

# M160 Memorial to Mrs Burns in Glasgow Cathedral

## Introduction

John Honeyman & Keppie designed a cream marble Doric Roman-style aedicule monument with broken curved pediment, and bronze memorial dedication panel to commemorate Frances Stewart Burns (1833–95), wife of Dr George Stewart Burns, minister of Glasgow Cathedral from 1865 until his death in 1896. The memorial is located on the N. wall of the Cathedral's N. transept. The combination of styles in the carved marble and bronze details; the Classical stema or shields; 17th-century strapwork; and Art Nouveau bud-like forms, recall decorative work at other contemporary John Honeyman & Keppie projects such as the wrought-iron gates at Queen Margaret College Anatomical Department.

Mrs Burns had been married first to a George Grant, and it was their children who commissioned the work. The client is recorded as E. H. Grant of London. In 1879, Mrs Burns gifted a new organ to the Cathedral in memory of her daughter, Frances Jane Grant (d. 1877). The memorial was described as 'in progress' in George Eyre-Todd's 1898 *The Book of Glasgow Cathedral: A History and Description*.<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.

**Cost from job book:** £38 10s 0d

**Status:** Extant monument

**RCAHMS Site Number:** NS66NW 17.00 (Glasgow Cathedral)

**Grid reference:** NS 60248 65577 (Glasgow Cathedral)

## Chronology

### 1895

17 February: Death of Frances Burns.<sup>1</sup>

### 1898

11 November: Tender accepted and contractor paid.<sup>2</sup>

28 November: E. H. Grant pays John Honeyman & Keppie £8 8s 0d.<sup>3</sup>

## Description

## People

### Clients:

- E. H. Grant

### Contractors:

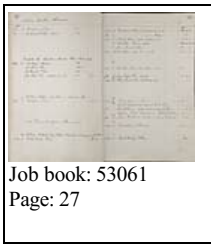
- R. A. McGilvray & Ferris

## 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 M160 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 M160 has been extracted from the job books:



Job book: 53061  
Page: 27

**Client:** E. H. Grant

**Tenders:**

Contractor	Type	Address	Date	Value	Accepted
R. A. McGilvray & Ferris	no data in job book	no data in job book	no data in job book	£38 10s 0d	yes (11 November 1898)

**Payments (trades):**

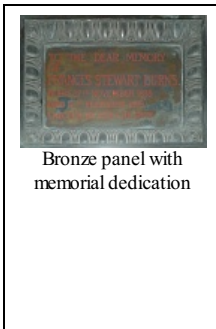
Name	Type	Payment out sum
R. A. McGilvray & Ferris	no data in job book	<b>Payment date:</b> 11 November 1898 £38 10s 0d

## Documents

## Images



Memorial to Mrs Burns,  
Glasgow Cathedral



Bronze panel with  
memorial dedication

## Bibliography

Notes:

- 1: George Eyre-Todd, ed., *The Book of Glasgow Cathedral: A History and Description*, Glasgow: Morison Brothers, 1898, pp. 443–4.
- 2: Record of death, [www.scotlandsppeople.gov.uk](http://www.scotlandsppeople.gov.uk) [accessed on 11 February 2013].
- 3: The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: John Honeyman & Keppie / Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh job book, GLAHA 53061, pp. 27–8.
- 4: Hunterian, University of Glasgow: John Honeyman & Keppie / Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh / Keppie Henderson cash book, 1889–1917, GLAHA 53079, p. 49.

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