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alexandru dusan sandu teodora toader **IN** maria, doru, ana, elisabeta, iulia, ion, ioana clement monica bogdan

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Maria, Elisabeta, Marcela, Mioara Camelia, Carmen Celia Cecilia, Diana Dorothea, **CEMETERIES** Anna,

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Liviu Mellisa

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Soni Radu

Davin Manole

Elisabeta,

Camelia, Carmen

Vasile Ion Farnci

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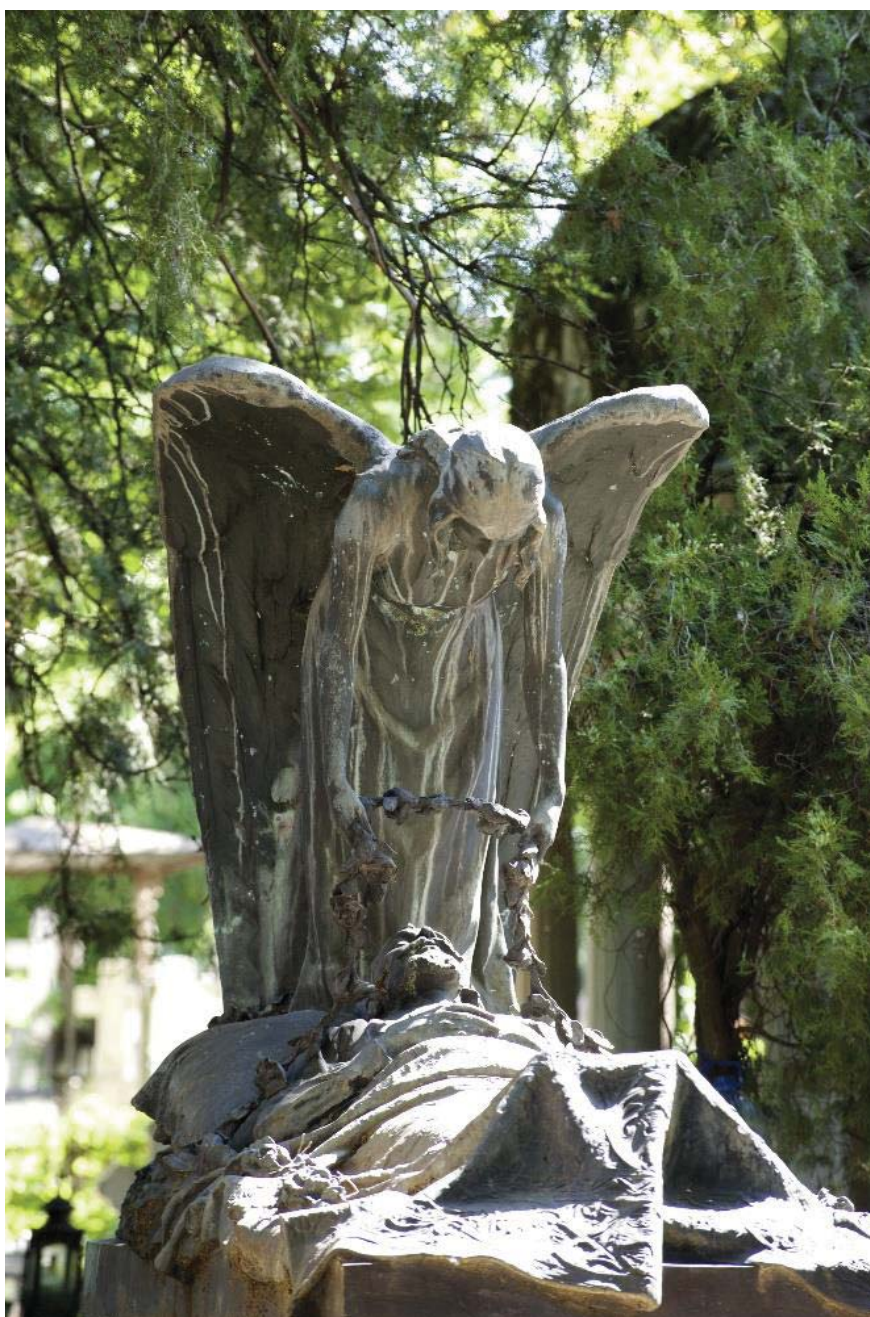
Ricardo Luigi

Maria Valentin

Anatole Martin

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sandu teodora



Andreas, Tedy,

Emma Laurentiu

Mary Manuela

Orlando Oana

Petre, Felipe Peter

Martin Marcus

Thomas Tim

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Jim Deleanu

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The 'Foce' monumental cemetery in Sanremo: mirror of the city as outstanding tourist destination during the Belle Epoque (1880-1915)

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abstract

The monumental cemetery of Sanremo was founded in 1838 and now counts about 2000 graves, one third of which belongs to foreigners, evidences of the city as outstanding tourist destination. The city with a good climate was also chosen for the recovery from the disease of chest by many people, even by Maria Alexandrovna, Czarina of Russia.

