



UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD



**The Taylor Institution
Conservation Plan**

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INTRODUCTION

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1 INTRODUCTION

The Taylor Institution was constructed between April 1841 and April 1845 by Baker and Son of Lambeth to a design by Charles Robert Cockerell.¹ The design and construction incorporated the juxtaposing University Galleries (now the Ashmolean Museum), but they were conceived as, and continue to operate as, two distinct buildings. In 1938 an extensive extension was constructed on the northern elevation to a design by T.H. Hughes. Both components were constructed to a high specification from excellent designs, and this resulted in the Cockerell component being designated Grade I listed along with the rest of the Ashmolean complex in 1954. The Hughes component was Grade II listed at the same time. The Taylor Institution has a continuous history as a library and teaching space for the study of modern European languages, as per Sir Robert Taylor's initial bequest, and remains the foremost centre for the study of European languages, housing a collection of material relating to Voltaire and the French Enlightenment that is of global significance.

1.1 Purpose of the Conservation Plan

The University has an unrivalled portfolio of historic buildings, of which it is rightly proud. It has traditionally taken a thorough, holistic approach to building conservation, seeking to understand all the varied factors that make historic buildings significant to their diverse stakeholders, and using this to inform necessary change. It has become clear that this approach is vital to the conservation culture of an institution where so many of its historic buildings that are valued for their function also have extensive historical or architectural significance. This Conservation Plan represents the continuation of this tradition of seeking to understand what makes the University's buildings cherished assets, and of seeking ways to conserve these most important features for the enjoyment of future generations.

The success of this approach is such that it has now become codified in government policy: First in March 2010's *Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historical Environment* then in its replacement, March 2012's *National Planning Policy Framework* (hereafter: NPPF). NPPF provides useful guidance on approaching the conservation of heritage assets, and postdates the University's existing literature. NPPF defines a heritage asset as:

'A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. Heritage asset includes designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing).'

This designation clearly applies to the Taylor Institution.

¹ Some sources list the completion date as 1847; however it must have been completed in 1845, as this completion date is listed in the 24th October 1846 edition of *The Builder*.



The purpose of this Conservation Plan is to update the Taylor Institution's conservation policy to take into account the new guidance provided by NPPF. It will be of use both for informing responsible regular maintenance and in the preparation of future planning applications, as specified in NPPF paragraph 128.

The Conservation Plan should form the basis for the Taylor Institution's Conservation Policy and exists as part of an ongoing process. It will be renewed and updated at least every five years or following any major alterations or legislative changes.

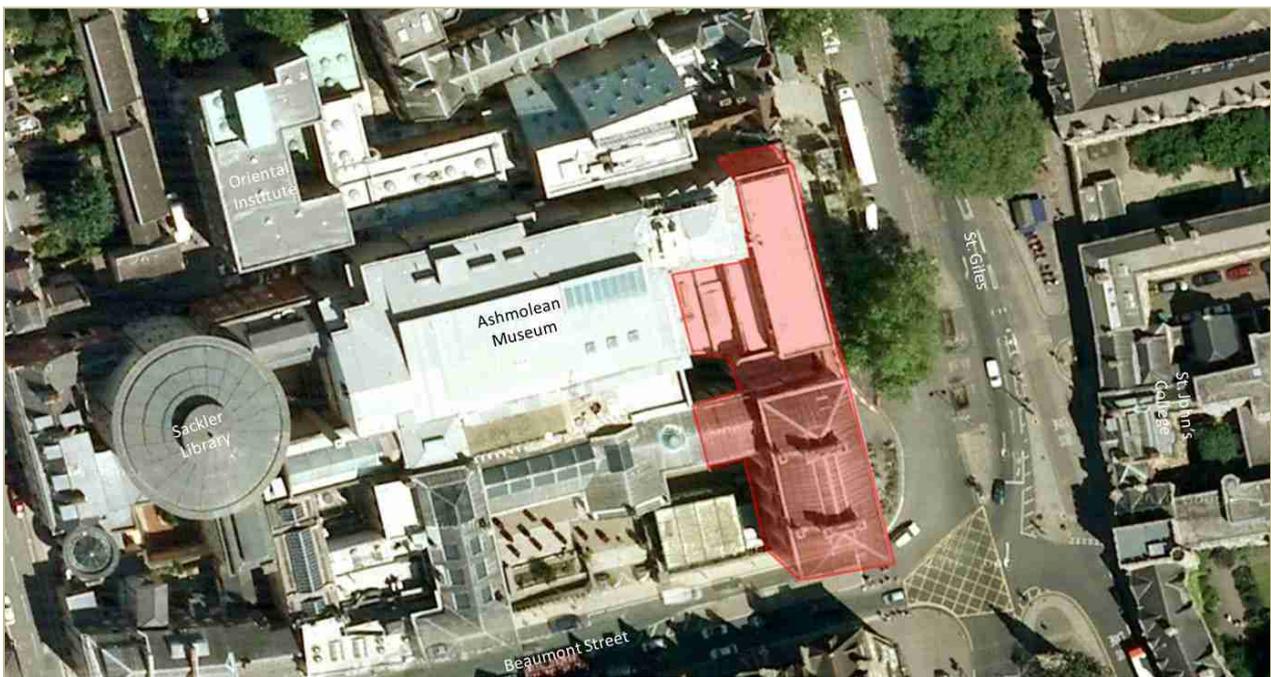


Figure 1. Satellite image of the Taylor Institution (outlined in red) and the surrounding area, orientated with north at the top of the image

1.2 Scope of the Conservation Plan

This Conservation Plan will cover the interior and the exterior of the Taylorian, a single, three-storied building in north-central Oxford, attached to the Ashmolean Museum (**Figure 1**). It will include the 1938 Hughes extension to the north of the original Cockerell building, as the two elements function as a cohesive entity (a brief list of the most significant architectural elements can be found in the checklist in **Appendix 5**).

1.3 Existing Information

Some conservation research has been conducted on the Taylor Institution previously, notably a preliminary report on the history and significance of the building produced in July 2008 by Donald Insall Associates. The Conservation Plan prepared by Rick Mather Architects for the

Ashmolean Museum's Heritage Lottery Fund application in 2003 also provides some useful detail on the history of the Taylorian.

The original 1954 listed building descriptions (**Appendix 1**) are the logical starting point for the plan, and published books and articles have also been consulted.

The plan draws on statutory guidance from NPPF prepared by HM's Department for Communities and Local Government in March 2012.

1.4 Methodology

The Conservation Plan is a document that assesses the current and predicted conservation needs of the Taylor Institution and attempts to address them with a view towards maintaining or increasing the significance of the heritage asset. Its formulation to supersede any existing literature is a response to the requirements of NPPF, and it is prepared in accordance with the policies contained therein.

Whilst the Cockerell building and the Hughes extension are listed separately, they operate as a single building, and will likely be further integrated in the future. As such, they will be treated as a single heritage asset in this Conservation Plan; however, for ease of reference the separate phases will be referred to individually when locating specific spaces or architectural features.

1.5 Constraints

The Taylor Institution and its environs are subject to various constraints imposed by Oxford City Council:

- HE.2 – Archaeology Area: Any planning application must incorporate sufficient information to define the character and extent of potential archaeological deposits, including the results of fieldwork evaluations.
- CP.3 – Limiting the Need to Travel: New development will be limited to accessible locations on previously developed sites.
- HE.9 – High Building Areas: Planning permission will not be granted for any development within a 1,200 metre radius of Carfax which exceeds 18.2m in height, except for minor elements of no bulk.
- TR.3, TR.11, TR.12 – Car Parking Standards: The City Council will not allow any significant increase in the overall number of car-parking spaces in the Transport Central Area or development that provides an inappropriate level of car-parking spaces. It will attempt to reduce the level of non-residential car parking.
- The City of Oxford Smoke Control Order No. 1: It is an offence to emit smoke from the chimney of a building, from a furnace, or from any fixed boiler if located in a designated smoke control area.

- HE.7 – Conservation Areas: The Central (City and University) Conservation Area: Planning permission will only be granted for development that preserves or enhances the special character and appearance of the conservation areas or their setting. All trees in Conservation Areas with stem diameters greater than 75mm at 1.5m off the ground are protected.



UNDERSTANDING THE SITE

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2 UNDERSTANDING THE SITE

2.1 History of the Site and University

The site of Oxford has had sporadic settlement since the Neolithic period. Bronze Age barrows have been found in the University Parks (linear barrow cemetery) and in the Science Area (double-ditched barrow). Oxford has had a continuous history of occupation since at least the 8th Century AD. The University of Oxford itself has a long-standing tradition of exceptional education: Able to trace its roots to the 11th Century, it is known to be the oldest university in the English-speaking world.

The site of the Taylor Institution is just outside the mediaeval city of Oxford; however, despite its extramural location, the area was still a focus for important construction in the Middle Ages. The Church of St. Mary Magdalen, just to the south of the Taylor Institution site, predates the Norman Conquest; however, it was burnt down in 1074, and was rebuilt in 1194, before being rebuilt by George Gilbert Scott in 1841-2.

Beaumont Street was the site of the 12th-century Beaumont Palace, royal hunting lodge of Henry II (1068/9-1135), and birthplace of Richard I (1157-99) and King John (1167-1216). Edward I (1239-1307) granted the palace as a private home to an Italian lawyer, Francesco Accorsi, in 1275. It was granted to the Carmelite Order for use as a monastery by Edward II (1284-1327) in 1318. The monastery was dissolved and demolished during the Dissolution of the Monasteries (1536-41), and much of its material was reused as *spolia* in the construction of Christ Church College (1546) and St. John's College (1555). The late mediaeval period saw a series of tenements extending westwards from St. Giles along what would later become Beaumont Street.

The area continued to attract high-profile buildings in the post-mediaeval period. St. John's College was founded in 1555 and occupied the former site of the Cistercian St. Bernard's College (founded in 1437 and dissolved at some point shortly after 1542, remaining a private hall until it was granted to Christ Church College by Henry VIII in 1546) on the eastern side of St. Giles, immediately to the east of the Taylor Institution site.² Worcester College was founded at the western end of Beaumont Street in 1714.

This area immediately north of the city underwent development in the first half of the 19th Century. Beaumont Street was the first major Victorian suburban housing development in Oxford. It was constructed on a strip of land owned by St. John's College, and located between the college and Worcester College. The land was first advertised for lease in 1820, and the construction conducted between 1822 and 1833 as leases were taken up.³ St. John Street, running north from Beaumont Street, was similarly developed in the 1830s and 1840s.

² Page, W., 'Houses of Cistercian Monks: The College of St. Bernard, Oxford' in Page, W. (ed.), *A History of the County of Oxford, Vol. 2* (1907) 86.

³ Tyack, G., *Oxford: An Architectural Guide* (New York, 1998) 204.

Magdalen Street to the south was also developed during this period, and the department store Elliston and Cavell (now Debenhams) was opened there in 1835.

