

The image features a decorative, ornate logo for Graceland Cemetery in the upper left corner. The logo is rendered in a silver, metallic style with intricate scrollwork and flourishes. The word "GRACELAND" is written in a large, bold, serif font, and "CEMETERY" is written in a smaller, similar font below it. The background of the entire image is a lush, green cemetery scene. In the foreground, there are several large, curved, stone structures made of reddish-brown bricks, which appear to be part of a monument or a large grave. The structures are set on a grassy area, and the background is filled with dense, leafy trees and bushes, creating a serene and natural atmosphere.

GRACELAND CEMETERY

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT...

Dear Friends of Graceland Cemetery,

We look forward to another year of progress, improvement and caring for Graceland Cemetery. Our ten-year landscape improvement plan continues to progress ahead of schedule under the direction of our Building & Grounds Committee. In addition to the removal of diseased and hazardous trees, we continue to plant new trees throughout our grounds. We continue to expand our planting beds as well. All of these activities serve to beautify our special place in Chicago.

Graceland's building renovation programs and wall restoration are now complete. The results are wonderful and these improvements will serve us well for years to come. Our perimeter walls, the most recently concluded project, are strong and secure for the long term. We are particularly proud of the Chapel restoration. This year, the Chapel will be open during tours and for visitation to the columbarium.

The continuing upkeep and care of our beautiful grounds is something in which all of the Trustees and staff take great pride. Heartfelt thanks for respecting our grounds while visiting historic Graceland- please enjoy this treasured green space in our great City.

Respectfully,

Frederick G. Wacker III, *President*

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Add Your Family

TO THE HISTORY OF CHICAGO THAT LIES
WITHIN GRACELAND

Lot holder families with loved ones interred within Historic Graceland are invited to add biographies and photos of their predecessors to the new Family Biography page of our web site. This new program will share with the Chicago community the history and contributions of individuals interred at Graceland. We anticipate that, over time, the Family Biography pages will grow into a valued resource in conjunction with a tour of our beautiful Cemetery.

While submissions will be reviewed by the Graceland Trustees, once accepted the biographies will be posted on the Family Biographies page of our web site.

Please contact the office at (773) 525-1105 with questions or submissions to this exciting new program.



VISIT US ON THE WEB AT GRACELANDCEMETERY.ORG



Past & Future

LANDSCAPING AT GRACELAND

Graceland Cemetery was long celebrated for its beautiful and artistic landscape, designed and implemented under the direction of a number of distinguished landscape gardeners, landscape designers, and landscape architects. By the 1980s however, the landscape had been neglected for decades, and was only a shadow of its former self.

The Trustees undertook a long-term landscape restoration and rehabilitation program in 1991, with the first project implemented in 1993. Twenty years later the Trustees are still committed to landscape improvements, based on the compelling visual evidence of the last twenty years of landscape enhancements.

The initial phase of landscape improvements was made using the historical record of drawings and photographs as a basis for design.

The current phase of landscape improvements extends that work, but the design is more speculative, based on the landscape design of similar locations at the cemetery, and based on the desire to improve the cemetery's appearance, not just on a duty to restore or rehabilitate what is missing.

There are three major landscape initiatives currently underway at Graceland.

