A note from the editor

Welcome to the winter bulletin edition of Mausolus, with news items, short notices and reviews. You will see that it is significantly shorter than the summer edition which will contain longer essays and articles. As always, I am glad to welcome submissions from members.

You can find my contact details on the inside front cover of every edition.

Best wishes,
The editor

A message from the Chairman

I’ve hugely enjoyed my time as Chairman, and am glad that the major project with which we’ve been involved – the rescue of the Hope Mausoleum from its own burial mound – is coming to such fine fruition with the restoration of the landscape of the Deepdene as well as the mausoleum itself. The Trust has been re-energised with the recruitment of some excellent and well-respected young academics and professionals, who have prompted us to reach out to the untapped well of talent and interest in the subject via such initiatives as our essay prize and symposium. It’s now time to hand on – and I can’t think of a better person to take over than Ian Johnson, who has been involved in the Trust from the start and knows full well what we are all about. I’m looking forward to continuing to be involved as a trustee, and wish Ian every success in his new role.

Carrie Leigh

The Mausolea and Monuments Trust AGM 2015

Robert Stephenson

This year’s Annual General Meeting was held in the Anglican chapel at Highgate Cemetery, recently redecorated to its c.1890 specification. Afterwards we were treated to a glass of wine and a tour of the grounds by the chief executive of the Friends of Highgate Cemetery Trust, Ian Dungavell, who was previously the director of the Victorian Society for twelve years.

Ian rightly judged that the members of the Trust would not require the standard tour and instead announced that the evening would be an exploration of the cemetery’s mausolea, many of which he had keys to. This prospect – perhaps a trifle alarming to the average tourist - warmed the hearts of his very specialised audience.

We began at the curious, triangular mausoleum of Sir Loftus Otway (1856). This semi-subterranean Grade II listed structure has a whitewashed interior with a mosaic floor and is illuminated by roof-lights. Making our way up the Egyptian Avenue to the Circle of Lebanon we arrived at the tomb house of the opera company founder Carl Rosa (1889) and then inspected the adjacent Kelman mausoleum (1907), which is virtually identical. We then passed by a number of grand mausolea, including the Hartley mausoleum (1848) and the massively impressive Cory-Wright mausoleum in the revived Baroque style (1910). In prime position overlooking the cemetery is the extravagant edifice built in 1878 by John Oldrid Scott for Julius Beer. It is loosely based on the Mausoleum of Halicarnassus and has a Grade II* listing. Inside, facing the door, is a relief by Armstead of its first occupant, Beer’s eight-year-old daughter Ada, being raised aloft by an angel. Next followed the Hawes mausoleum (1838), the handiwork of Stephen Geary, the architect who founded Highgate, Nunhead and Brompton cemeteries. Its iron gates are evidently adaptations of similar ones in Pere La Chaise cemetery.

To complete the tour we crossed Swan’s Lane to enter the twenty acres of the eastern cemetery. Just inside the gates are three large and expensive mausolea in imperishable granite dating to the early twentieth century, yet indistinguishable from others of the previous century. Those of Lord Strathcona (1914, restored 1987) and Thomas Pocklington (1930) are substantial yet unlisted structures, while the grandest of the trio, built by Baron Dalziel of Wooler (1930), with paired columns at its canted corners, is listed Grade II. This expertly guided tour provided all that the MMT could possibly wish for on a fine summer’s evening.
The summer edition of Mausolus announced the news that the MMT and Mole Valley District Council had been successful in securing Heritage Lottery funding to rescue the Grade II* Hope Mausoleum and its surrounding landscape. The Hope mausoleum is the final resting place of Regency arbiter of taste Thomas Hope. Sealed in 1957 and buried to roof level soon after, the building was uncovered by the Mausolea & Monuments Trust in 2009. With a £1million grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund secured the site is now a hive of activity as work has started in earnest. The internal ironwork was the first element of work to be tackled.

