Trades House and Craft Chronology

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| **Year** | **Event** |
| 1057 | Legend has it that the Masons, Wrights and Coopers received their first Charter from King Malcolm III. All three were in the same craft at this time. |
| 1181 | A special charter was Granted by William the Lion about the year 1181 to the Masons. |
| 1516 | The Incorporation of Skinners claims to be the oldest of the fourteen Incorporated Trades of Glasgow, incorporated on 28 May 1516 by the burgh of Glasgow's feudal superior, Archbishop James Beaton, then also Chancellor of Scotland. |
| 1527 | The Tailors were formally incorporated in October 1527 to uphold the standards of the garment making industry in Glasgow. |
| 1528 | The Weavers of Glasgow date back to the middle-ages when members of the craft were those entitled to make and sell woven clothes within the ancient burgh. The craft became incorporated by a charter from the famous Archbishop Gavin Dunbar as feudal lord of Glasgow in 1528, but is known to have been in existence at least as far back as 1514. |
| 1536 | The Incorporation of Hammermen were founded in 1536 and originally comprised craftsmen associated with metalworking - traditionally, "men who wielded the hammer"; blacksmiths, goldsmiths, lorimers, cutlers, armourers, sword-makers, clockmakers, locksmiths, pewterers, tinsmiths etc. Today these "men of the hammer", embrace not only all the light and heavy engineering trades such as shipbuilding but include "social engineers" such as statesmen, lawyers, accountants, and media personalities. |
| 1550 | Following a series of Acts of the Scottish Parliament the crafts gradually acquired greater control of their own affairs and the Cordiners' Minute of Michaelmas 1550 refers to the election by the craftsmen "after the auld wise and consuetude" " of a "Dekin " Auditories, Cersaris of the mercat" and an "Officiar" to regulate their affairs, a situation further regularised by an incorporating Seal of Cause from the Town Council confirmed by the Archbishop as feudal superior of the Burgh in 1558 just before his hurried departure as a result of the Reformation. |
| 1551 | Incorporation of Masons receive their Charter. |
| 1556 | The exact date on which the Incorporation of Bakers was founded is uncertain but it is known that the Incorporation existed long prior to its first official mention in 1556. |
| 1558 | Cordiners receive their seal of Cause from the town council |
| 1569 | In 1569 the Coopers separated from the Masons and Wrights and were granted their own charter. As well as regulating entry to the Craft and making provision for a weekly levy of 1d payable by each craftsman for the support of their poor the charter enacted regulations for standards of craftsmanship. |
| 1580 | The Fleshers became an Incorporation in 1580 to regulate the affairs of those who provided meat for the growing population of Glasgow. |
| 1597 | When the Town Council of Glasgow awarded a Seal of Cause (or Charter) in 1597 to the voluntary Association that had hitherto been supervising the bonnetmakers trading in the city, the craft of bonnetmaking received official recognition in Glasgow. |
| 1599 | The renamed Incorporation of the Chirurgeons and Barbers is unique among the Crafts represented in the Trades House in owing its foundation to a Royal Charter from King James VI in 1599. |
| 1600 | The Wrights split from the Incorporation of Masons and formed a separate Craft in 1600. |
| 1600 | Tradition has it that in 1601 the Incorporation of Maltmen's records were destroyed in a great fire (Glasgow was several times ravaged by fire) and so the exact origins of the craft in the city were lost. Nevertheless, it is clear from other documents that maltmen and mealmen existed and thrived in Glasgow long before 1600. |
| 1604 | Trades House and Merchants Houses formed |
| 1605 | About the year 1605, on an application from a number of "practical gardeners", the Incorporation of Gardeners obtained a charter from the Burgh of Glasgow, conferring the usual rights and privileges. Unfortunately, this charter was lost in 1646 when the Deacon was infected with the plague at that time raging in the Town, and sent to the "Foull Moor" to be cured. |
| 1605 | The precise date when the Incorporation of Maltmen became an Incorporation is now lost as the Letter of Guildry granted in 1605 said only that the Incorporation was 'established in remote antiquity'. |
| 1605 | Letter of Guildry signed |
| 1646 | Gardeners lose their charter when the Deacon was infected with the plague at that time raging in the Town, and sent to the "Foull Moor" to be cured. |
| 1672 | The Barbers' Charter was ratified by the Scottish Parliament in 1672. However, the profession of surgery eventually fell outwith the trade of the barber and a jurisdictional dispute arose. This was referred to the magistrates who ruled in favour of the Barbers, who were granted permission to elect the Deacon. |
| 1690 | The Gardeners received a new Seal of Cause dated 1690 where the exclusive trading privileges within the burgh were reconfirmed. |
| 1760 | It was not until 1760 that the Incorporation of Bonnetmakers took steps to have the members of the Dyers' Craft, who did not as a body have official legal status but with whose members the bonnetmakers had always worked intimately, assumed into their Craft. |
| 1791 | Robert Adam selected over James Jaffray and John Craig as architect of the Trades Hall |
| 1792 | Robert Adam dies and his brothers William and Robert complete his work on the Trades Halls |
| 1794 | Trades House completed and first used on 17th September even though the roof was not complete at the time. |
| 1819 | David Hamilton, architect, designs Deacon Conveners' Chair |
| 1840 | David Hamilton replaces Grand Hall ceiling |
| 1847 | Trades House Exclusive Powers abolished |
| 1883 | Platform of the Trades House tries to have the Adams' Trades Hall pulled down and replaced by a new one. One of the Incorporation objects and Court of Session upholds their right to prevent the hall being demolished. |
| 1888 | James Sellars extends North Pavilion and rebuilds the stairs, puts in the Stained Glass Windows, creates rear entrance, Grand Hall refurbished and mahogany panels added. |
| 1905 | Frieze in Grand Hall painted |
| 1916 | John Keppie refurbishes Saloon and designs two wooden chairs which were made from wood from Glasgow Cathedral roof timbers. |
| 1919 | In 1919 the Incorporation of Cordiners was honoured to receive a Royal Charter. |
| 1927 | John Keppie refaces the Trades Hall |
| 1930 | John Keppie replaces the entrance hall ceiling |
| 1955 | Walter Underwood replaces Grand Hall ceiling which had become unstable due to traffic movement. |
| 1830s | David Ramsay Hay paints the mural on the walls of the Grand Hall |
| 1837/38 | David Hamilton extends south pavilion creating Saloon, School Room and cloakroom area in basement. |
| 1837/38 | David Hamilton extends the South Pavilion to create the Saloon, School Room above and Cloakroom accommodation below Saloon. |
| 1843/1877 | Merchants House faced Trades House down Garth Street |
| 1914-18 | Bench in entrance hall constructed by Belgium craftsmen who were refugees in Glasgow. |