

# **The Carrington Mausoleum**

Sophia Haynes

HP Studio Fall 2022

Andrew Dolkart, Kate Reggev, and Aura Maria Jaramillo

The Carrington mausoleum is located in section 69 in the Heather plot of Woodlawn Cemetery, and built by C.E. Taytnor Granite Co. The plot is rectangular and is in the middle section of the plot. There are four foot wide passageways along the perimeter of the plot. There is a long Granite block that is a path that leads to the mausoleum. On the west side of the plot, but not on the plot site, there is a quadruple trunked tree that hangs its limbs over Carrington. The stone is fine-cut and hammered Hallowell granite, with two roman doric columns made of the same granite. There is a set of bronze doors with plated glass windows with a single feather ornamentation on the lower half of the doors.<sup>1</sup> The mausoleum is austere and more petite in size compared to some. (see *figure 1*).



(Figure 1. Front Elevation Carrington Mausoleum, Woodlawn Cemetery)

---

<sup>1</sup> Estimation sheet, 1911, Box 3, Folder 52, Woodlawn Cemetery Archive, Avery Library, Columbia University, New York, NY.

Inside the mausoleum, everything is a polished light veined Italian marble, except for the floor which is honed, as well as the wall cladding.<sup>2</sup> There are a total of six catacombs, three on each side and each catacomb is covered with a thin, one inch thick, seven foot long slab of marble with names engraved (figure 2). There is a large stained glass window with a picture of an angel in a tall white lily patch. The stained glass is not signed, but it is protected by a piece of glass on the outside and held by two saddle bars. Due to the protective glass pane, it is difficult to see it from the outside, but once you enter the mausoleum it is very clear (see figure 3). There is a small marble table placed in the back of the mausoleum, possibly for trinkets or flowers when loved ones visit.



(Figure 2. Bending of Marble Slab inside Carrington Mausoleum, Woodlawn Cemetery)

---

<sup>2</sup> Section Drawings, 1911, Drawer MM 1.2, Folder 56, Woodlawn Cemetery Archive, Avery Library, Columbia University, New York, NY.



(Figure 3. Stained Glass Inside of Carrington Mausoleum, Woodlawn Cemetery, 2022)

This mausoleum was created by C.E. Tayntor Granite Co. in 1912 and was commissioned by William Theodore Carrington after the death of his first wife, Dora Allen Carrington. There are about one hundred and five mausoleums built by C.E. Granite & Co in Woodlawn Cemetery and many of them built from 1880s to 1930s.

William Carrington was a successful grain broker at the end of the 19th century and in the early 20th century.<sup>3</sup> He grew up in Toledo, Ohio, studied at Cornell for College, and graduated in 1878 where he remained an active alumni. It was not stated what he had studied, but it assumed he studied business. He was a part of the Kappa Alpha Society and helped then rebuild and furnish the house in 1900 after it was burned.<sup>4</sup> He moved back with his parents and worked with his father as a grain merchant, and gained a lot of experience working for his father as a grain merchant. Carrington gained much experience as a merchant while working for his

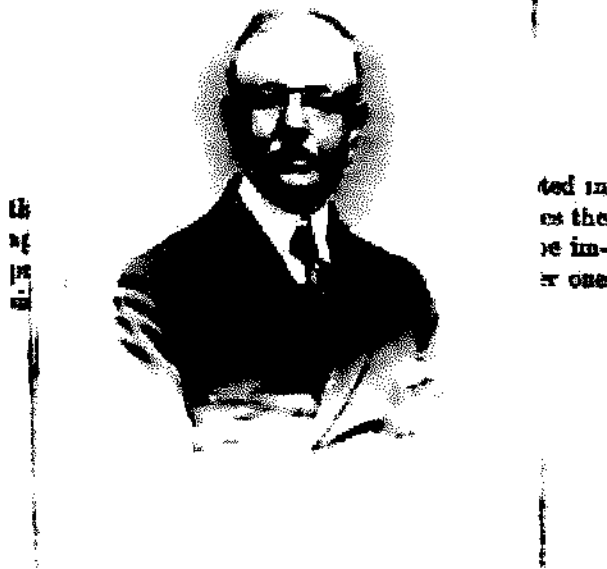
---

<sup>3</sup> "W. T. Carrington, Retired Grain Broker, Is Dead: Organizer of Western Grain", NY Herald Tribune. May 5, 1931, pg 23.

<sup>4</sup> "W. T. Carrington, Retired Grain Broker, Is Dead: Organizer of Western Grain", pg 23



father. After his father passed in the late 19th century, when Carrington was nearly thirty, he was crowned the president of the produce exchange for the midwest.<sup>5</sup> He had then moved to Chicago to found the Grain House of Carrington, Hannah & CO.; John Hannah being his brother-in-law.<sup>6</sup> William then marries Dora Allen Haines in 1899 and the two travel to Europe for a while, probably aiding in his business inquiries around the world. He seems to have applied for many passports throughout those years (fig.4).<sup>7</sup> During that time, John Hannah passed away in 1905, and around 1906 Carrington moved the firm to New York. While he expanded in New York, he retired as he was bought out of the company.<sup>8</sup>



(Figure 4. Passport Picture of William Carrington, ancestry.com, 1921)

<sup>5</sup> Ibid. pg 23

<sup>6</sup> "W.T. CARRINGTON, MUSIC PATRON, DIES: RETIRED BROKER HAD SUPPORTED", New York Times, May 5, 1931, pg 27

<sup>7</sup> "US Passport Application '07." 1907.

