



The Cenotaph, Whitehall, London . 1925

SALUTE TO THE HOLIEST: LUTYENS, CHURCHES AND THE COMMEMORATION OF WAR

Lecture by Clyde Binfield

Wednesday 6th November 2013

United Reformed Church
St George's Road, St Annes FY8 2AE

Education and Conservation

Clyde Binfield

Clyde is a Man of Kent, Cambridge graduate, cruise lecturer, Professor Emeritus in History, University of Sheffield. He is a straight-up-and-down historian returning to some first and last loves – buildings, their creators and their settings.

‘My theme is commemoration, primarily the commemoration of war, and particularly the commemoration of the Great War, as the First World War was often called. My hero is an architect, Sir Edwin Lutyens. He best communicated and shaped the commemoration at which we will be looking.



Sir Edwin Lutyens

The twentieth century was the century of total war, but to understand how Lutyens captured the commemoration of that century's first wave of total war, we need to start in another world.

We begin with Lutyens in Rome, then in Oxford, then by the sea in Norfolk. Then we focus on Lutyens at his most monumentally exquisite in Hampstead Garden Suburb, with its two great churches, before leaving the arts, crafts, cottage gardens and garden suburbs of an England that never quite was - its ideals envisioned, its space released, its moments of monumentality, its recreation of tradition - for a different sort of envisioning.



Free Church,
Hampstead Garden Suburb



St Jude's, Hampstead Garden Suburb

We see how Britain's architects rose to the challenge of commemoration, thanks to the Imperial War Graves Commission. We begin with Lutyens's Cenotaph. We reach a climax with his great memorial at Thiepval, but we encompass the work of other men, among them Reginald Blomfiel (notably at Ypres) and Herbert Baker (notably at Delville Wood).



India Gate, Delhi



Memorial to the Missing of the
Somme, Thiepval

We shall end once more with Lutyens and a world that never quite came into being - his vision for Liverpool's Roman Catholic Cathedral.'

Clyde Binfield

Future Events

Thursday 28th November 2013

THE MOUSETRAP

Visit to the Grand Theatre

Wednesday, 4th December 2013

TANTRUMS AND TIARAS: Behind the scenes at the Royal Opera House, London
Lecture by Nigel Bates

Wednesday 18th December 2013

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Grand Hotel, St. Annes

SPECIAL INTEREST DAY

Tuesday 18th February 2014

BESS OF HARDWICK AND HER DESCENDENTS
Dalmeny Hotel

TAGGING THE TREASURES PROJECT

Wednesday 13th November 2013

Coffee Morning and Research Surgery
Carlton Hotel, St Annes 10 -11.30am

