



# Parks & Recreation

## Capital and Maintenance Project Update

April 2010

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Chapel Hill Parks & Recreation  
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You have received this communication because your e-mail address is on one of the Chapel Hill Parks and Recreation Department’s distribution lists for various capital and planning projects. We have combined all of the reports related to progress on long-range planning and capital construction into this one communication.

If you do not wish to receive this update (about once every 30 days) please let me know. You can reply to the e-mail or call me at (919) 968-2819. Also, if you desire additional information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Communications: We are adding interested people to our e-mail distribution list for these projects. If you know anyone who would like to be kept informed please have them contact me. To reach me with questions or comments please e-mail, call, or write at:

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Review of Plans: Plans for some projects can be reviewed in my office. To review plans, please make an appointment.



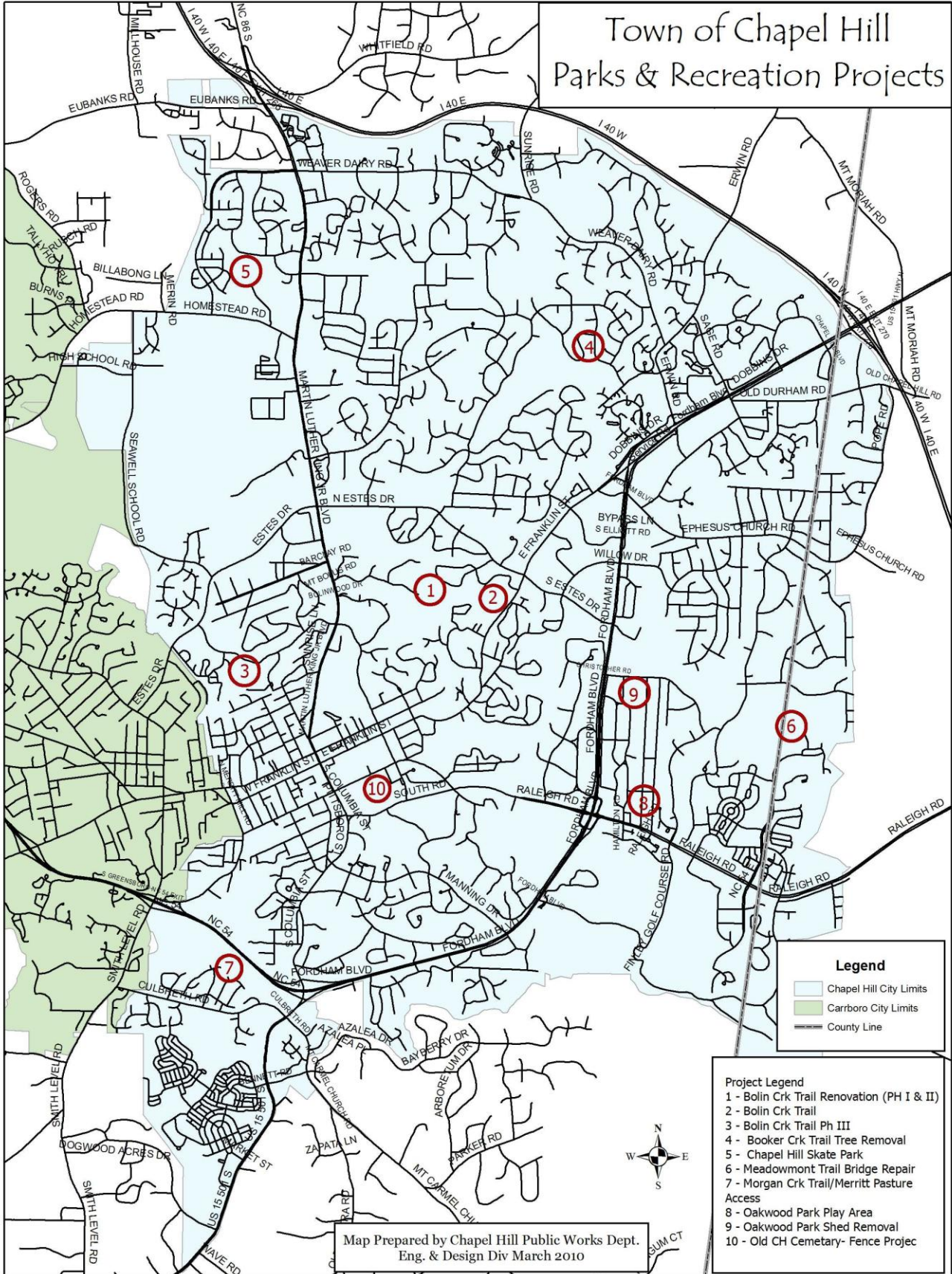
*Vandalism – Please report it!  
This tagging along the Bolin Creek Trail has been removed*

