

M317 Design for a bandstand at The Bowes Museum, Barnard Castle, County Durham

Introduction

In 1901, Owen Scott, curator of the Bowes Museum, Barnard Castle, County Durham, was granted leave of absence to become the organiser of the Fine Arts section of that year's Glasgow International Exhibition. During his time in Glasgow he made the acquaintance of John Keppie. ¹

In 1906, Keppie was invited to adjudicate a competition for improvements at the Bowes Museum, for which he was paid 20 guineas. ²

In late 1911, Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh were invited to submit a design for a new bandstand to be constructed on the parterre in front of the museum. Their handsome drawing shows an octagonal Beaux-Arts-style pavilion, apparently in stone, with elaborate metal railings. Its fluted Corinthian columns supporting a dome with statuary reflect the renewed preference for classicism at that time. The cost of construction was estimated at £2900 and was rejected by the Bowes Museum Trustees as too expensive. However, the practice received a payment of 40 guineas for its design work. ³

The opening ceremony for a cheaper, cast-iron bandstand, designed by Parker, Winder & Achurch of Birmingham, and made by the Lion Foundry of Kirkintilloch, was held on 5 August 1912. ⁴

Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh's drawing was exhibited at the Royal Scottish Academy in 1912 and was described in the *Scotsman* as an 'imposing design'. ⁵

Authorship: There is no evidence to connect Mackintosh with this design. The drawing is signed by John Keppie.

Status: Unbuilt

Grid reference: NZ 05562 16318 (The Bowes Museum)

Chronology

1906

23 March: Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh receive a payment of £21 for 'Bowes Museum adjudication'. ¹ John Keppie had been invited by curator Owen Scott to select designs for improvements to the museum. ²

1911

Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh invited to submit a design for a new bandstand. ³

1912

Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh exhibit a drawing for a 'band pavilion' for the Bowes Museum at the Royal Scottish Academy. ⁴

4 May: Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh receive a payment of £42 for 'Bowes Museum Barnard Castle'. ⁵

Description

People

Clients:

- Bowes Museum Trustees

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 M317 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 M317 has been extracted from the job books:

Documents

Images

Bibliography

Notes:

- 1: Bowes Museum Trustees minutes, 16 October 1900. Information supplied by curator Howard Coutts, 26 July 2012.
- 2: Bowes Museum Trustees minutes, 15 March 1906. Information supplied by curator Howard Coutts, 26 July 2012; The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: John Honeyman & Keppie / Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh / Keppie Henderson cash book, 1889–1917, GLAHA 53079, p. 99.
- 3: Information supplied by curator Howard Coutts, 26 July 2012. The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: John Honeyman & Keppie / Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh / Keppie Henderson cash book, 1889–1917, GLAHA 53079, p. 149.
- 4: Information supplied by curator Howard Coutts, 26 July 2012. Opening ceremony on 5 August 1912 was photographed: The Bowes Museum, Barnard Castle: 1998.34.14/ARC.
- 5: 'The Royal Scottish Academy's Exhibition: Architecture', *Scotsman*, 25 June 1912, p. 8.
- 6: The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: John Honeyman & Keppie / Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh / Keppie Henderson cash book, 1889–1917, GLAHA 53079, p. 99.
- 7: Bowes Museum Trustees minutes, 15 March 1906. Information supplied by curator Howard Coutts, 26 July 2012.
- 8: Information supplied by curator Howard Coutts, 26 July 2012. The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: John Honeyman & Keppie / Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh / Keppie Henderson cash book, 1889–1917, GLAHA 53079, p. 149.
- 9: Royal Scottish Academy, 1912 (468).
- 10: The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: John Honeyman & Keppie / Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh / Keppie Henderson cash book, 1889–1917, GLAHA 53079, p. 149.

Mackintosh Architecture: Context, Making and Meaning

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