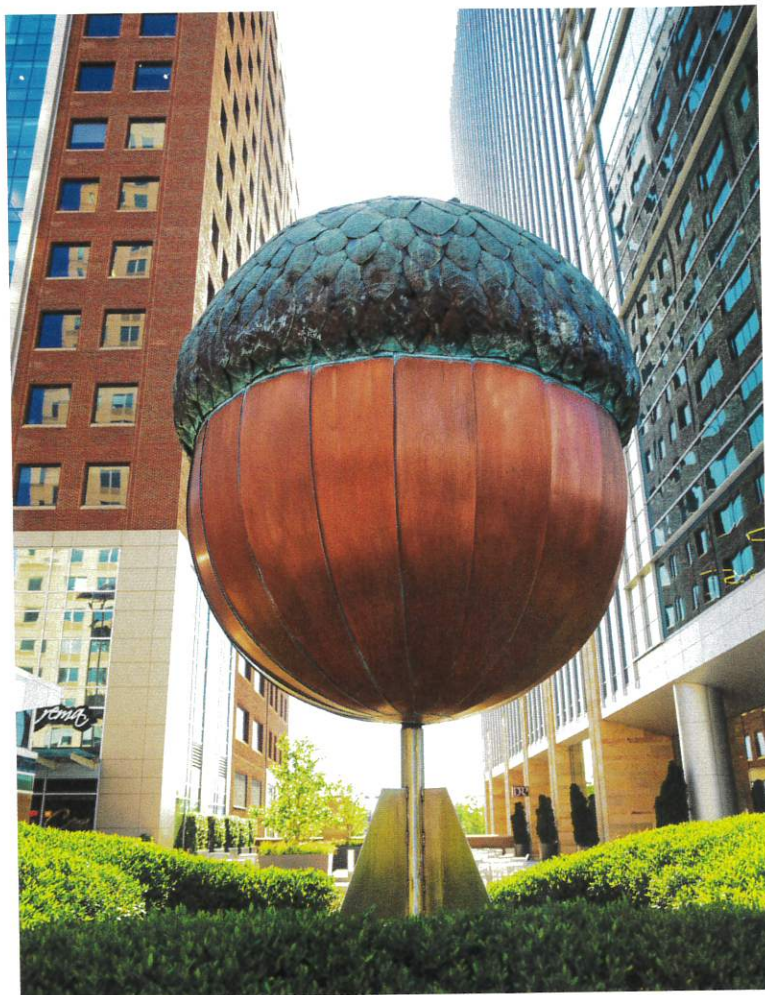


Clockwise from right: A soaring white oak at Carl Alwin Schenck Memorial Forest; the *Shimmer Wall* on the Raleigh Convention Center; the copper-and-steel *Great Raleigh Acorn*.



# City of Oaks

## RALEIGH

Seemingly around each corner, oak trees have been a part of Raleigh's landscape since long before the city was established on New Year's Eve 1792. For its bicentennial, artist David Benson created the *Great Raleigh Acorn*, a 1,200-pound copper acorn that's dropped at midnight on Raleigh's birthday and adorns City Plaza throughout the year. One block west, artist Thomas Sayre's 210-foot-wide, 44-foot-tall *Shimmer Wall* features nearly 80,000 aluminum panels that depict an oak tree and quiver in the wind. Nearby Moore Square, a four-acre green space that was one of downtown's original five squares, is framed with towering oaks. And just east of downtown, historic Oakwood, the largest intact 19th-century residential neighborhood in the state, honors the mighty moniker.



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