

Transcribed from the 1961 RSA Annual Report

Sir William Reid Dick, K.C.V.O., R.A., H.R.S.A.

Queen's Sculptor in Ordinary for Scotland

Sir William Reid Dick, R.A., Queen's Sculptor in Ordinary for Scotland, and from 1938 until 1952 Sculptor to King George VI, died in London on 1<sup>st</sup> October 1961, aged eighty-two. He was made an Honorary Member of the Royal Scottish Academy in 1950. Born in Glasgow in 1879, Dick was educated at the School of Art there. Moving south, he found employment as a carver and from 1908 exhibited at the Royal Academy. He saw active service in the War of 1914-1918 and was elected an Associate of the Royal Academy in 1921 and an Academician seven years later. He became one of the most successful of British sculptors and rejoiced in many honours and was entrusted with some of the finest sculptural commissions of his time.

Numerous Royal commissions were given to him, including the sumptuous tomb of King George V in the Chapel at Windsor, and the memorial bust of the same Monarch at Crathie Church.

He was knighted in 1935, and resided for many years at 16 Maida Vale, London. Beginning in his native city as a carver, he turned, when fame was his, to modelling, and like most sculptors in full employment, depended on others for much or all of his carving. He was a thorough craftsman, as sound as he was fastidious.

Brisk, stout and cheerful, he was essentially "a clubbable man." He lived a full and industrious life, and official sculpture will be much the poorer for his passing.