The architecture of Scotland in its European setting: 1660-1750

22-25 April 2015, University of Edinburgh

This conference will review the architecture of Scotland’s early classical period, 1660-1750, set against the backdrop of European sister cultures. It will re-examine the work of major Scottish architects including Sir William Bruce, Mr James Smith, the Mylne family, William Adam and their contemporaries: clients, garden designers and craftsmen. Topics explored will include country houses and their landscaped settings, urban civic and domestic buildings, and the building trade. The nature and value of Scotland’s international connections, particularly with England and mainland Europe, provide the main contexts for this period during which Scottish architects fully embraced classicism for the first time and became strongly influential in shaping taste elsewhere.

Booking information is available at https://sites.eca.ed.ac.uk/architecture-of-scotland/

PROGRAMME

Wednesday 22nd April

Afternoon: optional pre-conference walking tour of the Royal Mile, led by Aonghus Mackechnie.

Evening

Keynote Lecture
Professor Allan Macinnes: Contextualising Scotland’s early classical architecture: The political, intellectual and economic backgrounds.

Followed by drinks reception hosted by Historic Scotland

Continued overleaf
Thursday 23rd April

9.50am: Welcome.

10.45 - 10.55: Questions

10.55 - 11.15 Coffee

Session 1: Classicism and the castle
11.35 - 11.55 Holyrood after Bruce - Aonghus Mackechnie
11.55 - 12.15 Paper to be confirmed
12.15 - 12.35 The palace of Skokloster (1654–76) - Adam Justin Moll
12.35 - 12.50 Questions

12.50 - 13.45 Lunch

Session 2: James Smith and the Mylnes
13.50 - 14.00 The Mylnes, the Smiths and the Edinburgh masons - John Lowrey
14.00 - 14.25 Robert Mylne 1633-1710: Realizer of Noble Ambitions - Paul Harding
14.25 - 14.50 The architectural innovations of Mr James Smith of Whitehill (c.1645-1731) within the European context - Cristina Gonzalez-Longo
14.50 - 15.00 Questions

15.00 - 15.20 Tea

Session 3: The business of building; trade and materials
15.20 - 15.40 Finding the Builders: Sources Lost and Extant for Edinburgh’s Incorporation of Mary’s Chapel - Aaron Allen
15.40 - 16.00 Ironwork - David Mitchell
16.00 - 16.20 Thomas Alburn, William Bruce’s plasterer: an Englishman and the best plaisterer that was ever yet in Scotland - William Napier
16.20 - 16.40 The Roof Structure of George Heriot’s Hospital Chapel and the Development of Roof Design in Scotland during the 17th and 18th centuries - Anna Serafini
16.40 - 17.00 Flat rather than Pitched and Crowstepped: Early Modern Roofs in Scotland - Thorsten Hanke
17.00 - 17.20 Questions
**Friday**

9.30am - 9.40 Welcome.

**Session 1: Gardens and Landscape**

9.40 - 10am The Terraced Garden in Scotland in the Later Seventeenth Century - **Marilyn Brown**
10.00 - 10.20 Alexander Edward’s Grand Tour and its ramifications for garden design - **John Lowrey**
10.20 - 10.40 *The inexpressible need of enclosing and planting* - Country House policies in Scotland 1660-1750 - **Christopher Dingwall**
10.40 - 11.00 New European horizons in Mar’s designing, 1716 to 1732 - **Margaret Stewart**

11.00 - 11.15 Coffee

11.15 - 11.35 William Adam’s landscape gardens - **Louisa Humm**
11.35 - 11.55 Adam and Antiquity: the Augustan landscape at Arniston - **Nick Haynes**
11.55 - 12.15 Icehouses - **Tim Buxbaum**
12.15 - 12.30 Questions

**12.30 - 1pm Lunch**

**1pm** Site visits.

Delegates may choose one of the options listed below. We will do our best to accommodate your preferences, but we cannot guarantee that you will be able to join the tour of your choice.

**Option 1. Hopetoun House:** including specialist tours of the house, garden and archives. Arguably Bruce’s grandest house, much of it still evident behind William Adam’s new 1720s front.

**Option 2. Dalkeith Palace and Brunstane House:** Dalkeith exemplifies the type of classical country seat James Smith could provide, and contrasts with suburban Brunstane, reconstructed by Bruce for Secretary of State Lauderdale as a villa conveniently near the capital.

**Option 3. Thirlestane Castle:** the country seat of Bruce’s patron, the Duke of Lauderdale, Charles II’s Secretary, or ‘vicery’, in Scotland.

**Evening** Optional Conference Dinner at Hotel du Vin

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Saturday

9.45 - 9.55 Welcome

Session 1: Country Houses
10.00 - 10.20 From England to Scotland in 1701: The Duchess of Buccleuch returns to Dalkeith Palace - Sally Jeffery
10.20 - 10.40 Women patrons and designers in early eighteenth-century Scotland: Lady Panmure and Lady Nairne - Clarisse Godard Desmarest
10.40 - 11.00 Hopetoun House as a Functional Space - Charlotte Bassett
11.00 - 11.20 Architectural collecting in early modern Scotland & England - Matthew Walker
11.20 - 11.30 Questions
11.30 - 11.45 Coffee

Session 2: Urban architecture (Part 1)
11.45 - 12.05 The development of the parish church in Scotland, 1700-1750 - Simon Green
12.05 - 12.25 Apartment blocks in early modern Edinburgh and Paris - Geoffrey Stell
12.25 - 12.45 Allan Dreghorn - Georgian Glasgow’s architect - Anthony Lewis
12.45 - 13.00 Questions
13.00 - 13.55 Lunch

Session 3: Urban architecture (Part 2)
14.00 - 14.20 Interpretation of European Classicism: three 18th Century University Libraries - Deborah Mays
14.20 - 14.30 Paper to be confirmed.
14.30 - 15.00 Linlithgow Town House: the design and building of an early Scottish provincial palazzo, 1667-70 - Laurie Alexander and Geoffrey Stell
15.00 - 15.10 Questions
15.10 - 15.30 Tea

Session 4: William Adam and the period 1720-1750
15.30 - 15.50 Colen Campbell and Vitruvius Britannicus - Joanne O’Hara
15.50 - 16.10 Gibbs and Scotland: the importance of Gibbs’s Book of Architecture - Andrew Martindale
16.10 - 16.30 The making of a monopoly: exploring the business practices of William Adam - Sydney Ayres
16.30 - 16.50 Professional architectural practice in the work of John Douglas - Dimitris Theodossopoulos
16.50 - 17.10 A Classic looks at the Gothic: Sir John Clerk, ruins and romance - Iain Gordon Brown
17.10 - 17.30 Was Scotland a “narrow place”? - Ranald MacInnes
17.30 Questions and close.

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