

A Joyful Journey

By Betty Sherwood

It was Allen's idea. And a lively one it was. Why not invite his crew, dedicated hard workers all, on an educational-recreational journey to another historic cemetery? With a large city bus, an abundance of food, several adventuresome "friends" of Oakland, and Powerhouse at the wheel, it should be a fine excursion.

Departure time: 7:30 a.m., from the Tower Building. Poncho was there, Dwight, Howard, James, Norris, and Lewis. Reid was on board, gracious and beaming, laden with many small delectable treats for traveling; Annette came, Kathy, Kevin, Martha, Betty, and very special guest, Ruth Fitzgerald from Mobile, chairman of Magnolia Cemetery's support group. It was a goodly gathering; destination Macon, Georgia, Rosehill Cemetery, a self-guided tour, and a picnic at the Ocmulgee National Monument.

Allen's idea became a lively, lovely reality. The Ocmulgee River runs by Rosehill. The land is steep, dramatically uneven. Many vaults are on the hill-sides, inaccessible, or only accessible to agile climbers. It is a beautiful cemetery, akin to Oakland in its Victorian architecture, symbolism, and the eloquent "voices" on stone, remembering. There was much conversation, study, comparisons, some warm fellowship; rambles, descending, ascending, and then a gathering at the gate. It was time to picnic.

Sumptuous. There were sandwiches, chips, cokes, candies, cookies, lemonade. Macon's Ocmulgee National Monument is a 700-acre site that includes Indian Temple mounds and burial mounds, a mysterious earth lodge, and artifacts spanning more than 10,000 years. It was high adventure.

When departure time came, a few hearty explorers decided to take one last walk to McDougall's Mound. From the earth lodge, it was one mile! The bus was loaded, Powerhouse ready at the wheel. But the explorers were not coming down the long, steep path, nor over the hill. They were not to be seen. Gone! These were Oakland's intrepid guides, a scholarly Historic Preservation major, a veteran crewman, and a wise experienced Sexton. Much later they returned, hot, weary, full of diverse accounts. They had found McDougall's, or was it a mirage? There were dry creek beds, deep wooded areas, rare plants, cactus, desert flowers; the Twilight Zone! Good stories. Unbelievably good!

It was an educational journey. It was a recreational journey. It was fun! A general assessment: "Nothing is as lovely as Oakland. Or as beloved." •



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COMMENTARY -- by Interim Executive Director Lillian Gantsoudes

People bring change to HOCl

People are always changing at HOCl. Each year Board members change. And it seems that every year the Board has filled a staff position. The Board is proud to announce that Mary Alice Alexander has been selected as the new Executive Director. I also need to announce that Martha Evans will be leaving HOCl in mid-December; she is moving to Virginia.

This constant changing of personnel and people brings change. The Board of Trustees hopes that hiring Mary Alice Alexander from within HOCl's ranks will keep continuity in the organization.

It was a change for me to serve the past couple of months as the Interim Executive Director. I have found the position a rewarding one for several reasons. The day-to-day activities are basically administrative ones but we have done some planning ahead. During the past couple of months we have rewritten the personnel policy. And by working with the Sexton's office, we have developed a new operations policy which covers everything from office hours to tour procedures.

But another reason, and the best part is the people. I remember several years ago when I was editing this news-

letter, before taking my full-time position, I would spend days at a time in the office. One of my most favorite memories was lunch time. Allen, Jane, and myself would be joined by others, including the different directors over the years, and probably Reid Benson, for an out-to-lunch jaunt. The problems and the plans would all be hashed out. It was a very pleasant working relationship.

It is the interaction with the people at Oakland and their competency that I am so fond of. Martha Evans as Restoration Projects Coordinator has completed surveying an area of Oakland known as Marsh West under a grant provided in conjunction with the Atlanta Urban Design Commission. HOCl's collection of survey notebooks has grown to a total of 26 with this grant now completed. Hesia Brawley has also worked in the interim coordinating all the membership services. Thanks to both of these women for the smiles and leadership they have shown during my tenure.

