

# The Mausoleum of M. A. Del Balso in Woodlawn Cemetery

Lai Ma

Historic Preservation

Columbia University

Sep. 2019

# Contents

1. Design and Construction Company .....	3
1.1. Lazzari & Barton Co. ....	3
2. Biography of the Owners .....	5
2.1. The Keys family .....	5
2.2. The Del Balso Family .....	8
3. Introduction of the Mausoleum.....	13
3.1. Context .....	13
3.2. Design and Construction Process.....	14
3.3. General Introduction of the Mausoleum.....	17
3.4. Preservation Condition.....	19
4. Conclusion.....	20
5. Bibliographies .....	21

# 1. Design and Construction Company

## 1.1. Lazzari & Barton Co.

Lazzari & Barton, the designer of the Del Balso family's mausoleum, which was formerly mausoleum of Charles H. Keys, was a famous monument business active during 1880s to the first half 20<sup>th</sup> Century. According to their advertising, they are designers, architects and builders of monuments and mausoleums working in granite, marble, and bronze. During its history, the company owned several working locations, included a studio located across from the main entrance of Woodlawn Cemetery, which gave convenience to both the people who wanted to build mausoleums or monuments in the Cemetery and the company to get more business and reputation.

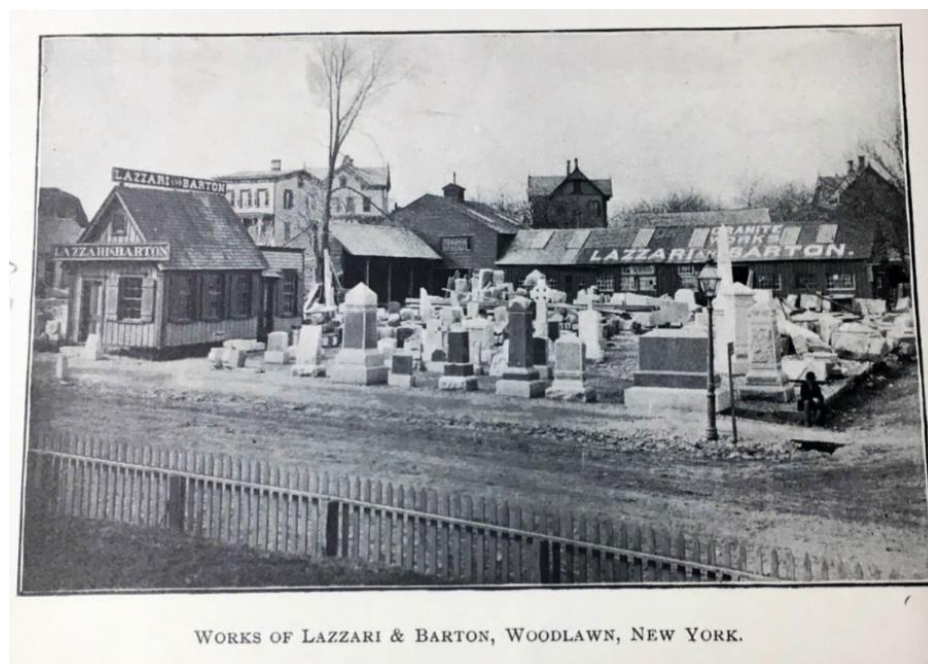


Figure 1 Lazzari & Barton, Woodlawn Studio. Source: Avery Library, Columbia University

The business was under the cooperation of 2 men: Horace W Barton and John B Lazzari. Mr. Barton had worked in Woodlawn Cemetery as “in charge of lot sales” before the forming of Lazzari & Barton Co. He also had a sister and a brother worked as stone cutters in the Cemetery. After the cooperation with Mr. Lazzari, he was listed as president and director of the company. Before his death at age 63 on August 25, 1912, he lived in Greenwich, Connecticut and commuted to Woodlawn daily for 25 years. Mr. John Lazzari was born in Milan, Italy. He lived across the Bronx River for a very long time. Following Mr. Barton’s death, Lazzari took his position until his own death on August 25, 1915, at age 60. As a mausoleum builder and designer devoted almost the whole life in Woodlawn Cemetery, he was also buried in his family mausoleum in Woodlawn Cemetery after his death. After the 2 founders of the company left, the business was inherited by their widows and other relatives. Following several decades’ development, the company was finally announced to dissolve in New York State in 1955.

Lazzari & Barton Company was responsible for more than 100 mausoleums and monuments in Woodlawn Cemetery and other cemeteries. Most of them are masonry works with solemn and classical aesthetic. The Del Balso family’s mausoleum was one of them. <sup>1</sup>

During almost the best period of their business, they accepted a work to design and build a mausoleum in the Wintergreen Plot of Woodlawn Cemetery, in 1909,

---

<sup>1</sup> Warren, C. D., Carole Ann Fabian and Janet Parks. *Sylvan Cemetery. Architecture. Art & Landscape at Woodlawn*. Avery Architectural & Fine Arts Library, The Woodlawn Conservancy, 2014.

for Mr. Charles H Keys.

