

M085 Alterations to Tower Buildings, Buchanan Street

Introduction

In 1901, John Honeyman & Keppie made minor, unspecified alterations to this city-centre building, designed by James Sellars. ¹ Consultation had taken place eight years earlier but no work was carried out at that time. Further alterations were proposed in 1901. However, no payments were recorded, which suggests that these were abandoned.

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.

Cost from job book: £50 19s 6d

Status: Standing building

Current name: Tower Buildings

Current use: Commercial (2014)

Listing category: B: Listed as '156–64 (even nos) Buchanan Street with 48–50 (even nos) West George Street, Tower Building'

Historic Scotland/HB Number: 32642

RCAHMS Site Number: NS56NE 352

Grid reference: NS 59081 65520

Chronology

1893

27 January: 'Mr Millers gave instructions to go on with working drawings for alterations ... Called with Mr Selkirk House Factor'. ¹

1901

June: Contractor tenders for minor alterations submitted. ²

2 September: Contractor tenders for artificer work submitted. ³

25 October: Contractor paid for minor alterations. ⁴

Description

People

Clients:

- Robert Miller's Trust per T. L. Selkirk

Contractors:

- John Hill

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 M085 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 M085 has been extracted from the job books:



Job book: 53061
Page: 241

Client: Robert Miller's Trust per T. L. Selkirk

Tenders:

Contractor	Type	Address	Date	Value	Accepted
Matthew Henderson	artificer	Grant Street	2 September 1891 ¹	£397 13s 0d	no data in job book
James Grant	artificer	Pitt Street	2 September 1891 ²	£382 7s 0d	no data in job book
J. & G. Findlay	artificer	Grant Street	2 September 1891 ³	no data in job book	no data in job book
William McCall & Sons	artificer	Balmano Street	2 September 1891 ⁴	£334 9s 5d	no data in job book
Thomas Brown	artificer	Rottenrow	2 September 1891 ⁵	£374 0s 0d	no data in job book

Phase 2: Alterations at corner shop, 1901–



Job book: 53061
Page: 241

Client: no data in job book

Tenders:

Contractor	Type	Address	Date	Value	Accepted
John Hill	no data in job book	no data in job book	June 1901	£49 10s 0d	yes (no data in job book)
James Grant	no data in job book	no data in job book	June 1901	£59 0s 0d	no
John Kirkwood	no data in job book	no data in job book	June 1901	£62 6s 9d	no

Payments (trades):

Name	Type	Payment out sum
John Hill	no data in job book	Payment date: 25 October 1901 £50 19s 6d

Phase 3: Fittings, date unknown



Job book: 53061
Page: 241

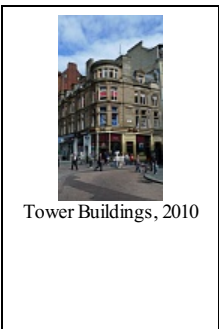
Client: Seaton, Turner & Co.

Tenders:

Contractor	Type	Address	Date	Value	Accepted
Matthew Henderson	fittings	Grant Street	no data in job book	£119 3s 8d	no data in job book
James Grant	fittings	Pitt Street	no data in job book	£98 9s 7d	no data in job book
J. & G. Findlay	fittings	Grant Street	no data in job book	no data in job book	no data in job book
William McCall & Sons	fittings	Balmano Street	no data in job book	£88 19s 3d	no data in job book
Thomas Brown	fittings	Rottenrow	no data in job book	£98 2s 7d	no data in job book

Documents

Images



Tower Buildings, 2010

Bibliography

Notes:

- 1: Elizabeth Williamson, Anne Riches and Malcolm Higgs, *Buildings of Scotland: Glasgow*, London: Penguin, 1990, p. 223.
- 2: The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: John Honeyman & Keppie visit book, GLAHA 53060, p. 30.
- 3: The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: John Honeyman & Keppie / Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh job book, GLAHA 53061, p. 241.
- 4: The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: John Honeyman & Keppie / Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh job book, GLAHA 53061, p. 241.
- 5: The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: John Honeyman & Keppie / Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh job book, GLAHA 53061, p. 242.
- 6: Date appears to have been entered incorrectly: the year should probably be 1901.
- 7: Date appears to have been entered incorrectly: the year should probably be 1901.
- 8: Date appears to have been entered incorrectly: the year should probably be 1901.
- 9: Date appears to have been entered incorrectly: the year should probably be 1901.
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Mackintosh Architecture: Context, Making and Meaning

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