

M071 Additions and alterations for Glasgow Art Club

Introduction

John Honeyman & Keppie remodelled and internally connected two large terraced houses to create the Club House, and added a large gallery at the rear (S.).

Authorship: Mackintosh produced a sheet of drawings of decorative fittings which was published shortly before the opening of the club house. Almost all of the details drawn were carried out.

Alternative addresses: 187–191 Bath Street

Cost from job book: Phase 1: £3667 1s 0d; Phase 2: £281 3s 9½d

Status: Standing building

Current use: Club with gallery (2014)

Listing category: A: Included in listing for '181-199 (odd nos.) Bath Street and Blythswood Street'

Historic Scotland/HB Number: 32960

RCAHMS Site Number: NS56NE 3636

Grid reference: NS 58498 65778

Chronology

1867

Glasgow Art Club founded. Temperance hotels and several rented premises, including 151 Bath Street, provided successive homes until 1893.

1891

15 December: John Keppie, at the time Honorary Secretary of the Art Club, and others are appointed to a special sub-committee to consider the Club's accommodation requirements. ¹

1892

22 April: Report presented to Club Council. The sub-committee 'unanimously resolved to recommend that the Club acquire a property of their own'. Following an examination of several properties, the sub-committee recommends the purchase of 187 and 191 Bath Street, where 'an excellent Club House could be arranged at a reasonable figure'. The Club Council moves forward with the purchase, subject to members' approval. ²

26 May: John Keppie is unanimously appointed architect for the new club house by the Club Council. He resigns from his role as Honorary Secretary. A building committee is appointed. ³

11 August: Glasgow Dean of Guild Court approves proposed additions and alterations. ⁴

16 September: Work commences on site. ⁵

29 November: Work progressing well. Club Council approves additional expenditure for oak flooring, dado rails, boiler and pipe work and electric wiring. ⁶

14 December: Keppie attends a Club Council meeting which considers 'sketches' for mantelpieces in the gallery. The Council 'resolved to carry out a design in wood in preference to stone'. ⁷

1893

22 February: 'The building committee were authorised to have a measurement of the painter work prepared and estimate issued'. ⁸

7 June: First Club Council meeting held at 187 Bath Street. Mackintosh's sketches of decorative details in the building are published in local magazine, the *Bailie*. ⁹

13 June: A private view for members and friends of new premises is held. ¹⁰

30 June: Work complete. ¹¹

1901

March: Dormer windows at roof and interior alterations carried out by architects H. & D. Barclay. ¹²

21 November: Work discharged by the Glasgow Dean of Guild Court. ¹³

1912

3 October: Club Council agrees to proceed with alterations to lavatory and cloakroom. Contractors' tenders had been accepted in July. These alterations did not require approval from the Glasgow Dean of Guild Court. ¹⁴

1950–1

Significant external and internal alterations to the gallery roof. The lantern roof is hidden from view internally. ¹⁵

1951

8 June: Glasgow Dean of Guild Court approves the construction of attic rooms and alterations to chimneys at rear of building by Keppie & Henderson. Drawings date from 1946–7. A government licence was required for the work to proceed, which had been rejected in 1947 and early 1951, but was eventually granted. ¹⁶

1952–3

An electric light fitting described as the work of Mackintosh was offered to the Club by Daly's, who in 1927 had taken over the Sauchiehall Street premises of the Willow Tea Rooms. During the year, the house committee and members discussed the suitability of the light fitting for the gallery. Ultimately, it was decided that the fitting was unsuitable for the Club and it was offered to the Glasgow School of Art. ¹⁷

1981

23 February: Glasgow District Council Building Control approve alterations and additions between town houses and gallery by architect Harold Philips of Killearn. ¹⁸

2001–present

Investigations into the existence and design of a frieze in the gallery and the possibility of its reinstatement.

