

2021 - Issue 3

Save Austin's Cemeteries newsletter

Inside this Issue

- 1 *To Relate*: Native American History Digital Exhibit
- 2 *To Serve*: Honoring Military Veterans in Austin's Cemeteries
- 2 Oakwood Chapel Wins NEA Grant
- 3 SAC Supporter Passes Away
- 4 Banks Wood Historic Cemetery Dedication
- 5 SAC Welcomes New Members and Volunteers
- 5 SAC Volunteer Opportunities
- 7 SAC Events
- 7 Work Begins at San Jose II Cemetery
- 8 Calendar
- 9 Membership Form

Newsletter

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To Relate: Native American History Digital Exhibit

Jennifer Chenoweth, Museum Site Coordinator

The Oakwood Chapel's Fall 2021 exhibit *To Relate* on Native American history includes an on-line exhibit of artwork by Indigenous People. The deadline to apply to exhibit is October 15, 2021 and will be featured during the [East Austin Studio Tour](#).

Submit artwork by scanning the QR code in the image below or by visiting: <http://arcg.is/1PCOK9>.

Art Call for Native and Indigenous Artists:

Native American Homelands

A history project which seeks "to relate" Indigenous views on Native American historical events in Texas.

The Fall 2021 exhibit *To Relate* will feature maps and history on Native American ancestral lands in Austin and Texas. The exhibit will also feature digital artworks by Indigenous Peoples that will be shown during the **East Austin Studio Tour**. This is not a commercial exhibit, but links to artist's or gallery website will be included.

Presented in accordance of the "Indian Arts and Crafts Act (Act) of 1990 (P.L. 101-644)."
 All people with Indigenous heritage are welcome to participate.

Map created by:
 Amy Heath 8/24/2021
 Tribal Land Source:
<https://native-land.ca/>
 Tribal land locations do "not represent or intend to represent official or legal boundaries of any Indigenous nations."
 -Native Land Disclaimer



To Serve: Honoring Military Veterans in Austin's Cemeteries

Jennifer Chenoweth, Museum Site Coordinator



photos: Grey Ellis

Thank you so much to SAC volunteers who helped me to honor our military veterans during this project. We are still updating veteran records as we find more information. Additionally, Kay Boyd introduced us to Charles Clinger, a SAC and AGS member who served in the Korean War. We enjoyed producing a two-part video interview with him about his memories of Austin and his military service, which can be found on the Oakwood Chapel Resources webpage along with the exhibit.

<http://www.austintexas.gov/page/oakwood-cemetery-chapel-resources>



Oakwood Chapel Wins National Endowment for the Humanities Award: Digital Humanities Advancement Grant

Jennifer Chenoweth, Museum Site Coordinator

The National Endowment for the Humanities is an independent federal agency that serves and strengthens our nation by promoting excellence in the humanities and conveying the lesson of history to all Americans. It accomplishes this mission by awarding grants to cultural institutions.

Title of project: "Creating Community: A Geographical Approach to Inclusive History at Oakwood Cemetery"

The project: to construct a digital model of a three-acre segregated section of a historic cemetery. Men, women and children buried in the 1800s were of African American, Mexican American, and European American heritage; segregated due to race and class.

