

# Chapter 7

## Evergreen Cemetery

Evergreen Cemetery was established by the City of Austin in 1926 to serve Austin’s African American community. This chapter contains a historical narrative of Evergreen Cemetery’s development, an examination of its historic integrity and significance, a discussion of existing conditions observed in the cemetery during the master plan team’s site evaluations, specific treatment recommendations, and a list of potential projects with cost estimates.

This chapter should be used in conjunction with the General Management Guidelines presented in Chapter Three. The General Management Guidelines include treatment recommendations that apply to all five historic city cemeteries; this chapter provides additional detail specific to Evergreen Cemetery.

### IN THIS CHAPTER

Historical Overview . . . . .	270
Historically Significant Persons . . . . .	279
Existing Conditions . . . . .	285
Significance . . . . .	318
Treatment Recommendations . . . . .	321
Prioritized Project List and Estimates of Probable CostS . . . . .	331
Planting Plan . . . . .	333
Site Plans . . . . .	335

## HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

Evergreen Cemetery was established as a municipal cemetery in 1926; today, following an expansion in 1951, it includes a portion of an earlier burial ground called Highland Park Cemetery.

Evergreen Cemetery is located at 3304 East 12th Street at Airport Boulevard in East Austin's MLK (Martin Luther King) neighborhood. Nearby neighborhood associations include the East MLK Combined Neighborhood Association, East Austin Conservancy, and M.E.T.S.A. (MLK, Ed Bluestein, Tannehill, Springdale, Airport) Neighborhood Association.

In 1891, Austin's City Council contracted with Edmund P. Stiles, a dentist, for the establishment of a new city cemetery on the basis of a proposal by his sister Maggie Stiles. Highland Park was established by the Highland Park Cemetery Association, incorporated on May 16, 1891, by founders Walter Tips, Zachary T. Fulmore, Edmund P. Stiles, E. C. Bartholomew, and H. E. Shelly.<sup>135</sup> According to a newspaper article a few days later, "The object of the company is to establish a beautiful cemetery on the property of Dr. E. P. Stiles a short distance east of the city."<sup>136</sup> The cemetery was to be 60 acres in size, with 10 acres reserved for the burial of paupers. Burial records are extant for only a few years, 1891–1893, identifying 163 persons buried at Highland Park—more than half being African-American. The few grave markers still extant in 1955 recorded burials in 1894, 1907, 1908, and possibly 1913. Dr. Stiles had moved to Houston by 1907,<sup>137</sup> perhaps leaving the management of the property to his siblings, and statements by the Stiles family at the time of the sale indicate that Highland Park Cemetery had ceased to operate entirely by 1925.<sup>138</sup>

In December 1925, a special meeting of the City Council addressed the need for "a cemetery to be used exclusively for colored persons"<sup>139</sup> in Austin. A 15-acre tract was purchased from D. V. Pickle for \$5,500.<sup>140</sup> An African American sexton, Wiley Jones, was appointed as of January 1, 1926, for the salary of \$80.00 per month (\$960 annually) and a transfer of \$1,000 from the Cemetery Purchase Fund was used to create a new fund, the Evergreen Colored Cemetery Fund.<sup>141</sup>

In 1928, the City of Austin adopted a City Plan that explicitly strove to segregate African American residents into the east side of the city. Part of the mechanism for doing this was to only offer services, schools, etc., to African Americans in that area; it is possible that the establishment of Evergreen Cemetery on the east side was an early part of that effort.

135. Charter, Highland Park Cemetery Association.

136. "New Cemetery Association," *Austin Weekly Statesman* (Austin, Texas), May 19, 1891, page 5.

137. *1907 Houston City Directory*.

138. "Reconnaissance Survey Report: Proposed Evergreen Cemetery Expansion," Hicks & Company, July 2010.

139. Minutes, special meeting of Austin City Council, December 1st, 1925. The land purchased for \$5,500.00 from D.V. Pickle was described as "the West one-half of Outlot 25, in Division 'B' of the Outlots of the Government Tract adjoining the City of Austin."

140. Deed of sale, Travis County Property Records, volume 381, pages 319–320.

141. Minutes, special meeting of Austin City Council, January 29, 1926.

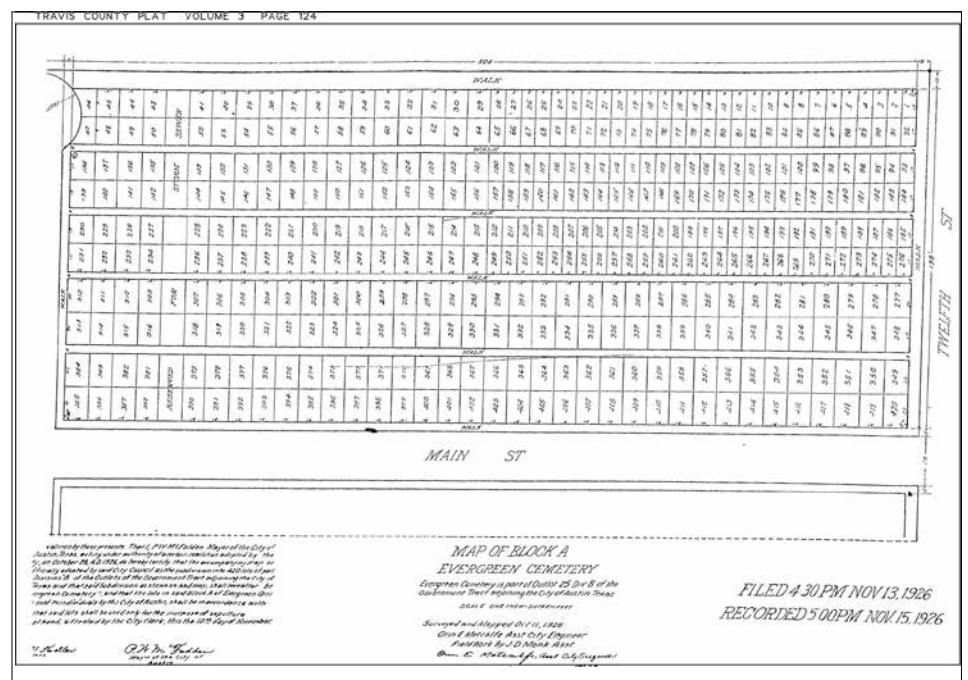
142. Minutes, regular meeting of Austin City Council, October 14, 1926.

The first section of Evergreen Cemetery to be surveyed and platted was Section A, in October 1926 (Figure 341). It was laid out in 420 plots.<sup>142</sup> Section A is just east of the primary paved road, "Main Street." Three paved cross streets, from south to north, are Avenue A, Avenue B, and Avenue C. Two additional paved drives divide Section D.

The lots are numbered beginning at the southeast corner and proceeding north to the end of the row, then moving to the next row west and proceeding south. The sequence of numbers continues in this zigzag fashion to the southwest corner of the section. One east-west row is set aside for a storm sewer; this divides the most northerly four rows from the rest of the section.

The most prestigious locations in the cemetery, Lots 420 and 419, next to the entrance, are occupied by members of the William Tears family. The Tears family were co-owners of the King-Tears Funeral Home. Along Main Street, members of many other leading families are buried.

Lots 1–276 measured 9 feet by 17 feet, while Lots 277–420 were larger (14 feet by 20 feet). Prices originally ranged between \$15–\$50, with the exception of Lot 420, closest to the entrance, which cost \$60. Most of the plots along "Main Street" were \$50, with interior lots offered at lower prices; the larger plots started at \$25 (next to the storm sewer) and the smaller lots were priced from \$15 (next to the storm sewer) to \$35.<sup>143</sup>



143. Minutes, regular meeting of Austin City Council, October 14, 1926.

Figure 341. Map of Section A, Evergreen Cemetery, dated October 11, 1926; surveyed and mapped by Orin E. Metcalfe, assistant city engineer (City of Austin)

Four four-foot-wide walkways were established, running north-south, through Section A. Walkways around the perimeter measured five feet wide on the north and west sides, eight feet wide on the south side, and 10 feet wide on the east side.

In 1930, Lots 38-41, 52-55, 130-133, 144-147, 222-225, and 236-239 were subdivided "to be offered for sale for single spaces."<sup>144</sup> Most of these were divided into six spaces each, with the exception of Lots 130, 131, 146, 147, 222, 223, 238, and 239, each of which were divided into 15 lots. (A note on the undated plat map indicates that Lot 239 was divided into six spaces, despite what is shown on the map.)

In 1938, Section C (Figure 342) was the second section of Evergreen Cemetery to be platted, although prices for the lots were not set until 1947. Section C was located not adjacent to Section A, but at the opposite (northwest) corner of the cemetery property. Section C originally was divided into three blocks (from east to west, respectively); Block 1 contained 90 lots, Block 2 contained 60 lots, and Block 3 contained 75 lots. Each lot in Section C contained eight spaces.

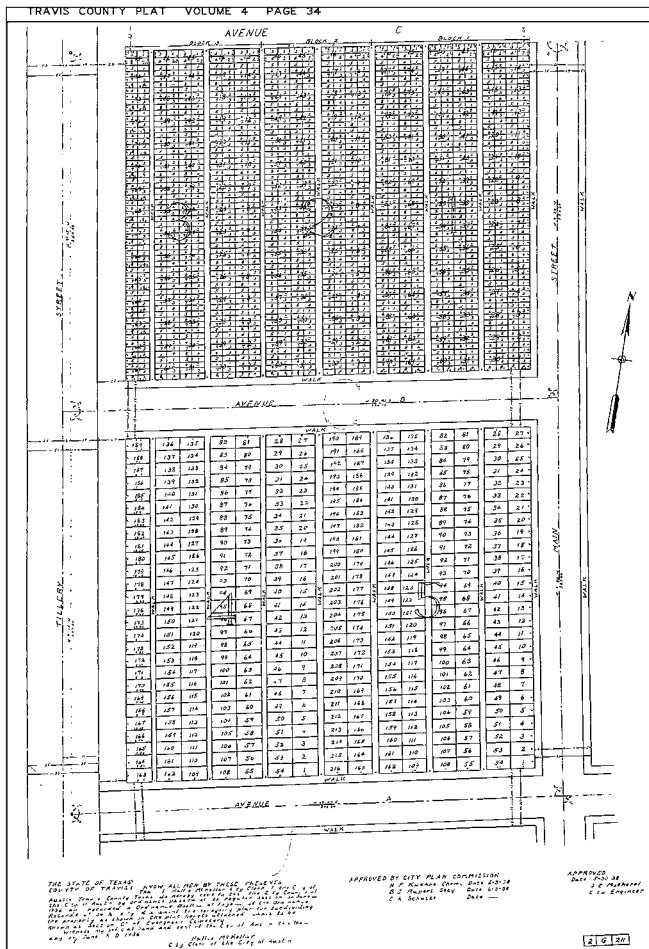


Figure 342. Map of Section C, Evergreen Cemetery, May 30, 1938; approved by J. E. Matheral, City Engineer (City of Austin)

144. Minutes, regular meeting of Austin City Council, November 20, 1930, and recorded in Travis County Property Records, Plat Book 3, Page 124.

Prices, and the number of spaces that had to be purchased together, depended on the block. The most prestigious part of the section was Block 1, adjacent to Main Street.

In Block 1, Lots 1–30 were located along or just off Main Street; in this part of Section C, a buyer could purchase an entire lot for \$70 or half of a lot (Spaces 1, 2, 5, and 6 or Spaces 3, 4, 7, and 8) for \$35. In Block 1, Lots 31–90, full or half lots were also available for \$60 or \$30, respectively. As one moved farther from Main Street, the prices dropped along with the required number of spaces to be purchased. In Block 2, adjacent spaces were sold in pairs for \$18, while in Block 3, individual spaces could be purchased for \$7. On the north side of Section C, an area was set aside for “Mexican Paupers” in Blocks 2 and 3 and “Negro Paupers” in Block 1.<sup>146</sup>

Section C was later doubled in size with an expansion to the south; known as Block 4 and Block 5, this area was platted in full lots, not subdivided into individual spaces. Block 4, closest to Tillery Street, included 189 lots, and the slightly larger Block 5 contained 216 lots.

Section B, located to the north of Section A and containing just 162 plots, was not platted until August 1952. It was laid out in two Blocks with three sizes of lots. Block 1 makes up the western half of the Section and contains the larger lots. The largest and most prestigious of these, Lots 1–30, were located along the cemetery’s Main Street, and measured 16 feet by 20 feet. Immediately to the east, Lots 31–70 were slightly smaller (12 feet by 20 feet). Block 2, in the eastern half of Section B, contains the smallest lots, measuring 9 feet x 17 feet.<sup>147</sup>

- 145. Minutes, regular meeting of Austin City Council, January 23, 1947, and Travis County Plat Map, Volume 4, Page 34.
- 146. Travis County Plat Maps, volume 4, page 34.
- 147. Travis County Plat Maps, volume 6, page 42.