## 2. Biography of the Owners

### 2.1. The Keys family

Mr. Jesse Goodsell Keys, born in 1831, died in Jun 23, 1925, was a direct descendant of Robert Keyes, one of the Colonial settlers, who came to North America in 1633. He married with Marry Anderson and had 4 children: William A,

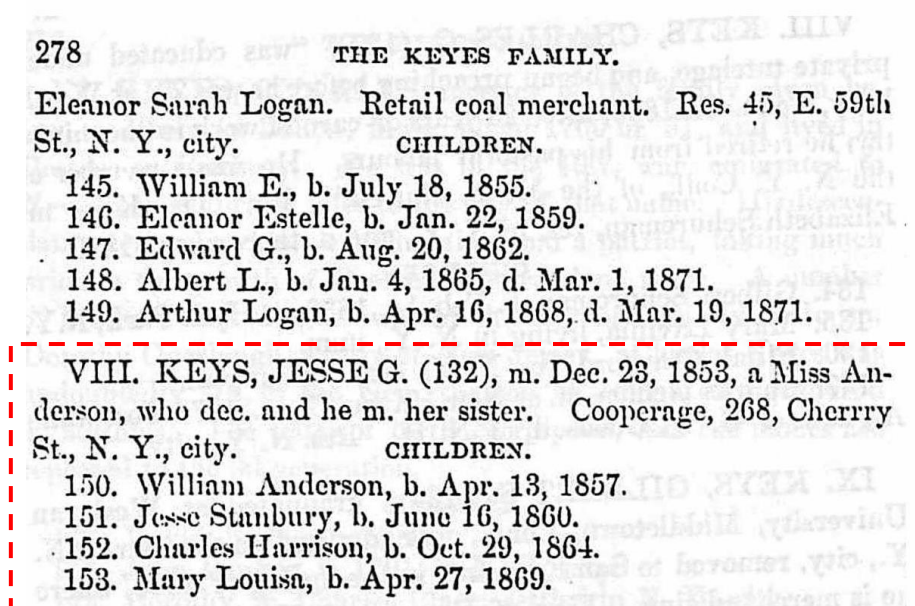


Figure 2 Family Stories. Keys family.

Jesse S, Mary L, and Charles Harrison.

Mr. Charles H Keys was the third child of Jesse G Keys. He was born in Oct. 29, 1864. We don't know very much about Charles, since the only record he left was several census and travel records. We know that he married Florence S Keys in 1891. According to the 1900 and 1910 census, he indicated his occupation as "Cooperage stock merchant". He also applied to Son of American Revolution, Empire State Society in 1903. Their daughter, Florence Marion Keys was born in 1891, the year they married. Unfortunately, she died in 1909, at the age of only

18. We do not know exact the cause of her death. We cannot find any record shows if Charles couple had any other children after Florence's death. And that year was also the year Mr. Charles

NAME	Keys Jesse S	AGE	41 yrs
LOT NO.	S.pt 5908	SECTION	43
		PLOT	Sunnyside
REGISTER OF INTERMENT NO.	60351	FOLIO	944
REGISTER OF SINGLE INTERMENT NO.		PAGE	
REGISTER OF RECEIVING TOMB NO.		FOLIO	
DIAGRAM BOOK NO.	1	DATE OF DEATH	Jan 21 1902
LATE RESIDENCE	Floral Park N J	DATE OF INTERMENT	Jan 23 1902
REMARKS			

3 Jesse S Keys' Lot Record in Woodlawn Cemetery

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE—BUREAU OF THE CENSUS  
 FIFTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1930  
 POPULATION SCHEDULE

State New York Incorporated place New York City Enumeration District No. 51-565 Sheet No. 15 A  
 County New York Ward or city Block No. 7 Supervisor's District No. 22  
 Unincorporated place \_\_\_\_\_ Institution \_\_\_\_\_ Enumerated by me on \_\_\_\_\_, 1930, Elyse K. Robert

PLACE OF BIRTH	MARRIAGE	RELATION	HOME DATA	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION	EDUCATION	PLACE OF BIRTH	OTHER TONGUE OR NATIVE LANGUAGE OF FOREIGN BORN	CITIZENSHIP, ETC.	OCCUPATION AND INDUSTRY	SOURCES	CODE	EMPLOYMENT	VETERAN	SEX		
														M	F	
586		Charles														
587		Olivia D														
588		Charles H														
		Florence S														
589		Caroline R														

22		586	Charles	Head	R	un										
23		587	Olivia D	Head	H	R	400									
24		588	Charles H	Head	R	175										
25			Florence S	Wife	H											
26		589	Caroline R	Head	H	R	200	R								

00	or v	1884	no	yes	Hotel Operator	Hotel	849	E	yes							22
56			no	none												23
56			no	merchant	Export		999	E	yes							24
56			no	none												25
10			no	none												26

4 Charles Keys' 1930 Census Record

Keys contacted Lazzari & Barton to build a mausoleum for his family in Woodlawn Cemetery. 7 years ago, Charles' brother Jesse S Keys died and was buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, Sunnyside Plot. That might be the reason that Charles chose Woodlawn Cemetery as his family's resting place. The mausoleum company and engineers from the cemetery finished the mausoleum in the same year. According to the design drawing of the mausoleum from Avery Library of Columbia

University, the general exterior looking never changed since it was finished. In the same year, Mr. Charles and his wife applied for passport. On the application form, he indicated that he will be abroad for 12 months. Did the couple want to leave the homeland which could only bring them endless grief at that time? We still not sure. The couple did not leave any record in the following 15 years except for census record every decade.

In 1926, Charles suddenly sold his mausoleum in Woodlawn Cemetery. Then, a large number of records showed that he started frequently traveling aboard, between the US, Canada, Britain and France. Some times with his wife. And on the 1930 census record, his occupation changed to "Merchant, export".




