

HERITAGE of LONDON TRUST

Projects offered grants: May 2008

Homerton University Hospital, Homerton Row, Hackney.

Window from old Hackney Hospital, c.1870s. Unlisted.

Homerton Hospital was begun in 1982 and the new hospital opened in 1986. Services and departments were gradually moved here from nearby Hackney Hospital, which had been founded in 1750 as a pauper's infirmary attached to the Hackney Union Workhouse. Hackney Hospital's



buildings are still in use by the NHS, although parts of the hospital complex were demolished in the 1990s. A window dating from the 1870s which once graced Hackney Hospital's dining hall/chapel was saved during the demolition and sent to the new Homerton Hospital, where it was recently re-discovered in a store room. The window is generally sound, although all but one of the panels has lost some glass panes. It is also extremely dirty and has pollution damage from the time when it was in its original setting. Homerton Hospital has been so thrilled by this discovery that they plan to restore the window and make it a focal point in a new £11.2 million Neo-Natal Unit extension which is due to be built over the next 2-3 years. The extension will include 3 special family suites, which will make life more comfortable for the families of critically ill babies or those

receiving long-term care – while the extension is being paid for by the NHS, the family suites are seen as an “extra” and the £117,000 cost has been raised by the Homerton Hospital Charitable Fund. A complete cleaning and restoration of the window is estimated to cost £4,932. The Trust has offered a grant of £2,500 towards this.

Monken Hadley Common Gates. Barnet. Grade II.

Hadley Common was set up by an agricultural act of 1777 and the title is held by the Churchwardens of the Parish. The public has a right of access to the Common but Hadley Common is unsupported by any grant. There are five wood and iron gates to the Common and the Churchwardens have repaired three so far. The two which remain are very decayed and each one will cost £30,000 including VAT to restore. The Churchwarden's funds are exhausted from restoring the first three gates, but they hope to receive help from English Heritage. To assist with their fundraising, the Trust has offered a grant of £3,000 towards the work.



Public Sculpture and Monuments Scheme

In partnership with English Heritage, and working closely with the Public Monuments and Sculptures Association, the Heritage of London Trust is setting up a fund to help with the restoration of public monuments and sculptures. Both EH and HOLT have agreed to put £25,000 into this scheme, which will be launched in September 2008. It is hoped that this fund will be able to offer small grants to allow local groups to make minor repairs and clean their local monuments, memorials and sculptures, as a way of encouraging civic pride and local environmental projects. Further details of this scheme will be available in the autumn.

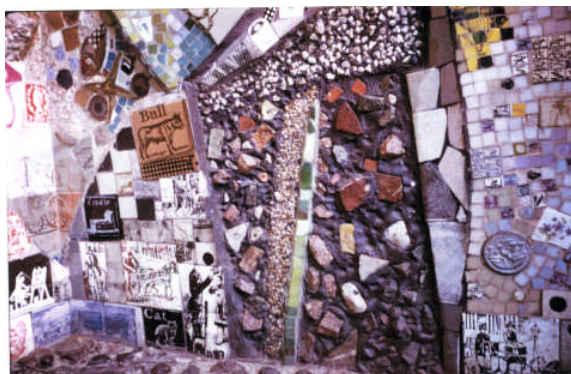
West Norwood Cemetery. Lambeth. Tomb of Arthur Beresford Pite.

Arthur Beresford Pite (1861–1934) was an important architect, sometimes described as “experimental and avant-garde” (DNB). He became the first professor of architecture at the Royal College of Art. He was also architectural director at the LCC’s School of Building in Brixton. He did work for the Howard de Walden estate in Marylebone where his output included a fine series of houses and apartment blocks, medical buildings, warehouse, business premises and a school. Pite’s grave and those of his wife and two daughters have tilted and subsided and the original copper inscription plaques are missing. The Friends of West Norwood Cemetery would like to sort out the subsidence, put the graves upright and reinstate the plaques with names and dates. This work will cost £2,000 - £3,000 and the Trust has offered a grant of £1,000 towards this.



Magic Garden Mural in Mosaic at Holman Hunt Infants’ School, Fulham, now called the New King’s School, New King’s Road. Kensington and Chelsea. 1961 by Francis Carr. Unlisted.

John Wright of the Twentieth Century Society asked the Trust to consider this project. The artist Francis Carr, now 75 years old, made 10 or 11 murals for LCC schools in the 1960s and this is the only one of his LCC school commissions that has survived. The mural was designed to be touched by the children and consists of pieces of mirror, marble, enamel, resins, brass and copper, tree bark, cork, and various kinds of sea shell, tiles, and stones. It is a marvelous work depicting plants and animals as well as an array of shapes, textures and colours. At present the mural is covered up and in a dangerous state with pieces falling off it. The plan is to restore it to a state where the children will again be able to see and touch it. This is a wonderful survival of its time, and something that the school children will be thrilled to see and enjoy once again. Francis Carr has offered to restore it at no charge, but there will be a cost for a cherry picker and security so this work can be undertaken during the summer months. The Trust has offered a grant of £2,000 to ensure this work can once again be enjoyed by the children at New King’s School.



