

M190 Moving ancient stones at Govan Parish Church

Introduction

Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh moved the carved early medieval Govan Stones from around the churchyard into an enclosure built to their design. John Honeyman had a long-standing interest in the graveyard monuments at Govan Parish Church. In 1889, his essay, 'The Sarcophagus in Govan Churchyard', was published in Glasgow Regality Club's first volume of papers, and in 1893 he submitted a report to the Govan Heritors urging the construction of a top-lit building to protect the monuments. In February 1899, John Keppie read a paper by Honeyman to Glasgow Archaeological Society reiterating the need to preserve the monuments. However, the funds required to erect the building suggested by Honeyman six years earlier had still not been raised. ¹ The stones were moved inside the church in 1926. ²

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: £65 11s 8d

Status: Monuments extant

Listing category: A: Listed as 'Govan Old Parish Church'

Historic Scotland/HB Number: 33353

RCAHMS Site Number: NS56NE 17

Grid reference: NS 55349 65917

Chronology

1900

17 October: Earliest payment to contractor. ¹

1901

6 May: Latest payments to contractors. ²

19 June: Govan Heritors pay Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh £21 0s 0d. ³

Description

People

Clients:

- Govan Heritors

Contractors:

- A. & J. Main & Co. Ltd
- Daniel McCallum

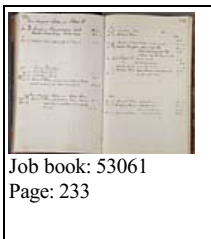
Job Book

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 M190 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 M190 has been extracted from the job books:



Client: Govan Heritors

Tenders:

Contractor	Type	Date	Value	Accepted
------------	------	------	-------	----------

Payments (trades):

Name	Type	Payment out sum
------	------	-----------------

Payments (suppliers):

Name	Service	Payment date	Payment sum
A. & J. Main & Co. Ltd	no data in job book	17 October 1900	£43 13s 10d
A. & J. Main & Co. Ltd	no data in job book	6 May 1901	£4 4s 0d
Daniel McCallum	'removing ancient stones at Church-yard into enclosure and bottoming enclosure.'	6 May 1901	£17 14s 8d

Documents

Images



Exterior of Govan Parish Church



Recumbent cross-slab (ECMS 13)

Bibliography

Published

- John Honeyman, 'The Sarcophagus in Govan Churchyard', *The Regality Club*, vol. 1, Glasgow: James Maclehose & Son, 1889
- Elizabeth Williamson, Anne Riches and Malcolm Higgs, *Buildings of Scotland: Glasgow*, London: Penguin, 1990, p. 587

Notes:

- 1: John Honeyman, 'The Sarcophagus in Govan Churchyard', *The Regality Club*, vol. 1, Glasgow: James Maclehose & Son, 1889; 'Glasgow Archaeological Society', *Glasgow Herald*, 17 February 1899, p. 10.
- 2: Elizabeth Williamson, Anne Riches and Malcolm Higgs, *Buildings of Scotland: Glasgow*, London: Penguin, 1990, p. 587.
- 3: The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: John Honeyman & Keppie / Honeyman Keppie & Mackintosh job book, GLAHA 53061, p. 233.
- 4: The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: John Honeyman & Keppie / Honeyman Keppie & Mackintosh job book, GLAHA 53061, p. 233.
- 5: The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: John Honeyman & Keppie / Honeyman Keppie & Mackintosh / Keppie Henderson cash book, 1889–1917, GLAHA 53079, p. 66.

Mackintosh Architecture: Context, Making and Meaning

Led by The Hunterian, University of Glasgow, funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council; with additional support from The Monument Trust, The Pilgrim Trust, and the Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art; and collaborative input from Historic Scotland and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland.



[© copyright 2014](#)

[Contact us](#)