

PURCELL

ROYAL PARKS QUADRENNIAL SURVEY 2014

THE GOTHIC FOUNTAIN, REGENT'S PARK

ASSET NO: REP12

July 2014 (Revision 1 February 2015)

Client: The Royal Parks



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INTRODUCTION

NAME OF ITEM

The Gothic Fountain (DRINKING FOUNTAIN SOUTH EAST OF ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS)

LOCATION

Regent's Park

LISTING AND LIST ENTRY NUMBER

- Grade II
- 1066376

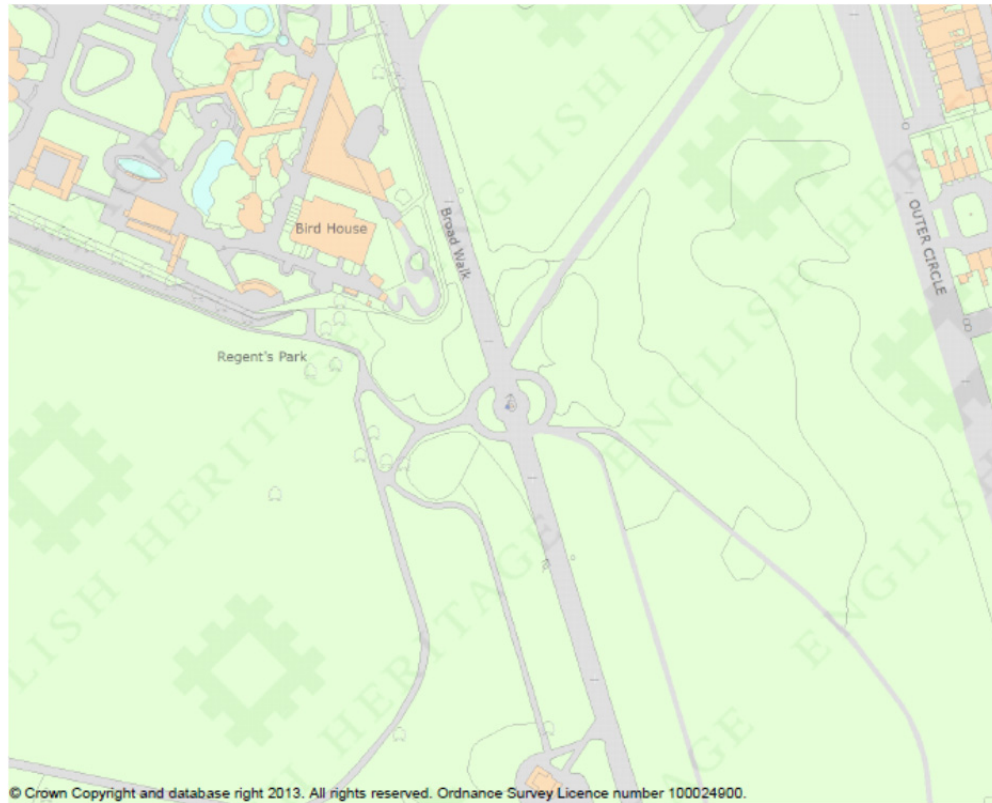
NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE

TQ 28371 83168

QUOTED LISTING

Drinking fountain. 1896. White marble and pink and grey granite. Gothic pavilion with clustered colonettes carrying low spire and 4 pinnacles. 4 arched faces with basins to fountain proper. Inscription: Gift of Sir Cowasjee Jehangir, a wealthy parsee; inaugurated by Princess Mary, Duchess of Teck; erected by the Metropolitan Drinking Fountain and Cattle Trough Association. Part in London Borough of Camden.

LOCATION PLAN



CONDUCT OF THE INSPECTION

SCOPE

Visual inspection only.

From readily available positions.

No inspection of enclosed voids or inaccessible spaces/fabric.

LIST OF DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO

Quadrennial Survey 2010, by Purcell Miller Tritton LLP.

DATE OF SURVEY

10 July 2014.

PERSONNEL

Owen Plummer for Purcell.

WEATHER CONDITIONS

Overcast, drizzle, mild

WORK DONE SINCE PREVIOUS INSPECTION

EXTENT OF WORK DONE

Fillings of cracks to pieced in marble basins and cleaning of lime scale from basin pedestal bases as previously recommended.

EXTENT OF WORK NOT DONE

No evidence of any other works having been carried out as previously recommended.

GENERAL STATE OF THE ASSET

SUMMARY OF CONDITION

Fair

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Gothic style four sided drinking fountain located at the centre of a circle of bound gravel paving in the Broadwalk. The fountain is visible from either end of the Broadwalk and there is a slight rise in ground level.