As Hope’s only known surviving building, the painted ironwork offered a narrow but unique glimpse into his use of colour at Deepdene. A colour analysis of the gates was carried out by Patrick Baty before they were restored and cleaned ready for repainting. The analysis shows two schemes of 19th century paint. The first scheme is a very dark grey/ off black. Armed with this information, the ironwork has been painted dark bronze green to reflect Hope’s original colour scheme and was reinstated in September.

The contract to repair the Hope Mausoleum stone work was awarded to PAYE Stonework & Restoration Ltd and they also began work in September. One of the first tasks was to remove the cement covering the roof of the pediment. The roof was covered in 1957 along with the sealing up of the entrance. During the course of the first month, over three tons of cement were removed, revealing Hope’s original roof of overlapping stone courses and ribs over the stone joints. Running parallel to the stone ribs were fine drainage channels incised along the ribs to aid water runoff.

The next task has been to rebuild the courtyard walls. Levelled soon after 1958, to enable the burial of the structure, the first few courses of brickwork and cement render fortunately survived, enabling an accurate reconstruction of this key feature. These walls are now being rebuilt from the original footings using historic photographs and recently unearthed demolition drawings from 1958 to guide works.

As these works take place, the remainder of Hope’s Deepdene estate is being put back together with historic paths being reinstated giving access to the famed garden. These were, secured thanks to the generosity of the land owner Kuoni Travel and Dorking Golf Club.

The mausoleum works should be largely complete by the end of the year, and by September 2016 visitors will once more be able to see Thomas Hope’s final resting place in its original wider context as the Deepdene Trail opens.

For behind the scenes tours to see the works at Deepdene please contact either info@mmtrust.org.uk or TheDeepdeneTrail@molevalley.gov.uk

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**Hope Mausoleum News**

Alexander Bagnall

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External courtyard walls being rebuilt ready for rendering

Hope Mausoleum pediment with recently uncovered roof
This is the Mausoleum of Freiherr Ruprecht von Eggenberg and his nephew, Freiherr Wolff von Eggenberg, both knights of the Holy Roman Empire at the Schlossberg to Ehrenhausen.

The district was at one time the seat of a branch of the Eggenberg dynasty and the grounds of the Schlossberg to Ehrenhausen is the site of this huge Baroque mausoleum of Ruprecht von Eggenberg and his nephew Wolf von Eggenberg designed in the 1620s by Italian painter and architect Giovanni Pietro de Pomis, who was the court painter and architect of Ferdinand II, Holy Roman Emperor.

It literally towers over the town and is huge with the figures twice life size. There is nothing in Britain like it: it is the sort of building that our late-seventeenth-century architects might have erected to a national hero.

Charles Wagner

The mausoleum looms over the town in the grounds of the castle

Twice life size warriors guard the corners

Approached by a steep winding path and steps, one emerges below the platform on which it sits

On the north face looking towards the castle, an 18th century memorial to family members with its bespoke weather hood. Note the ornate railing which run round the whole structure
Scottish Mausoleum

Stephen Brown

Scottish Mausoleum is an exciting new project established to study the history and heritage behind Britain’s oldest post-Reformation mausolea. The project has just been awarded charity status by the Scottish Regulator and work has already begun to record all the known mausolea in a comprehensive database.

Founder, and member of the MMT. Stephen Brown, visited the MMT Trustee meeting in September to give details of the project and to discuss on-going collaboration with the remit of the MMT, as it might relate to Scotland.

The first post-Reformation mausoleum was built in Kilbirnie in 1594 (the Craufurd Mausoleum), near to where Stephen lives, and the lack of local knowledge surrounding the history of the small square edifice prompted him to research how many other such tombs were being left abandoned in a similar way throughout Scotland.

