



# M183 Dunottar, Kilmacolm

## Introduction

This roughcast four-bedroom detached villa in the affluent commuter village of Kilmacolm was designed for the engineer Bernard Doulton.

**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:** Houston Road

**Cost from job book:** £2479 11s 11d <sup>1</sup>

**Status:** Standing building

**Current name:** Altondyke

**Current use:** Residential (2014)

**Listing category:** Unlisted

## Chronology

### 1900

18 July: Plans submitted to County of Renfrew, second or lower district. <sup>1</sup>

29 June: Tenders accepted from major contractors. <sup>2</sup>

26 July: Plans stamped to show approval by County of Renfrew, second or lower district. <sup>3</sup>

### 1901

18 February: Payment for slating suggests completion of roof by this date. <sup>4</sup>

8 March: Drains tested and found smoke-tight. <sup>5</sup>

5 December: Final payment for mason and brickwork, including boundary wall. <sup>6</sup>

### After March 1982

Coped gables replaced by eaves. <sup>7</sup>

### 2000

Rear extension and garage block added. <sup>8</sup>

## Description

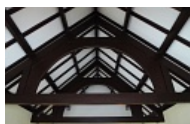
### Exterior

The house stands on a corner site, but is set well back from the road. The handling of the exterior is restrained: the ashlar dressings and ground-floor sill band are perfectly smooth and flush with the roughcast, and the only decorative mouldings are those on the round-arched front entrance with its raised voussoirs (this recalls the 17th-century archway adjoining the main entrance to Ferniehirst Castle, Roxburghshire). <sup>1</sup> The windows are mostly sashes, including the large ones lighting the stairs, which are set behind the stone mullions and transoms of the opening.

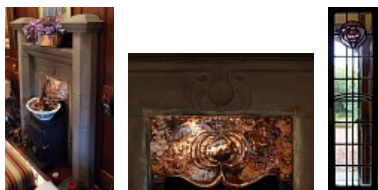


## Interior

The front door leads via an internal porch to a large, panelled hall with exposed beams. It has a deep, square alcove tucked in beside the porch, echoing the plans of other houses of around the same date by John Honeyman & Keppie, such as Redlands at Bridge of Weir and Ferdean at Barrhead. All the ground-floor rooms, and the surprisingly narrow stairs, open directly off the hall. The largest is the drawing room, a single-storey wing with an open timber roof, almost identical to that at Redlands.



The only surviving original fireplace is in the hall. Its sandstone surround has flanking octagonal columns with big square caps, and a small carving of stylised leaf shapes in the centre. This Glasgow Style detail is echoed in the heart motifs of the beaten copper insert and fender, and in the stained glass roses on either side of the front door.



The staircase handrail is at hand-level on the landing and remains horizontal as the dog-leg stair descends, so the square balusters form a screen between the two flights, ending with a square, tapering newel post on the half-landing. This screen-like treatment has parallels in Mackintosh's work – for instance in the Janitor's House at Scotland Street Public School and the S.W. gallery stairs at Queen's Cross Church. The plainness of the staircase has more in common with the simple built-in cupboards of the pantry than with the more typical late Victorian joinery in the public rooms of the house.



## Alterations

There are some significant differences between the plans submitted to the local authority for approval and the house as built. On the plans, the single-storey drawing room has a S.W.-facing canted bay window and a S.E.-facing verandah. In the building, however, the bay window faces S.E. The S.W. part of the room, with its flat roof and deep eaves on timber corbels, was originally an open veranda. <sup>2</sup> It has been enclosed and made part of the room. The conservatory supplied by James Boyd & Sons has been removed. It was on the N.E. side of the drawing room, where the door that led to it survives. <sup>3</sup>

A photograph published in March 1982 shows the coped gables which formed part of the original design. <sup>4</sup> They were subsequently reduced in height and the roof given projecting eaves, significantly altering the overall appearance. A range of garages immediately N.W. of the house designed by Crawford & Neil of Greenock was given planning approval in 1989, and a large rear extension by Keppie Design Ltd was added to the former service wing in 2000. <sup>5</sup>