The fountains consist of a white marble central spire with four smaller corner pinnacles on pink granite shafts, on a white marble base with pink granite bowls and 2no. granite blocks/steps each on three sides. On the fourth side are two small marble dog bowls at low level with no blocks. The bowls are supported by triple semi engaged responds, with capitals and bases, all in pink granite. There are three octagonal steps around the fountain from the paving leading up to a podium level.

Above the base, triple semi engaged shafts of pink granite on white marble bases and capitals frame each bay. The infill consists of a square white marble coffered panel which houses the bronze water spout. The panel is flanked by grey granite slips on white marble bases, with quirk moulds to the interior edges.

An equilateral arch with coffered spandrels in white marble are surmounted by a decorative frieze in white marble, with inset black slate star decoration.

The top consists of white marble gables, surmounted by a white marble spire and finial with pinnacles and finials on each corner, all in white marble. The gables are decorated on three sides with carved heads, the fourth side with an inset clock.

Originally the details on each face of the fountain were as follows:-

On the North Face below a water clock (removed when it ceased to work) and a zebu cow (now a clock instead of a water clock)

On the East Face the bust of the Prince Consort with a lion below

On the South Face a bust of the Donor with an inscription below (now a plaque instead of inscription)

On the West Face a bust of Queen Victoria with a monogram below

Recent bronze plaque with painted inscription on the south face reads:

"This fountain erected by the Metropolitan Drinking Fountain and Cattle Trough Association was the gift of Sir Cowasjee de Manoir (Companion to the Star of India) a wealthy parsee gentleman of Bombay as a token of gratitude to the people of England for the protection / enjoyed by him and his Parsee fellow countrymen under ~ British Rule in India. Inaugurated by HRH Princess Mary, Duchess of Teck 1869

RESTORATION SUPPORTED BY THE HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND 1999-2000"

FINDINGS OF THE INSPECTION

CONDITION

The monument underwent a fairly comprehensive campaign of repair in 1999-2000 and the monument is consequently in good condition, although the deterioration of the old stonework is now obvious against the newer repairs.

The marble spire and corner pinnacles have had new marble indents to various areas and some pinnacles and florettes have been replaced with new carved marble. There are however areas of marble to the spire and pinnacles that look to be open textured and may be friable. Areas of marble to the south especially are showing signs of spalling and small amounts of algae growth are visible around the spire. There are some quite small cracks to the marble base under the spire that may be traps for water. The finial to the western face of the spire is missing and moulded detail to original stonework is deteriorating. The glass pane to the clock on the northern face is cracked and requires replacing.

The centre section of the monument consists of engaged polished granite shafts grouped at the corners and these are generally in good condition, however the shaft on the south west corner has a small vertical fissure and open pockets. Moulded marble capitals and pedestals to these columns are deteriorating.

The granite bowls are in generally sound condition, however they have a build up of white/grey limescale inside the bowls and 2 no. bowls have previous piecing in patches that have open joints and 2 no. bowls have light spalling to the underside of the bowl edge. The bronze water spouts that cascade into the bowls were not operating during the survey and

there is iron staining on the marble at the outlet position, possibly due to corrosion of internal iron or steel pipework.

The white marble base has light fissures in two areas that could admit water and there is ghosting in two locations where the previous removal of graffiti has not been totally successful.

The stepped podium on which the monument stands has open joints to several areas. Granite stepping blocks are lightly worn, with chipped corners to some blocks.

RECOMMENDATIONS

CONCLUSIONS

The monument is in generally good condition, however would benefit from some more minor conservator intervention and general maintenance, namely:-

- Conservator inspection and consolidation of friable marble to the spire and pinnacles.
- Conservator filling of small open cracks and resin repairing small fractured areas of granite and marble.
- Conservator poultice cleaning of limescale, rust staining and removal of graffiti ghosting.
- Repointing of open joint on steps.
- Fountain specialist maintenance and servicing of fountain system and drainage.
- Replace missing finial to east elevation.
- Replace cracked glass to clock on north elevation.

FURTHER INVESTIGATIONS

Conservator inspection.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD SHEET



Fig. 1 - Friable original marble



Fig. 2 - Open joints to steps



Fig. 3 - Green staining beneath plaque



Fig. 4 - Limescale build up at the base of pedestals is in a better condition than previously reported and appears to have been cleaned



Fig. 5 - Ferrous staining around pipes



Fig. 6 - Cracked glass to clock



Fig. 7 - Missing finial to east elevation



Fig. 8 - Joints to previous piecing in have recently been filled



Fig. 9 - Chipped corners to stone stepping blocks

PRIORITIES

PRIORITY RATING	DEFINITION	NOTES	TIMESCALE
P1. Unavoidable/Immediate	Required immediately for legal or safety reasons, or to prevent imminent damage or rapid deterioration.	Must be put in hand immediately.	Urgent.
P2. Essential/Urgent	Required urgently to avoid increased cost or dilapidation.	Should be put in hand as soon as possible, certainly within the year.	1 year.
P3. Necessary in current cycle	Necessary within 4 years to preserve the value of utility of the asset. Will include some cyclical maintenance.	Should be planned over the next 1-4 years.	2-4 years.
P4. Desirable	To improve function or performance, or enhance or reinstate features.	Plan as appropriate, alongside other higher priority works, or defer to later years.	5-8 years.
P5. Long term	Repeat cyclical maintenance or longer term planned repairs.	Timescales will need to be identified.	Beyond 8 years.

