

A WALKING TOUR
of
HISTORIC PINEHURST



by Mark Wesley Parson

...or shall we call it
“SIGNHURST?”



EXCESSIVE USE OF SIGNS

The Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), Section 2A.04 states:

“Regulatory and warning signs should be used conservatively because these signs, if used to excess, tend to lose their effectiveness.”



Kelly Road, Pinehurst

Kelly Road:

- Speed limit 25 mph
- School: Pinehurst Elementary
- Church: Community Presbyterian

Signs:

- 10 fluorescent yellow signs within one block
- Free-standing Crossing Sign in roadway



May Street, Southern Pines

May Street:

- Speed limit 35 mph
- Schools (2):
 - Southern Pines Elementary
 - Episcopal Day School
- Churches (2):
 - Brownson Presbyterian
 - Emmanuel Episcopal

Signs:

- 2 fluorescent yellow signs within three blocks.

CAN'T SEE THE BOY SCOUT FOR THE SIGNS

Flesh and blood vs. Fluorescent glare



Kelly Road, Pinehurst

The crosswalk signs were installed to caution drivers that pedestrians may be present, however, the reflective glare of the signs can actually prevent drivers from seeing the pedestrian.

My son Wyatt is in this photograph, standing in the crosswalk....can you see him?

CONFUSION IN THE TRAFFIC CIRCLE



Upon approaching the Traffic Circle, signs indicate that the speed limit in the circle is 30 mph...



...however upon exiting, there are two "Reduce Speed Ahead" signs followed by a "Speed Limit 35" sign. The speed limit increases yet drivers are directed to reduce speed.

STOP SIGN IS ENOUGH

According to the Kimley-Horn Roadway Signing Review, a crosswalk sign is “not required at intersections” and should be removed. The report also states that a total of 36 crossing signs along the Greenway from Cannon Park to the Given Memorial Library should be removed.



Ex. 1



Ex. 2



Ex. 3



Ex. 4



Ex. 5



Ex. 6

NEW ADDITIONS TO SIGNHURST

In early 2013, more signs were installed, against the recommendations of the Roadway Signing Review by Kimley-Horn.



Linden Road: improper crosswalk location



Crosswalk sign is unnecessary at a stop sign



Crosswalk sign parallel to roadway

LOOKING FORWARD...



The Hayter Firm is designing new gateway and wayfinding signage for the Village of Pinehurst. The new traffic posts, pictured above, complement their efforts. The fluorescent signs on 4x4 posts, as seen here in the background, detract from the overall Village aesthetics.

Food for thought...

- Should only muted signs be permitted in the Village?
- Should all new signage placement be submitted to the Village Council for approval?
- Should any new work that affects the right-of-ways be submitted to the Village Council for approval?

“Our number one goal as a council, is to preserve the character and ambiance of the Village of Pinehurst.”

(from Baldrige retreat)