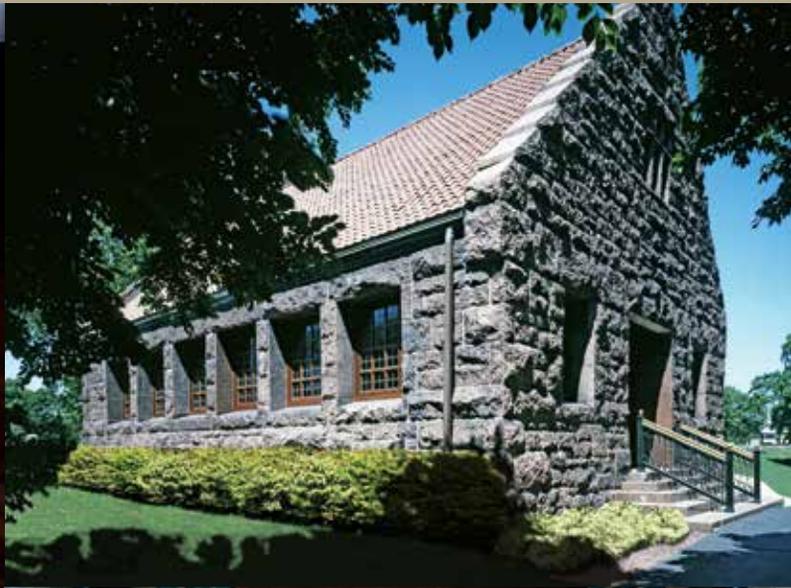
Prompted by the invasion of the emerald ash borer, the cemetery decided to improve the cemetery's tree inventory by removing ash trees on a regular basis. Other hazardous trees and less desirable species with high maintenance requirements or safety concerns are also being removed, including cottonwoods, box elders, mulberries, and the last of the buckthorn.

A second program is the addition of plantings around family monuments on large plots of land. Based on the historic design, cemetery guidelines and practice called for family plots to have a single monument with all other headstones flush with the ground.

All of the family plots for which there was good archival information were restored during the 1990s and early 2000s. In 2010 the cemetery began the restoration of other family plots, in a five year program, with Lakeside east of Lake Avenue completed in 2011, most of the Lake Willowmere perimeter completed in 2012, with parts of Bellevue and the remaining areas around Lake Willowmere completed in 2013.

The final current landscape project involves improving and enhancing the appearance of the four principal roadway corridors that fan out into the cemetery from the entrance at Clark Street and Irving Park Road. The implementation strategy was to plant large groups of single species of flowering trees in those areas, with no more than two species per corridor. The thought behind the limited number of species was twofold: to provide separate identity to each corridor, with a different species of flowering tree, and to group trees of a single species in large masses, so that they would have more impact when flowering, not unlike the cherry trees around the Tidal Basin in Washington, D.C. Corridor planting completed in 2013, the fourth and final year of this planting program.

Restoring, Improving, Caring...



THE CHAPEL

Designed in 1888 by Holabird & Roche for Graceland Cemetery in Chicago, Northworks Architects returned this granite stone chapel to its original arts and crafts style and beauty.

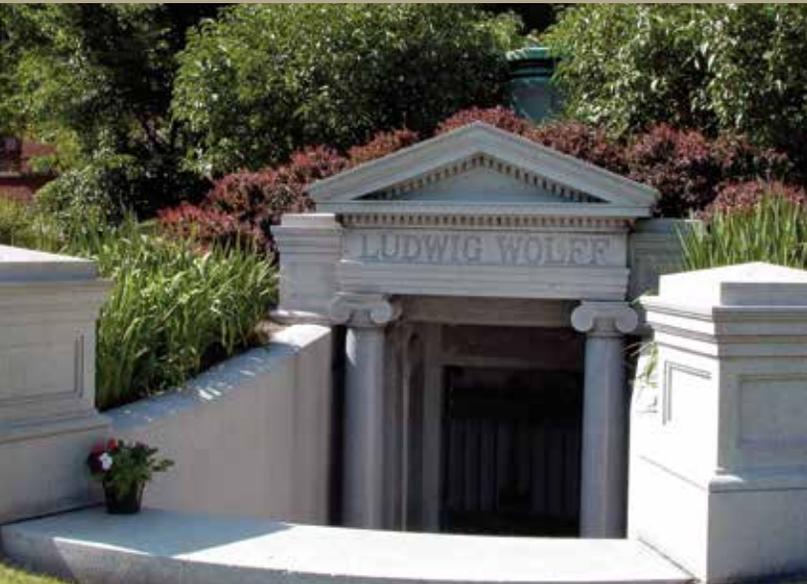
Working with the Chicago History Museum, Northworks studied the original hand-drawn details by Holabird & Roche to recreate the interior millwork profiles and patterns. Radiant heating was installed in the new floors, finished in ceramic tile to match the 1888 design. High-density spray-foam insulation fills the wall and ceiling cavities, and a new high-efficiency air-conditioning system keeps the air quality comfortable and clean.

