



Case information

Case ID	300008881
File Reference	HGH/B/SL/253
Name of Site	Corinthian Club (former Sheriff Court and Justice of the Peace Court), 191 Ingram Street, Glasgow

Local Authority	Glasgow City Council		
National Grid Reference	NS 59289 65218		
Designation No. (if any)	LB32735		
Designation Type	Listed Building	Current Category of Listing	A
Case Type	Amendment		

Received/Start Date	2014 [Former Scottish Courts Listing Review 2014-16]
Decision Date	10/01/2017

1. Decision

In our current state of knowledge, the Corinthian Club (former Sheriff Court and Justice of the Peace Court) continues to meet the criteria for listing. The statutory listing address and the listed building record have been amended. The category of listing will remain at A.

Previous Statutory Address	191 Ingram Street, Lanarkshire House, Corinthian (former Sheriff Court and Justice of the Peace Court)
Amended Statutory Address	Corinthian Club (former Sheriff Court and Justice of the Peace Court), 191 Ingram Street, Glasgow

2. Designation Background and Development Proposals

2.1 Designation Background

This building was listed at category A on 15/12/1970. It is located within the Glasgow Central Area Conservation Area.

2.2 Development Proposals

There are no known development proposals.

3. Assessment

3.1 Assessment information

The Corinthian Club was considered for amendment as part of the Former Scottish Courts Listing Review 2014-2016.

The building has not been visited. The present assessment is desk-based, using available information and has included reference to images on the owner's website.

3.2 Assessment against designation criteria

The building was found to meet the criteria for listing.

An assessment against the listing criteria was carried out. See **Annex A**.

The designation criteria are published in the Historic Environment Scotland policy statement June 2016, Annex 2, pp. 51-53.

<https://www.historicenvironment.scot/advice-and-support/planning-and-guidance/legislation-and-guidance/historic-environment-scotland-policy-statement/>

Elizabeth McCrone

Head of Designations
Heritage Management
Historic Environment Scotland

Contact	Yvonne Hillyard, Designations Officer Yvonne.hillyard@hes.scot, 0131 668 8088
----------------	--

ANNEX A – Assessment Against the Listing Criteria*

Corinthian Club (former Sheriff Court and Justice of the Peace Court), 191 Ingram Street, Glasgow

1. Description

The core of the building was designed by David Hamilton in 1841 with alterations and additions including a telling room by James Salmon in 1853. It was refronted and additions made by John Burnet Senior in 1876-9. This is a 3-storey, 7-bay rectangular-plan former bank with Free Venetian Mannerist style façade. It was later converted to court houses and in the late 20th century to a members club. It is located on a prominent site in Glasgow's Merchant City and occupies the block between Ingram Street and Virginia Place.

It is mainly built of ashlar masonry which is channelled at the ground and first floors with polished red Peterhead granite at the basement level and at the second storey colonnade and unpolished red granite at the first floor pilasters. There is an imposing central entrance with a broken pediment supported on heavy consoles. The first floor windows are deeply recessed behind a Roman Doric pilastrade, with an entablature above. There is a mannered Corinthian colonnade at the second floor in front of round arched windows and enclosing sculptured figures supporting a crest. There is a deep cornice and a balustrade die parapet.

There is large pane glazing in timber windows.

The interior has not been seen. Photographs indicate that the principal rooms and circulation spaces have an excellent imposing decorative scheme dating from the 1850s and 1870s with finely detailed plasterwork, plaster sculptures and timberwork.

2. Assessment Against the Listing Criteria (HES Policy Statement, 2016) Annex 2, pp. 51-52

Criteria for determining whether a building is of 'special architectural or historic interest' for listing under the terms of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act 1997 [www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1997/9/contents]

To be listed, a building need not meet all the listing criteria. The criteria provide a framework within which judgement is exercised in reaching individual decisions.

