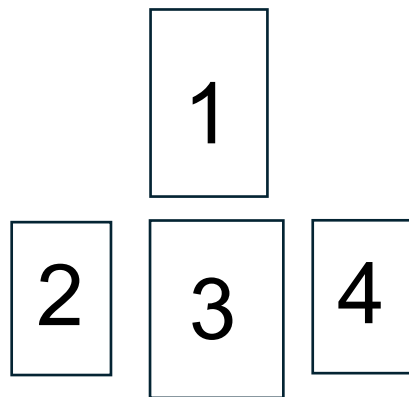


Art on the West Wall



1: *Bishop's Palace, Elgin. Watercolour. George Souter* *ELGNM: 1920.1.1*

2: *Annie Laing's Close (no2), Elgin. Watercolour. George Souter* *ELGNM: 1920.1.6*

3: *Craigellachie Close, Elgin. Watercolour. George Souter* *ELGNM: 1920.1.3*

4: *Dyster's Close, Elgin. Watercolour. George Souter* *ELGNM: 1920.1.7*

George Souter (1845-1920)

Four watercolour paintings by George Souter, Engineer and Artist. Born in Forres, Souter developed an interest in machinery at an early age while working at a wool mill, developed further while apprenticed to a millwright in Lhanbryde. In 1871, he established an engineering works in his own name in Elgin manufacturing various agricultural and fishing equipment and machinery, latterly making primarily oil engines. In his free time, was devoted to studying and creating art.

Souter's paintings act as an important historical record, capturing Elgin's buildings and closes in the late 19th and early 20th century, many of which has since been demolished. Souter captures the variety in colour and texture of building materials using the watercolour in an opaque rather than transparent way but retaining the inherent softness and subtlety of the paint.

The painting "*Annie Laing's Close (no2)*" has a label on the back to show it was entered into an "*Arts & Crafts Exhibition, Fine Art Section*" at the "*Library & Museum Buildings, Cooper Park, Elgin*" (no date is noted).

Learn more about George Souter and see four more of his watercolours on the East Wall.