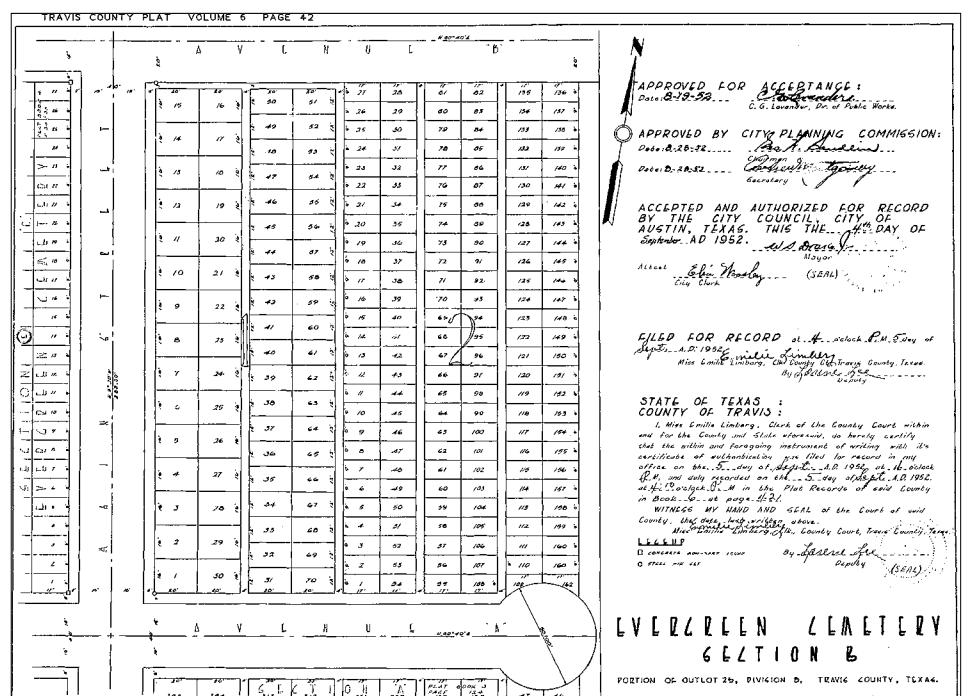


Figure 343. Map of Section B, Evergreen Cemetery, 1952 [City of Austin]

Section D was established in 1959. It was divided into three blocks of different sizes and shapes: Block 1 was closest to the cemetery entrance, Block 2 was located immediately north of Block 1, and Block 3 was sited to the west of the other blocks. Two unnamed paved drives divided the blocks from one another: one between Blocks 1 and 2 and the other between Blocks 2 and 3. Perpendicular to one another and intersecting at their southwest corners, these drives connect Avenue A and Main Street within the cemetery.<sup>148</sup>

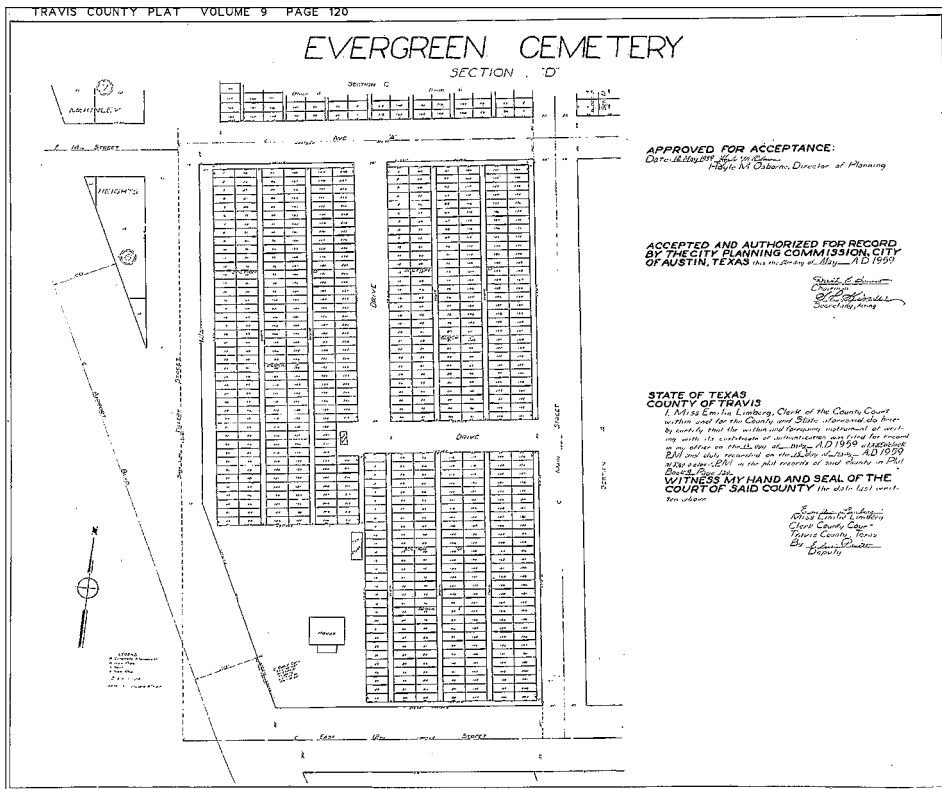


Figure 344. Map of Section D, Evergreen Cemetery, 1959. Notice the sexton's house in the southwest corner. (City of Austin)

By the end of August 1959, all of the lots in Section A and most of Section C (Blocks 1, 4, and 5) had been sold. Only seven individual spaces remained unsold in Section C, Block 2, and another 75 spaces were available in Block 3. Section B was partially sold and a few spaces had been purchased in Section D, Block 3 (closest to Tillery Street), while the rest of Section D remained undeveloped.<sup>149</sup>

148. Travis County Plat Maps, volume 9, page 120.

149. Minutes, regular meeting of Austin City Council, August 27, 1959.

At one time, a caretaker's house and carport were located in the cemetery. An undated map provided by the Texas Historical Commission shows the house located in an undeveloped area near the corner of East 12th Street and Airport Blvd. The dates of the house's construction are unknown, but City Council in 1932 voted to rent a house for the sexton while the cemetery house, which had burned down, was being rebuilt.<sup>150</sup> The plans shown below were prepared by Gregory S. Moore, a structural/architectural engineer who was the city's building inspector in the 1930s and served as the city planning engineer in the 1940s.

In 1934, resident W. H. Fuller asked Council to provide "a telephone and full-time sexton at Evergreen Cemetery."<sup>151</sup> The matter of the telephone and sexton were brought back to the Council's attention a few months later by Dr. E. H. Givens, "representing a committee of colored citizens," and "referred to the city manager for attention."<sup>152</sup> Several undated aerial photos show that a building, likely the caretaker's house, was present in the cemetery at some time during the mid-twentieth century.

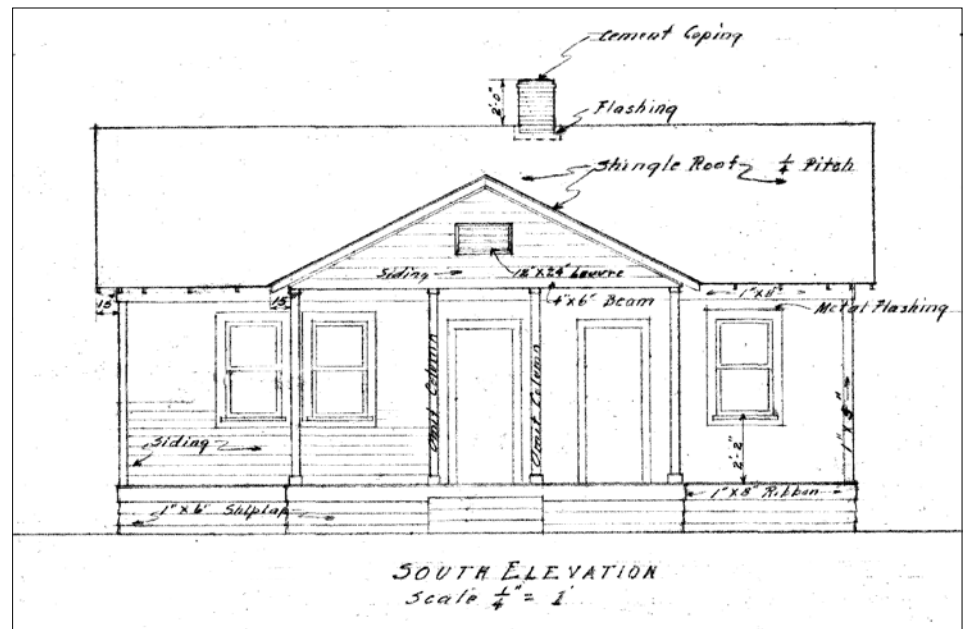


Figure 345. Drawing of caretaker's house for Evergreen Cemetery, Gregory S. Moore, city building inspector, undated (City of Austin)

150. Minutes, regular meeting of Austin City Council, December 1, 1932.

151. Minutes, regular meeting of Austin City Council, May 3, 1934.

152. Minutes, regular meeting of Austin City Council, August 2, 1934.



Evergreen Cemetery and adjacent lands were officially annexed to the City of Austin on December 23, 1946.<sup>153</sup> The aerial photograph, below, shows the cemetery as it appeared in 1952. The caretaker's house and its freestanding garage are visible in the lower left corner of the photo.

In March 1954, Dr. E. H. Givens asked City Council to enlarge Evergreen Cemetery. Council directed the City Manager to "investigate the need and the possibility of purchasing more area" and to report back in two weeks.<sup>154</sup> The matter remained under investigation for several months.

In 1955, Evergreen Cemetery was expanded by just over 16 acres, through the purchase of property then owned by Arthur A. Stiles and his sister, Margaret Stiles. The Stiles tract, "on the north side of East 12th Street immediately north of Evergreen Cemetery," was a portion of the former Highland Park Cemetery. At the time of its purchase,



Figure 346. 1952 aerial photograph of Evergreen Cemetery (City of Austin)

153. City of Austin Ordinance 461223-C, December 23, 1946.

154. Minutes, regular meeting of Austin City Council, March 4, 1954.



Mr. Stiles indicated that the cemetery was placed in use “some 50 or 60 years ago” and was used as a cemetery “until about 30 years ago”; the City Department of Public Works, based on information gathered from Mr. Stiles, “estimated that there are not more than 500 graves in the entire tract.”<sup>155</sup>

A chain link fence and gates were constructed around Evergreen Cemetery in 1966, to replace a wire fence along Tillery and 12th Streets. Cyclone Fence Division of U.S. Steel presented the lowest bid and was awarded the contract for fencing at both Evergreen Cemetery and Austin Memorial Park Cemetery.<sup>156</sup> A similar, separate bid was accepted from Sears Fence Company in 1970; it is unclear whether that chain link fence replaced or extended the 1966 fence.<sup>157</sup>

Section E, the last part of the original cemetery to be developed, was not established until 1972. Lots 1–23 were made available for \$55 each in May of that year.<sup>158</sup> Section E, like the original blocks in Section C, was platted as individual spaces within larger lots.

Although the additional land to expand Evergreen Cemetery had been purchased in 1955, it was not developed until 1977, when additional roadways were paved in the cemetery addition. That year, the City authorized more than \$26,000 for road and irrigation system improvements at Evergreen Cemetery (CIP No. 75/74-03).<sup>159</sup> That work was completed in 1978. The new roads served to delineate the general boundaries of sections to be developed over the following decades.

Sections F, G, H, and J were platted in 1979 and the irrigation system modified to include the new sections in 1980. Section F was platted in two parts: one along 12th Street, just across the paved roadway from Section A, with spaces for flush markers; another small section containing infant graves lies at the far eastern corner of the cemetery. In 1980, spaces in Section F sold for \$280 (flush part) and \$40 (infant part), respectively. Between the two Sections F lies the irregularly shaped Section H. A triangular area at the southeast corner of the cemetery grounds remains undeveloped.

Section G is a small section, also located along the roadway that separates it from Section A. It is immediately adjacent to Section J, and together Sections G and J are bounded by roadways. Section K was platted in 1997.

Although it is not clear where they were located, the City sold “cremation spaces (as designated in cemetery)” in all three cemeteries (Evergreen, Austin Memorial Park, and Oakwood Annex Cemeteries) in 1992. Those spaces cost \$125.

155. Memorandum to Walter E. Seaholm, City Manager, dated February 9, 1955, submitted by the City Manager for Council consideration and approval.

156. Minutes, regular meeting of Austin City Council, December 22, 1966.

157. Minutes, regular meeting of Austin City Council, December 3, 1970.

158. Minutes, regular meeting of Austin City Council, May 18, 1972.

159. Minutes, regular meeting of Austin City Council, December 8, 1977.

New rules and fees were established in the late 1970s. In 1978, in addition to raising prices for interments, City Council considered charging a higher fee for Sunday burials but took no action. However, the Council did agree to require permanent containers for burials in Austin Memorial Park Cemetery and Evergreen Cemetery, with the exception of Sections 9, 9A, and 10 in Austin Memorial Park Cemetery and Sections D and E in Evergreen Cemetery. Council members noted that these sections were expected to be entirely sold within another year, after which all new sections would require permanent burial containers.<sup>160</sup> A series of rules and regulations governing many aspects of cemetery operations were adopted at that time.<sup>161</sup>

Evergreen Cemetery currently contains few amenities. A 25-foot-tall flagpole and flag were given to the City by a Mrs. Warren, to be placed in Evergreen Cemetery in honor of her husband, who died in England during World War II.<sup>162</sup> A small concrete-block restroom building, now out of service, is located at the intersecting driveways within Section D. It is not clear when that was constructed, although it appears on the 1959 plat map for Section D and therefore was extant by then.

In 2007, Section D was replatted to add more burial lots in the area where the caretaker's house once stood, now known as Block 5. The area was assessed by PARD Forestry in February 2014 and approved for in-ground burials.

Today, Evergreen Cemetery has more than 12,000 interments and receives more than 100 new burials annually in newly and previously purchased lots. While it historically has been an African American cemetery, in recent years, more Latino people have been buried there, mostly in Section J. Only 375 lots remain available for purchase, and no additional unplatted land is currently available or could become available without archeological investigations. At this time, Evergreen Cemetery has approximately 5–7 years of additional capacity, at current rates of in-ground interment.

160. Minutes, regular meeting of Austin City Council, May 4, 1978.

161. Resolution 780504-022, "Rules and Regulations of Cemeteries Owned and Operated by the City of Austin," adopted May 4, 1978.

