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The Creighton Mausoleum

Woodlawn Cemetery, founded in 1863, was designed as an accessible alternative to Green-Wood Cemetery. By the early 1900s, it spanned 400 acres, offering ground burials, crypts, and niches, and featured a richly planted arboretum that served as an urban wildlife sanctuary.

Through a combination of fees, investments, and a carefully managed trust fund, Woodlawn maintains its financial stability, due to required endeavors of maintenance and preservation, which are constantly occurring to maintain the structural narratives of prominent architects and designers housed in the cemetery as well as a reflection of buried.

The cemetery also served as a gathering place. It provided public services, organised memorial ceremonies, and influenced urban design during the progressive era, which placed strong emphasis on public parks and democratic memorial areas. In addition to being a burial ground, Woodlawn Cemetery had a complex organisational structure. By fusing architectural innovation, ecological preservation, and community involvement.¹

¹ Streeter, Edward. *The Story of The Woodlawn Cemetery*. New York: Woodlawn Press, 1925.

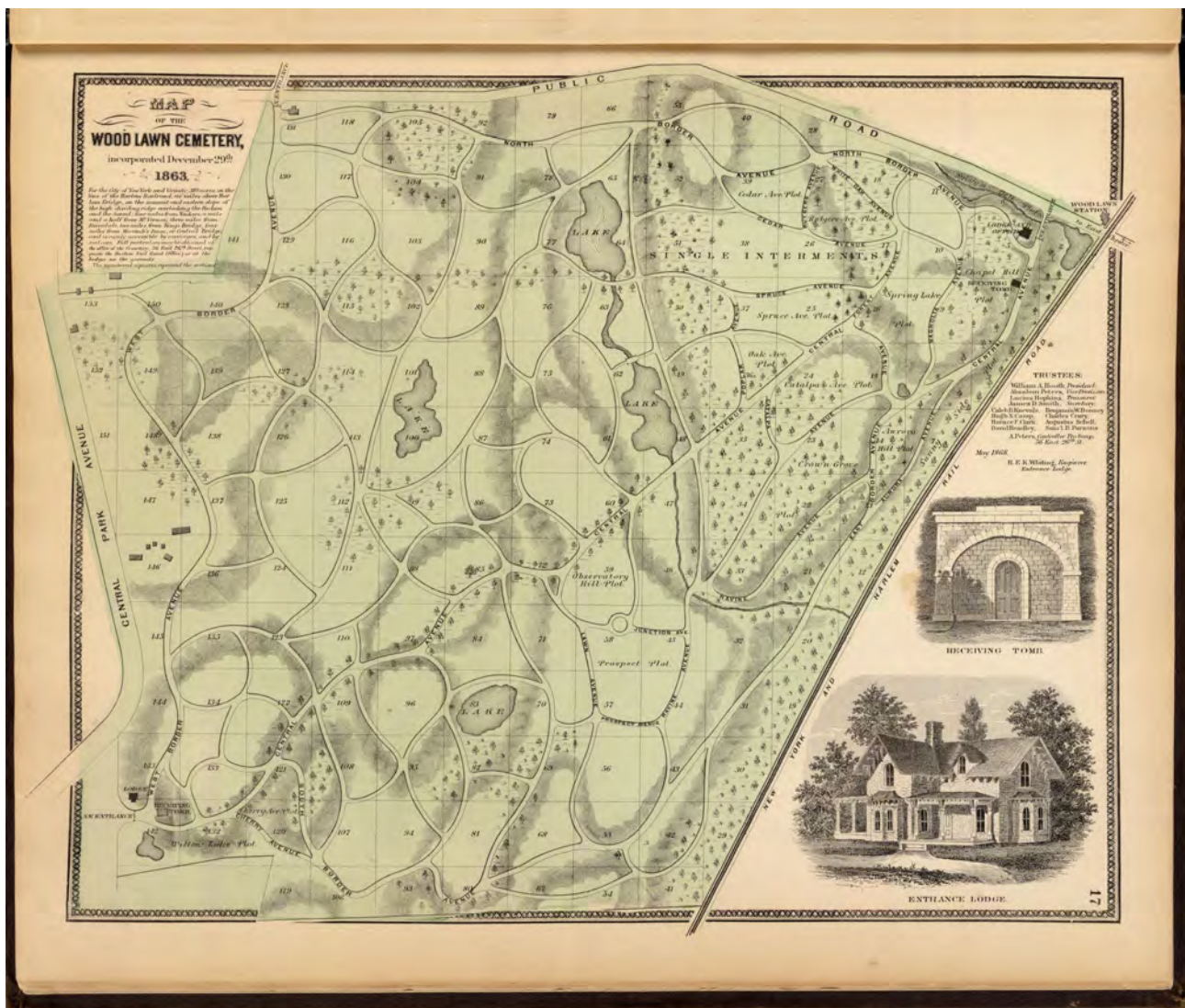


Fig. 1, Map of Woodlawn Cemetery. ²

Today, Woodlawn continues to evolve in its significance. It stands as a genealogical spatial archive, a reflection of societal morphosis, and an imprint of time. Within this urban archive, the Creighton family mausoleum stands as a capstone to their narrative of social and geographic mobility.

² F. W. Beers, *Map of the Woodlawn Cemetery, incorporated December 29th, 1863, in Atlas of New York and vicinity from actual surveys by and under the direction of F.W. Beers, assisted by A.B. Prindle & others* (New York: Beers, Ellis, & Soule, 1868), 17, David Rumsey Historical Map Collection, <https://www.davidrumsey.com/luna/servlet/detail/RUMSEY8121175610004>.

Biography of the Creightons.

Allan Creighton was born on 19 October 1865 in Canada, his early years shaped by movement and resettlement. In 1877, he emigrated to the United States with his parents, Thomas H. Creighton and Adelia Taylor, before the family eventually established itself in Albany, New York. Nearly two decades after their arrival, Allan and his wife, Emma, welcomed their only child, Arylene Charles Creighton, born in New Haven, Connecticut, in 1895.

Fig. 2, Census Data of Allan Creighton.1930 ³

[illegible]

³ "1930 United States Federal Census - AncestryLibrary.Com." 1930; Census Place: Manhattan, New York, New York; Page: 12A; Enumeration District: 0860; FHL microfilm: 2341298.

Between the late 1900s and early 1910s, the Creightons moved to Riverside Drive in the 12th Ward. Allan worked as a household-goods manager, providing the family's main income. Their socioeconomic status was solidly middle-class. A later move to 15 Claremont Avenue in Morningside Heights reflected an upward economic trajectory enabled by Allan's employment. Emma held no professional occupation.^{4 5} Allan remained the head of the household until his death on November 16, 1940, in Manhattan. At that time, he lived in his final residence at 15 Claremont Ave, Manhattan, New York.

Deaths

BUTTRICK—Suddenly, at Memorial Hospital, N. Y. C., Nov. 17, George H., son of Charles and Polly Warren, brother of Conant Sawyer and the late Wallace Buttrick. Services private.

CHICHESTER—Howard, at his residence, Westchester Country Club, Rye, N. Y., Sunday, Nov. 17, 1940, husband of the late Fanny Chichester, beloved father of Charlotte C. Wallace and grandfather of Howard C. Wallace. Funeral services Tuesday, Nov. 19, 1940, at 11 a. m. at Church of St. Gregory the Great, Harrison, N. Y. Interment Green-Wood Cemetery, Brooklyn, N. Y.

CREIGHTON—Allan, on Nov. 16, 1940, at his home, 15 Claremont av., beloved husband of Emma H. Creighton and father of Mrs. Wesley F. Sheffield. Funeral services at Frank E. Campbell, "The Funeral Church," Inc., Madison av. at 81st, Tuesday, Nov. 19, at 2 p. m.

Fig. 3, Obituary of Allan

*Creighton.*⁶

⁴ New York State Archives; Albany, New York; State Population Census Schedules, 1905; Election District: E.D. 01; City: Albany Ward 15; County: Albany; Page: 13

⁵ 1910; Census Place: Manhattan Ward 12, New York, New York; Roll: T624_1027; Page: 17a; Enumeration District: 0725; FHL microfilm: 1375040

⁶ "Deaths (4)." New York Herald Tribune (1926-1962), Nov 18, 1940. <https://ezproxy.cul.columbia.edu/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/deaths-4/docview/1257622913/se-2>.

When Arylene, Allan's daughter, was 27, she married Wesley Fayette Sheffield,⁷ a Brooklyn-born bank manager and veteran of both World War I and II.⁸ The couple lived with Arylene's parents at their New York residence.⁹ Wesley served as an assistant secretary for a trust company as recorded in an obituary in the New York Herald Tribune on February 15, 1946, which emphasized that he held the position of Assistant Secretary at the Manufacturers Trust Company. He had also served in the same capacity at the Brooklyn Trust Company. This affirms his long career in the trust banking sector. Sheffield was 49 years old at the time of his death. He passed away at his residence on Claremont Avenue.