The increasing importance of this then-extramural district was emphasised in 1839 by the decision to site the University Galleries (the Ashmolean Museum since 1908) and the Taylor Institution itself at the eastern end of Beaumont Street. A young George Gilbert Scott won the competition to construct the Martyr's Memorial in the same year, and this was raised in 1841-43 at the junction of St. Giles and Magdalen Street, just southeast of the Taylor Institution. In 1845 the University Galleries were opened, but despite their large size, they had exceeded their capacity within a generation; between 1886 and 1894 large extensions were constructed to the north of the original galleries to house the Archaeological and Tradescant Collections.

The area continued to develop into the 20th Century and Blackfriars, now a Permanent Private Hall of the University as well as a Dominican *studium*, was constructed directly to the north of the Ashmolean in 1921, on the site of three private houses. The buildings that would come to house St. Cross College were constructed slightly further to the north between 1911 and 1926 first by Temple Moore (a one-time student of George Gilbert Scott) and then, following his death in 1920, by his son-in-law, Leslie Moore.

In 1908 the University Galleries were renamed the Ashmolean Museum of Art and Archaeology, and various extensions were added in the following decades including: the Griffith Gallery in 1908; the Heberden Coin Room in 1922; the Photographic and Plaster Workshops in 1925; the Welden Wing in 1933; and the Drapers' Wing and Griffith Institution in 1937-39. In 1939 the Ashmolean was extended west onto Beaumont Street (immediately to the south of the Griffith Gallery), but the outbreak of the War halted construction, and only four out of eleven planned bays were constructed. Planning permission was granted to construct the Oriental Institution on Pusey Lane, to the northwest of the Ashmolean Museum, on 2nd December 1958. The Cast Gallery was constructed on the adjacent Pusey Place in 1960.

The forecourt of the Ashmolean was redeveloped in 1996, and the Chinese Picture Gallery opened in 2000. The Sands Gallery was opened in 2001. In the same year, the Sackler Library was opened to the west of the Ashmolean, incorporating the Griffith Institution. This large development dominates the western portion of the site. As the Ashmolean offices extended into 37 Beaumont Street in 1961, and the Institution of Archaeology has occupied 35-36 Beaumont Street since 1962, the Taylor Institution now marks the eastern perimeter of an entire block dominated (but for four terraces on St. John Street) by the Ashmolean and related departments (**Figure 2**).

St. Giles and Beaumont Street are now some of Oxford's busiest roads. The Taylor Institution acts as a grand feature at the bottom of St. Giles, the imposing institutional building contrasting drastically with the "domestic" architecture of the collegiate buildings in the area; it allows St. Giles to act as a grand boulevard providing an important gateway to the city proper. The Ashmolean Museum and Taylor Institution are the most dominant features on

Beaumont Street; however, despite their monumental impact the street retains a more complicated character, as the Victorian townhouses (now mostly housing dentists, law firms, and University buildings) retain their Victorian-residential character, whilst the Oxford Playhouse and the Randolph Hotel reinforce the now urban character of the area. The entrance to the street is provided some impact by the contrast supplied by the clash between the classical triumphalism of the Taylor Institution and the Gothic character of Wilkinson's Randolph Hotel.

In April 1971 Oxford City Council designated the majority of the city centre as part of the Central (City and University) Conservation area, this includes Beaumont Street, St. Giles, and the Taylor Institution (see **Appendix 2**).

2.2 Construction and Subsequent History of the Taylor Institution

2.2.1 History of the Buildings

Sir Robert Taylor's bequest, intended to create a foundation for the teaching of modern European languages in Oxford, could not be put to use until half a century after his death in 1788. The competition of 1839 required the Institution to be housed in the same building as the University Galleries, despite a requirement for them to be distinct in their appearance, layout, and funding. Of the 27 designs submitted, only Anthony Salvin's was of a quality approaching that of the outstanding scheme by C.R. Cockerell, a one-time pupil of Sir Robert Taylor. Cockerell's design expressed a division between the Taylor Institution and the Randolph Galleries and, upon examination by Sir Robert Smirke, was deemed to be the most practicable and durable. Upon being declared winner Cockerell wrote to the delegates, "My ambition knows no higher attainment..."

The building we see today differs in many ways from the competition design, and it is clear a number of amendments were made during construction. The attic storey has changed most markedly and there is evidence that at least five different designs were tried for its composition. The treatment of the two parallel cornices and the method for the arch to break through the lower cornice on the St. Giles's elevation gave Cockerell much cause for thought. Ultimately the attic story was built without the swags or blind circular windows originally intended, and attention was diverted instead to the frieze beneath the lower cornice which is pulvinated in the manner of the temple of Apollo Didymaeus in Turkey. The University delegates had originally opted for male statues representing the premier writers of each language; however, after a year of deliberation they finally agreed to Cockerell's scheme of four standing female figures to represent the languages of France, Spain, Italy, and Germany, each in the style of a classical *tyche*. Construction work was undertaken by Baker and Son of Lambeth and began in April 1841, with the Institution eventually opening in 1845.

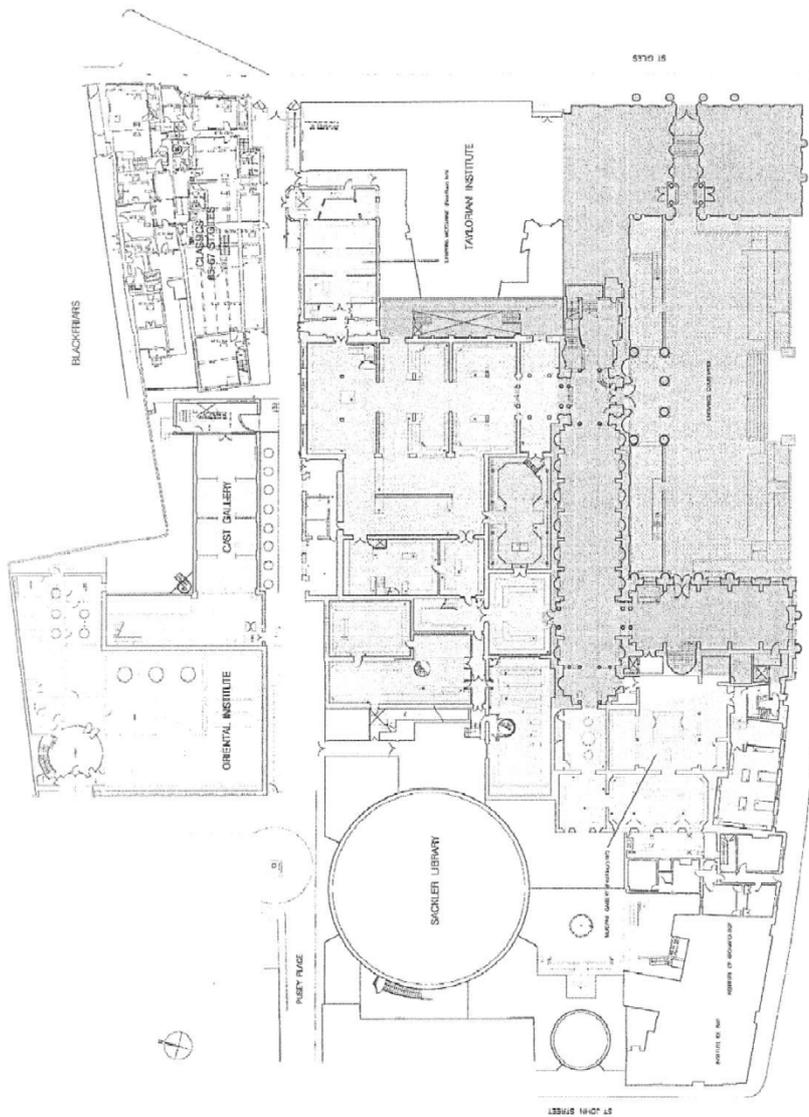
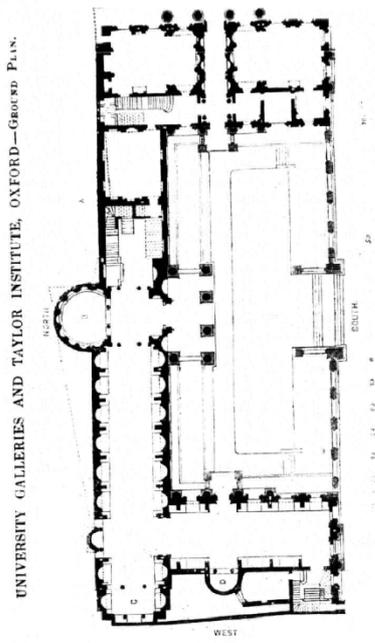


Figure 2. Left, Taylor Institution, Ashmolean Museum and surrounding block in 2003. Right, Taylor Institution and Ashmolean Museum in 1845. Note the extension of related buildings across the entire block. Whilst the Ashmolean and the Taylorian were originally constructed together, they were explicitly constructed as separate entities. True to this design, despite their shared architectural heritage, the Taylorian remains the structure on this block least related to the Ashmolean, being concerned with neither art nor archaeology



The internal plan of the principal floors is simple yet grand and is bisected at the ground-floor level by the covered way leading from St. Giles's to the Ashmolean entrance (**Appendix 3.2**). The two principal rooms at ground-floor level are of a high quality, but the staircase in the northern part dominates as it leads to the most important space: the double-height library at the centre of the first floor. Considered by architectural historian Prof. David Watkin to be “one of the noblest of English 19th-century libraries”, it is geometrically complex by appearing to be square in plan at the lower level but changing to octagonal at the gallery level, the shape being reflected in the ceiling above it. The first floor of the library gives on to generous reading rooms to north and south with tall windows admitting copious amounts of daylight. With the revision to the attic design, the second-floor rooms became a little gloomy, receiving light from a combination of rooflights and tiny windows hidden between the scrolled brackets supporting the upper cornice.

There was some controversy surrounding the Institution's plans for expansion from 1927. Negotiation to acquire the land occupied by four shops to the north began in 1909 but met with opposition from the Ashmolean as the acquisitions progressed northwards; however, in 1931 the extension, designed by T.H. Hughes of Glasgow, was constructed as far as the land acquired could accommodate, and was completed in 1938 after the purchase of the final two shops.⁴ Hughes paid respect to the formality of Cockerell's composition, repeating the idea of semicircular arches cut across at the springing by a frieze, but here in a row of seven windows facing St. Giles's. The proportions, details, and treatment of the classical elements are unmistakably of the 1930s, but the elevation remains subservient to Cockerell's by aligning the uppermost cornice with Cockerell's lower cornice. Internally the details have elements of Art Deco and the original layout retained a certain axially and formality created by pairs of (concrete) columns forming a colonnade running north to south. The main stair has a delightful fluidity – it uses stone and bronze in an appropriate response to Cockerell's organic stone stair with an iron balustrade. This is important since the two connect at various points.

