



M120 Design for an unidentified house

Introduction

This project is known from two elevational drawings presented by Andrew Graham Henderson to the Mackintosh scholar Thomas Howarth. ¹ The drawings show a substantial Scottish Baronial house of two principal storeys plus basement and attic, with a lower service wing to one side. There are no identifying inscriptions, and it is not known if the house was built, but it bears a family resemblance to several large houses designed or altered by John Honeyman, such as Skipness House, Achamore House and Cowden Castle, Dollar. ² It could be a suburban villa, but the fall of the ground and the prominent balcony make a seaside location more likely. One elevation has an oriel window derived from the much-imitated 16th-century one at Maybole Castle, Ayrshire, which Mackintosh sketched in 1895. ³ The other has a polygonal bay window with the balcony on its flat roof. This recalls John Honeyman & Keppie's 1889–91 additions to Dunloe, Wemyss Bay, while the detailing of the balcony, with elongated knots of carving at its angles, resembles the 1893–4 tower of the Glasgow Herald building.

Authorship: The provenance and the style of draughtsmanship indicate that the drawings are by Mackintosh. The unusual detailing of the balcony suggests he may have contributed to the design, rather than simply carrying out the instructions of Honeyman or John Keppie.

Status: Unknown

Chronology

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People

Clients:

-

Contractors:

-

Other:

-

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 M120 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 M120 has been extracted from the job books:

Job book: Page: NaN

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Client:

Tenders:

Contractor	Type	Address	Date	Value	Accepted

Payments (trades):

Name	Type	Payment out sum	Measurer fee payments
		First installment: Final installment:	

Payments (suppliers):

Name	Service	Payment date	Payment sum

Measurer fee payment: First installment:

Final installment:

Total cost:

Documents

Images

Bibliography

Published

Notes: 1: Sold Christie's, London, 17 February 1994, lot 78. 2: For these houses see David Stark, <i>Charles Rennie Mackintosh and Co.</i> , Catrine, Ayrshire: Stenlake Publishing, 2004, pp. 70–1, 73, 79–80. 3: The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: Sketchbook of travels in Scotland and a tour to Kent, GLAHA 53012/22, GLAHA 53012/23, GLAHA 53012/24, GLAHA 53012/25.
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Mackintosh Architecture: Context, Making and Meaning

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