Wesley F. Sheffield

**Was an Assistant Secretary of the
Brooklyn Trust Company**

Wesley F. Sheffield, forty-nine, an assistant secretary of Brooklyn Trust Company, 177 Montague Street, Brooklyn, died Wednesday at his home, 15 Claremont Avenue.

Mr. Sheffield was associated with the bank for thirty-two years, and from 1933 to 1940 was in charge of offices in the Flatbush region. He had been assigned to the company's main office since 1940.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Arylene C. Sheffield; a daughter, Miss Muriel A. Sheffield; a son, Allan C. Sheffield, and three sisters, Mrs. G. B. Tulber, Mrs. L. Kennedy and Miss Jane Sheffield.

Fig. 4, Obituary of

*Wesley F. Sheffield. 1946*¹⁰

⁷ New York City Municipal Archives; New York, New York; Borough: Manhattan; Volume Number: 2

⁸ United States, Selective Service System. World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration. M1509, 4,582 rolls. Imaged from Family History Library microfilm.

⁹ New York State Archives; Albany, New York; State Population Census Schedules, 1925; Election District: 02; Assembly District: 13; City: New York; County: New York; Page: 14

¹⁰ "Wesley F. Sheffield: Was an Assistant Secretary of the Brooklyn Trust Company." 1946., Feb 15 New York Herald Tribune (1926-1962), 1. <https://ezproxy.cul.columbia.edu/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/wesley-f-sheffield/docview/1291129081/se-2>.

Fig. 5, Wesley F Sheffield in the U.S., World War I Draft Registration Cards. 1917-1918 ¹¹

REGISTRATION CARD No. 35

1 Name in full *Wesley F. Sheffield* Age in yrs *21*

2 Name *391 Lewis Ave Brooklyn NY*

3 Date of birth *March 15 1896*

4 Are you (1) a natural born citizen; (2) a naturalized citizen; (3) an alien; (4) do have you declared your intention (specify which)? *Natural born citizen*

5 Where were you born? *Brooklyn NY*

6 If not a citizen, of what country are you a citizen or subject?

7 What is your present trade, occupation, or office? *Candy Clerk 76 Brooklyn Trust Co*

8 By whom employed? *177 Montague St Bklyn*

9 Have you a father, mother, wife, child under 12, or a sister or brother under 12, solely dependent on you for support (specify which)? *No*

10 Married or single (which)? *Single* Race (specify which)? *American*

11 What military service have you had? Rank *None*

12 Do you claim exemption from draft (specify grounds)? *No*

I affirm that I have verified above answers and that they are true.

Wesley F. Sheffield

REGISTRAR'S REPORT 31-9-31-A

1 Tall, medium, or short (specify which)? *Medium* Slender, medium, or stout (which)? *Medium*

2 Color of eyes? *Brown* Color of hair? *Black* Bald?

3 Has person lost arm, leg, hand, foot, or both eyes, or is he otherwise disabled (specify)? *No*

I certify that my answers are true, that the person registered has read his own answers, that I have witnessed his signature, and that all of his answers of which I have knowledge are true, except as follows:

James H. Tracy (Signature of registrar)

Precinct *155*

City or County *Brooklyn*

State *NY* *June 5, 17* (Date of registration)

(449)
1173

Following Arylene's marriage in 1924,¹² the Creightons began to consider their legacy. Their desire to commemorate their lineage materialized in a purpose-built mausoleum on Lot No. 17079.

Detailed design correspondences and engineering revisions were exchanged with Woodlawn Cemetery officials in September 1931 as part of this effort.¹³

¹¹ United States, Selective Service System. *World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration. M1509, 4,582 rolls. Imaged from Family History Library microfilm.

¹² New York City Municipal Archives; New York, New York; Borough: Manhattan; Volume Number: 2

¹³ Creighton, Allan; Major Monuments File. *Creighton Mausoleum*. Woodlawn Cemetery Records. Avery Drawings & Archives. Columbia University. New York, NY.

The process of the Creighton Mausoleum

Around 1931, the Creighton family purchased Lot No. 17079 in Woodlawn Cemetery (Park View Avenue, Section 136/137), nearly a decade before Allan's death. The Record of Interments names Allan and his wife, Emma, as the owners of the plot. Within the mausoleum, four family members are listed: Allan Creighton (death, November 16, 1940), Emma H. Creighton (death, March 20, 1952), their son-in-law Wesley F. Sheffield (death, May 29, 1946), and their daughter Arylene Sheffield (death, August 1, 1973).

Fig. 6, Creighton Family, Record of Interments. 1973¹⁴

Lot No. 17079	Plot Park View	Sec. 136/137
Lot Owner R. Allen Creighton and Emma H., his wife	Deed No. 29234	26,709 Area 2340

Record of Interments

Catb. 1-Allen Creighton, 77 yrs 163759 11/16/40 *request # 2891*

" 3-Wesley F. Sheffield, 49 yrs 178159 2/13/46 *29/36 - 25,200*

" 2- Emma H. Creighton, 75 yrs 3/20/52 194696 *Key 968*

" 4-Arylene Sheffield, 79 yrs 248734 8/1/73 Zinc Liner

21963 - 8/17/73
Form 152 2000 4-29

Catbs 7'-8 X 33" X 27"

The diagram shows a cross-section of the mausoleum with two columns. The top floor is labeled 'Top' and contains columns 2 and 1. The bottom floor is labeled 'floor' and contains columns 3 and 4. The overall dimensions are 7'-8 X 33" X 27".

¹⁴ Creighton, Allan; Major Monuments File. Creighton Mausoleum. Woodlawn Cemetery Records. Avery Drawings & Archives. Columbia University. New York, NY.

The mausoleum project was approved by the management of Woodlawn Cemetery, designed and built by H. K. Peacock Memorials, Inc., and funded and managed by Allan and Emma Creighton. A Special Care Fund, which paid for upkeep, landscaping, and construction, guaranteed its preservation.¹⁵

The New York-based company H. K. Peacock Memorials, Inc., which had offices at 745 Fifth Avenue, advertised itself as "designers and builders" of mausoleums and monuments. William Shephard, the firm's representative, submitted design drawings and specifications in correspondences with Woodlawn officials. Superintendent John C. Plumb approved the final submission, while William Schneider, the cemetery's general manager, examined and approved the project's budget and cost estimates.¹⁶

¹⁵ Creighton, Allan; *Major Monuments File. Creighton Mausoleum. Woodlawn Cemetery Records. Avery Drawings & Archives. Columbia University. New York, NY.*

¹⁶ Creighton, Allan; *Major Monuments File. Creighton Mausoleum. Woodlawn Cemetery Records. Avery Drawings & Archives. Columbia University. New York, NY.*

Fig. 7, H.K. Peacock Memorials, Advertisement. 1936¹⁷Fig. 8, Creighton Mausoleum, H.K. Peacock Memorials, Correspondence. 1931¹⁸

PLAZA 3-8181

SCARSDALE 482

H. K. PEACOCK MEMORIALS, INC.
DESIGNERS AND BUILDERS
MONUMENTS - MAUSOLEUMS
745 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK, N. Y.

September 22, 1931

Woodlawn Cemetery
233rd and Webster Ave.
New York City

Gentlemen:

We are inclosing the foundation plan for the Creighton mausoleum together with a permit for its installation.

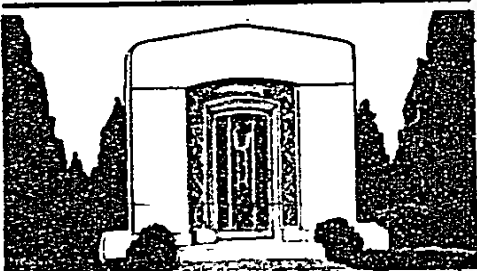
Please be advised that the location, as shown on the blue print forwarded us with your letter of August 15th, meets with our approval.

Thanking you, we are

Very truly yours,
H. K. Peacock Memorials, Inc.
US:HH.
William Sheppard

Incorrect

*Rec'd
Sept 23-1931
JES*



AN UNUSUAL OFFER
This beautifully designed mausoleum for erection in the best restricted section of Kensico — effectively landscaped — is offered complete with plot at a remarkably low price. Call or write for details.
Interesting folder on memorials on request.