Terms that are used in these reports and often seen throughout capital project documents:

- CIP – Capital Improvement Program: Larger construction and renovation projects are budgeted through separate fund mechanisms. The CIP is distinct from the operating Town’s operating budget.
- SUP – Special Use Permit: Required permit that must be issued prior to most major construction projects. Involves many public forums and concludes with a public hearing. Usually takes about 12-14 months.
- ZCP- Zoning Compliance Permit: An important permit that is issued after the SUP and prior to construction. This permit usually takes about 3-4 months to acquire and does not involve public comment.



# Town of Chapel Hill Parks & Recreation Projects



Map Prepared by Chapel Hill Public Works Dept.  
Eng. & Design Div March 2010



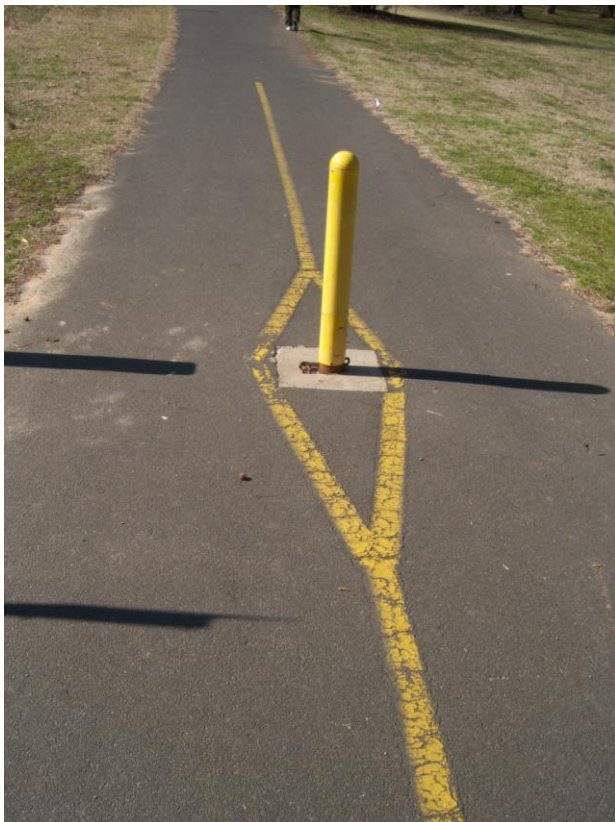
## 1. BOLIN CREEK TRAIL RENOVATION (PHASES I & II)

**Current Status: Preparing to Bid Phase One**  
**Design Firm: Lappas + Havener**

The non-profit, Friends of Chapel Hill, Parks, Recreation, and Greenways provided \$15,000 for the assessment. The assessment identified a minimum of \$135,000 in improvements (not including design, surveying, and permit costs) that would be required to bring the trail up to current standards.

The next two stages of the project will be to implement the first phase of improvements and start a detailed design of the second phase. The Friends organization has agreed to fund the first phase of improvements and the design study.

The Town is expected to bid the phase one work sometime in May



*These pictures show some of the aging and damaged amenities along the Bolin Creek Trail.*

## 2. BOLIN CREEK TRAIL (PIPE REPLACEMENT)

**Current Status:** Executing contract  
**Contractor:** Fox General Contracting  
**Construction Budget:** \$8,095

The project is scheduled to start April 19 and be finished by April 21. There may be brief closures to allow our contractor to move supplies to the work site.

