



L O S T   A R T

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE FURNISHING

# EXAMPLES OF PREVIOUS WORK





# L O S T   A R T

H I S T O R I C   L A N D S C A P E   F U R N I S H I N G

## LOST ART LIMITED: EXAMPLES OF PREVIOUS WORK

Welcome to Lost Art Limited. We intend to introduce you to our range of historic garden furnishings, skills and services. From individual items to full park restoration and urban regeneration projects, the Lost Art commitment to the traditional arts and skills of British craftsmen means that we can provide high quality and historically authentic work in metal, wood and stone.

Lost Art brings together a unique range of craftspeople, providing original, reproduction or re-crafted works and restoration to items that are as individual as the landscapes they enhance. Our simple aim is to “provide for the future from the lessons of the past”.



The images above are taken from the record of our restoration of The Grand Fountain in Paisley, Scotland. The Grade I listed structure, also known as 'The Walrus Fountain' was a major project and resulted in Lost Art winning 3 significant awards for our work. This success has contributed significantly to our winning the contract for the major restoration of the Ross Fountain in the shadow of Edinburgh Castle, which is our current prestige undertaking.

## **The Grand Fountain: Paisley**

**Work Completed 2014**

**Total budget £660,000.00**

Completed on time, on budget: timescale 9 months.

Specialist/subcontractors used: Pattern making and hard landscaping.  
Foundry casting, electrical installation.

The full restoration of the Grade 1 listed Grand Fountain in Fountain Gardens, Paisley was carried out by Lost Art Ltd on behalf of Renfrewshire Council. This Category A structure was erected in 1867 and was the largest to be made by a UK foundry (the Sun Foundry, Glasgow) This structure consists of over 180 tonnes of cast iron components and had suffered greatly through attrition over the years.



There was much evidence of sacrificial corrosion with most of the fastenings completely failed. All replacements were insulated to

avoid repetition of this and an impress current protection system installed. An underground water treatment and recirculatory pumping system has been designed and is now operational as a fully completed “plug-in” module.

The cast iron had absorbed significant amounts of moisture over the years, manifesting itself as hematite and magnetite; the two oxides of iron. After repeated cleaning this has been resolved by evolving an intense drying / cleaning cycle in controlled conditions. This means that the sophisticated flexible coating system used is deeply keyed to the porous iron surface.

The whole of the fountain was disassembled and carefully recorded prior to being transported back to the Lost Art Workshop, where each piece was carefully identified and restored, with new components being produced to replace those that were missing. Following test assemblies at the workshop, the fountain was the reassembled on site, along with the newly installed pumping and electrical system.

The work also involved the emulation of Daniel Cottier’s Aesthetic-Style colouring as well as the gilding of a large number of components using 24 carat gold leaf. The project has been featured as a “diary” article over 6 editions of the ICON(Institute of Conservation) News publication to completion.

Following the successful completion of the project, on time and on budget, the project has been the winner of 3 significant awards.



## Windsor, Alexandra Gardens: The Bandstand

**Client: Windsor and Maidenhead Council (with input from Heritage Lottery Fund and The Armed Forces Memorial).**

**Budget: £140,000**

**Project completed May 2016 on time and on budget**

Lost Art Limited were commissioned to design, produce and install a bandstand in Alexandra Gardens, Windsor, that would serve as a 90<sup>th</sup> birthday present for Her Majesty, The Queen and as a commemorative structure to mark her years of service as the head of the armed forces, as well as becoming the UK's longest serving monarch.

The brief was to produce a bandstand that would echo as closely as possible the one that had originally stood in that location and incorporating historic elements of that bandstand as a full and absolute replication of the previous Edwardian version was not possible.



Following research into the original bandstand by Lost Art using historic documents supplied by the client and the catalogues . in the Lost Art archive, a design was agreed between all parties. The final design incorporated elements of the original bandstand but also reflected modern day construction requirements and budgetary constraints.



