

M279 Wilmar

Introduction

This detached house in the affluent commuter enclave of Skelmorlie looks west over the Firth of Clyde to Bute. The name is a conflation of the first names of William and Margaret Cunningham Rankin, the couple for whom the house was built. The front is framed by broad bay windows, with a simple veranda recessed between. It was divided into two dwellings c. 1979, but much high-quality joinery survives inside. The original hall, N., has a screen of three round arches in front of the stairs, with richly carved capitals; the billiard room, S., has a chimneypiece with a pair of unfluted Roman Doric columns. The carved decoration throughout is based on Renaissance examples.

Authorship: 'Lounge' for Wilmar was included on a list of Mackintosh's works compiled in the 1930s by Ronald Harrison, an early student of his architecture, who had access to the office records. It was also included on Harrison's list of a selection of drawings produced in the office during Mackintosh's time. Harrison evidently believed that Mackintosh contributed in some way to the design of the building, but no evidence has come to light to support this attribution. Rather the stylistic evidence, for example the carved decoration, strongly suggests that John Keppie designed the house.

Cost from job book: £4751 8s 9d

Status: Standing building

Current use: Residential (2014)

Listing category: C (S)

Historic Scotland/HB Number: 50037

Grid reference: NS 1947 6722

Chronology

1907

23 March: Tenders accepted for mason, joiner and plaster work. ¹

1908

9 July: Final payment for slater work. ²

18 November: Final payments for mason, plaster and plumber work. ³

1909

19 January: Final payment for joiner work. ⁴

1979

House divided into two dwellings. ⁵

People

Clients:

- William Cunningham Rankin

Contractors:

- George Adam & Son
- R. Aitkenhead & Son
- John Anderson
- William Anderson
- Burroughs & Watts
- James Cormack & Sons Ltd

- John Finlay & Co.
- William Kemp & Co.
- Alex Knox & Robb
- A. & J. Main & Co. Ltd
- John Montgomery
- Robert Renfrew
- A. & J. Scott
- William Tonner & Son
- 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 M279 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 M279 has been extracted from the job books:



Job book: 53062
Page: 133



Job book: 53062
Page: 134



Job book: 53062
Page: 135

Client: William Cunningham Rankin ¹

Measurer: Alex Knox & Robb

Tenders:

Contractor	Type	Address	Date	Value	Accepted
James Arthur	mason	Skelmorlie	1907	£1776 9s 7d	no
J. & D. Meikle	mason	Ayr	1907	£1875 13s 7d	no
William Lancaster	mason	Skelmorlie	1907	£1587 3s 7½d	no
J. H. White & Sons	mason	Glasgow	1907	£1768 5s 7d	no
R. Aitkenhead & Son	mason	Greenock	1907	£1506 6s 0d	yes (23 March 1907)
George Reid	mason	Catrine	1907	£1644 9s 0½d	no
Wylie & Lochhead	joiner	no data in job book	1907	£1102 9s 8d	yes (23 March 1907)
Lawson & Co.	joiner	Park Saw Mills, Govan	1907	£1218 18s 4d	no
James Herbertson & Sons	joiner	85 Bedford Street	1907	no data in job book	no
John Cochrane	joiner	58 Dobbies Loan	1907	£1201 0s 1d	no
A. & G. Gray	joiner	30 Bath Street	1907	£1274 11s 4d	no
James Hunter	joiner	Skelmorlie	1907	£1281 2s 0d	no
McLuckie & Mitchell	joiner	Skelmorlie	1907	£1284 18s 4d	no
James Grant	joiner	Glasgow	1907	£1247 12s 10d	no
Mathew Henderson	joiner	no data in job book	1907	£1320 12s 0d	no
Connell	slater	Skelmorlie	1907	£107 13s 2d	no
Moodie	slater	Skelmorlie	1907	£96 13s 0d	no

