



HONORING A VIBRANT COMMUNITY

YOU ARE STANDING IN THE HEART OF HISTORIC OBERLIN VILLAGE, A COMMUNITY ROOTED IN FREEDOM AND DEDICATED TO CREATING A GREATER TOMORROW. WAKEMED HONORS THIS RICH HERITAGE AND ASPIRES TO THESE SAME GOALS THROUGH OUR LONG-STANDING MISSION TO CARE FOR ALL AND OUR COMMITMENT TO LEARN, GROW AND BUILD TOGETHER – ALL FOR THE BETTER.



Oberlin Village grew out of a Free Black settlement during the Reconstruction era following the abolishment of slavery. Today, it stands as one of the last surviving Freedmen's Villages in North Carolina.

Founders and first residents of Oberlin Village bought land as early as the late 1850s and began building their homes in the 1870s. Some of the historic homes and churches built along Oberlin Road over the years are still standing today – as are the hallowed grounds of Oberlin Cemetery.

The Raleigh Township section of the 1880 U.S. census lists 177 families – approximately 750 residents – living in the Oberlin area. Residents contributed their time and many talents to build and sustain a strong community, and Oberlin thrived and prospered over the following decades.

Education was a priority for the community, whose name honors Ohio's Oberlin College, which supported Black education. At the end of the Reconstruction era, Oberlin Village had one of the highest concentrations of educated Blacks in North Carolina. Oberlin School was established in 1873, and in 1892, Latta University opened its doors within Oberlin Village.

Oberlin's founders, families, and residents included farmers, masons, cabinetmakers, shoemakers, butchers, seamstresses, educators, lawyers,



architects, legislators, nurses, doctors, and many other professionals. The same skilled craftsmen of Oberlin Village also helped build nearby Raleigh landmarks, including the original buildings within the Village District shopping center. Over 100 men and women served their country in the military.

Oberlin Village has a deep-rooted history as an extraordinary community that prospered despite the suffering and struggles related to slavery, segregation, and discrimination. As an organization dedicated to ensuring equity, inclusion, and care for all, WakeMed is honored to highlight this remarkable legacy and honor this vibrant community and the many residents whose contributions helped improve the health and well-being of our community. The history of Oberlin Village continues to be rediscovered and retold as preservationists, historians, volunteers, descendants, and present-day residents work to commemorate, research, and share generations of stories from this beloved community.

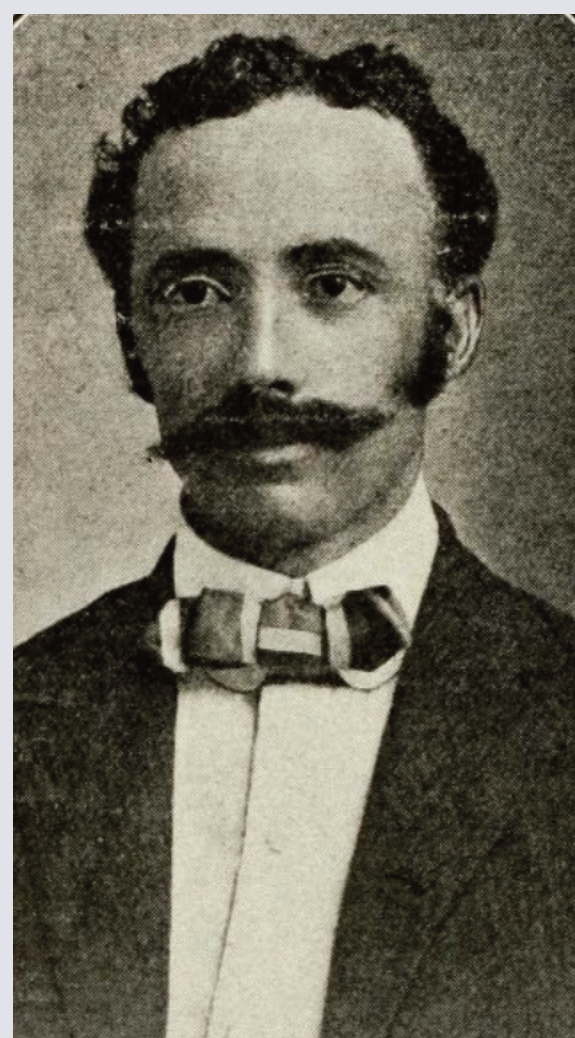
Learn more about its rich history and legacy at www.friendsofoberlinvillage.org.

LASTING LEGACY

BUILT ON A FOUNDATION OF CARE AND CARING FOR THE COMMUNITY, WAKEMED – WHICH OPENED IN 1961 AS ONE OF THE FIRST INTEGRATED HOSPITALS IN NC – IS PROUD TO RECOGNIZE THE MANY BLACK MEDICAL PIONEERS AND PROFESSIONALS OF OBERLIN VILLAGE.

WE ARE PARTICULARLY HONORED THAT SEVERAL OF THESE INSPIRING INDIVIDUALS SHARED THEIR TALENTS AND SKILLS AS MEMBERS OF THE WAKEMED FAMILY. LEADING WITH PURPOSE AND CREATING A LASTING LEGACY, THEIR COMPASSION AND CONTRIBUTIONS HAVE MADE AN IMPACT ON OUR HEALTH AND WELL-BEING AND EMPOWERED GENERATIONS TO COME.

LOVELACE B. CAPEHART, SR., PHYSICIAN 1863 - 1942



Lived at 509 Oberlin Road and practiced as a physician during the first half of 20th century from approximately 1908 to 1941.