Both the 1845 and 1938 buildings are accomplished examples of their respective periods and they interact in a way which accentuates their individual qualities. These qualities are reflected in their listing at Grade I and Grade II respectively; however, the change in approach to design during the intervening century, in particular the reduction in ceiling heights deemed necessary, has created many of the limitations which affect the efficiency of the building today. No two of the floor levels between the two buildings align; the closest approximation is the small difference between the first floor of Cockerell's building and the second floor of the Hughes building. This has resulted in difficulties connecting the disparate parts of the Taylor Library and, more generally, in accommodation that presents significant problems for disabled and infirm building users.

⁴ Thomas Harold Hughes (1887-1949) was a Scottish architect of some renown, active from 1920 to his death in 1949. He was professor and director of the Glasgow School of Architecture from 1922 to 1942 and was architect to Glasgow University. He published on architectural history and town planning, notably collaborating with E.A.G. Lamborn. He was responsible for a number of works in Oxford, being the Oxford colleges' architect of choice much as T.G. Jackson has been before him.

It is clear that the purity and simplicity of Cockerell's design leaves few opportunities for significant change in the 1845 building at the two principal floor levels; however, a history of change in the basement of this building and the regularity of the concrete structure of the 1938 building may well offer greater scope for adaptation in these areas. Indeed much has changed already in Hughes' extension with substantial subdivision having been introduced to allow the Modern Languages Faculty Library to occupy space originally intended as academic offices and teaching spaces.

2.2.2 History of the Use of Space

The initial building (completed in 1845) placed at its centre the outstanding collection of books on the literary and philological aspects of the main European Languages, including rare texts from the 17th Century onwards. The Taylor Institution Library was approached up the wide staircase directly from the entrance to the north side of the passageway to the University Galleries (later the Ashmolean Museum), emphasising its importance. A secondary or "back" staircase was provided in an equivalent position in the south part of the building, giving a connection between the south side of the library, the librarian's office, the southern lecture room, and the extensive basement service accommodation. Stores, including for coal, were located in the basement, and the south stair would have provided a discreet link for staff between all levels. Cockerell's original plan allowed for three well-lit teaching rooms on the ground floor for the study of French and German: two overlooking St. Giles's; and another interlocking with the Ashmolean Museum (lit from the north and adjoining the Ashmolean staircase). This plan was largely repeated at first-floor level, providing a further teaching room for Spanish in the west wing beside the Ashmolean and two generous reading rooms north and south of the principal Taylor Institution Library (**Appendix 3.4**). The librarian's room, though small, commanded good views down Beaumont Street to the south and west from its corner position. The plan was not entirely practical, especially at ground-floor level, with the internal spaces being subservient to Cockerell's desire to provide a grand elevation and a ceremonial entrance; this resulted in the Voltaire Room being isolated from the building-proper and inaccessible without either leaving and then re-entering the building or making extensive use of stairs.

At various times the basement has been used as living accommodation, including for a resident librarian, but gradually pressure of space has resulted in larger and larger proportions of this floor being taken into use as book storage, most recently utilising rolling stacks. Further bookcases have been added also to the principal lecture rooms at various times, allowing in the 1970s for the south room to house a substantial collection by and about Voltaire and other writers of the 18th-century Enlightenment. The chambers above the north and south reading rooms have also been brought into beneficial use, the north chamber as a further reading room and the south chamber as an office for accessions and cataloguing. They both have rather unsatisfactory access arrangements, and a secondary escape on to the roof of the 1938 extension has been added to the north chamber in recent years.

The addition of the north extension along St. Giles's, executed in two phases in 1931 and 1938 (see **Section 2.2.1**), provided offices for faculty teaching staff, additional books stacks on two levels, and more modern teaching spaces. An excavation immediately north of Cockerell's north wing also provided lavatories for faculty members and an independent route to the stage of the new lecture theatre, by-passing the auditorium entirely. With the acquisition of the final plot of land allowing the northern portion to be built in 1938, a second staircase was constructed near the northwest corner connecting the lower floors and several mezzanine rooms situated between the ground and second floors. In addition to the 200-seat lecture theatre projecting in a trapezium shape to the west, a more traditional classroom and adjoining office were incorporated at a mezzanine level above its gallery (**Appendix 3.4**).

The creation of the Modern Languages Faculty Library, in part by combining the former language seminar libraries, required a substantial reorganisation of the accommodation fronting St. Giles's in the Hughes building. The space required resulted in the abandonment of the spine corridors running north to south on the ground and first floors, connecting to the stair halls at the south end of the building, so that they could be incorporated into the library space. The structural columns were hidden in new peninsula bookcases extending from the west wall, using the day-lit eastern margin as the corridor (**Appendix 3.2**). Loss of the independent passageway to the ground-level lecture theatre required a new corridor to be forged through the eastern edge of the lecture theatre, concealed beneath the balcony. Later still, the mezzanine rooms were removed from the northwest corner to allow the Faculty Library space at ground- and first-floor levels to "wrap" around the north stair at two rationalised levels.

In recent years, further changes have been made to improve staff conditions and allow the faculty to operate in the manner expected of a first-class research institution: the first-floor lecture room in Cockerell's building now houses periodicals; reprographic facilities have been added in the basement; a book lift has been added within the south stairwell; and improved reader enquiry facilities have been added in both libraries, including terminals giving access to OLIS (Oxford Libraries Information System).

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SIGNIFICANCE

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3 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TAYLOR INSTITUTION

NPPF paragraph 128 specifies that in assessing planning applications:

‘Local planning authorities should require an applicant to provide a description of the significance of any heritage assets affected including any contribution made by their setting.’

The significance of the Taylor Institution has been publically recognised by two statutory designations: The Cockerell phase was designated as a Grade I Listed building and the Hughes phase was designated a Grade II listed building in 1954 (see **Appendix 1**); and it was included in Oxford City Council’s designation of the Central (City and University) Conservation Area in 1971, and in its subsequent revisions in 1974, 1981, 1985, and 1998 (see **Appendix 2**).

3.1 Significance to Carfax Ward, the Central (City and University) Conservation Area, and St. Giles/Beaumont Street

The Taylorian Institute contributes significantly to the character of Carfax Ward and Oxford’s city centre. Just away from the University’s monumental core on Broad Street, the junction of St. Giles’s and Magdalen Street forms a secondary public centre to the City and University that is dominated by the Taylor Institution.

From Beaumont Street, the impact of Taylor Institution is eclipsed by that of the street’s dominant feature, the Ashmolean Museum. When viewing the Taylor Institution from Beaumont Street one could be forgiven for regarding it as a wing of the Ashmolean, and it is often with some surprise that newcomers discover it to be an unrelated institution. This was anticipated by Cockerell, and so the architectural focus of the building is on the eastern elevation, where it dominates the view from St. Giles’s and Magdalen Street.

The 12th-century church of St. Mary Magdalen overshadows the southern portion of this area, with the Martyrs Memorial (with its stepped base providing impromptu seating for tourists and locals alike) to the north providing a congregation point. The Taylor Institution was designed to be viewed from an oblique angle, and whilst the Martyr’s Memorial blocks the originally-intended view of the building, its steps actually now provide the perfect viewing spot.⁵

The Cockerell building seems to tower over the surrounding structures, dominating the southern expanse of St. Giles’s in the manner of a triumphal arch, or even of a classical *tetrakionion* with its *tyche* statues atop the four pillars flanking the main entrance. The light colours of its Bath and Portland stone, combined with the sheer scale of the structure, ensure

⁵ Forty suggests that the various changes in the design of the Taylor Institution’s eastern elevation over the course of its construction were in fact a response to the planned erection of the Martyr’s Memorial across its principal view: Forty, A., “*Europe is no more than a nation made up of several others...*” Thoughts on architecture and nationality, prompted by the Taylor Institute and the Martyr’s Memorial in Oxford’ in *Architectural Association Files* 32 (1996) 26-37.

that it stands out amongst the surrounding buildings. Its classical references enforce its academic importance whilst retaining a sense of monumental grandiosity. The Hughes extension does not attempt to compete with the Cockerell building, remaining sympathetic to the original design but less distinct and imposing (**Figure 3**).

St. Giles's is the main approach to Oxford from the north, and it is common for tourist coaches to park here for excursions into the city centre. Equally, Park and Ride buses travel down the street to unload commuters and visitors onto Magdalen Street. This means that for many visitors the Taylor Institution is their first experience of one of the world's finest architectural treasures, the monumentality of central Oxford; however, this does have some negative implications as the tourist bus stop and nocturnal kebab van outside the main entrance can also detract from the character of the heritage asset.

The Taylor Institution is the defining factor in the character of the southern end of St. Giles's, more so even than the western elevations of Balliol and St. John's colleges. By referencing classical civic monumentality in such a conspicuous manner in an academic building, the Taylor Institution emphasises the dichotomy that so characterises Oxford: the symbiosis of City and University, wherein the monumental assets of the University, and the triumphs they represent, are shared by the City as a whole.⁶

3.2 Architectural Significance

The Cockerell building is one of the most significant works of one of the most important 19-century architects. It is constructed with seven bays (on the most significant eastern elevation) of yellowish Bath stone, with detailed columns, pilasters, plinths, cornices, statues, and dressings in whitish Portland stone.⁷ The columns are topped with Ionic capitals inspired by those of the Apolloneum at Bassae. The Hughes extension is constructed of Bath, Portland, and Clipsham stone, which due to its youth has retained a slightly brighter shade than that of the original building.

The eastern elevation of the 1845 building is the most significant and interesting external element of the structure. Architectural historian Adrian Forty characterises the elevation thus:

'Defined by a grand order, with a central opening, it is reminiscent of a triumphal arch...The architecture incorporates such a variety of references to different places that any sense of specific geographical location becomes blurred and indistinct...the triumphal-arch motif of giant detached columns carrying the entablature forward is Roman. The overall massing...[of the Taylorian] with the pronounced cornice and the visible roof, is that of the

⁶ Note above the southernmost window of the Hughes extension a wreathed medallion, an ancient Greek motif providing the setting for the lowest level of civic honour in the Hellenistic period, notably the grave stelai of Smyrna.

⁷ Forty, A., "Europe is no more than a nation made up of several others..." Thoughts on architecture and nationality, prompted by the Taylor Institute and the Martyr's Memorial in Oxford' in *Architectural Association Files* 32 (1996) 28.

*Italian Renaissance palazzo, with a strong debt to Vignola, particularly the cornice of the Villa Farnese at Caprarola. The upper part...[of the Taylorian, with its] arched windows and relief panels is reminiscent of Cockerell's French contemporaries Labrouste, Duban, and Vaudoyer...There are four standing female statues which, from left to right, represent the languages of Italy, France, Germany, and Spain...Cockerell's determination to have female figures evidently came from a desire that the building should represent the languages in their generality, not in their particularity.'*⁸

The sense of a Roman triumphal arch is the most prominent feature of the building's external character, and this is only emphasised when viewed, as Cockerell intended, from an oblique angle (**Figure 3**). The use of classical themes in the exterior elevations is logical considering the dominance of Romance languages amongst the subjects taught in the building. Unfortunately, the erection of such an unashamedly neo-classical building in the midst of a Gothic revival prevented the building from receiving the full admiration it deserved from Cockerell's contemporaries.⁹ The four statues are significant to the overall quality of the building, and these were carved by W.G. Nicholl (1796-1871) under Cockerell's supervision.