Many important people came to Sanremo from all over the world and sometimes here passed by and were buried: people like the painter Edward Lear, the anatomist Arthur Hill Hassal, Lady Caroline Giffard Phillipson, Prussian nobles, a good number of Russian aristocrats, and many others...

keywords:

“Foce” cemetery, foreign graves, Sanremo, Belle Epoque, international destination

The Foce monumental cemetery: brief description and history

This cemetery is located near the shore in the Western section of the city between the streams Foce and San Bernardo. It is worth to say that the site is very important even from the artistic and architectonic point of view but since the theme of this paper is already very broad I would not burden this contribute with the discussion of the artistic works.

The Foce cemetery was founded in 1838, soon after a cholera epidemic in 1837, on the initiative of the major Siro Andrea Carli because the previous and nearer Vallotto cemetery, reflecting the hygienic theories of that era which culminated in the Napoleonic edict of Saint Cloud (1806), had become insane for the city of Sanremo. The site has been expanded several times and now it contains about 2500 graves (columbaria excluded) and at least one third of the buried is foreign. This is an evidence of the importance of Sanremo as international tourist destination during the *Belle Epoque*.

The present city cemetery is the “Armea” in the Eastern limit of the city, a new site that has been inaugurated in 1948. The initial intention was to eliminate the “Foce” cemetery in order to devote the area to building constructions. Fortunately that did not happen and in 1980 the Foce Cemetery had been declared “Monumental Cemetery” and even if some graves had been moved in the new cemetery the visit of the Foce is a true dip in the past. Unfortunately, the site is in a state of strong decay due mainly



Fig.1. Countess Adele
Roverizio di Roccastrone

to the lacking of heirs and to the no application of a plan about conservation and weed control. The enhancement of the cemetery is required to obtain funds for its preservation.

Sanremo as international tourist destination

The monumental cemetery “Foce” is an important evidence of the Sanremo (or San Remo) as an international tourist destination during the Belle Epoque.

The transformation of the rural town of Sanremo, a little settlement where there was only the inn “De la Palme” owned by Mr. Angelo De Ferrari is due to the activities of the Countess Adele Bianchi Roverizio di Roccastrone (Fig.1). In the 1854-55, with the intent to publicize the excellent and therapeutic winter weather of Sanremo and the Western Riviera, she wrote under pseudonym an article for the journal *La Presse* and she ordered the construction of a beautiful villa on Berigo hill and finally she commissioned to Giovanni Ruffini¹² (1807-1881) a novel written in English.

The novel *Doctor Antonio* by Giovanni Ruffini was set between Sanremo and Bordighera, and with this book the English began to fall in love of the Western Riviera and to come here systematically and not deviating from the French Riviera (Nice, Mentone, Cannes, Antibes,...)¹³ through the Corniche Road. Below there is the incipit of the book, and you can see how much it is focused on the beauty of the landscape (Ruffini, 1855):

<< On a fine sunny of early April, in the year 1840, an elegant travelling carriage was rattling, at the full speed of four post-horses, over the road, famous among tourist as the Corniche Road, and which runs along the Western Riviera of Genoa, from that city to Nice.

Few of the public highways of Europe are more favoured than this-few, at any rate, combines in themselves three such elements of natural beauty as the Mediterranean on one side, the Apennines on the other, and overhead the splendours of an Italian sky. [...] The road, in its obedience to the capricious indentations of the coast, is irregular and serpent-like; at one time on a level with the sea, it passes between hedges of tamarisk, aloes, and oleander, at another winds up some steep mountain side, through dark pine forests, rising to such a height that the eye recoils terrified from looking into the abyss below; here it disappears into galleries cut in the living rock, there comes out upon a wide expanse of earth, sky and water; now turns inland, with

12. Ruffini was an Italian patriot exiliated in England. His work also have the aim of arousing interest on the Italian question. The novel was first published in 1855 while the unification of Italy was in 1861 and the annexation of the Papal States in 1871.

13. It is worth remember that the present French Riviera from the Italian boundary to Nice was Italian until 1860.

a seeming determination to force a passage across the mountain, anon shoots abruptly in an opposite direction, as if bent upon rushing headlong into the sea. [...] It is past the power of words to shadow out the brilliant transparency of this atmosphere, the tender azure of this sky, the deep blue of this sea, the soft gradations of tone tinting these wavy mountains, as they lap one over the other.>>

In 1856 the Countess Adele received the first illustrious guest: he was the Baron Boris d'Uxkull, uncle of the Russian ambassador in Rome. He put the Countess in contact with Dr Gustave Proell, director of the spa of Bad Gastein, who knew the German physicians like Dr Elseasser, personal doctor of the King of Wuttemberg and so on. In the meanwhile the Sanremese physicians Panizzi and Onetti published booklets in Italian and in English on the health of the local climate (Astralidi, 1902).