The resting place of Charles couple was found in Greenwood Cemetery. No elegant mausoleum, just a tiny gravestone with the couple and their daughter's initials on it. Finally, we even cannot know the exact death date of


## Charles Harrison Keys

**BIRTH** 1864  
**DEATH** unknown  
**BURIAL** Green-Wood Cemetery  
 Brooklyn, Kings County (Brooklyn), New York, USA  
**MEMORIAL ID** 51909275 · View Source


### Family Members

#### Parents

 Jesse Goodsell Keys  
1831–1925

 Mary Anderson Keys  
1834–1866


#### Spouse

 Florence Smith Keys  
1864 – unknown (m.  
(marriage) 1891)


#### Siblings

 William Anderson Keys  
1857–1941

#### Children

 Florence Marion Keys  
1891–1909

#### Half Siblings

 Mary Louise Keys  
1869–1941

### Inscription

Initials only, no dates

5 Charles Family's Gravestone and record in Greenwood Cemetery

them.<sup>2</sup>

## 2.2. The Del Balso Family

One year after Keys couple sold their mausoleum to a middleman, Mr. Michael Del Balso purchased it from him and did some slight changes to the catacombs and interior of the mausoleum. He also carved his own name on the pediment and replaced the former owner's name.<sup>3</sup>

Michael Del Balso was born in Italy, 1878. He started his new life in the US since 1902. After coming to America, he worked for his brother Frank, who was a construct contractor. Several years later, he organized his own construction company:

The Del Balso Construction Corporation. He got the chance to participate in the rapidly developing process of the country's urban infrastructure. His company built Riverside Drive, ammunition depots in Nebraska and Oklahoma, storm sewers in Washington D. C., a plant for the Carnegie Steel Corporation in West Virginia, and parts of the Independent and BMT Subways of New York City, which are the predecessors of A, B, C, D,

**MICHAEL DEL BALSO**  
*New York Times (1923-Current file); Jul 15, 1947;*  
ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The New York Times with Index  
pg. 23

**MICHAEL DEL BALSO**  
Michael Del Balso of 555 West 252d St., Riverdale, the Bronx, president of the Del Balso Construction Corporation, 220 East Forty-second St., Manhattan, died Saturday in Roosevelt Hospital at the age of 69. Born in Italy, he had lived in this country since 1902.

The total value of the structures built by Mr. Del Balso's company has been estimated at more than \$200,000,000. They include parts of the East River Drive and of the Independent and BMT Subways, and Riverside Drive; in addition to ammunition depots in Nebraska and Oklahoma, storm sewers in Washington, D. C., and a plant for the Carnegie Steel Corporation in West Virginia.

Mr. Del Balso belonged to the National Democratic Club, the New York Athletic Club and the Columbian Society, and was on the executive committee of the General Contractors Association. He

6 Michael Del Balso's Obituary. *New York Times*,

July 15, 1947

<sup>2</sup> 1927-1929, Ship tickets. Source: Ancestry.com

<sup>3</sup> Specification Document, 1, Box 10, Folder 105. Woodlawn Cemetery records. 1863-1999. Drawings and Archives. Avery Architectural & Fine Arts Library. Columbia University.



E, F, G, J/Z, L, M, N, Q, R and W trains of New York City Subway today. Before his death in 1947, the total value of the structures built by his company was estimated at more than 200 million dollars. He also belonged to the National Democratic Club, the New York Athletic Club and the Columbian Society, and was on the executive committee of the General Contractors Association. He was buried in the Del Balso Mausoleum in Woodlawn Cemetery after his death, left a widow, Caterina (or Catherine) who was also buried in the mausoleum several decades later in 1981, and a son,

Anthony M., and 2 daughters, Edith and Evelyn.<sup>4</sup>

As the only son of Mr. Michael Del Balso, Anthony, or Antonio M. Del Balso, inherited his father's occupation in the business. He married Mary Teresa Perrotty in 1939. Compared with the

**Mrs. Del Balso Likes to Hunt, Serve Charities: Interest in Sport Now Taking Second Place to**  
 By NAN EDWARDS  
*New York Times (1923-Current file)*; Mar 8, 1959;  
 ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The New York Times with Index  
 pg. 97

**Mrs. Del Balso Likes to Hunt, Serve Charities**

**Interest in Sport Now Taking Second Place to Kips Bay Club**

By NAN EDWARDS

Mrs. Anthony M. Del Balso loves riding to hounds and does so every—or nearly every—chance she gets.

Yet she recently turned down an invitation from friends to hunt this month in Italy. She confessed the other day that it was a tough decision to make. "It was a case," she said, "of one love pulling a little more strongly than the other."

The other love is the Kips Bay Boys Club, which cares for needy boys from 6 to 18 years old. Since 1952 Mrs. Del Balso has helped to raise funds for the club.



**Mrs. Anthony Del Balso** D'ATENE

husband who rarely left any <sup>7</sup> Interview of Mary P Del Balso, New York Times, 1959

record or information on Newspapers, Mrs. Anthony Del Balso was a typical and

<sup>4</sup> "Michael Del Balso". *New York Times*. Jul. 15, 1947: 23.

talented Socialite. She was a skillful rider, loved hunting, and actively participated in many charity events. She kept attending and organizing events of a club which provide cares for needy boys from 6 to 18 years old. And she also participated in lots of different charity event during 30 years marriage with her husband. The couple also have a son: Michael A. and a daughter: Dina. They married in 1966 and 1960, respectively. However, at a moment between 1966 and 1967. Due to some reasons, Michael and Mary divorced. We cannot find any record which can explain this incident. In 1967, a record of Marriage from a church showed Mary Perrotty remarried with a man called Emile Albert Berol, who was the head of a holding company for various concerns manufacturing stationery supplies. At

## SUZANNE WILDING SCARSDALE BRIDE

Has 3 Attendants at Wedding  
to Emile Albert Berol in  
Garden of Her Home

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

SCARSDALE, N. Y., Sept. 1—Miss Suzanne Beatrice Wilding, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Wilding, was married here this afternoon in the garden of her parents' home to Emile Albert Berol, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Michael Berolzheimer of Tarrytown. The ceremony was performed by Judge Frederick G. Schmidt of the Westchester County Court.

The bride, who was escorted by her father, wore an ivory satin gown, with a bertha of heirloom rosepoint lace, and a veil of the same lace. She carried white orchids and bouvardia.

Miss Josephine Wilding was her sister's maid of honor. The other attendants were Mrs. Frank E. Craig, sister of the bridegroom, and Mrs. Richard S. Brill, cousin of the bride. They were attired in powder blue marquisette frocks and wore coronets of flowers to match their bouquets of delphinium and African daisies.