The eastern elevation of the Hughes extension (**Figure 4**) is objectively less significant than Cockerell's work, but still an excellently executed structure. It remains sympathetic to the original building whilst retaining a distinct character. It can be characterised as a Neo-Classical structure, but the Art Deco triumph of the interior is hinted at in the exaggerated rounded arches of the first-floor window surrounds. The stone first-floor window settings mirror those on the ground floor of the Cockerell building, but with a harsher geometry, replacing the gently-sloping trapezium with a rigid rectangle. The ground-floor rustication softens the elevation at street level, and is reminiscent of Italianate houses elsewhere in the city, for instance, 37 Beaumont Street or 7-9 Banbury Road.

Internally both phases retain features of exceptional quality. The Cockerell building's grand main staircase is completed in stone with iron, and there is detailed woodwork throughout the original structure (notably in the most significant of the internal spaces, the lauded first-floor reading room, which remains akin to its original condition). Equally, the Hughes extension is finished to a high standard, notably its curving Art Deco staircase with detailed bronze work. The external elevations are highlighted in the original listing descriptions for both phases (**Appendix 1**); however, the internal spaces are of at least equal significance. There are also some utilitarian spaces lacking in architectural significance, notably the cellar space and the upper library of the Hughes extension.

⁸ Ibid, 26, 28, 32.

⁹ A.W.N. Pugin's work in the 1830's argued for the importance of Gothic as the true Christian style of architecture. This prompted a Gothic revival that was well underway by the time John Ruskin codified the movement's tenets in *The Seven Lamps of Architecture* (1849). Gothic architecture, championed by Ruskin, became tied to conservative movements within the University's internal political machine, and was subsequently the predominant style of architecture in Oxford until T.G. Jackson, whose patronage lay within the University's liberal movement, succeeded in winning the competition to design the Examination Schools in 1876.



Figure 3. Left, the Taylor Institution from the steps of the Martyr's Memorial. The oblique view emphasises its height and length, lending it the aspect of a triumphal arch, emphasised by the arched opening flanked by statue-topped columns. Right, the triumphal Arch of Constantine in Rome, c. 315. Note the four statue-topped columns, and the reconfigured Trajanic friezes



Figure 4. Eastern elevation of Hughes extension

Overall the Taylor Institution is of high architectural significance, both externally and internally. The Cockerell building represents an attractive yet striking design from an important architect, finished to a particularly high specification. The Hughes extension is by necessity less striking, but equally attractive, notably its main staircase.

3.2.1 Charles Robert Cockerell

C.R. Cockerell was one of the most important British architects of the 19th Century. The Taylor Institution, along with the adjacent Ashmolean Museum, represents some of his most elaborate and accomplished work, as suggested by its Grade I listed status.

Cockerell was the son of Samuel Pepys Cockerell (a great-great nephew of the famous diarist), an architect of some contemporary renown. He was born in London on 28th April 1788.

In 1809 Cockerell assisted Sir Robert Smirke on the rebuilding of Covent Garden.

In May 1810 he commenced a course of professional studies by exploring Greece, Asia Minor, and Sicily. Among his discoveries were the reliefs forming the frieze of the temple of Apollo at Bassae near ancient the Philaleia in Arcadia in 1812. Whilst in Sicily, he was principally in Syracuse and Girgenti studying and measuring the ancient Greek fortifications.

He spent the winter of 1815-16 in Rome where he formed a lasting friendship with the French painter Ingres.

On arriving in London, Cockerell commenced practising in Saville Row, appearing as an exhibitor at the Royal Academy in 1818. In the following year he exhibited his *Idea of a Restoration of the Capitol and Forum of Rome* which was the companion design to the *Restoration of Athens*. It was during this year that he was appointed surveyor of St. Paul's Cathedral.

Between 1822 and 1824 he was engaged upon several works, amongst which were a chapel at Bowood for Lord Lansdowne, and the Bristol Literary and Philosophical Institution. In 1825 he completed the Hanover Chapel in Regent Street. In 1829 he was elected an associate of the Royal Academy, and undertook the construction of a wing of the Cambridge University Library, the Westminster Fire Office in King Street, Covent Garden, and St. David's College at Lampeter, the latter of Gothic design.

In 1833 Cockerell was nominated architect of the Bank of England and carried out various changes and alterations. In 1836 he became a full academician, and in conjunction with Mr Tite completed (1837-9) the London and Westminster Bank in Lothbury. Two years later in 1838 he published a *Tribute to the memory of Sir Christopher Wren* with the motto '*Lector, si monumentum requiris, circumspice*'.

In 1840, on the death of William Wilkins R.A., Cockerell was called upon to fill the chair of professor of architecture in the Royal Academy, a post he held until 1857. On the death of George Basevi in 1845, the Fitzwilliam Museum at Cambridge, begun in 1837, was placed in Cockerell's hands for completion, and some of the interior finishes are from his design.

In 1845 he completed the Taylor Institution and Ashmolean Museum.

Cockerell designed and carried out the building of several country mansions and competed for the erection of the Houses of Parliament, the National Gallery, the London University, the Royal Exchange, and the Carlton and Reform Clubs. In 1845 he was presented with the honorary degree of D.C.L. by the University of Oxford.

The death of Harvey Lonsdale Elmes in 1847 led Cockerell to complete St. George's Hall for the Corporation of Liverpool. In 1857 he completed the offices of the Liverpool and London Globe Insurance Company in Liverpool.

As president of the Royal Institute of British Architects in 1860-61 he was the first to have the honour of receiving Her Majesty's gold medal. He was chevalier of the Legion of Honour, one of the eight foreign associates of the Académie des Beaux-Arts de France, member of Academy of St. Luke, Rome, member of the Royal Academies of Bavaria, Belgium, and Denmark, besides the academies of Geneva and Genoa, the Archaeological Society of Athens, and the American Institute of Architects.

He died on 17th September 1863 and was buried in St. Paul's Cathedral on the 24th, close to Sir Christopher Wren.

3.3 Archaeological Significance

Oxford has a rich and relatively-continuous history of human occupation since the early Bronze Age.

Archaeological excavations conducted around the Taylor Institution and the Ashmolean Museum in 1994 provided evidence for near-continuous extramural occupation (a lacuna in the evidence suggesting a possible break in the 15th Century) of the area from the 12th to the 19th Century.

The foundations of Taylor Institute will have destroyed a great deal of archaeological material; however, the 1994 excavations found that, whilst the stratigraphy was heavily truncated by excavation from later construction, useful material did still survive. The long history of occupation makes it likely that some significant archaeological material may be preserved on the site, especially at the lower stratigraphic layers.

3.4 Significance as a Library and Lecture Facility

The Modern Languages Faculty at Oxford University is one of the strongest in the world. Taking the French Department as an example, in the latest (2008) Research Assessment Exercise (RAE) Oxford submitted by far the largest French department in the UK, with by far the largest proportion of their research being recognised as 'world-leading in terms of significance, originality, and vigour'.

The international excellence of the faculty is of high significance, and the Taylor Institution plays an important rôle in this success. It is a working library and lecture space and continues to function today in the spaces designed by Cockerell and Hughes, and in much the same way as originally intended. The Taylor Institution houses both the West European teaching and research collections, making it an invaluable resource for undergraduates, postgraduates, and research staff. It provides the primary library space for the majority of undergraduate students, with a dedicated undergraduate teaching collection.

Students and researchers are able to use the reading rooms, including the fantastic double-height, first-floor reading room, as originally intended by the architects. Utilitarian spaces, such as the basements of the Cockerell building and the upper stacks in the Hughes extension, lack the architectural grandeur of some of the reading rooms but provide a vital service to the institution as a whole, providing accessible high-density document storage. The lecture rooms are important spaces for undergraduate and postgraduate teaching, and are a significant resource for the Modern Languages Faculty.

The Taylor Institution also houses a number of specific manuscript collections of international importance, notably the Voltaire Collections (covering the French Enlightenment) and the Fiedler Collection (covering the Goethezeit and Anglo-German relations).

The continued use of this space for the study of Modern Languages is vital to the long term preservation of the building and for the maintenance of its heritage value. The future potential of the building to be used and enjoyed is an important generator of value and provides a continuing strong incentive to maintain the building in a conscientious and informed manner.

The building is indicative of Estates Services's success at managing its historic buildings, as it remains a fully-functioning library whilst retaining unblemished its historic character. Minor changes have been made to improve its utility, but for the most part little change has been required in order to allow the building to continue to operate as a library. Despite its architectural and historical significance, it remains a place of work, rather than a stagnant historic artefact. It is used on a daily basis by a large number of people who may enjoy but have no special interest in its historic provenance, and as such should generally be perceived to continue to provide a high-quality working environment: The building's continued success in providing a high-quality location for the study of modern languages in Oxford remains one its most significant attributes.



4

VULNERABILITIES

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4 VULNERABILITIES

4.1 The Ability of the Taylor Institution to Fulfil its Current Function

The Taylor Institution's current function as an office space is its optimum viable use.

The initial design of the Cockerell building was as a library and teaching space, and it continues to function in this capacity. Other than the introduction of electricity, modern communications infrastructure, AV technology, and security, the requirements of library and teaching spaces have not changed greatly since 1845. The construction of the Hughes extension has necessitated some alteration to the Cockerell building, and it has experienced subsequent alteration itself, but this has not detracted from the architecturally significant spaces. The alterations that have been required of this building in order for it to retain its current function are no greater than those that would be required for it to fulfil any form of modern utility. The current use funds the upkeep and conservation of the heritage asset and ensures its continued existence and significance.

The continuity of this broad function is vital to the significance and upkeep of the Taylor Institution into the future; however, there are several aspects that currently threaten the long-term suitability of the building for this rôle.

4.1.1 Fire Safety

The safety of the contents and users of the building is vital to its ability to fulfil its function as a library. Fire safety has not changed greatly since the original construction phases, but for the most part circulation routes are legible, though they can be confusing in the basement stacks and in areas accessed from the gallery of the main reading room. The lecture theatre has its own exit from the ground-floor level.

The limit of accessible circulation routes, and the lack of any lifts or accessible means of travelling between floors, means that escape provision for disabled users is poor.

4.1.2 Security

The safety of the contents and users of the library are central to its ability to fulfil its function as a working library and teaching space. The building houses highly valuable manuscript collections, which may be targeted by professional thieves, as well as computer equipment and user's personal belongings, which may be vulnerable to opportunists.

