

Oakwood Chapel Restoration Completed!



Before Restoration



Restored Chapel

Built in 1914, the Oakwood chapel is a charming Gothic Revival style building located near the west entrance in Oakwood Cemetery in an area surrounded by burials of people of many different races. The years have taken their toll on the limestone building, and its purpose has changed from a chapel to office and storage space. Minor repairs have been made to slow the decaying process; however a more aggressive approach was required to preserve this architectural gem.

The Oakwood Cemetery Chapel Rehabilitation project was initiated by SAC in 2007 when our group recognized the urgent need to restore the chapel. SAC paid for a Building Condition Assessment Report, materials testing (for lead and asbestos), a geotechnical report for assessing the type of soil under the chapel and foundation engineering in preparation for foundation stabilization, and led grassroots efforts to let the city know how important this charming building is to the history of Oakwood Cemetery and to the city itself.

This Rehabilitation project is now complete and was expertly managed by Austin Parks & Recreation Department starting in 2016 and formally re-opened August 2018. Stop by to see how beautifully the chapel was restored! Please visit [PARD's Oakwood Chapel Project](#) for additional information.

A 'ribbon cutting' event was held by PARD and SAC on August 24, 10:00 to 11:00 at the chapel.

Chapel Reports Funded by SAC to Initiate The Project

- [Chapel History and Building Assessment \(SAC\)](#)
- [Structural Evaluation Report \(Sparks Engineering\)](#)
- [Feasibility Study \(Heimsath Architects\)](#)
- [Rehabilitation Project \(SAC and Heimsath Architects\)](#)
- [Chapel Rehabilitation Renderings by Heimsath Architects](#)

[Chapel Drawings](#)

Chapel Articles and Videos

- [The Revival of an Austin Cemetery Chapel](#) by Rebecca Gale, National Trust for Historic Preservation, Dec 2018
- ["Cemetery Renovations Reveal Secrets"](#), March 2017, KVUE News
- [Historical Articles 1909-1914](#)
- Chapel Architect [Charles H. Page](#) Obituary circa 1957 American Statesman
- [Oakwood Cemetery: Graceful Chapel](#), Austin360.com, 2012
- [SAC To Restore Oakwood Cemetery Chapel](#), Heritage Society of Austin, 2007
- [Chapel Photographs](#)