In 1861 the situation was so full of hopes that the entrepreneur Pietro Bogge from Turin decided to build the Hotel Londres, and Angelo De Ferrari the restyling of the Inn de La Palme transformed in the Hotel De La Palme (now Hotel Globo). They were soon followed by the edification of: the Hôtel Victoria in 1864, the Hotel d'Angleterre (also owned by Mr. De Ferrari of Hotel de La Palme), Hôtel d'Europe et de la Paix, Hôtel de Nice, Hotel Royal (1874), Hotel des Anglais (1888), Hotel Miramare (1870), Hotel Bellevue (1893-94), Hotel de Paris (1897), Hotel Savoy (1899).

In those years there was a diffusion of steam ships and the transformation of Sanremo was completed with the arrival of the railroad in the early seventies, soon the city was linked to the Northern and Eastern Europe with trains with sleeping carriages. There was a quick increase of the tourism, for an example in the winter season 1881-1882 the railway station of Sanremo emitted over 90000 tickets. In Autumn 1883 the luxury train Calais-Nice-Rome Express linked the Riviera to Northern Europe; this train meet instant success and weekly journeys soon became thrice weekly. Some years after the Compagnie International des Wagon Lits created other two memorable lines: the Vienna – Nice Express (1895) and the St. Peterburg – Nice – Cannes Express (1898). In the meanwhile there was a blooming of brochures, guides, translations, collections of drawings and books about the Riviera and the surroundings (Kanceff et al., 1997; Bartoli, 2008).

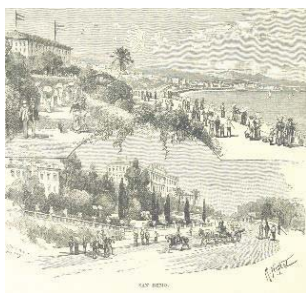


Fig. 2. Illustration by H.Nestel from *Die Riviera* (1884), one of the most important tourist guide

The fortune of Sanremo lasted until the Thirties (except for a short break during a the First World War) and among the many guests there were: the king of Spain, the princes Amedeo, Umberto and Oddone of Savoy, the Zarhine Empress Maria Alexandrovna of Russia, the Emperor of Germany Frederick William III, the Grand Duke of Russia, the Grand Duke of Branschwein, the Empress of Austria Elizabeth

named 'Sissi', the Grand Duke Sergei Michaëlowitch of Russia, the Duke and Duchess of Geneva, the King of Wurtemberg, the King of Sweden, the prince of Hohenlohe-Oehringen Duke of Ujest, the feld-marechal de Moltke, the Russian prince Anatole Demidoff, the King of Siam, Lord Russell, the barons Rothschild, the Polish poet Ignatieff Kraszewsky, Emil Zola,...

The research about the graves of foreigners

The identification of the graves has been difficult: often headstone were hard to read or understand, then burial records have been kept regularly only after 1900 but for the foreigners there were often italianizations, misspellings, lacking of information and bad handwriting. For the buried before 1900 other information could be obtained from the archive of the death records of the Municipality, although the writing is better there are still misspellings and it is still difficult finding records not well dated.

When data and names are reconstructed correctly is possible to go back to find something about the people buried here.

Moreover the referring number of graves and of the field had been given in a complicate way, at the beginning of the work the orientation was difficult (sometimes the graves have lost their number...) so I need to filled up with the graves' numbers the cemetery planimetry in order to better find out the missing ones.

About Russians some years ago Cazzola P. and Talalaj M. have done a censiment of the graves, but sometimes they didn't find the grave (Cazzola & Moretti, 2005). My research about the Russian graves started from their list and then I completed their work founding out new graves or correcting data (regarding the missing graves some were existing while others not because the burial rests had been moved elsewhere as stated from burial records).

In the meanwhile I started to organize the buried of other nationalities but the work is very long¹⁴.

In this work I present those buried who, by now, sorted out to be important people in their life. The date format used is dd/mm/yyyy.

The English “colony” in Sanremo

Except for some pioneer (i.e. John Ruskin in 1840, Tobias Smollet, Charles Dickens) the coming of the English in Riviera is due to Ruffini's book. The story of Miss Lucy

14. When there is a lacking information about the birthplace (almost always misspelled in the burial records) the attribution of nationality is often incert: Russian were polyglot and sometimes their headstones are in French, German or English), Poland wasn't a country of its own until 1919 so it is not rare to find out inscriptions in German or Russian, Hungary and Czech Republic were under the Austro – Ungarian Empire until the 1918, ...

Davenne and charming doctor Antonio of Bordighera does not fail to emphasize the beauty of the landscape and its healthiness.

The place soon also became suitable for acclimatization of those Englishmen who had administrative duties and trades in tropical zones belonging to the sphere of British colonialism (Baudo, 1994).

