



as the only clue to his identity was a reference to Cádiz on his person and one U.S. citizen who died in 1861 at the age of 29 and is recorded, somewhat incompletely, with surname and initials only.

There was the burial of a child in 1911 whose identity was unknown but who “was believed to be the child of EKE” which sounds like a person whose initials might have been “AK” or “JK”.

In November, 1936, one of the last burials before the cemetery had to be declared off-limits because of the commencement of Civil War hostilities, was of a supposed Australian citizen, with a subsequent amendment in the register relating that his identification was false and that he was probably Russian.

The website www.britishcemetery.com includes the historical account of how agreement was reached with the Spanish government of the day to create the site and also a learned study of the gatehouse and other architectural features. Due reference is made in the historical account to great and influential persons buried there such as members of the Bauer banking family whose neo-Egyptian mausoleum dominates the scene.

Appended to the web pages is a pair of 1861 photographs attributed to the great pioneer photographer Charles Clifford who was one of the British community involved in the foundation of this historic cemetery. The website includes a full list of the surnames of those buried in the cemetery.

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bassador, Baron Theodor de Budberg, who died in 1916, shortly before the Bolshevik Revolution. Some, well-known in their day, are now remembered more for their famous connections, for example there is buried in the British Cemetery a cousin of Victorian novelist Harrison Ainsworth (sometimes referred to as author of “axe and neck romances”), the eleven year old daughter of the Duke of Alba's butler and a dentist who attended King Alfonso XIII.

Early in the cemetery's history there are unidentified individuals: one who “fell from a train”, another referred to as “Cadiz”

Here we have the last resting place of nearly one thousand people from Britain (the majority), many from the United States and from Germany and lesser numbers of many other nationalities.

The British Cemetery, which is still active for burials, is administered by the British Consulate supported by a committee of volunteers who are dedicated to the work of maintenance, improvement, legal issues as and when they arise, and the fund-raising and income-seeking vital to meet all the costs of maintenance and restoration. ■



FURTHER INFORMATION:

Address:

Calle del Comandante
Fontanes 7

28019 Madrid.

Opening hours, Tuesdays,
Thursdays and Saturdays,
(except public holidays)
10.30 – 13.00

The British Cemetery is
also open on All Saints'
Day every year.

Nearest Metro Station:
Line 5 to Urgel (exit; Calle
de Peñafiel).

Bus routes passing along
General Ricardos stop
at Comandante Fontanes:
34, 35, 118, 119.

Website:

www.britishcemetery.com