

# Recommended Picnic Spots at Oakland Cemetery

## NORTH PUBLIC GROUNDS

North Public Grounds was Atlanta's first public burial ground for the city's poor and indigent white residents. Oakland Cemetery was a segregated burial space until desegregation was enforced throughout the South in the 1960s. North Public is the final resting place of Atlanta's first African American mayor, civil rights leader Maynard Jackson Jr. Jackson's burial in the previously segregated North Public Grounds mirrored his life work, crossing a final color line at Oakland Cemetery.

## GOWITT LOT

This lot on East Hill contains the newest mausoleum at Oakland Cemetery. This beautiful new construction is currently unoccupied. The Romanesque-influenced structure and lot feature many elements that are frequently found in Victorian-era cemeteries, such as stained glass windows, marble crypt interiors, and iron fencing. The mausoleum is constructed from Georgia granite. The interior inscriptions include an English children's bedtime prayer and Psalm 23:4 ("Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death").

## BELL TOWER RIDGE

Hidden away on Bell Tower Ridge is a lot perfect for picnicking with plenty of shade. It features great views of both Oakland's Bell Tower and the Rawson Mausoleum, the latter of which contains the crypt of Georgia Woman of Achievement Julia Collier

Harris. The lot's shade is provided by a Chinese Evergreen Oak, one of about 20 planted on site by renowned Atlanta landscape architect Edward Dougherty, whose work includes the Atlanta Botanical Gardens, All Saints Episcopal Church, and the Georgia Governor's Mansion.

## EASTERN WALL

At this bench located along the easternmost boundary of Oakland Cemetery you'll have the opportunity to observe the work of our preservation team as they make progress on the restoration of East Hill. The restoration has many challenges. Monuments range from small but badly damaged to massive and steeply leaning. Because of the steep topography, this section features more retaining walls than the western side of Oakland. As part of the restoration, Oakland recently installed the East Gate, reestablishing the Cemetery's connection with the historic Cabbagetown and Reynoldstown neighborhoods. The original East Gate had been removed in 1908.

## POTTER'S FIELD

This large pauper's burial ground was established in 1866 and it occupies about 5.7 of Oakland's 48 acres. Among the estimated 7,500 persons interred in this section, many were some of Atlanta's poorest citizens along with unknown persons of various races and religions. However, archaeological investigations in the 1970s suggest that not all of those interred here were from Atlanta's pauper population, and that this area also contains a number of graves of Atlanta's 19th-century middle class. This may have been due to Oakland selling out of family lots in 1884, leaving no better option to those who wished to be buried in the cemetery.

### Dine out at Doc Chey's for Oakland!

Get takeout at Doc Chey's Grant Park from Monday, September 21 through Wednesday, September 23 and they'll donate 25% of your purchase to Oakland Cemetery. Make sure you mention Oakland when you place your order. Excludes delivery.

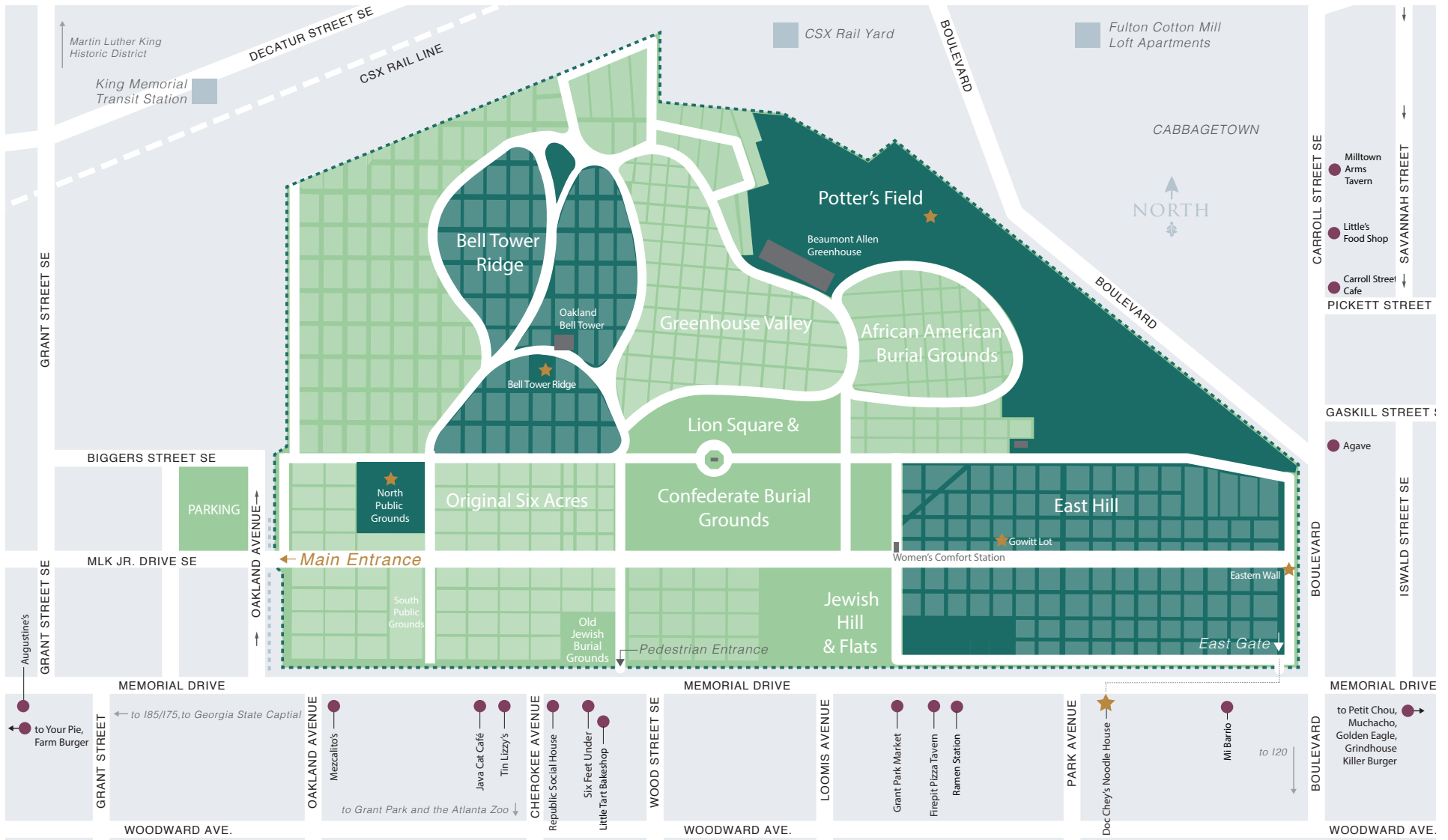


### 43rd Annual Sunday in the Park

Sunday in the Park returns for its 43rd year September 21-27! We've expanded the beloved fall festival into a week-long event. Help us celebrate all things Oakland with this year's hybrid virtual/in-person format. Learn more at [oaklandcemetery.com/SIP](http://oaklandcemetery.com/SIP)

Please take our survey!  
Scan this code with your phone or go to  
[oaklandcemetery.com/picnicsurvey](http://oaklandcemetery.com/picnicsurvey)





# Picnic at Oakland Cemetery

Thank you for supporting Doc Chey's Grant Park and Oakland Cemetery! Now that you've got some tasty food to-go, it's the perfect time of year to head over to historic Oakland Cemetery for a picnic. See the back of this map for some of Historic Oakland Foundation staff's favorite spots.