The English colony of San Remo was a colony less 'exclusive' compared to that of nearby Bordighera but in all cases the proportion of the English presence (or at least of belonging to the Commonwealth) in the winter season is higher than that of other nationalities. The presence of the British gave birth to a golf course, a Tennis and a Bridge Club, the first Rotary Club of Italy, specific places of worship, a road still now called *Corso degli Inglesi* (i.e. English street).

Among the English graves at the monumental cemetery 'Foce' it is worth remember those:



Fig. 3a. Portrait of Arthur Hill Hassall

- Lady Caroline Giffard Phillipson (1823-1893). Daughter of Sir John Hesketh Lethbridge, of ancient noble British family, she was lady in waiting of Queen Victoria and a firm supporter of the Italian cause. As the Lord John Russel (1792-1878) she is a personage symbolizing the relationship between local people and British guest and an economical fautor of the Unification of Italy. In the local museum there is a group of letter which Giuseppe Garibaldi sent to his "dear friend". She died at the Hotel Londra.
- Arthur Hill Hassall, MRCP, MRCS (Teddington 1817-Sanremo 1894). He was a distinguished physician, biologist, chemist, and microscopist who became famous in England for some works on the benefit of public health (Fig. 3A). In 1846, aged 29, he published two volumes that are the first true English text of the microscopic anatomy of the human body. In 1869, he moved to Ventnor, Isle of Wight, where he founded the *National Cottage Hospital for Consumption and Disease of the Chest*. He is a prominent figure in the Sanremo of the late 19th century, as in 1878 he decided to spend there more and more time because of his lung problems. Here he lived with his family (the second one, because in the meantime he remarried) in Villa Carli and Villa Bracco. In Sanremo he dedicated to a complex study and from his research born out two interesting volumes, published in London (only in English) supporting the theory of good climates in the treatment of lung diseases. In Sanremo he continued his medical profession, especially among the English colony, until a few weeks before his death (1894, April 9th). His



Fig. 3b. Ceremony of unveiling of the restored tomb



Fig. 4. Edward Lear



Fig. 5. Lady Beverley Ogle in her youth



Fig. 6. Lucy Madox Brown Rossetti portrayed by D.G. Rossetti

grave has been recently restored (Fig.3B) thanks to funding from the Rotary Club 2032 San Remo and it is hoped it is going to act as an example for other future interventions (Gray, 1983).

- Edward Lear (1812-1888). He was an English painter and the author of the *Book of Nonsense* (Fig.4). In 1870 he built Villa Emily, ten years after due to the new and huge Hotel Royal he built a new villa, Villa Tennyson, completely equal to the previous one. He was also a patient of Dr. Hassall.
- Baroness Harriett Ida Caroline Van Cutsem, died in 1906. Van Cutsem is an English family very friendly with the Royal House of England. She is the grandmother of Bernard Henry Van Cutsem, a millionaire horse breeder and an ancestor of one of the little bridesmaids of the 2012 Royal Wedding
- Some members of the Ogle – Boyd family are buried in this cemetery: Lady Catherine Ogle (Fig.5) born Beverley (died 1917), her son Sir Henry Asgill Ogle (died 1921) and her daughter-in-law parents Sir Thomas Lurham Boyd (died 1931) and Julia Catherine (died 1927), owners of Villa Vista Lieta, which in 1934 was donated by Lady Daisy Ogle b. Boyd to the Italian Government.
- Lucy Madox Brown Rossetti (1843-1894), painter and sister-in-law of painter Dante Gabriel Rossetti (Fig.6). She suffered from tuberculosis and she died 12 April 1894 at the Hotel Victoria in the presence of her husband William and her daughter Olivia.
- Sir George King (1840-1909) (Fig.). He was appointed in 1871 superintendent of the Royal Botanical Garden of Calcutta, India; then in 1890 he was the first Director of the Botanical Survey of India from 1890. Sir King was awarded with the Linnean Medal in 1901 thanks for his work in the cultivation of cinchona and for setting up a system for the inexpensive distribution of quinine throughout India through the postal system.
- Sir Walter Congreve, who was a sort of representative of the colony in relations with the Municipality. He owned an agency that located the Villas in Sanremo to those who stayed for the entire Winter Season from October to May (Bertoli, 2008).
- Dr. L.E. Kay Shuttleworth (1849-1900) vice-consul of England. For 15 years he was the guardian of the Anglican church in Sanremo.

There also are a good number of English military men, among them:



Fig. 7. Bust sculpture on the grave of Lionel E. Kay Shuttleworth.