With Allen and Jane in the Sexton's office, and with HOCl's strong foundation, Mary Alice Alexander's beginnings in November with new staff will be taking HOCl to another level. •

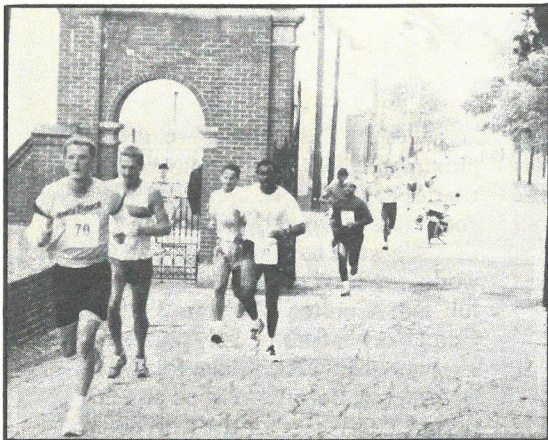
A Letter from the Chairman -- by Henry Bowden

1993 has been a wonderful year for HOCl. Through the many projects we have undertaken, which include descendants research and the restoration of retaining walls; important special events such as Sunday in the Park and the Run for Restoration; and lectures in the winter and spring, HOCl has continued to galvanize interest in and support of Oakland Cemetery and its place in the history of Atlanta.

We have also been blessed with continued high levels of giving, a strong membership, and dedicated Board members, both old and new. While we regret that our Executive Director Beth Shepard departed in July to earn her Master's degree, we are excited that former Chairman of the Board Mary Alice Alexander has accepted our offer to become Executive Director beginning November 15. Mary Alice's knowledge and love of Oakland are unparalleled. The Board is confident that she will take HOCl to its next level of service and achievement.

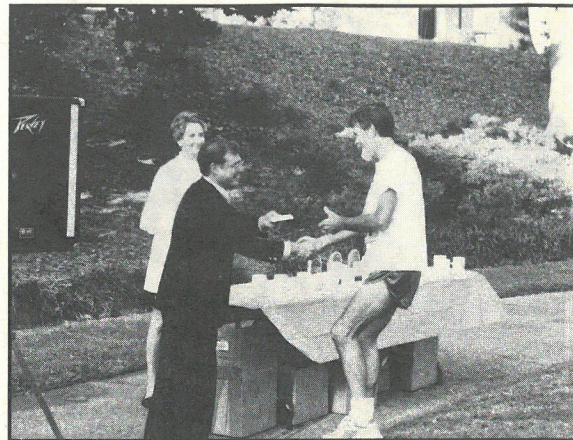
We are also blessed with the support which our members and friends have given HOCl over the past year. If you have already made a donation to the work of our organization, thank you from the bottom of our hearts. If you have not, between now and the end of the year would be a wonderful time to remember Oakland by making a check out to "HOCl". We will gladly accept donations either for our operating needs or for a specific restoration project which you can designate in your gift.

Again, we appreciate the support of our many constituents and look forward to an equally successful 1994. •



Left: Runners enter Historic Oakland Cemetery in droves

Right: Frank Maier, Jr., and Dorothy Chandler present a coaster to winner John Livingstone



Photos by R.B. Coulter

Run for Restoration 1993 Takes Top Honors!

By Frank Chandler

"This is an event with CLASS!"

I was standing in the street next to Hurt Park, at the finish line of the third annual HOCl Run for Restoration, performing my appointed task with my usual flair. My task, given to me (I am sure) based upon my abilities, was to distribute beautiful HOCl mugs to the first fifty female and male finishers of the five kilometer (3.1 miles) race/run-walk. The man speaking to me was one of the top ten finishers, but took the time to stop and give me his impressions.

He continued, "I've run races all over the South and this is one of the best! The shirt, the course, the food, the music . . . everything! I'm going to tell my friends."

His opinion mirrored the opinions of everyone with whom I conversed, from participant to volunteer, that Sunday morning. The consensus was that Run for Restoration '93 was a resounding success.

Although there had been a threat of rain, the weather on October 3 was clear and cool. "Perfect conditions for a race!" HOCl's event chair Dorothy Chandler said to me as the 275 runners/walkers took off at the starting gun. "I think there will be a record!" She was right, as both male and female overall winners set race records. Steve Keith crossed the finish line in a time of 16:13 and Christine LePoutre's time was

20:33. The masters winners (40+ years) were Nathaniel Robinson (19:06) and Glenda Miller (22:27).