Description

Design

The neo-classical terraced town houses at 187 and 191 Bath Street were built in the 1830s, probably by John Baird I. ¹ They were bought in 1892 by Glasgow Art Club on the recommendation of its accommodation sub-committee whose members included John Keppie. He was subsequently appointed architect for the new Club House.

Keppie's design connected the two houses internally, removed the entrance stairs and portico from 191 Bath Street, and added a spacious, top-lit gallery at the rear (S.), with two short corridors attaching it to the older building. The entrance hall, stair and gallery were embellished with woodwork and decorative details in French Renaissance and Aesthetic styles, which suggest the work of more than one designer. ²

In 1893 the gallery ceiling was furnished with 'an ingenious gauze arrangement for the purpose of softening and diffusing the light and preventing any unnecessary reflection on the pictures'. ³ The original arrangement of the roof, with the trusses visible, can be seen in the drawings submitted to Glasgow Dean of Guild Court in August 1892, in a sketch of the completed gallery published in the *Evening Times* on 5 June 1893 and in a photograph published in the *Graphic* on 24 June 1893. ⁴

Significant changes were made to the gallery roof in 1951 when its external form was altered, the exterior of the clerestory was clad with asbestos sheets, and painted glass panels within an aluminium structure were inserted in to the open lantern roof to decrease the ingress of light. ⁵



Authorship

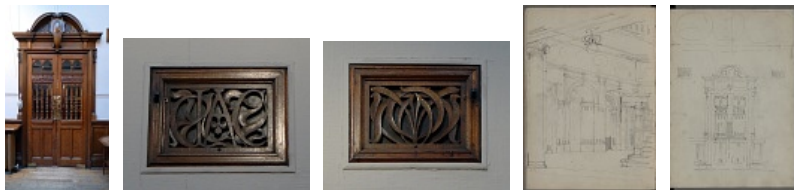
Sketches of the interior scheme for the Club drawn and signed by Mackintosh were published in the *Bailie*, a Glasgow magazine, on 7 June 1893. The sketches also bear Keppie's name: he was named universally at the time as architect of the project. ⁶ It seems that while Keppie was in charge, Mackintosh contributed to the work, but the extent of his involvement is not entirely clear. Details that suggest Mackintosh's input are the pierced ventilation grates; unusual form of columns on the chimneypieces, which are repeated in contemporary John Honeyman & Keppie work at Craigie Hall; and the clockface of the W.

chimneypiece, which has similarities with a clockface design for the Canal Boatmen's Institute, published in the *British Architect* in 1895.⁷

The title on the cover sheet of the drawings submitted to Glasgow Dean of Guild Court in July 1892 is very similar to the titles on the drawing by Mackintosh published in the *Bailie* a month earlier, but his hand is not otherwise evident.



In the sketchbook which he had used on his 1891 tour of Italy, Mackintosh later made two undated sketches showing aspects of the Art Club interior almost identical to the finished form: the carved newel post and classical arches in the entrance hall and a set of doors and fretwork covers for ventilation ducts in the gallery. Although the sketches suggest that Mackintosh designed these elements, because they are not dated it is not known at what stage of the design process they were drawn, meaning they cannot be definitively attributed to Mackintosh. It has been suggested that the design of the gallery doors may have been based on a bed sketched by Mackintosh at the Museum van Oudheden in Antwerp towards the end of his Thomson Scholarship travels.⁸



Decoration

Both the drawings in Mackintosh's North Italian sketchbook and the sketches published in the *Bailie* suggest that a frieze of curvilinear, probably organic, forms decorated the upper section of both the gallery and the entrance hall walls. The existence and design of these friezes, particularly in the gallery, have been investigated in recent years. Descriptions contemporary with the opening of the Club suggest a light colour scheme throughout the building. The *Evening News* described the colouring of the 'large gallery' as 'especially notable, the walls being terra cotta with ornamented frieze and wood-panelled dado'. The *Evening Times* reported that the 'wall-painting etc is all in quiet tones – creams and delicate greens predominating'. Unfortunately, the photograph of the gallery published in the *Graphic* is not of sufficiently high quality to show any patterning on the upper part of the wall.⁹ Scientific analysis of plaster samples from the frieze area undertaken by Historic Scotland in 2004 concluded that the 'earliest design scheme was revealed to be a yellowy cream colour with elements in yellow, a pale pink and pale green.'¹⁰