Several Scottish mausolea were built in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries as a result of the Scottish reformers banning church burials inside the sanctuary – a practice that continued in England for some considerable time thereafter. Following a hiatus period around the time of the English civil war, mausoleum burials recommenced in keeping with English traditions with a peak occurring in the late Georgian and early Victorian era.

The project is motivated by a desire to use new technology to raise public awareness, to prevent the loss of this important part of Scotland’s heritage and the rich family history behind each mausoleum. The law here in Scotland restricts any likelihood of restoration or public awareness when it comes to private family monuments. An initial website presence has been established using ScottishMausoleum.org but this is likely to move to Facebook in early 2016.

The first part of the project is to build an online presence that will be available worldwide for people to be able to show an interest in these often austere buildings and for volunteers to provide further research where willing. Results of the research will feed into the MMT Gazetteer so that an integrated survey of mausolea throughout the UK will be provided to members and beyond.

There is no immediate plan for Scottish Mausoleum to undertake restoration work, but in time it may support any such initiatives with advice or research.

Scottish Mausoleum is keen to receive photographs of any Scottish Mausolea – contact admin@scottishmausoleum.org.uk or stephen@yerton.com.

The Young Mausoleum, Margravine/Hammersmith Cemetery London

Charles Wagner

The Friends of Margravine Cemetery is a small charity in west London which helps Hammersmith & Fulham look after its local cemetery. There is one grade II-listed mausoleum in the cemetery built by his family to Frederick Young, who died in 1884. The family cannot be traced. The list description reads:

“Mausoleum. Dated 1884 on bronze inscription tablet on the door. Erected by Harold Young’s parents. Light brown sandstone with Portland stone dressings, slate fishscale roof. Gothic style. Long sides have blind arcading with grey granite shafts. The 2 light and quatrefoil entrance door has good bronze fittings. At the north end are a pair of lancet openings one of which retains its stained glass. This is the only mausoleum in this cemetery.”

We have been worried about it since some lead flashings were stolen and stone copings dislodged in 2012, and had it added to the English Heritage London Heritage at Risk Register. Renewed concerns over the summer led to us meeting the council’s Design & Conservation Officer and Parks Officer and the Historic England London Heritage at Risk Team. We had to use boltcutters to remove the padlock and open the door to the mausoleum but this revealed stone and marble plaques around the walls to several family members and a mosaic floor border around the sealed opening to the interments below.

Historic England was very keen to support our proposals to get a condition survey carried out but we came up against the problem of ownership which needs to be resolved before any works can be carried out. Historic England hoped that we would get the survey done and be prepared to start works by Easter 2016 but this depends on the ownership being sorted.

Historic England has suggested the following as a way forward: “Unfortunately, the grant application would need to be made by the owner of the asset. We have had friends groups successfully apply for funding before but they have had an ‘Agreement to Lease’ the monuments from the owning cemetery company so making this possible. Presumably Hammersmith & Fulham could be the ‘owners’ in this case (once an attempt to contact the family has failed). They may be prepared to make the application and perhaps the Friends would be prepared to be a ‘match-funding body’. This is something that we would have to discuss further internally too but we can explore this.

Ownership is a difficult issue for mausolea. We understood when we met on site that efforts to trace the descendants of Frederick Young have failed. In other cemeteries, notably Kensal Green, we have advised that the following steps be taken to demonstrate adequately that efforts had been made in good faith to trace and contact owners in order to get permission for works to be carried out. Perhaps the Friends might do this in conjunction with the Council.

• Write to last known owner of the mausoleum, if one can be identified. This might be done through tracing the family tree or through cemetery records. This step could be skipped if efforts to trace the descendants have failed.
• Post a notice of the intention to carry out works next to the mausoleum itself – for three months if possible – asking anyone with an interest to contact them
• Post a notice of the intention to carry out works on any website to do with the cemetery
• Place a notice of intention to carry out works in the local paper – for two or three weeks ideally but maybe one will do!
• Do a Land Registry search too to confirm no ownership has been recorded
• Keep good records of efforts made.

