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**THE JESSE OWENS MEMORIAL PARK BOARD  
INVITES**

**THE STATE OF ALABAMA**

**TO INVEST IN THE  
JESSE OWENS MEMORIAL PARK**

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**PRESENTED ON BEHALF OF THE  
JESSE OWENS MEMORIAL PARK BOARD**

**BY**

**JAMES PINION, PROJECT DIRECTOR  
THERMAN WHITE, JESSE OWENS MEMORIAL PARK BOARD CHAIRMAN**

**OCTOBER 1995**

# Executive Summary

The Jesse Owens Memorial Park Board invites The State of Alabama to invest in the Jesse Owens Memorial Park. (Facility needs list enclosed.)

The purpose of the Jesse Owens Memorial Park is to provide a living memorial to Jesse Owens, to honor and perpetuate his athletic achievements and sportsmanship, as well as his accomplishments as an individual. This will be accomplished in two ways. (1) By providing athletic and passive recreational facilities to Oakville and area residents. (2) By providing educational and historic facilities which will attract visitors to Oakville to visit the Jesse Owens statue, home replica, museum and related memorabilia.

Jesse Owens, world renowned track star and Olympian, was born in 1913 in Oakville, Alabama, located eight miles east of Moulton in Lawrence County, Alabama.

Snubbed by Adolph Hitler at the 1936 Olympics in Germany, Owens won four Olympic gold medals for our country and breaking three world records in one day. These major feats shattered Hitler's theory of Aryan superiority which he so boastfully proclaimed.

In 1950, the Associated Press recognized Owens as the "greatest track man of the century". His accomplishments have contributed more to his sport than any other track star, past or present. In 1970, he was inducted into the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame.

Even after his death in 1980, Owens' contributions are still being appreciated in our country. In 1990, President George Bush presented Mrs. Ruth Owens, widow of Jesse Owens, with a fifth gold medal, The Congressional Medal of Honor, for his humanitarian contribution in the race of life.

Contributions to the Jesse Owens Memorial Park represent an investment opportunity for Alabama. For years to come, citizens from all walks of life will travel to Oakville to enjoy this living memorial honoring a great American. Alabama's contribution will be appropriately recognized by all who visit the Memorial Park.

# Jesse Owens Memorial Park

The Park consists of 17.5 acres located in Oakville where Jesse Owens was born.

Oakville is in Lawrence County in the northwest portion of Alabama, 118 miles south of Nashville, Tennessee; 45 miles west of Huntsville, Alabama; 142 miles east of Memphis, Tennessee; 90 miles north of Birmingham, Alabama; and 200 miles west of Atlanta, Georgia.

Projected cost to complete the Memorial Park is \$1,140,380.

Total Park investments made to date are ~~\$384,450~~<sup>\$92,250</sup>. These funds from private, corporate, and public sources have made possible the following:

Land purchase, site preparation including: drainage, park road, grounds development, and water line trenching

Park maintenance equipment

Front fence, park sign and gate

Ball field fence, dugouts, backstop

Basketball court and goals

27' x 78' large pavilion pad 6"

Three polygon pavilions (Hex, 20 metal)

Jesse Owens Statue (8-1/2 ft. bronze) surrounded by Gold Medallion Court

Home replica

Underground electrical power source and transformer

Public restroom, storage

Welcome and Information Building

*Landscaping plant materials for museum and Welcome Center*

## Opportunities For Investors

Private and corporate funds are needed to complete the development of the planned facilities at the Jesse Owens Memorial Park. Investment in one or all the facilities needed and their cost are listed by priority as follows:

(Grand Total - ~~\$755,930~~ <sup>749/30</sup>)

MUSEUM BUILDING: \$222,800

48' x 48' @ \$75/sq. ft.,  
includes office, storage, restroom,  
gallery, gift shop and museum furnishings

GROUNDS: \$160,234

Drainage, perimeter & materials - playground equipment	\$ 36,692
Two polygon pavilions, Hex, 20 metal	\$ 13,000
Ten pavilion picnic tables (2 tables/pavilion)	\$ 8,700
Four drinking fountains - vandal proof, frost proof	\$ 7,280
Four security lights	\$ 9,360
Fencing, park perimeter 3,490 ft., rustic, wood, 2 rail (materials only)	\$ 9,074
Two parking lots, #1 - 12 spaces, #2 - 40 spaces	\$ 27,040
<del>Landscaping plant materials, trees, shrubs, sod</del>	<del>\$ 7,800</del>
Irrigation (Museum & Gold Medallion Court grounds)	\$ 6,500
PVC pipe - water, irrigation, restroom	\$ 6,500
Two septic tanks & field lines	\$ 7,800
Twenty park benches (\$850 each)	\$ 16,500
Six litter receptacles (permanently installed, dome top, liners) \$350 each	\$ 2,100

TRACK: \$123,500

440 yards, regulation 8 lines

SOFTBALL FIELD: \$ 11,050

Sod, 419 hybrid Bermuda sod only  
2 bleachers, 5 row set, 21 ft. aluminum, seats 50

CASH NEEDS:

For matching two grants \$ 80,000

All contributions will be recognized by the following plan developed by the Jesse Owens Memorial Park Board.

1. Name placed on the museum "Wall of Contributors".
2. Name listed in contribution album located in Visitor & Welcome Center.
3. Name plate permanently placed on facility(s) sponsored by contributor.
4. Mass media and publications.

Contributions should be made to the Jesse Owens Memorial Park Board which has a 501(C)(3) tax exempt status. The Jesse Owens Memorial Park Board's Tax Exempt Identification Number is 58-1948457.