

Wakestone Gardens, January 5, 1994

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Here's another major fire from the city's more recent history. Wakestone Gardens at 3917 Lassiter Mill Road, which was right at the Beltline, but a lower elevation than street-level, if memory serves. Two alarms on January 5, 1994, dispatched at 10:09 p.m. Took about two hours to control. The two-story (two-story?), 6,000 square-foot main building was destroyed. Here are a couple photos recently found. First by local photographer Gregory Wiggs, found in the files at Station 9. Given to the crew. They were first-due. Second are a pair of recently researched photos from the *News & Observer*, by ____ Thomason. They also make good comparison of night photography techniques. Looks like Wiggs was shooting with ambient light, while Thomson fired a flash. Entirely powerful flash, it seems! Also have a scanned print, somewhere, of a darker shot of Ladder 16 flowing. If memory serves or as the stories go, it was the last time the 1979 Mack/1958 American LaFrance tiller was used. No time to dig that out. Click to slightly enlarge:



Gregory Wiggs photo



News & Observer photos

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