It would be good to implement putting up a notice beside the mausoleum as soon as possible as three months goes fast, and there is the possibility that we just might manage to find a way between us to start works in the early spring of 2016 so it would be good to be prepared!”

I set this out because it seems to be a sound method for establishing that the family owners cannot be traced and therefore allowing the cemetery owners to take ownership and possibly make an ‘Agreement to Lease’ with a friends body or similar organisation, which would then apply jointly for grant aid to repair the structure. I would be interested to hear of any similar problems MMT supporters have had with mausolea they have tried to rescue.
Plans for the Guise Mausoleum
Charles Wagner

Now that the Hope Springs Eternal project is well and truly underway, we need to turn our attentions once more to our own ruinous mausoleum, the Guise Mausoleum in the churchyard at Elmore on the plain of the River Severn in Gloucestershire. The rescue and reconstruction would be our biggest project yet.

At our last committee meeting, I asked the other Trustees if I could have the lion’s share of the budget we spend annually on our Mausolea for 2016 to advance this project. We will be applying to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for the majority of funding: firstly for a Stage 1 Project Development Grant and, if successful and we convince them of our abilities and the worthiness of the project, for further stages of grant to take us on to the restoration itself. Other grant giving charities will need to be involved with this project via the MMT Trustees. I am hoping and will need much input time wise from MMT Trustees. I am hoping to involve as many supporters as possible, particularly those who live in the Gloucestershire area and can get to Elmore easily if needed.

We also need to work very closely with the Vicar, PCC and Churchwardens of St John the Baptist, the Guise Family of Elmore Court (who gave us their ruined mausoleum) and the Design & Conservation Team at Stroud District Council. One proposal is that we work with the Parish on a Conservation Management Plan for the whole churchyard as it contains over twenty other listed table tombs and headstones, and the PCC has funded the restoration of several of the most important but might benefit from a plan that identified which ones were decaying and needed attention soonest. This might then in turn help our project as it would be seen as part of an overall plan for what is one of the most important churchyards in south Gloucestershire and the Cotswolds.

One of the first jobs next year will be to liaise with the PCC and Elmore Estate to find a home for the rescued stones that we had dug up under Andrew’s supervision in 2011, and then help the PPC restore that corner of the churchyard. The other task is working with Andrew on the conservation proposals and resolving how to recreate the pyramidal roof. We are hoping to involve the SPAB in the philosophical debate, but the current favoured option is reinstating it in a lightweight material so that it recreates the original form of the structures and protects the inside faces from the weather.

Please contact us if you would like to be involved with this project via the MMT office.

We are happy to announce that ‘The Victorian Celebration of Death’ by our patron Professor James Stevens Curl is available for purchase as an eBook.

http://www.heritage.co.uk/ebook/ebook.php?ebook_id=57
EVENTS

DEATH AND MEMORY

Soane and the Architecture of Legacy

A Private View for members at Sir John Soane’s Museum
13 Lincoln’s Inn Fields WC2A 3BP

Friday 26 February 2016 5.30 – 7.00 pm

THE ARCHITECTURE OF DEATH

Student Symposium

Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church, 235 Shaftesbury Avenue, London WC2H 8EP

Saturday 11 March 2016: Tickets at £20 each

MAUSOLEA AND THEIR MONUMENTS

A Joint Study day with The Church Monuments Society

Senate House University of London, Malet Street, London WC1E 7HU

Saturday 14 May 2016 at 10.00

A TOUR OF SELECTED MAUSOLEA IN NORTH YORKSHIRE

A day’s excursion in collaboration with the York Georgian Society

Monday 18 July 2016:
Departing by coach from York Station at 10.00 am and returning there at 6.00 pm
Tickets at £58 each (not including lunch or travel to & from York Station)

For more information about these events please refer to the enclosed event sheets or alternatively email the Secretary at info@mmtrust.org.uk, or tel 07856 985974