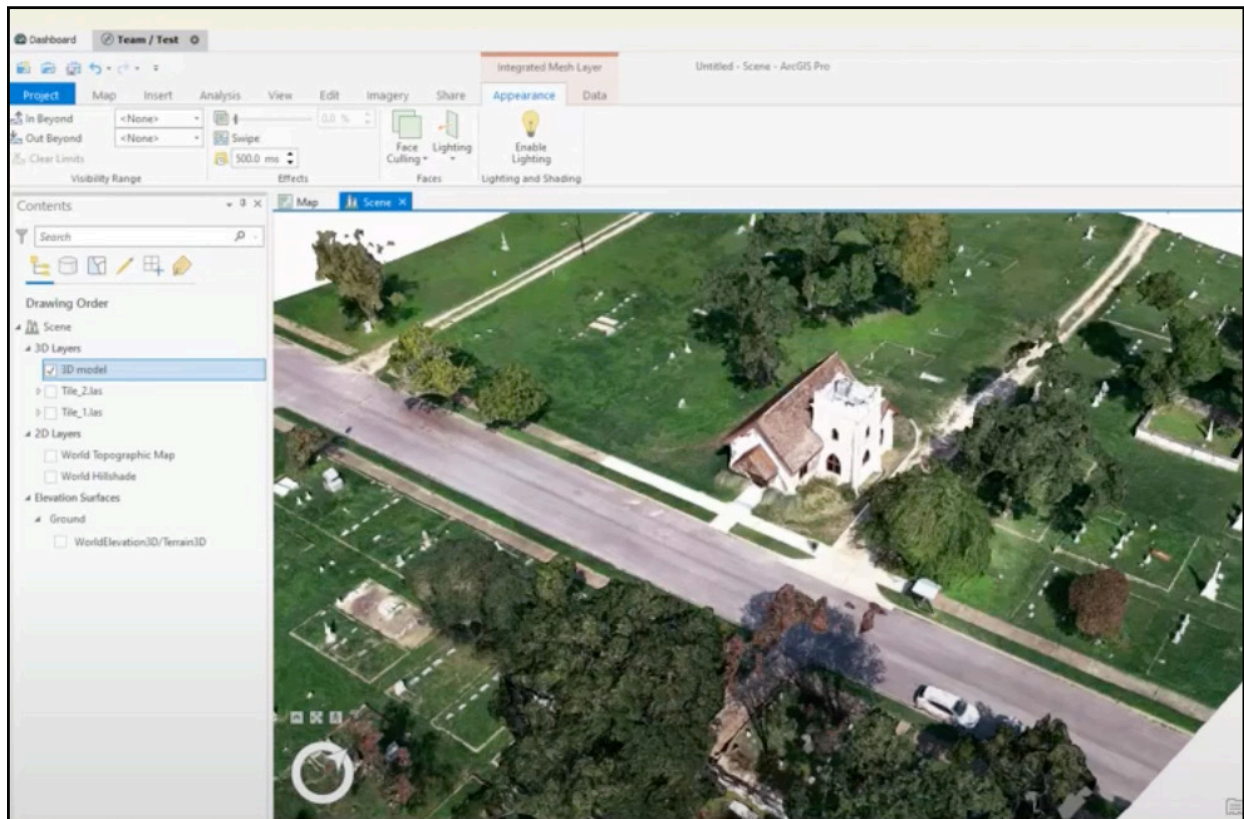
This Level I grant project completes a 3-D spatial analysis of monuments and adds the potential burial locations of approximately 88% of burials that people cannot "see." Less than 300 monuments exist in this three-acre area that holds 2,731 burials. Therefore, it is difficult for the public to imagine that this grassy area is full of unmarked graves of people who were marginalized in both life and in death. Poorly kept and incomplete records add to the frustrations of people researching their ancestors or cultural history. Our model of this area combines photography and LIDAR, adding historic data including photo, video, exhibits and legacy maps. The project culminates in a community outreach call for additional historical information.

(continued on next page)

Oakwood Chapel Wins NEA Grant (con't)

The research and analysis by academic experts, plus stakeholder feedback, will take place in the first year of the grant term. The digital model that is recommended will be created in the second year of the project. Hopefully, this will garner interest as a benchmark for digitizing information for all of Austin's cemeteries, and serve as a model for other cemeteries to follow. The award will require City Council approval before it is official.

YouTube technical video by COA Istvan Voicolescu of modeling cemetery section https://youtu.be/yQu_eQ9ifyg.



3-D Spatial View of Oakwood Cemetery

Save Austin's Cemeteries Supporter Passes Away

Kay Dunlap Boyd

Christine B. Nalle was one of the first members and a life member of SAC.