Fig. 8 Sir John Bateman Champain (1835-1887)

- Major General John Christie C.B. & A.D.C to Queen Victoria (1805-1869), was a senior officer in the Indian Staff Corps, in 1838 he raised the 1st Bengal Irregular Cavalry, better known as Christie's Horses, which commanded until the end of the Afghan War (1839-1842), his military career continued until 1867. He was decorated with several medals. His daughter Augusta Margaret has for second husband the General Sir Crawford Trotter Chamberlain G.C.I.E, C.S.I (1821–1902), a senior officer in the Indian Staff Corps. (AA.VV., 1906)
- Colonel Sir John Underwood Bateman Champain K.C.M.G., born in London 22-07-1835 and died in Sanremo 01-02-1887 (Fig.8). He went to India in 1854 and he was appointed assistant principal of the Thomason College of Civil Engineering at Roorkee, but while he was there the Indian Rebellion of 1857 broke out. When the rebellion was finally suppressed Champain became executive engineer in the public works department at Goudah, and afterwards at Lucknow. At that time there was no electric telegraph from Britain to India, but in 1865 the line was practically completed, and in 1870 Sir Bateman Champain became chief director of the Indo-European Government Telegraph Department, a position he held until 1885. In his last years, he suffered from hay-fever, asthma, and in January 1887 he was persuaded to leave England for the Mediterranean. After spending three weeks at Cannes, France, he went to Sanremo, where he died on 1887, February 1st. The Shah of Persia sent a telegram of condolence, making an exception to the strict court etiquette.
- Sir William Grey Wilson, K.C.M.C.K.B.E., (1852-1926). He was a colonial administrator of the British Empire. More precisely he was Governor of St. Helena (1887-1897), then Governor of the Falkland Islands (1897-1904) and finally Governor of the Bahamas (1904-1912).

Finally, there also are relatives of famous and important people. For example:

- Rosamund Constance Fox Talbot (died 1906). She was from Lacock Abbey and she is daughter of William Henry Fox Talbot, the pioneer of photography.
- Susanna Thomson, born in Ottawa in 1854 and died in Sanremo on 1879, April 29, daughter of Henrietta Hamilton and Andrew Thomson, The President of the Union Bank of Canada and of the Quebec Railway, Light, Heat & Power



Fig. 9 Grave of Alice Margaret Mac Gill and Nicolaj Georgevic Filippe

Company. Her grave is sculpted by Filippo Ghersi, a local sculptor much appreciated by the A Catholic guests.

- William Monroe father of the English poet Harold Edward Monroe, born in London in 1848 and died in Villa Speranza, Sanremo, on 1889, 12th December, aged 42 years
- Hill Hassall's family. In 1881, his second wife Alice Margaret born Mac Gill (1846-1922), gave birth to Charles, who died in December 1883. He is buried with his father A.H. Hassall. About his wife, significantly younger, who does not figure in the grave for a long time her fate was shrouded in mystery. During the inspections, her grave has been found and so it is possible to establish that she probably remained in Sanremo, married a Russian coetaneous Nicolaj Georgevic Filippe (1844-1919) and they are buried together in the “Foce” cemetery (Fig.9).

Russians in Sanremo

The Ruffini's book was also known by the Russians (most of them were familiar with English, French and German languages), but the defining event for the coming of the Russians in Riviera was the venue in 1874 of the Czarina Maria Aleksandrovna, born princess d'Assia D'Armstadt. She stayed at the Hotel De Nice and were located some nearby villas in order to guest all her followers.

She and her son Aleksej suffered of tuberculosis. Their recovery was impossible but however, the welcome of the city and the dazzling beauty of the climate, impressed her so positively that leaving Sanremo she promised that she would give some palm's seeds to adorn the preferred walk (the current *Corso Imperatrice*) and so she did. In the following decades hundreds of Russian nobles, men of letters, poets, painters and composers trod upon the imperial footsteps and lived in villas located close to the preferred promenade of their Czarina: in the years around 1900 there were at least fifty Russian families housed in Sanremo, some of noble origins: Demidov, Obolenskij, Abamelek - Lazarev, Trubetskoy, Apraksin, Tallevici, Olsuf'ev, Sadovskie, Botkin, Nepluyeff, Kotenev, Musin – Pushkin. As we will see later almost always of them are buried in Sanremo.



Fig. 10 The Russian Chapel in the “Foce” cemetery

In the “Foce” Cemetery there is a Russian Chapel. This place of worship is a reference point for the Russian colony until 1922 (when it starts to run the Russian Church in Sanremo) and here religious functions were regularly celebrated. In 1945, when the Russian church is unusable because of the bombing, the Russian Chapel knows a new period of constant use that will last until 1948.

The building of the Russian chapel, also used for meetings of the parish council, was built on desire of the noble Countess Natalya Bem Nepluyeff. In 1905, her son Ivan died in an accident, so together with Olga Koteneva, she decided to build an Orthodox chapel dedicated to St. Nicholas of Mira, patron of the husband of Mrs. Koteneva. The chapel, consacrated on 1908, March 11th, has six cripts used by important Russian families to bury their relatives.