The original gallery frieze must have been relatively restrained, for when Keppie was consulted in March 1911 on the apparently long-held notion of installing a frieze of casts of the Elgin Marbles in the gallery, he expressed serious doubts about the appropriateness of such a frieze in relation to the 'general architectural scheme' of the gallery, and the detrimental effect it could have on exhibitions of work displayed there. He also drew attention to practical issues associated with a frieze of casts. The artists' meeting discussed the idea further, but voted against.¹¹

Photographs of the Art Club entrance hall, dining room and gallery published in the *Scottish Field* in December 1913 show that the original colour scheme in the gallery had been maintained: the principle wall colour was quite dark, perhaps still terracotta, with the light-coloured frieze area above. The quality of the photograph again precludes the secure identification of the frieze design.



People

Clients:

- Glasgow Art Club

Contractors:

- Thomas Black
- James Boyd & Sons
- Brown & Beveridge
- William Kellock Brown
- William Bryden & Sons
- Fyfe & Allan
- James Grant
- Thomas Grosvenor & Paterson
- J. & W. Guthrie

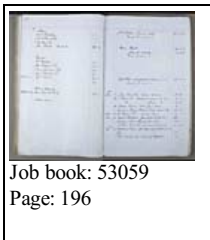
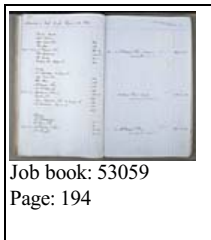
- Hutcheson & Grant
- James Ingleton & Co.
- R. A. McGilvray & Ferris
- William McGeoch, Kemp & Co.
- E. C. Morgan & Son
- J. Pearce & Co.
- A. & J. Scott
- Wylie & Lochhead

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 M071 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 M071 has been extracted from the job books:



Client: Glasgow Art Club

Measurer: Archibald B. Watson

Measurer address: 189 St Vincent Street

Tenders:

Contractor	Type	Address	Date	Value	Accepted
Watt & Wilson	mason	no data in job book	no data in job book	no data in job book	no
Alexander Eadie & Son	mason	no data in job book	no data in job book	£930 0s 0d	no
Robert Shaw	mason	no data in job book	no data in job book	£790 0s 0d	no
E. C. Morgan & Son	mason	no data in job book	no data in job book	£786 14s 0d	yes (12 August 1892)
P. & W. Anderson	mason	no data in job book	no data in job book	£1235 12s 6d	no
George Barlas	mason	no data in job book	no data in job book	£900 0s 0d	no
Guthrie & Co.	mason	Kelvin Street	no data in job book	£900 0s 0d	no
William Lightbody	wright	42 Sidney Street	no data in job book	no data in job book	no
Alexander Eadie & Son	wright	no data in job book	no data in job book	£1000 0s 0d	no
Robert Shaw	wright	no data in job book	no data in job book	£1008 0s 0d	no
E. C. Morgan & Son	wright	no data in job book	no data in job book	£1030 0s 0d	no

