

GLENWOOD CEMETERY HISTORIC PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

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November 19, 2009

Dear Glenwood Friend and Member:

As the holiday season approaches, we find ourselves looking back on a year that has been successful in great part because of the generous donations that you and other contributors have made to the Glenwood Cemetery Historic Preservation Foundation.

Enclosed with this letter, we are delighted to share with you our new Foundation brochure. The brochure provides insight into the ongoing projects of the Foundation and it features just a few of Paul Hester's beautiful photographs taken for our history book, *Houston's Silent Garden, Glenwood Cemetery, 1871-2009*. The book, which is being published by Texas A&M University Press, will be in bookstores in March, 2010. It includes 250 original photographs of our monuments, the majority of which have not been published before.

Responding to the requests of many families, our Glenwood website (www.glenwoodcemetery.org) is up and running. We are still greatly expanding the searchable content by entering our entire burial database. When we complete this project next year, it will be an invaluable resource for families searching for information about their ancestors, as well as for historians, scholars and genealogists.

Donations to the Foundation this year so far have exceeded $62,000, and these gifts have allowed us to continue our projects. In addition, we have raised more than $1,136,000 to fund larger scale, long-term capital projects identified in the Glenwood master plan, which was designed to guide the restoration and improvement of the entire property. We are grateful for these funds as we guide Glenwood's growth and development through this century.

You can participate in the work of the Glenwood Cemetery Historic Preservation Foundation by making a donation for the project of your choice or an unrestricted donation to be applied where the need is greatest. Your gift may honor a loved one or friend. The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, and your donation will be tax deductible to the extent provided by law.

Thank you for the generous support you've shared in the past, and please join us again this year in helping to ensure the preservation of Houston's largest historic landscape landmark, a place of quiet dignity to be cherished by future generations.

We invite you to stop by during the holidays, Glenwood is beautiful at this time of the year.

Very truly yours,

F. Carrington Weems
Chairman of the Board

William P. Conner
President

2525 Washington Avenue Houston, Texas 77007 Tel: 713 . 864 . 7886 Fax: 713 . 864 . 6429

GLENWOOD CEMETERY

HISTORIC PRESERVATION FOUNDATION



Oh, make me a grave

where the sunbeams rest,
Where the moonlight
quivers and plays on
my breast.
Let me sleep where
zephyrs lovingly stray,
Where stars softly shine
at the closing of day.
'Mid Glenwood's soft
shades in hallowed repose
Where sweet flowers bloom
and stream gently flows,
We lay thee mid sunbeams
and moonlight to rest,
And thus we fulfill thy
dying request.

–The grave marker of
Rosalie Gray, wife of
Edwin Fairfax Gray,
d. April, 1874





WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US AS STEWARDS OF HOUSTON'S QUIET GARDEN.

Glenwood Cemetery is a hidden historical treasure, one of national historical importance. We invite you to join the many generous families, foundations and individuals who have supported the ***Glenwood Cemetery Historic Preservation Foundation*** *since inception. In doing so, you will ensure that Glenwood will remain the beautiful and historic landscape that it is today, preserving its monuments, buildings, and horticulture as lasting tributes to those who rest here in perpetuity.*

GLENWOOD CEMETERY

Houston's Historic Garden Cemetery

2525 Washington Avenue
Houston, Texas 77007

Lots are available for sale in both Glenwood and Washington Cemeteries. To inquire regarding a lot purchase, please visit the Glenwood office or call 713-864-7886.
The office is open Monday-Friday 8am to 5pm

For more in-depth information about Glenwood Cemetery, please visit us at www.glenwoodcemetery.org

Photos by Paul Hester



In 1999, Glenwood Cemetery Historic Preservation Foundation was established as a nonprofit organization to raise funds for special improvement and restoration projects that extend beyond day-to-day operation and routine maintenance. The Foundation is supported by the generous contributions of families and philanthropic foundations. Over the past decade, the Foundation has raised funds for a variety of special projects, such as:

MONUMENT RESTORATION

Continuously, Houston's soil rises and sinks, causing disruptions to Glenwood's monuments, statuary and copings. Tree roots also create cracks and breaks that must be repaired. In many cases, there are no descendents to take responsibility for the repairs to monuments, so the Foundation restores and preserves historic gravesites.