This project will replace a corroded pipe above the Bolin Creek Trail just west of the Franklin Street Bridge. The trail is covered by a layer of mud after each significant rain because of the pipe failure. The non-profit Friends of the Chapel Hill Parks and Recreation Department has agreed to provide \$4,296. The Town will provide the remaining \$3,799.



*These photos show the ineffective pipe and some of the debris that once were buried in the bank, but are now exposed due to erosion. A longer term project will eventually address issues related to the bank and control of exotic plant species.*



### 3. BOLIN CREEK TRAIL (PHASE III)

**Current Status: Detailed design and land acquisition**  
**Design Firm: Lappas & Havener**

This project will involve the extension of the existing 10 foot wide Bolin Creek Trail upstream from the end of the current trail at Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. The project will focus on construction of a portion of the trail from Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. to Umstead Park. The trail will likely be concrete due to the proximity of the trail to the creek and the high probability of inundation during flood events. The trail will use the existing culvert to cross under Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. It will then bridge over to the south bank of Bolin Creek. From there it will continue westward to the park.

The two old bridges in Umstead Park will be replaced with a single modern pedestrian/bicycle bridge.

Future phases will continue the trail to the future Carolina North campus, Carrboro, and into Orange County. A future spur trail along Tanyard Branch could provide access to the Northside neighborhood and Carrboro.

Brief history:

- The Council adopted a concept plan on May 21, 2007.
- Property owners have granted permission for the Town to enter onto their properties for design purposes. These rights of entry do not contain rights for public access.
- A .51 acre parcel along Bolin Creek has been purchased. Four required easements have been recorded. Additional easement acquisition is required.
- Design work is underway.
- Permitting is underway



*View of future route of the Bolin Creek Trail, Phase 3- south of Bolin Creek and Umstead Drive*



*View beneath Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. – Future route of the Bolin Creek Trail, Phase 3*

April 2010

## 4. BOOKER CREEK TRAIL TREE REMOVAL PROJECT

**Current Status:** Notifying public  
**Anticipated Start:** April or May 2010  
**Anticipated Completion:** early summer 2010

This project will involve the removal of about 20 dead trees along the northern portion of the Booker Creek Trail. Work will take place in March, weather allowing. During the work period the portion of the trail from Tadley Drive to Booker Creek Road will be closed on Wednesdays from 9:00 am until 4:00 pm until all of the dead trees are removed.



## 5. CHAPEL HILL SKATE PARK RENOVATIONS

**Current Status:** Project Underway  
**Contractor:** Incline Construction  
**Construction Budget:** \$21,300

Work is nearing completion.

Few parks facilities receive the type of constant use and pounding that the skate park receives every day. We love to see the constant use that the park receives, but that use means the ramps must be repaired more frequently than most recreational facilities. The project will involve replacement of ramp surfaces, painting, replacement of railings, and other improvements.



## 6. MEADOWMONT TRAIL BRIDGE REPAIR

**Current Status: Completed**  
**Contractor: Incline Construction**  
**Anticipated Start: March 2010**  
**Anticipated Completion: April 2010**  
**Construction Budget: \$2,500**

Recent heavy rains washed out several bridges along the Meadowmont Trail. These bridges were originally installed by the developer of Meadowmont. They have withstood many heavy flood events over the years, but recent rains washed out several sections. Bridge sections have been repaired.



Initial survey work started in March. The next steps will involve installation of erosion control and tree protection fencing.

Future phases of the Morgan Creek Trail will cross over Morgan Creek to link up with the existing Fan Branch Trail that currently serves Southern Village. The trail will also continue to Smith Level Road at the Carrboro Town line near Frank Porter Graham School.

Brief history:

- The Council adopted a concept plan on October 9, 2006.
- A .2 acre parcel of property was purchased from Duke Energy in September 2007.
- Work on detailed design is complete.
- Plans and permits for a first phase of the project are complete.
- The Council accepted \$300,000 in federal stimulus funding for this project.