Mr. Berolzheimer was his son's best man. Ushers were Donald Archibald Manly-Power of Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia; Richard Claypoole Wells 3d, Diana Lamb and Rolf J. Thal of New York.

A reception was given in the



Mrs. Emile A. Berol  
© Bachrach

MARY PERROTTY ENGAGED: YONKERS GIRL WILL BE MARRIED IN SPRING TO AN  
New York Times (1923-Current files; New 2; 1938)  
ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The New York Times with Index  
pg. 20

## MARY PERROTTY ENGAGED

Yonkers Girl Will Be Married in  
Spring to Anthony Del Balsó

Announcement has been made by Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. Perrotty of Yonkers, N. Y., of the engagement of their daughter, Miss Mary Thèrèse Perrotty, to Anthony Del Balsó, son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Del Balsó of Riverdale and Wappingers Falls, N. Y.

Miss Perrotty is a graduate of the Academy of Mount St. Vincent. Her fiancé attended the Horace Mann School and was graduated from Cornell University in 1935. The marriage will take place in the Spring.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

8 Miss Suzanne's first marriage with Emile Berol  
& Mary Perrotty's first marriage with Anthony Del Balsó

almost the same time, another announcement of marriage on New York Times in 1969 showed “the daughter of Mrs. Del Balso Miss Wendy E Berol engaged to Robert K Gifford”. Obviously, at that time, Mr. Del Balso had also started his second marriage. Several years later, another piece of News on New York Times gave the full name of the second Mrs. Del Balso as Suzanne Wilding Del Balso.<sup>5</sup>

**Barnard Girls To Be Assisted By April 9 Tea**  
*New York Times (1923-Current file); Mar 28, 1968;*  
 ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The New York Times with Index  
 pg. 58

## Barnard Girls To Be Assisted By April 9 Tea

The diamonds, rubies and emeralds that inspired George Balanchine's ballet "The Jewels" will be displayed on April 9 at a tea for the Barnard College Scholarship Unit of Everybody's Thrift Shop.

Organizers of the tea, to be held at the home of Mrs. James F. Stathakos, at 1001 Park Avenue, are asking guests to bring donations of jewelry, art, clothing and other rummage for sale at the shop, 330 East 59th Street. Miss Martha Peterson, Barnard's president, will attend.

The thrift shop has provided more than \$20,000 a year for scholarships to Barnard students since 1937.

Mrs. Anthony Del Balso is chairman of the tea.

10 "Mrs. Anthony Del Balso" in 1968

**Deaths**  
*New York Times (1923-Current file); Apr 3, 2014;*  
 ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The New York Times with Index  
 pg. A25

### Deaths

Berol, Mary	Levy, Albert	Smulewicz, Renate	ROSS fully birth the his late High ceiv from sylv Amc dent Com life i pens pers He boar pens wide the ( ecuti Com busi hims trust husb fath Norr Barb gran Justi be r who know lead was thusi arts. tical divid mou eque gene advii soug
Cooperman, Sidney	Levy, Ronald	Springer, Ursula	
Finkelstein, Shirley	Morgan, Priscilla	Sterngass, Adele	
Grant, B. David	Rosenbaum, Ruth	Sudarsky, R. David	
Greenberg, Frances	Ross, Arnold		

**BEROL**—Mary Perrotty, known to all as "Honey", died peacefully at her home in Memphis, TN on March 31, 2014. Mary was born in Coxsackie, NY on August 20, 1916. A lifelong New Yorker, she dedicated her amazing energies to numerous civic and philanthropic causes, including the Kips Bay Boys Club in New York City and the Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts in Katonah, New York. Her circle of friends in the New York area was wide and deep, spanning multiple generations and geographies. Mary moved to Memphis in 2006, at the age of ninety, to begin a new chapter in her life, surrounded by children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Her life in Memphis was rich and active. She instantly immersed herself in the Memphis community, becoming involved in the city's civic and cultural life and amassing many new friends. Mary loved traveling, she loved bridge, she loved parties and she deeply loved her new home in the "heartland." Mary was proud to be a

**GRANT**—Dr. B. David, on April 2, 2014 of Wynnewood, PA; husband of Roseanne (nee Zemer); father of Julia Barol (David), Betsy Kapernis (George) and Kate Webster (Peter); grandfather of Jared, Morgan, Galen, Lilly, Callie and Zoe. Relatives and friends are invited to funeral services Sunday, Tom at Adath Israel, 250 N. Highland Ave., Merion Station, PA 19066. Interment at Haym Salomon Memorial Park. Shiva will be observed at the late residence. In lieu of flowers, contributions in his memory may be made to the Philadelphia Chamber Music Society (215-569-8587, (gifts@pcmsconcerts.org) Services by Joseph Levine & Sons (levinefuneral.com).

**GREENBERG**—Frances L. (Huberman), passed peacefully on April 1, 2014 at the age of 90. She joins her adored husband George who died in 2012. Survived by her beloved children Marilyn (Mark Morril), Maury (Judy) and Robert (Benedicte) and grandchildren Matthew, Scott, Ben, Steven, Peter

9 "Mary Perrotty Berol" 's Obituary, 2014

What is quite unusual is that, according to many other evidences, Suzanne was used to be the spouse of Mr. Emile A. Berol. It might be the reflection of the

<sup>5</sup> Edwards, N. "Mrs. Del Balso Likes to Hunt, Serve Charities". *New York Times*. Mar. 8, 1959: 97; "Mary Perrotty wed in Riverdale Church". *New York Times*. Apr. 28, 1939: 32.

increasingly open and unrestricted thinking of people in that era. In 1968, Mary still appeared as Mrs. Anthony Del Balso on the New York Times news, in a News about a tea for the Barnard College



12 Catacomb of Anthony couple

Scholarship donated by a jewel shop, as the chairman of the tea, <sup>6</sup>

Comparing to Mary, Suzanne W Del Balso less frequently showed up on newspapers or charity events, but also interested in riding and horse racing. It was the common interest shared with Anthony, her second husband. She also devoted to writing stories for children, and works about horse racing. In 1975, she published a book called *The Triple Crown Winners* together with Anthony. It seems that the couple finally reaped a peaceful and happy life after making brave choices for their life path. The couple died both in 1997, only several days apart.