William McColl & Son	wright	no data in job book	no data in job book	£939 0s 0d	no
Hutcheson & Grant	wright	no data in job book	no data in job book	£905 17s 2d	yes (12 August 1892)
Guthrie & Co.	wright	no data in job book	no data in job book	£1090 0s 0d	no
James Herbertson & Son	wright	no data in job book	no data in job book	£980 0s 0d	no
M. Henderson	wright	Grant Street	no data in job book	£1020 0s 0d	no
Hunter & Marshall	wright	no data in job book	no data in job book	£1057 0s 0d	no
D. & J. MacKenzie	plasterer	no data in job book	no data in job book	£112 11s 10d	no
George Rome & Co.	plasterer	no data in job book	no data in job book	£74 0s 0d	no
R. A. McGilvray & Ferris	plasterer	no data in job book	no data in job book	£72 16s 9d	yes (12 August 1892)
William Sheriffs	plasterer	no data in job book	no data in job book	£94 4s 5d	no
A. & D. MacKay	slater	no data in job book	1892	£29 0s 0d	no
J. McOwat & Son	slater	no data in job book	1892	£26 0s 0d	no
A. M. Ross & Son	slater	no data in job book	no data in job book	£28 0s 0d	no
Thomas Black	slater	Partick	no data in job book	£25 10s 0d	yes (no data in job book)
William Anderson	plumber	no data in job book	no data in job book	£163 0s 0d	no
John Rattery & Son	plumber	no data in job book	no data in job book	£166 3s 0d	no
James Johnstone & Son	plumber	no data in job book	no data in job book	£158 0s 0d	no
James Ingleton & Co.	plumber	no data in job book	no data in job book	£180 0s 0d	no
Fyfe & Allan	plumber	no data in job book	no data in job book	£156 11s 0d	yes (12 August 1892)
Moses Speirs & Son	plumber	no data in job book	no data in job book	£157 0s 0d	no
James Boyd & Sons	heating apparatus	Paisley	no data in job book	£35 6s 0d	yes (20 December 1892)

Payments (trades):

Name	Type	Payment out sum
E. C. Morgan & Son	mason	Payment date: 16 November [1892] £749 9s 7d ¹
Hutcheson & Grant	wright	Payment date: 16 November [1892] £1092 13s 7½d ²
R. A. McGilvray & Ferris	plasterer	Payment date: 16 November [1892] £215 9 4½d ³
Thomas Black	slater	Payment date: no data in job book £28 11s 8d ⁴
Fyfe & Allan	plumber	Payment date: no data in job book £383 5s 0d ⁵

Payments (suppliers):

Name	Service	Payment date	Payment sum
J. & W. Guthrie	painter	no data in job book	£306 14s 8d ⁶
James Boyd & Sons	heating apparatus	7 June 1893	£32 18s 0d
J. Pearce & Co.	electrical wiring and fittings ⁷	22 June 1893	£115 12s 0d
William Kellock Brown	3 sets of finger plates	28 June 1893	£5 0s 0d
Thomas Grosvenor & Paterson	Turkey carpets in hall	28 June 1893	£50 8s 0d
William Bryden & Sons	window blinds	4 August 1893	£14 0s 0d
Wylie & Lochhead	'furnishings, carpets etc'	16 November 1893	£293 0s 0d
Hutcheson & Grant	chimney pieces and hoist	16 November 1893	£134 0s 0d
William McGeoch, Kemp & Co.	'grates, range, gasfitting etc'	16 November 1893	£181 19s 1d
Hutcheson & Grant	alterations to Billiard Room floor	16 October 1894	£61 0s 0d
Hutcheson & Grant	'silicate cotton and lifting of deafening'	16 October 1894	£3 0s 0d

Phase 2: Alterations, 1912



Job book: 53063
Page: 69

Measurer: Thomas Duff

Tenders:

Contractor	Type	Address	Date	Value	Accepted
James Grant	artificer	no data in job book	no data in job book	£105 2s 0d ⁸	yes (10 July 1912)
John Cochrane	artificer	no data in job book	no data in job book	£106 8s 10d	no
Mathew Henderson	artificer	no data in job book	no data in job book	£91 6s 8d	no
E. C. Morgan & Son	artificer	no data in job book	no data in job book	£110 0s 0d	no
James Ingleton & Co.	plumber	no data in job book	no data in job book	£135 12s 6d ⁹	yes (10 July 1912)
James Symington	plumber	no data in job book	no data in job book	£135 0s 0d	no
Robert Renfrew	plumber	no data in job book	no data in job book	£140 0s 0d	no
Hugh Twaddle & Sons	plumber	no data in job book	no data in job book	£141 14s 0d	no
Colin Turner	plumber	no data in job book	no data in job book	£136 0s 0d	no