CYCLICAL MAINTENANCE ITEMS

Items which require regular cyclical maintenance such as painting are not itemised in the schedule unless they require attention as urgent (P1) or essential (P2) within 1 year.

APPENDIX A: SURVEY DATA

ASSET NAME: GOTHIC FOUNTAIN

Asset no: ReP12
Listing Grade: II
Location: Regents Park

Date of survey:	10 July 2014
Inspected by:	Owen Plummer
Weather:	Overcast, drizzle, mild

Area	Location	Description	Recommendation	Work type	Priority	Quantity	Work Cost	Access Cost	Comments
North elevation	Plinth base	There are very fine low level cracks in the marble to the left hand side.	Resin fill fine cracks with resin marble repair to prevent ingress of water.	Specialist Conservator	P3	Approx 0.5lin m	£350.00		
North elevation	Plinth base	There is black ghosting to the plinth where black graffiti has been removed.	Poultice clean affected areas to remove last remnants of graffiti.	Specialist Conservator	P3	Approx 0.5m2	£150.00		
North elevation	Clock	Glass face to clock is cracked	Fit new glass pane	Glazier	P4	Approx, 200mm dia	£250.00	£450.00	
East elevation	Spire	The marble spire has had new marble indents to the arrises and new details added (circa 2000), however the face of the original marble looks to be very friable.	Conservator to inspect marble for stability and consolidate surfaces of marble.	Specialist Conservator	P2	Item	£1,500.00	£450.00	
East elevation	Final	Finial is missing	Replace Finial with new to match existing	Stonemason	P2	Item	£400.00		
East elevation	Spire base	There are several hairline cracks to the marble around the black inset stars.	Resin fill fine cracks with resin/marble repair to prevent ingress of water.	Specialist Conservator	P3	Approx 0.5lin m	£350.00		
East elevation	Plinth/base	There is black ghosting to the marble plinth where black graffiti has been removed.	Poultice clean affected areas to remove last remnants of graffiti.	Specialist Conservator	P3	Approx 0.5m2	£150.00		
South elevation	Spire pinnacles	The marble forming the base of 2 spire pinnacles looks to be very friable and there are several hairline cracks through the marble.	Conservator to inspect marble surface and carry out consolidation of marble surfaces.	Specialist Conservator	P3	Item	£350.00	£450.00	
South elevation	Granite bowl	The underside of the granite bowl has spalling to the edge of the bowl where it abuts the marble base.	Conservator to remove loose granite and consolidate edge with granite/resin compound.	Specialist Conservator	P3	Item	£600.00		
South elevation	Granite pilaster (left side)	The shaft of the granite has light vertical fissures and pitting.	Conservator to consolidate and fill pitting and fissure with granite/resin compound.	Specialist Conservator	P3	Approx 0.2m2	£350.00		
South elevation	Bronze plaque	There is light green run off staining to marble under the plaque that will worsen over time.	Poultice clean marble to remove staining	Specialist Conservator	P4	Approx 0.2m2	£150.00		
West elevation	Plinth/base	There is an open fissure in the marble base.	Resin fill crack with resin/marble compound to prevent ingress of water.	Specialist Conservator	P3	Approx 0.5lin m	£350.00		
West elevation	Granite bowl	There is a slender sliver of fractured granite to the bowl edge.	Resin fix fractured piece of granite back into place and repoint with resin/granite compound.	Specialist Conservator	P3	Item	£350.00		
All elevations	Bowls and pedestal bases	There is white/grey limescale building up and staining the granite at the base of the pedestals and within the bowls which has been partially cleaned since previous survey	Conservator to poultice clean and repolish granite.	Specialist Conservator	P4		£450.00		
All elevations	Bronze spouts	There is iron staining to the white marble around the spout pipes and at top of basins	Poultice clean marble.	Specialist Conservator	P3	Approx 1m2	£150.00		
All elevations	Drinking fountains	The drinking fountains were not functioning during the survey.	Fountain specialist to carry out maintenance inspection and servicing on water system and drainage	Fountain Specialist	P3	Item	£3,000.00		
All elevations	Steps	There are open joint to the steps.	Point open joints.	Stonemason	P3	Approx 8lin m	£350.00		