They both rested in the same catacomb of Del Balso mausoleum in Woodlawn Cemetery purchased by their father Michael 70 years ago.

Sunday	151	Grace Elleanor De Witt	10	Prot. Episc
March 19 <sup>th</sup>	152	Florence Lorraine Spurrall	10	Prot. Episc
1950	153	Kenneth Francis Slattery	12	Prot. Episc
	154	Richard Arthur Melgard	13	Lutheran
	155	Jill Coe	14	Prot. Episc
	156	Dorothy Elsie Shilstone	40	Prot. Episc
	157	Joseph MacFarlane	35	Presbyter
	158	Suzanne Wilding Berol	23	Universat
	159	Emile Albert Berol	38	Universat
	160	Helena Cochran Dodge	51	Presbyter
	161	Leslie Powers Dodge	55	Prot. Episc

11 "Suzanne Wilding Berol"

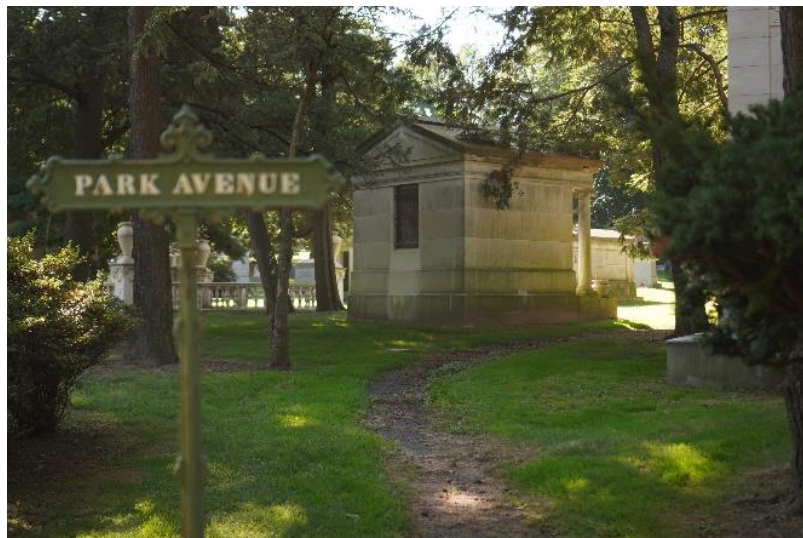
<sup>6</sup> The New York Times Studio Bachrach. "Suzanne Wilding Scarsdale Bride". *New York Times*. Sep.2 1945, pg. 27; "Barnard Girls To Be Assisted By April 9 Tea". *New York Times*. Mar. 28, 1968: 58.

Although they did not have any children after their second marriage, they both have 2 children in each first marriage. They are Michael A and Dina Del Balso, Wendy and J Robin Berol. Their children also had their offspring and create a large family.<sup>7</sup>

### 3. Introduction of the Mausoleum

#### 3.1. Context

Del Balso family's mausoleum located in the middle of Woodlawn Cemetery, in



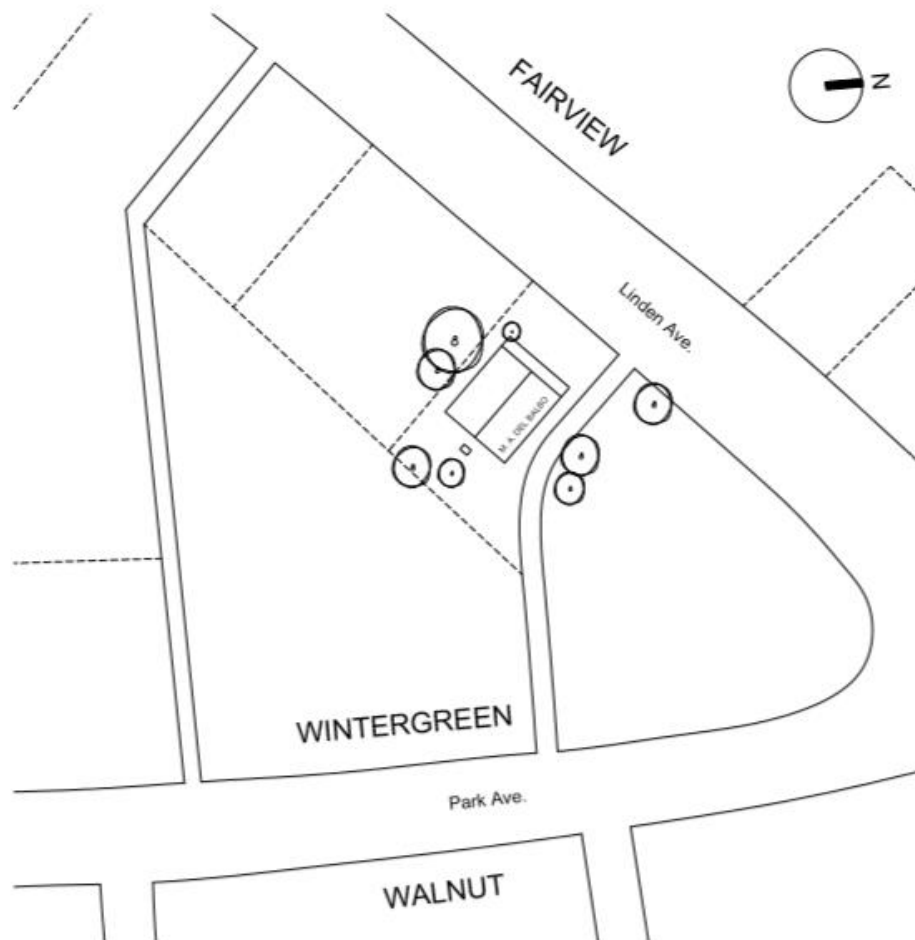
13 Context of the mausoleum

---

<sup>7</sup> Marriage Record. Source: Ancestry.com

"Mary Perrotty Berol" 's Obituary, New York Times. Apr. 3, 2014: A25.