In the chapel, besides Ivan Nepluyeff (died on 1905, February 20th aged 39 years) several members of the Russian Orthodox community in Sanremo were buried, not everyone presenting a plaque. With a careful analysis of the burial records it sorted out that are also buried here the Princess Pelagia Aleksandrovna Obolenskaja called Paolina¹⁵ (born 12/02/1871 and died on 15/07/1930) married to Dmitri Petrovich Maksutov and her daughter Olga Dimitrovna Maksutova always dead in 1930, aged only 19 years. They were both buried in the field n°1 and some years later they exhumed and transferred to the Russian chapel. I also suppose that the vice - Russian Consul Du Thillot, died in Sanremo in 1930 and still buried in field n°1, had been translated although it lacks the annotation of the moving in the registers, otherwise he would now be finished in the common ossuary. Among the buried with a plaque in memory there are:

- Countess Natalja Bem Nepluyeva died on 1921, October 10th. Buried with his son Ivan. Since 1909 she lived in Sanremo at Villa Iris.
- General Prince Nikolaj Valerianovič Urusov, paternal uncle's niece of Natalja Nepluyeva, born 28.10.1860 and died 25.8.1912 during his journey from Russia to Italy.
- Kotenev spouses: Olga Koteneva born Lagunova (1857-1943) and her husband Nikolaj Konstantinovič Kotenev (1854-1905), militar engineer
- Colonel Vladimir Petrovič Zagrebelsky (1857-1939), father of the FIAT manager Giovanni Zagrebelsky, and grandfather of the Italian senator Vladimir.
- Aleksandr Georgevic Vlangali (†1908) Member of the State Council, Russian Ambassador in Rome, Secretary of State and Privy Councillor effective.
- Gregorij Livšič (1864-1910), lecturer at the University of Geneva
- Aleksandr Nikolaevič Vekšinskij (1859-1908), architect
- Pavel Veselovskij (†1908, aged 34 years), lawyer

15. Her sisters were: Princess Olga Aleksadrovna Obolenskaja (1881- 1911) married to Boris Wsewolodowitsch Kachowsky (1881-1914); Princess Nina Aleksandrovna Obolenskaya (1877-1963) married to Wladimir Eugwniewitsch Essaulov (1881-1953), they ran a pension on Berigo hill for several years, then they moved to India where they died; Princess Aleksandra Aleksandrovna Obolenskaja (1882-1922) married first with Prince Nicolaj Nicolaievitch Meschtschersky and then to Prince Eristov. Finally her brother was Prince Serge Alexandrovitch Obolensky (1879-1960)

In this cemetery there also are many other Russian graves. I found out about 80 graves referring to at least 110 people coming from states of the ex USSR. In the following paragraphs I remember some of them.

Countess Aleksandra Andreevna Olsuf'ev born Miklaševskaja (St. Petersburg 1846 - Sanremo 1924) was a lady of honor of the Czarinas and in the late 19th century she dwelt in Sanremo with her husband Aleksej Vasilevich. They built in 1900 the famous villa Russalka, designed by Lord Winter and now disappeared, located on the Berigo hill. The couple had three children, including the lieutenant of cuirassiers Andrej Alekseevich who married Princess Elizaveta Abamelek - Lazareva (1866-1934) who for many years lived in Sanremo and is buried not far away from the mother-in-law. Princess Elizaveta was related with the Gagarin and Demidov as Marija Demidova Pavlovna (1876-1955) had married her brother Semen Semenovic Abamelek-Lazarev, who was killed in the Caucasus in 1916 while his wife remained in Italy and her Roman villa Abamelek is still today the site of Russian embassy in Rome. The sister of Elizaveta, Elena Semenovna, had married in 1882 Prince Georgy Petrovich Gagarin, and they were often guests in Villa Russalka. Near the tombs of two women there is also the grave of Anton Rjurikovič Kotzebue (1860-1936) which is a in-law relative of the Countess Elizaveta Olsuf'eva given that her son Andrej, buried at Armea Civic Cemetery of Sanremo, had married Tatiana Kotzebue.

Aleksandr Sergeevic Botkin was born in St. Petersburg in 1866, he graduated in medicine in Moscow and he became a member of the medical Academy and scientific officer of the tsar. He joined the Navy and performed several explorations, especially in Siberia and in the region of Lake Baikal. He was military referee in Finland in 1910 and then in Crimea in the years between 1918 and 1920.

Finally he reached his wife and family, that sometimes followed him on his missions, and after a few laps he decided to settle in San Remo in 1923, where he built a villa in Spring Street (Via Primavera). His wife was Marija Pavlovna Tret'jakova, daughter of the patron founder of the famous art gallery in Moscow. Deeply religious she became *starosta* of the Russian Church in San Remo. In 1947 she was shocked by the premature loss of her daughter and left alone with the faithful nanny Varvara she died in 1952.

In Botkin's family tomb are buried: Aleksandr Sergeevich Botkin (1866-1936), Marianna Aleksandrovna Botkina (1905-1947), Maria Pavlovna Botkina born Tret'jakova (1875-1952), the *njanja* Varvara Paramonova (1875-1959).