## People

### Clients:

- Bernard Doulton

### Contractors:

- R. Aitkenhead & Son
- H. L. Anderson & Co.
- James Boyd & Sons
- Thomas Brown

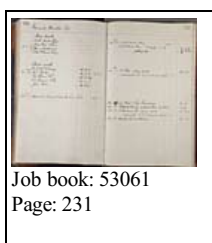
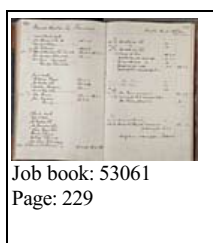
- Douglas, Hunter & Whitson
- William Forbes
- Galbraith & Winton
- A. & D. MacKay
- David McIlwraith

## 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 M183 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 M183 has been extracted from the job books:



**Client:** Bernard Doulton

**Measurer:** Douglas, Hunter & Whitson

**Tenders:**

Contractor	Type	Address	Date	Value	Accepted
John Paterson & Sons Ltd	mason & brickwork	no data in job book	no data in job book	£1036 0s 10d	no
Daniel M. Callum	mason & brickwork	no data in job book	no data in job book	no data in job book <sup>1</sup>	no
John Kirkwood	mason & brickwork	no data in job book	no data in job book	£942 14s 3d	no
R. Aitkenhead & Son	mason & brickwork	Greenock	29 June 1900	£896 18s 11d	yes
John Woodrow	mason & brickwork	Kilmalcolm	no data in job book	£990 0s 5d	no
William Steel	mason & brickwork	Greenock	no data in job book	no data in job book <sup>2</sup>	no
Ramsey	mason & brickwork	Kilmalcolm	no data in job book	£62 0s 0d	no
Hutcheson & Grant	joiner	no data in job book	no data in job book	£695 10s 2d	no
James Maben & Co.	joiner	no data in job book	no data in job book	£666 15s 4½d	no
Matthew Henderson	joiner	no data in job book	no data in job book	£674 0s 0d	no
William McCall & Sons	joiner	no data in job book	no data in job book	no data in job book <sup>3</sup>	no
Thomas Brown	joiner	no data in job book	29 June 1900	£639 0s 0d	yes
John Woodrow	joiner	no data in job book	no data in job book	£651 9s 10d	no
Ramsey	joiner	no data in job book	no data in job book	no data in job book <sup>4</sup>	no
Fyfe & Allan	plumber	no data in job book	no data in job book	no data in job book	no
James Ingleton & Co.	plumber	no data in job book	no data in job book	no data in job book	no
James Johnstone & Son	plumber	no data in job book	no data in job book	no data in job book	no
Moses Speirs & Son	plumber	no data in job book	no data in job book	no data in job book	no
Brown & Young	plumber	no data in job book	no data in job book	no data in job book	no
Wallace & Cornell	plumber	no data in job book	no data in job book	no data in job book	no
John Currie	plumber	Kilmalcolm	no data in job book	no data in job book	no
David McIlwraith	plumber	Kilmalcolm	21 July 1900	£139 10s 8½d	yes

A. & D. MacKay	slater	no data in job book	no data in job book	£111 0s 0d	yes
A. M. Ross & Sons	slater	no data in job book	no data in job book	£99 15s 2d	no
John Anderson	slater	no data in job book	no data in job book	£109 14s 11d	no
J. McOwat & Sons	slater	no data in job book	no data in job book	£104 10s 0d	no
R. A. McGilvray	plaster	no data in job book	no data in job book	£118 14s 3d	no
William Forbes	plaster	no data in job book	29 June 1900	£88 17s 8d	yes
George Rome & Co.	plaster	no data in job book	no data in job book	£103 13s 5½d	no
William Tonner & Sons	plaster	no data in job book	no data in job book	£107 0s 7d	no
John Forbes	plaster	no data in job book	no data in job book	£95 16s 7d	no
R. Aitkenhead & Son	approaches & walks	no data in job book	8 November 1900	£48 0s 0d	yes