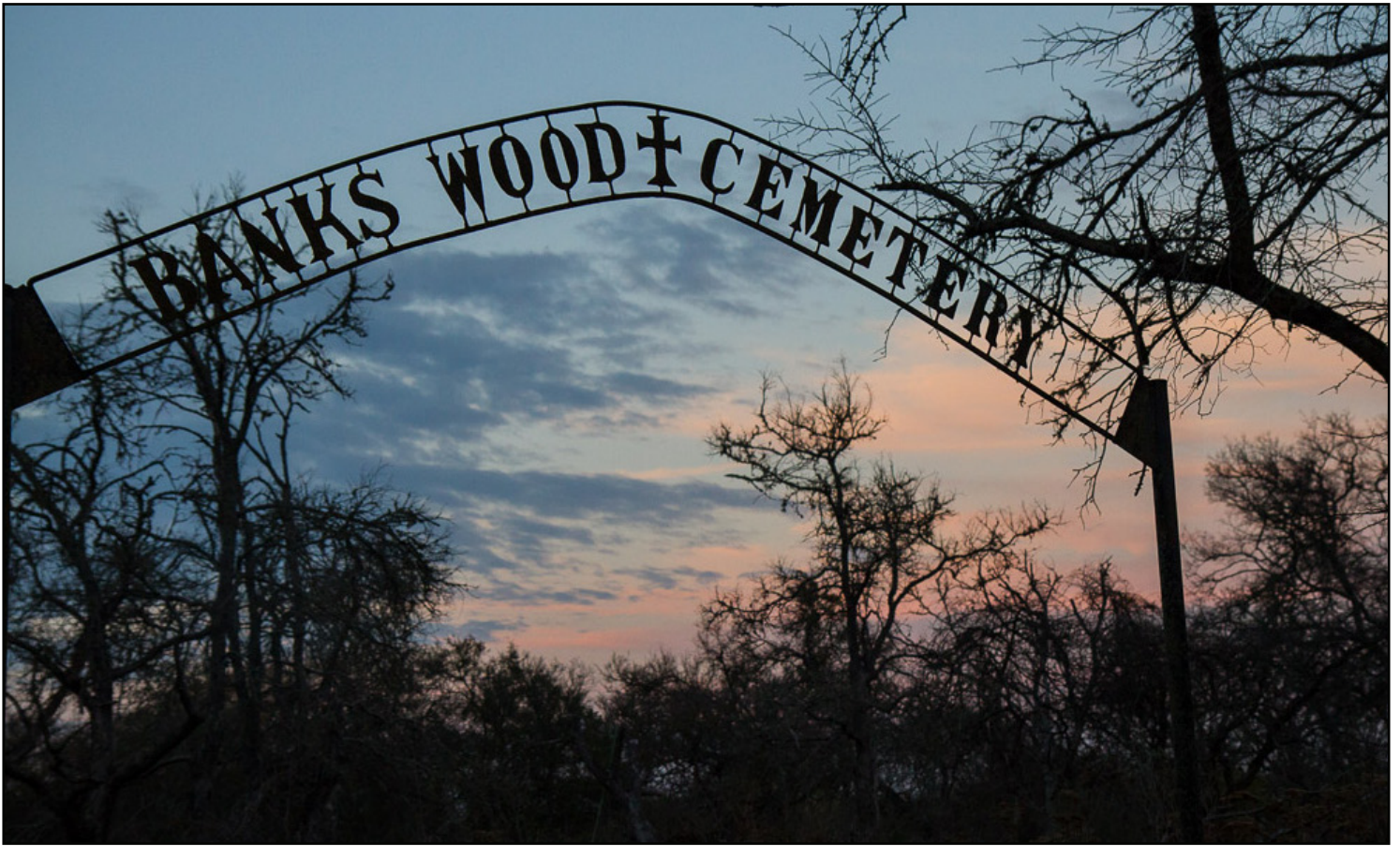
Christie Nalle passed away peacefully at Bunny Run in Austin on August 24th, 2021, after a long battle with cancer. Christie was very active in community, business, and philanthropic causes. While her husband Bill captained the Riverboat Commodore on Lake Austin, Christie managed logistics, catering, and bar service from 1976 to 1986. She managed the family portfolio of residential and commercial real estate.

Christie had many personal interests and activities that included travel, cooking, boating, and raising a wild son with love and firmness. One of Christie's many legacies will be her key role establishing the [Nalle Bunny Run Wildlife Preserve](#) in 2000. The property will remain green and native thanks to her tireless efforts. Christie is survived by her husband William Byrd Nalle and other family members.



