



Education, Appreciation, Preservation
Volume XIV 2026

Historic Turner House Foundation, Inc

Historic Turner House Foundation Inc, a non profit, 501©(3) will continue to build on past and current efforts in lectures, walking and digital tours, historic and preservation projects to encourage cultural reconciliation and understanding. In person tours by appointment at www.historicturnerhouse.org.



Archiving and cataloguing team

Thank you for your support of the Historic Turner House. This year has been a complicated journey as we push to meet our team goals. 2026 goals included educational and preservation projects and fundraising to support our initiatives. We continue our passion for education as we bring recognition to the Turner Family and Historic Oberlin Village history locally and nationally. As we look forward to collaborations and participating in educational and preservation tasks, we ask for your generous donations to continue our mission. We are so grateful to our volunteers and supporters who have helped throughout the years

The year so far:

- 10 Tours, 9 Presentations/Events and 251 Visitors/Guests
- Second Annual 'Turner House Tea' to celebrate our mission/supporters

- Shared Raleigh and Oberlin history through cultural trolley rides, summer camps, community service and scholarly opportunities for students
- Awarded grant to support our missions from the Historic Stagville Foundation & State Archives of North Carolina
- Partnered with municipal and civic organizations to educate our community

Did you know.....

Brooke's Reflection by **Brooke Snell**

I may be a fifth-generation descendant of the Turner family, but being a part of the story of the Historic Turner House has become so much more meaningful than simply knowing that my family has a connection to this place. Volunteering at the Turner House has given me the opportunity to meet people who share a genuine love for history, people who are excited to tell their family stories, and others who are searching for answers about where they come from.

This past summer, I had the opportunity to volunteer for four Tuesdays at the Historic Turner House. Each Tuesday, a group of campers from Mordecai's History Truths Summer Camp came to visit for a walking tour of the Turner House and the Oberlin Cemetery.

One of my favorite parts of the experience was watching the campers' curious minds come alive as they learned about the people and families connected to the places they were visiting. They asked questions, shared their thoughts, and wanted to understand the stories behind the names, homes, and graves they encountered.

For me, those moments were especially significant. History can sometimes feel like something that happened a long time ago and has little connection to our lives today. But when you stand in a historic home or walk through a cemetery and begin learning about the people who lived, worked, loved, struggled, and built their lives there, history becomes personal.

Being a descendant of the Turner family makes my connection to the Turner House special, but volunteering there has taught me that history belongs to all of us. Every family has a story. Every name has a story. And sometimes, all it takes is one person being curious enough to ask questions to uncover a piece of that story.

Meeting people who are passionate about preserving and sharing history has inspired me to learn even more about my own family. It has also reminded me how important it is to create opportunities for younger generations to connect with the past. When children are encouraged to ask questions and explore their history, they begin to understand that the stories of those

who came before them helped shape the world they live in today. Those four Tuesdays were more than volunteer hours for me. They were an opportunity to connect with my community, learn from others, share in the excitement of discovering history, and see the importance of preserving stories for generations to come.

I am grateful to have been a small part of the Turner House story this summer. Whether I am a fifth-generation Turner descendant or simply someone who believes every single one of us is more similar than different throughout history; I know that this experience has inspired me to continue learning, asking questions, and helping others discover the stories within their own families.

Sometimes, volunteering doesn't just allow you to serve your community, it helps you discover a little more about yourself along the way.

“Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better.”

Maya Angelou



Upcoming Events Turner House Tours-By appointment only
9/26/26 - 10:30-1:00 pm Truth and Record/FOV Tour

10/17/26- 9-12:00 pm Historic Oberlin Cemetery Cleanup



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Donate online at www.historicturnerhouse.org

Or by mail to 1002 Oberlin Road Raleigh, NC 27605