



# M087 Design for alterations to Edgehill

## Introduction

Two tenders for alterations to a drawing room, conservatory and oak wall panelling for Mrs Robina Spencer are recorded in John Honeyman & Keppie's job books. No payments are recorded in the job books, which suggests the work was not carried out.

Mr John James Spencer, Mrs Spencer's son, was a merchant who traded with the West Indies and in the early 1930s donated a collection of material to the University of Glasgow library. The client's daughter, Robina, and her husband James Muirhead, commissioned John Honeyman & Keppie to make minor alteration on their house in Bowmont Gardens in 1905. <sup>1</sup>

**Authorship:** This is one of over 270 jobs carried out in the office of John Honeyman & Keppie (Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh from 1901) during Mackintosh's time there. Mackintosh undoubtedly worked on many of these, but there is no specific evidence for his involvement in this case.

**Alternative names:** Horselethill House.

**Status:** Standing building; alterations presumed unbuilt

**Current name:** Horselethill House

**Current use:** Residential (2014)

**Listing category:** C: Listed as '5 and 7 Horselethill Road, Horselethill House with conservatory'

**Historic Scotland/HB Number:** 48683

**RCAHMS Site Number:** NS 56408 67445

**Grid reference:** NS 5640 6745

## Chronology

### 1893

30 June: Tender for alterations to a drawing room and a conservatory, and for oak wall panelling. <sup>1</sup>

11 July: Revised tender. <sup>2</sup>

## Description

## People

### Clients:

- Mrs Robina Spencer

### Contractors:

- Hutcheson & Grant

## Job Book

The job books of Honeyman & Keppie (later Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh) are now held by The Hunterian, University of Glasgow and include four volumes related to the Mackintosh period. The books were used by the firm to keep a project-by-project, day-by-day record of contractors, suppliers and expenditure. The name of a project and/or client is usually at the top of the left-hand page, followed by information about tradesmen who tendered. The name

of the measurer (quantity surveyor) is usually at the top of the right-hand page, followed by information about payments to contractors and suppliers. All of the data for M087 is entered in the tables below.

Page numbering is not consistent in the job books. Sometimes a single number refers to a double-page spread and sometimes each page is individually numbered. Here, each image of a double-page spread is identified by the number given at the top of the left-hand page. (Images of all of the pages from the four job books can be found at [Browse Job Books, Visit Book and Cash Book.](#))

The following information about M087 has been extracted from the job books:



**Client:** Mrs Robina Spencer

**Tenders:**

Contractor	Type	Date	Value	Accepted
Hutcheson & Grant	no data in job book	11 July 1893	£410 0s 0d <sup>1</sup>	

## Documents

## Images

## Bibliography

### Notes:

**1:** *Glasgow Post Office Directory*, 1892–3, pp. 573, 850; 'Spencer Collection', Special Collections, University of Glasgow, [www.lib.gla.ac.uk](http://www.lib.gla.ac.uk) [accessed 20 July 2012]; 'John James Spencer', Name Details in Special Collections manuscript catalogue, University of Glasgow, [www.lib.gla.ac.uk](http://www.lib.gla.ac.uk) [accessed 20 July 2012]; family information extracted from the 1891 census.

**2:** The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: John Honeyman & Keppie job book, GLAHA 53059, p. 161.

**3:** The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: John Honeyman & Keppie job book, GLAHA 53059, p. 161.

**4:** 'Of this estimate work £300 0s 0d the rest jobbings'. An entry directly above this one for alterations costing £420 0s 0d in the 'drawing room, conservatory and oak panelling above dado', dated 30 June, is crossed out.

## Mackintosh Architecture: Context, Making and Meaning

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