With the completion of the Chapel's restoration in 2009 that includes a new interior Columbarium for urn placement of cremated remains, the Chapel doors will be opened for visitors during regular office hours, except on Sundays and holidays.

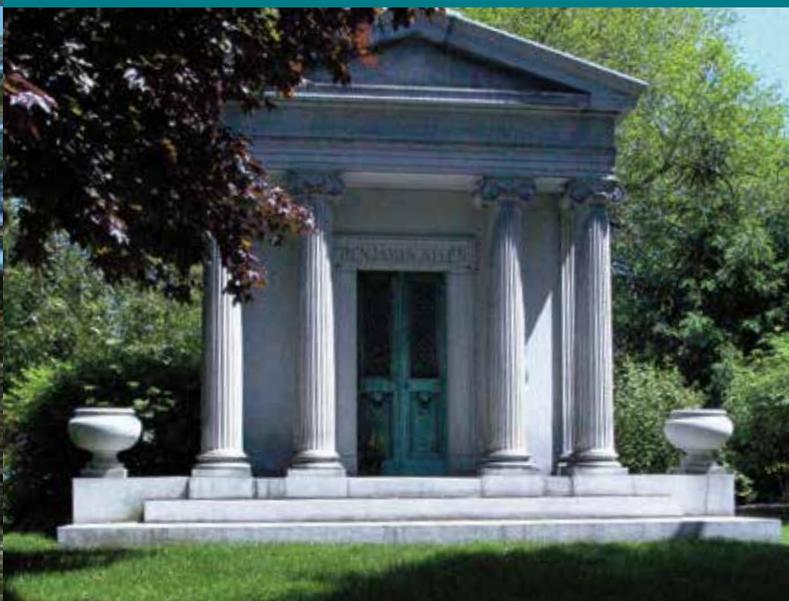
The Chapel is available for Memorial services, as well as hosting special events for non-profit organizations.

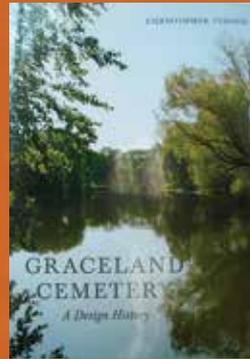


The Trustees of The Graceland Improvement Fund continue to oversee the care and preservation of our historic cemetery.



Trustee John K. Notz, Jr. and his wife Janis brought a memento of the Jenney Monument in France to attend the William LeBaron Jenney Colloquium last December.





Graceland Cemetery: A Design History, from the University of Massachusetts Press in Association with Library of American Landscape History, places the important work of landscape architecture within the context of Chicago's growth as a commercial epicenter. Christopher Vernon's writing coupled with Carol Betsch's photography describe Graceland's ever evolving design which, by the turn of the nineteenth century had become the impetus for the Midwest's first regional movement in landscape architecture: the Prairie School, according to William Tishler, Editor of *Midwestern Landscape Design*. The book is available now, in hardbound for \$39.95 at both www.lalh.org and www.umass.edu/upress.