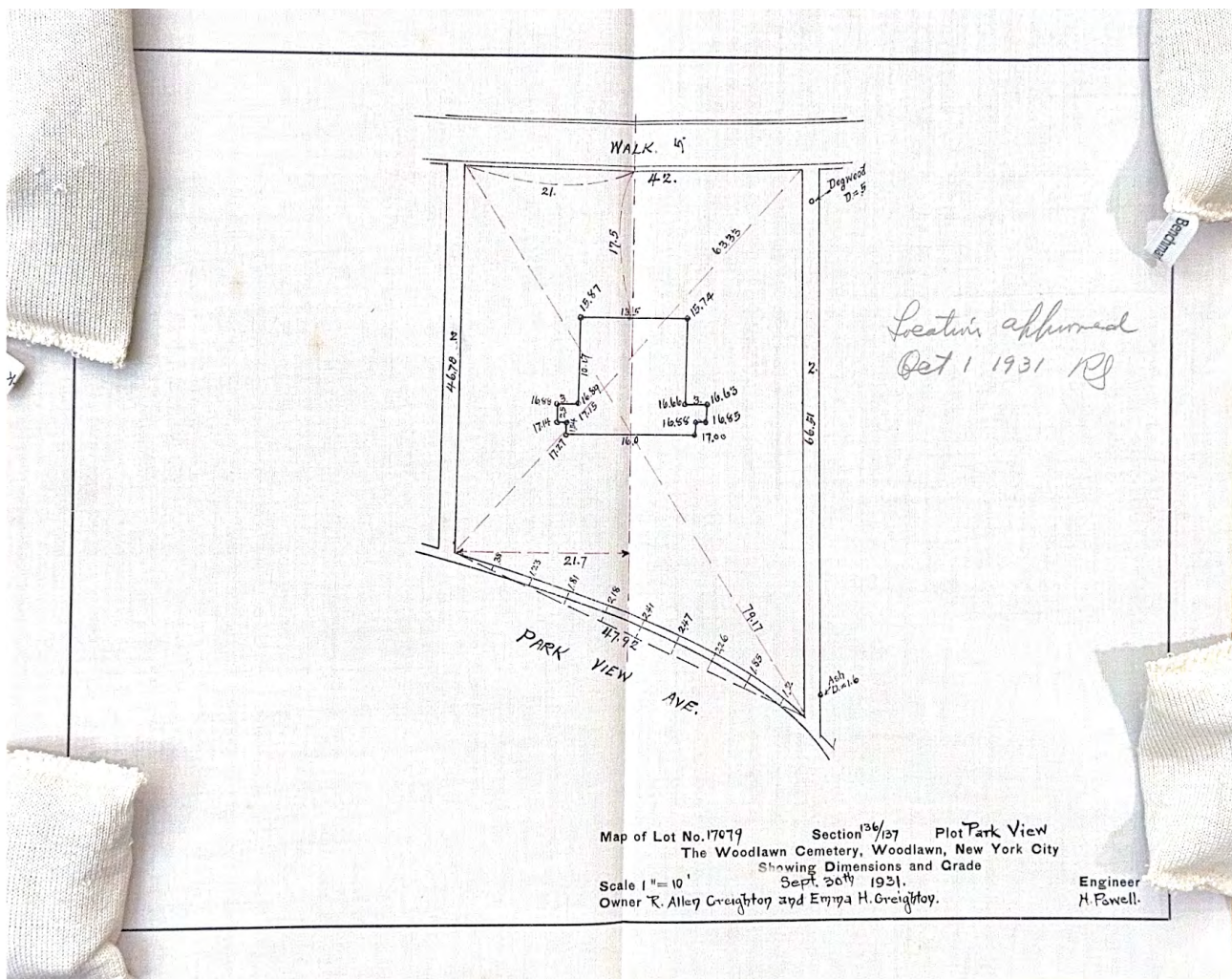
H·K·PEACOCK-MEMORIALS Inc.
MONUMENTS
MAUSOLEUMS
745 FIFTH AVE., Plaza 3-8181 NEW YORK
Kensico Studios; Valhalla, N. Y.
Telephone: White Plains 3240

¹⁷ "Display Ad 111 -- no Title." 1936. Oct 04 New York Times (1923-), 1. <https://ezproxy.cul.columbia.edu/login?url=https://www.proquest.com/newspapers/display-ad-111-no-title/docview/101729442/se-2>.

¹⁸ Creighton, Allan; Major Monuments File. Creighton Mausoleum. Woodlawn Cemetery Records. Avery Drawings & Archives. Columbia University. New York, NY.

The structural survey identifies H. Powell as the project engineer, responsible for the foundation calculations. The design itself was executed internally by H. K. Peacock Memorials rather than commissioned from an independent architect.

Fig. 9, Creighton Mausoleum, Structural Survey Map. 1931 ¹⁹

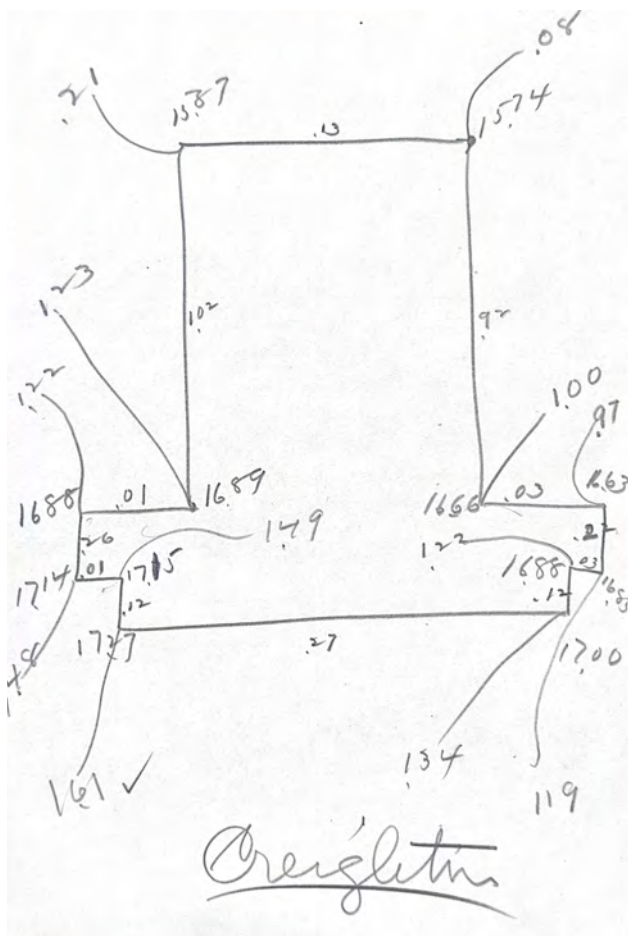


¹⁹ Creighton, Allan; Major Monuments File. Creighton Mausoleum. Woodlawn Cemetery Records. Avery Drawings & Archives. Columbia University. New York, NY.

The procedure was broken down into multiple documented steps, including purchasing the lot and signing the deed; submitting the original foundation plan and design to the cemetery; and then revising it after Allan mistook the walk for the avenue, necessitating a placement modification.

Fig. 10, Creighton Mausoleum, Allan Creighton, Design Sketch. 1931 ²⁰

Fig. 11, H.K. Peacock Memorials Inc, Correspondence. 1931 ²¹



Sept 26-31
Mr. Storrs:-
In re: Creighton Mausoleum
On Sept 23- a letter dated Sept 22nd was received with foundation plan. This letter as you will see, states that the blue print location & grade which was sent to him is correct and he approves it, mistaking the walk for the Avenue and would get no hot he thought was a top finish for the foundation. Of course nothing fitted and from telephone on the 24th he came up to day and learning the conditions, said that you knew it was to front west and that you and he agreed on a location he thinks about 15' from the rear line. You will see there were never our exceptions as per pad sheet #1 and the tomb examination sheet. So he has taken all the plans back for revisions and after you have called him up, will revise everything as you two may agree.
J.H.P.

²⁰ Creighton, Allan; Major Monuments File. Creighton Mausoleum. Woodlawn Cemetery Records. Avery Drawings & Archives. Columbia University. New York, NY.

²¹ Creighton, Allan; Major Monuments File. Creighton Mausoleum. Woodlawn Cemetery Records. Avery Drawings & Archives. Columbia University. New York, NY.

The process resumed after the approval of the design by the cemetery's engineer and superintendent; the approved examination sheet, orthographic set, and construction requirements reveal details of the exterior stone envelope of 10-inch ashlar with a "fine hammered" finish; installation of interior finishes, such as polished granite floor, marble walls, and catacomb shelves. The exterior's Corinthian columns, and foundation plan all suggest a Neoclassical style common to cemetery monuments from the early 20th century.

The Woodlawn Cemetery, Woodlawn, N. Y. City.

MAUSOLEUMS, MONUMENTS, ETC.

Examination Sheet.