LANDSCAPE AND TREE MAINTENANCE

Glenwood is a horticultural treasure, but continued investment is needed to care for and replace the trees, shrubs, and flowering plants that have always distinguished the property. In fact, the Foundation supports the continued replacement and planting of new landscape materials on a yearly basis.

EROSION CONTROL

With a ravine running one-third of a mile across the northern side of the Cemetery, Glenwood has lost valuable property and its historic grave sites have been threatened during some of Houston's fierce storms. The Foundation has begun a series of erosion control projects to reclaim some of its lost land, and to protect other parts of Glenwood's landmark property. To date, the Foundation has spent approximately $1.2 million toward erosion control.

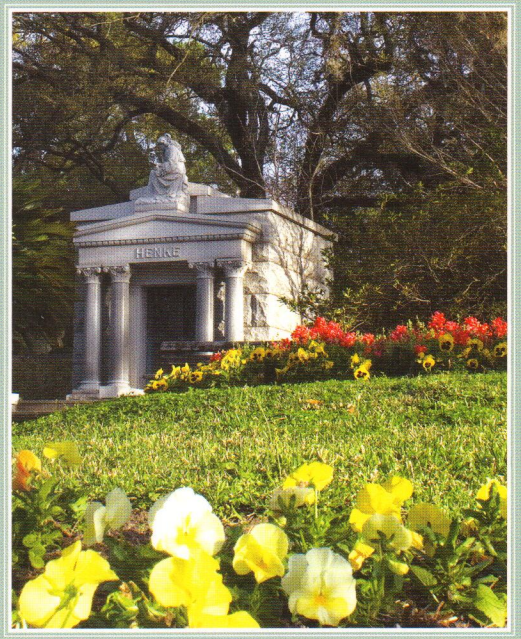
THE MASTER PLAN

In 2005, the SWA Group was commissioned to prepare a master plan to optimize the development of the Glenwood property while preserving the historic character of the Cemetery and enhancing the historic landscape.



Spring in the historic section of Glenwood showing a variety of obelisks, urns and markers in marble and granite over the graves of the "eternal sleepers".

GLENWOOD CEMETERY HISTORIC PRESERVATION FOUNDATION



THE HISTORY OF GLENWOOD

The Glenwood Cemetery Historic Preservation Foundation has commissioned a history of the Cemetery, with a book to be published by the Texas A&M University Press in March 2010, as one in the Sara and John Lindsey Series in the Arts and Humanities. The book, Houston's Silent Garden, will feature a trove of previously unpublished pictures and a comprehensive review of Glenwood's past, providing rare information about many of the famous, and not-so-famous, Houstonians buried at the Cemetery.



HOUSTON'S GARDEN CEMETERY

Designed during the romantic rural cemetery parks movement of the 19th century, Glenwood Cemetery is a quiet oasis just one mile west of downtown Houston. Within its boundaries, among the tall trees and marble angels, lie thousands of reminders of our city's and state's rich history.

Among those laid to rest at Glenwood are the last President of the Republic of Texas, four governors, and more than twenty Houston mayors, along with founders of major oil companies, religious and professional leaders, and others who have shaped Houston's past and present.

Glenwood Cemetery—perched on the northern bank of Buffalo Bayou, bordered by Memorial Drive and Washington Avenue—is a jewel in Houston's urban landscape, not only because of its historical and cultural significance but also because of its natural beauty. The property's 85 acres are endowed with unique topographical features and outstanding views of Buffalo Bayou and the downtown skyline. The cemetery's horticultural specimens rival those of many arboretums, and its gently rolling landscape, unique in Houston, provides a place of inspiring natural beauty.

Unlike many historic cemeteries across the country, Glenwood is an active, continuously operating cemetery. Thus, it is a "living cemetery" and its rich history, beautiful scenery, and unparalleled collection of Victorian statuary are accessible to all. At a time when many of Houston's older neighborhoods and structures are being lost to new development, it is vitally important to protect unique historic sites that are irreplaceable. Glenwood Cemetery is such a place.