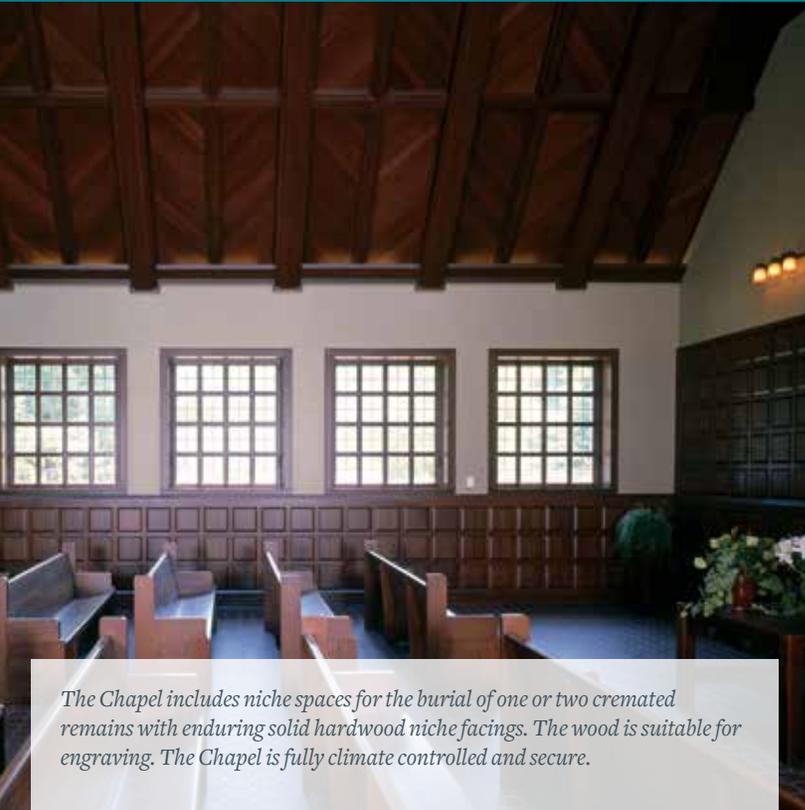
The Chicago Architecture Foundation has updated and reprinted the book on monuments of Graceland Cemetery. The new edition is available at the Graceland offices for a small fee.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:
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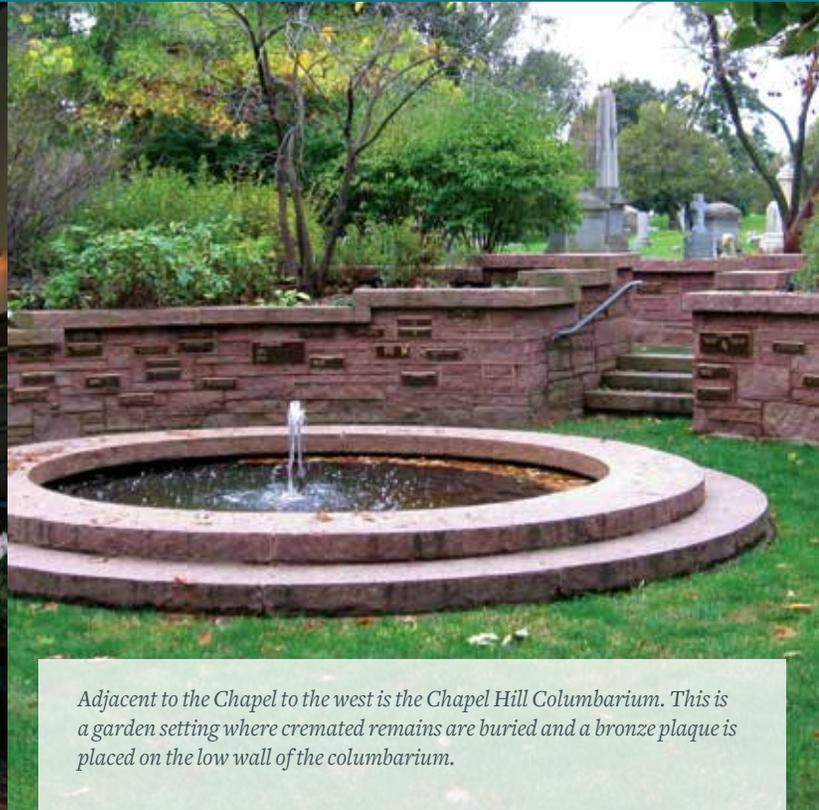
Photography courtesy of Ron White, Ignacio Alvarez and Greg Murphey Studios, Inc.

Special places

FOR THE REMEMBRANCE OF FAMILY WHEN
CREMATION IS YOUR PREFERENCE



The Chapel includes niche spaces for the burial of one or two cremated remains with enduring solid hardwood niche facings. The wood is suitable for engraving. The Chapel is fully climate controlled and secure.



Adjacent to the Chapel to the west is the Chapel Hill Columbarium. This is a garden setting where cremated remains are buried and a bronze plaque is placed on the low wall of the columbarium.