Payments (trades):

Name	Type	Payment out sum	Measurer fee payments
James Grant	artificer	Payment date: no data in job book £99 10s 6½d	£1 11s 6d ¹⁰
James Ingleton & Co.	plumber	Payment date: no data in job book £160 2s 6d	£160 2s 6d ¹¹

Payments (suppliers):

Name	Service	Payment date	Payment sum
A. & J. Scott	painting	no data in job book	£17 17s 0d
Brown & Beveridge	cork carpet	no data in job book	£3 13s 9d

Documents



Interior views, Scottish Field, 22, December 1813, p. 391

Images



Gallery, Evening Times, 5 June 1893, p. 2



Sketch for entrance hall, 1891



C. R. Mackintosh, Glasgow Art Club, sketch for gallery door, 1891



Gallery, Graphic, no. 1230, 24 June 1893, p. 727



S. elevation, Bath Street



Front door



View of gallery looking E.



W. chimney piece in gallery



E. chimney piece in gallery



E. Gallery door



Fretwork cover of ventilation duct incorporation the letters G, A and C.



Fretwork cover of ventilation duct



Roof glazing looking W.

Bibliography

Published

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- 'Cartoon Supplement', *Bailie*, 7 June 1893, p. 1
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Unpublished

- Nick Haynes, 'Glasgow Art Club Conservation Management Plan', April 2011
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- Glasgow City Archives Collection: Dean of Guild Court, Register of Inspections, D-OPW 25/6, p. 94
- Glasgow Art Club Archive: Glasgow Art Club Council minutes, book 4; book 5; book 7; book 11

Notes:

