

M199 Auchenbothie Gate Lodge

Introduction

This simple, detached, two-bedroom cottage was the gate lodge to Auchenbothie House, a Baronial mansion designed in 1898 by William Leiper.

Authorship: Mackintosh drew and signed three unexecuted designs for the lodge, as well as the design that was eventually built. He is named as architect in the county planning authority's Register of New Buildings in October 1901. ¹

Cost from job book: £507 10s 1½d

Status: Standing building

Current name: Auchenbothie Lodge

Current use: Residential (2014)

Listing category: B

Historic Scotland/HB Number: 12461

RCAHMS Site Number: NS37SE 24.01

Grid reference: NS 35180 70577

Chronology

1901

9 October: Plans submitted to the Master of Works Department, County of Renfrew, second or lower district. ¹

11 October: Plans approved by the Master of Works Department, County of Renfrew, second or lower district. ²

1902

14 November: Final payments to contractors. ³

Description

Hugh Brown Collins employed William Leiper (1839–1916) to design Auchenbothie House in 1898, and acted as his own architect in 1903 for a modest extension to one of the cottages on the estate. ¹ It is therefore surprising that he turned to Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh for the design of the gate lodge. Leiper's Auchenbothie House is a Franco-Scottish Baronial mansion, with roughcast walls and decorative red sandstone dressings, to which the lodge stands in complete contrast. Mackintosh proposed three alternatives before the executed design was settled upon. All of these earlier designs were of two storeys, and all were small-scale variations on the harled vernacular manner of Windyhill. In one, the lodge straddles the drive, pierced by a carriage arch. ² In another, it is tied into the entrance wall of the estate, which has an undulating coping like the garden wall of Windyhill. ³ In the third, it is detached, with a distinctive round stair tower tucked into the re-entrant angle of its two wings. ⁴ In their roughcast walls, small, irregularly positioned windows, steeply pitched roofs and sloping buttresses, they deploy some of the same basic ingredients as the executed design, but they show more inventiveness and individuality. All three proposals were considerably more ambitious than the very plain, single-storey cube that was eventually built, and they were perhaps rejected by the client on grounds of cost.

The lodge stands in its own garden, separated from the road by a low boundary wall (largely rebuilt c. 1991). ⁵ Almost square in plan, its roughcast stone walls have no projections except for a sloping buttress between the windows of the W. front. The slated, hipped roof is almost a pyramid, with a single chimney stack just off-centre, and the deep-set windows sit immediately below the eaves. On the drawings approved by the County authority, Mackintosh specified Aberfoyle grey slates for the roof and steel casements by Henry Hope & Son for the windows. The present (2010) leaded glazing in small diamond panes appears to be a late 20th-century replacement.





The front door at the S. end of the W. front (no longer used) opened originally into an internal porch. The door had already been blocked and the porch removed by 1991. ⁶

Apart from this, the plan of 1901–2 survives: four interconnected rooms – originally kitchen, wash-house and two bedrooms – radiate from the central chimney stack, with a bathroom in the S.E. corner. There were fireplaces in the two bedrooms, a range in the kitchen, and a boiler in the wash-house. The ceilings follow the slope of the roof for about half its height before becoming horizontal, making the interior surprisingly lofty. The drawings show a louvred projection in the wash-house roof, presumably for drying clothes: it does not survive, but a photograph taken c. 1976 shows that it still existed at that date. ⁷ The wash-house contains what was originally the back door, which now serves as the only entrance.

The unmoulded, sloping buttress and the use of roughcast show the influence of C. F. A. Voysey (1857–1941). The year after Mackintosh designed Auchenbothie gate lodge, Voysey designed a similar square, pyramid-roofed lodge for the house called Vodin at Pyrford Common, Surrey. ⁸ An even closer parallel is with a 1903 design by C. R. Ashbee (1863–1942) for Little Coppice at Iver Heath, Buckinghamshire. ⁹ A more elaborate precedent for the basic form of all these houses is the lodge of 1866 designed by William Eden Nesfield (1835–88) for Kew Gardens, Surrey.