Funeral service and burial were held at the Nalle Family Cemetery located at 4615 Bunny Run, 78746 at 10:00 am on Saturday, August 28th, 2021.

<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/austin-tx/christie-nalle-10321569>



Banks Wood Historic Cemetery Dedication

Kay Dunlap Boyd

There is good news regarding the Banks Wood Cemetery. The cemetery has been declared a Texas Historical Cemetery by the Texas Historical Commission. The historic medallion for the cemetery is completed and family members are getting ready to install it.

The Banks Wood Cemetery is located in Webberville, at 21327 Blake Manor Road, about a mile past the electrical grid distribution plant, and on your right as you drive east on FM 969 (a.k.a. Webberville Road). Visitors to the cemetery must enter through private property.

SAVE THE DATES! October 2nd and 17th, 2021

October 2nd will be a Cleanup Day. In order to make the cemetery accessible, we will cut grass and weeds that have grown rampant all summer. A work crew with equipment will clean the growth within the cemetery boundaries. Volunteer workers would be appreciated. All are welcome to come help us prepare the cemetery for its dedication. Bring lawn mowers, weed eaters and hand tools. Contact Joe Ratliff for more information at joeratliff@yahoo.com.

October 17th, at 3:00 pm, descendants will have a marker dedication ceremony. Visitors will learn the history of this cemetery and members of the Banks and Wood families will be present and will give brief remarks on this important day.

SAC Welcomes New Members and Volunteers

Kay Dunlap Boyd

Even these days, despite the ongoing pandemic, our organization is growing! We welcome two new SAC volunteers/members: Ashley Ledger and Kathy Benjamin.

Ashley Ledger has volunteered to help with research, restoration, the SAC e-newsletter, and photography. We also welcome Kathy Benjamin who has volunteered to work with us on tours, restoration, research, and the SAC e-newsletter. Thank you both so much!

If you are interested in joining SAC, it's very easy! Follow the link to the SAC website membership page: <https://www.sachome.org/membership>. Payment can be accepted by check or PayPal. Volunteers are always welcome, even if you are not a SAC member. Please sign up at <https://www.sachome.org/volunteer>.

Some of our events are still on hold due to pandemic restrictions. Please see the next articles (Volunteer Opportunities and Events) to get the status on everything. You will see several opportunities to participate in some socially distanced, in-person activities. It is feeling a little like fall and it is a great time to get outside for some good exercise! We are always planning and thinking about future events.

SAC Volunteer Opportunities

Marta Stefaniuk

SOCIAL MEDIA and MARKETING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Are you a photographer? Videographer? Social media guru? Marketing Specialist?
If you answered yes and are willing to volunteer, please contact: info@sachome.org.

Photo Documentation

Meet at Oakwood Cemetery every first Saturday of the month (Oct-May). Start times vary by month depending on the season/weather (see details below). Wear close-toed shoes for protection from gravel, stickers, and fire ants. Bring a partner, a digital camera, drinking water, and weather-appropriate clothing. Currently we are working on Section 4 (NW corner by the Chapel). Due to COVID, attendance will be limited to five teams of two. If you plan to attend, be sure to email PhotoDoc@sachome.org, so that Leslie Wolfenden can confirm your slot.

Footstone Resetting

Meet at Oakwood Cemetery, outside the Chapel, every fourth Saturday of the month (year-round) at 9:00 am. Bring work gloves (if you have them) and plenty of drinking water to stay hydrated. If you have questions, email: footstones@sachome.org.

Volunteer Schedule

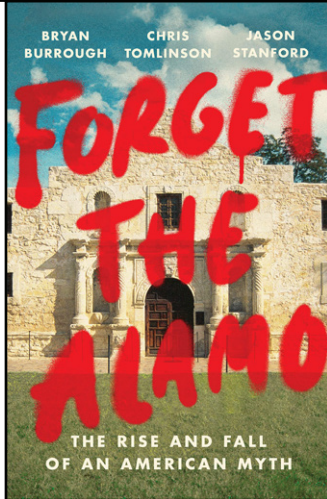
October 2 – Photo Documentation 9:00 am
October 23 – Footstone Resetting Oakwood Chapel, 9:00 am
November 6 – Photo Documentation 9:00 am (It's My Park Day)
November 27 – Footstone Resetting 9:00 am
December 4 – Photo Documentation 1:00 pm