Order No. _____

Date Sept 23 1931

Owner R. Allen Creighton

Lot No. 17079

Deed No. 29234

Plot Park View

Section 136, 137

Architect H. K. Beardsley

Contractor _____

Bill to _____

Order from owner Yes

Full dup. plans and spec. 100 ft. plan

Approximate size 12' wide x 10' deep

Size of lot 42' wide x 10' deep

Location on Lot front 20' from center of front lot

Adjacent lots _____

General design satisfactory Yes

Adjusted to grade _____

Material of foundation Base

Mortar for rubble _____

Concrete proportions 1-4-7

Brand of cement _____

Depth of foundation 6'

Thickness of foundation walls 16"

Elevation of finish of foundation _____

Platform and tomb walls satisfactory Yes

Excavation and fill of center 3' deep

Class and quarry of ashlar Barry

Thickness of ashlar 10"

Finish of ashlar fine hammered

Roof construction satisfactory Yes

Lugs on pediments no - on flat

Frieze one piece

Doors _____

Dowels and cramps _____

Tie rods _____

Material and thickness of floor polished granite

Support of floor marble & granite walls

Interior finish marble

Thickness of same _____

Ventilation Yes

Space for interments, doors open Yes

Catacombs:

Size 7'6" x 2'6" x 2'6" x 2'6"

Shelves 2" plate

Ends 2" plate

Backs 1" "

Sides _____

Tablets 1" marble

Vertical stiles _____

Rails stone

Rails rabbeted to rest on slate shelves _____

Support of rails at ends plate ends

Support of catacombs floor & main walls

Box in receiving tomb None

Floor of crypt below foundation finish _____

Crypt and surface water _____

Drainage _____

Diagram clear

Approximate quantities:

Earth exc. _____ cu. ft.

Rock exc. _____ cu. ft.

Cement rubble _____ cu. ft.

Concrete _____ cu. ft.

Brick masonry _____ cu. ft.

Approximate estimate \$ _____

Final bill \$ _____

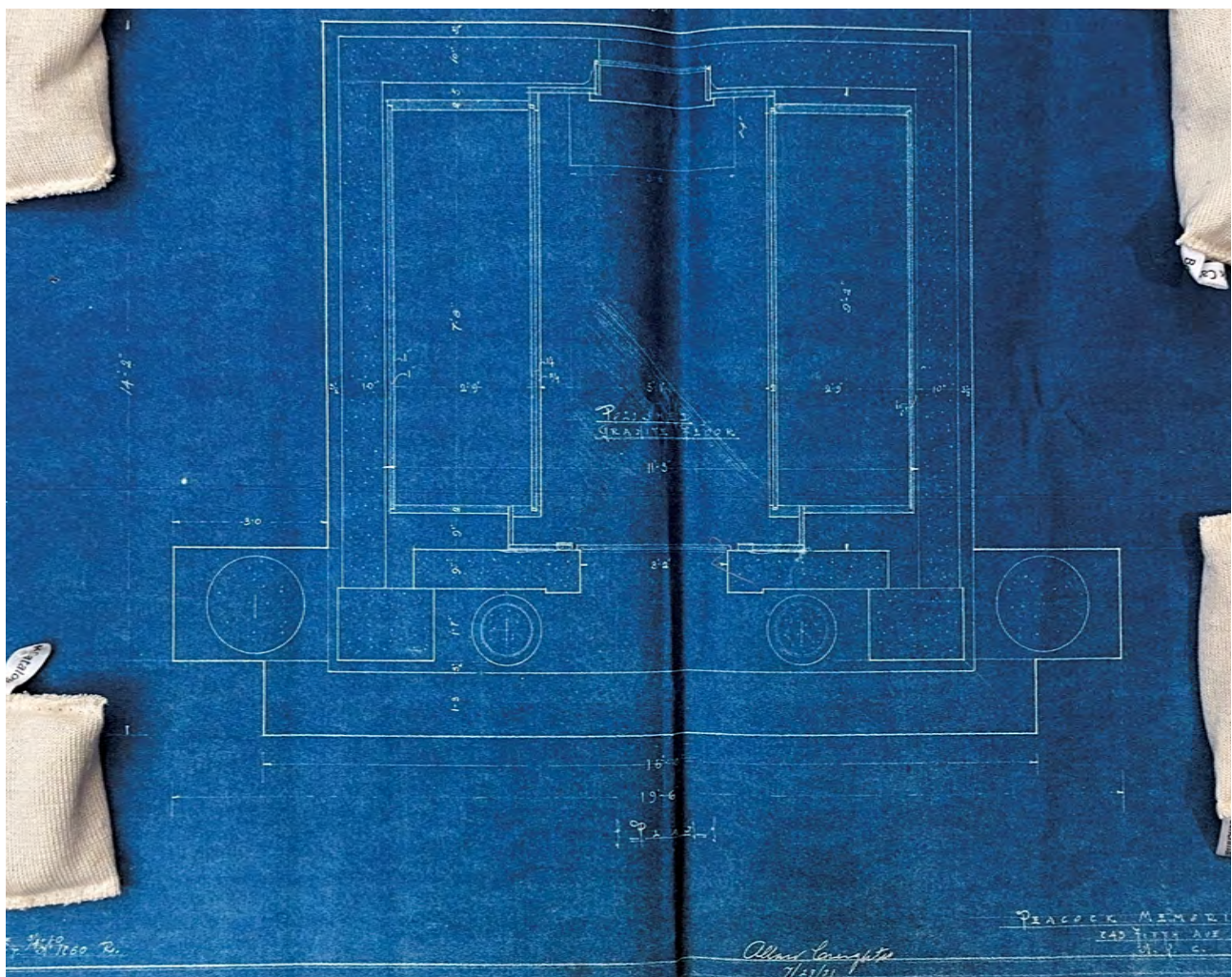
Time for completion _____ 10.

Fig. 12, Creighton Mausoleum, Examination Sheet. 1931²²

²² Creighton, Allan; Major Monuments File. Creighton Mausoleum. Woodlawn Cemetery Records. Avery Drawings & Archives. Columbia University. New York, NY.

The garden-crypt arrangement is shown by the catacombs that have shelves. This design, which is typical of family mausoleums from the era, has a central aisle leading to each burial chamber. The intention to incorporate the stone structure into a formal, year-round garden setting is further supported by the landscaping program, which featured mixed evergreens and azaleas.

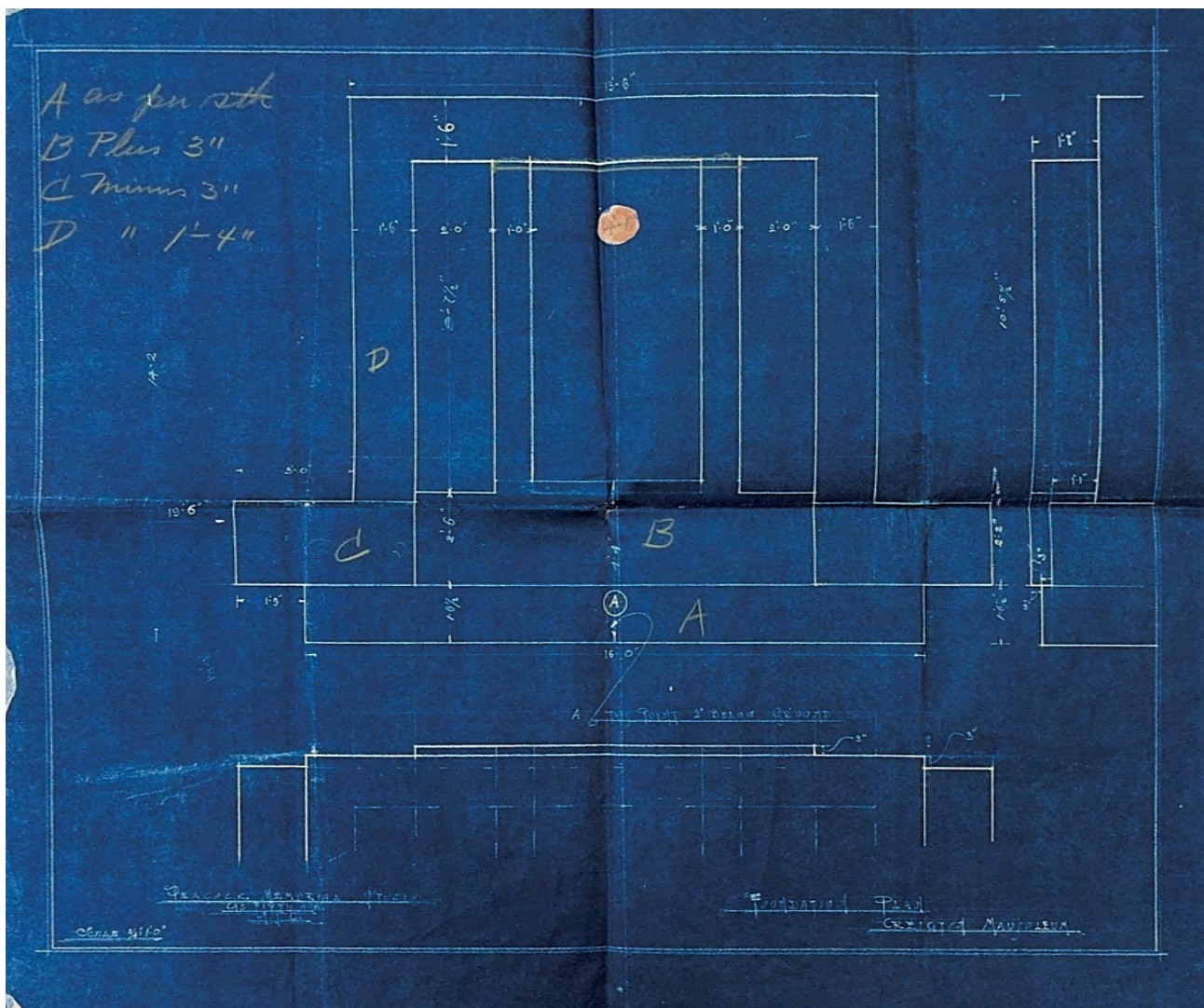
Fig. 13, Creighton Mausoleum, H.K. Peacock Memorials, Interior Floor Plan. 1931²³



