

M316 Auchenbothie Mains

Introduction

Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh made minor alterations and additions to this, the principal farmstead on Hugh Brown Collins' Auchenbothie estate.

Authorship: Mackintosh signed the drawings approved by the county planning authority, and is named as architect in the authority's register of new buildings.

Alternative names: East Auchenbothie; Auchenbothie Farm; Auchenbothie Mains Farm.

Cost from job book: £274 7s 5d ¹

Status: Standing building

Current name: Auchenbothie Cottage

Current use: Residential (2014)

Listing category: Unlisted

Grid reference: NS 3440 7071

Chronology

1911

December: Drawings for alterations and addition to farmhouse signed by Mackintosh. ¹

1912

February: Drawings for alterations and additions to labourers' cottages signed by Mackintosh. ²

March: Block plan of farmstead signed by Mackintosh, showing alterations to labourers' cottages and farmhouse. ³

9 April: Plans approved by county planning authority. ⁴

1913

February–March: Revised drawings for alterations to farmhouse signed by Mackintosh. ⁵

13 March: Hugh Brown Collins submits revised drawings to county planning authority. ⁶

8 April: Revised plans approved. ⁷

1914

21 April: Collins submits plans for a porch and bathroom by Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh to county planning authority. No date of approval recorded. ⁸

8 June: Payment of £87 on account to James Grant for unspecified work at Auchenbothie Mains. ⁹

1916

15 August: Final measurement of James Grant's work at Auchenbothie Mains. ¹⁰

Description

As well as the gate lodge to Auchenbothie House and the house known as Mossyde, or Cloak, Hugh Brown Collins commissioned Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh to design alterations and additions to Auchenbothie Mains, the principal farm on his Auchenbothie estate. The pre-existing farmstead comprised a large quadrangle of farm buildings with an L-plan farmhouse attached at the N.E. corner. ¹

Plans for an addition to the farmhouse containing a laundry and bathroom, and for alterations to a group of labourers' cottages forming the S.W. corner of the

quadrangle, were prepared in late 1911 and early 1912, and approved by the county planning authority on 9 April 1912.² The drawings were signed by Mackintosh, and he is named as architect in the authority's register of new buildings. The work to the labourers' cottages may have gone ahead at this time, but the proposals for the farmhouse were revised the following February, and new drawings were approved on 8 April 1913.³

The farmhouse extension approved in 1912 had two storeys, although a sketch in *The Hunterian*, University of Glasgow, shows an alternative treatment with the N. end dropping to a single storey.⁴ Both the sketch and the plans approved by the county show the extension with a distinctive row of squarish ground-floor windows with grid-like glazing facing the farmyard. They also show the N.W. corner cut off at an angle where it abuts the lane leading N.E. from the farmyard to the Port Glasgow Road. In the revised scheme of 1913, the distinctive windows were omitted. The N. end of the extension was fixed at a single storey, but widened and given a double-pitched roof, and the N.E. corner was canted to match the N.W. With a chimney-stack between them, these canted corners make a gable with a curious semi-octagonal plan, which has no obvious rationale now that the position of the lane has been moved. The 1913 drawings show the gable with crow steps, also faintly indicated on a related drawing in *The Hunterian*,⁵ but they are not present on the building as it now stands (2010).

On the S. side of the house, the 1911 drawings show a small, single-storey porch, but in this position today there is a two-storey gabled addition with a slightly jettied upper floor. This is presumably the 'porch and bathroom at Auchenbothie Mains', designed by Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh, for which Collins sought approval in April 1914 (the architects' drawings do not appear to survive, but a plan of the farm drawn in March 1955 shows that the addition did indeed contain a porch with a bathroom above).⁶

Mackintosh's partnership with Keppie had been dissolved at the end of 1913, so if he was responsible for the addition, it was probably the last architectural job he undertook before his departure. It was possibly for this addition that the wright James Grant was paid £87 on account in June 1914, as recorded in Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh's job book (the final measurement of his work did not take place until 15 August 1916, when it was valued at £274 7s 5d).⁷ This is the only reference to Auchenbothie Mains in the job book, but the firm's cash book records a number of payments received from Collins: £40 on 23 March 1911, £48 2s 7d on 7 July 1911, £10 on 10 October 1912 and £20 on 30 September 1913.⁸ Some of these payments may relate to Mossyde, but some may be connected with Auchenbothie Mains.



