

## THE PAINTED PRESTONGRANGE CEILING

But it is very much to be hoped and expected that it will act as a fillip for visits by arrangement to Merchiston Tower at Napier University to view the original in all its glory.

### Notes

- 1 This sub-title is taken from Shakespeare's *Macbeth* written less than 20 years after the completion of the Prestongrange Ceiling. The play echoes much of the thematic content of the Ceiling
- 2 Apted, M.R., *The Painted Ceilings of Scotland 1550–1650*, 1966, pp. 2–3
- 3 Baker, S., *Prestongrange House*, Prestongrange History Series No. 1, 2000, p. 11
- 4 Murray, G., Apted, M.R., and Hodkinson, I., 'Prestongrange and its Painted Ceiling', in *Transactions of the East Lothian Antiquarian and Field Naturalist's Society*, Vol X, 1966, p. 112
- 5 Hodkinson, I.S. and Adams, W.R., *The 16th Century Painted Ceiling at Prestongrange House*, National Trust for Scotland – Scottish Tempera Paintings Committee, Technical Report 1963
- 6 Mackay, S., *Behind the Facade: Four Centuries of Scottish Interiors*, Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments of Scotland, 1995, p. 24
- 7 Op cit., Murray, G., Apted, M.R., and Hodkinson, I., p. 123
- 8 Op cit., Apted, M.R., p. 89
- 9 Bath, M., *Renaissance Decorative Painting in Scotland*, 2003, p. 10
- 10 Ibid, p. 131
- 11 Ibid, p. 57
- 12 Op cit, Bath, M., p. 8
- 13 Op cit., Murray, G., Apted, M.R., and Hodkinson, I., p. 126
- 14 Op cit, Bath, M., p. 59
- 15 Op cit, Mackay, S., p. 25
- 16 Op cit, Bath, M., p. 107
- 17 Vitruvius, *Treatise On Architecture*, Book VII, circa 15BC
- 18 Op cit, Bath, M., chapter 5
- 19 Ibid, p. 30
- 20 Ibid, chapter 3
- 21 Ibid, pp. 79–80
- 22 Op cit, Baker, S.
- 23 Op cit, Murray, G., Apted, M.R., and Hodkinson, I., p. 125
- 24 Ibid p. 99
- 25 Ibid pp. 102, 104
- 26 Op cit, Bath, M., p. 223
- 27 Op cit, Baker, S., pp. 43–47
- 28 Op cit, Hodkinson, I.S. and Adams, W.R.
- 29 Op cit, Murray, G., Apted, M.R. and Hodkinson, I., p. 114
- 30 *Tower of Merchiston: brief notes on its history and restoration*, undated document, Napier University Library
- 31 Op cit, Hodkinson, I.S. and Adams, W.R.
- 32 Op cit, Murray, G., Apted, M.R., and Hodkinson, I., p. 126

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- 33 Ibid, p. 127
- 34 Op cit, Bath, M., p. 57
- 35 Op cit, Bath, M., pp. 116–118
- 36 For a detailed survey of the sources for images which appear on the Prestongrange Ceiling, see *op cit*, Bath, M., chapter 5. I am greatly indebted to Dr. Bath for his exhaustive examination of these sources.
- 37 Snowden, R., personal communication
- 38 Scotstarvet, *The Staggering State of Scottish Statesmen 1550–1650*, as quoted in *Transactions of the East Lothian Antiquarian and Field Naturalist's Society*, Vol. X, 1966, p. 121
- 39 Murray, M., *The Witch Cult in Western Europe: a Study in Anthropology*, 1921, p. 28
- 40 Wright, W. (Publisher), *Newes from Scotland. Declaring the damnable Life of Doctor Fian*, 1592
- 41 Pugh, R.J.M., *The Deil's Ain*, 2001, p. xii
- 42 Ibid, Appendix 5
- 43 *Tell Us a Story: Memories of East Lothian*, East Lothian Library Services and School of Scottish Studies, 2002, p.137
- 44 Florio, J., 'A World of Words', as quoted in *Transactions of the East Lothian Antiquarian and Field Naturalist's Society*, Vol. X, 1966, p. 113
- 45 Thomson, P., *The Term and Concept 'Grotesque': A Historical Summary*, Methuen Critical Idiom Series, 1972
- 46 Op cit, Hodkinson, I.S. and Adams, W.R.
- 47 Ibid
- 48 Ibid
- 49 Ibid
- 50 Ibid
- 51 Ibid
- 52 Ibid
- 53 Op cit, Mackay, S., p. 25
- 54 Op cit, Murray, G., Apted, M.R., and Hodkinson, I., p. 124
- 55 Smith, C.J., *Historic South Edinburgh*, Vol. 1, 1978, p. 87
- 56 Napier University, *Merchiston Tower Edinburgh*, undated
- 57 Ibid
- 58 Arnet, H. and Harris, S., 'The Tower of Merchiston', in *The Book of the Old Edinburgh Club*, Vol 31, 1962, pp. 13–14
- 59 Ibid, p. 29
- 60 Ibid, p. 6
- 61 Snowden, R., personal communication
- 62 Hodkinson, I., *The 16th Century Painted Ceiling from Prestongrange House*, National Trust for Scotland – Scottish Tempera Paintings Committee, Technical Notes, 1964
- 63 Ibid
- 64 Op cit, Murray, G., Apted, M.R., and Hodkinson, I., p. 124
- 65 Snowden, R., personal communication
- 66 Currie, J.W., *Merchiston Tower Painted Ceiling Report*, Historic Scotland Conservation Centre, 1988
- 67 Hemmett, R.F., *Merchiston Castle – Napier University: Prestongrange House – Painted Ceiling report*, Historic Scotland Conservation Centre, 1999

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- 68 Prestoungrange, G., *The Prestoungrange Gothenburg: the Goth's first 90 years and the coming decade*, Prestoungrange History Series No. 13, 2002

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Wright, W., (Publisher), *Newes from Scotland: Declaring the damnable Life of Doctor Fian, 1592*

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## THE BARON COURTS OF PRESTOUNGRANGE & DOLPHINSTOUN

*Barons traditionally exercised their feudal rights and authority through Baron Courts until 1948, of which the main Officers were the Baron Bailie and the Baron Sergeand. Financial matters were attended to by the Baron's Procurator Fiscal, viz: "The Baron's Court" (1994) and "The Insignia of the Baronage of Scotland and Their Courts" (1989), published by the Convention of the Baronage of Scotland.*

*These Courts with these designated Officers were re-established for Prestoungrange and for Dolphinstoun in 1998 as a Company Limited by Guarantee. In 2002 they evolved to become a Scottish Charity (SC 033139) whose Objects are to advance the industrial and agricultural heritage of the Baronies in the new millennium working as may be appropriate with other community organisations. Myriad educational activities are in hand with the Prestoungrange Arts Festival involving pottery and historical murals. The 1908 Gothenburg has been restored for 21st Century use and as a heritage centre. The insignia and regalia of the Baronies have been invoked including Courts' Horns, Baronial Coronets, Bailie's Badge and Chain, and Sergeand's Ellwand. Lord Lyon has granted Arms to current incumbents and the Prestoungrange tartan has been registered as shown on the rear cover here.*