Fig. 11 Bust sculpture of Count Josef in the family tomb

Count Josif Tallevici (Fig.11), was a native Russian-Romanian that he had settled in Sanremo for health reasons with his wife Anna, Russian, born Princess Tarasova. He built a villa, Villa Tallevici precisely, on Berigo hill and soon he became a reference point of the Russian colony. Moreover, he was one of the promoters of the construction of a Russian church in Sanremo. The family tomb was designed by Francesco Sappia in 1904. The couple had several daughters and one son, Victor, died in 1948 in Argentina, in turn, was the father of two children. In the tomb are buried Count Tallevici (Bucharest 1834 - Sanremo 1917) with his wife Anna Tarasova (St. Petersburg 1849 - Sanremo 1931), Count Cyril (Sanremo 1910 - Padua 1980), Countess Olga widow Dellacasa (San Remo 1884 - Torino 1886), Countess Margot Ihssen widow Tallevici (1910 - 1997). Then there are memorials of: Natalia Tallevici Folicaldi who died in Rome in 1920, Valeria Tallevici Maggiotto who died in Rome in 1932, and Catherine who died in Bolzano in 1882 just five years.

There also is the grave of the Count Alexander Alexandrovich Musin - Pushkin (St. Petersburg 1856 - Sanremo 1907), who is recalled in fictionalized version by Nico Orengo in his novel *Hotel d'Angleterre*.

Princesses Caterina (Katrina) and Marja Gegalova.

The October Revolution transformed the Russians who previously were in the area for the health and beauty of the place in exiles unable to return home. Moreover the Revolution changed the economic possibilities of Russian colony and instead of instead of the noble and wealthy vacationers, immigrants without means began to arrive in San Remo. So we also remember:

- Colonel Baron Leontji Andreevic von Majer, who dwelt in Sanremo with his family in 1920, guest of the Botkin family and then of the chalet Bellevue. Finally in 1925 at Villa Natalia, built by Sadovskie family, where he opened the inn Villa Adriana. He was born on 28-05-1878 in Reval (now Tallinn) and he has Franco - German origins, he attended the cadet school in Petersburg and in July 1914 he was sent at the Russian Legation in Belgium and The Netherlands. Surprised first by war and then by the revolution he never came back home. Passionate about heraldry and designer of ex – libris he died in Sanremo 1936, 13th March. His wife Anna Oja Estonia (1893-1944) is buried with him. Their son continued to run the inn Villa Adriana until 1987 (Cazzola e Moretti, 2005).

- Anna Nikolaevna Kutukova Svedomskaja, Tatar singer and pianist, who married Aleksandr Aleksandrovic Svedomskij (of a wealthy Russian family whose fortune was based on industry vodka). They had a daughter Anna Alexandrovna who was born in St. Petersburg in 1898, and she became a painter and an expert of art. When his father died in Rome in 1911 (buried at the Roman A catholic cemetery as the brother Pavel) she returned to Russia with her mother and nanny Praskovya were they were surprised by war and revolution, and only in 1919 passing by Crimea they were able to return to Italy (first to Rome and then in Sanremo where there was an aunt). The women ran a pension in Villa Zirio until the death of the pianist Anna Nikolaevna in 1925. In 1927 the daughter Anna Alexandrovna Svedomskaja married the Sanremese lawyer Paolo Manuel Gismondi with whom she had a son. The couple remained in close contact with the Russian colony, especially with Botkin, the Olsuff'ev and Apraksin. Anna Aleksandrovna Svedomskaja died in 1973 and she is buried in the Manuel Gismondi's family tomb in the archade 40 (Cazzola 1998, Cazzola & Moretti 2005, AA.VV. 2002)
- Valentin Mikhailovich Cholevinskij died in 1902 at age 44, court counselor
- Maria Vladimorovna Chil'd born Karneeva who was the daughter of General Karneev. She died in 1913
- the noble Ukrainian Tatyana Michaijlovna Šostackaja (1877-1905) on whose tomb we find the following verses *from far Russia / you came here to recovery / barely alive and solitary / here laid your bones*
- Andrej Fedorovic de Petrovics, Lieutenant Colonel of the Imperial Army, died on 1899, December 10th, aged 67 years
- Vasilji L'vovič Sapelnikoff (1868-1941), who was an Ukrainian pianist and composer buried with his wife Olga.

Germans in Sanremo

Even the Germans tourists have their pioneers like Adam Ebert, Heinrich Stieglitz in 1840, ... but it is thanks to Dr. Proell that German physicians started to recommend their patients therapeutic stays in Sanremo. The German traveler was deeply shaken by the landscape 'exotic', the scents, the colors so that often they experienced a mystical experience through the olive groves and palm trees. In general, the Franco - Prussian war will lead the Germans to prefer the little-known Italian than the French Riviera. A first special guest of the German colony was his Prince Friedrich Wilhelm



Fig.12 Karl T. Von Huttner's grave

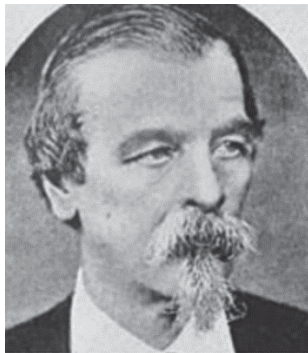


Fig. 13 - Baron Alfred von Wolzogen

of Germany in November 1887 who made room in Villa Zirio hoping to recover from a throat cancer. The hospital stay was brief because on March 10, 1888, he became Emperor Frederick III so he had to return to Germany, at the station the man was greeted by a crowd of 5,000 people (Kanceff et al, 1997).

