

## **Abercrombie, John Balfour Symington 1879 - 1916**

John Balfour Symington Abercrombie [commonly known as Balfour Abercrombie] was born in Paisley, Scotland on 17 June 1879. After working as an apprentice joiner for a year he attended Glasgow School of Art from 1898 to 1905. During these years he was also articled to James Miller (1861-1947) in Glasgow from 1899 to 1904, and remained with him as his assistant until 1906.

Abercrombie commenced independent practice as an architect in Glasgow in 1906 and was elected a Licentiate of the Royal Institute of British Architects (LRIBA) in 1910. He designed a number of private houses mainly in the Glasgow area. He also designed the Moorpark United Free Church in Renfrew, and a laundry, and workmen's cottages for Brockwood Estate [now Brockwood Park] in Winchester, Hampshire.

In October 1915 Abercrombie closed his architectural practice and joined the Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders as a private. He died on 31 July 1916 as a result of injuries he incurred whilst serving in France and is buried at the Dantzig Alley British Cemetery, Mametz, Departement de la Somme, Picardie, France.

Worked in

UK

Works

"Landale", Troon; alterations and additions to Sundrum, Ayr; Model Farm and Dairy, Kilmacolm; alterations and additions to Dunard, Paisley; Moor-park U.F. Church, Renfrew; alterations and additions to St. Evox, Troon; alterations to Brockwood Park, Hampshire; new stable and garage. Electric Power Laundry, and workmen's cottages, Brockwood Estate, Hants; alterations and additions to Gleniffer Lodge, Paisley; alterations to Kelly House, Wemyss Bay, Renfrewshire (c.1906); alterations and additions to Chapel House, Paisley (1912); Landale, a country house in Troon, Ayrshire (1908); alterations to Sundrum Castle in Sundrum, Ayrshire (1908);

Bibliography

Directory of British Architects 1834-1914. Compiled by Antonia Brodie, et al. Volume 1: A-K. London; New York: British Architectural Library, Royal Institute of

British Architects/Continuum, 2001

#### Links

- Dictionary of Scottish Architects 1660-1980

[http://www.scottisharchitects.org.uk/architect\\_full.php?id=200000](http://www.scottisharchitects.org.uk/architect_full.php?id=200000)

- Find a Grave [https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/56559944/john-balfour\\_symington-abercrombie](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/56559944/john-balfour_symington-abercrombie)