4.1.3 Access

The ability of the building to be accessed and used by as wide an audience as possible is central to its significance. The significance of the heritage asset is lessened if any person who wishes to legitimately use and enjoy the building is hampered from doing so by inadequate

access. Unfortunately, disabled access to the Taylor Institution is poor. An extract from the Bodleian Library Group's website highlights the inadequacy of the heritage asset in this area:

'The entrance to the Taylorian is on the corner of Beaumont Street and St Giles', up 12 steps from street level. The Faculty Teaching Rooms are mainly on the ground floor, which is on two different levels connected by an internal staircase (10 steps).

To reach the ground floor (Teaching Rooms 2 and 3 and the Voltaire Room) from street level, avoiding steps, there is a permanent ramp on the Ashmolean forecourt which is accessed from Beaumont Street. A temporary ramp is available for the two steps connecting the forecourt and the entrance to the Taylorian.

Access from street level to the Lecture Hall and accessible lavatory is from the secondary, St Giles', entrance to the building. This door is not normally open, but the porter can be reached by telephone...

The Library is divided into two sections (MLFL for the teaching collections and TAY for the research collections), and is spread over five floors, with the Circulation Desk in MLFL (on the first floor of the 1930s Hughes extension) and the Research Services Desk in TAY (on the first floor of the original Cockerell building). There are two main staircases and several subsidiary ones connecting the different Library levels.

There is no passenger lift in the building.

Lavatories are in the basement, with one accessible lavatory on the ground floor, near the Lecture Hall.

The library is on five floors with no passenger lift. Staff will take books, on request, to the ground-floor reading room (Voltaire Room) for readers with restricted mobility.

The Voltaire Room has an adjustable "action system" chair, and a daylight lamp for readers with impaired vision."¹⁰

It is clear that the staff work hard to provide services to disabled users; however, the building's design (both the Hughes and Cockerell elements) is wholly inadequate for their use. For a user with limited mobility to even access the ground-floor Voltaire Room requires them to contact the porter to arrange a temporary ramp to be brought out and for the (otherwise unused) northern door of the Cockerell building to be unlocked.

In order to meet acceptable moral and current legislative standards of accessibility, all building users should be able to enter the building at the same points, and should be able to proceed through the building without disadvantage.

¹⁰ <http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/taylor/about/disabled-access>, accessed on 22.11.10.

4.2 Exterior Elevations and Setting

The eastern elevations of the Taylor Institution are some of its most significant architectural features. The Cockerell building's eastern elevation is of particular quality (see **Section 3.2**), whilst the Hughes extension's eastern elevation (its only visible elevation) is unassumingly attractive.

The eastern elevation is the aspect of the building appreciated by the greatest number of people and which contributes most to the character of the setting. The elevation has aged well and is in excellent condition, but it is the most exposed face of the building and is open to weathering, erosion, and potential vandalism: damage which could detract from the significance of the heritage asset.

The southern and western elevations of the Cockerell building are also significant and contribute highly to the character of the Ashmolean Museum as well as to the Taylor Institution. These face similar vulnerabilities to the eastern elevation.

4.3 Interior Layout, Fixtures, and Fittings

The interior layout has not changed greatly since the original design, with only minor alterations having occurred. This has allowed the building to retain much of its original character, as changes to the layout affect the integrity of the original design. The building is now listed, which limits the scope of future alteration; however, some changes may be expected in the future as the building is brought up to necessary standards, especially regarding accessibility. These should respect the character and layout of the original building.

Many of the building's original fixtures and fittings are extant and in place, meaning that parts of the interior have a unique character. As the Taylor Institution is a Grade I and Grade II listed building, any future interior alterations, or repairs made using non-original materials, will require listed building consent.

4.3.1 Cockerell building: Entrance Hall and Main Staircase



Figure 5. Left, Entrance Hall of Cockerell building facing north up staircase. Right, Entrance Hall of Cockerell building facing south onto porter's lodge

The Entrance Hall to the Cockerell building is a grand space, dominated by the gentle slope of the stone staircase (**Figure 5**). There is some attractive woodwork, notably on the porter's lodge and the door fittings to the lecture rooms to the east and west. There is some fine iron and wood work on the banisters, newel, and handrail of the staircase (**Figure 6**).

This is one of the better architectural spaces in the building, providing a suitably grand entrance space. There is some intrusive signage, and the security barriers are visible at the top of the staircase detracting from the character.

The main staircase leads onto the landing. This is also a fine space, with the same excellent iron and wood work on the stairs and door fittings. The plaster cornice is decorated with dentils, and there are plaster details around the southern door to the main reading room. There is an elaborate stone and plaster fitting over and around the opening to the north which leads onto the first floor of the Hughes extension. Once again, the security barriers remain intrusive and detract from the otherwise grand character of the space.

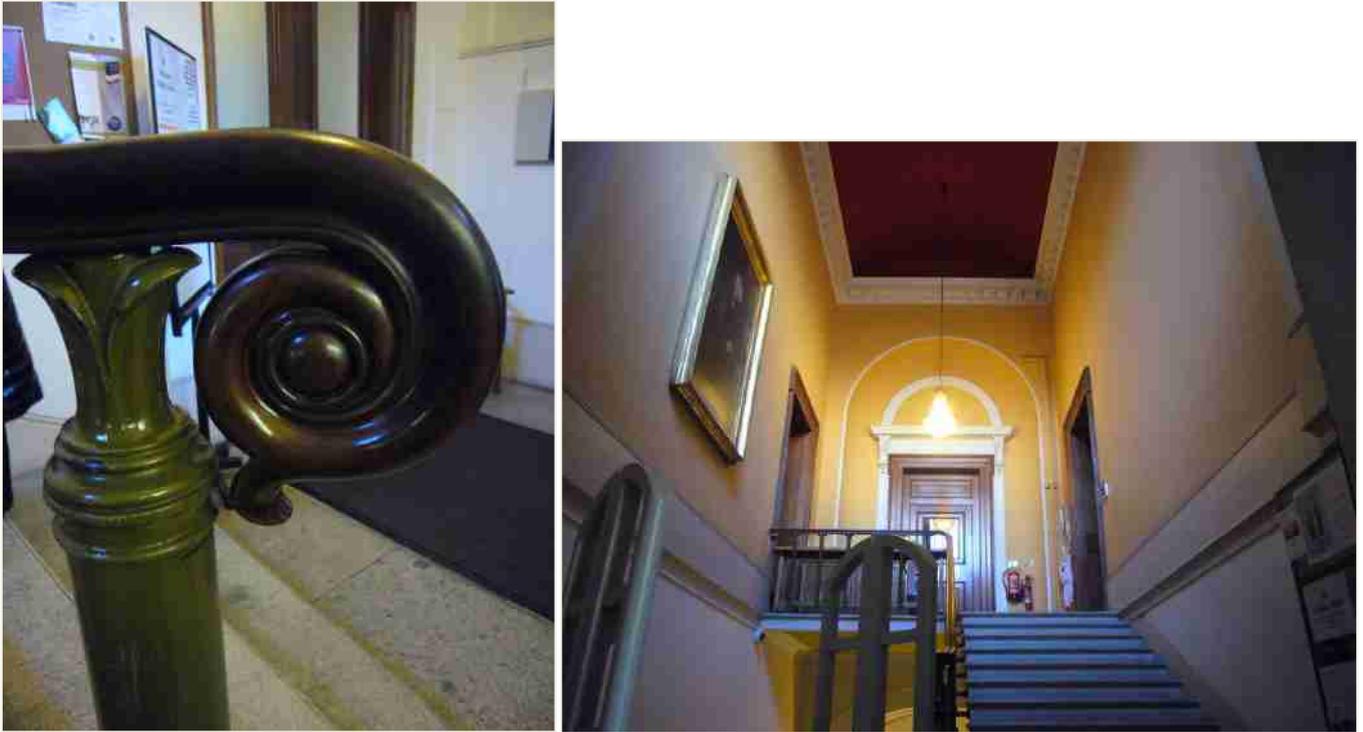


Figure 6. Left, Iron newel and wooden handrail in Entrance Hall. Right, first-floor landing looking south

4.3.2 Cockerell building: Main Reading Room

This is the most significant internal space in the building. The double-height reading room is much as it was originally designed, with the large issue desk in the north of the room being the only major alteration. The room is interesting as it has a square footprint but is octagonal at gallery and ceiling height. The space is wood panelled throughout, with a fine plaster ceiling. The wood panelling is decorated with dentils on the gallery-level cornice, and banding and modillions at ceiling height (**Figure 7.3**). The original fireplace is extant and provides an impressive centrepiece to the room (**Figure 7.1**). There is an attractive iron spiral staircase to the gallery level, and the gallery has a well-executed iron and brass handrail, which may need to be raised in order to meet health and safety expectations (**Figures 7.2 and 7.4**).

The furniture is not thought to be original, but it is certainly sympathetic to the setting. The space is ‘a cube of nearly 40feet’;¹¹ however, the gallery and elaborate ceiling lend it a sense of verticality. The area operates as a functional reading room, and is beloved by its users for providing such a unique and attractive working space. Doorways to the north and south lead to the Italian, Portuguese, and Hispanic reading room and to the French and German Reading room, which are both attractive spaces of lesser significance.

