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Horne-Trawick Mausoleum, Woodlawn Cemetery NYC

Annie Byrd Trawick Horne (1864 - 1951) commissioned the building of a mausoleum designed by The Presbrey-Leland Company at Woodlawn Cemetery, New York City, in 1923 after the death of her husband, Frederick Whitney Horne (1856 - 1921). The mausoleum holds their cremated remains as well as relatives of Annie Horne: her brother, Samuel Wilkins Trawick (1862 - 1947) and her sister-in-law, Minnie May Todd (1866 - 1922). The following is a biographical examination of the Hornes and the Trawicks and a historical report of architect Beverly S. King and their mausoleum designed by The Presbrey-Leland Company.

Horne - Trawick Biographical Background

Frederick Whitney Horne was born on March 30, 1856 in London, Ontario, Canada. At the age of eight, in 1864, he emigrated through Toronto to the United States and settled in Chicago.¹ He became a naturalized United States citizen at the age of twenty-seven through the Circuit Court of Cook County in Chicago, Illinois on April 2, 1883.² He worked for General Electric Co. and was involved in the construction of the intra-mural railway at the Chicago World's Fair in 1893.³

¹ Emergency Passport Application, September 4, 1919.

² Ibid.

³ Holland's Letter: Development of American Mercantile Interests in Japan; Methods that Should Be Adopted, Wall Street Journal, Nov 22, 1909.

Annie Byrd Trawick was born in Hawkinsville, Georgia in 1864 to parents J.W. Trawick (born circa 1825), a farmer, and H.B. Trawick (born circa 1840), a housekeeper.⁴ The family lived in Cedartown, Georgia.⁵ Annie married Frederick Whitney Horne in 1885. They lived primarily in Chicago before moving to Yokohama, Japan around 1895.⁶

Frederick was the founder of F.W.Horne Company, an exporter of American goods to Japan. He stated, “I was the first man to introduce American machinery into Japan. I stuck to one line of machinery and built my business up on American methods. We had branches in every city in the country. The American flag flew over each of our buildings.”⁷ F.W. Horne Company had headquarters in Yokohama, and offices and manufacturing plants in Tokyo, Osaka, Kobe, Kyoto, and Nagasaki.⁸ In recognition of his work, Horne received the Order of the Sacred Treasure from the Emperor of Japan in 1909.⁹

Frederick Horne also started a second company to import and then later manufacture music recorders and commercialize records.¹⁰ In 1910, his second company, the Nippon Phonograph Co. (later Nippon Columbia Co.) introduced four models of a “Nipponophone,” the first Japanese-made gramophone to the market. In addition, they released single-sided records and soon after, in 1914, double sided records. Their recording of Sumako Matsui's "Song of Katyusha" became a country-wide hit in 1914.¹¹ The record label, Nippon Columbia, is still active in producing music in Japan today.

⁴ 1880 Census: Year: 1880; Census Place: Cedartown, Polk, Georgia; Roll: 161; Page: 248A; Enumeration District: 169.

⁵ “Interesting Family Reunion Held at Cedartown During the Holidays.” *The Atlanta Constitution* (1881-1945), Jan 12, 1908.

⁶ Annie Byrd Trawick Horne Papers, Biographical Note, Cornell University Library.

⁷ “Japan Resident for 25 Years is Visitor,” *The Pasadena Post*, 4 Mar 1920.

⁸ “A Georgian’s Oriental Home,” *The Fort Worth Record and Register*, 17 May 1908.

⁹ “Decoration for F.W. Horne.” *NYTimes*, 10 November 1909, pg. 4.

¹⁰ Annie Byrd Trawick Horne Papers, Biographical Note, Cornell University Library.

¹¹ Nippon Columbia Co. “History.” Accessed October 4, 2023, <https://columbia.jp/company/en/corporate/history/>.



Top: Nipponophone, the first Japanese-made gramophone

Bottom: Nippon Chikuonki Shokai Factory around 1910

Images: Nippon Columbia Co. <https://columbia.jp/company/en/corporate/history/>
Denon, www.denon.com/en-za/blog/denon-110-year-anniversary-the-spirit-of-innovation



Photo: Annie Byrd Trawick Horne Papers, #8455. Division of Rare and Manuscript Collections, Cornell University Library.