A. & D. Mackay	slater	Glasgow	1907	£106 0s 0d	no
John Anderson	slater	Glasgow	1907	£103 12s 4d	yes
A. M. Ross & Sons	slater	Glasgow	1907	£112 12s 2d	no
William Anderson	plumber	Wellington Street	1907	£443 0s 0d	no
Brown & Young	plumber	Bath Street	1907	£473 19s 1d	no
Robert Renfrew	plumber	no data in job book	1907	£418 0s 0d	yes
James Ingleton & Co.	plumber	no data in job book	1907	£469 0s 0d	no
D. McInnes	plumber	Skelmorlie	1907	£479 13s 0d	no
Wallace & Connell	plumber	44 St Enoch Square	1907	£449 10s 6d	no
George Rome & Co.	plasterer	Glasgow	1907	£137 0s 0d	no
R. A. McGilvray & Ferris	plasterer	Glasgow	1907	£142 16s 0d	no
William Tonner & Son	plasterer	Glasgow	1907	£127 1s 11½d	yes (23 March 1907)
John Forbes	plasterer	Glasgow	1907	£139 18s 0½d	no
William Forbes	plasterer	Glasgow	1907	£135 19s 7d	no
William Anderson	electric bells	Wellington Street, Glasgow	1907	£10 6s 9d	no
Brown & Young	electric bells	7 Bath Street, Glasgow	1907	£22 3s 0d	no
Robert Renfrew	electric bells	North Street, Glasgow	1907	£8 13s 0d	yes (23 March 1907)
James Ingleton & Co.	electric bells	George Street, Glasgow	1907	£12 18s 0d	no
D. McInnes	electric bells	Skelmorlie	1907	£8 0s 9d	no
Wallace & Connell	electric bells	St Enoch Square	1907	£9 5s 0d	no
Osbourne & Hunter	electric lighting	no data in job book	1907	£90 0s 0d	no
Thomas McCall & Co.	electric lighting	116a Mains Street	1907	£84 15s 0d	no
William Anderson	electric lighting	no data in job book	1907	£57 0s 0d	yes
Wylie & Lohead Ltd	electric lighting	no data in job book	1907	£85 0s 0d	no
James Hutcheson	electric lighting	no data in job book	1907	£70 0s 0d	no
William Anderson	electric lighting	no data in job book	1907	£45 9s 6d ²	yes
James Cormack & Sons Ltd	heating	no data in job book	1907	£59 5s 0d ³	yes (1 June 1907)
James Cormack & Sons Ltd	heating	no data in job book	1907	£4 5s 0d ⁴	yes (1 June 1907)
James Cormack & Sons Ltd	conservatory	no data in job book	1907	£59 17s 6d ⁵	yes (1 June 1907)
R. Aitkenhead & Son	work at grounds	no data in job book	1907	£175 0s 0d	yes (10 December 1907)
William Anderson	electric wiring	no data in job book	17 June 1907	£57 0s 0d ⁶	yes
William Anderson	electric wiring	no data in job book	17 June 1907	£13 10s 0d ⁷	yes
William Anderson	electric wiring	no data in job book	16 August 1907	no data in job book ⁸	yes
A. & J. Scott	painter	no data in job book	6 September 1907	no data in job book ⁹	yes
George Adam & Son	iron	no data in job book	22 October 1907	£25 0s 0d ¹⁰	yes
George Adam & Son	iron	no data in job book	22 October 1907	£3 0s 0d ¹¹	yes
William Kemp & Co.	grates	no data in job book	3 February 1908	£54 10s 0d ¹²	yes
William Kemp & Co.	electroliers	no data in job book	25 March 1908	£50 0s 0d ¹³	yes

John Finlay & Co.	kitchen range	no data in job book	12 February 1908	£22 10s 0d	yes
John Finlay & Co.	boiler	no data in job book	12 February 1908	£14 10s 0d ¹⁴	yes
Wylie & Lochhead	bedroom furniture	no data in job book	26 February 1908	£16 18s 0d	yes
A. & J. Main & Co. Ltd	fencing	no data in job book	6 March 1908	no data in job book ¹⁵	yes
Burroughs & Watts	billiards equipment	no data in job book	6 March 1908	£110 5s 0d ¹⁶	yes

Payments (trades):