¹¹ *The Builder*, Vol. 4, No. 194 (24th October 1846) 505

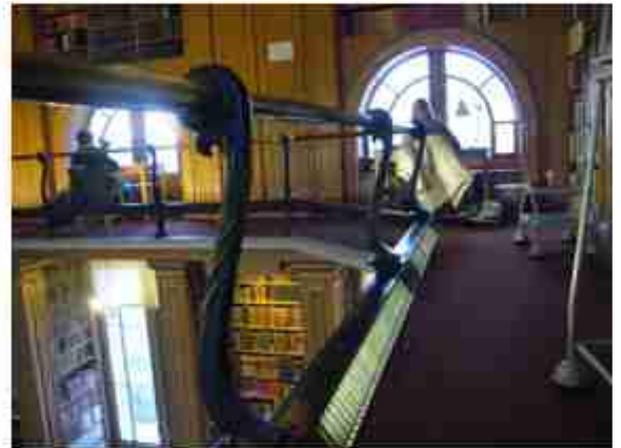
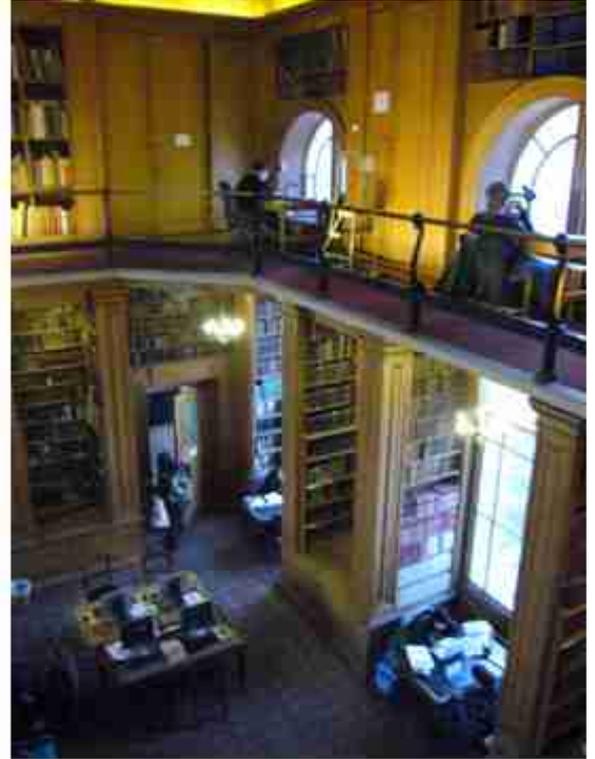
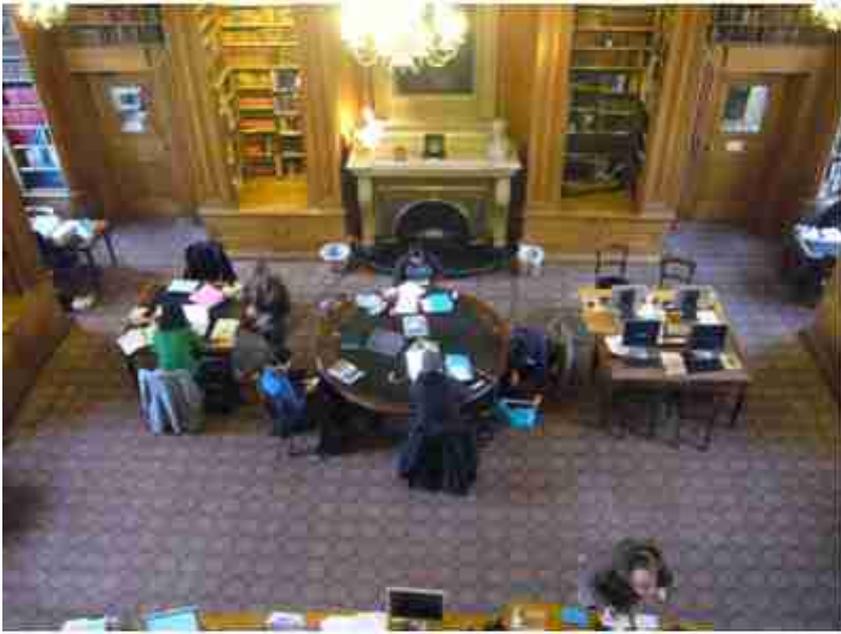


Figure 7. Cockerell Building, Main Reading Room. 7.1 (top left), main reading room, south from gallery. 7.2 (top right), main reading room, southwest from gallery. 7.3 (bottom left), main reading room, northwest from first floor. 7.4 (bottom right), gallery handrail

4.3.3 Hughes extension: Entrance Hall and Main Staircase

The entrance hall and staircase are the most significant spaces in the Hughes extension. Objectively less significant than the equivalent areas in the Cockerell building, they remain important spaces. The entrance is connected via stairs and an opening to the entrance hall of the Cockerell building, though they operate as two distinct spaces. The entrance hall is

relatively low ceilinged, but is dominated by the widening staircase that seems to “flow” into it (**Figure 8.1**).

The Art Deco design of the space is complemented by attractive bronze light fittings, and the fine stone central poles that accompany the staircase (**Figure 8.3**). The bronze banisters suit the space perfectly and provide a striking response to the iron fittings in the Cockerell building (**Figure 8.2**). Some of the paint colours (notably the green doors visible in **Figure 8.1**) detract from the character of the space.



Figure 8. Hughes extension, Entrance Hall. 8.1 (top left), entrance hall, general shot. 8.2 (top right), entrance hall, bronze banister. 8.3 (bottom), stone barrier and pillar

4.3.4 Hughes extension: Landing and Main Staircase

The Hughes extension's staircase continues up onto two landings at the first- and second-floor levels (**Figure 9.1**). The first-floor landing opens onto the Cockerell building to the south and the undergraduate reading room to the north. Akin to the first landing in the Cockerell building, there is an intrusive magnetic barrier as the staircase meets the first-floor landing. The fine bronze railings continue up onto the second floor, and there is a bronze handrail running along the curve of the western exterior wall (**Figure 9.2**). This wall is fitted with three long, narrow windows (**Figure 9.3**). The staircase is topped with an apsidal roof light, fitted with an intricate hanging light (**Figure 9.4**).



Figure 9. Hughes extension main stairway. 9.1 (top left), stairs and second landing, facing northeast. 9.2 (top right), bronze handrail. 9.3 (bottom left), stairway and landing, facing west. 9.4 (bottom right), ceiling and roof light, facing east.

4.3.5 Cockerell building: Voltaire Room and Lecture Rooms

The ground-floor rooms of the Cockerell building (the eastern and western lecture rooms off the entrance hall, and the Voltaire room to the south) are all fine areas. The lecture rooms are of a type. They are fitted with pilasters and engaged piers, and the ceilings are worked with plaster dentils. High-level medallions and friezes contain painted reworkings of the Parthenon Friezes, which had been drawn by Cockerell in London in 1810. Each room is arranged to focus upon a bay with a plaster arch and medallion, and in the eastern example framed by Ionic columns (**Figure 10.1**). Both spaces have fitted bookcases which are integral to their character (**Figure 10.2**). They are attractive spaces and excellent lecture rooms, and are in frequent use by the Modern Languages faculty.

The Voltaire room is similar in character to the lecture rooms, but lacks the central bay and Ionic columns (**Figure 3**). The furnishings, the wooden bookcases, chairs and tables (**Figure 4**), match the character of the space as an area of industrious scholarship.



Figure 10. Eastern lecture room and Voltaire room. 10.1 (top left), lecture room, eastern lecture room, northwards. 10.2 (top right), eastern lecture room, southwards. 10.3 (bottom left), Voltaire room, southwards. 10.4 (bottom right), Voltaire room, northwards.

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CONSERVATION
POLICY

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5 CONSERVATION POLICY

Having established the significance of the Taylor Institution as a heritage asset, and having identified ways in which the significance of the Taylor Institution is vulnerable to harm, it is necessary to recommend policies to reduce the probability of such harm occurring, and thereby conserve the significance of the site. In essence, these policies set parameters for managing the fabric of the site.

The Conservation Plan is intended as an active tool for the regular maintenance and long-term management of the Taylor Institution. It needs to be reviewed regularly, and revised as appropriate to take account of additional knowledge and changing priorities.

5.1 **The Taylor Institution's current use, as a library and teaching space, is vital to its continued significance. Permit, in line with NPPF paragraphs 131, 132, 133, and 134, alterations intended to facilitate its continued use in this way**

The current rôle of the Taylor Institution, as an important library and teaching space, represents an integral aspect of its overall significance. Limited alterations will inevitably be required to allow it to retain this significance in line with modern standards and requirements. If alteration is required in the future it should be permitted with the following provisos:

- Any alterations must be sympathetic to the Taylor Institution's significance as a heritage asset and, in line with NPPF paragraph 134, any proposals that involve 'less than substantial harm to the significance' should deliver 'substantial public benefits.' In line with NPPF paragraph 132, any proposals that involve 'substantial harm or loss' should be 'wholly exceptional.'
- Any changes should: '...preserve those elements of the setting that make a positive contribution to or better reveal the significance of the asset' (NPPF paragraph 137).

5.1.1 **In order to ensure that the Taylor Institution can operate to modern standards, and that its significance can be maintained by making access as wide as possible, special concern should be applied to ensuring that disabled access is adequate**

Ensuring that the heritage asset can be enjoyed as widely as possible will have a major positive impact on its significance. As noted in **Section 4.1.3**, disabled access is not currently up to acceptable standards. Access will remain a major concern in any plans developed for the site; an active effort should be made to improve access to the site, with the University seeking to exceed its statutory obligations and always viewing this as part of an ongoing process.

5.1.1.1 Permit such changes as are necessary to allow permanent ramp access to the building

Disabled users should be able to access the building through the same entrance as other users and without undue inconvenience. The heritage asset's main entrance should be accessible, and should be accessed via a permanent ramp.

5.1.1.2 Permit such changes as are necessary to allow lift access to all floors

Disabled users should reasonably expect to be able to access every floor of the building in order to enjoy it both as a study resource and as a heritage asset. A lift should be fitted, in such a manner as to cause the minimum possible damage to significant material, in order to ensure that all floors can be accessed.

5.1.1.3 Permit such changes as are necessary to improve the ramp connecting the first floor of the Cockerell building with the second floor of the Hughes extension

This ramp is narrow, obliquely angled, and unduly steep, rendering it inaccessible. It should be altered, in such a manner as to cause the minimum possible damage to significant material, to provide a straight, wide approach with a shallower incline (with a height:length ratio of at least 1:15 in line with the Disability Discrimination Act, 1995, 2005, and the Equality Act, 2010).

5.1.2 Permit such changes as are necessary to improve security provision within the building

As noted above (**Section 4.1.2**) security within the building is currently inadequate. Access should be controlled, preferably requiring the presentation of a valid University Card or Reader's Ticket, and should be via a turnstile and permanently-manned porter's lodge. Access and egress should be via a single controlled point, facilitating the removal of the intrusive magnetic barriers on the stairwells.

5.2 Note that the Taylor Institution is a Grade I and Grade II listed building and ensure that appropriate consents are obtained for any alteration works to the interior or exterior of the building

In order to ensure the heritage asset's significance alterations may be required in the future, and due to the listed status of the building, even minor routine repairs in significant spaces may need consent. Caution should be applied in order to ensure that any statutory duties are fulfilled. In cases of doubt **Estates Services should be contacted in the first instance**, and if necessary they will refer queries on to Oxford City Council.

5.3 Ensure proper consultation in advance of any work to the building with the Local Authority Conservation Officer (through Estates Services) and any other interested parties

It is important to guarantee that the best advice is obtained at an early stage of any proposal to alter any part of the building in order to ensure that the significance of the building is respected.

5.4 Refer to this Conservation Plan when considering repairs or alterations in any space

The Conservation Plan gives an overview of which aspects of the building are significant or vulnerable. Where original or significant material is extant, repairs should be carried out using the same materials and techniques and should not affect the significance of the asset without providing substantial public benefits in line with NPPF paragraph 134.

5.5 Any redevelopment needs to respect the character of the surrounding area and the Taylor Institution's setting adjacent to listed buildings (e.g. the Ashmolean Museum, the Classics Centre at 66 St. Giles)

The Taylor Institution is significant to the character of Carfax Ward, the Central (City and University) Conservation Area, and St. Giles/Beaumont Street (**Section 3.1**), interacting well with both the older and newer buildings around it. Any future alteration should be sympathetic to this fact, and should not diminish its rôle there.