People

Clients:

- Hugh Brown Collins

Contractors:

- R. Aitkenhead & Son
- John Anderson
- Barr & Fyfe
- John Forbes
- James Johnston & Son
- J. Caird Parker
- John Ritchie
- John Woodrow

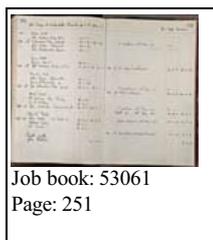
Other:

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 M199 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 M199 has been extracted from the job books:



Job book: 53061
Page: 251

Client: Hugh Brown Collins

Measurer: Barr & Fyfe

Tenders:

Contractor	Type	Address	Date	Value	Accepted
John Woodrow	mason	Bridge of Weir	1901	£177 15s 5d	no
R. Aitkenhead & Son	mason	Greenock	1901	£149 11s 2d	yes (24 September 1901)
John Miller	mason	Kilmacolm	1901	£177 1s 4d	no
John Kirkwood	mason	Glasgow	1901	£178 0s 0d	no
James Grant	joiner	no data in job book	1901	£139 4s 0d	no
John Woodrow	joiner	Bridge of Weir	1901	£121 19s 10d	yes (24 September 1901)
John Currie	plumber	Kilmacolm	1901	£62 0s 0d	no
David McIlwraith	plumber	Kilmacolm	1901	£57 1s 1¾d	no
James Johnston & Son	plumber	Glasgow	1901	£63 0s 0d	yes (24 September 1901)
William Gillespie & Sons	slater	Paisley	1901	£56 11s 8d	no
A. & D. McKay	slater	no data in job book	1901	£65 10s 0d	no
John Anderson	slater	Parliamentary Road	1901	£52 5s 6d	yes (24 September 1901)
John Forbes	plaster	158a Bath Street	1901	£27 9s 10d	yes (24 September 1901)
William Forbes	plaster	no data in job book	1901	£28 17s 11d	no
William Tonner	plaster	no data in job book	1901	£30 4s 10d	no
John Ritchie	painter	no data in job book	no data in job book	£17 4s 9d	yes

Payments (trades):

Name	Type	Payment out sum
R. Aitkenhead & Son	mason	First installment: 27 December 1901 £202 1s 5d
John Woodrow	joiner	Final installment: 25 October 1902 £119 10s 5d
James Johnston & Son	plumber	First installment: 27 May 1902 £80 12s 3d Final certificate date: 14 November 1902
John Anderson	slater	First installment: 30 May 1902 Final installment: 23 August 1902 £59 19s 11d
John Forbes	plaster	£23 10s 0½d Final certificate date: 23 August 1902
John Ritchie	painter	£17 4s 9d

Payments (suppliers):

Name	Service	Payment date	Payment sum
J. Caird Parker	'2 Wrought iron grates.'	14 November [1902]	£4 11s 4d

Documents

???

Images



View from S.



W. front



E. elevation

Bibliography

Published

- Thomas Howarth, *Charles Rennie Mackintosh and the Modern Movement*, London: Routledge & Kegan Paul, 2nd edn, 1977, p. 109
- Frank Arneil Walker, *The South Clyde Estuary. An Illustrated Guide to Inverclyde and Renfrew*, Edinburgh: Scottish Academic Press, 1986, p. 91

Unpublished

- Alison Harris, *A Report on the Present and Future Condition of the Remaining Buildings of Charles Rennie Mackintosh*, Dip.Arch. dissertation, Glasgow School of Art, 1976.
- Hiroaki Kimura, 'Charles Rennie Mackintosh: Architectural Drawings', unpublished PhD thesis, University of Glasgow, 1982, pp. 42–3

Notes:

- 1: Paisley, Renfrewshire Council Planning Department: County of Renfrew, second or lower district, register of new buildings 1899–1929, p. 9, no. 166.
- 2: Paisley, Renfrewshire Council Planning Department: County of Renfrew, second or lower district, register of new buildings 1899–1929, p. 9, no. 166.
- 3: Paisley, Renfrewshire Council Planning Department: County of Renfrew, second or lower district, register of new buildings 1899–1929, p. 9, no. 166.
- 4: The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: John Honeyman & Keppie / Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh cash book, GLAHA 53061, p. 252.
- 5: *Dictionary of Scottish Architects, 1840–1980*, www.scottisharchitects.org.uk [accessed 7 December 2010]; University of Glasgow Library, Special Collections: plans for proposed rebuilding of Cloak Cottage, MS Hislop 289/1.
- 6: The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: GLAHA 41858 (M199-005).
- 7: The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: GLAHA 41859 (M199-006).
- 8: The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: GLAHA 41860 (M199-007).
- 9: The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: copy of report of site inspection by Scottish Office inspector, 30 July 1991.
- 10: The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: copy of report of site inspection by Scottish Office inspector, 30 July 1991.
- 11: Alison Harris, *A Report on the Present and Future Condition of the Remaining Buildings of Charles Rennie Mackintosh*, Dip.Arch. dissertation, Glasgow School of Art, 1976.
- 12: *British Architect*, 69, 20 March 1908, p. 205.
- 13: Alan Crawford, *C. R. Ashbee*, New Haven, London: 1985, p. 270.

Mackintosh Architecture: Context, Making and Meaning

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