

Hope Mausoleum

An austere structure built in the Grecian style, with battered walls, moulded cornice and substantial overhanging pediment. Scaring recorded to the pediment would suggest that this once carried a plaque or inscription, since removed. Round-headed archway to centre with recessed surround having double-leaf metal fretwork gates. Flanking revetment walls having a low plinth with metal railings to front. Thirty three loculi to the interior, arranged in three rows. Nine are occupied.

Architect(s)

Not known

Listing

Grade II* (England and Wales)

Year Created

1818

Style

Greek Revival

History

The mausoleum was commissioned by the collector and amateur architect Thomas Hope (1769-1831) following the death of his seven year old son Charles. Later, Hope himself was buried there as were various other family members; the last interment was in 1941. Several of the Hope family were members of the Society of Dilettanti. The structure was sealed in 1954 when it was buried up to pediment level.

In 1960 the mausoleum and surrounding land were bequeathed to Dorking Urban District Council (now Mole Valley District Council) by the 7th Duke of Newcastle in order to preserve the land as public open space.

In 2009, the MMT and Mole Valley District Council commenced negotiations over the conservation and restoration of the mausoleum. In 2013 the council was awarded a development grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund which facilitated the excavation of the principal elevation by "The Friends of Deepdene" with assistance from the Surrey Wildlife Trust, Society of Dilettanti, Kuoni Travel and the Dorking Museum. A further tranche of funding delivered in 2015 with conservation and repair works to the mausoleum completed in 2016.

Condition

Excellent condition with conservation & restoration works completed in 2016.

Sources

H Colvin, *A Biographical Dictionary of British Architects* (1995), 509-10;

D Watkin, *Thomas Hope and the Neo-Classical Idea* (1964), 21, 27, 163.

Links

www.molevalley.gov.uk/index.cfm?articleid=12085

www.facebook.com/TheDeepdeneTrail

www.justgiving.com/HopeSpringsEternal

www.surreycommunity.info/friendsofdeepdene/





Location

The Deepdene (public land),
Dorking,
Surrey.
RH5 4DA