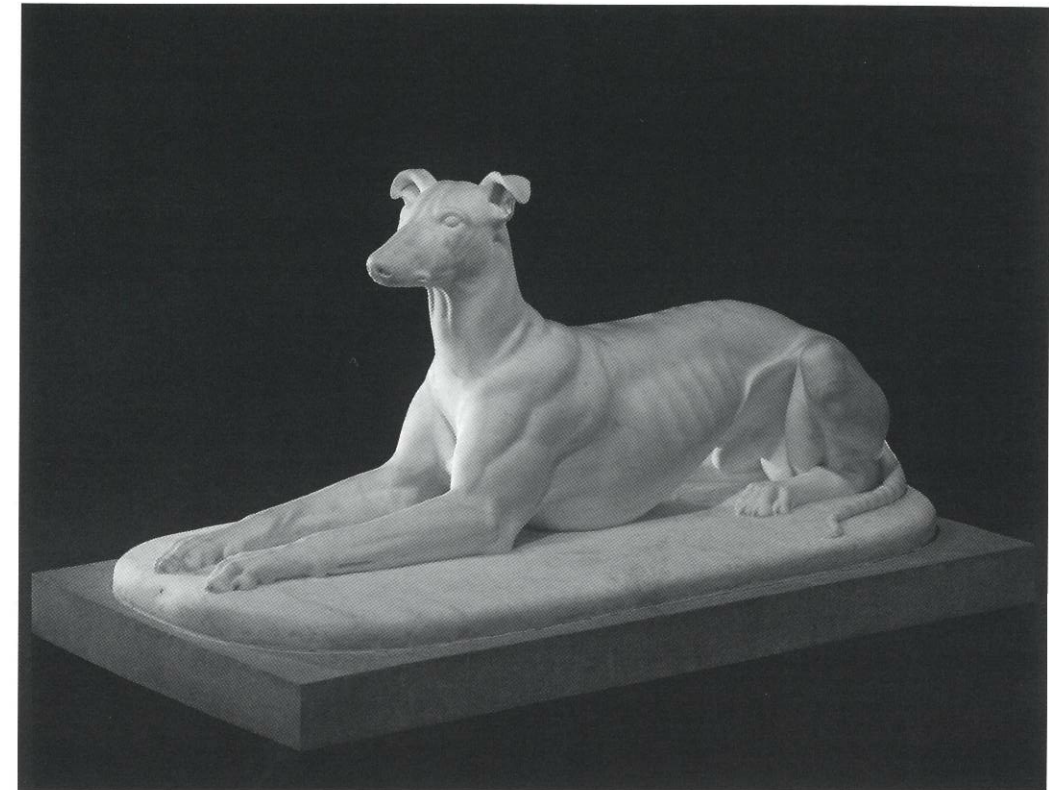




used by Robert Wood in the making of ornamental ironworks.¹⁵ The author, C. T. Hinckley, described the chest of a figure on a cotton bale being broken away to reveal an iron rod running through the center of the hitching post.¹⁶ According to Hinckley, a figure of Hebe contained fifty-four parts; a Newfoundland dog, thirty-one parts; a life-sized lion, fifty-eight

parts; a crouching greyhound, sixteen parts. All of these subjects were on display at Belmont and, with the exception of a marble version of Hebe, were produced in the manufacturer's technique of casting ornamental ironwork. Curiously, Acklen's garden-gallery objects were exclusively of iron or marble although zinc castings, a more cost-effective method introduced



Visitors to Belmont often remarked on the amount of outdoor art in the gardens. Animal statuary was popular. One example, *Reclining Greyhound* (facing page), was inspired by the famous 1839 sculpture *Arno*, by Horatio Greenough (above). (*Reclining Greyhound*, Belmont Mansion Association, and *Arno*, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston)

from Prussia, were an emerging trend in 1850s America.¹⁷ Prussian-born architect, Adolphus Heiman, who may have assumed the role of landscape designer at Belmont in addition to engineering the water tower, would have been familiar with zinc casting as a means of making garden ornaments, but this current technology was not introduced into this site.

Other garden structures and decorative statues were described by William Acklen, including a collection of vine-covered summerhouses that offered a shaded leisure

space to sit while sipping drinks, reading, conversing, or taking in the view:

In the second circle was the largest of the five octagonal summerhouses adorning the grounds. Like the other four, it was of lovely iron work so extensively used at Belmont. Roses, star jasmine, and eglantine formed coverings of color and beauty. And here too statues, copies from the Vatican, gleamed white against their background of giant box.¹⁸