2.1 Age and Rarity

The Corinthian Club building evolved over many years. The initial building on this site was the Virginia (or Buchanan) Mansion House facing southwards down Virginia Street and dating from about 1752. It was rebuilt as a branch of the Glasgow and Ship Bank in 1841. The Glasgow and Ship Bank merged with the Union Bank in 1843. Ten years later a number of alterations and additions were made by James

Salmon including the large new telling room with glass cupola at the south side of the building and a new entrance from Virginia Place. In 1876-79 another phase of alterations again changed its appearance. An extension was made to the east and the building was re-fronted.

The building was acquired as a headquarters for Lanark County Council in 1930 and the County Architect, John Stewart of Motherwell made alterations in 1933. In 1964 it was purchased by the Court House Commissioners for use as additional sheriff court accommodation. The main courtroom was located in the former bullion store. It not only served as an overflow for the Sheriff Court (housed in the County Buildings), but also for the High Court housed in the Saltmarket Buildings and was even used as a Court of Session. Alterations were also undertaken in the 1990s when it was converted to a club. Ordnance Survey maps show the footprint of the building is unchanged since the 1870s.

Banks are not a rare building type and the proliferation of different banking companies means that there are numerous examples in small burghs to large cities across Scotland. The classical style was favoured for this building type to convey a sense of monumentality and also the secular function of the banking institution. There are many fine banks throughout Glasgow and elsewhere. However what is unusual about this building is that it was adapted from a bank to offices, then to court accommodation and finally to a casino and club in the late 20th century. Each phase required some changes but the overall appearance has not changed significantly since 1879. Although a number of county buildings were adapted for court use when the adjacent court house required additional accommodation it is rare to find a court house adapted from an entirely different type of building. The monumentality of the classical architecture of banks is appropriate for the status of court buildings, and there are two former banks in Scotland that has been adapted into a court building: this example in Glasgow and the former Aberdeen Bank on Castle Street, Aberdeen (built in 1801) (listed at category A, LB20174).

The Corinthian Club (former Sheriff Court) is an outstanding example of a mid-late 19th century commercial building, in terms of the high quality of the designs of various elements of this building and the workmanship.

2.2 Architectural or Historic Interest

Interior

The interior has not been seen and has not been taken into account in this assessment. Images on the owner's website indicate that the main features of the three main areas which were inserted in the 1850s and 1870s are still largely intact and are of outstanding quality: the hall and stair, the former rear telling room and the former bullion room and adjacent saloon for clerks.

The telling room (now the Tellers Bar and Brasserie) which was added in 1853-55 was designed by James Salmon. The dominant features are the highly elaborate plasterwork of the cornice and coved area of the ceiling and the large glazed hemispherical cupola with drum ventilator. The plasterwork, the overall design of

which was presumably by Salmon, was executed by James Steel whose name frequently appears in connection with major buildings in Glasgow at this time (for example the New Club in West George Street in the 1880s). The unusual triplicated dwarf pilasters may have been derived from similar details in the saloon at Devonshire House in London, the plasterwork there being carried out by the well-known plasterer J G Grace. The wall treatment of the room is characterised by the 'Roman Corinthian' pilasters, flanking bays with segmental arched pediments or round headed panels. It is lit by triple windows on the south side (the original glass here was by James Ballantine and is not known to survive).

The sculpture on the coved part of the ceiling is noteworthy. It was commissioned from John Thomas of London (1813-62) who was employed elsewhere in Glasgow. There are four large allegorical sculpted figures in the angles of the coved ceiling representing four continents and three groups of figures above the south window representing Commerce, the Arts and Sciences and Agriculture. The background to these bas reliefs was originally gold which was extremely unusual.

The second noteworthy interior is the hall and staircase which were designed by John Burnet (the plans that appear on the large scale Ordnance Survey map of 1857 show two staircases but these were replaced by one larger stair by Burnet when he made his additions in the 1870s). The decorative scheme echoes that of the telling hall with Corinthian pilasters between round-arched bays. There is a fine coffered ceiling and decorative plasterwork. The carved timber balustrade of the staircase is also noteworthy.

