

Comments on The Oaks photos

The GHP museum has a set of 36 'slides' which were done as a house tour of The Oaks. They are printed on heavy cardstock, with duplicate pictures on each card as they were meant to be viewed in 3D with a special viewer. I scanned each of these and you can tell by the numbering system on the scans which photos these are. (If you see 'copy' as part of the file name it's because I've done minor touch up to the original scan). In addition to these 36 photos, I've included two other exterior shots of the house and one of Wm A. and his wife Charlotte sitting on the veranda (don't have a date on that). They built this house and then their daughter Bessie and her husband Ralph Rogan lived there. The house was torn down in the mid 1950s. The stone entry markers for The Oaks still exist.

I think the 36 photos were taken c. 1937. It's an educated guess based on Tom Carruthers age in the photo with him on the horse. He looks to be about 10 yrs old and he was born in 1927. I also think these had to have been taken after 1934 when Wm C. died as it would be odd for Bessie to be sitting by pictures of Wm C had he not died relatively recently. Last but not least, Bessie is clearly younger on these pictures than in the 1945 anniversary photo. I think the boy in the other grandchild picture is Ralph Burchenal. He couldn't tell when looking at the small photo on the cardstock, but after scanning and blowing it up a bit, it sure looks like him. Perhaps it's his brother.

If you look carefully at the photos on the tables in the room shots, you can see many family photos. The library and sunroom must have been used as 'family room' space. The photos on the library table appear to be of their two daughters' families.

Photo 19A is just a bit a Photoshop 'magic'. It was obvious that two of the living room photos were taken of each side of the room so I just put them together for a better view.

The house layout seems to have been with the library on the right, after coming in the front door. The sunroom opened up off of that to the south side. The living room was on the left hand side of the front hall. There was a side hall behind the living room to another entrance on the north side of the house; I think the dining room was on the east side of this side hall.