For German aristocrats in Sanremo the reference points were Villa Parva and Villa Thiem. Among the German buried here it is worth remember:

- the botanist Karl Theophil von Huttner, (1822-1886), owner of Villa Parva and author of the book *Gartenflora des klimatischen Winterkurorts San Remo* published in 1884 (Fig.12).
- Karl Schneider, Consul of Germany in the late nineteenth century, mentioned several times on the local journal, he died in Sanremo in 1897, April 28th.
- Princess Cristine Salm -Reifferscheidt Krautheim and Dick born Countess of Diesenberg Hanxleden zum Spiegel. She was born in Wisenau on 18-05-1846 and she died in Sanremo in 1935, February 11th. She married Prince Leopold in Vienna, on 05-05-1866.
- the German consul Otto Karl Alexander Geibel, born in Lipsia 09-11-1874 and died in Sanremo in 19-10-1953. The man, due to various historical events had to repeatedly buy back his beloved villa Geibel, He is buried near his wife Marie Helene Louise Emilie Corradi died in April 1921.
- Baron Alfred von Wolzogen (1823-1883), son-in law of Karl Friedrich Schinkel (1781-1941), Prussian architect designer of several monuments in the center of Berlin (Fig.13).
- Auguste Sasse (1840-1875), who wrote a local tour guide.
- Baroness Helen Louise Anna Franziska Von Parish born Von Adelebsen (1837-1907). She married in 1858 Edward Parish von Senfetenberg. They had five children: one of them, Oskar (1864-1925), was Privy Councillor of the Austrian state at the time of Emperor Franz Joseph I.

Other nationalities

Among the buried of other nationalities it is worth remember:

- Jules Agésilas Alexandre Louis Marie François de Saint-André, count of Grossolles-Flamarens (1806-1879) who was a French politician, senator of the Empire and Napoleon III's chamberlain.
- Fatima Hassan, died on 1923, June 24th aged only 6 months. She was the little daughter of the Prince Aziz Hassan, who used to spend time in Sanremo with Maometto VI, the last sultan of the Ottoman Empire (Fig.14).



Fig.14 Grave of little Princess
Fatima Hassan



Fig.15 Catherine
Coudougrou's Chapel

- Princess Agabiker Kadjar, born Princess Oussmii. She belonged to the Kadjar dynasty, which dominated Persian Empire. She died at villa Cecilia on 1923 where she lived with her son, the Prince Rizah Kadjar. Their descendants still live in Sanremo.
- Rasmus Stiernholm, (1872-1935) tradesman in North Africa, he was the Danish vice-consul in Sanremo, who lived in a Villa located in Corso degli Inglesi.¹⁶
- Baron Jnk (i.e. Honor.) Willhem Jan Van Eys (1825-1914). The Neerlandese noble established in Sanremo with his wife Mathilde Kleinmann in 1875. He was heraldry enthusiast and a researcher of Basque language
- Catherine Coudougrou, born Stalio (died 1923). She was a wealthy woman married to a Bulgarian tobacco trader. She was buried in a wonderful chapel rich in marble and decorations with a bronze sculpture by J.P. Van Biesbroeck (Fig.15).

There also are many Jewish graves with buried of different nationalities. For a detailed discussion of them see my other article in this book.

Obviously there are many important Italians, not only local, but this is another story.

Conclusion

Not all the foreigners died in Sanremo are still buried at Foce cemetery, some of them after a hurried burial, they were exhumed after a few months or years in order to move back to the country of origin or in other cemeteries, other were buried in the common fields and others were buried from the beginning in another place but awaiting the transfer the passage to the morgue, located in the cemetery, was required. Among them it is worth remember:

- Aleksej Michajlovic Romanov (1875-1895), grandson of the Csar Nicholas I, he died at Villa Garbarino on 1895, March 2nd
- Mohammad Ali Qajar (1872-1925), Shah of Persia, died on 1925, April 8th buried at Kerbela, Iraq
- Mehmed VI (1861-1926), the last Sultan, died on 1926, May 16th at Villa Magnolie and after buried in Damasco, Syria
- Alfred Nobel (1833-1896), the inventor of dynamite died in 1896, December 10th at Villa Nobel, then his remains moved to Stochkolm, cemetery *Norra begravningsplatsen*

16. In Kanceff et al. It says that Stiernholm died during the Second World War in Sanremo but that the grave was lost. During my inspections I found him in the Southern columbaria.

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Image references

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