The third area of particular interest is the former bullion store (now the casino) with barrel vault. The glazing in the vault was a later addition as the Glasgow Herald report at the opening of the new building describes it as 'dark'. The well-detailed cornices and elaborate Corinthian columns and pilasters again echo the earlier Salmon telling room. The roundels with reliefs at the south end were by the carvers J and G Mossman. The columns at the west side of the building separated it off from the saloon for the clerks. Court C was located in this area of the building during its use as a court house.

Plan form

Because this building has been developed incrementally through the 19th century, the plan does not conform to a standard pattern, other than during its time as a bank the telling room was inserted at the rear which is a similar arrangement to Peddie and Kinnear's rear telling room at the Royal Bank of Scotland in St Andrew Square, Edinburgh.

Technological excellence or innovation, material or design quality

This is an outstanding building because of the high quality of the work by three of Glasgow's foremost architects, David Hamilton (1768-1843), James Salmon (1805-1888) and John Burnet Senior (1814-1901).

The first building on this site, the Virginia or Buchanan Mansion, built about 1752 has been completely enveloped by subsequent alterations. As regards the 1841 initial bank building by David Hamilton, only the northwest corner of this bank now remains. The chief feature of this building was a giant Roman-Doric portico which was later relocated to the Citizen's Theatre but no longer survives. Six stone figures

sculpted by John Mossman stood on the balustrade and these have been retained and re-used (see below).

Radical alterations were made to the Hamilton building in 1853 when James Salmon was employed by the directors of the bank to design the addition of the telling room at the rear and the new Virginia Place façade. Salmon had started practice in Glasgow in the late 1830s and had been employed several times by the Union Bank before securing this commission. His practice was very busy and undertook a wide range of work including several more commercial buildings for other banks later in his career.

James Salmon's Virginia Place elevation is still extant. It faces directly down Virginia Street. The semi-circular tympana over the central bays contain sculpture by John Mossman with the Union Bank's monogram above set into the balustrade. The building was highly acclaimed at the time. The 'Glasgow Herald' stated in 1855 that that if offered 'the most satisfactory evidence that the architects of Glasgow possess as great devotion to art as a degree of artistic attainments, as any class of professional men in the United Kingdom'.

In 1876-79 John Burnet was employed to enlarge the building and rearrange some interior spaces. John Burnet had commenced practice in the 1840s and soon built up a large client base among the merchants and shipowners of Glasgow. In his later years he was responsible for three of the city's most important buildings: the Clydesdale Bank (1867) and the Merchants' House (1875) both in West George Street and the reconstruction of this building for the Union Bank of Scotland.

Burnet's work consisted of refronting the building (removing the David Hamilton portico) creating a larger entrance hall and adding the bullion store and saloon for clerks working in the secretary's and discount departments as well as a range of other new offices. The new elevation to Ingram Street is of high architectural quality and is a strong composition. It provoked favourable comments at the time it was built: 'the new front which is one of the most striking architectural features of a neighbourhood particularly rich in fine buildings is Italian in general design...' (Glasgow Herald, 1879, p.6). The report also notes that the granite on the elevation is the first instance of this material being used in Glasgow endowing the building with 'pleasant variety'. As with Salmon's Virginia Place façade, the sculptural details are significant. The six stone figures from the David Hamilton building were reused between the columns at second floor and two new groups added at each outer bay. The new groups and other sculptural details such as the arms of Glasgow and Edinburgh were carved by J and G Mossman.

The building is given further significance by the fact that John James Burnet, John Burnet's preeminent son, may have had a hand in the design. Some exterior details which are French in inspiration – for example the consoles of the doorcase - may have been designed by the younger Burnet who studied at the Ecole des Beaux Arts from 1871-76. This is given credence by the fact that the younger Burnet lists this as one of his works in more than one publication. Overall the façade of the building was probably influenced by C R Cockerell's Liverpool and London Insurance office in Liverpool, completed in 1855.

Setting

It occupies a large prominent site in the heart of Glasgow's Merchant City, the block stretching between Ingram Street at the front and Virginia Place at the rear, the rear elevation looking down Virginia Street. Virginia Place runs up each side of the building so that it is physically detached from its neighbours. It has considerable streetscape presence and stands out even though it is in close proximity to a number of other good commercial buildings in Ingram Street (such as David Hamilton's Hutcheson's Hospital and the younger Burnet's Saving Bank).