162. Minutes, regular meeting of Austin City Council, February 15, 1979.

## HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT PERSONS

The following individuals were among the most respected members of the original segregated Old East Austin community. Their contributions pre-dated the turn of the 20th century and continued on through recent years. According to Saundra Kirk, who provided much of this list, "Each one is buried in Evergreen Cemetery as both testament to their love for East Austin and as documentation of Austin's segregation. They rest as tributes to the heights of power, pride and independence of Old East Austin. Among those of us who survive them and know of the generous works they accomplished, there is widespread consensus that these were indeed our prominent citizens."

Along with Ms. Kirk's significant contribution, information provided below comes from the Handbook of Texas Online; the Reflections Portrait Guide, published by the City of Austin George Washington Carver Museum and Cultural Center; and a list of burials at Evergreen Cemetery compiled by Robert Sage and used for this project with his permission.

This list of historically significant persons is intended to be as inclusive as possible, given the availability of existing information. This project's scope and budget did not include extensive primary research. As a result, it is limited to those people for whom biographical information had been developed in the past. The master plan team recognizes that the historical record is not equitable and often has excluded non-white/Anglo people and women. This makes it impossible, within the constraints of this project, to adequately recognize people who may have been important community leaders or noteworthy for any number of reasons. This list of historically significant persons, therefore, is likely incomplete. Should additional information be developed in the future, consider making it available in the same location where this plan is published.

### Educators

**John Mason Brewer** (1896–1975), educator, Texas folklorist, author, poet; first black member of the Texas Institute of Letters (1954) and the Texas Folklore Society; first black vice-president, American Folklore Society

**Dr. L. June H. Brewer** (1925–2010), one of the first African American students admitted to the University of Texas (to graduate school) in 1950; regional director, Delta Sigma Theta sorority; professor of English, Huston-Tillotson College; chair, English Department; first endowed professorship; multiple visiting professorships; professor emeritus

**Lucille Dotson Crawford** (1923–1991), educator, community activist; teacher, Lincoln High School, Port Arthur, Texas; Rosewood Elementary, Austin; and L.C. Anderson High School, where she taught physical education, dance, and organized the cheerleaders and drill teams; counselor, Lanier High School; retired in 1989; active member of Ebenezer Third Baptist Church, organizer of annual Family Night event; director, Board of the Ebenezer Child Development Center; politically active for over 20 years, serving as precinct chair; president, Black Austin Democrats; member, NAACP, League of Women Voters

**Theodore C. Calhoun** (1905–1990), teacher, coach, L. C. Anderson Junior High School; principal, Kealing Junior High School (32 years); deacon, trustee, and treasurer of Ebenezer Baptist Church; president, State Teachers Association; organized the Travis County Teachers State Credit Union; member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity and Phi Delta Kappa, University of TX Chapter; upon retirement, served with SCORE, CAPCO, and the Retirees Coordinating Board, AARP

**Morris Crawford, Jr.** (1947–1983), educator, photographer; teacher, L.C. Anderson High School; amateur photographer, chronicling events in the African-American community

**Thelma C. Dotson Calhoun** (1911–2015), educator, community leader; Travis County Supervisor, African American Schools; reading specialist, Austin Independent School District; retired in 1977; deaconess, organizer and leader of the children's choir, Ebenezer Third Baptist Church; member, for more than 70 years, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority; charter member, Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc.

**Dr. William Bee Campbell** (1890–1956), principal, Anderson High School

**Dr. James Larance Hill** (1928–2012), high school teacher; deputy commissioner, Texas Education Agency; director, southwest field office, Educational Testing Services; associate vice president, administration and public affairs, University of Texas at Austin; vice president, community and school relations, UT; first African American vice president at the University of Texas at Austin; later senior vice president, special assistant to the president of the university

**Dr. John Quill Taylor King, Sr.** (1921–2011), professor of mathematics, Samuel Huston College, later Huston-Tillotson College; dean, Huston-Tillotson College, 1960–1965; president, chancellor, and president emeritus, Huston-Tillotson College; author; U.S. Army, 1942–1946; U.S. Army Reserve, 1946–1983, retiring as major-general; lieutenant general, Texas State Guard; thirty-third degree Mason

**Friendly R. Rice** (?–1990), principal, Blackshear Elementary School, 1931–1972; initiated hot lunch program and the first library in an African American elementary school in Texas; F. R. Rice Secondary School was named in his honor

**Dr. John Jarvis Seabrook** (1899–1975), banker, minister, professor; first permanent president, Huston-Tillotson College, 1955–1965; civil rights activist; died of a heart attack while arguing before Austin City Council to rename 19th Street as Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard in West Austin as well as East Austin; the MLK Jr. Blvd. bridge over IH-35, a symbol of connection between downtown and East Austin, was named after Dr. Seabrook in 2010

**Dr. William T. Shropshire** (?–?), vice president of finance, Huston-Tillotson College

**C. R. Steward** (?–?), principal, Rosewood Elementary

## Business Leaders

**U. V. Christian** (?–1975), proprietor, Christian School of Cosmetology

**Ishmael R Dotson** (1887–1929), owner, tailor shop (on 6th Street between Red River and Congress Avenue)

**Emma Marie Gilbert** (?–?), proprietor, Peoples Business College

**William J. Isaac** (1906–1975), proprietor, Isaacs General Store (downtown, East 6th Street)

**Alice Taylor (Johnson) King** (1891–1984), co-owner, King-Tears Funeral Home

**E. L. Langdon** (?–?), owner, Langdons Mechanics and Body Shop

**Oral R. Lott, Sr.** (1893–1952), owner, Lott's Lumber Company

**Joe Lyons** (?–?), general contractor

**Percy Lyons** (?–?), general contractor

**Arthur Parks** (1907–1988), general contractor

**Kitty Dotson House Pollard** (1867–1944), restaurant owner

**Della J. Phillips Richards** (1908–1988), owner, Phillips Funeral Home (later Phillips & Upshaw Funeral Home)

**William M. Tears, Sr.** (1865–1940), founder, Tears Funeral Home (now King-Tears Funeral Home), 1901

**William M. Tears, Jr.** (1892–1942), co-owner, King-Tears Funeral Home

**Bernard Timmons** (?–?), owner, Timmons Barber Shop

**Ruth Upshaw** (?–1982), co-owner, Phillips & Upshaw Funeral Home

## Music

**Elmer Akins** (1911–1998), radio announcer and live gospel music promoter; “Gospel Train” recognized as longest continuously-running radio show in America, 2002; Texas Association of Broadcasters “Texas Broadcast Legend,” 1998

**Virgie Carrington DeWitty** (1901–1980), musician, composer, teacher; director of music, Ebenezer Baptist Church; music director, National Baptist Convention of America; music director, Missionary Baptist General Convention of Texas; professor of music, Huston-Tillotson College

**Dr. Marcet Hines King** (1922–1995), professor of music/department chair, Huston-Tillotson College

**Fannie E. Glasco Madison** (1888–1980), teacher, vocal and instrumental music, Tillotson College; first director, Ebenezer Baptist Church Gospel choir

**Ruth Davis Sauls** (1934–2014), pianist, organist; music teacher, Pearce Middle School and Martin Junior High School, Austin; music director, National Baptist Association

**Nathaniel “Nat” Greene Williams, Sr.** (1921–1997), pianist, professor of music, chair of Music Department, Huston-Tillotson College/University; developed the University’s first four-year music program, orchestra, marching band, glee club, and many other musical ensembles; entertained President Lyndon Baines Johnson and opera star Marian Anderson, among many others; music director, KTBC-TV; performed regularly on the Uncle Jay Show and the original “Cactus Pryor Show”; 2012 inductee, Austin Music Memorial, recognizing notable, deceased Austin musicians and Austin music industry professionals who made a positive, lasting impact on the Austin music community

## Medicine

**Dr. Connie Yerwood Connor** (ca. 1908–1991), physician and community leader; first black physician named to the Public Health Service (now Texas Department of Health); chief, Division of Maternal and Child Health, Texas State Health Department; retired as director of health services in 1977; trustee, Samuel Huston College and then Huston-Tillotson College, 1937–1992; president, Lone Star State Medical, Dental, and Pharmaceutical Association; first African American appointed to the Austin Human Relations Committee; member, first board of trustees, Mental Health-Mental Retardation Center of Austin and Travis County; chair, board of trustees, Wesley United Methodist Church

**Dr. Virgil Hammond** (?–?), dentist



**Dr. E. L. Roberts** (?–1967), physician, Roberts Medical Clinic; provided first hospital rooms available to African Americans in Austin

**Dr. Charles R. Yerwood** (1885–1940), physician; father of Dr. Connie Yerwood Connor

## Religion

**Dr. Lee Lewis Campbell** (ca. 1865–1927), pastor, Ebenezer Baptist Church, 1892–1927; moderator, St. John’s Regular Baptist Association; founder, St. John’s Institute and Orphanage; president, General Baptist State Convention; vice president, National Baptist Convention; founder, *Austin Herald* newspaper

**Maud Anna Berry Fuller** (1868–1972), Women’s Auxiliary of the National Baptist Convention: president, 40 years; also served as secretary; founded and edited a national newspaper, the *Woman’s Helper*; organized national organizations for black Baptist youth; established a mission in Liberia; awarded doctor of humanities degree by Union Baptist Theological Seminary (Houston, Texas); with her husband, William Handy Fuller, purchased the N. W. Rhambo Funeral Parlor in 1932 and also operated an insurance business in Austin

**Clara Johnson** (?–?), first African American president, United Methodist Women

## Civil Rights

**Willie Mae Kirk** (1921–2013), teacher, 1947–1982; community and civil rights leader; co-founder, Mother’s Action Committee, appointed to first City of Austin Human Rights Council, 1968; Willie Mae Kirk Branch, Austin Public Library, was named for her

**Juanita Jewell Shanks Craft** (1902–1985), community and civil rights leader; state, local, and regional organizer, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP); led a youth movement to oppose the segregation of the Texas State Fair, 1955–1967; invited to the White House, in recognition of her work, by three Presidents: John F. Kennedy (1963), Lyndon B. Johnson (1967), and Richard M. Nixon (1970); served on Dallas City Council, 1975–1978; after her death, memorialized in the Hall of State at the Texas State Fairgrounds; remembered by President Jimmy Carter as a “national treasure” and by Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court Thurgood Marshall, with whom she had worked on desegregation in Texas, as someone without whom “what the NAACP accomplished in Texas could not have transpired”; NAACP Golden Heritage Life Membership Award (1978); Eleanor Roosevelt Humanitarian Award for public service (1984); the City of Dallas named a United States Post Office in her honor

## Law Enforcement

**Tommy Lee “Buster” Gregg** (1931–2012), vice president, Bray and Jordan Pharmacies; chief deputy constable, Travis County Precinct 1

**Louie White** (1932–2008), captain, Austin Police Department; established community policing model in Austin

## Sports

**Dick “Night Train” Lane** (1927–2002), professional football player, Los Angeles Rams, Chicago Cardinals, and Detroit Lions; as a rookie, set record for most interceptions in an NFL season (14), which still stands; National Football Hall of Fame; married to singer Dinah Washington

## African American Firsts

**Willie Ray Davis** (1924–2006), one of first African Americans to join the Austin Fire Department, 1952; first African American firefighter officer in the state of Texas, 1966; promoted to captain, 1973; retired with honors, 1983; Distinguished Service Award

**Virgil Lott** (1924–1968), attorney; first African American graduate, University of Texas School of Law

**Oscar L. Thompson** (1907–1962), first African American graduate, University of Texas at Austin (master’s degree in genetics)

## EXISTING CONDITIONS

### Ecological Setting

The acid soils at Evergreen, which are of the Travis-Chaney Association, support vegetation and flora that are distinct from those on the other associations found in the area. At the flora level, this association is home to many species commonly found on the sandy acid soils of eastern Texas but seldom if ever found on the clayey alkaline soils in the other 97 percent of Travis County. The typical vegetation on these soils is a mix of post oak/blackjack oak/ Eastern red cedar woodlands and patches of mid- to shortgrass grasslands. All three of these woody keystone species exist at Evergreen, and there is at least one tree, a blackjack oak, that could be the largest individual of its species in the county.

Evergreen is mostly developed and maintained, with a wooded, unmaintained area in its eastern part. In the developed areas of the cemetery, woody vegetation and intermittent water availability attracts common urban wildlife species, including many birds and a few mammals such as squirrels, raccoons, and opossums. The undeveloped wooded area in the northeastern part of the park, paralleling Tannehill Branch, provides cover, foraging area, and habitat for more wildlife. However, due to the type and density of vegetation in these areas, the cemetery is unlikely to contain suitable habitat for the listed species tracked by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department in Travis County. Frequent mowing and foot traffic also make the maintained areas unsuitable as habitat for protected plants.

Evergreen Cemetery is located in Karst Zone 4, which includes areas that do not contain endangered cave fauna. No City-defined Critical Environmental Features (CEFs) were observed in the cemetery during recent surveys.

## Topography

The highest point on the site, about 565 feet above mean sea level (AMSL) occurs at the midpoint of the western property line (Figure 347). Two ridges extend from this point: a broad ridge to the north and a narrow ridge to the southeast. The second ridge curves northeast in the eastern part of the cemetery, so that the two ridges form an approximate bowl around a drainage channel that flows into Tannehill Branch. This channel runs through the northeast corner of the property. Most marked burials associated with Highland Park Cemetery are located along these gently sloping ridges.

In the northeast portion and southeast corner of the site, the topography is much steeper, with slopes up to 15 percent as the land falls toward drainageways. The topography flattens in the very northeast corner of the site, where Tannehill Branch passes through the cemetery property. The steep slopes and riparian corridor are heavily wooded.