The Victorian office-cottage was erected on the grounds in 1888.

A VERDANT WALK THROUGH HOUSTON'S HISTORY

Countless people drive by Glenwood Cemetery every day, yet many of them are unaware of this tranquil place, much less the stories it holds. Though it is difficult to imagine today, given the city's vast sprawl, when the cemetery was founded in 1871 it was in a rural area on the outskirts of Houston. City dwellers viewed the place as a park and would ride out to Glenwood on the streetcar on Sunday afternoons to have picnics and enjoy nature. Even though Glenwood today is surrounded on all sides by urban development, it remains a quiet place for the living as well as for the deceased.

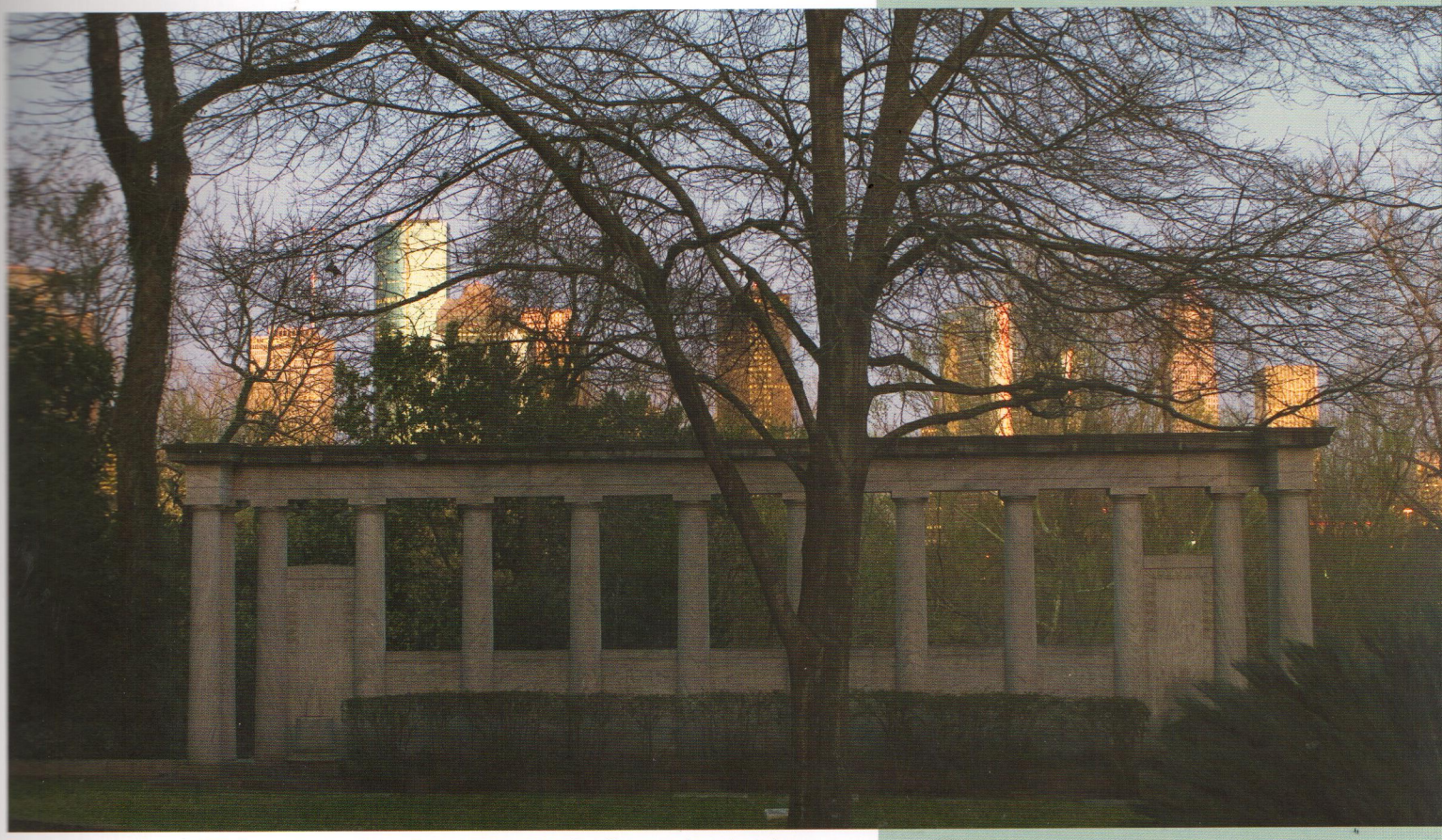
PRAISED AS ONE OF THE COUNTRY'S MOST ROMANTIC CEMETERIES,