After their international move in 1895, Frederick and Annie Horne built an extravagant home which became known as “Temple Court” in Yokohama, Japan. It was said to have been

fashioned after a Buddhist Temple. “It is red in color like the famous red lacquer and with its temple roof and its famous old temple gods as protectors. It is one of the showplaces of this part of the world.”¹² The house was destroyed in the Great Kanto Earthquake of 1923 which devastated Yokohama. The images that remain of the building reveal an extravagant house with equally flamboyant gardens which combined influences from both Eastern and Western architecture. The pagoda style roof has a dramatic slope with upturned ends and a dramatic overhang and below, a symmetrical array of windows with wooden shutters that would be at home in any traditional American colonial style house.



Photo: Annie Byrd Trawick Horne Papers, #8455. Division of Rare and Manuscript Collections, Cornell University Library.

The interiors were defined by extravagant carvings, lacquers and ornate architectural details. In the journal of John Holly Knapp, owner of Knapp, Stout and Lumber Co., he describes his travel to Yokohama and many visits to Temple Court as it was being commissioned by the

¹²“Georgia Girl is Mistress of Unique Oriental Home” *The Atlanta Constitution*, Apr 05, 1908.

Hornes. An entry by Knapp from March 3, 1903 states, "...saw some pieces of the fine old Temple he [Frederick W. Horne] has just bought, aged 129 years. It has been taken apart and he is going to use the interior finish for his new house."¹³ On April 6, 1903, Knapp writes again of viewing the old Temple and states the lacquer intending to be reused for Temple Court dates to the year 1000.¹⁴ With a bit less tact than Knapp's account, The Atlanta Constitution newspaper writes, "The Carving on the Woodwork in These Two Rooms Represents a Small Fortune."¹⁵ Temple Court was used for frequent entertainment of notable figures and in 1920 Frederick recounted, "Temple Court, my home in Yokohama, was the scene of many notable gatherings. During a visit of the Pacific fleet on one occasion, Mrs. Horne and I entertained fifty-eight of the officers."¹⁶



View of Parlor and Reception Hall. The Carving on the Woodwork in These Two Rooms Represents a Small Fortune.

Image: *The Atlanta Constitution* (1881-1945), Apr 05, 1908.

¹³ John H. Knapp diary: Type of reproduction--typescript printout. Holder of originals: John H. Knapp diary:--original held by the University Archives and Area Research Center, University of Wisconsin-Stout.

¹⁴Ibid.

¹⁵"Georgia Girl is Mistress of Unique Oriental Home" *The Atlanta Constitution*, Apr 05, 1908.

¹⁶"Japan Resident for 25 Years is Visitor," *The Pasadena Post*, Pasadena, CA, 4 Mar 1920.

In 1920, after twenty-five years in Japan, Frederick and Annie Horne returned to the United States and moved to Pasadena, California. They purchased a home at 1166 Hillcrest Avenue which was one of the largest real estate transactions in the area, having been reported on in *The Pasadena Post* on April 20, 1920. “Mr. Horne has been a world-wide traveler, having made about a half dozen trips around the world and his decision to make Pasadena his permanent home speaks well for the attractions of our city.”¹⁷ In similar fashion to their extravagant home and gardens in Yokohama, Frederick and Annie begin making their mark on their new home by purchasing 400-year-old sargo palms from Japan for their new terraced yard in Pasadena. The palms were grown in Japan and brought to the United States in 1915 for the San Francisco Exhibition, shipped to Long Island, and then shipped back to Pasadena to ultimately be transplanted at the Horne residence.¹⁸ In just over one year after moving to Pasadena, Frederick Horne passed away at age 65 on May 10, 1921. A service was held at All Saints Episcopal Church with a private cremation, the most common form of burial in Japan.¹⁹



Image: Frederick W. Horne, credit: Denon.com
www.denon.com/en-za/blog/denon-110-year-anniversary-the-spirit-of-innovation

¹⁷ “F.W. Horne, Noted Importer, Buys Liestikow Home Here.” *The Pasadena Post*, 3 April 1920.