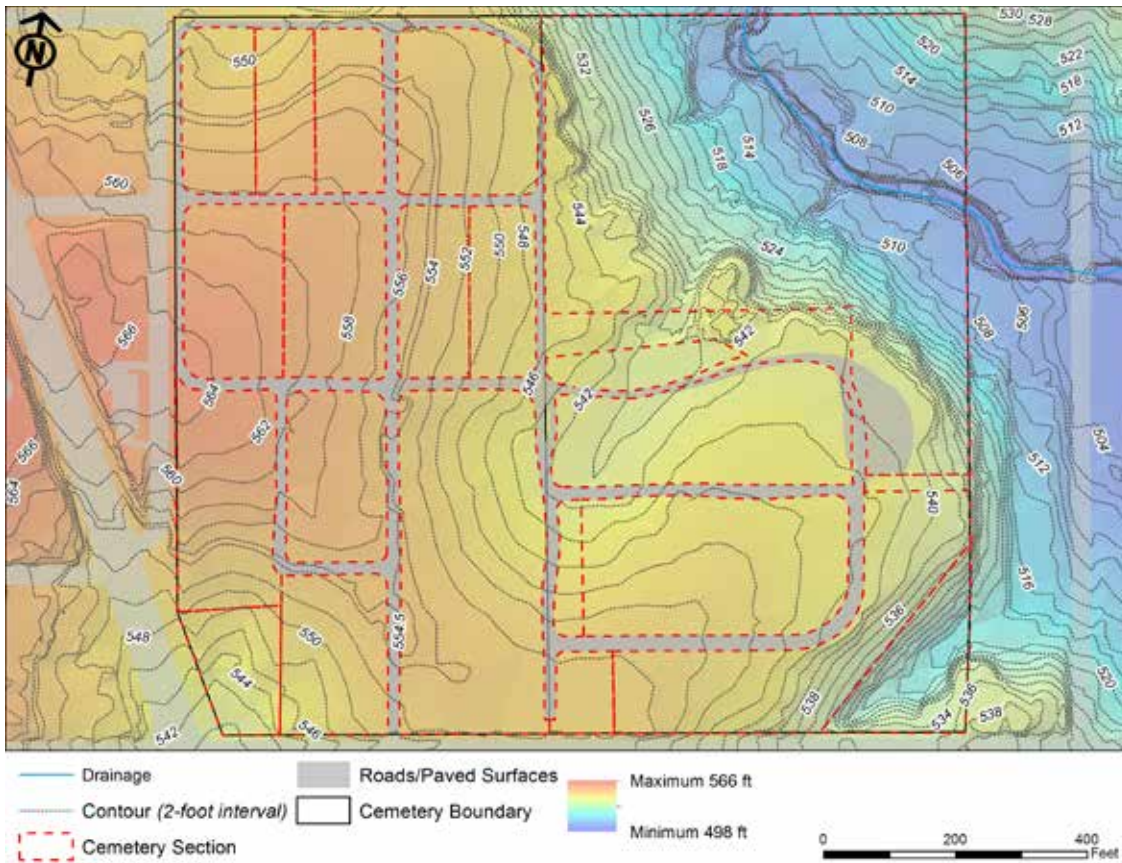


Figure 347. Topography of Evergreen Cemetery (Project Team)

## Geology and Soils

The northern portion of Evergreen Cemetery is within the Ozan Formation of the Navarro Geological Group (Ko), dating to the Upper Cretaceous epoch. The Ozan Formation consists of clay, marly, calcareous content roughly 600 feet or more in depth. The southern portion of the cemetery consists of fluvial terrace deposits (Qt). These gravel deposits are located along stream terraces and date to the Pleistocene epoch.

Evergreen Cemetery contains three soils types that arise from these deposits, as well as imported soils: a combination of Travis soils and urban land makes up about 75 percent of the entire area of the cemetery, a combination of urban land and Ferris soils makes up about 15 percent, and a combination of urban land and Houston Black soils makes up the remaining 10 percent (Figure 348).



Figure 348. Soils map, Evergreen Cemetery (Project Team)

The first type of soil present at Evergreen (TuD) consists of 45 percent Travis soils, about 35 percent urban land, and about 20 percent other soils. Travis soils have a surface layer of gravelly fine sandy loam about 18 inches thick, with a second layer of red gravelly sandy clay to a depth of 50 inches. Urban soils are made up of a mixture of native and imported soils and other material and cannot be described unless specifically tested. The Travis soils and urban land in the cemetery are characterized by 1–8 percent slopes, and the majority of marked burials occur within this soil type.

Of the second type of soil (UvE), urban land makes up at 40 percent, Ferris soils about 35 percent, and other soils 25 percent. Ferris soils have a surface layer of light olive-gray clay to a depth of about 36 inches, with an underlying pale yellow silty clay material. Soils of this type in the cemetery are characterized by 10–15 percent slopes and the majority is wooded.

The third type of soils present in the cemetery (HsD) consists of 56 percent Houston Black clay, 30 percent urban land, and 14 percent other soils, including Heiden clay and Burleson clay. Houston Black soils have a surface layer of very dark gray clay or gravelly clay about 30 inches thick, with a secondary layer of dark gray clay to a depth of 75 inches, underlain by mottled clay. The portion of the cemetery where these soils occur is characterized by 0–8 percent slopes and is entirely wooded.

## Cultural Setting: Previously Conducted Archaeological and Historical Investigations

The Texas Historical Commission's Archaeological Sites Atlas indicates that Evergreen Cemetery (assigned trinomial number 41TV1705) was initially recorded as an historical site in 2004. An additional site (41TV1755, recorded in 1995) overlaps the cemetery boundaries and is that of the former Highland Park Cemetery. This Latino and African-American burial ground was abandoned by the city in 1976. The site was recommended for preservation by extending the fence of the Evergreen Cemetery to include the burials associated with the Highland Park Cemetery, and to stabilize the adjacent creek bank in order to halt exposure of graves through erosion (prompted in part by the discovery of human remains, from a grave that had eroded into the middle of the Tannehill Branch Channel, during a 1995 unrelated archeological survey). Additional research was also recommended in order to determine more accurately the identities of those interred there.

No additional archaeological sites, surveys, National Register of Historic Places-listed properties or historic districts, State Antiquities Landmarks, or historical markers are recorded within 30 meters of



the cemetery boundaries, although a small area survey was conducted within 30 meters of site 41TV1755. This survey was conducted in 1995 under permit number 1540, as part of the Greenwood Avenue Channel Improvements project for the City of Austin. Additionally, archeologists conducted a second survey of portions of Evergreen Cemetery in early 2009 under Antiquities Permit 5007, revisiting Site 41TV1755 and re-assessing the resource at that time. The site was recommended for additional work should future actions increase the risk of damage to it.<sup>162b</sup>

### Spatial Organization

Evergreen Cemetery is located about 2½ miles east of the Austin city center. The approximately rectangular site is surrounded by a major city thoroughfare along its southern boundary, residential neighborhoods to the east and west, and thick woodland to the north.

163. Bradford M. Jones and Mason Miller, *Final Reconnaissance Survey of the Proposed Evergreen Cemetery Expansion*, Travis County, Texas (Austin, Texas: Hicks & Company, 2010)

The cemetery boundaries are formed by city streets on two sides: East 12th Street to the south, and Airport Boulevard and Tillery Street to the west (Figure 349). To the east and north, the cemetery abuts an area of thick woodland vegetation, which reinforces the site boundaries. Combined with the slopes that tend toward Tannehill Branch to the northeast, the woodland creates a sense of enclosure on the eastern part of the cemetery.

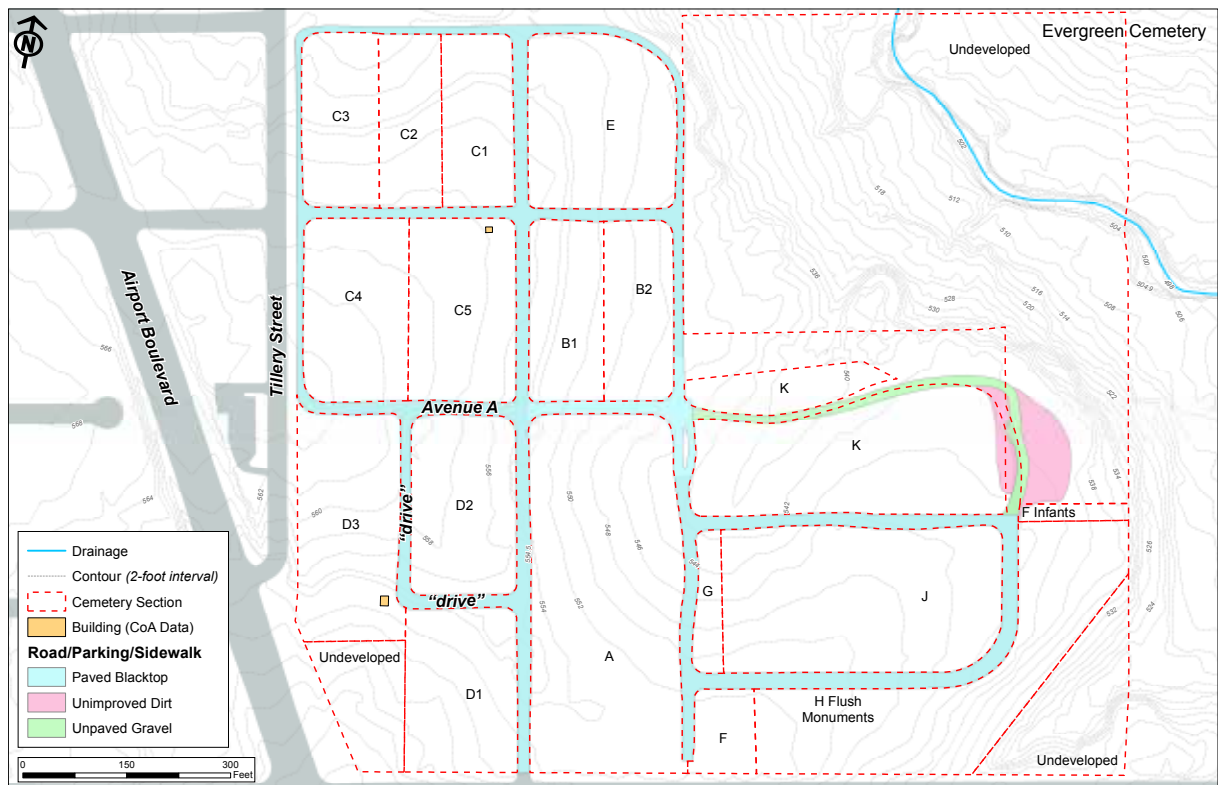


Figure 349. Evergreen Cemetery (Field map by Project Team)

Internally, the cemetery is organized in a grid. In the original platted section, secondary east-west drives branch off the main north-south cemetery drive, Main Street, with burial sections oriented north to south in the resultant spaces. The secondary drives in this portion of the cemetery line up approximately with the adjacent city grid. The more recently platted section is divided from the rest of the cemetery by another north-to-south cemetery drive, East Main Street, with secondary drives creating burial sections oriented east to west.

Burials throughout the cemetery are oriented approximately to the east, in the Protestant Christian tradition. Several areas of the cemetery contain special burials, including an infant burial section near the eastern boundary of the site, and a section for flush monuments along the southeastern side. The southeast corner of the site is undeveloped, due to challenges resulting from unsuitable slopes.

The wooded area in the northeastern corner of the site contains at least three marked graves surviving from the historic Highland Park Cemetery, which preceded Evergreen but was later abandoned. It is thought that Highland Park may have been located in the eastern portion of Evergreen and served primarily as a pauper burial ground. A spoils pile is located along the edge of the woodland in the eastern portion of the cemetery and may obscure unmarked burials.

One visitor services structure, a small restroom building, is located in the southwest corner of the site, near the intersection of Airport Boulevard and East 12th Street. It is located just north of the corner lot, which formerly contained a caretaker's house and associated outbuilding but is being redeveloped as an additional burial area.

## Circulation and Access

Public access to Evergreen Cemetery is available from its southern boundary along East 12th Street. The entrance is located near the center of the original 15-acre cemetery tract, with access controlled by a gate in the chain link boundary fence (Figure 350). There are other gated vehicular access points along Tillery Street, but the gates are kept locked. The main entrance on 12th Street includes a rather steeply pitched apron between the street and the central entrance drive, which can cause vehicles to scrape or “bottom out.”

Internal circulation within the cemetery is hierarchical in nature, with secondary roads branching off the central entrance drive, Main Street. Main Street provides access from its southern end on East 12th Street, and stretches across the entire cemetery north to south. A formal allée of trees runs along either side of the wide asphalt drive, which serves as the spine from which the rest of the cemetery drives arise (Figure 351).

In the western half of the cemetery, the narrower secondary drives subdivide the burial area, running east to west in approximate alignment to the adjacent city grid. Avenue C, running along the north boundary line, aligns with East 16th Street; Avenue B aligns with East 14th-1/2 Street; Avenue A (and its extension into the eastern part of the cemetery, Avenue K) aligns with East 14th Street; and the drive providing access to the restroom aligns with East 13th Street. When Evergreen was first developed, Avenue A terminated at its eastern end in a circular node. It was later extended to form Avenue K. Other secondary drives in the western portion of the cemetery include two narrower north-south drives, one providing access to the restroom from Avenue A, and one along the west boundary between Avenues A and C. A length of concrete curbing is present at the intersection of Avenue C and Main Street, installed presumably to prevent vehicles from cutting across the corner.



Figure 350. The entrance to Evergreen Cemetery along East 12th Street (John Milner Associates)



Figure 351. A formal allée of trees along the entrance drive, Main Street (John Milner Associates)

A second north-south drive traverses the cemetery parallel to Main Street, along what was the eastern boundary of the cemetery prior to its incorporation of the Highland Park Cemetery tract in the 1950s. The street, simply called East Main Street, was formerly a narrow dirt track used as a drive, but it was improved once the eastern sections of the cemetery were platted in the late 1970s. The southern half of East Main Street is not quite straight, curving slightly to accommodate several mature trees (Figure 352).