Running concurrently with these processes were discussions with the client on elements of the project such as colour schemes. In addition, we liaised with other interested bodies in order to incorporate elements of local input into the bandstand, in this instance, artwork by local schools that reflected the six decades of service to the military by the Queen. We are often asked to incorporate local interest and input and are happy to do so as we believe that this type of value added input increases the commitment of local stakeholders to the eventual ownership and upkeep of the structures we produce and install.

As the bandstand was to be opened by Her Majesty, The Queen at a ceremony that would be televised around the world, it was of vital importance that the project was completed according to a rather tight deadline and this was achieved successfully, with Lost Art operatives undertaking the full installation of the bandstand on the prepared base.



In addition, Lost Art Limited were responsible for the production of the cast iron commemorative plaque that was unveiled at the opening ceremony of the bandstand.

The new plaque was commissioned to match the style of the original that had been presented at the opening of the previous bandstand in 1905. This presented our pattern maker with a challenge.



In all our experience of producing plaques and memorials, never has our roof reader been quite as nervous as on this occasion and a huge sigh of relief was heard when the casting was returned from the foundry and found to be all correct and fit for Her Majesty to unveil.



The actual presentation and opening of the bandstand was a spectacular event. In front of a huge gathering of the world's media, The Queen, The Duke of Edinburgh and the remainder of the Royal Party walked through the gardens, accompanied by 500 school children. The festivities included singing and acting performances by the children, followed by music from a military band.



Finally, the unveiling of the commemorative plaque took place. Like the bandstand, this had also been produced by Lost Art Limited and so it was only fitting that Her Majesty was introduced to Lost Art's Managing Director, Dominic Liptrot.



The bandstand can be seen from Windsor Castle. Hopefully Her Majesty will enjoy the view and remember a special day!





## **Design, Production & Installation of Victorian Style Fountain, Hesketh Park, Southport**

**Work Completed 2009**

**Total budget £250,000.00**

Completed on time, on budget: timescale 9 months.

Specialist/subcontractors used: Pattern making and hard landscaping. Foundry casting.

This project involved the full design, production and installation of a replacement for a missing Victorian design cast iron fountain, plus the production and installation of park perimeter railings and repair to gates.

As part of a Heritage Lottery funded project, Lost Art Limited were commissioned to design, produce and install a number of elements for the restoration of Victorian cast iron landscape features within and surrounding the park.

Within the park, Lost Art Limited were asked to design, produce and install a cast iron fountain feature based on the original 19th century installation that had previously been removed. The project required that Lost Art Limited also design, produce and install railings/fencing that was sympathetic to the period of the original fountain but also suited to the present day usage of the park and the demands of the context in which it was to be installed.



Lost Art Limited conducted background historic research into the original fountain installation, identifying the origins and appearance of the original fountain components and produced a design for the fountain and the railings which was approved by the client.

Following this, Lost Art Limited sourced original components from similar fountain constructions which could be used as a basis for production of patterns for the casting of the components of the fountain. Where original components could not be sourced, Lost Art Limited used the historical documentation as the basis for wood carving of replica components that could also then be used as the basis for the production of foundry patterns.



The components of both the fountain and the railings were test assembled and painted at the Lost Art Limited workshop before being transported to site for full assembly and installation. Where appropriate the component parts were electroplated prior to painting for a reduced maintenance legacy and some decorative features were gilded with 24 carat gold leaf.

In addition to the work on the fountain and surround railings, Lost Art Limited were also commissioned to restore the perimeter fencing based on the historic photograph supplied by the client

In contrast to the surround fencing for the fountain which was produced in wrought or worked iron, the perimeter fencing required cast iron components which were produced from a pattern produced by Lost Art Limited and then submitted to the client for approval.

The cast iron railings were installed into the remaining stone copings, some of which required realigning prior to the installation taking place. The copings were core drilled in order to remove the stubs of cast iron from the fencing that had been removed some decades before. The holes produced by the core drilling then allowed for the lead setting of the railing supports into the copings.

