



# M155 Alterations to 256 West George Street

## Introduction

John Honeyman & Keppie's drawings submitted to the Glasgow Dean of Guild Court show alterations to the artist Robert Coventry's top-floor flat to make a studio and bedroom. The work included alterations to the joists and installation of glazing in a N.-facing section of roof, opening up an existing internal wall and the construction of a new internal wall.

The requirement for purpose-built artists' studios in Glasgow was identified as early as 1884. An article in *Kirkwood's Dictionary of Glasgow & Vicinity* noted that 'although there are a great many artists in Glasgow, there are no buildings fitted up entirely for studio purposes.' Coventry's studio was located within the area of the city described in the article: 'bounded on the north by Sauchiehall Street; south, by St Vincent Street; east, by Renfield Street; west, by Douglas Street.' <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.

**Status:** Standing building, altered internally

**Current name:** 256 West George Street

**Current use:** Offices (2014)

**Listing category:** B: Listed as '250–6 (even nos) West George Street (known as 256)'

**Historic Scotland/HB Number:** 33249

**RCAHMS Site Number:** NS56NE 623

**Grid reference:** NS 58540 65645

## Chronology

### 1898

30 June: Plans approved by the Glasgow Dean of Guild Court. <sup>1</sup>

24 November: Work signed off by the Glasgow Dean of Guild Court. <sup>2</sup>

## Description

## People

### Clients:

- Robert Coventry

## 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 M155 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 M155 has been extracted from the job books:

## Documents

## Images

## Bibliography

### Notes:

- 1: *Kirkwood's Dictionary of Glasgow & Vicinity*, Glasgow: Strathern & Co., 1884, p. 172.
- 2: See inscription in top right of block plan. Glasgow City Archives Collection: Glasgow Dean of Guild Court plans, B4/12/1/6519.
- 3: Glasgow City Archives Collection: Glasgow Dean of Guild Court Register of Plans, B4/11/1, Petitioner Robert Coventry, 30 June 1898.

## Mackintosh Architecture: Context, Making and Meaning

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