There were a few changes in this year's race. For example, the course was changed to lengthen the stretch within the cemetery itself and a long-sleeved tee-shirt was given to the participants. As always, the shirt and brochure were designed by Eric Bowles. Eric manages each year to create a beautifully unique shirt and this was no exception. The quality of Eric's designs have made the Run for Restoration shirts real collectors items.

The awards were equally impressive. Given by Maier and Berkele and presented at the awards ceremony by Frank Maier, Jr., the awards were works of art. Glass sculptures were given to the overall and masters winners and ceramic Oakland coasters were given to the age group winners. Maier and Berkele also provided the mugs given at the finish line. We thank them for their support.

We want to thank ALL our sponsors for their help in making this year's event such a success. This year's sponsors were:

LANDMARK:
Georgia Power Foundation
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CORNERSTONE:
Maier and Berkele
Genuine Auto Parts

Atlanta Gas Light Company
HERITAGE:
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GATEWAY:
Pugmire Lincoln-Mercury
Wolf Camera and Video
Rhodes Bakery
Ruth's Chris Steak House
Coca Cola USA

Obviously, an event such as this cannot happen without the hard work of many people. David Murray and his Fitness Events, Inc., did another great job coordinating the traffic control, the start, the finish, and the results. Oakland Sexton Allen Myers was an invaluable asset, coordinating the race within the cemetery. Many volunteers, including members of HOCl and the Junior League of Atlanta, worked diligently to make the 1993 Run for Restoration a smooth operation. We thank them all!

It should be noted that many HOCl members and Board members also participated in the race. Even Board chair, Henry Bowden, completed the course at a glacier-like pace and now wears the coveted tee-shirt.

My reply to the gentleman who was so excited about the manner in which the race was managed: Thank you so much! Having run the race in 1991 and 1992, I knew exactly what he meant. •

Sunday in the Park 1993



Despite the ominous weather, approximately 900 people enjoyed the festivities of Sunday in the Park 1993. A good time was had by all!

We want to thank everyone who worked so hard to make this so successful: R.B. Coulter, Mike Huston, and Carol Reeves for tirelessly photographing everything; Ann Jones for the refreshments; Betty Sherwood and Annette Chamberlin for the storytellers; Jenny McClure, Sarah Goodman, and Elizabeth Porter and the Junior League of Atlanta for their tireless efforts in putting together the wonderful picnics; Paul Boat for the Sculpture Scavenger Hunt; Kevin Kuharic for the Adopt-A-Plot program; Doyle Huggins for the Victorian Boutique and Hat Contest; and Sharon Cooper for the incredible Teddy Bear Tea!

Also, special thanks to Davant Turner and the Hibernian Benevolent Society who participate every year with a wonderful program and music.

And of course a very special thanks to Allen Myers for his hard work in pulling Sunday in the Park together; to Jane Hameister for her tireless record searches; to the Oakland maintenance crew for working above and beyond the call of duty; and to the HOCI staff for help before and during the big event.

Many, many thanks for the support of the following individuals and sponsors for the 1993 Sunday in the Park!