Construction Progress:

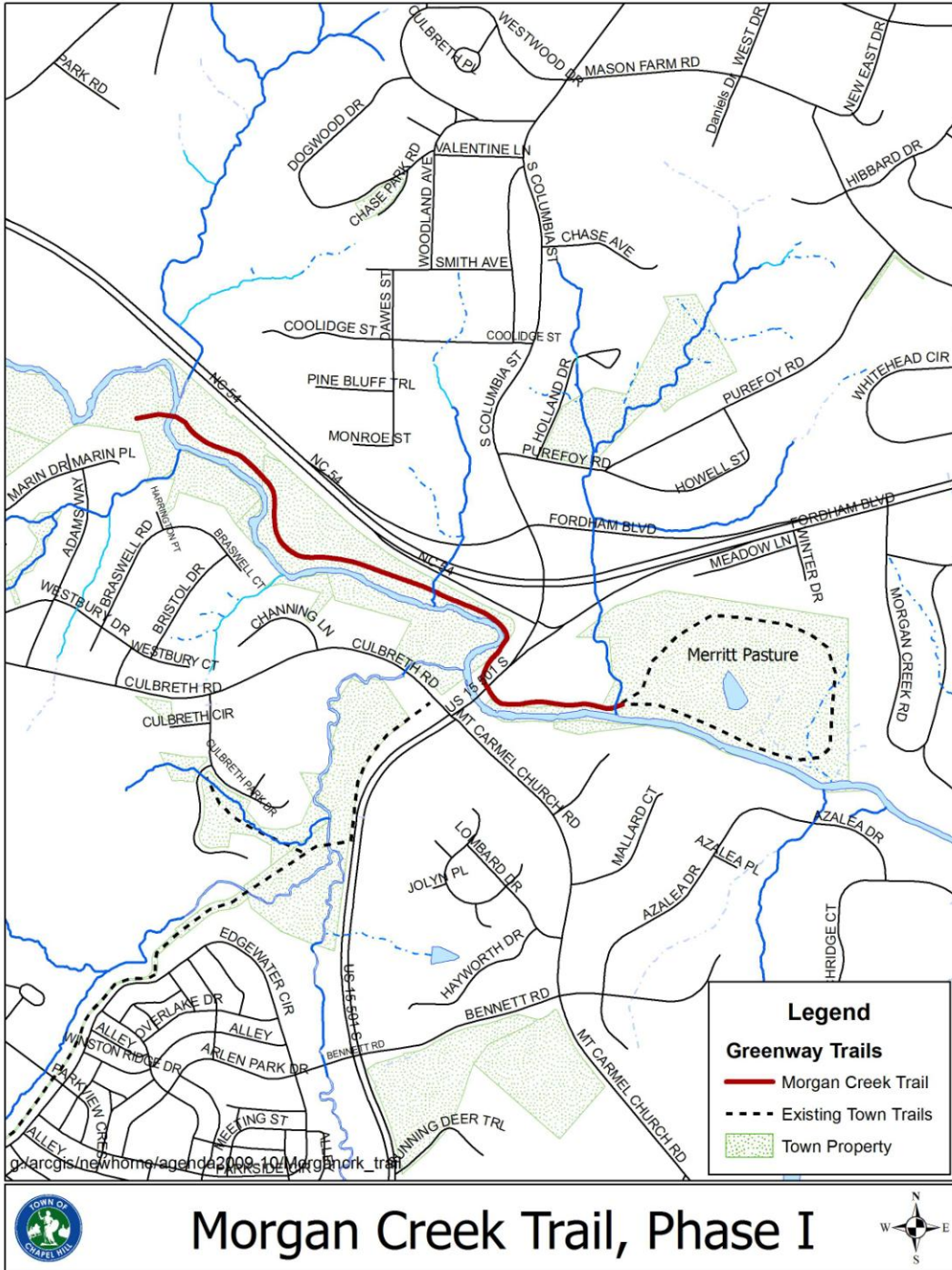
- Erosion control and tree protection fencing installed
- Clearing underway
- Grading anticipated in April

**Please see the map and aerial photographs showing the Morgan Creek Trail on the next two pages**

## 7. MORGAN CREEK TRAIL AND MERRITT PASTURE ACCESS

**Current Status: Project Underway**  
**Design Firm: Coulter Jewell Thames**  
**Contractor: Sullivan Eastern**  
**Anticipated Start: March 2010**  
**Anticipated Completion: March 2011**  
**Construction Budget: \$1,217,000**

The Council has approved a low bid of \$1,217,000 to build the first phase of the Morgan Creek Trail. Phase One will involve about 4,200 linear feet of trail, on the north side of Morgan Creek, from the Merritt Pasture to a new parking lot just east of Kingswood Apartments. The project will include a bridge over Morgan Creek to access the Southbridge neighborhood.