The three secondary section drives in the eastern portion of the cemetery arise from East Main Street. Avenues F and G—asphalt paved drives constructed at the same time as East Main Street—run east to west, with Avenue F curving north near the eastern cemetery boundary to meet Avenue G. Avenue K, extending from the east end of Avenue A, is an unpaved gravel drive that follows a meandering path along the north edge of Section K, which was platted in the late 1990s (Figure 353). Avenue K curves south to meet the intersection of Avenues F and G. This portion of Avenue K is lined with a concrete curb, which was recently added to control vehicles in that area and prevent damage to headstones (Figure 354).



*Figure 352. East Main Street curves slightly to accommodate several mature trees. (John Milner Associates)*



Evergreen Cemetery contains no formal parking area; visitors customarily park along the cemetery drives. Much of Avenue K abuts areas of bare dirt, marking areas of recent spoils removal. Most of the asphalt cemetery drives are in fair to poor condition, with much cracking, loss of surface material, and edge degradation (Figure 355).

Pedestrian circulation within the cemetery consists of the narrow grass paths between rows of burials. Paths between groups of plots are around 12 feet wide. Concrete public sidewalks are located outside the boundary fence along East 12th Street and Airport Boulevard. A bus stop is located on the west side of the cemetery on Tillery Street.



*Figure 353. Avenue K extends from the east end of Avenue A. This street has since been repaved. (John Milner Associates)*



*Figure 354. A concrete curb lines a portion of Avenue K to prevent damage to headstones from vehicles. This street has since been repaved. (John Milner Associates)*



*Figure 355. Edge degradation of the cemetery drive due to vehicle parking (John Milner Associates)*

# Vegetation

## Trees

Evergreen Cemetery hosts a variety of plants, primarily trees with a few types of shrubs and ornamental plants (Figure 356).



Figure 356. Trees in Evergreen Cemetery (Project Team)



Allées composed of a mix of crape myrtle (*Lagerstroemia indica*), ligustrum (*Ligustrum lucidum*), cedar elm (*Ulmus crassifolia*), and live oak (*Quercus virginiana*) specimens stand along Main Street and other cemetery roads (Figure 357). These species are also found in the burial area, along with pecan (*Carya illinoensis*), ashe juniper (*Juniperus ashei*), black jack oak (*Q. marilandica*), bur oak (*Q. macrocarpa*), chinquapin oak (*Q. muehlenbergii*), post oak (*Q. stellata*), Shumard oak (*Q. shumardii*), Texas red oak (*Q. buckleyi*), chinaberry (*Melia azedarach*), and a variety of pines. Specimens of Italian cypress (*Cupressus sempervirens*), Chinese parasol (*Firmiana simplex*), Arizona ash (*Fraxinus velutina*), and Texas mountain laurel (*Sophora secundiflora*) are also present (Figure 358).

The woodland dominating the northeast corner of the cemetery is primarily composed of cedar elm and Ashe juniper, with smaller concentrations of hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*), chinaberry, and ligustrum. Less common species found within this woodland include Texas persimmon (*Diospyros texana*), Jerusalem thorn (*Parkinsonia aculeata*), huisache (*Acacia farneciana*), lacebark elm (*Ulmus parvifolia*), American elm (*Ulmus Americana*), Texas ash (*Fraxinus texensis*), Arizona ash (*F. velutina*), blackjack oak, live oak, and bur oak.



Figure 357. Live oak and crape myrtle along Main Street within the cemetery (John Milner Associates)



Figure 358. An Italian stone pine planted next to a headstone in Section G (John Milner Associates)

Historic aerial photographs of Evergreen Cemetery indicate a historic pattern of formal plantings of evergreens in relation to family plots. An aerial from 1952 shows that Section A was the most heavily planted and was also surrounded by rows of trees or large shrubs on its south and west sides. (Figure 359). An aerial from 1966 shows that this pattern of formal evergreen plantings at family plots was continued in Sections B and C. (Figure 360). Since then, this pattern of plantings has given way to a greater focus on smaller, ornamental plants at family and individual plots and to the creation of allées along the internal cemetery drives.



*Figure 359. Aerial photograph of Evergreen Cemetery, 1952 (City of Austin).*



*Figure 360. Aerial photograph of Evergreen Cemetery, 1966 (City of Austin).*

## Shrubs, Vines, and Bulbs

A fair number of shrubs and other ornamental species are planted in association with family plots and individual grave sites. Shrub species observed in Evergreen Cemetery include boxwood (*Buxus sempervirens*), nandina (*Nandina domestica*), rose (*Rosa* sp.), lantana (*Lantana camara*), arborvitae (*Thuja* sp.), Texas sage (*Leucophyllum frutescens*), oleander (*Nerium oleander*), photinia (*Photinia* sp.) and rosemary (*Rosmarinus officinalis*) (Figure 361).

Other ornamental species include Dutch iris (*Iris germanica*), crinum lily (*Crinum asiaticum*), spiderwort (*Tradescantia pallida*), prickly pear cactus (*Opuntia* sp.), Spanish dagger (*Yucca torreyi*), and century plant (*Agave americana*) (Figure 362). Many annual species are also present, often planted as plot coverings.



Figure 361. Shrubs are often planted in association with both family plots and individual grave sites. (John Milner Associates)



Figure 362. Many ornamental species, including prickly pear cactus, are also present in the cemetery. (John Milner Associates)

## Grave Markers

Evergreen Cemetery was established for the African American community. Although part of Evergreen encompasses a portion of an older cemetery, Highland Park, only a few graves from the earlier graveyard are marked. Evergreen is divided into multiple sections, some of which are subdivided; undivided sections include A, E, F, G, H, J, and Infant F. The rest of the sections in the cemetery are B1, B2, C1, C2, C3, D1, D2, D3, K1 and K2. Additional areas in three of the corners of the cemetery are undeveloped.



## Marker Types

Evergreen contains mostly granite and marble markers in the form of headstones on bases, tablet stones, slant-faced markers, block markers, and surface markers. Granite is prevalent as a marker material. Footstones are not common in this cemetery; those few present are typically made of granite. In some cases, Veterans Administration (VA) markers are used as footstones (Figure 363).

Bronze markers, set flush with the surface of the ground, are found in all sections except A and B. Both VA and private bronze markers are prevalent in Section H, which exclusively contains flush surface markers (Figure 364).

Handmade concrete markers are found throughout Evergreen Cemetery (Figure 365–Figure 368). Concrete markers and slabs, made with pink sand and resembling pink granite, are found in Section C and D.

One distinctive marker type appears to be made by an unidentified local artist. These handmade concrete markers feature a unique design with cast glitter on the surface, leading the survey team to nickname them “Little Mirrors” (Figure 370–Figure 372). Quite a few of these markers are present at Evergreen Cemetery in Sections B, F, H, J, and K.

Many markers are embellished with ceramic photographs (Figure 373–Figure 375). Some recent markers replace these photos with photorealistic etchings (Figure 376). Several ceramic photos are damaged, possibly by vandals or from rocks thrown by mowers.



Figure 363. VA marker as footstone (McDoux Preservation)



Figure 364. Flush markers in Evergreen Section H (McDoux Preservation)



Figure 365. Handmade marker in Section B (McDoux Preservation)



Figure 366. Handmade marker (McDoux Preservation)



Figure 369. Handmade marker with embedded glass (McDoux Preservation)



Figure 368. Handmade marker with wooden letters (McDoux Preservation)



Figure 367. Handmade metal heart marker (McDoux Preservation)





Figure 370. "Little Mirrors" marker, front (McDoux Preservation)



Figure 371. "Little Mirrors" marker, back (McDoux Preservation)



Figure 372. "Little Mirrors" marker, close-up showing glitter (McDoux Preservation)



Figure 373. Headstone with ceramic photos (McDoux Preservation)



Figure 374. Headstone featuring a ceramic photo (EMcDoux Preservation)



Figure 375. Close-up of a ceramic photograph (McDoux Preservation)



Figure 376. Etched photo on a marker (McDoux Preservation)

It is not uncommon to see graves marked only with a funeral home marker, usually on a metal stake but sometimes in a more substantial metal frame and placed flush on the ground (see next page). These small markers are especially susceptible to mower and trimmer damage.

Other, less common marker types include obelisks, steles, bodystones, bolsters, round pylons, rustic/boulder markers, stone crosses, memorial benches, poured concrete ledger stones, and statuary.

Handmade and unusual markers include:

- Section A: Wooden cross, pile of bricks
- Section C: Wooden cross, many handmade and ornamented markers, small plastic decorative crosses
- Section D: Markers with nichos, heart-shaped metal surface marker (1997), bricks with names written on them in marker
- Sections F and H: Rock cairn
- Section J: Wooden cross, painted/stenciled concrete footstone, concrete with applied tile and statue, wood letters set into concrete
- Section K: Hornitos, stack of rocks or bricks (perhaps to protect funeral home marker on stake), marble tile made into slant-faced marker, stained glass set into concrete, welding helmet with name and date (Figure 380–Figure 382).



Figure 377. Funeral home marker (McDoux Preservation)



Figure 378. Funeral home marker (McDoux Preservation)





Figure 379. Flush funeral home marker surrounded by gravel (McDoux Preservation)



Figure 380. Oven-shaped hornito in Section K (McDoux Preservation)



Figure 381. Oven-shaped hornito in Section K (McDoux Preservation)



Figure 382. A welding helmet serving as a marker (McDoux Preservation)

## Adverse Conditions

As in other cemeteries, the primary adverse conditions observed in Evergreen Cemetery included general soiling; biological growth; tilted, sunken, displaced, or fallen markers due to shifting soil; worn or unreadable inscriptions; cracking; and mower/trimmer damage.

Mower and trimmer damage is worse at Evergreen than at any of the other cemeteries, particularly in Sections A, B, D, F, and H (see below). A marker near the roadway at one corner of Section B appears to have been displaced by contact with a vehicle.

Ponding water, due to a dripping faucet, was observed near the restroom building in Section A (Figure 387). Subsidence was observed in Sections B, C, and D. Overhanging trees and encroaching vegetation were observed in Sections B, F, H, and J.

Many older markers are smaller slant-faced stones with a lower center of gravity, and fewer of these are tilted or fallen than the newer larger markers.

Bronze urns are missing from both stone and bronze markers (Figure 388). At least one bronze marker (in Section J) appears to have been removed or possibly stolen, leaving behind only a concrete foundation. Stone urns are also missing from markers where they were clearly previously installed.





Figure 383. The base of this marker is heavily damaged by trimmers (McDoux Preservation)



Figure 384. Both the base and face of this marker are damaged by trimmers (McDoux Preservation)



Figure 385. Marker damaged by trimmers (McDoux Preservation)



Figure 386. Funeral home marker damaged by mowers (McDoux Preservation)



Figure 387. Ponding water in Section A (McDoux Preservation)



Figure 388. Bronze collar left behind when urn was removed (McDoux Preservation)

## Plot Coverings

There are numerous examples of plot coverings in Evergreen Cemetery. Plot coverings are highly variable and individualistic. Mounding over graves, chopped or scraped clean of grass, is found throughout Sections F and H, and, to a lesser extent, in Sections B and K (Figure 389). Rock-covered mounds, primarily composed of white marble gravel, are also present (Figure 390).

In Section K, mulch and ornamental plants are also common plot coverings and are frequently contained within informal plot enclosures (Figure 391–Figure 393).

Graves also may be covered by slabs of granite or poured concrete, in one case containing granite aggregate (Figure 394, Figure 396, Figure 397). In Section D, one concrete slab over a grave is topped with ceramic floor tiles (Figure 395).

## Plot Enclosures

There is only one instance of a family plot enclosure at Evergreen Cemetery (Figure 398), although individual plot enclosures are common, especially in the more newly-platted burial sections. The single family plot enclosure is composed of granite curbing with granite block corner posts and two engraved thresholds (Figure 399). The curbing shows some signs of damage from string trimmers or mowing equipment.

Individual plot enclosures are found in all sections, although less so in Section B. Curbing materials tend to be informal, likely installed by family members of the decedent. Garden edging is common, including modular concrete blocks, bricks, and wire, wooden, or plastic fencing. Other enclosure materials present in the cemetery include stones and landscape timbers. Enclosures are sometimes painted and often contain plot covering materials such as gravel, mulch, or plants.

## Plot Fencing

No formal plot fencing, such as that found in Oakwood Cemetery, is located in Evergreen. Several recent plots, especially in Sections J and K, feature a variety of low, garden-type edgings, as described above.





Figure 389. Mounded graves kept scraped clean of grass (McDoux Preservation)



Figure 390. A mounded grave covered with white marble gravel (McDoux Preservation)



Figure 391. A plot covered with a colored gravel in Section K; also note the painted concrete block edging (John Milner Associates)



Figure 392. Many graves in Section K employ plants as a plot covering. (John Milner Associates)



Figure 393. A variety of plot coverings in Section K (John Milner Associates)





Figure 394. Formal plot coverings include this example of a stamped concrete slab. (John Milner Associates)



Figure 395. Concrete slab inlaid with ceramic tiles (McDoux Preservation)



Figure 396. Poured concrete slabs covering graves in Section B (McDoux Preservation)



Figure 397. Granite slab grave coverings (John Milner Associates)



Figure 398. Granite curbing surrounding a family plot in Section C (John Milner Associates)



Figure 399. Engraved threshold, part of granite plot curbing (John Milner Associates)



Figure 400. Concrete curbing enclosing a plot (McDoux Preservation)



Figure 401. A variety of materials are used for individual plot enclosures, including modular concrete blocks, and wooden or wire fencing. (John Milner Associates)



Figure 402. Plastic garden edging surrounding a plot in Section K (John Milner Associates)



## Water Features

An underground irrigation system was installed in Evergreen in the 1970s. Steel pipe risers, most terminating with a hose bib and/or a quick coupler for attaching an impulse sprinkler head, are located in a grid pattern throughout the cemetery, occurring approximately every four rows of burials and spaced approximately 70 feet apart (Figure 403). The risers are similar to those located in Oakwood Cemetery and Oakwood Cemetery Annex, although the risers in Evergreen are not encased in concrete. At the time of survey, many of the irrigation risers had developed leaks or constant drips. During the development of this master plan, the City replaced 122 vacuum breakers and 58 quick couplers within the irrigation system at Evergreen Cemetery. It is expected that some of the 110 removable, transportable impact heads purchased as part of this effort to be shared amongst the city's cemeteries may be deployed here at some interval.