Glenwood Cemetery's beauty can be attributed partly to its naturalistic design. Originally landscaped by local horticulturist Alfred Whitaker, the cemetery's curving roads and walkways take advantage of the native terrain along Buffalo Bayou. The rolling landscape contrasts with Houston's flat topography. The graceful old trees and lush gardens offer a place to escape from the busy city.

Driving along the Cemetery's winding paths, the headstones and monuments represent a veritable "Who's Who" of famous names in the history of Houston and of Texas. Howard Hughes—the famous industrialist, philanthropist, aviator, and recluse—is buried here, and former



Blazing azaleas enliven the Giraud family lot providing startling punctuation in the otherwise serene landscape.



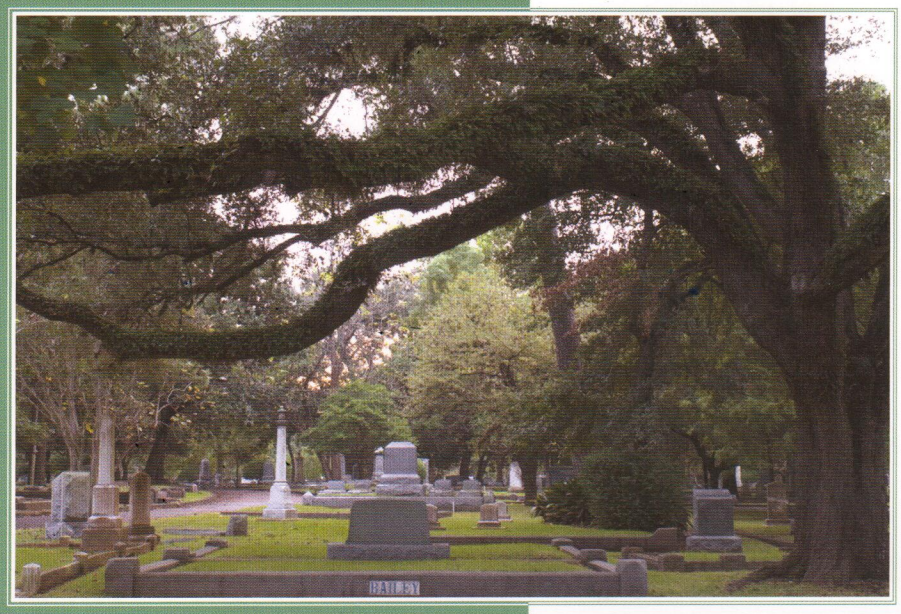
The grandeur of the 1928 Roos, Carter, Crain, Bryan monument is silhouetted against the skyline of modern Houston.

Governor William Hobby. Charlotte Allen, "mother" of Houston, (whose inheritance was said to have paid for the land on which the city was built) and Anson Jones, the last president of the Republic of Texas, are among many other famous historical figures buried at Glenwood.

Unlike most of Houston's other old cemeteries that have been paved over, relocated or abandoned over time, Glenwood has been lovingly preserved and maintained for almost 140 years. Most of its historic buildings and architectural features are still extant, including the office cottage, a three-tiered fountain, and the house fronting on Washington Avenue originally built as a residence for the Superintendent.

In addition to its historic buildings, the Cemetery contains a priceless collection of Victorian statuary, including a variety of angels, shrouded obelisks (symbolizing resurrection) and other lovely sculptures carved from marble, granite, and other natural materials.

