

CORPUS OF ROMANESQUE SCULPTURE IN GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

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ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Year ending 31 December 2020

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TRUSTEES AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISERS

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CORPUS OF ROMANESQUE SCULPTURE IN GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees are responsible for ensuring that the principal activities of the Corpus are undertaken, namely to create and maintain a publicly available record of Romanesque sculpture in Great Britain and Ireland between c1050 and c1200 through the establishment, maintenance and promotion of a permanent record and archive of such sculpture (www.crsbi.ac.uk); to advance the public knowledge of all such sculpture through engagement and education; and to assist in the preservation of such sculpture for the public benefit in such ways as the Trustees shall from time to time determine.

The Trustees are also responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity (Registered Charity No. 1168535). The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity hence for taking reasonable steps for ensuring the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees were unable to meet during 2020 due to Government restrictions on meetings in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Trustees are assisted in undertaking these responsibilities by the Management Board.

RESULTS

The financial results for the period 1st January – 31st December 2020 and the Charity's financial position at the end of the year are shown in the attached financial statement. ??? Simon?

Susan Nettle

Treasurer

Approved by the Trustees on 18 April 2021

MANAGEMENT BOARD REPORT

Year ending 31 December 2020

The members of the Management Board have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statement of the Corpus for the year ended 31 December 2020.

The Management Board met via Zoom on 25th April and 23 October.

1. Financial matters

The bulk of expenditure during the year was accounted for by the costs of the development and implementation of the new digital asset management system with iBase, together with a hosting fee required by KCL who kept the former database in a stable format prior to the transfer of the data to iBase in March.

The British Academy provided a further year of support. In November, the Corpus was required to submit an overview of the past 5-years of support from British Academy and a forward plan for 2020-2025; we await the decision on further funding.

We thank all our supporters and donors, past and present, who have enabled and sustained the aims and development of the Corpus over the years and pledged to support us in the future.

2. Development of the Romanesque sculpture dataset during 2020

During 2020, the Management Board worked closely with iBase to develop, test and implement a new digital asset management system for the Corpus. Thanks must be expressed to a small group of volunteers, Dr James King, Dr Jill Franklin, and Rita Wood, who together with members of the Management Board, undertook the task of testing all aspects of the new data system to iron-out bugs created during the migration of data from the former KCL system. By July, the system was sufficiently stable to restart the editing of new sites and their uploading onto the external website. At the close of the year, 96 sites had been added to the public website bringing the total published sites to 2,934 out of an expected total of 5,100 sites.

Out of necessity, fieldwork all but ceased from March 2020 onwards. Church authorities were unable to allow visitor access to their sites for much of the year; likewise, castles, museums and houses were equally out-of-bounds during the COVID-19 restrictions. The restrictions also meant it was not possible to train fieldworkers on how to input new sites onto the new database, this is a matter of priority for 2021.

However, the database is now fully operational and available on-line to external visitors with new features and much enhanced searchability.

3. Public engagement

The Website received a 'spring clean' during 2020. A Newsletter was also published and sent to all friends and supporters who have signed-up to receive information from CRSBI.

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2020 saw the 13th CRSBI Annual Lecture, which should have been presented in April to a live audience, instead it was recorded and uploaded to the CRSBI YouTube channel. Professor Neil Stratford spoke on the topic of 'Cluny and Vézelay: the paradox of the Romanesque capital in Burgundy'. By the end of the year the lecture had been viewed 359 times.

COVID-19 also disrupted the annual International Medieval Congress at the University of Leeds, where CRSBI was due to present two sessions. Instead, a much smaller conference was devised with delegates presenting their papers online. Rita Wood represented the Corpus at the virtual conference with a presentation entitled: *The Trouble with Dragons*.

Several publications or articles appeared during the year written or edited by members of the Corpus community. These included:

Ron Baxter, "Romanesque Sculpture in the Chalk Belt", J. Mace (ed.), *A Medieval Legacy. The ongoing life of forms in the built environment: Essays in honour of Professor Malcolm Thurlby*, Montreal 2020, 95-104.

