



THE FOLLIES TRUST

**The conservation of the Cooke Mausoleum
by Richard McLoughlin
Thursday 11 October 2018 at 6pm
The Irish Architectural Archive, 45 Merrion Square, Dublin 2**

The Follies Trust is delighted to invite you to their forthcoming lecture on the conservation of the Cooke Mausoleum, Reynella, Co Westmeath by conservation architect Richard McLoughlin of Lotts Architecture. The Cooke Mausoleum, erected c.1835, is a monument in stone to an eccentric landowner, Adolphus Cooke (1792-1876), who built it in the form of a beehive for his father, whom he believed would be reincarnated as a bee. The mausoleum consists of a central dome on a circular plan set into a cylindrical pit, with rubble walls and ashlar limestone coping. Adolphus was buried alongside his father in the mausoleum in 1876, as the Rector of Killucan refused to bury him in a marble mausoleum he had erected for the purpose in the grounds of Cookesborough house.

Work to conserve the structure was finished earlier this year by the Mullingar Union of Parishes, with support from Westmeath County Council, Structures at Risk Fund, the Built Heritage Investment Scheme and the Follies Trust. This fascinating lecture will uncover the family story behind the building, explain the circumstances behind its decline and describe the challenges which were overcome in its conservation.

The lecture will be held in the Irish Architectural Archive by kind permission of the Board and Staff. There will be a charge of €10 for admission, which includes a Follies Trust publication and refreshments.



Cooke Mausoleum 2008



Following conservation, 2018