

Wemyss Mausoleum

Free-standing mausoleum built on a square ground plan capped with a plain pyramid of 24 courses. Ashlar walls having advanced tetrastyle porticos of the Doric order to all four elevations. The principal entrance is located to the west elevation.

Set within a circular walled enclosure having ashlar gate piers surmounted by crouching figures depicting the Knife-grinder of Marsyas.

The interior comprises of an octagonal chamber having a stone floor and a vaulted ceiling rising into the apex of the pyramid. The walls are lined with 64 niches grouped in arched recesses.

Listing

Grade A (Scotland)

Year Created

c.1795

Style

Neo-Classical

History

The 7th Earl of Wemyss, Francis Charteris (1723-1808) bought the Gosford estate in 1781 and having built a grand house to designs by Robert Adam he later set about constructing a family burial vault at a cost of £1,073. The mausoleum was built in the form of pyramid reflecting the Earl's connection with Freemasonry and in particular his position as Grand Master Mason of Scotland. The 7th Earl is the only member of the family to be buried within the mausoleum.

Condition

Good condition (2013)

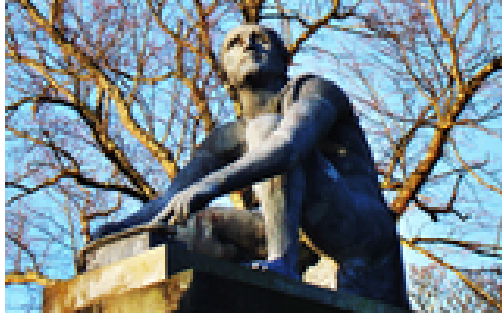
Sources

David Winpenny. (2009). *Pyramids of East Lothian and Edinburgh*. Available:

<http://www.lothianlife.co.uk/2009/10/pyramids-of-east-lothian-and-edinburgh/>. Last accessed 9th July 2013.

Gosford Mausoleum Enclosure and Gatepiers, Aberlady. Available: <http://www.britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/sc-6542-gosford-mausoleum-enclosure-and-gatepiers->. Last accessed 9th June 2013.





Location

Gosford House,
Aberlady
Cockenzie and Port Seton,
East Lothian
EH32 0PX

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