

# Trades House of Glasgow

## John McAslan's Biography



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**MMXXI**



# Deacon Convener John McAslan

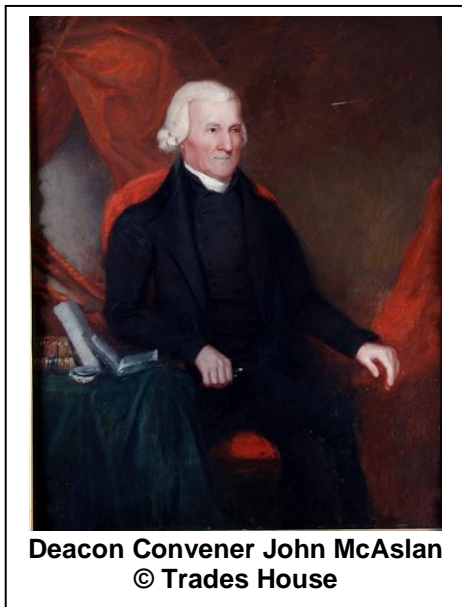
## Incorporation of Gardeners

**Burgess and Guild Brother 8 September 1746**

**Deacon of Gardeners: 1763**

**Deacon Convener: 1789-90**

John McAslan's father was called Duncan McAulsan and he received his Burgess ticket on 11<sup>th</sup> September 1718 and his membership of the Incorporation of Gardeners on the 25<sup>th</sup> of September 1718 as a gardener due to him marrying Mary Munroe, daughter to Thomas Munroe. Duncan and Mary were married on 26<sup>th</sup> of January 1716 in Glasgow.



John McAusland was the first born of Duncan and Mary and he was baptised on 12<sup>th</sup> March 1730 in Glasgow. The witnesses at the christening of John were John Logan and Duncan McAusland. John had the following siblings:

William McAusland 31<sup>st</sup> August 1718  
Margaret McAusland 16<sup>th</sup> October 1720. Married James Burnside 08<sup>th</sup> January 1749  
Janet McAusland 23<sup>rd</sup> August 1722  
Anne McAusland 20<sup>th</sup> May 1725

John's father was buried in the North West Churchyard in Glasgow on 29<sup>th</sup> of October 1741 when John was about 11 years of age.

On the 8<sup>th</sup> of September 1746, John McCashlan, gardener was made a Burgess and Guild Brother as the eldest son to the deceased Duncan McCashlan. Two days later, on the 10<sup>th</sup> of September 1746 John McAuslan became a member of the Incorporation of Gardeners as the son of deceased Duncan McAuslan. John would have been aged about 16 years at this time.

It is important to note that the spelling of surnames was rather fluid at this period, hence the different spelling of McAslan over the years.

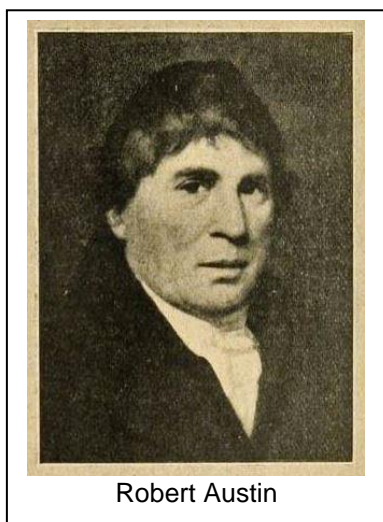
### McAslan Nursery

The nursery business was started by John McAslan in 1717, when he rented ground behind the old Hutcheson Hospital on Trongate. John McAslan was joined by his brother Duncan, and he was succeeded by his wife after his death in 1741, and then Duncan's son, another John McAslan who later became the Deacon Convener of the Trades' House of Glasgow in 1789. In 1788 John McAslan, gave up his lease at Deanside and ceased renting the garden at Hutcheson's Hospital and moved the nursery to his own property called "The Hill" where he built a mansion. This was the first house built in this part of the city.

John McAslan was Trades Councillor, Trades Baillie, Treasurer of the City, Treasurer of the Buchanan Society for 30 years and later President of the Society. He also laid the foundation stone of the Trades Hall in 1791.

John McAslan died in 1815 at the age of 85 years and was buried in the same lair as his father, either in the Cathedral Burying grounds or in Glasgow Necropolis. He was buried on 17<sup>th</sup> April 1815.

The foreman Robert Austin, of Milngavie, who trained in London, became a partner in 1782, and married Margaret McAslan, daughter of John McAslan on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 1786. Robert Austin and his father-in-law John were both listed as Seedsmen in the marriage ceremony. Robert later became a Deacon Convener in the Trades' House of Glasgow in 1805.



Robert Austin and Margaret McAslan had the following children:

Margaret Austin 1<sup>st</sup> September 1787 in Glasgow.  
John Austin 19<sup>th</sup> February 1789 in Glasgow.  
Elizabeth Austin 28<sup>th</sup> May 1790 in Glasgow.  
Hugh Austin 16<sup>th</sup> January 1792 in Glasgow.  
Mary Austin 26<sup>th</sup> August 1793 in Glasgow.  
Robert Austin 26<sup>th</sup> July 1795 in Glasgow.  
Janet Austin 7<sup>th</sup> August 1797 in Glasgow.  
John Austin 14<sup>th</sup> March 1801 in Gorbals.  
Elizabeth Austin 21<sup>st</sup> March 1803 in Gorbals.  
Alexander Austin 31<sup>st</sup> March 1807 in Gorbals.

The nursery moved to Little Govan in 1798 to ground belonging to Mr Rae and lying between Rutherglen Road and the Clyde and opposite Fleshers Haugh and Glasgow Green.