn Map)

E. Side 300 Block Linden Avenue

9. 304 Linden Avenue-F. B. Richardson House(C)
Constructed ca. 1918, this one-story frame Colonial Revival style house was the home of Fannie B. Richardson, widow of J. T. Richardson, who operated the adjacent grocery at 701 E. Lane. The hipped-roofed house has pedimented gables at the front side corners and centered over the front entrance. In this front gable is a lunette with tracery and a keystone. A hipped-roofed porch with square columns on brick pedestals runs across the three-bay front elevation. Window sash are two over two. The house is covered with asbestos siding and the two chimney stacks have been rebuilt. The front porch railings are also modern. (Wake County Deeds; City Directories)

10. 306 Linden Avenue-(C)
This hipped-roofed, one-story frame house was constructed ca. 1911. Its first occupant was William Johnson, a clerk. The house has a projecting, gable-roofed wing at the northwest corner and a porch that fills the front ell. Square columns with small, unpierced brackets support the porch roof. At either side of the main roof are corbelled-capped chimneys, the south one being stuccoed over. A small, hipped vent sits astride the top ridge of the roof. Window sash are two over two. (City Directories; 1914 Raleigh Sanborn Map)

11. 308 Linden Avenue-(C)
One story tall, with a high, hipped roof and a projecting, gable-roofed wing at the northwest corner, this Classical Revival Style frame house was built ca. 1912 and initially occupied by J. Harvey Eakes, a foreman. In the front ell is a porch with slender Tuscan columns and there is a lunette in the front gable. The chimneys on either side of the roof have had their stacks rebuilt. Window sash are two over two, and there is a transom over the central front door of the three-bay house. (City Directories; 1914 Raleigh Sanborn Map)

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12. 310 Linden Avenue-(NC)

Ca. 1911 one-story frame cottage. House is covered with aluminum siding, chimneys have been altered and front porch has been enlarged and enclosed. (City Directories, 1914 Raleigh Sanborn Map)

13. 312 Linden Avenue-(C)

This two-story, frame, Craftsman style duplex was apparently constructed ca. 1920. The 1914 Sanborn map shows a two-story building at this location, but with a mansard roof and a one-story front porch. The existing, rectangular building has a front gable roof, with a two-story, shed-roofed porch across the front elevation. Both levels have front doors, but the second floor apartment is reached by a steel exterior stair on the south elevation. Also on the south elevation is a smaller, two-story shed-roofed porch with a screened sleeping area on the second level. On the north elevation of the house is a one-story, shed-roofed bay. Typical of the Craftsman style are exposed rafter tails and triangular knee braces in the eaves. Window sash are two over two. (1914 Raleigh Sanborn Map; City Directories)

14. Vacant lot at southeast corner of Linden and Oakwood Avenues-(NC)

This former house site is a landscaped vest pocket city park.

N. Side 700 Block E. Lane Street

15. 701 E. Lane Street-(C)

The Cash Grocery Store, built ca. 1911 for Millard T. Wilder, is an L-shaped, one-story frame building at the corner of E. Lane Street and Linden Avenue. The front corner end of the intersecting tin-shingled gable roofs has a partial raised parapet over a shopfront with full-length display windows flanking a central door. Extending to the side is a wing originally used as living quarters, but which now has a central door with gabled hood flanked by boarded-up display windows. At the rear of the building are two shed-roofed additions with rock-faced, concrete block foundations. Several chimneys with plain shafts rise from the rear plane of the roof. The building has an aluminum awning over the main store entrance and aluminum siding overall. (City Directories; 1914 Raleigh Sanborn Map)

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16. 703 E. Lane Street-(C)

Constructed ca. 1911 for Mrs. Fannie B. Richardson, who was associated with the Cash Grocery Store next door, is this small, T-shaped one-story frame house. Across the front of the three-bay, cross gable house is a hipped-roofed porch with simple post columns and square section balusters. In the northwest corner of the house is a series of shed-roofed additions. A chimney with corbelled cap rises through the ridge at the center of the house. The central front door has a rectangular transom, while the rest of the house has two over two windows. The gable ends have diamond-shaped louvers. Wood blinds have been added to the exterior of the house. (City Directories; 1914 Raleigh Sanborn Map)

17. 705 E. Lane Street-(C)

Original occupants of this one-story, Queen Anne style frame house, constructed ca. 1911, were H. Calvin Goodwin, a carpenter, and Mrs. Alice Goodwin, a dressmaker. The house has an L-shaped plan, with a cross gable front portion and a gable-roofed rear ell. In the rear angle of the ell is a low, hipped-roofed wing. Centered in the front of the standing seam metal roof is a pedimented gable. This and other gables have diamond-shaped louvers. A hipped-roofed porch with bracketted, turned posts runs across the front three bays of the house. Windows have been altered by the installation of modern horizontal two over two sash, including an additional window on the front elevation. (City Directory; 1914 Raleigh Sanborn Map)

8. Statement of Significance

Level of Significance: Local

National Register Criteria: A

C

Areas of Significance: Criterion A-Community Development
Criterion C-Architecture

Period of Significance: 1907-1930

Significant Dates: 1907

Significant Person: N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Unknown

The 1974 nomination for the Oakwood Historic District states that Oakwood, representing "the only intact nineteenth century neighborhood remaining in Raleigh, is composed predominantly of

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Victorian houses built between the Civil War and 1914....The great variety of Victorian architectural styles represented by the houses reflects the primarily middle-class tastes of the business and political leaders of Raleigh for whom they were built, as well as the skill of local architects and builders. Oakwood is a valuable physical document of Southern suburban life during the last quarter of the nineteenth century."