## 8. OAKWOOD PARK PLAY AREA

**Current Status: Preliminary design**

**Schedule: Start demolition in early summer 2010.**



Oakwood Park is located at the intersection of Oakwood Drive and Berkley Road. The park consists of three small lots on different corners of the intersection. The northwest corner contains the play area.

Although a great deal of work must be accomplished to prepare the site, the ultimate goal is to build a fun and safe play area for children. We will have a public input process to select the play equipment at the appropriate time.

Currently the portion of the park containing the play area has numerous issues that we hope to resolve. These include:

- The park drainage system does not function properly.
- There is inadequate access for persons with disabilities.
- The play equipment has reached the end of its useful life.
- Drainage and compaction have endangered the remaining trees on the site.
- Signage and site furnishings are old and in disrepair.

We envision the following work sequence for the park renovation:

- Removal of the existing site features from the play area portion of the site.
- Re-grade the property to correct the existing drainage problems.
- Install underground drainage pipes and create a new sub-base for play area drainage.
- Install new handicap accessible walkways and parking.
- Installation of a new play area after public input process.

## 9. OAKWOOD DRIVE OPEN SPACE SHED REMOVAL

**Current Status: Complete**

The Town removed an old shed from the Oakwood Drive open space area near Cleland Road.



## 10. OLD CHAPEL HILL CEMETARY FENCE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

**Current Status:** Vendor selection

**Anticipated Start Date:**

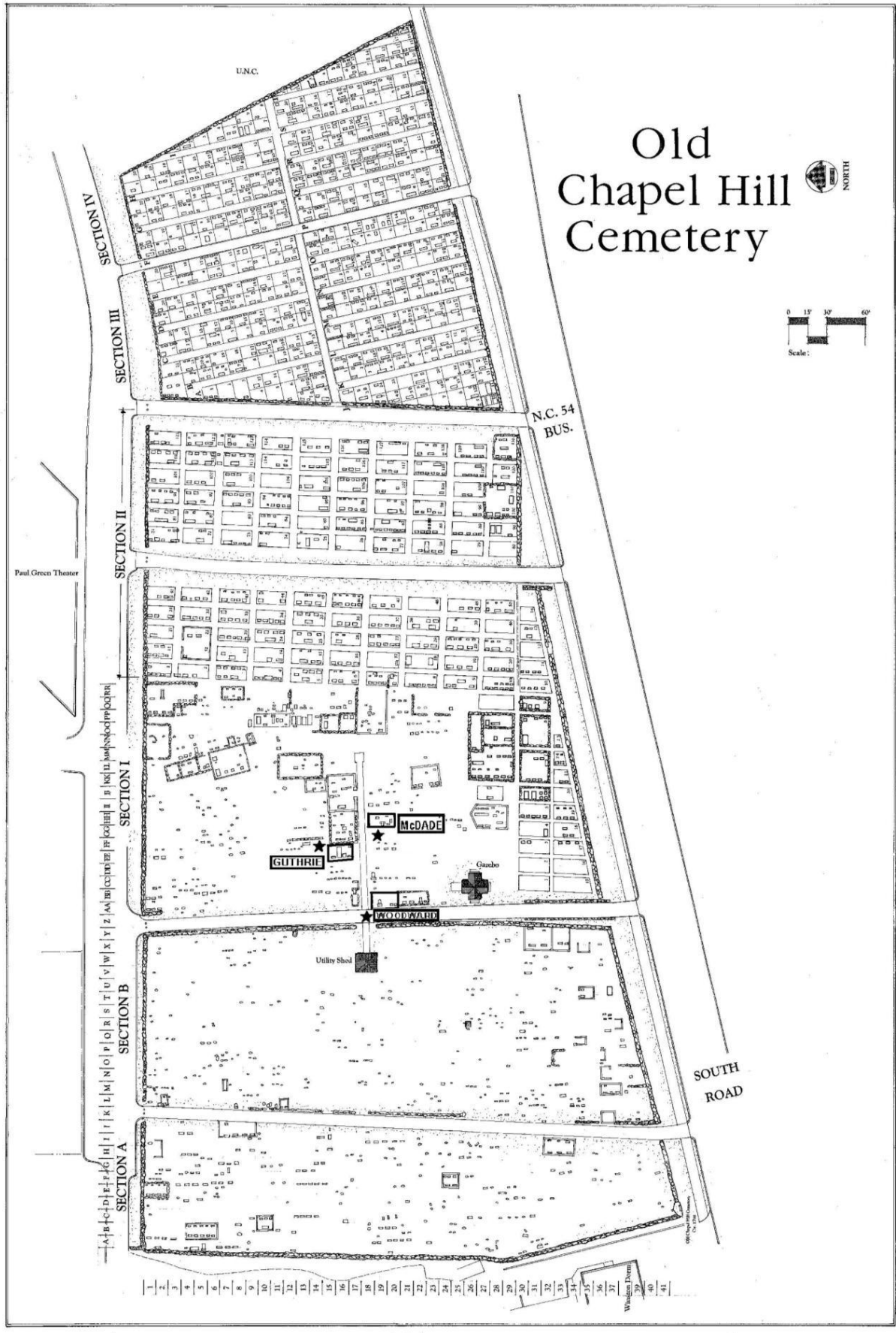
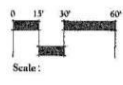
**Anticipated Completion:**