the Wintergreen Plot. Comparing with other plots, the Wintergreen plot is quite small. The sizes of all the other mausoleums in the plot are similar. But the one on



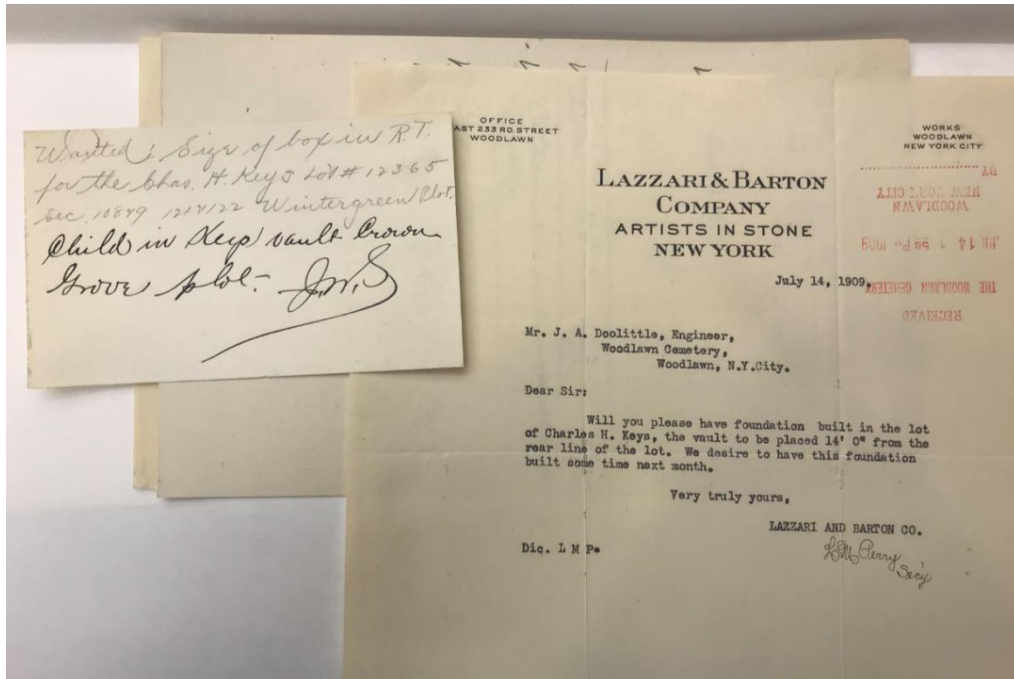
14 Site Plan

the south of it is a little bit different. It's an exposed masonry coffin with a stone fence. The all plot was shadowed by big trees. Across the Linden Ave. on the Fairview Plot, a small slope blocks the view from the main entrance, which gives the area where the mausoleum is located in a peaceful circumstance.

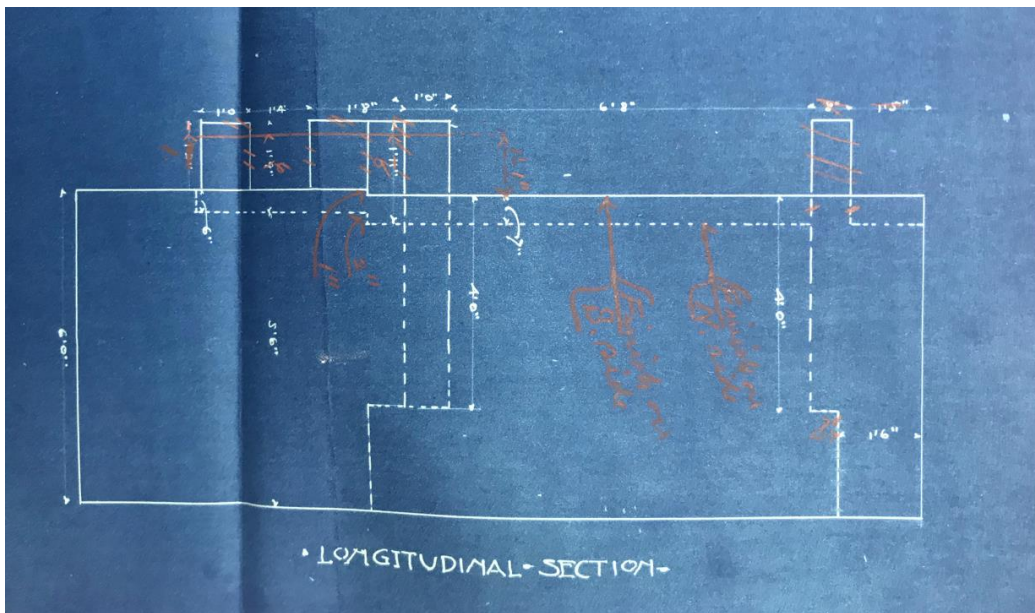
### 3.2. Design and Construction Process

In 1909, Mr. Charles Keys with deep grief bought the lot in Woodlawn Cemetery.