²³ Creighton, Allan; Major Monuments File. Creighton Mausoleum. Woodlawn Cemetery Records. Avery Drawings & Archives. Columbia University. New York, NY.

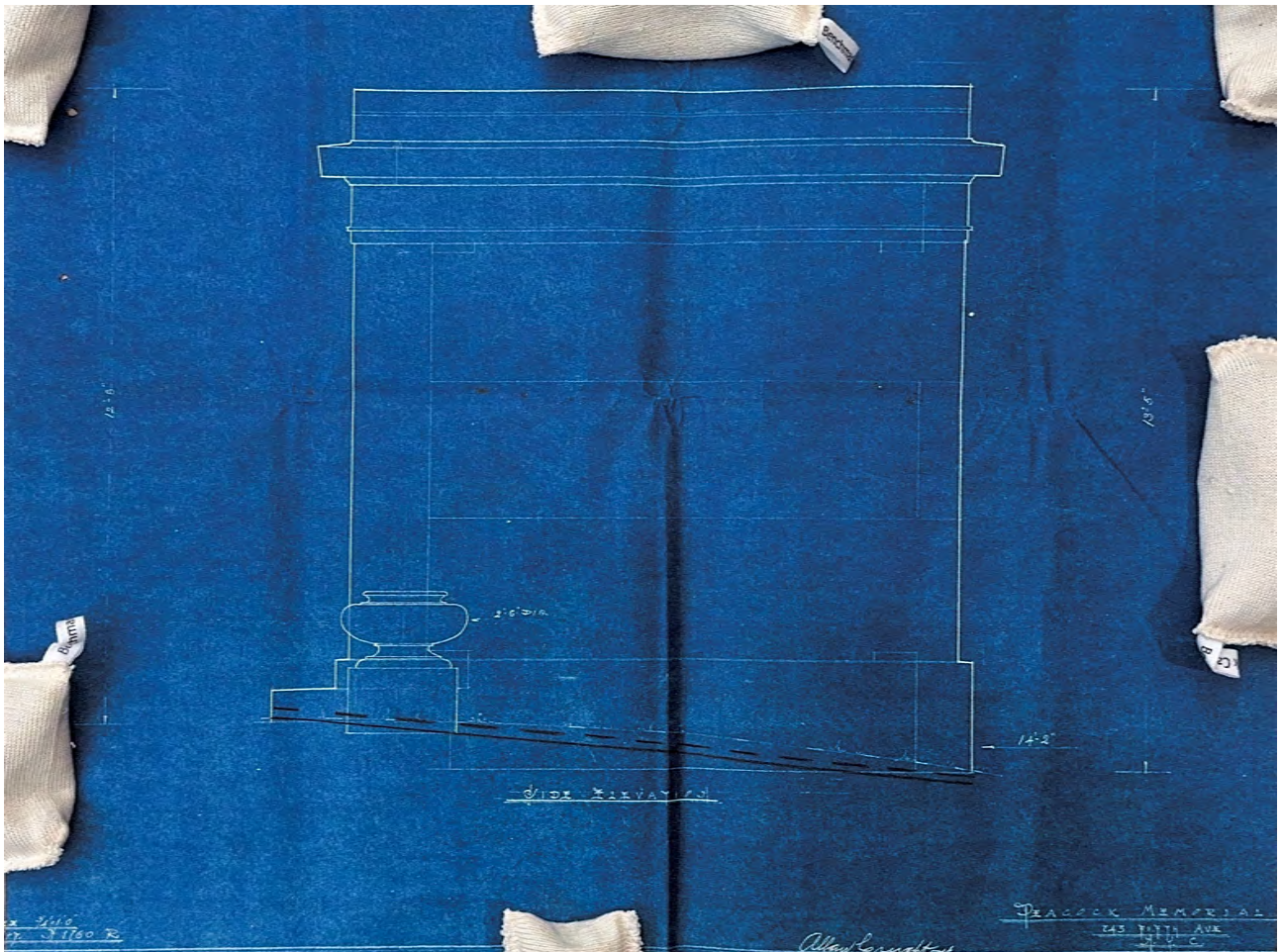
The detailed plans and specifications, including a foundation plan showcase grade lines and a top of footing, 2 ft below ground, concrete mix calculations, ashlar stone finish, marble wall thickness, and a polished granite floor.

Fig. 14, Creighton Mausoleum, H.K. Peacock Memorials, Foundation Plan. 1931²⁴



²⁴ Creighton, Allan; Major Monuments File. Creighton Mausoleum. Woodlawn Cemetery Records. Avery Drawings & Archives. Columbia University. New York, NY.

Fig. 15, Creighton Mausoleum, H.K. Peacock Memorials, Side Elevation (East) with grade line.
1931²⁵



²⁵ Creighton, Allan; Major Monuments File. Creighton Mausoleum. Woodlawn Cemetery Records. Avery Drawings & Archives. Columbia University. New York, NY.