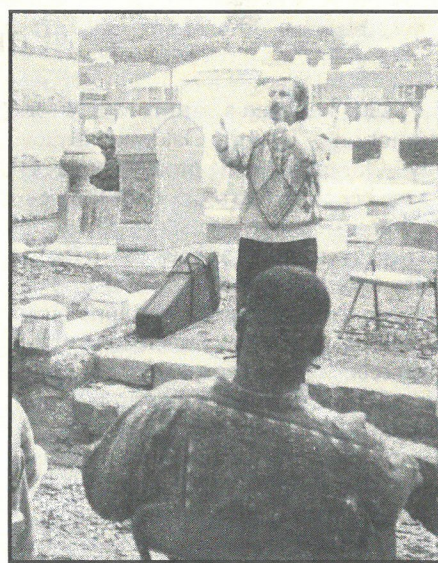
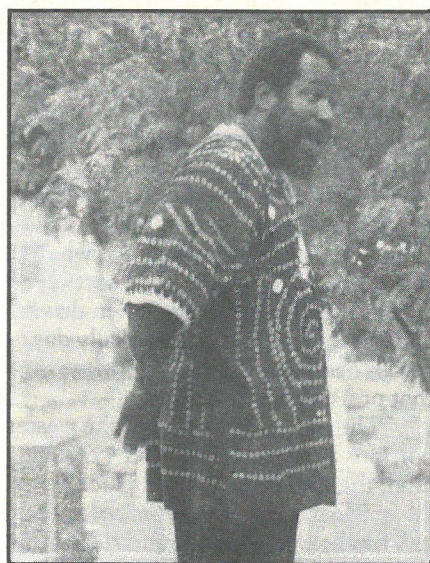
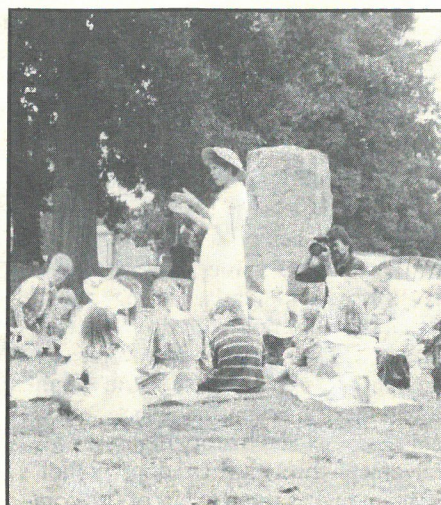
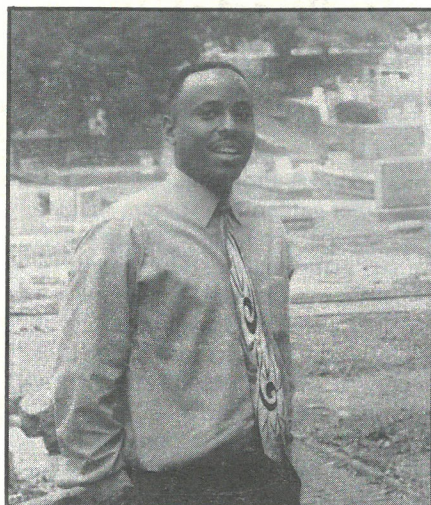
All photos by R.B. Coulter, Mike Huston, and Carol Reeves

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Adopt-A-Plot

Good for Oakland, Good for our Volunteers

By Kevin Kuharic

The tradition of grave-tending is returning to Oakland Cemetery. Once thought of as being the responsibility of the descendants, caretaking has seen a recent rise in popularity among individuals and groups not related to the interred. These Adopt-A-Plot volunteers are frequently transplants to the Atlanta region, who do not have extended families or a local history here. Involvement through the Adopt-A-Plot program makes them a part of the community.

The program idea originated when landscape architect Edward L. Daugherty submitted a plan for Oakland Cemetery in 1984. Among his recommendations was a volunteer effort called "Adopt-A-Plot". This was to be a program to involve volunteers in the upkeep of the grounds and to supplement the work force of a grounds crew small in number. General maintenance such as the mowing of grass, the pruning of trees and shrubs, the clearing of trash and debris, the application of herbicides, and the preparation of burial sites leaves little time for specialized landscaping and its care.

Adopt-A-Plot's mission is to be the volunteer gardening program that involves people in historic landscaping and its maintenance. The benefit to the visitor to Oakland Cemetery is the beautification and revitalization of the grounds; the benefits to the volunteer include feelings of serenity, belonging, and accomplishment.

Edie Gardner is responsible for the Nalley Family lot, just inside of Oakland's front gate. She felt a link to the family, because her family hails from the same county in Ireland as the Nalleys.

Kenneth Crawford II cares for the Exotic Revival Rawson mausoleum near the Bell Tower. He finds a sense of peace and solitude when gardening.