Xavier Dectot, "Plorans ploravit in nocte: The Birth of the Figure of the Pleurant in Tomb Sculpture", Stephen Perkinson and Noa Turel (eds), *Picturing Death 1200–1600* (Brill's Studies in Intellectual History, Volume: 321/50), Brill, 2020, 49-63.

"A Satirical Itinerary of Holy Bodies? Recommendations from the *Pilgrim's Guide*", in *Romanesque Saints, Shrines, and Pilgrimage*, eds. John McNeill and Richard Plant, London and New York, 2020, 77-88;

Rose Walker, "The symbols of the Apocalypse: the subversion of nature and cosmic upheaval in illuminated Beatus manuscripts" in *La conoscenza scientifica nell'alto medioevo, Atti delle Settimane LXVII*, Spoleto, 2020, 1129-1151.

Rose Walker, "Manuscripts Face to Face: León and the Holy Roman Empire in the Mid-Eleventh Century", in *Illuminating the Middle Ages. Tributes to Prof. John Lowden from his Students, Friends and Colleagues*, eds. Laura Cleaver, Alixe Bovey and Lucy Donkin, Leiden and Boston, 2020, 77-93.

Rose Walker, "Expressing liturgical change in Eleventh- and Twelfth-century Iberia through the feast of the Holy Innocents", in *Anuario de estudios medievales. Número especial: De la Visigótica a la Carolina, de la Carolina a la Gótica: estudios sobre la historia de la cultura escrita en la Península Ibérica*, Madrid, 2020, 865-892.

Rita Wood, in addition, took a local Yorkshire U3A church-visiting group to Birkin Church and subsequently did a Zoom presentation on the sculpture, 'Why Birkin church is Special'.

4. The Future

In 2021, it is expected that the new database will be fully operational, enabling volunteer fieldworkers to upload new site reports for consideration by the editorial team; and, with the introduction of a more intuitive search facility that more students, academics and visitors will be finding the site helpful when looking for items of Romanesque sculpture.

The Corpus, through its newsletter will be inviting its on-line list of supporters to attend the Annual Lecture scheduled for 30 April 2021. Once again owing to COVID-19 restrictions Dr Xavier Dectot will be presenting a paper entitled 'Paradise Found: Romanesque tombs in Western Europe'. The Corpus will also be attending the 27th International Medieval Congress in Leeds (5-9 July) and presenting one session of three papers, in addition to attending the Historical and Archaeological Societies Fair on Friday 9 July.

We will continue to seek new fieldworkers, targeting regions where there are substantial gaps in coverage. It is intended to hold a training day aimed at both new recruits and at those experienced fieldworkers and editors wishing to gain experience of uploading and editing data on the new database (www.crsbi.ac.uk).

CORPUS OF ROMANESQUE SCULPTURE IN GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

1st January 2020 to year end 31st December 2020

| INCOME | 2020 | 2019 |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Donations restricted | 0 | 4,250 |
| Donations unrestricted | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| EXPENDITURE | | |
| Editing | (3,056) | (0) |
| Fieldworking | (270) | (640) |
| Wales | (0) | (0) |
| Travel to meetings | (0) | (370) |
| Annual Donor Dinner | (0) | (458) |
| Events Co-ordinator | | (325) |
| | (0) | |
| Web-Editor | (603) | |
| | (125) | |
| Website Hosting fee | (5,454) | (0) |
| Website Development fee | (9,120) | (7,080) |
| IMC Leeds 2018 | (0) | (1,704) |
| Publicity | (262) | (0) |
| Training event | (0) | (201) |
| Sundries | (168) | (762) |
| Fund balance brought forward at 1 st January 2020 | 33,571 | 35,986 |
| Fund balance carried forward at 31 st December 2020 | 19,636 | 33,571 |

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BALANCE SHEET

31st December 2020

| | 2020 | 2019 |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Bank account | 19,636 | 33,571 |
| | | |
| Represented by: | | |
| | | |
| Reserves | 19,636 | 33,571 |

These financial statements were approved by the Trustees on the
_____ and signed on their behalf by:

Chair