

At Kinnaird, the seventh day of November in the year of God 1555, it is appointed between Robert Carnegie of Kinnaird on the one part and John Hutton and William Welsh, masons, on the other part in main as follows, that is to say, the said John and William shall, upon their own expense, hire for the building six masons and hold them until they have built, completely, at Kinnaird, at the North end of the house that John Ellis built, a new house of forty four feet in length, within the walls, and twenty two feet in breadth, between the walls, with a turret upon the North West corner, thereof, of eight feet of quality stonework, all formed within the walls, with a passage three feet wide, therein, reached either by newels or steps, as it shall please the said Robert, in the courtyard where it reached above the first floor; and a Jame house, next to the said Great House, of twenty-six feet long, with a great fireplace in the right end, thereof, from wall to wall with ingoes of ashlar, and two great hewn windows, therein, and a hewn gutter (sink and drain) through the North wall to pass through the kitchen, and two hewn arches (vaults?) from side wall to side wall above the ingoes of the fireplace, with a square turnpike, of thirteen feet, within the walls at all points, and a hewn ashlar garderobe in the angle between the existing house and the Jame house, with hewn newels or steps, as shall best please the said Robert, of six feet of passage two feet broad at the narrow end, with a window at the newel head of one hand broad, to make the passage rise to the first floor from the existing stair, and the three vaults (undercroft) of the Great House upon narrow dividing walls and dress all the vaults of all the cellars in the Great House, Jame House and round tower with two shot-holes of hewn ashlar in each vault and two in the Turret, with a great Yet in the turnpike of ashlar with double jambs for the Yet and boarding (door) and two great hewn windows, therein, and two hewn shot-holes, and make all the vaults the same height as the vaults of the house that Ellis built, and the vault of the Jame two and a half feet higher and make all the side walls and gable walls the same height as the existing house, with the walls of the key stone of the vaults, and a great hewn window in the West end of the middle (of five) vault in the Great House, with hewn doors to all the vaults and a hewn dressing (preparation) window in the kitchen, and hewn arches above all the doors and windows in the best, most honest and fair work that can be devised, and the length and breadth of all the building work to be measured by the said Robert's own feet, and no other feet of measurement, and all the walls, as well as the turnpike and turret, as of the overhouses (upper floors), side walls and gables, to be four feet thick, of the said measure, and the West half of the North gable of the Great House to be six feet thick with a square or round garderobe upon the South-East corner of the new house, whichever shall best please the said Robert, of hewn ashlar, and therefore the said Robert shall provide lime, sand and stone and lay the same within 23 feet of the work and shall contract to pay to them the sum of 110 merks, with two bolls of meal and two bolls of malt (beer) and two stones of cheese, at the terms here following, that is to say, when they begin to cut stone, 20 merks, and at the 15th day of March, when they begin to lay, 20 merks, and when the centres are set, 20 merks, and when the vaults are laid, 20 merks, and when the work is complete, 20 (& 10 ?) merks, in complete payment, the meal, the malt and cheese when they begin to lay, and for the ? obtaining of the premises and each point, thereof, either of the parties for their own parts assurance, are bounded, obliged and sworn all oaths by the faith in the bodies, the great oaths sworn, in witness of which they subscribed their marks with their hands, year day and place, foresaid, before the witnesses, John Carnegie of Guthrie, Patrick Black (watchman?) and John Maxwell, with others deeds.

Robert Carnegie of Kinnaird with my hand (signed).