¹⁸ “400-Year-Old Trees Planted in Pasadena.” *The Pasadena Post*, 31 January 1921.

¹⁹ Vital Statistics - Horne Funeral Announcement, *The Pasadena Post*, 14 May 1921.

In the years following Frederick's death, Annie Trawick Horne was documented as traveling to Europe for pleasure. She resided at The Biltmore Hotel in New York City and Pasadena which she described as a winter residence on a passport form in 1924.²⁰ She died at age 87 on November 24, 1951, at her New York City residence, The Biltmore Hotel, 355 Madison Avenue.²¹ Sixteen months after her death, an estate sale was held to sell the many domestic possessions and furniture collections of Annie Horne at Coleman Galleries on East 56th Street in New York²².

Auction Sales—Furniture Auction Sales—Furniture

Coleman·GALLERIES
 160 East 56th St. New York 22.N.Y.
 AUCTION SALE in LOWER GALLERY

Thursday & Friday, March 13th & 14th at 12 Noon

ANTIQUE—VICTORIAN FURNITURE
 and REPRODUCTION

For the Estate of **ANNIE BYRD HORNE, part II**
 Sold by order of **IRVING MILLER and STOVAL W. TRAWICK, Executors;**
 TO CLOSE SEVERAL ESTATES and from other private sources

ORIENTAL ART OBJECTS
100 lots Silver—Sheffield and Silverplate
LINENS (some new and used)

Glassware - China - Paintings - Prints - Books
50 Rugs, Broadlooms and Scotch Chenilles
 Radios—Electrical Appliances—Household Embellishments

Exhibition: Wednesday, March 12th, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 WILLIAM J. COLEMAN and GEORGE J. ROEDIG, Auctioneers

Image: Antique - Victorian and Reproduction - Furniture for the Estate of Annie Byrd Horne, Part II, sold by Irving Miller and Stoval W. Trawick, New York Herald Tribune, March 10, 1952.

²⁰ "Affidavit of Inability to Present Previously Issued Passport," July 14, 1924.

²¹ Obituary 7 -- no title. 1951. The New York Times, Nov 26, 1951.

²² Classified ad 2 -- no title. 1952. New York Herald Tribune (1926-1962), Mar 10, 1952.

Horne - Trawick Mausoleum



Three decades prior to Annie's death in the summer of 1923, two years after the death of Frederick, Annie Horne commissioned The Presbrey-Leland Company to design and coordinate the building of a mausoleum at Woodlawn Cemetery in New York on Lot 15467 in the Whitewood Plot.²³ The general specification documents by Presbrey-Leland, dated October 10, 1923, call for the building of a mausoleum 15'4" wide at the buttresses, 12'-4" wide for the main

²³ Horne-Trawick Woodlawn Cemetery Folder, Avery Library, Columbia University.

building by 17'-9" depth, and 17'-2" total height. The structure was to be constructed entirely in fine-grained Barre or White Dummerston, Vermont granite from the Presbrey-Leland quarries. The floor was specified as 6 foot thick granite with top face polished and pitched ¼" to the front where it would meet an interior drain located at the doorway. The roof was to be composed of two sides and one ridge stone extending the full length of the building. The mortar was specified as one part white atlas cement and two parts clean, sharp crystal sand mixed with water.

The exposed interior was specified to be built of Alabama cream marble with a highly polished finish. Six interior niches under an altar were laid out for cinerary urns and were built from dark Pennsylvania ribbon slate. The marble slabs were to be anchored to the granite structure by brass anchors and dowels. The interior dimensions are 9'-4" wide by 9' deep with a ceiling height of 9'-5" with a cove extending to 10' at the ceiling apex. The front has double-cast bronze doors from a Presbrey-Leland design hung on cast hinges which swing outward. The doors have a grille front with heavy plate-glass panels to prevent the entrance of rain water. There are ten exterior bronze vents set into the granite facade. Three stained-glass windows were furnished with the subject matter selected by Annie Horne, set to cost no more than \$625. There are no further details on the origin or artist responsible for the stained-glass, nor were there signatures visible on the glass.