photos: Marta Stefaniuk

SAC Upcoming Events

Marta Stefaniuk



October 2 – Postponed and Going Digital – The Patterson and Anderson Dedication, Volunteer Appreciation Day, and Voting for the Board of Directors were all scheduled together on this day. Due to concerns over COVID, these in-person events have been postponed until Spring 2022. Since SAC bylaws mandate the Board be voted in every other October, this year voting will be done via email. SAC members, please watch your inbox for a ballot. If you do not receive one by the end of October 2021, please email: secretary@sachome.org.

October 22 – Author Talk, 7 pm, at the Zilker Hillside Theater.
To Write: Forget the Alamo Book Talk

Jennifer Chenoweth, Museum Site Coordinator

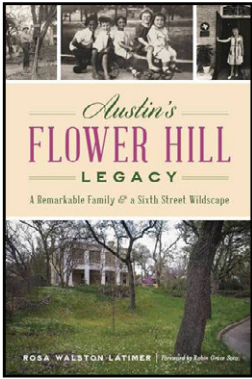
Save Austin's Cemeteries, the Brush Square Museums Foundation, and the Museums and Cultural Programs Division of the Parks and Recreation Department are delighted to co-host an author talk about the new headline-catching book *Forget the Alamo*. Recently, Texas made national news for having their book talk canceled because of political agendas. As we cannot safely meet indoors, we are pleased to host this author talk at the Zilker Hillside Theatre, on the north side of the Barton Springs Pool parking lot, with outdoor hillside seating. The event will be video recorded for those who may not be able to attend the event in person.

October 30 – Going Virtual Again – SAC's Annual **Murder, Mayhem, and Misadventure Tour** was scheduled to take place in-person this year. Unfortunately, we cannot meet in person due to safety concerns; however, with the help of the City's Museums and Cemeteries Divisions, we will be premiering a new video MMM tour.

November 6 – It's My Park Day 2021 – SAC members and volunteers will have three opportunities. At Austin Memorial Park Cemetery, we will be placing American flags by the graves of veterans. At Oakwood Cemetery, we will be pulling up "volunteer" tree saplings that are growing too near monuments. Tools will be provided, consider bringing gloves. There will also be a Photo Documentation session at Oakwood that day.



Examples of "volunteer" saplings that need to be pulled because they are too near a monument.
photo: Jennifer Chenoweth

January-March – To Liberate: The Watson Chateau

January 22, 2022 – Author Talk, 2 pm, at Oakwood Cemetery Chapel (with the possibility of moving this on-line if COVID numbers persist). Rosa Walston Latimer will present her book *Austin's Flower Hill Legacy: A Remarkable Family & a Sixth Street Wildscape*. The author traced the positive legacy of the Flower Hill Estate and the influential Smoot family who lived there.

February 2022 – “The Voices of Evergreen” tour video will premier with a kick-off event. Exact date and location to be announced.

March 2022 – In lieu of SAC's **Annual Calendar Photo Contest**, we will hold a Cemetery Photography Workshop. Exact date and location to be announced.

Spring 2022 - Patterson and Anderson Dedication, Volunteer Appreciation Day. Exact date and location TBD.

Work Begins at San Jose II Cemetery

Kay Dunlap Boyd

Many people are familiar with the San Jose Cemetery in Montopolis, but few are aware of the San Jose II Cemetery, for it has been swallowed by nature. In recent months, while researching his family's genealogy, Joaquin Rodriguez located the San Jose II Cemetery and has made cleaning it, and getting it designated, his passion project. KUT did a [story](#) about it.

The date for the first major clean-up of the San Jose II Cemetery is scheduled for Saturday, October 23, 2021, 8:00 am - 1:00 pm. San Jose II Cemetery is located at 8108 Posten Lane, off Hoeke Lane. Please **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**. This will be a huge community project.

