

Notice-board Archive: News

Updated January 2006:

- * **Launch of *Carved Stones: Scottish Executive Policy and Guidance* published by Historic Scotland**

Carved Stones: Scottish Executive Policy and Guidance, published by Historic Scotland, draws on 120 years of their and their predecessor bodies' experience in dealing with carved stones and was the subject of a three month consultation period early in 2004. The strategy document concentrates on carved stones, including gravestones, that are still physically associated in some way with their place of manufacture or one of their stages of use, rather than carved stones that are now found as artefacts in off-site museums. The strategic and operational policy, and guidance cover legal protection, raising awareness, conservation strategies and practice, including intervention, research and information, and Historic Scotland setting the example of best practice.

- * **Why not take a look at these newly launched websites?**

Moray Burial Ground Research Group website

The [Moray Burial Ground Research Group](#) is a volunteer-based group formed in 2003 with the shared goal of surveying every burial ground in Moray - a total of over 140 individual sites. Trace the progress of the group through their reports and newsletters or even search 'The Forgotten Tombstones Names Index' for your ancestors.

The Friends of Glasgow Necropolis

The [Friends of Glasgow Necropolis](#) was launched on June 22nd 2005, at the Merchant's House, Glasgow, their site features details of the work of the Friends, how to join them and news and events.

Updated October 2004:

- **Carved Stones Adviser Pilot Project: Summary Report Now Available**

An Executive Summary of the *Final Report for the Carved Stones Adviser Pilot Project 2001-2004* describes work completed as a joint initiative between the Council for Scottish Archaeology and Historic Scotland ([get download](#)). Feedback is welcomed on all aspects of the work completed by Carved Stones Adviser Pilot Project. **Please send your comments to [Dr Susan Buckham](#)**, Carved Stones Adviser, Council for Scottish Archaeology, c/o National Museums of Scotland, Chambers Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1JF.

--Updated August 2004:

- **Feedback sought on *Sources of Financial Assistance for the***

Notice-board Archive: News

Conservation of Scotland Historic Graveyards Reference Report

The above report was published by Historic Scotland in March 2004, with assistance from the Carved Stones Adviser Project and the Scottish Civic Trust. This free booklet lists potential funding sources, as well as providing advice on making an application and details of where to go for further help and information. It is intended that information will be reviewed in the near future and readers' feedback is sought on the report's format and content. In particular, the review hopes to identify any additional funding sources readers know of and any topics where further information might help individuals and groups to secure funds. **Please send your comments to Dr Susan Buckham**, Carved Stones Adviser, Council for Scottish Archaeology, c/o National Museums of Scotland, Chambers Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1JF.

Click [here](#) to download funding booklet text and [here](#) to download funding booklet front cover. To order a hard copy please contact Publications Department, TCRE Group / Scottish Conservation Bureau, Historic Scotland, Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH. Tel: 0131 668 8638. Email: hs.conservation.bureau@scotland.gov.uk

--Updated May 2004:

*** Edinburgh to play host to Cemetery Friends**

Cemetery friends groups from across the UK will meet up in Edinburgh on June 12th for the Annual General Meeting of the National Federation of Cemetery Friends. The day will be jointly hosted by the Edinburgh Cemeteries Support Group and the Environmental and Consumer Services Department of Edinburgh City Council. The National Federation of Cemetery Friends was formed in 1986 to act as a link for between groups of volunteers who shared the common aim of conserving their local cemeteries.

*** Two Consultation Documents - English Burial Law and Archaeological Requirements for Works on Churchyards in England**

At the beginning of this year the Home Office launched a consultation document on the subject of reforming current burial law. This paper broaches the subject of grave re-use and is seeking views from members of the public, as well as from faith groups, professionals, industry and other interested parties. The consultation document can be downloaded from the Home Office website and comments are sought by 13 July 2004. The Association of Diocesan and Cathedral Archaeologists (ADCA) is consulting on its guidance document Archaeological requirements for works on churches and churchyards. The consultation document can be downloaded from the ADCA website and comments are sought by 31 May 2004.