The sections of railing were test assembled at Lost Art's workshop, having been prepared and painted. Sections were then reassembled on site before being given a final coat of paint.





## **Bandstand, Pavilion and cast iron fountain reinstatement and restoration, Mesnes Park, Wigan.**

**Work Completed 2014**

**Total budget £660,000.00**

Completed on time, on budget: timescale 24 months (in phases).  
Specialist/subcontractors used: Pattern making and hard landscaping, electrical installation Foundry casting.

The full restoration of a Victorian Bandstand plus specialist metalwork sub-contracting for the cast iron components of the Victorian pavilion building plus production and installation of replacement cast iron urns to match the design of the original Victorian terracotta urns.



Lost Art Limited were responsible for the dismantling of the Victorian bandstand in Mesnes Park, Wigan, with the components being transported either to a secured warehousing facility for storage or to the Lost Art Limited workshop for immediate work.

All metal components were subjected to specialist cleaning followed by an inspection and condition report. This identified those components that could be reused and those that required replacement. We also identified those components that were missing and would require replacement.

Where required, we produced new patterns for the casting of replacement components and we cleaned and restored those components that were suitable for reuse. All metal components



were given an appropriate corrosion protection treatment prior to being painted and then reassembled on site. The roof of the bandstand was also fully restored including the distinctive cupola section, with the main roof being covered with zinc and the cupola covered with copper as the original. The terminal was also restored. Similar treatment was also given to the cast iron entrance porch to the pavilion building which is the architectural centrepiece of the

park and houses the cafe. Procedures similar to those described for the bandstand were employed for the restoration of the porch.

In addition, Lost Art Limited provided specialist metalwork for the interior and upper layers of the pavilion building including production and installation of replica railings to the outside of the upper storey.

The glass lantern section of the pavilion building required the design and installation of replacement structural metalwork, along with the replacement of the glasswork. This allowed for the redesign and installation of a new floor layout within the upper levels of the building and greater public access and use.

In addition to the above, Lost Art Limited undertook the full restoration of the historic bronze statue of Sir Francis Sharp Powell, including repairs to the stonework plinth and hard landscaping to the surround.



Lost Art Limited also undertook the full reinstatement of a Victorian Coalbrookdale Fountain removed completely from the park during the 1930s. This project involved Lost Art Limited completely reconstructing the fountain based on reproducing the sister fountain to the original which is found in Lurgan, Northern Ireland. This has involved producing a full set of patterns and castings for the fountain as well as producing and installing the pumping mechanism.

Further work at Mesnes Park carried out by Lost Art Limited has included the restoration/repair of park gates and perimeter railings, the recreation, production and installation of cast iron urns and the supply and installation of street furnishings, including park benches.



## **Avenham & Miller Park, Preston: Restoration**

**Work ongoing since 2002 – most recent work**

**July 2015**

**Total budget £750,000.00**

Completed on time, on budget:

Specialist/subcontractors used: Pattern making and Foundry casting.

A significant part of this project involved the design, production and installation of bespoke 'bamboo design' cast iron railings to the perimeter of the historic Japanese Gardens within Avenham and Miller Parks in Preston.

Working in conjunction with both the Heritage Lottery Fund and Preston City Council, Lost Art Limited produced a unique design for a bamboo themed cast iron railing that surrounds the distinctive area of the park. The design fulfilled the brief in that it was period sympathetic, using a material that was appropriate to the historical background of the setting and that would also withstand the requirements of railings within a modern urban park as well as reflecting the character of the setting in which it was to be placed. The design was also sympathetic to and reflective of the Victorian tradition of 'rustic design' landscape furnishings which can still be seen in a number of Victorian Parks where what were then modern materials were used to reflect the triumph of Man over nature by using those materials to recreate the appearance of a natural product.

