

Built in 1887, Greenwood Cemetery's non-denominational **Chapel** was designed in the Richardsonian Romanesque style by renowned architect **Henry Lord Gay**. However, because it has not been open for decades and is hidden by trees until late fall and winter, the historic Chapel is virtually unknown to most people in Rockford.

In August 2012 the Chapel was placed by the U.S. Department of the Interior on the National Register of Historic Places in America.

The Chapel is an architectural gem that is comprised of a large open space without pews, and having a vaulted ceiling. It is lit by antique chandeliers as well as by natural daylight which streams through beautiful, stained glass windows. The Chapel includes a corridor lined with marble vaults originally used to store the deceased in their caskets until burial could take place after the winter thaw. The corridor of vaults is over-arched by a stained glass ceiling in the style of Louis Comfort Tiffany.

Upon restoration the Chapel will once again be available for services and meditation. It will also be a convertible space for meetings and programs that are using Greenwood Cemetery as a resource for studying Rockford's rich history.



CEMETERY • CHAPEL • CREMATORY
GREENWOOD
C E M E T E R Y

ESTABLISHED IN 1845

1011 Auburn Street
Rockford, Illinois 61103

PHONE:

815.962.7522

FAX:

815.962.7522

E-MAIL:

greenwoodcemetery@sbcglobal.net

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Historic Chapel Restoration and Renovation

In Rockford's Oldest and Largest Cemetery



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ROCKFORD CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

Restoration and Renovation in Two Phases

The Chapel will be renovated and restored in two phases. The overall building footprint will be unchanged.

Phase 1 includes installation of new cremation equipment. Chapel floor supports as well as the floor, itself will be replaced. The assembly room and tower of the Chapel will be restored to original condition. Restroom facilities will be added in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Doors will be added to provide maximum separation of the crematory operation from the public areas of the facility. The entire building will be accessible for people with disabilities.

Phase 2 includes a reception area, small service kitchen, crematory viewing room, and renovated office. The antique, marble-faced casket storage vaults will be retained wherever possible. Remaining spaces behind the marble vault facades will be repurposed where necessary.

The Endowment Fund

The final resting place of our loved ones is legally protected by means of a state-mandated cemetery endowment care trust fund. This ensures that income will always be available for the continued maintenance and upkeep of Greenwood Cemetery, in perpetuity. A percentage of each lot sale is deposited into the trust fund and invested. The interest from this fund is income used to support Greenwood Cemetery's maintenance expenses.

The Trustees of Greenwood Cemetery are committed to the establishment of the **Greenwood Forever Endowment Fund**. This fund will provide investment income to offset the rising costs of maintaining a safe and beautiful Cemetery and Chapel.

Recognizing the wisdom of planning for both ongoing annual operating needs as well as unexpected expenses, the trustees are directing 15% of every dollar contributed to **The Greenwood Fund for Remembrance and Renewal** into the Greenwood Forever Endowment Fund.

Following the successful completion of Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the Greenwood Cemetery Campaign for the Future, the Greenwood Forever Endowment Fund will continue to exist in perpetuity.

We are planning today for the promise of the historic Greenwood Cemetery, forever and ever. Please consider making a donation to help us enhance and preserve this beautiful place.

