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The Hollowbrook Estate entrance remains well-maintained despite its ownership being in legal limbo. While most recognize its iconic design with two arches and twin towers, few know that the seven merlons adorning the main gate were only added during Margaret's 1981 renovation, along with the protective bollards. The shields flanking the gate once displayed the Hollowbrook family seal—a compass divided into 18 equal sections.

SECOND HOLLOWBROOK DISAPPEARANCE CASE CLOSED

Court Declares Margaret Hollowbrook Legally Dead After 21 Years

Following the same twenty-one year waiting period observed for her great-uncle, Margaret Hollowbrook was legally declared deceased yesterday by County Circuit Court Judge Patricia Montgomery. The ruling brings a formal, if unsatisfying, conclusion to one of our region's most perplexing missing persons cases.

The declaration comes exactly 21 years and one day after Margaret Hollowbrook's mysterious disappearance from Hollowbrook House in 1983, mirroring the legal process followed for her great-uncle Edgar Hollowbrook who vanished in 1939. Thomas Hollowbrook, who had transferred the property to Margaret in 1980

and has maintained legal responsibility since her disappearance, requested the court observe the family's traditional waiting period.

"While we knew this day was coming, it doesn't make it any easier," Thomas Hollowbrook stated after the hearing. "Like my uncle Edgar before her, Margaret left behind more questions than answers. Two generations of our family have vanished within those walls, and we may never know why."

The property will remain closed to the public, continuing the policy established after Margaret's disappearance. "We've received numerous requests from paranormal research groups over the years," Thomas

Hollowbrook noted, "but this is a family matter, not a tourist attraction."

Detective Raymond Lynch, who led the original investigation into Margaret's disappearance and has since retired, attended the hearing. "In my thirty years of police work, the Hollowbrook cases stand out as truly unique," Lynch commented. "Two people, separated by forty-four years, vanishing under nearly identical circumstances - it defies conventional explanation."

The Whispering Hollows Historical Society maintains an extensive archive of materials related to both Hollowbrook disappearances. "These cases represent a significant, if troubling,

chapter in our town's history," said Society Director Marion Hayes. "While the legal cases may be closed, historians and researchers will undoubtedly continue to study these events for generations to come."

The mansion, which has now stood empty for all but 8 years of its 70-year existence, remains a source of local speculation and folklore. Thomas Hollowbrook has announced plans to continue basic maintenance of the property while keeping it secured against trespassers.

"Sometimes I wonder if the house itself holds the answers," Thomas Hollowbrook reflected. "But for now, like the rest of my family, I've learned to live with the mystery."

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