*Figure 403. A steel pipe riser, part of Evergreen's underground irrigation system (John Milner Associates)*

## Buildings and Structures

### Buildings

The only building in Evergreen Cemetery is the small restroom facility, located in the southwestern portion of the site (Figure 404). The modular concrete block building is painted white and has separate entrances on its north and south sides for the single-stall men's and women's facilities. A green-painted plywood board on the southwest side of the structure screens the building from view from Airport Boulevard. A portable toilet is located between the restroom structure and the access drive to provide an ADA-compliant restroom facility for visitors. The date of construction of the restroom is unknown at this time, but it was certainly built by the late 1950s, as the structure appears on a cemetery plat dated 1959.



*Figure 404. The small restroom facility and adjacent portable toilet (John Milner Associates)*

A house that may have housed the cemetery caretaker once stood in the southwest corner of the cemetery, and is visible on historic USGS topographic maps and aerial photographs of the cemetery as late as 1981 (Figure 405). An associated garage is visible in aerials photographs as late as 2004. A driveway to the house and garage entered the house site from East 12th Street, near its intersection with Airport Boulevard; its location is still marked by a residential scale, double-leaf, chain link driveway gate (Figure 406). The gate is no longer in use and is kept padlocked. The date of construction for both structures is unknown, but documentation suggests that the house was built in the early 1930s to replace an earlier structure. The house was demolished between 1981 and 1985; the carport remained on the site until around 2004 or 2005.



*Figure 405. Caretaker's house, carport, restroom, and another unidentified building, c.1964 (Evergreen House detail 1964 HAO)*



*Figure 406. This chain link gate on East 12th Street previously allowed access to the house and garage. The fence and gate have since been updated. (John Milner Associates)*

## Structures

Evergreen contains only one above-ground structure, a gray granite, double-vault tomb that is located near the middle of the northwest quadrant of the cemetery (see Figure 398). This is also the only family plot within the cemetery that is marked with a formal curb system, also of granite, with square granite corner stones and an entrance stone inscribed with the family name.

## Fence System

Until very recently, when new fencing was installed, Evergreen Cemetery was surrounded by a chain link boundary fence that was installed ca. 1966, replacing an earlier wire fence along Tillery and East 12th streets. The main entrance along East 12th Street features a double gate to control access to the site (see Figure 350 on page 291). When the gate is open, one side is held in place with a rubber strap wrapped around an adjacent tree, which is in poor condition. Three other double gates in the fence, two along Tillery Street and the other associated with the former caretaker's house, are kept locked. Understandably, some adjacent residences have installed screening elements along the northern site boundary for privacy (Figure 407). Alternative screening ideas that are more compatible for the cemetery and still provide privacy can be explored.



*Figure 407. Screening elements installed on the chain link fence by adjacent property owners (John Milner Associates)*



## Small-Scale Features

### Site Furnishings

A number of site furnishings are clustered near the cemetery entrance on Main Street. An aluminum flagpole stands along the west side of the drive, just inside the cemetery entrance gate (Figure 408). A mulched planting bed bounded by wood edging surrounds the flagpole area. The 25-foot flagpole was a gift to the cemetery, donated in 1979 by a citizen identified only as "Mrs. Warren," in honor of her husband, who died in World War II. It displays the U.S. flag and the Texas state flag. Other site furnishings in the entrance area include a number of directional and informational signs, and a battered, galvanized steel litter receptacle, altogether contributing to a cluttered appearance from the street (Figure 409). Several other identical trash receptacles are located in other parts of the cemetery, as well as older trash receptacles formed of concrete (Figure 410).



Figure 408. An aluminum flagpole stands just inside the entrance gate. (John Milner Associates)



Figure 409. Directional signs and a battered litter receptacle clustered near the cemetery entrance (John Milner Associates)



Figure 410. A concrete curb in Section C terminates in a concrete litter receptacle. (John Milner Associates)



Figure 411. Section identification sign (John Milner Associates)

A sign identifying the cemetery is mounted on two metal posts and stands near the southwest corner, facing the intersection of East 12th Street and Airport Boulevard (Figure 414). The sign stands inside the fence and beneath a large overhanging live oak and is difficult to read from the street.

Other site furnishings within Evergreen include painted steel section identification signs, mounted at around four feet above the ground on galvanized steel poles (Figure 411). These are identical to the section identification signs located in Austin Memorial Park. Individual plots usually are identified by ground-level concrete markers, many of which are obscured by vegetation or worn to the point of illegibility (Figure 412). A least one instance of a square metal plot marker is present within the cemetery (Figure 413).

Three wood bollards stand on the southeastern corner of the restroom building to prevent vehicles from driving on burial plots at that intersection (see Figure 404 on page 311). One metal and one wood bollard stand close to the new curb and gutter installation and are both painted yellow (see Figure 354 on page 293).



Figure 412. Ground-level concrete markers identify plot corners. (John Milner Associates )



Figure 413. A square metal plot marker (John Milner Associates)



Figure 414. A PARD sign identifying the cemetery near the southwest corner; the sign is difficult to read from outside the cemetery. (John Milner Associates)

## Grave Furnishings

Grave decorations are found throughout Evergreen Cemetery, although they are more common in the more newly-platted burial sections in the eastern portion of the cemetery. Items observed include decorative benches, flowerpots, silk flowers, trellises, candles, and garden ornaments (Figure 415 on page 316). Marble vases and urns, concrete planters, cast stone urns, and basket-weave terra cotta planters are common throughout Evergreen. Small toys, pinwheels, and ceramic statues are common in the infant burial section.

Some graves are furnished with a decorative bench at the foot of the plot, facing the headstone, but this is not as common in Evergreen as it is at Austin Memorial Park Cemetery.



*Figure 415. Grave decorations in the infants burial section (John Milner Associates)*



## Utilities

PVC sewer standpipes are located in the cemetery caretaker's house plot on the southwestern corner of the site (Figure 416).

The public right-of-way that bounds the cemetery along East 12th Street and Tillery Street is lined with utility poles that stand just outside the cemetery boundary fence on the 12th Street side in the verge between the sidewalk and street on Tillery (Figure 417). The poles have a negative impact on the historic character of the view from inside the cemetery.



*Figure 416. PVC sewer standpipes near the location of the former caretaker's house (John Milner Associates)*



*Figure 417. View of adjacent overhead utility lines from inside the cemetery (John Milner Associates)*



## SIGNIFICANCE

In order to develop treatment recommendations that are well-grounded in national standards, this master plan proposes areas and periods of significance, evaluates the cemetery under National Register Criteria, and determines its integrity.

The applicable Criteria for Evaluation for Evergreen Cemetery are presented below, along with one Criterion Consideration. Per National Register requirements, except for archeological sites and cemeteries nominated under Criterion D, burial places must also meet the special requirements of Criteria Considerations C or D.

**Criterion A:** *Properties can be eligible for the National Register if they are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.*

Evergreen Cemetery was established in 1926 and is still active. Only the oldest sections of Evergreen Cemetery are likely to be eligible for listing in the National Register at this time. Section A was the first part of the cemetery to be developed, and it contains burials dating from the 1920s through the 1950s, including the graves of many prominent families and individuals. The next section to be developed, Section C, was platted in 1938 but prices for the lots there were not set until 1947, with the earliest burials taking place that year. Section B opened in the 1950s, and Section D was platted in 1959. Those sections and all later sections appear to contain predominantly burials that would be too recent to qualify for the National Register.

Section A, and possibly Section C, of Evergreen Cemetery may be significant under Criterion A, for association with segregation and the development of Austin generally and the African American community in East Austin specifically, following the 1928 City Plan and during the Civil Rights movement.

**Criterion B:** *Properties can be eligible for the National Register if they are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.*

Evergreen Cemetery is potentially significant under Criterion B, for its association with a group of persons of outstanding importance to the African American community.

**Criterion C:** *Properties may be eligible for the National Register if they embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.*

Additional research should explore the variety of folk craft traditions represented by handmade grave markers at Evergreen Cemetery, which may be significant under Criterion C.

**Criterion D:** *Properties may be eligible for the National Register if they have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.*

The newer, eastern half of Evergreen Cemetery encompasses land that was likely part of the old Highland Park Cemetery, which is thought to have provided pauper burial services to the City of Austin in the early twentieth century. Because the boundaries of and burials within Highland Park are today undocumented, Evergreen Cemetery may be significant under Criterion D for its ability to yield information about the burial practices used to inter the poor during that period.

**Criteria Consideration D:** *A cemetery is eligible if it derives its primary significance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events.*

Consideration D would apply based on the presence of handmade grave markers (particularly, but not exclusively, in Section A) and the graves of individuals of transcendent importance. A detailed survey of the graves located in the section to be nominated, with biographical information about the deceased buried there, could help to substantiate their importance to the community.

## Period of Significance

The time during which a property acquired the characteristics that make it eligible for listing in the National Register or for designation as a local landmark is called the *period of significance*. This period often begins when the property was established or constructed, or when events or activities that contribute to the property's historic significance began to take place. The period of significance usually ends at least 50 years before the present date.

The master plan team proposes that the period of significance for the cemetery extend from 1926, when the cemetery was established, to 1965, 50 years prior to this publication's release date.

## Integrity

To be eligible for National Register listing, a property must retain integrity to the period of significance. Assessment of integrity is based on an evaluation of the existence and condition of physical features dating from a property's period of significance, taking into consideration the degree to which the individual qualities of integrity are present. The seven aspects of integrity included in National Register criteria are location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, as described below.

**Location** refers to the place where the historic property was constructed or the place where a historic event occurred.

**Design** is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property.

**Setting** refers to the physical environment of a historic property.

**Materials** are the physical elements that were combined during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property.

**Workmanship** is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory.

**Feeling** is a property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time.

**Association** is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property.

The integrity of cemeteries, in particular, may be compromised by the presence of modern grave markers. As a result, it is common to list only the oldest sections of a cemetery, containing a critical mass of historic grave markers, on the National Register.

Based on an evaluation of existing conditions at Evergreen Cemetery, and in consultation with Gregory Smith, National Register Coordinator for the Texas Historical Commission, the master plan team recommends that only the original boundaries of Evergreen Cemetery—not the addition of the former Highland Park Cemetery grounds to the east—should be considered for inclusion in a National Register listing at this time. A detailed survey of the cemetery would be required to determine which sections may or may not be eligible; based on the dates of burials, it is likely that only Section A, and potentially Section C, would be included in the nomination.

## TREATMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Overall treatment objectives for Evergreen Cemetery are focused on:

- improving the exterior appearance of the cemetery;
- improving the entrance;
- improving visitor facilities;
- caring for and planting trees;
- relocating maintenance and spoils areas; and
- providing historical and wayfinding information.

Additional concerns include:

- care of grave markers and objects of art and craft;
- potential areas for cemetery expansion and a scatter garden; and
- control of fire ants and noxious lawn burs.

Treatment plans illustrating these objectives are presented at the end of this chapter.

### Appearance and Entrance

Of primary concern to Evergreen Cemetery stakeholders are the exterior appearance of the cemetery, the condition of the restrooms, and the functionality of the cemetery's primary entrance. PARD recently replaced the rusting chain link boundary fence around Evergreen Cemetery, which improved the appearance of the cemetery from Twelfth and Tillery. However, the cemetery entrance has a cluttered appearance from the proliferation of signs and posts, the cemetery identity sign is difficult to see, and the driveway steepness presents a problem for some vehicles. In addition, the location of the primary entrance only one-half block from the intersection of Airport, Tillery, and Twelfth Streets causes traffic problems during large funerals.



## Appearance

- Replace the south and west black chain link boundary fence with a black picket fence or other type that is more compatible with the historic character of the cemetery (refer to Figure 11 in General Management Guidelines).
- Consider rounding the fence at the corner of Airport and Tillery and attaching a cemetery identification sign that can be visible from many points at that intersection (Figure 418).

## Entrance

- Consolidate signage at the Twelfth Street entrance into a single informational sign, possibly including this in a kiosk to be located across Main Street from the existing flag pole (Figure 419). (Also see Visitor Facilities, page 319.)
- Relocate the cemetery primary entrance to the intersection of Tillery Street with the cemetery's Avenue A, leaving the Twelfth Street entrance open, as well.
- Consider the cemetery gate and perimeter fence as a potential Art in Public Places competitive project, incorporating culturally significant imagery, for example (see General Management Guidelines).
- Include visitor wayfinding tools in the informational kiosk, including a graphic plan of the cemetery and grave location information, if possible; a brief account of the history and significance of the cemetery; visitor registration; and operational or maintenance rules (Figure 421).
- Install a kiosk and a small restroom building at the new cemetery entrance, incorporating it into the overall design of the entrance (Figure 420).
- Provide for one universally-accessible parking space and a stable and level area for access to the informational kiosk.
- Mark the new cemetery entrance with an appropriately decorative entrance gateway, framed by masonry piers or other material. The entrance could be marked with a sign, possibly arching, that identifies the name of the cemetery (Figure 422–Figure 426).