Lovelace B. Capehart, Sr., was born in Bertie County, NC. He overcame many adverse childhood circumstances and entered the State Normal School in Elizabeth City in

1883. He later entered Shaw University around 1884 and graduated from the College Department with a liberal arts degree and later received a law degree at the same institution. Capehart was a professor of English at his alma mater for eight years and later accepted a similar position at Jackson Baptist College, in Mississippi. Several years later he returned to Raleigh where he took up the study of medicine at Leonard Medical College. Four years later, in 1907, he graduated and soon after passed the State Board. He quickly built up his medical practice and was described as a man of marked ability and worth.

Dr. Capehart married Maggie Lillian Love on March 3, 1893, and they lived in Raleigh with five children. They owned a beautiful home which sat at this location, as well as valuable city property.

PINKY ALSTON, NURSE

Lived in Oberlin Village and was one of the first nurses in Raleigh to be licensed under the 1947 Nurse Practice Act.

JANE MASON AVERY, NURSE

Lived in Oberlin Village and was one of the first nurses in Raleigh to be licensed under the 1947 Nurse Practice Act.

CATHERINE "KATE" GAMBRELL, NURSE

Lived at 904 Oberlin Road across from Community Grocery (now Community Deli).

ELLEN "MA PIE" SCARVER HAYWOOD, MIDWIFE

Lived at 1217 Oberlin Road and practiced as a beloved midwife, bringing numerous community members into this world from the first quarter of the 20th century until the early 1950s.

CHARLES HAYWOOD, DENTIST

Grew up in Oberlin Village at 1001 Parker Street, which was formerly the site of Latta University. Dr. Haywood matriculated at Shaw University for his undergraduate studies; received a master's degree from North Carolina Central and his Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) from Howard University. He practiced as a dentist at 131 E. Hargett Street for more than 40 years.

JULIAN KRIS A. HAYWOOD, DENTIST

Grew up on the 1300 block of Oberlin Community. He attended Winston-Salem State University for his undergraduate studies. He watched his father, Dr. Charles Haywood, impact the community with his career. After receiving his Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) from Meharry Medical College, he followed his father into a career in dentistry and has been practicing in the Raleigh-Durham area since 2001.

BILLIE VIRGINIA TUCKER JACKSON, RADIOLOGIC TECHNICIAN/TECHNOLOGIST

Grew up in the Oberlin Village community in the 2300 block of Wade Avenue. Practiced at Wake Memorial Hospital (now WakeMed) from 1965 to 1968, and at Dorothea Dix Hospital from 1968 until her retirement in 1996.

ANNIE ROSE SCARBOROUGH MOORE, NURSE

Lived at 1005 Oberlin Road across the street from Oberlin School. She worked at Wake Memorial Hospital (now WakeMed) on New Bern Avenue from 1967 until she retired in 2012. After starting as an LPN, she went back to school and received her RN license in March 1978.

VIRGINIA WILLIAMS PEBBLES, NURSE

Lived at 1405 Oberlin Road and was one of the first nurses in Raleigh to be licensed under the 1947 Nurse Practice Act.

WILLIAM B. PETTIFORD, PHYSICIAN

Lived at 1302 Oberlin Road, interned at Saint Agnes Hospital, and practiced as a physician from approximately 1930 to the mid-1950s. Served as the former president of the Old North State Medical, Dental and Pharmaceutical Society, Inc. Formed in 1887, it is recognized as the world's oldest Black Medical Society.

PETER F. ROBERTS, PHYSICIAN

Lived at 403 Oberlin Road and practiced as a physician during the first half of the 20th century.

MARGARET ROBINSON, NURSE

Lived on Parker Street near the site of historic Latta University.

BESSIE SMITH, NURSE

Lived on Bedford Avenue and was employed at McCauley Hospital on South Wilmington Street.

INEZ TUCK, NURSE

Grew up in the Oberlin Village community on Kilgore Avenue. She received her associate degree in Nursing (RN) from North Carolina A&T State University, a doctorate degree in Nursing (DNP) from UNC Greensboro and a master's degree in Nursing (MSN) from University of Florida (Gainesville, FL). In 2018, she received the Excellence in Nursing Education award from the New England Regional Black Nurses Association.

JOHN JEROME TURNER, MEDIC

Lived in the Oberlin Village community and served as a medic in France during WWI with the Medical Detachment of the 313th Engineers. Later, he worked as a medical orderly at Rex Hospital (now UNC REX Hospital).

MATTIE RUSHER WEBB, NURSE

Lived at 605 Oberlin Road and practiced at Duke University Medical Center, Wake Memorial Hospital (now WakeMed), and Dorothea Dix Hospital from 1962 until her retirement in 1993.

MICHAEL G. WILLIAMS, PHYSICIAN

Lived at 1401 Oberlin Road and has practiced as a physician in Michigan for more than 36 years (and counting).

We are grateful to Friends of Oberlin Village for their commitment to preserve, honor, and educate our community about the rich heritage of Oberlin Village and the significant contributions of both founding residents and their descendants.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS With gratitude, we recognize Carmen Cauthen, Joe Holt, Jr., Sabrina Goode, Cheryl Croom Williams and Friends of Oberlin Village for their research and work to provide the above names and facts about Oberlin Village medical pioneers. While it is nearly impossible to recognize all the medical professionals with ties to Oberlin Village, we appreciate the ongoing commitment of volunteers who give selflessly of their time, resources, and talents to discover and share the history of Oberlin Village. Dr. Capehart photo courtesy of History of the American Negro - North Carolina Edition. Oberlin area map by Clay Rodery, courtesy of theassemblync.com. Plummer T. Hall and Graves-Field's house photos courtesy of CCCC J. Lamb.

DEDICATED JULY 15, 2021