#### Payments (trades):

Name	Type	Payment out sum	Measurer fee payments
R. Aitkenhead & Son	mason & brickwork	<b>First installment:</b> 29 September 1900 <b>Final installment:</b> 5 December 1901 £1092 8s 8d <sup>5</sup>	£25 10s 0d <sup>6</sup>
Thomas Brown	joiner	<b>First installment:</b> January 1901 <b>Final installment:</b> 5 June 1902 £783 12s 7d <sup>7</sup>	£18 18s 0d <sup>8</sup>
David McIlwraith	plumber	<b>First installment:</b> 27 June 1901 <b>Final installment:</b> 19 December 1901 £166 0s 4d	£2 7s 8d <sup>9</sup>
A. & D. MacKay	slater	<b>Payment date:</b> 18 February 1901 £127 0s 0d <sup>10</sup>	£1 11s 6d <sup>11</sup>
William Forbes	plaster	<b>Payment date:</b> 5 December 1901 £88 9s 11d	£2 12s 6d <sup>12</sup>
H. L. Anderson & Co.	painter	<b>Payment date:</b> 13 December [1901] £116 8s 3d	£3 13s 6d <sup>13</sup>

#### Payments (suppliers):

Name	Service	Payment date	Payment sum
James Boyd & Sons	Conservatory	19 July [1901]	£35 15s 0d
Galbraith & Winton	'Marble at chimney & tiles'	11 September [1901]	£11 5s 0d

**Measurer fee payment:** £58 11s 6d (19 December [1901])

**Total cost:** £2339 19s 9d <sup>14</sup>

## Documents

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## Images





## Bibliography

### Published

#### Notes:

- 1: This figure is calculated from payments to individual contractors recorded in the job book, plus measurer fees. It is slightly higher than the combined totals of £2339 19s 9d for building costs and £58 11s 6d for fees, recorded separately in the job-book entry.
- 2: Paisley, Renfrewshire Council Planning Department: County of Renfrew, second or lower district, Register of New Buildings 1899–1929, p. 6, no. 106.
- 3: The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: John Honeyman & Keppie/ Honeyman Keppie & Mackintosh job book, GLAHA 53061, pp. 229, 231.
- 4: Paisley Archives, Paisley Central Library: Plans of New Buildings 1900, no. 106.
- 5: The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: John Honeyman & Keppie / Honeyman Keppie & Mackintosh job book, GLAHA 53061, p. 232.
- 6: Paisley Archives, Paisley Central Library: Plans of New Buildings 1900, no. 106.
- 7: The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: John Honeyman & Keppie / Honeyman Keppie & Mackintosh job book, GLAHA 53061, p. 230.
- 8: Photograph showing house before alteration published in *Greenock Telegraph*, 30 March 1982, p. 8.
- 9: Information from owner (2011).
- 10: David MacGibbon and Thomas Ross, *The Castellated and Domestic Architecture of Scotland from the Twelfth to the Eighteenth Century*, 5 vols, Edinburgh: D. Douglas, 1887–92, 2, p. 158.
- 11: O.S. map of Renfrewshire (1913), sheet 7.5.
- 12: O.S. map of Renfrewshire (1913), sheet 7.5.
- 13: *Greenock Telegraph*, 30 March 1982, p. 8.
- 14: Information from owner, 2011.
- 15: 'returned with thanks'.
- 16: 'returned with thanks'.
- 17: 'returned with thanks'.
- 18: 'returned with thanks'.
- 19: House £850 15s 10d; boundary walls £191 7s 10d; forming walks and roads £48; 'galvanized iron eyes in walls £2 5s 0d.'
- 20: 'Contractor's half £12 15s'.
- 21: Includes £30 for jobbing.
- 22: 'contractor's ½ £9 9s'.
- 23: '½ measurer's fee'.
- 24: Includes £11 12s 4d for jobbing.

25: '½ measurer's fee'.

26: 'Contractor's half £1 6s 3d'.

27: 'Contractor's half £1 16s 9d'.

28: 'Cost of house exclusive of fees.'

## Mackintosh Architecture: Context, Making and Meaning

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