5.6 Conservation of specific features contributing to overall significance

The Taylor Institution possesses various internal and external features of special significance (see **Section 4.2** and **4.3**). An effort should be made to identify and conserve original architectural features, and keep these in use where possible in line with **Section 5.1**; however, it is accepted that all materials have a natural life span and some degree of change must be permitted to keep the building safe, useable, and generally fit for its primary purpose as a working library and teaching space. Some materials, such as the stone stairways, will have a very long life expectancy if given minor maintenance, others such as wooden doors and handrails are impermanent and may need periodic replacement. Within the framework of understanding and valuing what is present in the building a degree of ongoing change is inevitable.

5.6.1 The exterior elevations will remain substantially unchanged

The exterior elevations are integral to the significance of the Taylor Institution. Any changes to these will significantly affect the character of the building. Allowing for necessary changes in line with **Section 5.1**, they will remain unchanged from their original designs.

5.6.2 The entrance hall and main stairway of the Cockerell building will remain substantially unchanged

These areas of the building are close to their original state and layout, and are vital to the significance of the building as a heritage asset. The removal of intrusive signage and magnetic barriers would improve the character of these spaces, but otherwise the loss or alteration of these spaces would negatively affect the character of the heritage asset and they should be conserved as good examples of the original character of the interior.

5.6.3 The entrance hall and main stairway of the Hughes extension will remain substantially unchanged

The relative importance of these spaces is less than that of the equivalent areas in the Cockerell building, but they remain significant spaces. Loss or unnecessary alteration of these spaces would negatively affect the character of the heritage asset and they should be conserved as good examples of the original character of the interior.

5.6.4 The main reading room within the Cockerell building will remain substantially unchanged

This is the most significant internal space. It is completed to the highest standards, being the centrepiece of the original design, and it remains close to its original state. Loss or alteration of this space would negatively affect the character of the heritage asset and it should be conserved as the best extant example of the original character of the interior.

5.6.5 The Voltaire rooms and lecture rooms within the Cockerell building will remain substantially unchanged

These areas of the building are close to their original state and layout, and are important to the significance of the building as a heritage asset. Loss or alteration of these spaces would negatively affect the character of the heritage asset and they should be conserved as good examples of the original character of the interior.

5.7 In the vein of NPPF paragraph 110, efforts should be made to ensure that the Taylor Institution's contribution to climate change is as minimal as is feasible for a building of its age, size, materials, and use. Any proposals for alterations should assess the feasibility of incorporating low and zero carbon technologies

Ensuring that the building is sustainable will be crucial to its long-term survival and significance. As stated in NPPF paragraph 110, development should seek to 'minimise pollution and other adverse effects on the local and natural environment.'

5.8 A disaster recovery plan will be prepared for the building and will be regularly reviewed to keep it up to date

This is an architecturally significant building with internal contents of particular value and academic significance. It is imperative for the safety of the building that a clear and up to date disaster recovery plan exists.

5.9 If during subsequent renovations or alterations any evacuation work is carried out beneath the Taylor Institution or surrounding area an archaeological assessment will be made of the potential for significant finds, and if appropriate an archaeologist will be given a watching brief as the excavation takes place

There is the potential for significant archaeological material across the site (**Section 3.3**), and should any evacuation work be carried out an assessment of the archaeological potential should be made. This should include at least a desk-based assessment, but possibly geophysics and trial trenching. A watching brief will almost certainly be required for any excavation.

5.10 A good practice of routine recording, investigation, and maintenance will be enacted and sustained. Such an approach will minimise the need for larger repairs or other interventions and will usually represent the most economical way of retaining an asset

5.10.1 Estates Services (or its agents) will ensure that a senior member of staff has responsibility for the administration and recording of a routine maintenance programme for the building

All buildings need to be routinely maintained if they are to stay in good condition. This requires a detailed maintenance programme and, critically, someone who is responsible for ensuring that the routine operations are carried out. A proper record of the repair and maintenance work in a maintenance log is a useful management tool. Such information will be recorded in the Estates Management software package *Planon*.

5.10.2 A detailed routine maintenance programme will be prepared for the building

Maintenance is best carried out as a series of planned operations. A well thought-out and properly-administered maintenance programme may appear to be time consuming but will result in a better-functioning building with less need for emergency repairs.

5.10.3 The Conservation Plan will be circulated to all senior staff who work in the Taylor Institution and to all other members of the University who have responsibility for the building or the collection

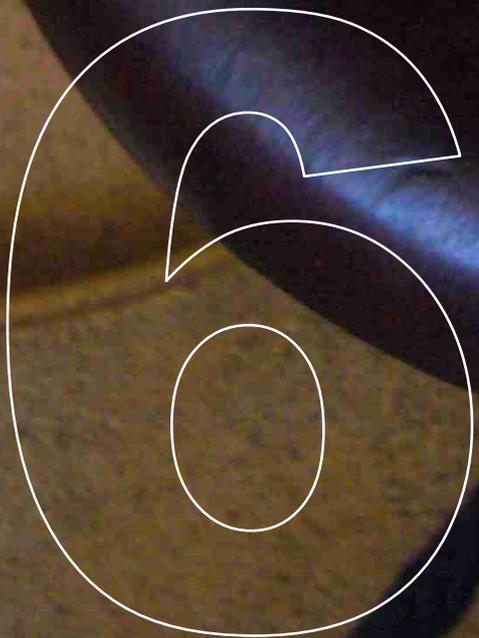
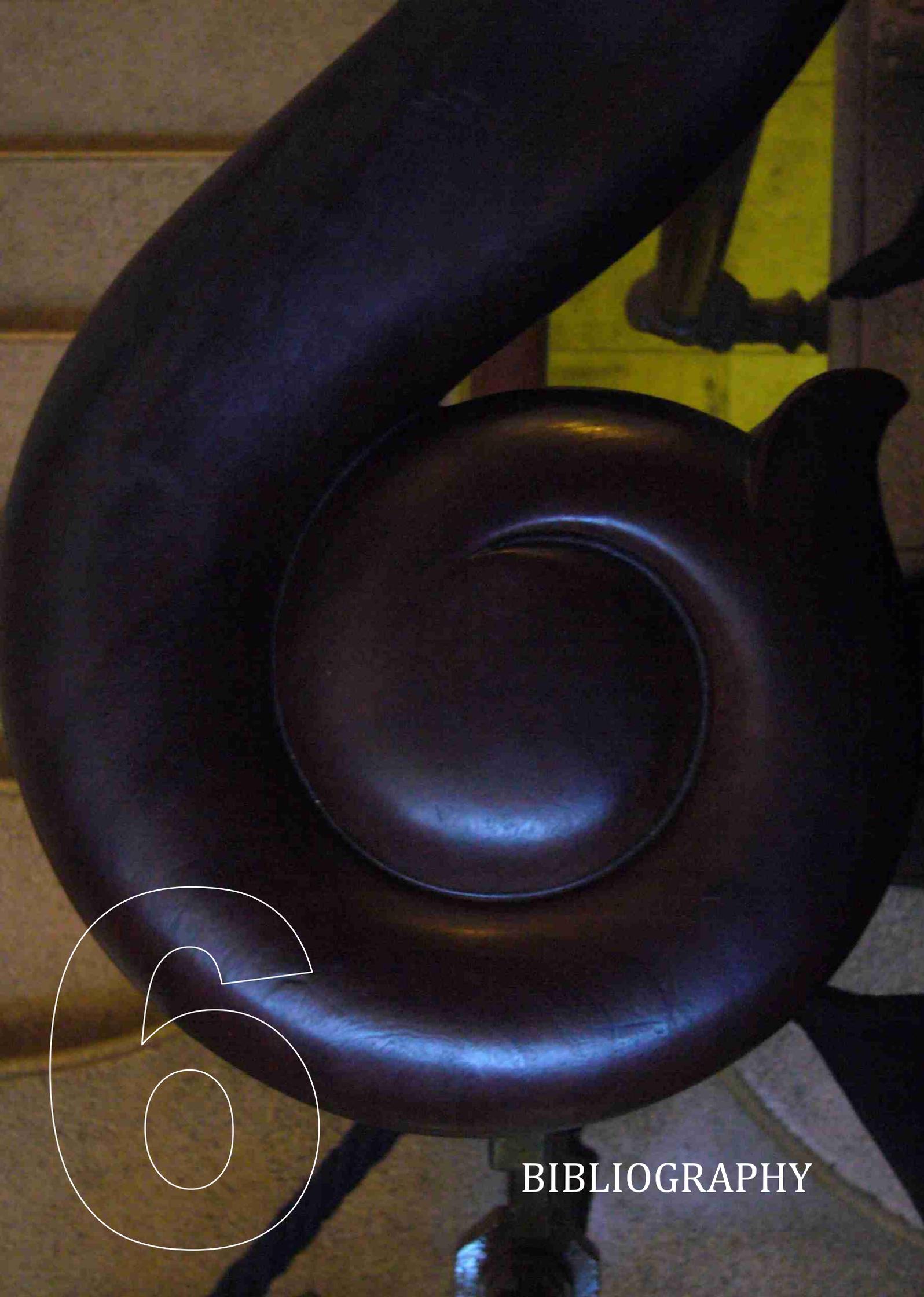
The value of the building needs to be appreciated by all the senior staff managing or working in the building. Only in this way will the heritage asset be properly treated, repaired, and maintained.

5.10.4 The Conservation Plan will be made available to Oxford City Council, English Heritage, and any other party with a legitimate interest in the building

The Conservation Plan is intended to be a useful document to inform all parties with a legitimate interest in the building.

5.11 The Conservation Plan will be reviewed and updated from time to time as work is carried out on the building or as circumstances change. The recommendations should be reviewed at least at five-yearly intervals

Policy changes, building alterations, or other changes of circumstance, will affect the conservation duties and requirements of the building. The policy recommendations in the Conservation Plan will inform the future of the building and should be a useful tool for people carrying out maintenance work or where more significant alterations are being considered. The recommendations need to be kept up to date if they are to remain relevant.



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6.2 Planning Applications and Supporting Documents

- Donald Insall Associates, *The Taylor Institution, Oxford: Report on Preliminary Study Findings for Estates Services* (July 2008).
- Rick Mather Architects, *The Ashmolean Museum: Conservation Plan* (July 2003, May 2005).
- tmd Building Consultancy, *Taylor Institution: Teaching Space Upgrade: Heritage Impact Assessment for Internal Refurbishment Works* (September 2010).