People

Clients:

- Hugh Brown Collins

Contractors:

- Thomas Brown
- James Grant
- Allan Hamilton

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 M316 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 M316 has been extracted from the job books:



Job book: 53063
Page: 137

Client: Hugh Brown Collins

Tenders:

Contractor	Type	Address	Date	Value	Accepted
James Grant	joiner	no data in job book	1913	£112 11s 2d ¹	yes
Allan Hamilton	plasterer	11 St James' Terrace, Kilmalcolm	1913	£19 15s 11d	no data in job book

Payments (trades):

Name	Type	Payment out sum
James Grant	wright	First installment: 8 June 1914 Final installment: 15 August 1916 £274 7s 5d ²

Documents

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Images



Rear addition, to the left



Porch and bathroom addition, right



Survey, March 1955

Bibliography

Published

- Frank Arneil Walker, *The South Clyde Estuary. An Illustrated Guide to Inverclyde and Renfrew*, Edinburgh: Scottish Academic Press, 1986, p. 91

Unpublished

- Hiroaki Kimura, 'Charles Rennie Mackintosh: Architectural Drawings', unpublished PhD thesis, University of Glasgow, 1982, pp. 58–9

Notes:

1: This is the final measurement of work carried out by the wright, James Grant. It may not be the full cost of all work undertaken for Collins at Auchenbothie Mains.

2: Hiroaki Kimura, 'Charles Rennie Mackintosh: Architectural Drawings', unpublished PhD thesis, University of Glasgow, 1982, pp. 58–9. The drawings were seen by Kimura at Strathclyde Regional Council, (Renfrew), but cannot now be traced. They are known only through photographs.

3: Hiroaki Kimura, 'Charles Rennie Mackintosh: Architectural Drawings', unpublished PhD thesis, University of Glasgow, 1982, pp. 58–9.

- 4:** Hiroaki Kimura, 'Charles Rennie Mackintosh: Architectural Drawings', unpublished PhD thesis, University of Glasgow, 1982, pp. 58–9.
- 5:** Paisley, Renfrewshire Council Planning Department: County of Renfrew, Second or Lower District, register of new buildings (1899–1929), p. 39, no. 730.
- 6:** Hiroaki Kimura, 'Charles Rennie Mackintosh: Architectural Drawings', unpublished PhD thesis, University of Glasgow, 1982, pp. 58–9.
- 7:** Paisley, Renfrewshire Council Planning Department: County of Renfrew, Second or Lower District, register of new buildings (1899–1929), p. 42, no. 775.
- 8:** Paisley, Renfrewshire Council Planning Department: County of Renfrew, Second or Lower District, register of new buildings (1899–1929), p. 42, no. 775.
- 9:** Paisley, Renfrewshire Council Planning Department: County of Renfrew, Second or Lower District, register of new buildings (1899–1929), p. 45, no. 835.
- 10:** The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh job book, GLAHA 53063, p. 137.
- 11:** The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh job book, GLAHA 53063, p. 137.
- 12:** O.S., Renfrewshire, 1:2500, sheet VI.04, 1898.
- 13:** Hiroaki Kimura, 'Charles Rennie Mackintosh: Architectural Drawings', unpublished PhD thesis, University of Glasgow, 1982, pp. 58–9 (the drawings were seen by Kimura at Strathclyde Regional Council, Renfrew, but cannot now be traced, and are known only through photographs); Paisley, Renfrewshire Council Planning Department: County of Renfrew, Second or Lower District, register of new buildings (1899–1929), p. 39, no. 730.
- 14:** Hiroaki Kimura, 'Charles Rennie Mackintosh: Architectural Drawings', unpublished PhD thesis, University of Glasgow, 1982, pp. 58–9; Paisley, Renfrewshire Council Planning Department: County of Renfrew, Second or Lower District, register of new buildings (1899–1929), p. 42, no. 775.
- 15:** The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: GLAHA 41864 (M316-006).
- 16:** The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: GLAHA 41862 (M316-009).
- 17:** Paisley, Renfrewshire Council Planning Department: County of Renfrew, Second or Lower District, register of new buildings (1899–1929), p. 45, no. 835; Glasgow City Archives Collection: plan of Auchenbothie Mains Farm, Kilmacollm, TD153/65.
- 18:** The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh job book, GLAHA 53063, p. 137.
- 19:** The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: John Honeyman & Keppie / Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh / Keppie Henderson cash book, 1889–1917, GLAHA 53079, pp. 141, 143, 152, 161.
- 20:** Reduced from £125 6s 4d.
- 21:** £181 17s 8d. of this sum to be paid by Major Collins. Half measurer's fee: £5 9s 9d.

Mackintosh Architecture: Context, Making and Meaning

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