<sup>8</sup> "W.T. CARRINGTON, MUSIC PATRON, DIES: RETIRED BROKER HAD SUPPORTED", pg.27

Dora Allen Carrington passed away in 1911, at the age of 56. That year the mausoleum estimations began while Carrington mourned. At this point, he lived in Manhattan at 430 Park avenue.<sup>9</sup> In 1915, Carrington married a younger woman named Margaret Huston.<sup>10</sup> They had a residence in Greenwich, Connecticut, and a winter home in Santa Barbara, California.<sup>11</sup>

In his retirement years, Carrington was involved with the arts. He founded the Chicago Symphony Association and was a leading supporter of the American Opera Company in English. He financially backed these associations as well as being a member of many social clubs throughout his life even in his old age.<sup>12</sup> In 1931, he passed away from a cerebral hemorrhage at the age of 76 and left \$1,639,731 to his widow, Margaret. His will also stated to donate \$10,000 each to the New York Kindergarten Association, and the Social Service Auxiliary and to Bellevue and Allies Hospitals.<sup>13</sup> He left no children behind with either wife and seemed to be extremely lavish and was known to be a “retired grain capitalist”.<sup>14</sup>

The mausoleum has held up well for being over one hundred years old. It seems as if it hasn't been visited in a while due to dust and such. There were broken vases on the table, and a coin near the stained glass. The angel stained glass seemed to have warped possibly because of the protective glass on the outside and poor ventilation inside the mausoleum. The lead came seemed to have been misshapen causing curves through the bottom of the glass (fig 5). Another sign of poor ventilation is the bending of the thin marble catacomb slab covers in the mausoleum (fig. 6). They seem to have been too thin and they are marble, so the process of thermal hysteresis might have occurred. Thermal hysteresis is when a thin piece of marble is exposed to

---

<sup>9</sup> “NY US Arriving Passenger and Crew List.” 1920. ancestry.com

<sup>10</sup> “U.S. Presbyterian Church Records 1701-1970.” 1915. ancestry.com.

<sup>11</sup> “1930 US Federal Census.” 1930.

<sup>12</sup> “W. T. CARRINGTON, FORMER PATTEN PARTNER, IS DEAD”, Chicago Daily Tribune, May 5, 1931, pg 23.

<sup>13</sup> “Carrington, Art Patron, Willed \$1,639,731”, New York Times, November 21, 1931, pg. 16.

<sup>14</sup> “W. T. CARRINGTON, FORMER PATTEN PARTNER, IS DEAD”, 23.

various temperatures, its crystals bend and contract possibly due to water, eventually bowing outward permanently.<sup>15</sup> The humidity in the summer could contribute to the warping of both the marble and the stained glass. Lastly, there are some differences between the West and East facade conditions. The West side has a large tree that hangs over it while the East side is empty. The West facade has lots of biological growth, possibly algae, and lichen, etc (fig 7). The last side does not have a large amount of biological growth, possibly due to the lack of sunlight, and it shows a contrast between the aging of both sides due to their locations.



(Figure 5. Stained Glass Lead Warping Conditions, Carrington Mausoleum, Woodlawn Cemetery)

---

<sup>15</sup> Reese Hatridge, "Thermal Hysteresis," Failure Mechanisms, April 10, 2014, <https://failuremechanisms.wordpress.com/2010/03/01/thermal-hysteresis/>.



(Figure 6. Bending of Top Marble Slab Catacomb Cover, Carrington Mausoleum, Woodlawn Cemetery, 2022)



(Figure 7. West Facade, Biological Growth, Carrington Mausoleum, Woodlawn Cemetery)



Works Cited

“1930 US Federal Census.” 1930

*Chicago Tribune*. 1931. “W.T. Carrington Former Patten Partner, Is Dead,” May 5, 1931.

Hatridge, Reese. “Thermal Hysteresis.” *Failure Mechanisms*, April 10, 2014.

<https://failuremechanisms.wordpress.com/2010/03/01/thermal-hysteresis/>.

*New York Times*. 1931a. “W.T. Carrington, Music Patron, Dies,” May 5, 1931. “MRS.

ANTHONY LEFT ESTATE OF \$882,515: United Hospitals of Rye, N.Y., Get \$230,905-

Carrington, ArtPatron, Willed \$1,639,731,” November 21, 1931.

“NY US Arriving Passenger and Crew List.” 1920. [ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com).

“US Passport Application '07.” 1907. [ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com).

“U.S. Presbyterian Church Records 1701-1970.” 1915. [ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com).

“W. T. Carrington, Retired Grain Broker, Is Dead: Organizer of Western Firm Helped Establish  
Symphony Association,” *ProQuest Historical Newspapers: New York Tribune / Herald  
Tribune*. 1 May 5, 1931