Figure 418. Example of a sign on a curved black metal picket fence (Google, annotated by John Milner Associates)



Figure 419. This park sign consolidates information that might otherwise be provided in smaller, separate signs. (SignsExpress.co.uk)



Figure 420. At Old City Cemetery in Lynchburg, Virginia, an informational kiosk is incorporated into the entrance gateway. (Google Maps)



Figure 421. Informational kiosk at Old City Cemetery. The kiosk contains a map and several brochures about different aspects of the cemetery. (Laura Knott, 2010)





Figure 422. Entrance to Portage Park, Chicago, flanked by masonry pier and wall composition (Google)



Figure 423. Entrance to Hillsboro Pioneer Cemetery in Oregon combines masonry and steel. (Google)



Figure 424. At Andersonville National Cemetery, brick columns support a traditional black picket fence. (Google)



Figure 425. Contemporary version of the traditional cemetery arched entrance (Portage Park, Chicago) (Google)



Figure 426. Traditional, early-20th-century arched steel cemetery gateway, located at Comal Cemetery in New Braunfels (John Milner Associates)

## Visitor Facilities

Visitor access and comfort is also a high priority for Evergreen Cemetery stakeholders. The existing restroom building is outdated and is not universally-accessible. In addition, the prominent location of this very utilitarian building is not compatible with the historic character of the cemetery. Stakeholders would also like to have a visitor resting area, provided with benches, shade, and a drinking fountain, if feasible. To address visitor accommodations, the following actions are recommended:

### Restroom

- Install a small restroom building at the entrance, possibly incorporated into the overall design of the entrance, as was done at Austin Memorial Park Cemetery. This building should be locked when the cemetery is closed in the evening. This could be combined with the informational kiosk or located in a separate building.
- Provide for one universally-accessible parking space and a stable and level area for access to the restroom. The parking space for the restroom can also serve the kiosk.

### Visitor Gathering Areas

- Establish visitor gathering areas, possibly as part of scatter gardens, to be located at the east end of Section K and another possibly in the open, shaded area where the caretaker's residence once stood.
- Consider utilizing scatter gardens as locations for memorial trees. These trees can also serve to shade the visitor gathering areas.
- Extend the interment plot south of Section D only to the critical root zone of the three large live oaks at the corner of Twelfth and Tillery. Utilize this corner area as a visitor gathering area or scatter garden; include seating and trash receptacles.
- Create a visitor gathering area around the existing flag pole, including a paved plaza with seating, framed by vegetation, such as low hedges, and shaded by new trees. Include at least two benches and trash receptacles.
- Install site furnishings in the visitor gathering areas that are simple and contemporary so that they do not detract from the historic character of the cemetery (refer to General Management Guidelines).



## Circulation

- Grind down all drives and repave, when feasible, in chip-seal asphalt with aggregate that matches the local soil.
- Avoid creating new burial plots within the grass alleys identified on the cemetery plat and reserved for circulation.

## Vegetation Management

The primary goal of vegetation treatment at Evergreen Cemetery is to preserve and enhance the historic character of the cemetery through the protection of existing historic trees and the replacement of lost trees. In its early history, plantings of evergreen trees and shrubs contributed largely to the character of the cemetery; these were particularly concentrated in Section A, which was bounded on its south and west edges with a dense planting of evergreens. Although many of these trees had either died or had been removed by the late 1970s, small evergreen and ornamental trees were planted along Main Street by the 1980s. In addition, a concentration of large, deciduous trees in the northern sections provided much-needed shade in the summer, historically, and many are still standing today. Preservation, care, and maintenance of the remaining historic trees is paramount to maintaining the integrity of the entire cemetery.

The following actions are recommended for the vegetation within Evergreen Cemetery:

- Develop a construction-level planting plan to replace trees that have been lost from the cemetery, based on the conceptual plan provided as part of the cemetery preservation, as well as early aerials and ground-level evidence, such as stumps. It is possible that volunteer shrubs or perennials may mark the previous location of a tree or may obscure a stump.
- Compost, mulch, and water trees (as appropriate and as necessary for each species) during periods of insufficient rainfall.
- Ensure that over time, specimen trees remain as historic features within the landscape with a program of in-kind replacement.
- Remove volunteer trees (usually mulberry, hackberry, tree ligustrum, or gum bumelia) that threaten markers and plot enclosures. Retain other volunteer trees as needed for tree cover or to represent a lost historic tree.
- Encourage the growth of native groundcovers, including horseherb (*Calyptocarpus vialis*) and other low plants that are easily established in dry shade and can substitute for lawn grasses.
- Improve turf management through improving soils by adding compost topdressing annually.

- Upgrade the irrigation system, replacing risers with ground level hose bibs or quick couplers that can be accessed by the public to water newly-installed plants in individual or family plots, and by city staff to irrigate plant material and turf during times of drought.

## Maintenance and Spoils

In the past, spoils from grave excavation has been routinely dumped in the northeast corner of the cemetery, adding as much as six feet of fill and extending the east and north edges of the cemetery terrace as much as 70 feet past the natural edge of the slope leading down to the Tannehill Branch. In addition to earthen spoils, there are also large amounts of domestic and industrial refuse, including chunks of asphalt, concrete, and limestone; lumber; yard wastes; and household items. This material has been accumulating at least since the late 1970s, when this area was developed as part of the cemetery.<sup>163</sup> Since the initiation of the master planning process in 2013, the most obvious earthen spoils piles have been removed. However, there is still a need for some temporary storage of maintenance equipment, concrete vaults, gravel, and spoils on the site. The following recommendations are made:

- Locate the maintenance and storage area on a previously filled area that does not contain any large shade trees. Refer to the conceptual plan provided for Evergreen Cemetery for the recommended location.
- Fence the area and screen from view from the rest of the cemetery.
- Do not at any time store maintenance or excavation equipment, concrete vaults, gravel, or spoils piles within the root zones of any large trees, including oak, ash, or cedar elm.

## Historical Information and Wayfinding

Stakeholders have asked that information be available to the cemetery visitor that tells the story of the cemetery and the community it serves, as well as maps that can help visitors locate particular graves within the cemetery. In addition, although signs were recently installed to identify cemetery sections, they are too tall, standing within the historic viewshed, and are located at the center of the edge of the sections, rather than at the corners, and internal cemetery drives are not identified. Other conditions affecting wayfinding and circulation is the practice of creating new grave plots utilizing what should be reserved as pedestrian walkways between burial sections. To address these issues, the following actions are recommended. For more detail, refer to Chapter 3, General Management Guidelines.

- Install historical and wayfinding maps at the entrance kiosk. Consider incorporating QR codes that can be scanned using smart phones.
- Identify cemetery sections and drives with markers located at intersections. The markers should be durable and preferably of stone, concrete, or other material compatible with the historic character of the cemetery. Galvanized steel and unpainted aluminum are not recommended.
- Consider installing informational signs at the graves of important community leaders. These signs should be simple, contemporary, and not distract from the historic character of the cemetery.
- Continue to research location of Highland Park Cemetery and provide this information when available. Portions of Evergreen Cemetery identified as originating in Highland Park Cemetery could be identified with additional informational signs.

## Grave Markers and Decorative Objects

Grave markers in Evergreen Cemetery are primarily of granite; however, there are numerous hand-crafted markers within the cemetery, many of which appear to be made by the same artist. The following actions are recommended:

- Protect, preserve, repair, and conserve cemetery markers, including unique works of art and craft.
- Document, as a high priority, the many delicate and hand-made markers within the cemetery that are threatened by weathering, vandalism, and maintenance damage.
- Conduct further research through oral history to identify the craftspersons who created these markers; consider including this information in the history of the cemetery.
- Encourage plot owners to establish groundcovers within curbed or edged plots to reduce the amount of mowing and trimming required.

## Cemetery Expansion

In 2010, the City of Austin conducted a feasibility study regarding the possible expansion of burial plats in Evergreen Cemetery to the north and east towards Tannehill Branch above the waterway setback. Hicks & Company was contracted to study the potential impact of the expansion on cultural resources in the area and concluded that it has a high potential for containing late-nineteenth- and early twentieth-century graves associated with Highland Park Cemetery. However, the depth of trash and fill over this area severely limited the investigation, and Hicks & Company recommended that, prior to expanding the cemetery into this area, further investigations would be necessary.<sup>164</sup> Because additional investigations are warranted in this area, only a few areas for expansion were identified. These include:

- Remove the existing restroom and associated utilities and utilize space for plot expansion.
- Extend interment plots south of Section D only to the drip line of the three large live oaks at the corner of Twelfth and Tillery. Utilize this corner area as a scatter garden or other open-space function.
- Develop a new circular drive connecting Avenue K and Avenue G at their eastern ends and re-vegetate the semi-circular area to create a scatter garden. Note: the location for this drive is atop the artificial fill terrace, but no archeological evidence was found by Hicks & Company in this area that would point to its use as Highland Park Cemetery. Nonetheless, further investigation of this area (including engineering requirements and additional archeological investigations) prior to construction of the road is recommended.

It is possible that project-focused investigations can refine what is known about any evidence of Highland Park Cemetery below the fill areas at the north and east of Evergreen and that these areas could also support the expansion of interment plots.

Any additional expansion proposals would need to consider the potential location of Highland Park Cemetery burials and continue with archeological investigations as appropriate.

Also, while outside the cemetery boundaries, dumping in the adjacent watershed for Tannehill Creek has been a perennial problem. PARD should coordinate with Watershed Management for periodic cleanup of the creek area.



## Integrated Pest Management

Fire ants and noxious burs have been an ongoing problem at Evergreen Cemetery. The best treatment is an Integrated Pest Management Approach, which manages pests in a continuum, beginning with the most economical means that presents the least possible hazard to people and the environment.

### Fire Ants

- Identify ant species as the first step in determining the need and approach for control.
- Examine maintenance practices that may be inadvertently encouraging the spread of mounds.<sup>1</sup>
- First consider physical controls, such as pouring boiling water into the mounds. Treatment can then move to biological controls, which involve the introduction of fire ant parasites or fire ant diseases to the area. As a last resort, chemical treatments are also available, but careful consideration should be given to their affect on the environment.

### Noxious Burs

Evergreen Cemetery stands atop a layer of deep, sandy soils, the ideal medium to support its many post oaks, but also ideal for the growth of the Southern sandspur (*Cenchrus echinatus*), a noxious weed with devilishly sharp burs. The best defense against these weeds is thick, healthy turf; however, it is not feasible to maintain this sort of turf, which requires a great deal of watering and mowing, within the cemetery. When a thick lawn is not possible, Texas A&M Extension Service recommends a program of pre-emergent and post-emergent herbicide use in areas that are heavily infested.<sup>165</sup>

165. James A. McAfee, Ph.D., "Controlling Field Sandbur (Grassbur) in Turfgrass," <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/archives/parsons/turf/grassbur.html>

# PRIORITIZED PROJECT LIST AND ESTIMATE OF PROBABLE COSTS

## Priority One

(to be completed within 1–2 years)

*These probable costs are estimates based on comparable projects and previous estimates. All costs are subject to fluctuation and/or increase.*

<i>Item</i>	<i>Estimated Cost</i>
Develop new cemetery entrance on Tillery Street with visitor kiosk, parking space, and restroom. Entrance (new lichgate with walls, assume \$100,000) Restroom (assume \$250,000) Kiosk (assume \$7,500) Benches/trash receptacles (2@ \$2,500 = \$5,000) Parking space and sidewalk (assume 400sf @ \$5/sf = \$2,000)	\$368,500
Remove existing restroom and associated utilities after new restroom is completed.	\$ 4,500
Organize Twelfth Street signage into one unit.	\$10,000
Replace shade trees (assume 60-4" caliper at \$800 each).	\$48,000
Relocate maintenance yard.	\$5,000
Survey grave marker conditions and prioritize for repair/conservation/resetting.	\$0 (to be completed by volunteers)
Upgrade irrigation system, replacing rotors with ground-level quick couplers and hose bibs.	\$50,000

## Priority Two

### (to be completed within 3–5 years)

*These probable costs are estimates based on comparable projects and previous estimates. All costs are subject to fluctuation and/or increase.*

<i>Item</i>	<i>Estimated Cost</i>
Extend avenues K and G to create new scatter garden area with plaque wall, seating area, and parking spaces. Extend avenues K and G (4870 sf x \$5/sf = \$24,350). Install plaque wall (assume \$5,000). Install benches/trash receptacles (assume \$20,000).	\$98,050
Grind down paved cemetery drives, establish stabilized shoulder, and re-pave in chip seal to match native soil. (81,000 sf x \$10/sf)	\$810,000

## Priority Three

### (to be completed within 5–7 years)

*These probable costs are estimates based on comparable projects and previous estimates. All costs are subject to fluctuation and/or increase.*

<i>Item</i>	<i>Estimated Cost</i>
Replace boundary fence on Tillery and Twelfth with black metal picket fence that is rounded at the Tillery and Twelfth corner and includes cemetery identification sign. Replace fence (1920 lf x \$40 = \$76,800). Install cemetery identification sign (assume \$3,000).	\$79,800
Place cemetery drive markers at intersections (assume 15 post-type hewn stone).	\$2,250
Replace section markers with ground-level markers (assume 15 post-type hewn stone).	\$2,250
Install informational signs at graves of community leaders (assume 15 small metal, short post).	\$3,750
Install interpretive waysides for Highland Cemetery (assume two medium interpretive signs).	\$3,000

## PLANTING PLAN

Please refer to the Site Plan and Detail Plan on the following pages for locations of the plantings described below.

