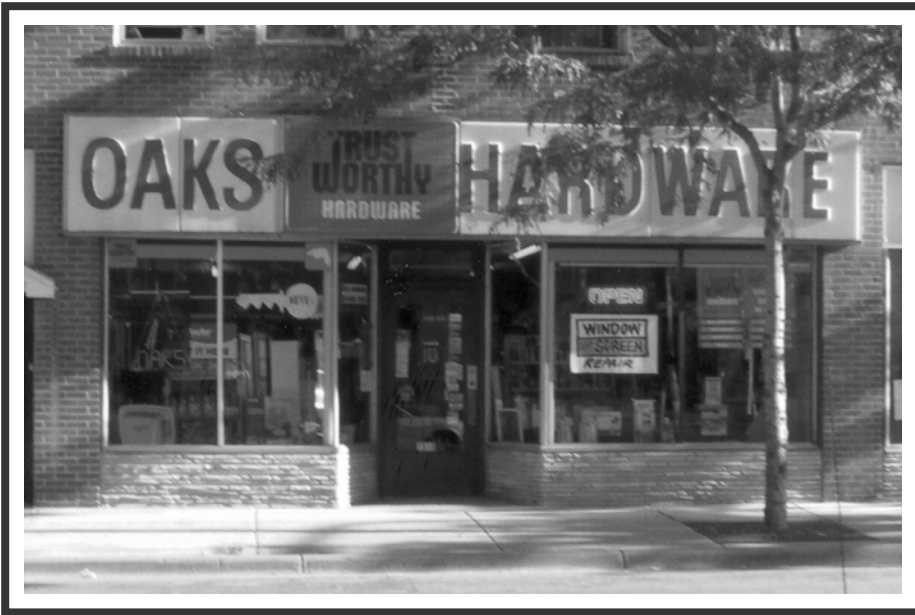


Oak's Hardware

Located at 1519 Como Ave. SE, this storefront has always been a hardware store (built circa 1914) and has served as the rock of the Boyum business block between 15th & 16th Aves. SE. Oaks has been owned and operated by Pat Clough for the past 34 years. Pat was born at 12th & Como Aves SE and worked for the previous owner, Dick Oaks, before buying the business from him in 1972.

Prior owners include Dick Oaks (1956 – 1972), George Munk (circa 1940's), Alex Johnsrud (circa 1936), and Simms/Nordin (circa 1922). Robert Simms lived at 1051 SE 14th Ave. and was the son of the founder of Simms Hardware in Dinkytown. In 1922, the 1519 Como address also housed plumber John Hughes and decorators Thomason & Nordin.



Upper photo: provided by Pat Clough, 2005

Lower photo of the north side of Como Ave. SE, between 15th & 16th Aves: Norton & Peel, 1962, Minnesota Historical Society
(Businesses from right to left: Herb's Fairway Foods, Bill's Quality Meats, Oaks Hardware, Kustermann Drug)

