

What's historic about the Oak Ridge Historic District?



A lot! Oak Ridge boasts more than 50 historic sites on 400+ acres:

- **37 historic buildings**, including two National Register sites and the ORMA National Historic Landmark District.
- **16 tracts of open land** once owned by prominent families who helped shape the early history of Guilford County. Several areas have been developed following the Design Guidelines.

How were the boundaries determined?

The boundaries encompass the majority of our historic sites (see map) and were approved by the State, County, and local property owners.

What's the goal of the Historic District?

To preserve our history while allowing for compatible growth. It's essentially a balance between no change and drastic change.

Why have Design Guidelines?

To give guidance about what kinds of exterior changes are compatible with the historic character of our district. The Guidelines apply to the whole district – including what's in between the historic buildings – to maintain its unique character.

What does the HPC do?

The Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) meets monthly (2nd Wednesdays, 7 p.m.) to review proposed changes in the Historic District. Both Town staff and the HPC are happy to help residents better understand the review process. The HPC also places historic markers and promotes preservation.

What are the benefits of having a Historic District?

It helps preserve Oak Ridge's charm, livability, and unique historic character. And it's good for business and local property values!

For more info, visit oakridgenc.com

Some of the major historic sites in the Oak Ridge Historic District

(The map below shows just a portion of the over 50 sites!)