### Trees along Main Street and Avenues A, B, F, and K

Preferred Plant Characteristics and Considerations:	Evergreen and deciduous trees in a variety of sizes and mature heights to form street space
Soils:	Fine sandy loam to 18" then red gravelly sandy clay to 50"
Sunlight:	Full sun
Planting Cycle:	Install all plants in fall and winter
Installation and Maintenance:	Refer to the City of Austin's <i>Native and Adapted Landscape Plants</i> guide (Appendix A) for information on installing and maintaining specific individual species
Recommended Species by Common Name:	Crape myrtle, live oak, post oak, cedar elm, tree-form ligustrum.

### Twelfth Street and Airport Boulevard Scatter Garden

Preferred Plant Characteristics and Considerations:	Ornamental trees
Soils:	Fine sandy loam to 18" then red gravelly sandy clay to 50"
Sunlight:	Full sun
Planting Cycle:	Install all plants in fall and winter
Installation and Maintenance:	Refer to the City of Austin's <i>Native and Adapted Landscape Plants</i> guide (Appendix A) for information on installing and maintaining specific individual species
Recommended Species by Common Name:	Crape myrtle, Mexican redbud, or Texas redbud



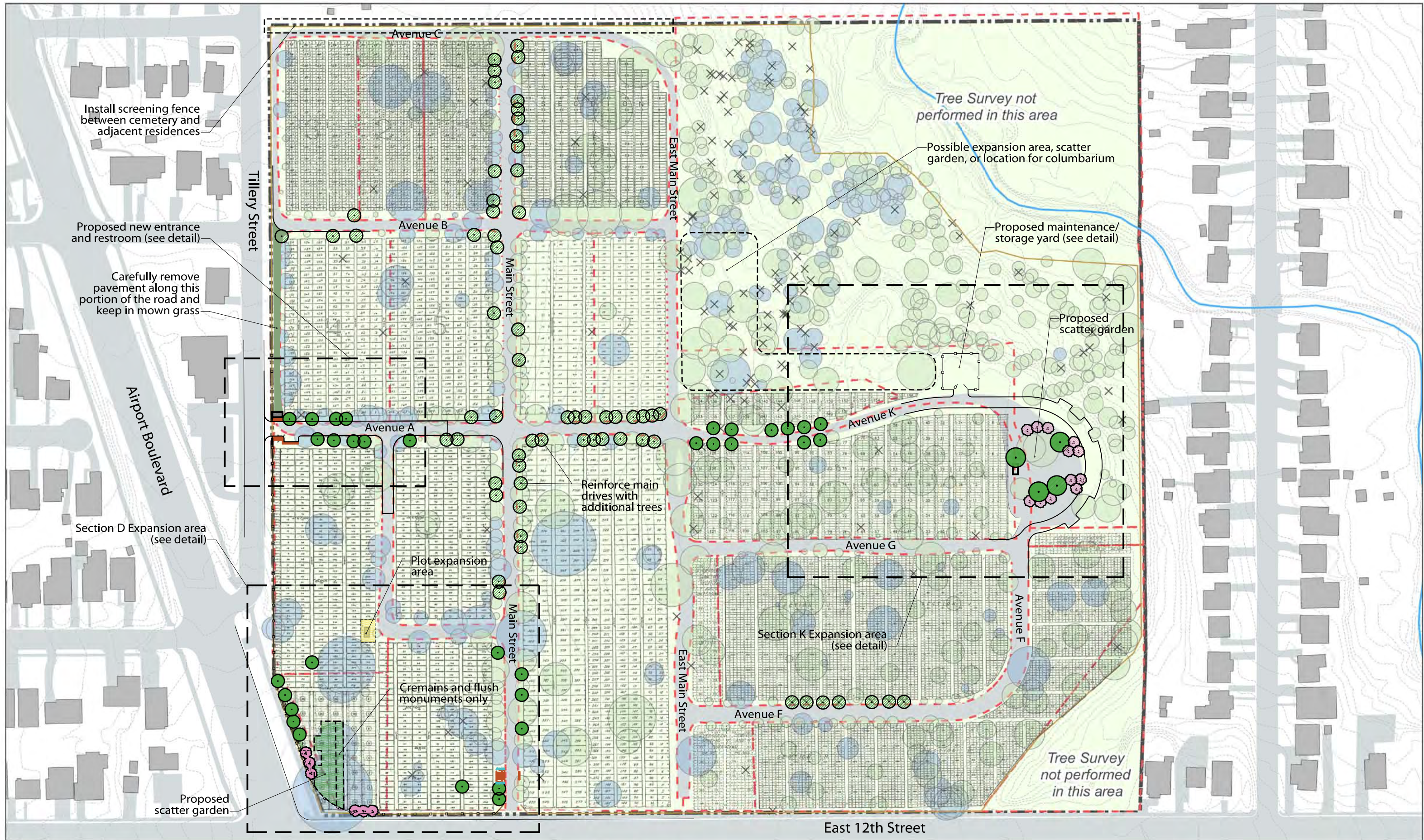
## PLANTING PLAN (continued)

Please refer to the Site Plan and Detail Plan on the following pages for locations of the plantings described below.

### Screening Maintenance Yard

Preferred Plant Characteristics and Considerations:	Large evergreen and deciduous shrubs
Soils:	Fine sandy loam to 18" then red gravelly sandy clay to 50"
Sunlight:	Full sun
Planting Cycle:	Install all plants in fall and winter
Installation and Maintenance:	Refer to the City of Austin's <i>Native and Adapted Landscape Plants</i> guide (Appendix A) for information on installing and maintaining specific individual species
Recommended Species by Common Name:	Rusty blackhaw viburnum, yaupon holly, coralberry, ligustrum, or arborvitae





- Cemetery Boundary
- Cemetery Section
- Roads
- Contour (2-foot interval)
- Streams
- Fence
- × Dead, Snag, or Stump
- Deciduous Trees
- Evergreen Trees
- Structure

# Evergreen Cemetery Site Plan

0      120      240

Feet

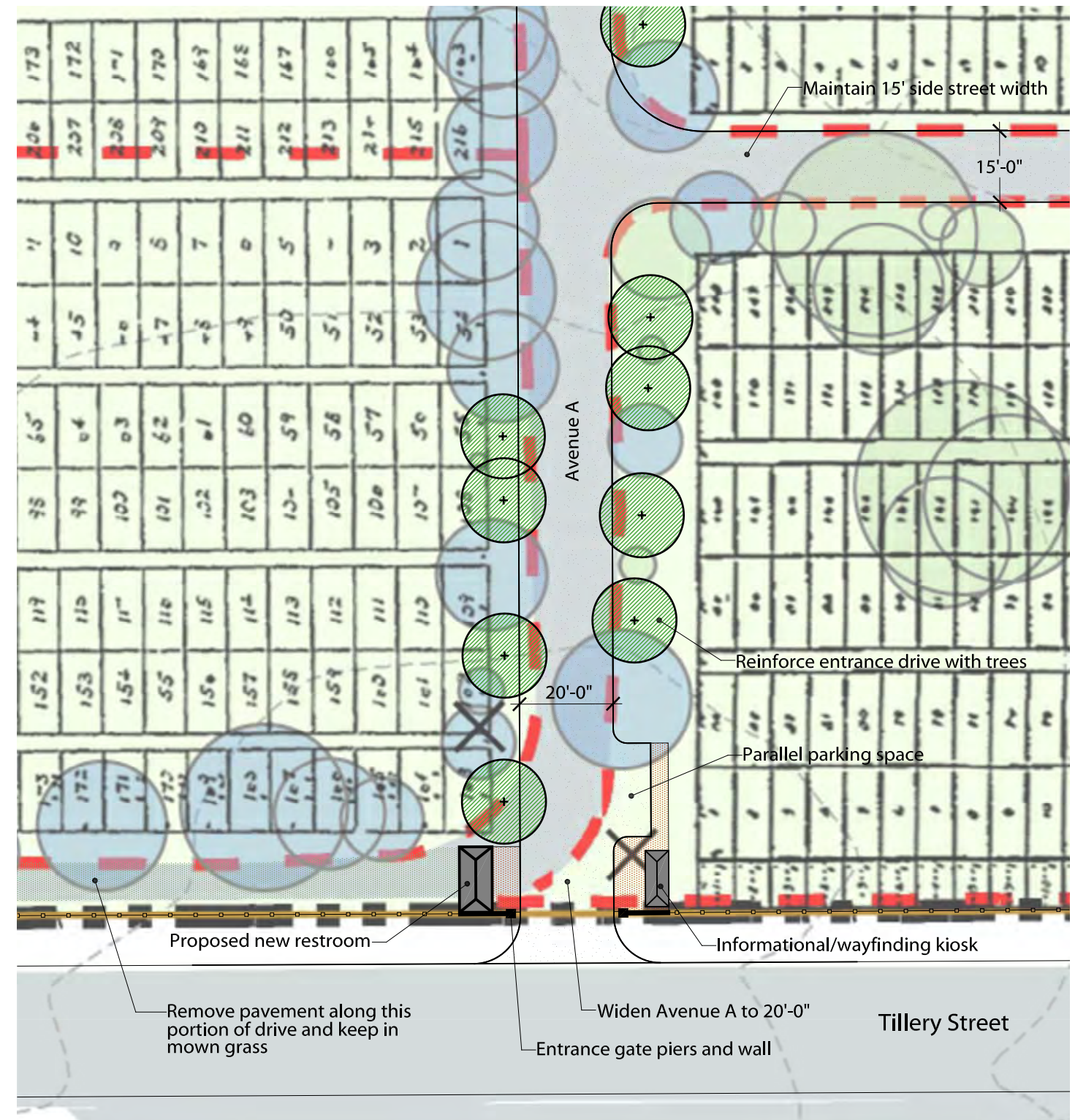




Scale: 1" = 30'-0"

# Evergreen Cemetery, Twelfth Street and Airport Boulevard Scatter Garden Detail

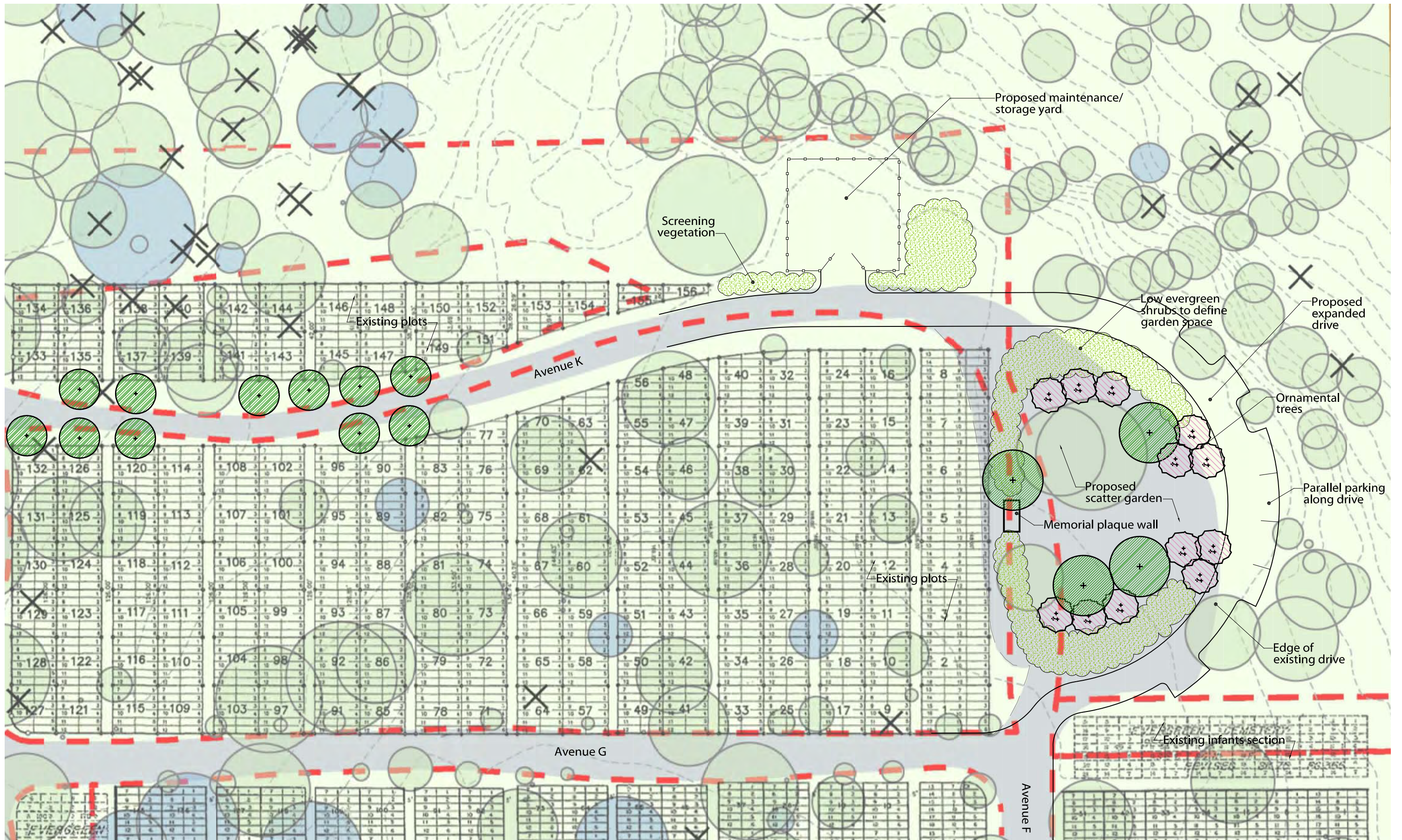




## Evergreen Cemetery, Tillery Street Entrance Detail

Scale: 1" = 30'-0"





Evergreen Cemetery, Scatter Garden and Maintenance Yard Detail

Scale: 1" = 40'-0"