

Importance

Oakland is a site full of landmark buildings, elaborate grave art, and extensive infrastructure. A comprehensive security system supported by staff and technology are critical to the continued preservation of the site.

Existing Conditions

Oakland seldom experiences acts of vandalism, however, graffiti, toppled gravemarkers, damage to hardscape, and broken glass occur. This is not isolated to one area of the cemetery and extends to the parking lot near the main gate. Occasionally, these acts coincide with special events and large groups of people throughout the grounds. Aside from vandalism within the gates, vehicle break-ins in the west parking lot outside the Old Hunter Street Gate occur with greater frequency.

Existing security measures include security lights on utility poles near the Bell Tower and Greenhouse Complex, and interior security cameras at the Bell Tower Visitors Center. The City of Atlanta also hires security personnel services to patrol the grounds at night, with patrols ending at 3 a.m. Security patrols are also staggered throughout the week, though these shifts end at 9:00 p.m.

Existing security measures are utilitarian and of limited efficacy. Currently, security lighting does not serve any entrance gates or the visitor parking area west of the Old Hunter Street Gate. While the camera inside the Bell Tower offers some security, its footage is not fed live to the Atlanta Police Department. In the visitor parking lot near the west gate, there are security cameras accessible to City of Atlanta police. This has partially deterred crime, but a more robust presence outside the gates will further reduce incidents. After Oakland's entrance gates close at dusk, the Bell Tower and Greenhouse Complex are the only lit areas at night. In the future, these spaces may be used more extensively for night events and lighting will need to be upgraded.



Existing pole-mounted security lighting west of the Bell Tower.

Proposed Strategies

As Oakland continues to be more popular with increasing frequency of events and more visitors, security needs to remain a focus of Historic Oakland Foundation and the city. The following strategies address this need:

- Enhanced lighting at buildings and entrances (See page 169).
- New security cameras at buildings and entrances that feed directly to the Atlanta Police Department (See page 169).



Recently installed historic pedestrian pole with a wall-mounted light on the Boiler Room in the background.



Existing wall-mounted cobra head lighting on the Carriage House.



LIGHTING AND CAMERA LOCATIONS

Strategy: Wireless Security Cameras and Enhanced Lighting

Description:

Existing lighting at the Bell Tower and Greenhouse complex should be enhanced and coordinated with any changes to utility relocation. Security lighting should be expanded to the Guardhouse, both existing entrances, as well as the Memorial Drive pedestrian gate and additional gates as available. As security lighting is replaced, Historic Oakland Foundation should explore solar-powered lighting for efficiency and reduced lifecycle costs. There is also a clear need for updated security cameras consistent with today's technology. Wireless cameras should be included at entrances, buildings, and other high traffic locations. Design consideration and aesthetics should be considered when updating security lighting or cameras, and lighting fixtures should be appropriate for Oakland's aesthetic.



- 1. Enhance lighting at Bell Tower and Greenhouse, equipped with motion-detection. Coordinate with any utility relocation on existing poles.
- 2. Expand new motion-detecting lighting to the Old Fair Street Gate (opposite Six Feet Under), and additional gates when available.
- 3. Coordinate installation of new security cameras with the City of Atlanta.
- 4. Expand security cameras to entrances.
- 5. Expand new lighting at the Guardhouse.
- 6. Partner with the City of Atlanta to expand security hours.



Cost Type: Capital improvement



Cost Range: \$50,000-\$75,000 Partners: Department of Parks and Recreation Atlanta Police Department







OAKLAND ALIVE

This page intentionally left blank.