The Department maintains four cemeteries in Chapel Hill. This project will preserve three historic iron fences in the Old Chapel Hill Cemetery, a site designated on the National Register of Historic Places.

Each of the three fences is to be preserved using as much of the original components as possible. Missing parts will be replaced with identical historic parts legally salvaged and acquired or with replications identical in form and material. Fences that must be disassembled shall be reassembled in a manner consistent with original designs and installations.



# Old Chapel Hill Cemetery



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**Completed Projects**

Athletic Light Assessment and Removal (2008)  
Athletic Light Replacement (2009)  
Battle Branch Trail Renovation Design and Permitting (2010)  
Bolin Creek Trail Mural Art Renovation Project (2009)  
Bolin Creek Trail Pavement Repairs (2009)  
Bolin Creek Trail Renovation Assessment Study (2010)  
Booker Creek Linear Park (2007)  
Cedar Falls Cell Tower Removal (2009)  
Cedar Falls Play Area (2007)  
Cedar Falls Scoreboard Replacement (2010)  
Community Center Park Walkways Replacement (2008)  
Community Center Renovations (2007)  
Community Center Retaining Wall/Public Art Project (2009)  
Dry Creek Greenway Trail Concept Plan (2008)  
Dry Creek Natural Surface Trail (2008)  
Fan Branch Trail Bridge Decking Replacement (2009)  
Hargraves Park Site Improvements and Playground Replacement (2007)  
Hargraves Park – Playground Surface Replacement (2008)  
Homestead Park Aquatics Center (2008)  
Homestead Park Restrooms Renovation (2007)  
Homestead Park Skate Park Improvements (2007)  
Homestead Water Line Replacement (2007)  
Meadowmont Park Drainage Improvements (2007)  
Meadowmont Trail Bridge Repair (2010)  
Oakwood Drive Open Space Shed Removal (2010)  
Park and Facility Assessment (2008)  
Southern Community Park (2009)  
Sport Art Gymnastics – Connection to OWASA water and renovation of septic field (2008)  
Tanyard Branch Trail Renovations (2007)  
Tennis Court Resurfacing: Oakwood and Cedar Falls Parks (2008)  
Umstead Park Restrooms Renovation (2007)