If you can contribute information about the cemetery, or help financially, in a big or small way, please send your information to atxhispaniccemetery@gmail.com as soon as possible. Any questions you have should also be submitted to the same email. Joaquin started a Facebook group to post about both San Jose Cemeteries:

[Atx HispanicCemetery.](#)

If you have already made known your interest to volunteer, you will be contacted. Please share this info with others. More details will soon follow.



photo: Marta Stefaniuk

Submit to the SAC Newsletter

If you would like to submit an article to the SAC Newsletter, have an idea for an article, or a tip about a cemetery related event, please email info@sachome.org.

SAC Board Meetings

If you are interested the city's cemeteries and would like to attend a board meeting, email info@sachome.org to confirm the time and place of the next board meeting.

Calendar Summary

2021		
Oct 2	9am	Photo Documentation - Oakwood Cemetery
Oct 22	7pm	<i>Author Talk: Forget the Alamo</i> - Zilker Hillside Theatre
Oct 23	9am	Footstone Resetting - Oakwood Cemetery
Oct 30		Murder Mayhem and Misadventure (virtual tour premiere)
Oct - Dec		<i>To Relate: Native American History in Austin</i> - Oakwood Chapel (digital exhibit)
Nov 6	9am-12pm	<i>It's My Park Day: Austin Memorial Park Cemetery</i> (place flags at veteran markers) Oakwood Cemetery (photo documentation & remove "volunteer" tree saplings)
Nov 27	9am	Footstone Resetting - Oakwood Cemetery
Dec 4	1pm	Photo Documentation - Oakwood Cemetery
2022		
Jan-Mar		<i>To Liberate: The Watson Chateau</i> - Oakwood Chapel (digital exhibit)
Jan 22	2pm	<i>Author Talk: Austin's Flower Hill Legacy</i> - Oakwood Chapel
Feb		<i>Voices of Evergreen</i> virtual cemetery tour premiere
Mar		SAC Cemetery Photography Workshop (details TBD)
Apr-Jun		<i>To Fika: Swedish-Texan History</i> - Oakwood Chapel (digital exhibit)
Spring		Patterson and Anderson Dedication & Volunteer Appreciation Day (details TBD)
Jun-Sept		<i>To Emancipate: Juneteenth in Austin</i> - Oakwood Chapel (digital exhibit)

If you would like to stop receiving SAC emails, or if you have updated contact information, email info@sachome.org.

sachome.org



[Save Austin's Cemeteries](#)



[@save.atx.cemeteries](#)



[Save Austin's Cemeteries](#)

Board of Directors

President - Melissa Rogers
 Vice President - Jan Root
 Secretary - Arro Smith PhD
 Treasurer - Sally Baulch
 Kay Boyd
 Bobby Cervantes
 Karen Eshliman
 Mark Heep
 Scott Meyers
 Marta Stefaniuk
 Sally Victor

Save Austin's Cemeteries





Save Austin's Cemeteries

a non-profit 501(c)3 organization

Save Austin's Cemeteries (SAC) Membership Year 2022

Type of tax-deductible membership:

- \$ 20 Individual
- \$ 15 Student (with copy of current ID)
- \$ 15 Senior (60+ years of age)
- \$ 500 Lifetime Membership
- \$ _____ Other _____

Payment method

- check
Please make payable to: Save Austin's Cemeteries. Mail check & form to: P.O. Box 16411, Austin, TX 78761
- credit card/PayPal
To charge your membership, please fill out form online: <https://www.sachome.org/membership>

name _____

address _____

city, state, zip _____

email _____

(optional) cell _____

(optional) home _____

Ancestors

Do you have ancestors buried at any of the city cemeteries, if so, which one(s)? (check all that apply)

- Austin Memorial Park Evergreen Oakwood Oakwood Annex Plummers

May someone from SAC contact you to do an oral history? Yes No

Volunteering

Want to volunteer for SAC projects and events? (check all that apply)

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> event actor | <input type="checkbox"/> historical research | <input type="checkbox"/> social media |
| <input type="checkbox"/> graphic designer | <input type="checkbox"/> marketing/PR | <input type="checkbox"/> tour guide |
| <input type="checkbox"/> grounds restoration | <input type="checkbox"/> oral history taker | <input type="checkbox"/> video production |
| <input type="checkbox"/> headstone restoration | <input type="checkbox"/> photo documentation | <input type="checkbox"/> website |