Primary interest in the program came from individuals; now, however, groups like the Junior League of Atlanta and CIRCA, the young professional group of the Atlanta Preservation Center, are joining. The participants are varied: a waiter, a teacher, a nurse, a musician. You never know when you will see them. Sometimes, they will be working in the chill of the morning, or

scooting out as the guard swings the gates shut in the evening. The time that they dedicate is their own. These volunteers sign a two-year commitment form, and provide their own tools, labor, and materials.

A plot is eligible for the program when there is no known descendant or contact name. Efforts directed at these burial sites will eventually form a chain of visual continuity that will recapture the essence of Oakland's "garden cemetery" heritage.

Current development of the program includes distributing fliers, recruiting qualified individuals and groups, providing them with guidance, creating lists of appropriate materials and their uses, and identifying adopted lots with signs during the annual Sunday in the Park celebration.

To obtain more information regarding what you or your organization can do, call or write:

Adopt-A-Plot
c/o Historic Oakland Cemetery
248 Oakland Avenue, SE
Atlanta, GA 30312
577-8163 •



Restoration in Progress

Perimeter Walls Back in Place



This has been a banner season for restoration at Historic Oakland Cemetery! Our most visible projects have of course been the two sections of the perimeter wall under repair: the stone one on Boulevard that has been down for years, and the brick wall on Oakland Avenue that collapsed in the June rains. The brick wall is now finished, having been rebuilt using the original bricks and historically appropriate mortar mix. Sexton Allen Myers went to great pains to ensure accuracy throughout, halting work when inappropriate mortar was initially used and keeping an ever-vigilant eye on building technique and materials. [For those of our visitors who have expressed concern over the slightly lighter color of the rebuilt section, this is due to

the constant handling of the old brick and will weather to match the rest of the wall in the near future.]

As for the stone wall on Boulevard, this is under construction and should be completed soon; unfortunately, when this is finished another stone section on Boulevard will need to be taken down and rebuilt due to the potentially dangerous tilt toward the street. More on that project as it progresses.

The extensive survey of the western portions of sections 2, 3, and 4 of Oakland, the area in which Margaret Mitchell and Governor Joseph Brown are buried, has been completed and reviewed by the state Office of Historic Preservation and given an enthusiastic thumbs-up! The survey fills fifteen notebooks and is

on file in the HOCI offices; feel free to come on up and take a look when you're in the cemetery.

A recent grant from the Tull Charitable Foundation will make it possible to begin restoring the retaining walls in the Original Six Acres. A priority list of repairs was made several months ago and will serve as the basis for this work, which is slated to begin this winter. Fifteen lots will have their retaining walls repaired with this grant money.

Oakland was the site of a National Park Service Historic Landscape Maintenance workshop in late August. Graveyard restoration authority Lynette Strangstad pointed out both successful and unsuccessful restoration efforts made at Oakland through the years. •

The Forgotten Americans -- Women in Military Service

In the more than 200 years of American history, nearly two million women have served in the military, but you won't find them in any history book. From the Revolutionary War to Desert Storm, American women of all creeds have given their time - and their lives - defending their country with patriotism and bravery. In World War II alone, nearly 400,000 women served in all branches of the service.

In a long-overdue tribute, the unfinished entrance wall at Arlington National Cemetery will be completed as a memorial to those brave women, listing the names of those who have served or are still serving in the United States military.

We would like to know if there are any women buried here at Oakland who served in the military, or if there are any HOCI members who are currently serv-

ing. If you have any information, please contact Allen Myers, Sexton's Office, Historic Oakland Cemetery, 248 Oakland Avenue, Atlanta, GA 30312 (no phone calls please).

If you would like to personally become involved with the memorial, contact: Women in Military Service for America Memorial Foundation, Dept. 560, Washington, D.C. 20042-0560; 1-800-222-2294. •

Welcome New Members and Upgrades!

A welcome and thank you to the following members who have either joined HOCI or upgraded their membership between June 20, 1993 and October 22, 1993.

*The asterisk indicates upgrades.