- 1: Glasgow Art Club Archive: Glasgow Art Club Council minutes, book 4, 15 December 1891.
- 2: Glasgow Art Club Archive: Glasgow Art Club Council minutes, book 4, 22 April 1892.
- 3: Glasgow Art Club Archive: Glasgow Art Club Council minutes, book 5, 26 May 1892 .
- 4: Glasgow City Archives Collection: Glasgow Dean of Guild Court, Register of Inspections, D-OPW 25/6, p. 94.
- 5: Glasgow City Archives Collection: Glasgow Dean of Guild Court, Register of Inspections, D-OPW 25/6, p. 94.
- 6: Glasgow Art Club Archive: Glasgow Art Club Council minutes, book 5, 29 November 1892.
- 7: Glasgow Art Club Archive: Glasgow Art Club Council minutes, book 5, 14 December 1892.
- 8: Glasgow Art Club Archive: Glasgow Art Club Council minutes, book 5, 22 February 1893.
- 9: Glasgow Art Club Archive: Glasgow Art Club Council minutes, book 5, 7 June 1893; 'Cartoon Supplement', *Bailie*, 7 June 1893, p. 1.
- 10: Glasgow Art Club Archive: Glasgow Art Club Council minutes, book 5, 13 June 1893.
- 11: Glasgow City Archives Collection: Glasgow Dean of Guild Court, Register of Inspections, D-OPW 25/6, p. 94.
- 12: Glasgow City Archives Collection: Glasgow Dean of Guild Court, Register of Inspections, D-OPW 25/8, p. 78. David Barclay was a member of the Art Club and in 1889–1900 was convenor of the house sub-committee.
- 13: Glasgow City Archives Collection: Glasgow Dean of Guild Court, Register of Inspections, D-OPW 25/8, p. 78.
- 14: Glasgow Art Club Archive: Glasgow Art Club Council minutes, book 7, 3 October 1912.
- 15: Glasgow Art Club Archive: Glasgow Art Club Council minutes, book 11, 19 December 1950; 20 March 1951; 14 April 1951; 29 October 1951; Nick Haynes, 'Glasgow Art Club Conservation Management Plan', April 2011, p. 34.
- 16: Glasgow City Archives Collection: Glasgow Dean of Guild plans, B4/12/1951/239; Glasgow Art Club Archive: Glasgow Art Club Council minutes, book 11, 17 April 1951.
- 17: Glasgow Art Club Archive: Glasgow Art Club Council minutes, book 11, 20 May 1952; 16 December 1952; 29 December 1952; 20 January 1953.
- 18: Glasgow City Archives Collection: Glasgow District Council building control warrant drawings, GDC12/3/1981/1956.
- 19: Elizabeth Williamson, Anne Riches and Malcolm Higgs, *Buildings of Scotland: Glasgow*, London: Penguin, 1990, p. 213.
- 20: Detailed research into the main entrance door, hall doors and chimneypieces can be found in Roger Billcliffe, *Charles Rennie Mackintosh: The Complete Furniture, Furniture Drawings and Interior Designs*, Moffat, Dumfriesshire: Cameron & Hollis, 4th edn, 2009, pp. 26–7.
- 21: 'The New Glasgow Art Club', *Graphic*, no. 1230, 24 June 1893, p. 727.
- 22: Glasgow City Archives Collection: Glasgow Dean of Guild plans, B4/12/1/2067; *Evening Times*, 5 June 1893, p. 2; 'The New Glasgow Art Club', *Graphic*, no. 1230, 24 June 1893, p.727.
- 23: Glasgow Art Club Archive: Glasgow Art Club Council minutes, book 11, 29 October 1951; Nick Haynes, 'Glasgow Art Club Conservation Management Plan', April 2011, p. 34.
- 24: 'I DELT' follows Mackintosh' name to indicate his authorship. 'Cartoon Supplement', *Bailie*, 7 June 1893, p. 1; Glasgow Art Club Archive: Glasgow Art Club Council minutes, book 5, 26 May 1892; Nick Haynes, 'Glasgow Art Club Conservation Management Plan', April 2011, p. 50.
- 25: Roger Billcliffe, *Charles Rennie Mackintosh: The Complete Furniture, Furniture Drawings and Interior Designs*, Moffat, Dumfriesshire: Cameron & Hollis, 4th edn, 2009, pp. 26–7. Elizabeth Williamson, Anne Riches and Malcolm Higgs, *Buildings of Scotland: Glasgow*, London: Penguin, 1990, p. 213. 'Our Illustrations', *British Architect*, 44, 5 July 1895, pp. 3ff.
- 26: Commentary on Mackintosh, 'North Italian Sketchbook', pp.90–1, www.gsa.ac.uk/mackintoshsketchbook/ [accessed 5 May 2011].

27: *Evening News*, 2 June 1893, p. 2; *Evening Times*, 5 June 1893, p. 2; *Graphic*, no. 1230, 24 June 1893, p. 727.

28: Historic Scotland Conservation Centre, 'Glasgow Art Club', 11 November 2004, p. 14.

29: Glasgow Art Club Archive: Council minute book 7, pp. 191–2, artists' meeting, 27 March 1911.

30: Adjacent to sum: 'meas. fee £26. deduct ½.'; £815 6s 9d.

31: Adjacent to sum: 'measurers. fee £34. ded. ½.'; £1142 13s 1½d.

32: Adjacent to sum: 'meas. fee £8. deduct ½.'; £222 18s 1½d.

33: Sum includes £3 19s 8d from jobbing account 'on all roof'; adjacent to sum: 'M. fee. 21/- deduct ½.'

34: 'including maids bells etc'; adjacent to sum: 'Meas. fee £14. deduct ½.'; £387 12s 6d.

35: Adjacent to sum: 'Meas. fee £12 12. deduct ½.'; £309 16s 8d.

36: Payment sums 'as per est[imate]'.
37: Value of original tender £113 6s 3d.

38: Value of original tender £130.

39: '½ measurer's fee'.

40: '½ measurer's fee'.

Mackintosh Architecture: Context, Making and Meaning

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