Fig. 16, Creighton Mausoleum, H.K. Peacock Memorials Correspondence. 1931²⁶

1

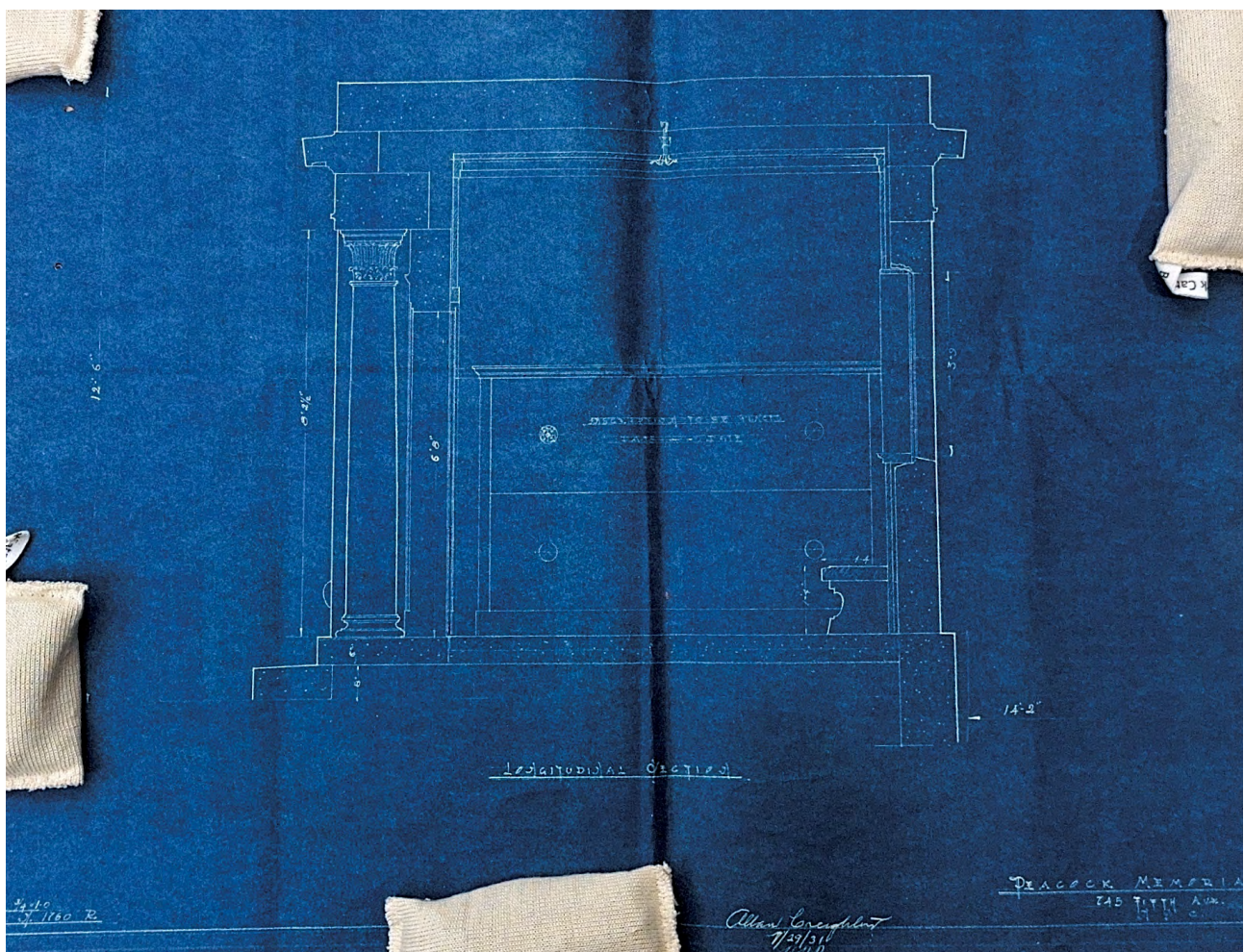
R. Allen Creighton Mausoleum

Send one full set of plans including foundation plan
 One full copy of specifications
 + Width of foundation plan sent to us. should
 be marked 19'-6" instead of 19'
 + Specifications to state whether concrete mix
 is to be (1-4-7) or (1-3-5) 14-7
 — also kind of granite and details of interior
 Foundations to show ^{exact} location of interior walls
 Kind of marble & thickness 2
 Read our regulations
 X Vertical stiles to be not less than 2" thick
 and 5" wide.
 X Interior finish to be not less than 2"
Doors
Fel
 Front
 Full Dwp. plans
 1 copy speci
 V. Stiles
 Int finish

²⁶ Creighton, Allan; Major Monuments File. Creighton Mausoleum. Woodlawn Cemetery Records. Avery Drawings & Archives. Columbia University. New York, NY.

Elevations display a central entryway adorned with Corinthian Columns. The mausoleum's proportions and inside catacomb shelves are described in detail in the longitudinal section. It is evident from these records that H.K. Peacock Memorials operated as a full-service supplier. In addition to providing comprehensive technical requirements, managing modifications, and keeping in constant contact with the Creightons and the cemetery's management, the firm oversaw the design, engineering, permitting, and construction of a Neoclassical mausoleum.

Fig. 17 Creighton Mausoleum, H.K. Peacock Memorials, Longitudinal Section. 1931²⁷



²⁷ Creighton, Allan; *Major Monuments File. Creighton Mausoleum. Woodlawn Cemetery Records. Avery Drawings & Archives. Columbia University. New York, NY.*

The “Special Care Fund” of the Creighton Mausoleum

Allan and Emma Creighton’s relationship with Woodlawn Cemetery reveals a sustained, hands-on concern for the appearance and permanence of their family mausoleum. In the spring of 1936, the couple established a “Special Care Fund” by sending a check for \$5,200 to be applied to the perpetual maintenance of Lot 17079 (the plot that holds their mausoleum). This initial endowment was meant to cover routine interior cleaning and minor exterior work, and the cemetery’s records explicitly note that the deposit was received and allocated for those purposes.

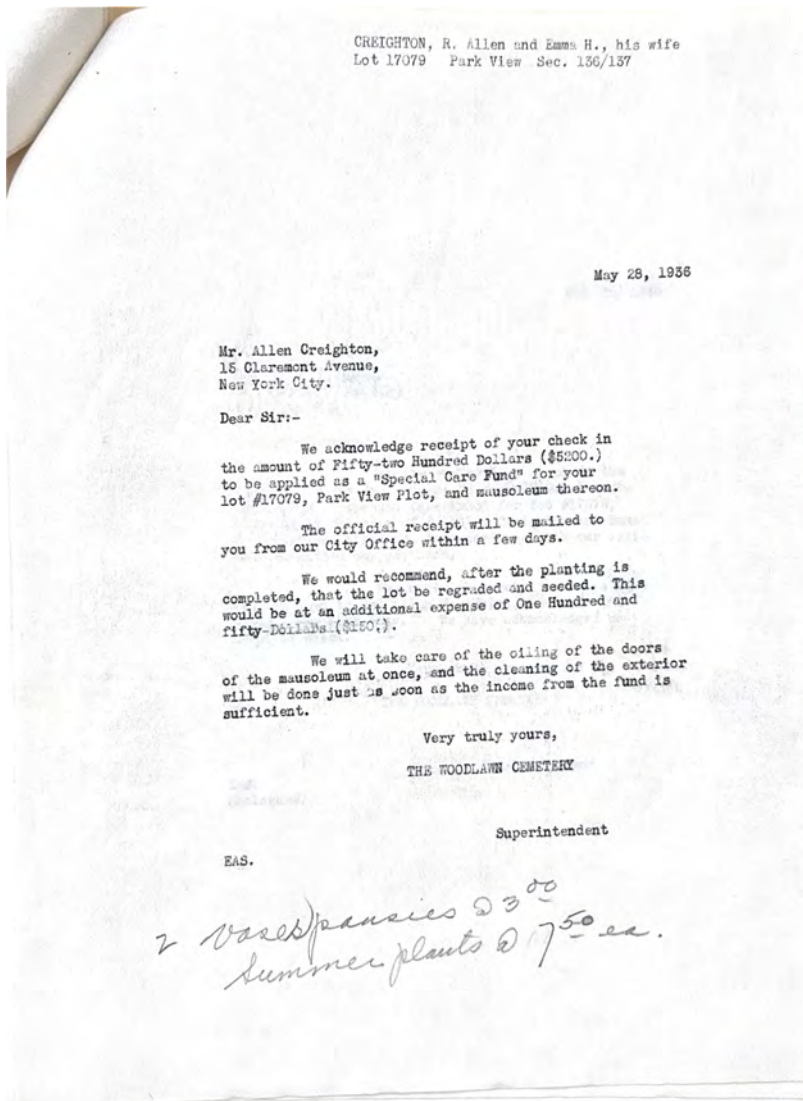
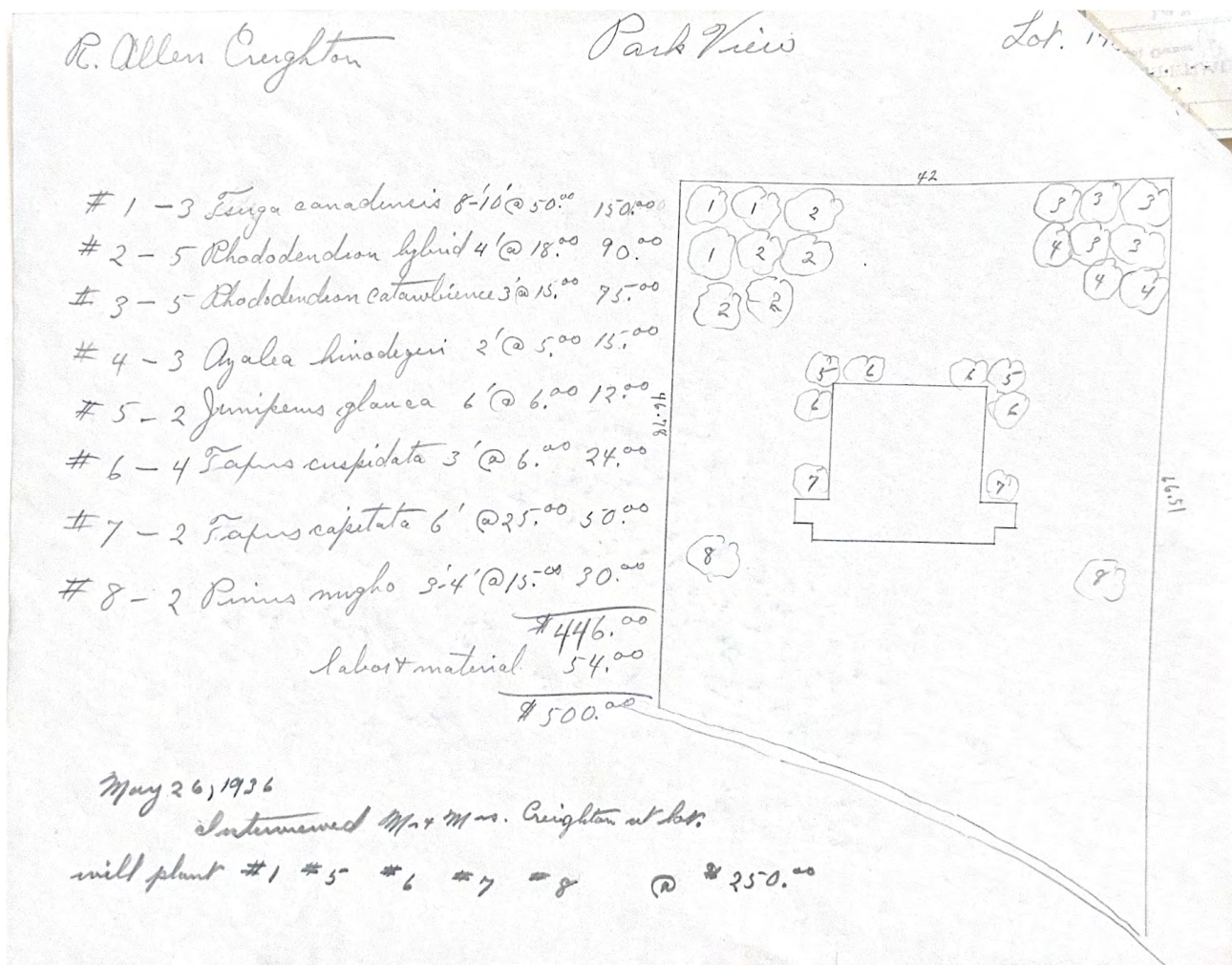


