

## Lorimer, Robert Stodart 1864 - 1929



Robert Stodart Lorimer [commonly known as R.S. Lorimer or Robert S. Lorimer] was born at 21 Hill Street, Edinburgh, Scotland on 4 November 1864 and was the brother of the painter John Henry Lorimer (1856-1936). After studying at Edinburgh University from 1882 to 1885, he was articled to Robert Rowand Anderson (1834-1921) of Wardrop & Anderson from 1885 to 1889. He qualified as an architect in 1888 and the following year moved to London where he worked as an assistant to George Frederick Bodley (1827-1907) and Thomas Garner (1839-1906) of Bodley & Garner in 1889-90, to James Marjoribanks MacLaren (1853-1890) in 1890 and to William Dunn (1859-1934) and Robert Watson (1865-1916) of Dunn & Watson in 1891-92.

He subsequently returned to Edinburgh and in 1893 set up his own architectural practice at 49 Queen Street. In 1913 he relocated the practice to 17 Great Stuart Street. Lorimer worked as an independent architect until 1927 when he formed the partnership Lorimer & Matthew with John Fraser Matthew (1875-1955).

In 1918, Lorimer was appointed an architect for the War Graves Commission with responsibility for Italy, Germany, Egypt and Macedonia, and in 1921 was chosen principal architect for the War Graves Commission in the UK. He was elected an Associate of the Royal Institute of British Architects (ARIBA) in 1890, and a Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects (FRIBA) in 1906. He was also elected an Associate of the Royal Scottish Academy (ARSA) in 1903, an Associate of the Royal Academy (ARA) in 1920, a full member of the Royal Scottish Academy (RSA) in 1921, and a member of the Art Workers Guild in 1922. He was knighted for his services to architecture in 1911. Lorimer died in Edinburgh on 13 September 1929.

Worked in

UK

Works

Notable architectural works by Lorimer included 23 Pentland Avenue, Collinton, Edinburgh (1893); 14 and 21 Gillespie Road, Edinburgh (1895); Acharra, 3 Spylaw Avenue, Colinton, Edinburgh (1897); Briglands House, Kinross-shire (1898), Hermitage, 26 Gillespie Road, Edinburgh (1898); 10 Spylaw Park, Collinton, Edinburgh (1899); Almora, 49 Spylaw Bank Road, Colinton, Edinburgh (1899); Huntly, 32 Gillespie Road, Edinburgh (1899); Church of the Good Shepherd, Murrayfield Avenue, Edinburgh (1899); 1-7 around St. Cuthbert's Episcopal Church, Westgarth Avenue, Colinton, Edinburgh (1900-02); Rpwans, 21 Pentland Avenue, Colinton, Edinburgh (1900-01); Westfield, 40 Pentland Avenue, Colinton, Edinburgh (1901); Dunderach, Craiglockhart Park, Edinburgh (1903-04); Manor House, Barton Hartshorn, Buckinghamshire (1903-08); Wemyss Hall, Cupar, Fife (1905-07); St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church, Falcon Avenue, Edinburgh (1906-07); Glenlyon, 47 Spylaw Bank Road, Colinton, Edinburgh (1906); Shieldaig, 24 Hermitage Drive, Edinburgh (1906-07); Ardkinglas, Argyllshire (c.1906-07); Rebuilding and new additions to Lympne Castle, Kent (1907-12); New Library, St. Andrews University, St. Andrews, Fife (1907-09); Thistle Chapel, St. Giles's Cathedral, Parliament Square, Edinburgh (1910); Laverocckdale House, off Dreghorn Road, Edinburgh (1912-14); Stonehouse, 1 Penthorn Road, Colinton, Edinburgh (1914-15); Scottish National War Memorial at Edinburgh Castle (1927); and Chapel, Stowe School, Buckinghamshire (1928).

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*See also:*

[Dictionary of Scottish Architects 1660-1980](#)

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**Images**

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## Links

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- Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland

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- ART UK <https://artuk.org/discover/artists/lorimer-robert-stodart-18641929>

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- Historic England - 25 entries on architectural work by R. S. Lorimer

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- Undiscovered Scotland

<https://www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/usbiography/l/robertlorimer.html>

- Hamish MacPherson. Remembering the 'difficult' man behind Scotland's shrine.

The National <https://www.thenational.scot/news/17887454.remembering-difficult-man-behind-scotlands-shrine/>

- Historic Environment Scotland - over 340 records relating to the work of R. S. Lorimer

<http://portal.historicenvironment.scot/hes/web/f?p=1505%3A200%3A%3A%3ANO%3ARP%>

- British Listed Buildings - over 450 records relating to the work of R. S. Lorimer

<https://britishlistedbuildings.co.uk/site-search/?q=Robert%20Lorimer>

- Historic England - over 20 records relating to the work of R. S. Lorimer  
<https://historicengland.org.uk/sitesearch?searchType=site&search=Robert%20Lorimer&se>
- Twentieth Century Society. 1927: Scottish National War Memorial at Edinburgh Castle designed by Sir Robert Lorimer <https://c20society.org.uk/100-buildings/1927-scottish-national-war-memorial-edinburgh>
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