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Monument to Grace Darling
1844. Bamburgh, Northumberland
Anthony Salvin & C. Raymond Smith
(Photograph by Mark Pinder)

Established in 1991, the Public Monuments and Sculpture Association (PMSA) brings together individuals or organisations interested in the history, preservation and production of public monuments and sculpture. The PMSA celebrates the rich diversity of Britain's monumental and sculptural heritage and follows the new directions that artists are taking today. It aims to heighten public appreciation and debate through its publications and events.

The PMSA's work falls into four categories; recording, preserving, promoting and providing information.

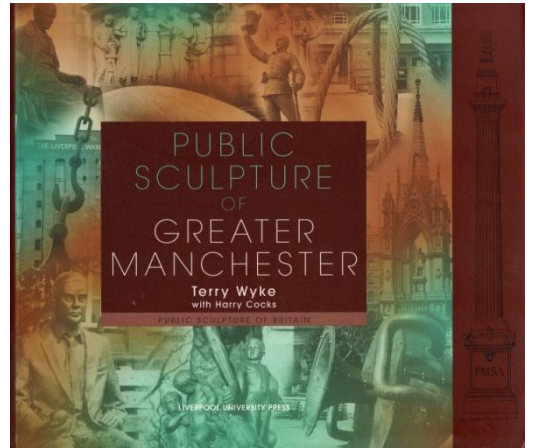
Recording

Supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund and other funding agencies, the National Recording Project (NRP) provides an online database covering, in the main, monuments and sculpture from the post-medieval period to the present day. Currently the database contains surveys from ten different areas across the United Kingdom. A major redevelopment of the database is planned in the near future.

In addition to the online database, through Liverpool University Press (LUP), the PMSA publishes the highly acclaimed series of books, *Public Sculpture of Britain*. There are currently ten volumes available in the series with more to be added soon.

Preserving

Preserving Britain's sculpture and public art for future generations is a vital part of the PMSA's work. With the support of its members, its Save our Sculpture project monitors work at risk. The PMSA also campaigns for improved preservation, better listing procedures, sharper awareness in planning and commissioning, and documentation of contemporary as well as historical works. The Association recently enabled the Grade II* listing of *Desert Quartet* in Worthing; unprecedented for a sculpture under thirty years old. The PMSA is aware that today's innovation is tomorrow's tradition.



Desert Quartet 1989. Worthing, West Sussex. Elisabeth Frink.
(Photograph by Anthony McIntosh)

Promoting

The PMSA plans regular events and works with many other cultural or educational institutions to broaden the appreciation of public sculpture. As part of English Heritage's Year of Public Sculpture, Jo Darke, founder of the PMSA, devised and edited the text for a book of sculpture walks, *The Users Guide to Public Sculpture*. Through the LUP, the PMSA has also published *Birmingham Sculpture Trails* by Professor George Noszlopy and Fiona Waterhouse. Several of the NRP Regional Archive Centres have produced sculpture trails for their own areas and many of these are available online.

To encourage public appreciation and debate, the PMSA supports projects for art in public buildings, artists in residence, waymark sculptures, open-air exhibitions, and the creation of public sculpture as a continuing feature of Britain's landscape. The Marsh Award for Public Sculpture is awarded annually for a newly commissioned public sculpture, or for a public sculpture restoration project. The award is administered by the Public Monuments and Sculpture Association and run in partnership with the sponsors, the Marsh Christian Trust. Previous winners of the Marsh Award include Maggi Hambling (2005), Peter Randall-Page (2006), James Turrell (2007) and Ian Rank-Broadley (2008) for his powerful Armed Forces National Memorial located at Alrewas in Staffordshire.

Providing information

Our regular newsletter, *Circumspice*, the *Sculpture Journal* and publications such as the *Public Sculpture of Britain* and the *Custodian's Handbook*, are all part of the PMSA's information chain. Our website provides extensive information about the Association and its projects as well as providing regularly updated details about forthcoming events and PMSA news. A *Notes and Queries* section provides a brief overview of a range of questions and concerns raised by members of the public and organisations about public monuments and sculpture in their area. The PMSA Advisory Panel, which draws upon the knowledge of experts from all fields, can assist enquirers with both general and specialised queries. Through its projects and its members, the PMSA spreads the word about Britain's tradition of public statues and monuments and today's innovative vision in the creation of public art.



Dream
2008. Sutton Manor, St. Helens
Jaume Plensa
Winner of the Marsh Award 2009
(Photograph by Anthony McIntosh)



Millie - the millennium mill girl, 2000.
Bradford on Avon, Wiltshire
John Willats
(Photograph by Jeremy Haslam)

PMSA membership and benefits

The PMSA's aims and aspirations are achieved through the support of its membership. As a member you will become part of a group of experts and enthusiasts in all fields of public sculpture and open air art. PMSA members receive:

- Two issues of the *Sculpture Journal* – the most authoritative periodical on sculpture, carrying articles by international authors and scholars, plus reviews of sculpture exhibitions and publications.
- Three editions of *Circumspice*, the PMSA newsletter, with news from the regions and details of PMSA activities.
- Access to unique data and documents generated by the National Recording Project.
- Access to the PMSA's distinguished Advisory Panel of experts in all fields of sculpture and public art.
- Invitations to PMSA events, and to support PMSA campaigns.
- PMSA advice on initiating your own local campaigns, or in staging conferences, talks and sculpture walks.

For more details about membership and an application form, please see our website

The Public Monuments and Sculpture Association

Registered charity number: 1064519/0 Registered company number: 3415961
President: His Royal Highness The Duke of Gloucester KG GCV
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