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THE CONSERVATION OF FRYDERYK CHOPIN'S GRAVE
AT PÈRE-LACHAISE CEMETERY IN PARIS (1995–2018)

This article presents the history of efforts to ensure the suitable preservation of Fryderyk Chopin's grave in Paris, as well as outlining the context and scope of conservation work undertaken to date (1995, 1999, 2017–2018).

The authors illustrate the most important phenomena and stages in the work with photographs, one of which even shows the metal case placed by Jane Stirling in the niche behind the medallion (1850).

The largest section of the article is devoted to the most recent conservation work on the grave (2017–2018), conducted thanks to an initiative from the Department of Cultural Heritage Abroad and Wartime Losses at the Polish Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, which guaranteed the funding of the work and its supervision. The application was prepared by the TERPA Foundation for the Protection of Shared Cultural Heritage. The programme of the work, prepared by Andrzej Koss and Janusz Mróz, covered essential procedures relating to stone elements and to the metal enclosure around the grave. Permission from the conservation authorities of the Ile de France department was obtained through the good offices of the Society for the Protection of Polish Historical Monuments and Historical Tombs in France.