However, the popularity of the residential neighborhoods in the eastern part of the city resulted in almost continual development and redevelopment in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Large lots were subdivided, and existing buildings were demolished and replaced with new, more closely-spaced houses. Much of the surviving housing stock in the Oakwood District is early 20th century. Construction continued strong through the mid-1920s, finally tapering off around 1930 as undeveloped land was no longer available and the popularity of new suburban neighborhoods eclipsed Oakwood's appeal. During the first third of the twentieth century Oakwood came to shelter not only the prosperous and solidly middle class, but also the lower middle and artisan classes. This resulting rich architectural mix reinforces the historic character of the district.

The area included in this amendment, like the original Oakwood Historic District, is significant in terms of architecture and community planning. The area of the amendment should have been included in the original Oakwood Historic District; professional oversight apparently was the reason for its omission. This amendment carries the eastern boundary of the district to its natural breaking point, a small branch behind the rear property lines on the east side of Linden Avenue which separates Oakwood from the traditionally black neighborhoods to the east, which are centered around St. Augustine's College at the southeastern corner of Oakwood Cemetery.

As part of the settlement of the J. M. Heck estate in 1896 (Heck was a major developer of the Oakwood area in the 19th century), parcels of undeveloped land at the east edge of the city were sold to John C. Drewry.(1) Streets had been laid off in these areas, but no lots marketed, although there were houses on adjacent parcels. The east side of the 200 block of Linden Avenue was subdivided by Drewry in the first few years of the century, but he transferred the block, minus one lot which had been previously been sold, to W. P. and W. G. Matthews in 1909.(2) They

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built several houses on the block for themselves, most notably the W. P. Matthews House at 218 Linden (initially the residence of both W. P. and W. G.), and sold the rest of the lots individually. The earliest house in this amendment area, the Gulley House (#3), was built in 1907.

Following several transfers, the east side of the 300 block of Linden Avenue was purchased by E. W. Hightower and D. J. Fort in 1908.(3) Hightower and Fort subdivided the land in the same year and sold it lot by lot over the next few years. By 1914 much of the block had been built up.

The occupants of these new houses, like those of adjacent parcels within the district that were developed at the same time, were mostly of the artisan or lower middle classes. This reflected the fringe nature of the area, and possibly its proximity to Black neighborhoods being developed to the east during the same period.

Most of the houses built in the area were small, one-story, Queen Anne or Classical Revival style cottages. These followed two common house forms; the pyramidal-roofed cottage and the three-gabled cottage sometimes called a "Triple-A." The pyramidal-roofed cottage, with its high, steeply-pitched hipped roof is a turn-of-the-century house type popular in the Piedmont and Coastal portions of the Carolinas whose design probably reflects the hot climate of the area. In an attempt to keep hot roof surfaces as far away from the living area as possible, and in allowing a plentiful space into which heated air could rise, the unused attic area was enlarged considerably.

The Triple-A cottage is a one-story version of the three-gabled I-house, infinitely expandable with rear, gable and shed-roofed wings and additions. Its full-width porch also serves a climatic purpose in sheltering the front walls of the house from the summer sun and in allowing for outdoor living.

There are also two Craftsman style dwellings in the area. Their two-story, rectangular, front-gabled design appears to be an attempt to make maximum use of the long and narrow lots typical of Oakwood.

Within the amendment is one of three corner grocery stores surviving in Oakwood. These small, frame groceries served an essential purpose in providing provisions for householders who

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lived a considerable distance from larger stores in the downtown area.

1

Wake County Deeds, Book 143, p. 237.

2

Wake County Deeds, Book 237, p. 71.

3

Wake County Deeds, Book 249, p. 492.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Little, Ruth. National Register Nomination for Oakwood Historic District. Raleigh: N. C. Division of Archives and History, 1974.

Raleigh, N. C., City Directories.

Sanborn Maps of Raleigh, N. C., 1914.

Wake County, N. C., Deeds.

Previous Documentation

A preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

Primary location of additional data:

State Historic Preservation Office

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: 2.08 acres

UTM References: Zone 17 Easting 714 240 Northing 3962 310

Verbal Boundary Description:

The boundaries of the Linden Avenue Amendment to the Oakwood Historic District are shown by the dashed line on the accompanying map, part of Wake County Tax Map G-1, drawn at a scale of 1"= 100'.

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Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the Linden Avenue Amendment to the Oakwood Historic District are drawn to include a portion of the Oakwood area that is physically and developmentally contiguous with the Oakwood Historic District, and which is divided from other neighborhoods by a small branch at the rear property lines.

11. Form Prepared By

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June 1, 1987

