Oakwood Cemetery is a City Cemetery and is maintained by the Tyler Parks Department. In 1997, members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy and other interested citizens formed the Oakwood Cemetery Restoration Committee and have worked with the Tyler Parks Department since that time to make Oakwood a beautiful historical cemetery.
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For more information, contact:

City Cemeterian
City of Tyler Parks Department
P.O. Box 2039
Tyler, Texas 75710
(903) 531-1207
cemetery@tylertexas.com

Coming Soon!

Oakwood Cemetery Website

- View a burial registry.
- Learn more about historic and interesting figures buried in Oakwood Cemetery.
- Download self-guided tour maps and information.
- See selected “Spirits” of Oakwood.

www.OakwoodCemeteryTyler.com

Spirits of Oakwood Cemetery Tour

A guided walking tour of historic Oakwood Cemetery. Historical figures share the history of Tyler.

The tour is held annually in conjunction with Tyler’s Spring Azalea Trail.

Saturday 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Final Tour starts at 4:30 p.m.
(Check website for actual date)

Spirits of Oakwood is a fundraising event sponsored by the Oakwood Cemetery Restoration Committee. Proceeds are used to repair broken markers in the cemetery. Donations are welcome and may be sent to the Oakwood Cemetery Restoration Committee:

City Cemeterian
City of Tyler Parks Department
P.O. Box 2039
Tyler, Texas 75710
(903) 531-1207

Coming Soon!

Self-Guided Cemetery Tours

In addition to roaming Historic Oakwood Cemetery using our general brochure, take one of several new self-guided tours by utilizing tour brochures and strategically placed ground markers to navigate the cemetery.

Learn about many of the Civil War Veterans buried in Oakwood, both Confederate and Union.

Visit the gravesites of State and Local leaders from Tyler’s early years.

Learn the interesting stories of selected individuals buried in Oakwood Cemetery.
HISTORIC TEXAS CEMETERY

The Texas Historical Commission designated Oakwood Cemetery in November 1999. A plaque was placed at each of the five entrances in June 2003. This designation is reserved for cemeteries at least 50 years old and deemed worthy of recognition and preservation for their historic associations.

MAUSOLEUM

The only mausoleum in Oakwood is the final resting place of Nancy Chisholm (Mrs. Reynolds) Scott and her husband, Daniel Webster Parish. Visitors should note the beautiful ironwork on the sides and the fluted pillars in the rear sections. Mrs. Parish died in 1902 and her husband another 54 years later. No children were born in this union. Mrs. Parish, who came to Tyler in 1897, left a large bequest to the First Baptist Church. These funds were used to build three other Christian churches. The mausoleum is located in Plot 7.

THE BLACK SECTION

This monument was dedicated in 1997 and is located in the center of the section adjacent to Palace Avenue in Plot 6. Placed by Stetson Funeral Home of Tyler, it is dedicated to the unnamed black Americans buried in this plot.

GOVERNOR HUBBARD

Richard Bennett Hubbard came to Texas in 1853. His life was spent in the practice of law and political service. He was instrumental in bringing rail lines to the area. He became the Governor of Texas in 1863 and in later years became the Ambassador to Japan. Tyler was his home and Oakwood is the final resting place for him and his immediate family in Plot 3.

SUNDIAL

In 1922, this sundial was placed in Plot 4 by the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Its regent in 1922 was Jennie Mae Perry, a longtime teacher in Tyler. She is buried in Plot 1 with her family.

SEXTON HOUSE

All that remains of the former Sexton House is the concrete slab in the southeast corner of the cemetery. A Sexton was the caretaker of the cemetery. The small building was destroyed by a fire years ago, along with records and documentations. There are future plans to develop a welcome center kiosk at this location to aid guests when they visit Oakwood.

ZINC MARKERS

At least three markers in Plot 3 are made of zinc. Only one company made this durable type marker in various cities. The name “Monumental Bronze Co.” and the city of origin can be seen at the base of the markers. Zinc markers were only made for the 40 years between 1874-1914. Production stopped at the start of WWI as zinc was needed for the war effort. Look for the bluish grey color and a gentle tap on the marker will give you a metallic, hollow sound.

OLDEST MARKER

The oldest marker in Oakwood is that of P.M. Scott, a little four year old boy born in 1848 and died in 1852. This marker is located in Plot 3.

DOGWOOD TREE

Located in Plot 6, this dogwood, estimated to be more than 100 years old, is a spectacular sight in the springtime when it is in full bloom. Don’t miss its display of white blooms come spring. [Late March–Early April].

UNKNOWN SOLDIER

This statue, three-feet tall is located in the southeast corner of the cemetery. It was cast in 1957 by the United Daughters of the Confederacy to honor the Confederate Soldiers of Smith County. It was a ten-year process to raise the funds for the statue ($2,500). The stone base that supports the statue was made by Tyler’s own Montana Brothers Marble works. The statue of the soldier was constructed by craftsmen in Italy.

THE GOODMAN ANGEL

Located in Plot 4, this one of the largest markers in Oakwood. The large Italian sculptured marble angel is the centerpiece of the Goodman family plot. It was carved by Dr. William J. Goodman after the death of his wife, Priscilla in 1915. The cost was $2,000 and it took seven men and two months to complete. This structure is located in Plot 7.

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