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Kevin W. Kuharic*
Mr. and Mrs. William Mallard

INDIVIDUAL

Nancy Kiser Leedy
John W. Pattillo*
Frances Young*

STUDENT/SENIOR CITIZEN

Jane E. Foley

Special Contributions

Eileen Rhea Brown
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Luther H. Randall, Jr.
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William C. Shreve
Mr. and Mrs. Edward D. Smith
In memory of Devereaux McClatchey

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In memory of Mrs. Frank C. Owens

Steve and Cathy Vogel
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Mrs. David Deakins
In memory of William C. Groves
In memory of Courtney Kennedy

Mrs. Harvey Jacobson
In honor of Lillian Gantsoudes

Mrs. Virginia S. Gilbert
In honor of Reid Benson

*Thanks to Carol Jones for
her in-kind donation
of a VCR*

HOCI mourns Devereaux F. McClatchey

The following resolution was adopted unanimously by the Board of Trustees of Historic Oakland Cemetery at its regularly scheduled meeting held on November 4, 1993.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Historic Oakland Cemetery, Inc., in grateful appreciation and recognition of DEVEREAUX F. McCLATCHY, III's many years of devotion, financial support, and service to Oakland Cemetery, both as Trustee of Historic Oakland Cemetery, Inc. and as Chairman of the Advisory Board of Historic Oakland Cemetery, Inc., does by the incorporation of this Resolution in the minutes of the organization memorialize Mr. McClatchey's enduring contributions to Oakland Cemetery and to the ongoing work of Historic Oakland Cemetery, Inc.

This 4th day of November, 1993.

Henry L. Bowden, Jr.
Chairman of the Board
Historic Oakland Cemetery, Inc.



The Board and staff of Historic Oakland Cemetery, Inc. extend their heartfelt sympathy to the McClatchey family and sincerely thank all those who contributed to HOCI in his name.

Editor's Note: In the Winter 1994 issue, we will print a full-length tribute written by Mr. McClatchey's longtime friend Henry Grady. •

Buy a Bow (Or Wreath!!) . . . Save a Stone

BOW MEMORIAL

Please make checks payable to Historic Oakland Cemetery, Inc. and mail to 248 Oakland Avenue, SW, Atlanta, GA 30312 before December 10th. Remember, your gift is tax deductible as allowable by law.

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____ for _____ Holiday Memorial Bow (s) (\$10 each)
_____ Holiday Memorial Wreath (s) (\$60)

Please place bows or wreaths:

- ☐ Block No. _____ Lot Location/name _____
- ☐ In my favorite spot: _____
- ☐ Please select an appropriate site for me.

If you've visited Oakland during the winter holiday season over the past five years, you have probably noticed the brilliant red bows and ribbons decorating our statuary and stones. The Holiday Bow Memorial Project not only provides an exceptionally dramatic and beautiful memorial but also raises money for our

Restoration account. The sharp contrast of color to winter's barren landscape is striking indeed!

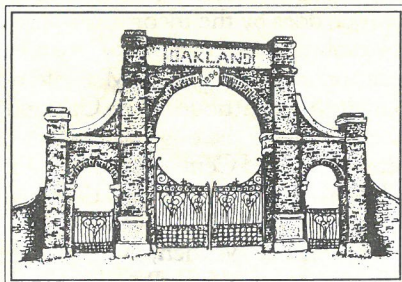
These bows are sponsored by a variety of Oakland supporters: plot owners, family members, HOCl members, staff, visitors, and other assorted friends of the cemetery.

This year we will again offer the single bow for \$10 or you may choose a beautiful large wreath of bows for \$60.

HOCl will mail a renewal letter from last year's orders by mid-November. If you do not receive a letter, please use the newsletter form. Return forms and renewal letters to HOCl before December 10th. You may specify your favorite spot for the bow placement, or let our committee place the bow for you. Payment must be made in full before we can place a bow.

Proceeds from the Bow Memorial Project are used exclusively for Oakland restoration projects, which have included the repair of the McNamara and Motes lots.

We will place the bows Saturday, December 18th, beginning at 9:30 a.m. If you'd like to volunteer for this activity, please call the HOCl office at 688-2107 or call the committee chairman, Paula Reith, at 872-6414. This is a fun way to meet other Oakland volunteers, and become more familiar with the grounds and some of the stories associated with individual plots that make Oakland such a unique place. •



HISTORIC OAKLAND

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