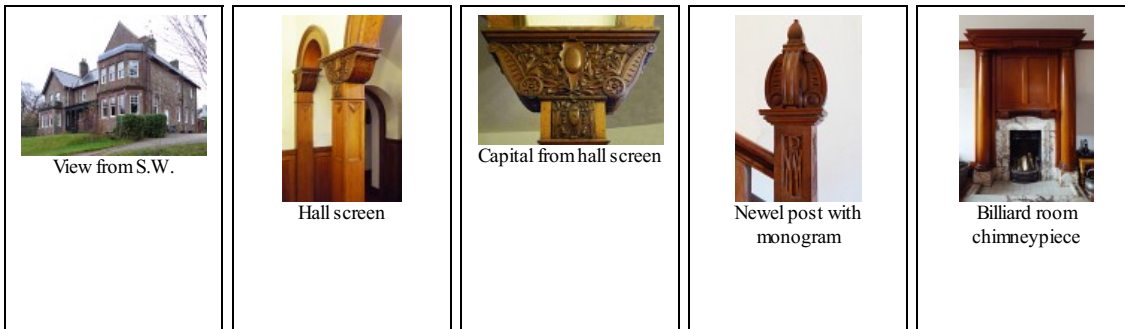
Name	Type	Payment out sum
R. Aitkenhead & Son	mason	First installment: 28 June 1907 Final installment: 18 November 1908 £1698 13s 9d ¹⁷
Wylie & Lochhead	joiner	First installment: 1 October 1907 Final installment: 19 January 1909 £1366 16s 4d ¹⁸
John Anderson	slater	First installment: 17 October 1907 Final installment: 9 July 1908 £109 16s 8d ¹⁹
Robert Renfrew	plumber	First installment: 27 November 1907 Final installment: 18 November 1908 £445 15s 0d ²⁰
William Tonner & Son	plasterer	First installment: 19 December 1907 Final installment: 18 November 1908 £138 1s 8d ²¹
William Anderson	electric wiring & cable	First installment: 8 May 1908 Final installment: 16 November 1908 £134 2s 2d
William Anderson	electric bells	Payment date: 16 November 1908 £12 0s 0d ²²
James Cormack & Sons Ltd	heating and conservatory	Payment date: 3 July 1908 £128 4s 2d
R. Aitkenhead & Son	work at grounds	Payment date: 17 April 1908 £175 0d 0d
A. & J. Scott	painter	Payment date: 9 June 1908 £167 6s 3d ²³
William Kemp & Co.	grates, fenders and electric fittings	Payment date: 3 October 1908 £112 5s 8d
A. & J. Main & Co. Ltd	fencing	Payment date: 1 May 1908 £26 7s 8d ²⁴
George Adam & Son	iron	Payment date: 5 June 1908 £28 0s 0d ²⁵
John Finlay & Co.	kitchen range	Payment date: 23 June 1908 £36 10s 0d
Burroughs & Watts	billiards equipment	Payment date: 27 June 1908 £110 0s 0d ²⁶
R. Aitkenhead & Son	mason	Payment date: 18 November 1908 £2 14s 7d ²⁷

Payments (suppliers):

Name	Service	Payment date	Payment sum
John Montgomery	inspector	16 May 1908	£59 14s 10d ²⁸

Documents

Images



Bibliography

Published

Notes:

- 1: The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh job book, GLAHA 53062, pp. 133–4.
- 2: The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh job book, GLAHA 53062, p. 133.
- 3: The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh job book, GLAHA 53062, pp. 133–4.
- 4: The Hunterian, University of Glasgow: Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh job book, GLAHA 53062, p. 133.
- 5: Information from owner (November 2012).
- 6: The name 'Dr Fullerton' is written in pencil above the client's name.
- 7: For 'Electric cable'.
- 8: For 'heating apparatus, amended by letter 21 May'.
- 9: For 'Covering pipes'.
- 10: 'including cartage from St[reef]. See letter of acceptance, 1st June 1907.'
- 11: 'electric wiring each pt. deducted or added. 19/- .'.
- 12: 'wiring & erecting fittings & power points in lounge.'
- 13: '7/14 cable. 8/6 per yard.'
- 14: 'list of rates.'
- 15: For '2 front gates'.
- 16: For 'mall[eable] iron door at switch Elec.'
- 17: For 'grates throughout house'.
- 18: '10% off.'
- 19: For '¼ copper loop boiler'.
- 20: 'Iron fence at sides of feu 1 10½ per lin yd. 2 tying pillars 20/- per set. Winding pillars 28/- per set. Ramming in iron posts to rock with cement as support, 8d each.'
- 21: Comprises: £78 15s 0d for 'billiard table, 12 cues, set of balls, 2 rests, etc.'; £19 10s 0d for 'Bureau & marking board'; £4 4s 0d for '8 Bonzoline Pool

Balls'; £8 8s 0d for sixteen Bonzoline Pyramid balls; 10s 6d for one Bonzoline black ball; £1 4s 0d for 'triangle etc.'; £4 10s 0d for 'electrolier'; and £1 15s 0d for 'extra carriage'.

22: Half measurer's fee: £24.

23: Half measurer's fee: £21.

24: Half measurer's fee: £1 18s 6d.

25: Half measurer's fee: £6 15s 0d.

26: Includes £1 1s 0d for 'repairing broken plaster in Billiard Room' Half measurer's fee: £2 5s 0d.

27: Includes '4 extra points' and '10 special plates'.

28: Half measurer's fee: £4 4s 0d.

29: For 'wire fencing strainers & winders'.

30: For 'gate & door at wall'. On the same date, George Adam & Son were paid £1 10s 0d by the Union Transit Co. for 'repairing gate', and R. Aitkenhead & Son were paid 3s 8d in connection with the same job.

31: For 'Billiard Table etc.'

32: For 'work at Heating Ch.'

33: This payment covers the period from 6 April 1907 to 16 May 1908.

Mackintosh Architecture: Context, Making and Meaning

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