St. Andrew’s Church, Sandhurst Road, Catford. Lewisham. Grade II organ by Alfred Hunter of Clapham (c.1908).



This is a fine Arts and Crafts church – it seems to be completely as it was built in 1904 and is beautifully cared for – it still has its original light fittings converted for electricity. The fine organ has deteriorated because the blower is positioned outside the church and draws in cold air which is colder and damper than the organ itself. The church has tackled the problem by firstly repairing the roof over the organ, which cost £38,000. They are now about to start restoration of the organ which will come to £70,000, and they have already raised £46,000 – they are not applying to the HLF. The restoration will be done by Nicholson and Co. in Malvern. The Trust has agreed a grant of £3,000 towards this restoration.

**St. John-at-Hackney Church, Lower Clapton Road, Hackney.
1791-4, with spire and porches added 1810-14 by James Spiller. Restored by
N.F. Cachemaille-Day and William Lock after a fire, 1955-58. Grade II*.**

Founded by the Knights Templar in the 13th century, St Augustine's Church had become too small and dilapidated to accommodate the growing population, and so St John's was built next door in the 1790s. St Augustine's was demolished apart from its tower (the Trust gave a grant of £4,000 towards repairing St Augustine's Tower clock in 2005), and many tomb monuments were removed from the old church and transferred to St John-at-Hackney. St John's now hopes to restore two of these monuments – the Christopher Urswyck Monument (c.1522; *coat of arms detail*) and the Banister Monument (c.1628). Urswyck was said to have helped arrange the marriage of Henry VII and Elizabeth of York. Both monuments suffered damage in a fire in 1955. The Urswyck Monument seems to have been re-painted with oil based paints, and this has done considerable damage. The work is expected to cost about £13,000 plus VAT - the church has just started to fundraise and the Trust has offered a grant of £3,000 to encourage others to contribute to this worthwhile project.



St. Mary the Virgin Church, Mortlake High Street. Richmond. Grade II*.

St Mary's Church is set back on the south side of the road running along the river from Barnes to Mortlake. The tower is part of the original church built on the site at the instruction of Henry VIII in 1543. The main part of the church is Victorian, but the tower has survived largely intact from the original construction. It contains a set of 18th century bells and clock. The church is fundraising for £160,000 to restore the cupola and roof with new lead, rebuild the north western buttress which is currently secured with steel bands, and to install an internal spiral staircase to provide public access to the parapet. In 1989, the tower had some restoration work carried out, and the Heritage of London Trust gave £5,000 to restore the weather vane on the cupola. The cupola is built of wood and clad in lead. Parts of the woodwork have rotted and the lead on the dome requires restoration. Work on the cupola is estimated to cost £84,000, work on the buttress £30,000 and the turret staircase £70,000. The Trust has offered a grant of £5,000 towards the restoration.



**Table tombs of James Stephen and Anna Laetitia Barbauld
Graveyard of Old St Mary's Church, Stoke Newington. Grade II.**

Old St. Mary's Church is an Elizabethan parish church on the south side of Clissold Park. The graveyard surrounding the old church is relatively small. It includes a number of fine tomb monuments. These include the tombs of James Stephen (1758 – 1832) (*pictured*) a St Kitts lawyer who later returned to London and became a key figure in the anti-slavery movement with Wilberforce, and Anna Laetitia Barbauld (1748 – 1825), who was a prominent poet, essayist and children's author. Both tombs have suffered damage from lichen and plant growth, inscriptions have been weathered, and Stephen's tomb has lost its railings. The cost of repairing both tombs is expected to be £4,500 plus VAT, and a new inscription will cost an additional £1,000. The work is planned for June this year. The Trust has offered a grant of £2,000 towards this.



St. Patrick's Church, Blake Avenue, Barking. Barking and Dagenham. 1940 by A.E. Wiseman of Chelmsford. Unlisted.



This is an extraordinary church built during WWII. The apse is very dramatic and almost intact as originally designed. Mr. Wiseman's other work included cinemas and this church reflects some of the exuberance which is found in cinema architecture. The congregation includes immigrants and refugees and the area is poor. In response the church has started a youth club which has been a great success. The church is built on marshy ground and was suffering from subsidence. Constant use of candles and the blocking up of the ventilation system in the 1970s has caused the wonderful apse decoration to become discolored. Total cost of its cleaning and restoration will be £6,227.50 including VAT- the church, exhausted from fund-raising for the structural work, has raised £3,000. The Trust has agreed to match this with a grant of £3,000.