Fig. 18 Creighton Mausoleum, Woodlawn Cemetery, “Special Care Fund” Correspondence. 1936²⁸

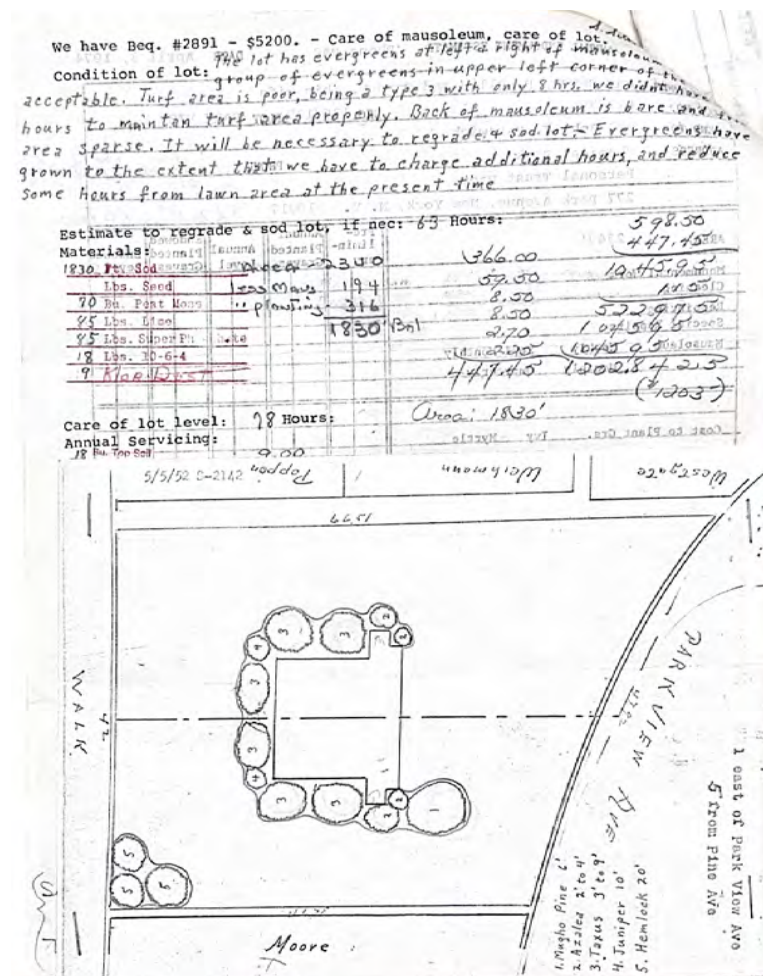
²⁸ Creighton, Allan; *Major Monuments File. Creighton Mausoleum. Woodlawn Cemetery Records. Avery Drawings & Archives. Columbia University. New York, NY.*

Fig. 19 Creighton Mausoleum, Allan Creighton, Landscaping Sketch. 1936²⁹

²⁹ Creighton, Allan; Major Monuments File. Creighton Mausoleum. Woodlawn Cemetery Records. Avery Drawings & Archives. Columbia University. New York, NY.

Throughout the late 1930s, the cemetery continued to propose larger horticultural and structural projects. In 1939, the staff presented a planting plan that would cost \$274. This sum exceeded the surplus available in the existing fund, prompting the Creightons to consider whether to defer some work until more income accrued. The same year, a separate estimate suggested a \$150 expense to re-grade and seed the lot after planting. This indicates that the terrain required periodic correction to remain level and presentable. These exchanges show that the Creightons were responsive to professional advice and prepared to allocate extra resources as needed.

Fig. 20 Creighton Mausoleum, Woodlawn Cemetery, Landscaping Proposal. 1936³⁰



³⁰ Creighton, Allan; Major Monuments File. Creighton Mausoleum. Woodlawn Cemetery Records. Avery Drawings & Archives. Columbia University. New York, NY.

The most significant development occurs in 1974. At that time, Woodlawn Cemetery presented a comprehensive reassessment of care needs after their deaths. The estimate called for a total fund of \$51,700. This comprised the original \$5,200 plus an additional \$46,500 to cover quarterly interior cleaning, interior and exterior repairs, ongoing turf care, replacement of evergreens, and a reserve for future work. A separate line item of \$1,203 was required to re-grade and sod the entire lot. This reflected the long-term degradation of the terrain. The Creightons, through their trustee, John J. Hardwick of Chemical Bank's Personal Trust Department were asked to fund this increase, indicating that the family's estate remained actively involved in the financial stewardship of the mausoleum decades after Allan's death.

Taken together, these correspondences portray Allan and Emma Creighton as a couple who, despite modest means, invested continuously in the preservation and aesthetic presentation of their family's final resting place.

Fig. 20 Creighton Mausoleum, Woodlawn Cemetery, comprehensive reassessment of care needs.
1974³¹

/ANNUAL ENDOWMENT ESTIMATE Phone RAS DATE April 3, 1974

LOT OWNER		CREIGHTON, R. Allen and Emma H., his wife					
LOT NO.		#17079		SEC. 136/137 PLOT PARK VIEW			
SEND TO		Mr. John J. Hardwick					
ADDRESS		Chemical Bank		PHONE CC: <i>Gerald P. Malone</i>			
		Personal Trust Dept.		<i>180 E. 71st Rd</i>			
		277 Park Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10017		<i>White Plains NY 10601</i>			
AREA	2340'	Pre-liminary	Annual Planted Graves	Annual Level	Endowed Planted Graves	Endowed Level	
Monumental Work							
Cleaning							47.50
Repointing							161.50
Special Repairs							9.50
Mausoleum	Weekly Semi-Monthly						
	Monthly Quarterly						
				69.00			69.00
Cost to Plant Grs. Ivy Myrtle							
Repairing Graves							
Regrade & Seed or Sod Balance of Lot							
Regrade & Seed or Sod Entire Lot							
Care Graves Ivy Myrtle							
Care of Balance of Lot							
Care of Entire Lot				875.27			741.00
Care of Evergreen Planting Reserve				266.00			291.00
Borders Pansy Begonia							
Other Borders							
MATERIALS							23.00
Anniversary Decoration							
ADDITIONAL GRAVES							

Level - Quarterly Inc Cl.

44,750-
(20% - 34,750) 6,900-
51,700-
Less 5200-
(Less present fund of \$5200) 46,500-

Annual 1974

Calculation: 875.27
" evergreens 266.00
Quar Inc Cl. 69.00
Regrade, seed 1203.00
2413.27

³¹ Creighton, Allan; Major Monuments File. Creighton Mausoleum. Woodlawn Cemetery Records. Avery Drawings & Archives. Columbia University. New York, NY.

Creighton Mausoleum Spatial Analysis

The Neoclassical Monument of the Creighton Mausoleum is designed around a central rectangular mass framed by two Corinthian columns, a substantial lintel, and a low-sloped roof, features that are referential of early twentieth-century memorial architecture that sought an opulent, temple-like presence³² (see front-elevation drawing, Fig. 23, 1931).

Fig. 21 Creighton Mausoleum, Woodlawn Cemetery, Bronx, New York, NY. Photograph by Khaled Alanjery, October 2025.