After accepted the work, Lazzari & Barton discussed with Mr. Keys about the



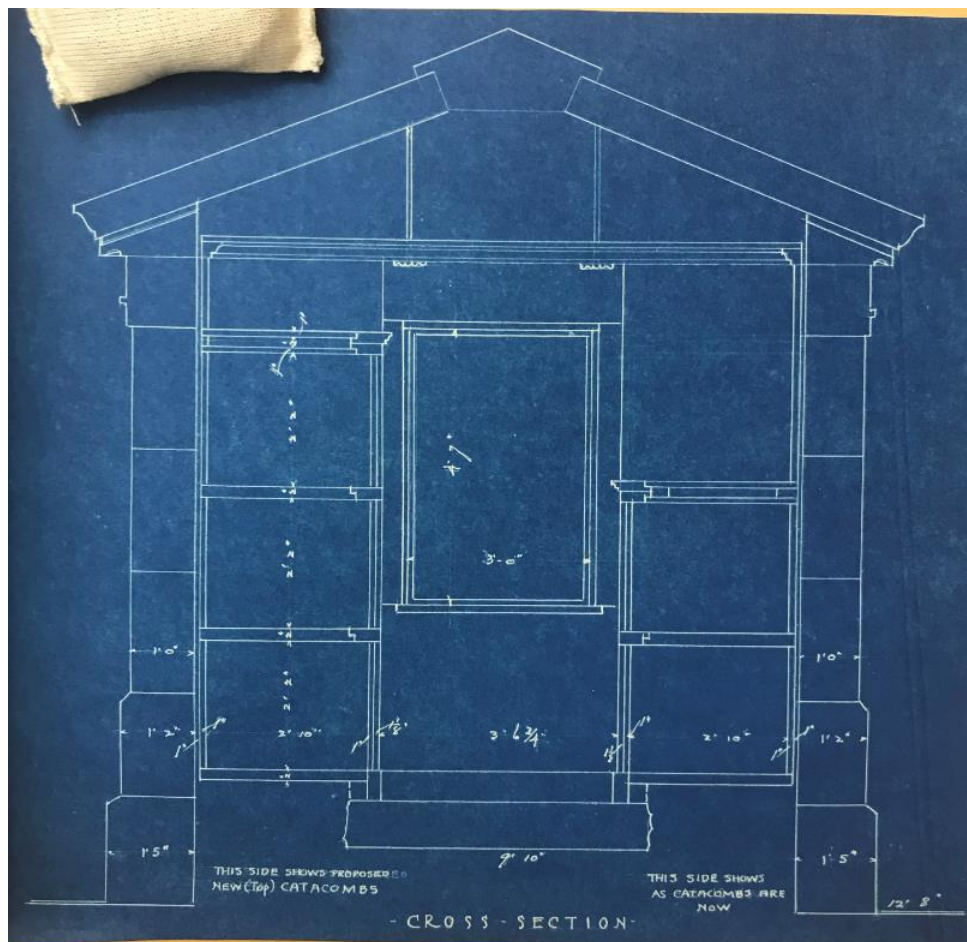
16 Correspondence between Lazzari & Barton and the engineer of the cemetery. Source: Avery Library, Columbia University



15 Section of the Base. Source: Avery Library, Columbia University

design of the mausoleum, and the material to use, as well as the cost. Then they contacted an engineer of the Cemetery, Mr. J. A. Doolittle, to build the base of the mausoleum in the selected lot. According to their correspondence, the engineer started his work after July, 14. On July 30, he replied to the design company about

the detail of some parts needed in the construction of the base. We can find lots of changed places. It may show that the construction process of the base did not go completely well. But obviously, they finally finished it. The base was made of solid granite. No serious damage showed even till today. After the finishing of the base, the mausoleum itself was finished soon. At first, there is only 4 catacombs



17 The section shows the conditions before and after the modification of the number of catacombs

in the mausoleum. We do not know if Florence M Keys had rested in one of the 4 catacombs for several years now.

After the unexpected selling by Mr. Keys, Michael Del Balso took the ownership of the mausoleum. Comparing the drawings for Keys and Del Balso and the



looking today, we find that the Del Balso family did not make any significant change to the mausoleum, except for the changing of the family name on the pediment. As for the interior, the most significant modification was they adding 1 catacomb to each side, as shown in figure 14. They did that by taking down the



18 Elevation of Keys' and Del Balso's Design Drawing, and today's looking. Source: Avery

Library, Columbia University

decorative cornice on the top of the original 2 catacombs, adding the extra catacomb on the top, then reinstalling the cornice on the new top catacomb.



20 The Side Elevation

### 3.3. General Introduction of the Mausoleum

The general design of the mausoleum was in very typical and classical Ionic Order, which can be easily recognized from the 4 Ionic Columns on the symmetric main façade. It is just 1 story high, no window on the main façade. The roof was made of 3 piece of stone, short sides facing forward and it extended till the rear façade. There are 3



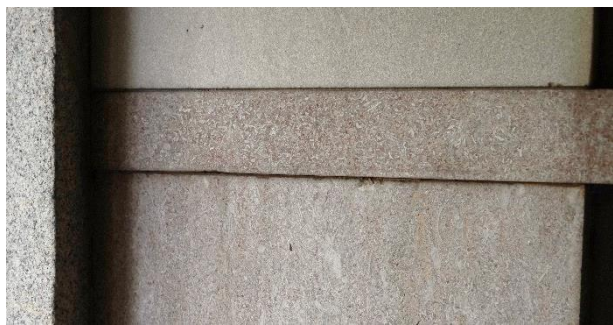
19 The Rear Elevation

steps in front of the bronze door inlaid with a glass window and cast iron decoration. The columns are slightly simplified Ionic Columns, and also slightly thicker than the standard proportion. The name "M.



22 Different material of the cornice and the catacomb on the top

A. Del Balso" was on the middle of the pediment. On the side of the mausoleum, dividing lines of stones are clear. Each side have 3 drainage outlets, 2 on the top, 1 on the base.