St George's Church, Tudor Road, Southall, Ealing. Grade II. Church 1906-8 by Arthur Blomfield, with rare organ by Abraham Jordan.

This church serves England's most diverse community. They offer various community services, including a crèche. To further increase community use, St George's plans to improve the heating system and add a kitchenette at the back of the church and create a side chapel which will be open regularly. The Church's construction was financed by the demolition of St George's, Botolph Lane, and the new church received the magnificent 18th century organ from Botolph Lane. The organ, its case decorated with carvings of cherub's heads and musical instruments, has recently been discovered to be the work of Abraham Jordan, and dates from the 1720s. It is the most complete surviving organ by Jordan and the second oldest wind-chest in the country. The organ is to be restored to celebrate the church's centenary in June 2008. Work will include an educational programme in conjunction with local schools. The project will cost £343,027. The HLF are very enthusiastic and have pledged £297,000. The church currently has a shortfall of £28,000. As this is such an interesting project, the Trust has offered a grant of £4,000.



The Langton Clock, Muswell Hill Broadway, Haringey. 1908-1910. Unlisted.

This clock used to hang above a jewellers/clock shop. Haringey Council, who have a scheme called "Making a Difference", a community led initiative for improving the built environment, are currently undertaking the restoration of the clock. It is expected to take about a year to complete the work. As Haringey's budget is limited, they have asked the Trust to contribute to the additional costs needed for the examination and repair of the load-bearing brackets which support the clock. This work will require a cherry picker and surveyor to look at the brackets and determine what work is necessary to ensure the brackets will continue to support the clock once it is back in situ. Haringey Council has so far spent £2,444 removing the clock and transporting it to the workshop, and £3,350 on the repairs. To help ensure the work is completed, the Trust has agreed a grant of £2,000 towards the work on the brackets.



Sir Richard Burton's Mausoleum, North Worples Way, Mortlake. Richmond. Grade II*

The unusual mausoleum was constructed in 1890 in the form of a Bedouin tent for Sir Richard Burton (1821-1890), by his widow, Isabel Arundell, who is also interred here. Burton was a famous traveller, linguist, soldier and diplomat, best known for his extensive travels in Africa and Asia, and



his translation of *The Book of a Thousand and One Nights (Arabian Nights)* and the *Kama Sutra*. His early career in the Army in India was followed by fighting in the Crimean War. He traveled to Mecca and Africa under the auspices of the Royal Geographical Society. Between 1856 and 1860 he journeyed to the great lakes of Central Africa in search of the source of the River Nile. The mausoleum is built of Welsh stone and originally had a door that could be opened. It is possible to climb a ladder at the rear and look through a glass panel into the interior where there are two fine coffins and a collection of urns and Middle-Eastern lamps. The

structure is in a poor state, as is the interior decoration. The Friends of Burton, who propose to fully restore the mausoleum, would like to re-instate the doorway so that they can restore the interior. The external and internal repairs are expected to cost a total of £60,000. English Heritage can contribute towards the structural restoration but are not able to help towards the internal repairs. The Trust has therefore offered a grant of £3,000 towards the restoration of the interior.

Marianne North Gallery, Kew Gardens. Richmond. Grade II.

Marianne North (born 1830) was the daughter of Frederick North, MP. She was a talented artist with a fascination for travel, who concentrated on painting flowers in their natural habitats. She travelled to Canada and the United States, the Caribbean, Brazil, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and throughout Asia, painting plants, animals and landscapes as she went. Following a successful exhibition of her work in 1879, Marianne offered her paintings as a gift to Kew. The Gallery is unique and extraordinary. It is thought to be the only permanent solo exhibition in the country by a female artist and its striking originality is in its unique pre-Aesthetic hanging style. The Gallery was designed by Marianne's friend James Fergusson, an architectural historian, whose theories on the illumination of Greek temples were exemplified in his design of the Gallery. Marianne arranged for a dado of exotic woods to be put below the pictures, and decorated the doors and lintels herself, including painting a coffee bush over one doorway and tea plant over another as a gentle reference to her original wish that refreshments should be served in the Gallery. The 120-year old gallery is now deteriorating rapidly and in need of major restoration. Some walls are not sound, the roof is badly patched and as a consequence there are damp areas leading to mould and fungus outbreak – this is all a serious threat to the paintings. Less than 6% of Kew's audience visits the Gallery today, but Kew hope to change that. The total cost of restoring the Gallery, surveying and conserving the paintings and improving access is £3.7 million - they are hoping that the HLF will cover half the cost. To encourage this wonderful project, the Trust has offered a grant of £5,000 towards restoring decoration around the doorcases.