Having submitted a design which was acceptable to both the Heritage Lottery Fund and Preston City Council, and devised a system by which the railings could be assembled, Lost Art Limited then sourced a number of examples of bamboo from which casting patterns could be produced. Having produced examples of the bamboo sections in cast iron and demonstrating how they would be assembled into sections of fencing, Lost Art Limited then supervised the casting processes for the production of the railing components. It should be noted that, superficially the individual components may appear identical but viewing the railings in situ will reveal that they contain five different component sections of bamboo and that this

gives the railing sections a more natural appearance than would otherwise be the case if the pattern were merely repetitive.

The individual cast iron components of the railing sections were prepared, primed and painted at Lost Art's workshop then assembled into full sections on site before being given a final coating.



It should also be noted that, in addition to the railing sections, Lost Art Limited were also commissioned to design produce and install gates that complemented the bamboo design railings.

In addition to the above work on this project, Lost Art Limited also conducted further work including the production and installation of signage, urns, further styles of railing and repairs to a number of gates as well as reproducing 2 cannons dating from the siege of Sebastapol in the Crimean War, designing and installing a replacement for a lost Victorian drinking fountain.

Concurrent with the work within the parks, Lost Art Limited have also

been working on Avenham Walk, a residential setting adjacent to Avenham and Miller Parks in Preston. The original Victorian railings that surrounded the area had been removed and replaced with inferior quality metal fencing that was not in keeping with the architecture or period of the surrounding houses and that had deteriorated in condition which was representative of the general state of decay of the overall landscaping and furnishings of the area. Lost Art Limited were contracted to reproduce the original railings that had been present in the Victorian period and to install the railings.

The first stage of this section the project involved the procurement of historical images of the original installations which, having been obtained provided the basis for the production of patterns for the cast iron components of the railings. Two types of railing were identified, a fencing panel type and a smaller section that was lead set into the stone copings of a wall at the entrance to the area.



The patterns produced were submitted to the client for approval before being transported to the foundry for production of the cast iron components. Following casting of the cast iron railing sections these were then shot-blasted and fettled to ensure that there was high definition to the detail of the castings before being primed and painted at the Lost Art Limited workshop.

Having been fully prepared the components were transported to site and the long-run railings were assembled before being lead set into position. Similarly the coping set smaller railings were lead set into fixing holes which had been core drilled into the stone copings.



As mentioned earlier in the description of this project, the general area of the works had been in a state of decline prior to the reative work and in addition to the railings work described, Lost Art Limited also restored or replaced with identical reproductions a number of historic design Victorian cast iron benches plus the production and installation of cast iron bollards to match the originally installed pattern.

The work on this project was completed on time and on budget.



## **Fountain reproduction and reinstatement, work to conservatory/greenhouse: Castle Park, Frodsham**

**Total budget £130,000.00**

Completed on time, on budget: timescale 9 months.

Specialist/subcontractors used: Pattern making and hard landscaping.

Lost Art Limited reproduced and then installed a small cast iron fountain at Castle Park, Frodsham. As with the work at Southport, the fountain has been produced to match historic photographs of a missing fountain.



The process of restoration involved the production of patterns based on both historical records such as the photograph shown above and additional material taken from foundry catalogues in the Lost Art Limited Archive. The patterns were produced by a pattern maker with whom Lost Art Limited have a long standing working

relationship, including considerable amounts of work for Heritage Lottery projects and the castings were produced by the foundry with which we have worked for over a decade, producing high quality castings to exacting standards, again a considerable amount of this work having been approved for Heritage Lottery funded projects.



This work was brought in on budget and on time.

A small drinking fountain was also designed and produced for this project to which we also contributed the manufacture of cast iron components for the Victorian conservatory as seen above, including the external decorative elements and the internal mechanism components plus cast iron and timber benches, a bespoke wrought iron tree seat and work to wrought iron gates and fencing. Lost Art Limited acted as specialist subcontractors for this project.



## **Bandstand Restoration, South Marine Park, South Shields**

**Total budget £250,000.00**

Completed on time, on budget: timescale 9 months.

Specialist/subcontractors used: Pattern making and Foundry casting, fabrication requirements.