While appearing quite typical from the exterior with a classical front facade with doric pilasters in granite, the Horne Trawick mausoleum is distinct in plan as it responds to the need for cremation storage in a columbarium rather than a large sarcophagus or multiple sarcophagi. Upon entrance through the bronze double doors, the Alabama cream marble interior is open and spacious as compared with other mausoleums of similar scale. On the left is an altar with six

niches for cremated remains below and opposite, on the right, is a marble seat. The altar and niche are each set beneath narrow stained-glass windows, one of lilies and one of poppies. The center space, approximately 9'-4" wide by 9' deep with a ceiling height of 9'-5" is open. Set within the far wall opposite the entry doors is a stained-glass window with biblical iconography from the book of Revelations: an illuminated Jesus figure floats with seven stars surrounding his right hand and seven candles. Below the figure is a Doric temple. Flanking the bronze doors are two interior closet areas. The closet on the right has been finished with a white marble niche box and shelf which remains empty. On the left, the closet space has been left unfinished, or the marble finishing has been removed in the time since construction in 1923.

At the time of inspection in October 2023, precisely 100 years since the structure was completed, the Horne Trawick Mausoleum demonstrates the need for maintenance attention. Above the structure a large oak tree is overgrown and has engulfed the roof with branches resting directly on top of the granite. Additionally, the shade caused by the tree is exacerbating the biological growth and efflorescence present on the facade, limiting sunlight and its positive drying effects. There are cracking joints at the roof line which needs repointing and may perhaps be the cause for the presence of interior water. The interior marble wall and ceiling slabs are heavily stained by water indicating leaks. There is biological and mold growth paired with a heavy musty smell. On one occasion after a heavy rain, a large water puddle collected on the floor at the far wall beneath the stained-glass. The architects intended for a sloped floor beginning at this location, tilting down to the front drainage location near the front doors, but water collection has overwhelmed the engineering.

Beverly S. King: A Curious Addition



Images: Architectural Works of Beverly S. King

Left: Perspective View rendering of the Engineers' Club Building (Whitfield & King, Architects, New York, 1905), National Register of Historic Places. National Park Service.

Right: 55 East 90th Street, Andrew Carnegie's garage. "Streetscapes: Andrew Carnegie Was Here." *The New York Times*, New York, NY, March 1, 2012.

Within the Horne Trawick mausoleum files held at Avery Library at Columbia University there are two letters of correspondence between architect Beverly S. King (1879 - 1935) and Woodlawn Cemetery dated to 1923. Outside of these two letters, there is no evidence of architectural design work by King on the mausoleum but it is clear he had some involvement

with the coordination of building the structure and a connection to Annie Trawick Horne. On October 26, 1923 he writes on company letterhead to Woodlawn:

We are advised by the Presbrey-Leland Company that we will not be able to erect the Horne-Trawick Mausoleum this year. They tell us that they have been urging you to complete the foundations this fall. Inasmuch as they do not intend to build the mausoleum until next year, we would prefer not having the foundations put up this fall.

We have taken the matter up with the owners and they have asked us to write you to this effect.

Perhaps Beverly S. King was engaged with Mrs. Horne on another architectural job concurrent with the erection of the mausoleum at Woodlawn and asked to help facilitate a second job?

Beverly King was the architect of several buildings in New York City under his firm Whitfield & King and later the eponymously named Beverly S. King. Some of the notable buildings include 55 East 90th Street, a two-story concrete and marble automobile house for Andrew Carnegie in 1904, 223-225 West 123rd Street, a five-story police station building in 1912, and 23 West 39th Street, won in a design competition for The Engineers' Club in 1913.²⁴ King worked as an architect in New York City until moving to Washington D.C. in 1933, where he worked for the Depression Era NRA until his death in 1935.²⁵

²⁴ Metrohistory.com permit Search, "Beverly King" and "Whitfield & King"

²⁵ "NRA Aid is Struck by Auto and Killed." *Daily News*, New York, NY. March 5, 1935.