21 Different material of the original catacombs and the catacombs adding later

There is a big stain glass window on the rear façade, and an iron fence which protecting it. Most parts of the exterior are made by granite. The surface of the flowerpots set on the base on the front side had been polished.

The interior of the mausoleum was mainly made of Knoxville Marble, a kind of Tennessee Marble, in 2



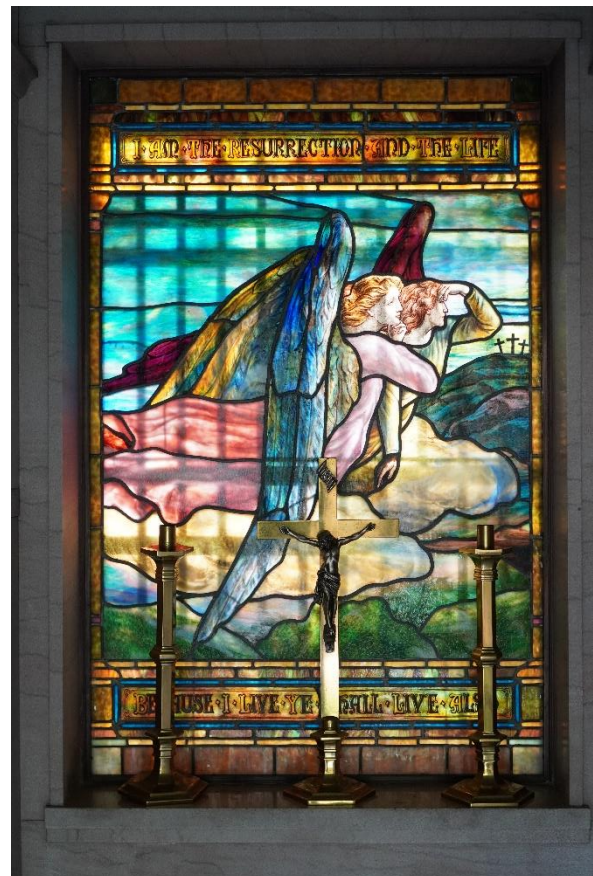
23 The Mosaic pattern "Alpha and Omega"

colors. A pink one was used on most part of the interior cladding and surface of original 4 catacombs. The 2 catacombs adding later was made of white Knoxville Marble. As mentioned before, the decorative cornice on the top of each catacomb

frame was in pink color, which is corresponded with the section drawing, the Figure 15 showing above.

The ground of the interior was decorated by mosaic pattern of olive branch, and an “Alpha and Omega” symbol which has the meaning of “The beginning and the end of everything” in Christian symbols.

The stain glass window shows two angels who are looking forward in peace. Their wings have colorful feathers. The whole picture is very vivid and beautiful. Together with the cross on the windowsill and the mosaic pattern on the ground, it shows us the piety and elegant aesthetics of the owner of this mausoleum.



24 The Stain Glass Window

According to the section drawing, the interior structure has a suspended ceiling which is hanged under the rooftop. There is a center beam on the ceiling.

### 3.4. Preservation Condition

According to the record from Woodlawn Cemetery, Anthony Del Balso had given



25 Beam on the ceiling

\$8000 to the Cemetery in 1949 to establish a fund which could keep paying for the cleaning service every semi-month for the mausoleum. It may explain why the

whole mausoleum seems in quite good condition compared with others.

But there are still some problems. Water marks both on the surface of catacombs and the beam



may be an ominous sign.

26 Water marks

Although it seems formed

a long time ago, it still needs to be concerned. In addition, surface of the base of the mausoleum is damaged by moss.

#### 4. Conclusion

Designed and constructed by the prestigious Lazzari & Barton Co., involved 2 families' history, Del Balso family mausoleum is a masterpiece with high value in both architecture, history and heritage preservation. It not only contains information about the most prosperous period in the history of Woodlawn Cemetery, but also reflects the lifestyle of a typical wealthy American families in the past century.

## 5. Bibliographies

"Barnard Girls To Be Assisted By April 9 Tea". *New York Times*. Mar. 28, 1968: 58.

"Funeral of Jesse Keys Will Be Held Tomorrow". *New York Tribune*. Jun. 23, 1925: 5.

"Kips Bay Dinner Is Advanced". *New York Herald Tribune*. Dec. 17, 1961: 30.

"Mary Perrotty wed in Riverdale Church". *New York Times*. Apr. 28, 1939: 32.

"Michael Del Balso: Subway Contractor". *New York Herald Tribune*. Jul. 13, 1947: 39.

"Michael Del Balso". *New York Times*. Jul. 15, 1947: 23.

Census of United States of America. 1870-1940

Edwards, N. "Mrs. Del Balso Likes to Hunt, Serve Charities". *New York Times*. Mar. 8, 1959: 97.

Harrington, P. "Book Review for *The Triple Crown Winners*". *School Library Journal*. Nov., Vol.25, 1975: 95.

Interview of Susan Olsen, Director of Historical Services. Woodlawn Cemetery. 2019;

Special to The New York Times. "Wendy E. Berol Becomes Bride of R. K. Gifford". *New York Times*. Aug. 15, 1969: 23.

Specification Document, 1, Box 10, Folder 105. Woodlawn Cemetery records. 1863-1999.

Drawings and Archives. Avery Architectural & Fine Arts Library. Columbia University.

The New York Times Studio Bachrach. "Suzanne Wilding Scarsdale Bride". *New York Times*. Sep.2 1945, pg. 27.

Warren, C. D., Carole Ann Fabian and Janet Parks. *Sylvan Cemetery. Architecture. Art & Landscape at Woodlawn*. Avery Architectural & Fine Arts Library, The Woodlawn Conservancy, 2014.