The full production and installation of a full replication of a missing Victorian bandstand for South Marine Park, South Shields plus the production and installation of cast iron balustrading and reproduction of original Victorian design park benches.



This involved the original research into the provenance and appearance of the bandstand, followed by detailed identification of the components of the bandstand. Where copies of the original components could not be sourced, Lost Art Limited commissioned the carving of replica components in wood, based on details from our archive of original Victorian catalogues. These were then delivered to our pattern maker, who produced the patterns from which the foundry could produce the replacement cast iron

components. In addition we were required to design, produce and install the roof framework, which involved fabrication of a steel frame, followed by the installation of timber sarking which was then clad in zinc. Replica guttering was sourced and fitted and the roof was lifted onto the installed columns by crane.



All items were given a significant degree of corrosion protection in order to minimise the maintenance legacy of the structure.

In addition to the bandstand, Lost Art Limited also produced replicas of the historic Sun Foundry designed Squirrel Bench (as shown below) as well as producing and installing the cast iron balustrading as shown below.



# **Maze Gate: Production and Installation**

## **Dumfries House, Ayreshire**

### **Total budget: £60,000.00**

Project completed in 2016 on time and on budget :



Saved for the nation by HRH Prince Charles, Duke of Rothesay, by a combination of his own investment and the effects of his influence, Dumfries House, near Cumnock in Ayrshire, is one of the most beautiful stately homes in the UK.

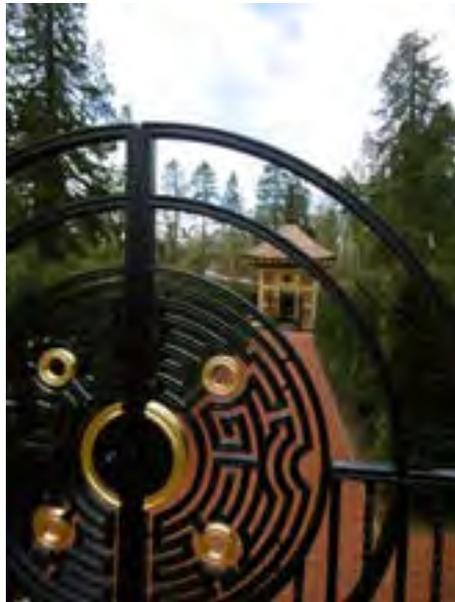


The interior of the house is particularly notable for the fine collection of furniture but it is the grounds of the estate where Lost Art have made their contribution.

Inspired by his childhood visits to Sandringham, The Prince of Wales has been instrumental in the design and introduction of an intricate maze within the grounds of the house. Containing obelisks, a Japanese pagoda, approximately 2,000 trees and over half a mile of paths – such a stunning and intricate creation requires entrances to match.



In addition to being the inspiration behind the project, Prince Charles has maintained a hands-on interest in aspects of the works as they have progressed. This has extended to an involvement in the design of the gates, in which the themes of the maze have been incorporated as part of the decorative elements.



Lost Art were commissioned by the main contractor, Land Engineering, to turn His Highness' vision into a reality and so the gates have been produced in cast iron with decoration augmented by gilding with 24 carat gold leaf. Installed on site by our operatives, they provide a suitable entrance to a feature that has already been visited by thousands, all of whom having safely emerged following a long walk without travelling any great distance!

**A SELECTION OF OTHER PRODUCTS, SKILLS AND SERVICES FROM  
LOST ART**



**Fencing design & installation**



**Seating and benches**



**Traditional carpentry**



**Stonemasonry**



**High quality castings**



**Blacksmithing and whitesmithing**

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**HISTORIC LANDSCAPE FURNISHINGS**



WINNER of Conservation award for our work in conjunction with Renfrewshire Council on The Grand Fountain, Paisley



Winner of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers Award for Conservation of an Industrial Heritage Artefact.



WINNER: MONUMENTS AND PUBLIC SCULPTURE ASSOCIATION: Marsh Award for Excellence in Conservation of a Public Sculpture or Fountain 2015.



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