



M345 Alterations to a studio for Alexander Stuart-Hill

Introduction

The exact nature of these alterations is not known, but they cannot have been very extensive since the work was completed over the course of two days.

Authorship: There is a slight sketch in Mackintosh's Sketcher's Notebook, and two entries in his diary for 1920 confirm that he was responsible for the job.

Status: Building altered

Current use: Residential

Grid reference: TQ 27127 77783

Chronology

1920

16 November: Holloway Brothers start work on Alexander Stuart-Hill's studio in the evening. ¹

17 November: Holloway Brothers work all day on Stuart-Hill's studio and finish the job. ²

Description

The painter Alexander Stuart-Hill (1887/8–1948) occupied a studio at 41 Glebe Place, Chelsea, just round the corner from Mackintosh's at 43A. Mackintosh seems to have made a relatively minor alteration to the premises for him: an undated drawing in his Sketcher's Notebook, headed 'Stuart Hill', shows an arch spanned by a lintel, with notes of measurements for 'Studio opening' and 'Street opening' (or possibly 'Stud opening'). ¹

Mackintosh's diary records that the work, whatever it entailed, was carried out by Holloway Brothers in the course of an evening and a day, 16–17 November 1920. ²

The building was evidently more than just a work place: Stuart-Hill's obituary in *The Times* refers to 'the studio which he created in Glebe Place out of an ancient stable ... where with his friend Ivan Phillipowsky, the distinguished pianist, he entertained all London in the pre-war days'. ³ Evelyn Waugh attended a party there in 1927 ('All very refined – hot lobster, champagne cup and music') given by the American singer Turner Layton (1894–1978). ⁴

People

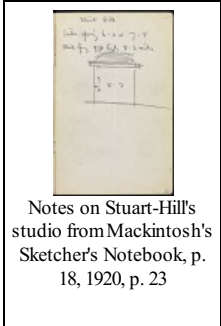
Clients:

- Alexander Stuart-Hill

Contractors:

- Holloway Brothers

Documents



Bibliography

Published

- *The Times*, 24 February 1948, p. 7

Unpublished

- The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: Mackintosh's diary for 1920, GLAHA 52408

Notes:

- 1: The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: Mackintosh's diary for 1920, GLAHA 52408.
- 2: The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: Mackintosh's diary for 1920, GLAHA 52408.
- 3: The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: Sketcher's Notebook, GLAHA 53015/18, M342-001).
- 4: The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: Mackintosh's diary for 1920, GLAHA 52408. A further diary entry on 20 November says 'Miss Georgie Fyfe & Stuart Hill party'. This may refer to Georgie Fyfe, the daughter of Glasgow businessman John Fyfe, of Montgomerie Drive, Kelvinside. Like Stuart-Hill, she was involved in humanitarian work during the First World War, serving in the Scottish Ambulance Corps in Belgium: *Scotsman*, 24 July 1915, p. 10.
- 5: *The Times*, 24 February 1948, p. 7.
- 6: *The Diaries of Evelyn Waugh*, ed. Michael Davie, London: Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 1976, p. 283.

Mackintosh Architecture: Context, Making and Meaning

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