Regional variations

There are no known regional variations.

2.3 Close Historical Associations

There are no known associations with a person or event of national importance at present (2016).

3. Working with the Principles of Listing (HES Policy Statement, 2016) Annex 2, pp. 53

In choosing buildings within the above broad headings particular attention is paid to:

- a. special value within building types*
- b. contribution to an architecturally or historically interesting group*
- c. the impact of a grouping of buildings*
- d. authenticity*

When working with the principles of listing the Corinthian Club has particular interest under a and d

- a. Within each phase of its history – house, bank, offices, court house and casino this building is not rare in terms of building type. However what is unusual is that it was adapted for a court house from a bank and offices. It is also an outstanding example of a mid-late 19th century commercial building, because of the high quality of the work by three of Glasgow's foremost architects.
- b. This is a significant commercial building for the quality of the architecture in a part of Glasgow which has numerous other commercial buildings but few equal in quality.
- d. Although the building has seen a number of changes, several key parts, including the north and south elevations and the footprint of the building remain intact with significant details sculptures surviving.

4. Summary of Assessment Against the Listing Criteria**

The Corinthian Club (former Sheriff Court), is an outstanding example of a mid-late 19th century commercial building. The street elevations are largely unchanged since they were built in 1853-55 and 1876-79 respectively by three of Glasgow's preeminent architects, James Salmon, John Burnet and his son John James Burnet. Standing separated from its neighbours, the high quality of the design of the exterior

elevations, the excellent detailing with important sculptural elements all contribute to its significant streetscape presence in the heart of Glasgow's Merchant City.

In our current state of knowledge it continues to meet the criteria for listing.

5. Category of Listing

Categories of listing are non-statutory and buildings are assigned a category (A, B or C) according to their relative importance following the assessment against the criteria for listing.

Category definitions are found at: <https://www.historicenvironment.scot/advice-and-support/listing-scheduling-and-designations/listed-buildings/what-is-listing/>

Category A is for buildings of national or international importance, either architectural or historic; or fine, little-altered examples of some particular period, style or building type. This building is considered to be of national significance because of its outstanding design and quality of workmanship and therefore category A remains the most appropriate category of listing.

6. Other Information

N/A

7. References

Canmore: <http://canmore.org.uk/> CANMORE ID 139309

Maps

Ordnance Survey (Surveyed 1857, published 1860) Glasgow, sheet V1.11.1. Large Scale Town Plan. 1st Edition. Glasgow. Southampton: Ordnance Survey.

Ordnance Survey (Revised 1893, published 1895) Glasgow, sheet V1.11.11. Large Scale Town Plan. 2nd Edition Southampton: Ordnance Survey.

Printed Sources

Glasgow Herald (24 February 1879) *The Union Bank New Buildings*. p.6

Glasgow Herald (6 February 1964) *Lanarkshire House sold for £175,00: addition to Sheriff Court*. p.10.

Gomme, A. and Walker, D. (1968) *The Architecture of Glasgow*. London: Lund Humphries. pp158, 266n, 200n

Smith, G. F. (1999) Lanarkshire House, Glasgow: the Evolution and Regeneration of a 'Merchant City' Landmark in *Architectural History: Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians of Great Britain*. Volume 42. pp.293-296.

Online Sources

The Corinthian Club at <http://www.thecorinthianclub.co.uk/> [accessed 26/10/2016]

* This assessment is based on our current state of knowledge and has been prepared for the purpose of consultation or to provide a view on the special interest of a building. This assessment is a consultation document and will form the basis of any new or updated listed building record should the structure be listed. The content of this assessment may change to take into account further information received as a result of the consultation process.

** A building may be found to meet the listing criteria but in some circumstances may not be added to the list. See 'When might Historic Environment Scotland list a building' at <https://www.historicenvironment.scot/advice-and-support/listing-scheduling-and-designations/listed-buildings/what-is-listing/>