



M326 Alterations to Wellcroft, Helensburgh

Introduction

Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh made minor alterations to this large yellow sandstone villa, which may have been for a new or refurbished bathroom.

The client, John Rennie (c.1857–1937) was a retired tea merchant, keen traveller, mountaineer and from the 1920s a member of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Scotland. He was also a friend of Glasgow physician and artist Alexander Frew and his wife, artist Bessie MacNicol, who were friends of John Keppie. MacNicol's portrait of Rennie was exhibited at the Glasgow Institute of the Fine Arts in 1901. ¹

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.

Alternative addresses: John Street Upper

Cost from job book: £177 15s 1d

Status: Standing building

Current use: Residential (2014)

Listing category: B: 'Listed as '80 John Street with boundary walls and gatepiers'

Historic Scotland/HB Number: 34799

RCAHMS Site Number: NS28SE 140

Grid reference: NS 29495 83117

Chronology

1913

February: Contractor tenders submitted. ¹

2 June: Contractors paid. ²

4 September: John Rennie pays Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh £12 12s 0d. ³

Description

People

Clients:

- John Rennie

Contractors:

- H. L. Anderson & Co.
- William Bishop
- James Ingleton & Co.
- Thermos Flooring Company

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 M326 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 M326 has been extracted from the job books:



Job book: 53063
Page: 95

Client: John Rennie

Tenders:

Contractor	Type	Address	Date	Value	Accepted
J.W. McCulloch & Son	painter, tiler, joiner & plasterer	33 East Princes Street, Helensburgh	1913	£65 7s 0d	no
H. L. Anderson & Co.	painter, tiler & joiner	233 St Vincent Street, Glasgow	February 1913	£59 18s 0d	yes (no data in job book)
James Ingleton & Co.	plumber	George Street, Glasgow	February 1913	£93 0s 0d ¹	yes (no data in job book)
Charles Condie	plumber	59 Sinclair Street, Helensburgh	February 1913	£102 0s 0d ²	no
Thermos Flooring Company	flooring	85 North Oswald Street	6 February 1913	'floor 10s per yard, skirting 6d per foot run'	no data in job book

Payments (trades):

Name	Type	Payment out sum
H. L. Anderson & Co.	painter, tiler & joiner	Payment date: no data in job book £59 18s 0d
James Ingleton & Co.	plumber	Payment date: 2 June 1913 £99 0s 0d ³

Payments (suppliers):

Name	Service	Payment date	Payment sum
William Bishop	'joiner work'	2 June 1913	£18 10s 0d

Documents

Images



Bessie McNicol, John Rennie, 1900, oil on canvas

Bibliography

Notes:

- 1: Ailsa Tanner, *Bessie MacNicol New Woman*, privately published, 1998, pp. 76–7; information supplied by descendents in Scotland and Australia by email 23–30 October 2012; 1901 list of members of members of The Climbers' Club, <http://www.climbers-club.co.uk/journal/original/1901-No11-p140-147.pdf> [accessed 25 October 2012]; list of members deceased since previous annual meeting included in the Proceedings of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, Hundred and Fifty-Eighth Session, 1937–8, http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/adsdata/arch-352-1/dissemination/pdf/vol_072/72_001_022.pdf [accessed 25 October 2012]; birth and death records, www.scotlandspire.gov.uk [accessed 25 October 2012].
- 2: The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh job book, GLAHA 53063, p. 95.
- 3: The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh job book, GLAHA 53063, p. 95.
- 4: The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: John Honeyman & Keppie / Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh / Keppie Henderson cash book, 1889–1917, GLAHA 53079, p. 160.
- 5: Excluding 'allowance for joiner & plaster work' quoted as £10 0s 0d.
- 6: Excluding 'allowance for joiner & plaster work' quoted as £10 0s 0d.
- 7: Including 'extra electro plating' £0 10s 0d; 'Thermos flooring' £5 17s 1d.

Mackintosh Architecture: Context, Making and Meaning

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