GLENWOOD CEMETERY IS A QUIET OASIS JUST ONE MILE WEST OF DOWNTOWN HOUSTON



In 1999, Glenwood expanded when it assumed permanent responsibility for operating, restoring, and maintaining Washington Cemetery, an adjacent historic property founded by German immigrants. A road connecting the Glenwood and Washington cemeteries was built the following year.

Floral decoration of markers abounds throughout the cemetery in an intricate language of symbolism for purity, innocence, love, resurrection, endurance, longevity and more.

GLENWOOD'S TREES PROVIDE ADDITIONAL SCULPTURAL ELEMENTS.

An arborist's delight, Glenwood contains many beautiful old trees, including the spectacular Cemetery Oak estimated to be more than 100 years old.





The Forest Mound section has the spectacular Cemetery Oak.

GLENWOOD, HOUSTON'S HISTORIC GARDEN CEMETERY

Founded in 1871, Glenwood Cemetery is fast approaching its 140th year of operation. Preserving and protecting this local historical gem has become more important than ever to the greater Houston Community.

Following the completion of the master plan, the Glenwood Cemetery Historic Preservation Foundation identified several long term capital improvement projects to protect and restore Houston's unique and silent garden.

With your help, the Foundation will complete its erosion control work, repair the entrance bridge, acquire additional land to protect the Cemetery from encroaching development, restore monuments and the historic house located on the property, and preserve Glenwood's oldest and most beautiful trees as well as its historic landscape elements.

JOIN US TODAY AS A PARTNER IN PRESERVATION



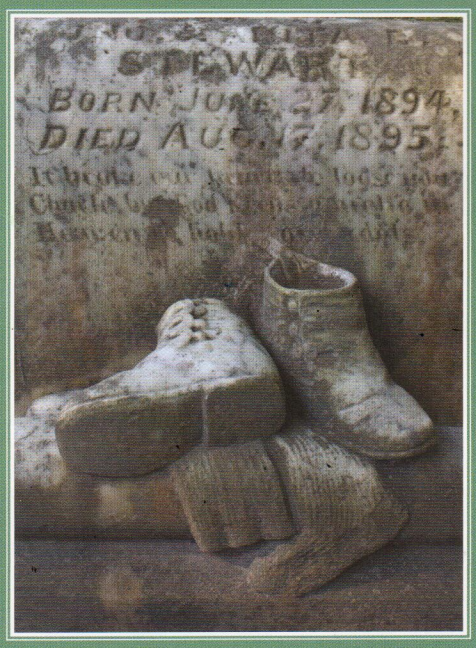
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GLENWOOD CEMETERY HISTORIC PRESERVATION FOUNDATION



In remarks at the June 1890 annual meeting, an early President spoke of the cemetery as "a consecrated spot where the vast calmness and quietude that fills the air shall soothe with softening influences the bereaved spirit; a rural retreat where the living can lay their dead away in scarcity to rest awhile in the full assurance of hope, a garden of graves, where the beautiful forms of nature, vying with the more stately mementos of art, shall attract attention, enliven hope and strengthen the faith of the desolate and sorrowing heart."



PARTNERS IN PRESERVATION

Glenwood Cemetery Historic Preservation Foundation sincerely thanks the following individuals and foundations for their continued support of Glenwood Cemetery with their many generous contributions to the Foundation. Since its inception in 1999, over 600 gifts totaling $4.7 million have been made to the Foundation in support of its preservation activities.

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The Sharp family lot designed by Landscape Architect, Ruth London, creates an outdoor room with a central statue by sculptress, Harriet Whitney Frishmuth, with the inscription, *Perenis Amor,* Love is Forever.



The Settegast angel marks the grave of Annie who was "laid to rest in the silent shades of Glenwood."

GLENWOOD CEMETERY

Houston's Historic Garden Cemetery

2525 Washington Avenue
Houston, Texas 77007
www.glenwoodcemetery.org

Lots are available for sale in both Glenwood and Washington Cemeteries. To inquire regarding a lot purchase, please visit the Glenwood office or call 713-864-7886. The office is open Monday-Friday 8am to 5pm

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