³² Creighton, Allan; *Major Monuments File. Creighton Mausoleum. Woodlawn Cemetery Records. Avery Drawings & Archives. Columbia University. New York, NY.*

Over the past ninety-plus years the facade has suffered extensive weathering: the column capitals and shafts display deep holes and loss of the carving, while the horizontal moldings are rounded and softened by repeated thawing cycles and acid precipitation common in the New York climate. The photographs taken in October 2025 reveal invasive green-yellow biological patina covering parts of the capitals, the lower portions of the columns, and the surrounding walls (visible in the close-up of the entrance). This growth is most likely a mixed community of moss and algae that thrives on the damp, shaded stone surfaces where water runoff from the roof and surrounding vegetation accumulates.

*Fig. 22 Creighton Mausoleum, Front Facade, Woodlawn Cemetery, Bronx, New York, NY.
Photograph by Khaled Alanjery, October 2025.*



Fig. 23 Creighton Mausoleum, H.K. Peacock Memorials, Front Elevation. 1931³³



³³ Creighton, Allan; Major Monuments File. Creighton Mausoleum. Woodlawn Cemetery Records. Avery Drawings & Archives. Columbia University. New York, NY.

The column capital surface exhibits extensive signs of material degradation. The once crisp carvings have softened under decades of weather exposure, with granular loss and pitting evident across the stone's face. The biological growth appears to be facing the surrounding walls, where moisture can endure longer due to the enveloping habitat.

*Fig. 24 Creighton Mausoleum, Column Capital, Woodlawn Cemetery, Bronx, New York, NY.
Photograph by Khaled Alanjery, October 2025.*



The greenish-yellow discoloration concentrated in the flutes and recesses indicates the colonization of biological organisms, primarily algae. Water runoff from the lintel above appears to have directed moisture down the column's vertical surfaces, creating ideal habitats for biofilm formation. Over time, this biological growth has trapped further moisture and airborne pollutants, catalyzing the decay of the stone and softening its sculptural definition.

Fig. 25 Creighton Family Mausoleum, Front Facade West, Woodlawn Cemetery, Bronx, New York, NY. Photograph by Khaled Alanjery, October 2025.



Fig. 26 Creighton Family Mausoleum, Column Shaft, Woodlawn Cemetery, Bronx, New York, NY. Photograph by Khaled Alanjery, October 2025.





Fig. 27 Creighton Family Mausoleum, Front Facade Lintel, Woodlawn Cemetery, Bronx, New York, NY. Photograph by Khaled Alanjery, October 2025.

The bronze doors exhibit intricate repoussé work of intertwining leaves and foliage, emblematic of the late-nineteenth-century shift toward organic ornamentation within funerary architecture. The surface's pale green patina, formed through oxidation, enhances the sculptural relief while also signaling decades of environmental exposure. Despite clear corrosion near the lower panels, the craftsmanship remains legible, underscoring the enduring artistry and material resilience.



Fig. 28 Creighton Family Mausoleum, Repoussé Door, Woodlawn Cemetery, Bronx, New York, NY. Photograph by Khaled Alanjery, October 2025.

The urn commissioned by the Creighton family appears to be colonized by various biological organisms trapped within the deep crevices of the porous ashlar. Its weathered surface, juxtaposed with the inscription “Endowed,” indicates that the family had established a care fund for the monument. Yet, the evident accumulation of biological growth and the loss of crisp stone detail suggest that maintenance and protective treatments have been irregular or insufficient over the decades.

Fig. 29 Creighton Family Mausoleum, “Endowed” sign, Woodlawn Cemetery, Bronx, New York, NY. Photograph by Khaled Alanjery, October 2025.



As indicated by the landscaping proposal, the mausoleum is bordered by vegetation on three sides: east, west, and rear. Compared to the surrounding monuments, the Creighton mausoleum is heavily enveloped by greenery. This dense coverage limits invasive exposure to daylight but also creates an environment of elevated moisture. The resulting humidity settles on the ashlar structure, painting settlements of biological growth in moisture-prone areas. On the eastern facade, biological growth is concentrated in the northwestern section and oscillates in a tangent across the central region. Although the blotches do not seem to be caused by the same source, since the central region growth belt is gravitationally caused by a downward deposit of moisture, while the far western section is affected by deposits originating from the rear vegetation.

Fig. 30 Creighton Family Mausoleum, Eastern Facade, Woodlawn Cemetery, Bronx, New York, NY. Photograph by Khaled Alanjery, October 2025.



Uneven wear patterns, especially close to the base, suggest that water rises from the soil and aids in deterioration and sediment deposition. Time, the surrounding vegetation, and climatic exposure have all combined to progressively soften the mausoleum's harsh architectural lines and give it an aged, patinated appearance. To prevent future degradation, regular care and vegetation control would be crucial.

The exquisite craftsmanship and artistic sensibility typical of funeral architecture from the late 19th to early 20th centuries, which was frequently influenced by the Art Nouveau movement, are best shown by the stained-glass windows. The interior of the mausoleum is transformed into a reflective, spiritual atmosphere by the mix of greens, blues, and ambers, which create a brilliant, almost painterly appearance when light shines through.

*Fig. 31 Creighton Family Mausoleum, Rear Facade, Woodlawn Cemetery, Bronx, New York, NY.
Photograph by Khaled Alanjery, October 2025.*

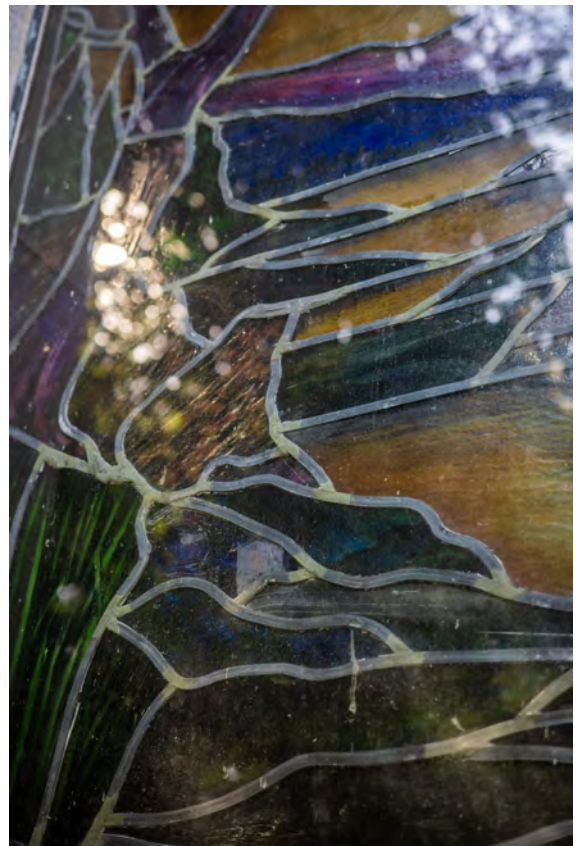


The glass surface shows a film of accumulated grime and possible mineral deposits, likely from exposure to moisture condensation on the interior and exterior. Micro fractures are also visible, suggesting contraction over time, as well as structural settling of the mausoleum walls. The dulling of some glass sections may indicate surface etching caused by airborne pollutants. Moisture infiltration, combined with temperature fluctuations, likely accelerated the degradation and weakened the glass panels.

*Fig. 32 Creighton Family Mausoleum,
Woodlawn Cemetery, Bronx, New York, NY.
Photograph by Khaled Alanjery, October 2025.*



*Fig. 33 Creighton Family Mausoleum,
Woodlawn Cemetery, Bronx, New York,
NY. Photograph by Khaled Alanjery,
October 2025.*



The architectural detailing, particularly the horizontal moldings and vent openings, shows dark streaking, staining, and biological growth. The upper areas exhibit prominent black streaks, likely a combination of rainwater channeling along mortar joints and organic staining from the surrounding vegetation. In the lower sections, the green patina indicates the presence of biological growth.

The vents, originally intended to regulate interior humidity and air circulation, appear to be contributing to rather than alleviating moisture issues. Accumulated debris and biological growth around the vents suggest restricted airflow, trapping dampness inside the structure. Water infiltration through small cracks and porous stone may have created ideal conditions for surface penetration.

Fig. 33 Creighton Family Mausoleum, Western Facade, Woodlawn Cemetery, Bronx, New York, NY. Photograph by Khaled Alanjery, October 2025.





*Fig. 34 Creighton
Family Mausoleum,
Western Facade
Moisture Damage,
Woodlawn Cemetery,
Bronx, New York, NY.
Photograph by Khaled
Alanjery, October
2025.*



*Fig. 35 Creighton
Family Mausoleum,
Western Facade Vents,
Woodlawn Cemetery,
Bronx, New York, NY.
Photograph by Khaled
Alanjery, October
2025.*



Fig. 35 Creighton Family Mausoleum, Northeastern Isometric, Point Cloud LiDar Scan. Scanned by Khaled Alanjery, October 2025.

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