Notice-board Archive: News

--

Updated March 2004:

*** The Thomas Bannatyne Memorial - unveiling a monumental achievement by the Greyfriars Kirkyard Trust**

Greyfriars Kirkyard Trust has as its aim the conservation and restoration of the many magnificent monuments in the old Edinburgh kirkyard. The most recent work, just been completed, involved the Thomas Bannatyne Monument. For this, the Trust was fortunate in gaining support from the Samuel H Kress Foundation, part of the World Monuments Fund, based in New York. Lord Cullen of Whitekirk, patron of the supporters of Greyfriars Kirkyard, will unveil a commemorative plaque at a ceremony to be held on April 26 to celebrate the repair work.

Thomas Bannatyne was born in 1570 and by the time of his death in 1635 had become a respected burgher of the town and an immensely wealthy merchant. The inscription in the main recessed panel is in English, unusually. His widow, Janet McMath in her tribute to her husband, noted his service to God abroad and at home, his generosity and loving kindness to the poor, to his friends and particularly to her. 'She did nor paines nor charges spaird' in building this monument and her testament stands still after more than three centuries.

The Bannatyne monument is a particularly fine example of Scottish baroque sculpture and is one of a pair of early 17th century monuments on the Flodden wall attributed to William Ayton. The design falls into three sections; a base with columns and protruding console, the main body with its two distinctive coupled spiral columns flanking a recessed panel beneath an ornate entablature and, finally the crowning element surmounted by a beautifully carved strapwork pediment. The carvings offer rich evidence of many of the symbols of immortality in use in the period, as well as a fine topographical scene in high relief of Edinburgh, alongside an interpretation of heaven, showing ears of corn and unusual trees. The recent repair work involved the re-instatement of this crowning element, which had been removed at some point. The monument is once again complete and stands as evidence of the high quality of Scottish craftsmanship and an almost lost art of stone carving.

The Trust is actively seeking volunteers to help in its work of research and recording information. It can be contacted by email greyfriarskirkyard@hotmail.com

Updated November 2003:

- **Graveyards - the theme for Scottish Local History Week 2004**

Since 1988 Scottish Local History Week has been held in public libraries throughout Scotland to provide an opportunity for local people to learn more about the history of their own areas. Each year features a different theme, and events are organised by local librarians to reflect this topic. For 2004, the theme will be graveyards and the dates for Scottish Local History Week are: Sunday 18 April to Saturday 24 April.

- **Carved Stones: Historic Scotland's Approach -your opportunity to comment**
Historic Scotland first produced a formal policy statement on carved stones in 1992.

Notice-board Archive: News

Guidance is being prepared that is intended to supersede, update, expand and clarify recommended practice in the face of recent research and best conservation practice. This relates to prehistoric rock art, Roman, medieval and post-Reformation sculpture, in situ and ex situ architectural sculpture and gravestones. The draft guidance will be circulated for public consultation early in 2004. If you would like to be notified of this so that you may have the opportunity to comment, please send your contact details (preferably an e-mail address) to trish.stewart@scotland.gsi.gov.uk or Trish Stewart, Historic Scotland, Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH.

--

Updated July 2003:

- **Two Conferences on Scottish Graveyards - dates for your diary.**

Building on the success of the conference jointly organised with Historic Scotland in 2001, the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland is organising a second conference on historic graveyards, which will take place in Edinburgh on Saturday March 13th 2004. This time the conference will explore the work of volunteers and community groups in graveyards. Further information will be posted as soon as details are confirmed.

Graveyards will also be celebrated at the 15th Annual Conference of the [Scottish Association of Family History Societies](#) (SAFHS) to be held in Stirling on 24th April 2004. Further details will be available from 1st September 2003 on the SAFHS website.