6.3 Books and Articles

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- Forty, A., “‘*Europe is no more than a nation made up of several others...*’ Thoughts on architecture and nationality, prompted by the Taylor Institute and the Martyr’s Memorial in Oxford’ in *Architectural Association Files* 32 (1996) 26-37.
- Page, W., ‘Houses of Cistercian Monks: The College of St. Bernard, Oxford’ in Page, W. (ed.), *A History of the County of Oxford, Vol. 2* (London, 1907) 86.
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6.4 Other Documents

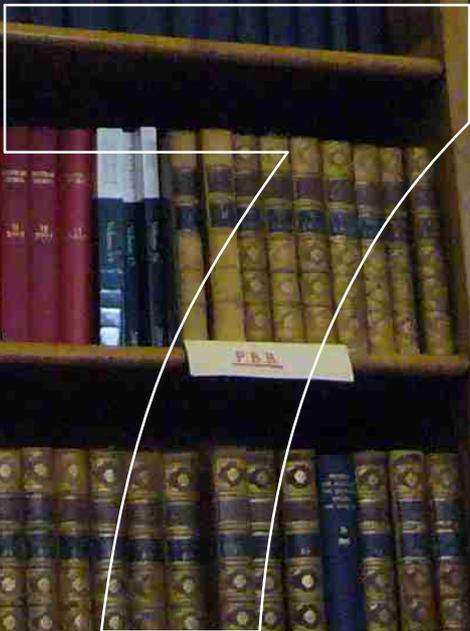
- Listed building descriptions courtesy of English Heritage (see **Section 6.5**).

6.5 Websites

- English Heritage Listed Buildings Online (Listed building descriptions):
<http://lbonline.english-heritage.org.uk>, accessed on 30.11.2010.
- Google Maps:
<http://maps.google.co.uk/maps?hl=en&tab=w1>, accessed 30.11.2010
- Handbuch der historischen Buchbestände in Deutschland. Hrsg. von Bernhard Fabian. Hildesheim: Olms Neue Medien 2003 (history of the library and its collections):
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- Heritage Search (HER records):
<http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/wps/portal/publicsite/doitonline/finditonline/heritage>, accessed on 26.11.2010.
- Modern Languages Department Website (history of the library):
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- Taylor Institute Website (summary of disabled access):
<http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/taylor/about/disabled-access>, accessed on 22.11.10.
- Wikipedia Commons:
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6.6 Image Credits

- Cover: Estates Services Photograph
- Chapter Covers: Estates Services photographs.
- Figure 1: Adapted from Google Maps (see **Section 6.5**).
- Figure 2: Adapted from (left) Rick Mather Architects, *The Ashmolean Museum: Conservation Plan* (July 2003) 2.7 and (right) *The Builder*, Vol. 4, No. 194 (24th October 1846) 511.
- Figure 3. Left, Estates Services photograph. Right, Wikipedia Commons (see **Section 6.5**).
- Figures 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10. Estates Services photographs.



APPENDICES

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7 Appendices

Appendix 1 Listed Building Descriptions

Appendix 1.1 Cockerell Building and Ashmolean Museum

Building Details:

Building Name: 41
Parish: OXFORD
District: OXFORD
County: OXFORDSHIRE
Postcode: OX1 3JS

Details:

LBS Number: 245853
Grade: I
Date Listed: 12/01/1954
Date Delisted:
NGR: SP5113106548

Listing Text:

ST GILES' STREET

1.

1485

(West Side)

The Ashmolean Museum and the Taylor Institute
SP 5106 NW 5/523A 12.1.54.

I

2.

Includes No 41 Beaumont street. The combined building housing the Taylor Institution and the original "University Galleries" (now incorporated as the Ashmolean Museum of Art and Archeology) occupies the site on the corner of St Giles's Street and Beaumont Street. It was built in 1841-45 to the Neo-Greek designs of Charles Robert Cockerell in Bath (Box Ground) stone on a plinth of Permian sandstone with the columns, pilasters and entablatures of Portland stone and decorations in terra-cotta. The Taylor Institution forming the East wing was founded, built and endowed by Sir Robert Taylor. The Ashmolean Museum, forming the central range and the West wing, has been altered and extended in 1892-5, 1900, 1908, 1923-8, 1933 and 1937-40. The most recent of these extensions (1939-40) giving a farther frontage on Beaumont Street was built in Clipsham stone for the rusticated ground floor, with Bath (Monks Park) stone for the upper storeys, to the design of E. Stanley Hall.

Listing NGR: SP5113506540

Appendix 1.2 Hughes Extension

Building Details:

Building Name: EXTENSION
OF THE TAYLOR
INSTITUTE
Parish: OXFORD
District: OXFORD
County: OXFORDSHIRE
Postcode: OX1 3JS

Details:

LBS Number: 245854
Grade: II
Date Listed: 12/01/1954
Date Delisted:
NGR: SP5119106584

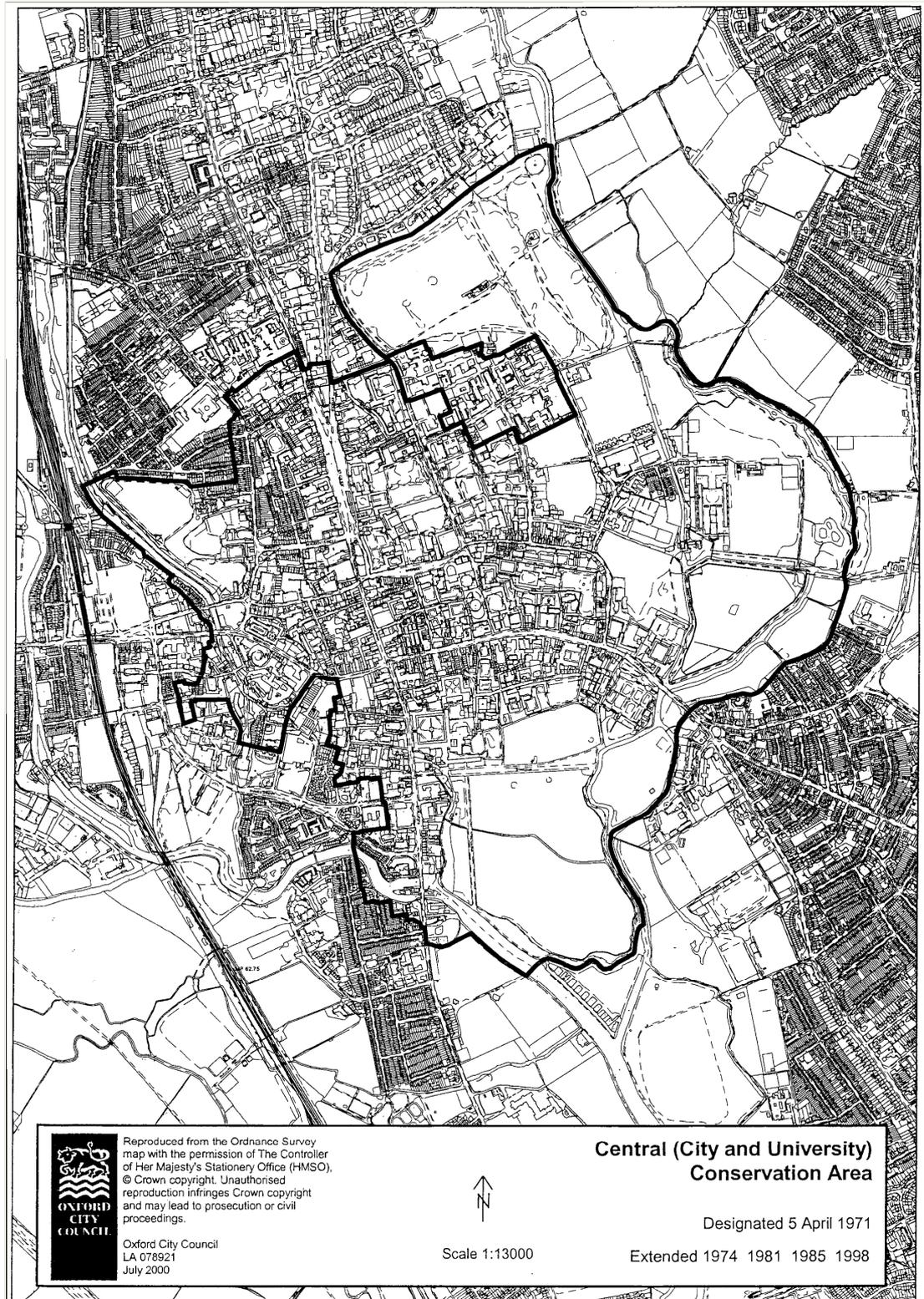
Listing Text:

ST GILES' STREET
1.
1485
(West Side)
Extension of the Taylor Institute
SP 5106 NW 5/523B 12.1.54.
II
2.

1932 and 1938. By T H Hughes. In Bath (Monks Park),
Portland and Clipsham stone. The North extension of the Taylor
Institute fronting St Giles' Street. Rusticated ground floor.
Arcaded five bay *piano-nobile*. Heavy eaves cornice.

Listing NGR: SP5118606586

Appendix 2 Conservation Area Description



Central Conservation Area, No. 5

The historic centre of Oxford forms one of the masterpieces of European architectural heritage. It is also a major regional commercial centre. Many of its historic buildings still function for the purpose for which they were built, and provide accommodation for the University of Oxford and its colleges.

From small beginnings as a settlement in the Saxon period, Oxford grew by the 11th century into one of the largest towns in England and a major trade centre. The Norman conquest brought the construction of the Castle and the establishment of major religious houses. The infant University arose in the 12th century and gradually grew into a major force in the city's life. The Saxons' rigid street layout and the fixed line of the 13th century defensive walls, together with the floodable river valleys, largely determined the plan of the historic centre as it is today. The gentle curve of the High Street, the great market place of St Giles and the older churches, together with the post-medieval timber-framed houses, belong to the town rather than the gown.

The University as it expanded, colonised the eastern half of the town with colleges and halls, building quadrangles of medieval and post-medieval gothic buildings, both within and without the walled town. The growth of the University's central institutions is well shown by the magnificent group of buildings situated between Broad Street and St Mary's Church. This group began in the 15th century with the building of the Divinity School and the Duke Humphrey's Library, a nucleus which expanded in the 17th century with the addition of the Schools' Quadrangle, Convocation House and Sheldonian Theatre. The group was further extended in the 18th century by the addition of the Old Clarendon Building and Radcliffe Camera to form a sequence of buildings and spaces of the highest architectural and historic interest, that today form the visual heart of the conservation area. Aspects of Oxford's 19th and 20th century change and growth may be illustrated by the considerable additions made to University and College buildings in Victorian and recent times, by the vigorous commercial and shopping centre, and by the welcome fact that the presence of the University ensures that many upper floors of buildings in the conservation area are in use for residential purposes, rather than unoccupied as in some historic towns.

Thomas Sharp, in his report to the City Council, published in 1948 as *Oxford Replanned*, set out and defined Oxford's special physical and architectural character and stressed its virtues and problems in a 20th century context. The Council, in its Review of the Development Plan, approved in 1967, approved much of the central area as an area of great historic value, and since 1962 the Council has protected the prospect of the city's unique skyline with its high buildings policy. The complementary views out of the city to its open country background have been similarly protected by the Green Belt and other policies.

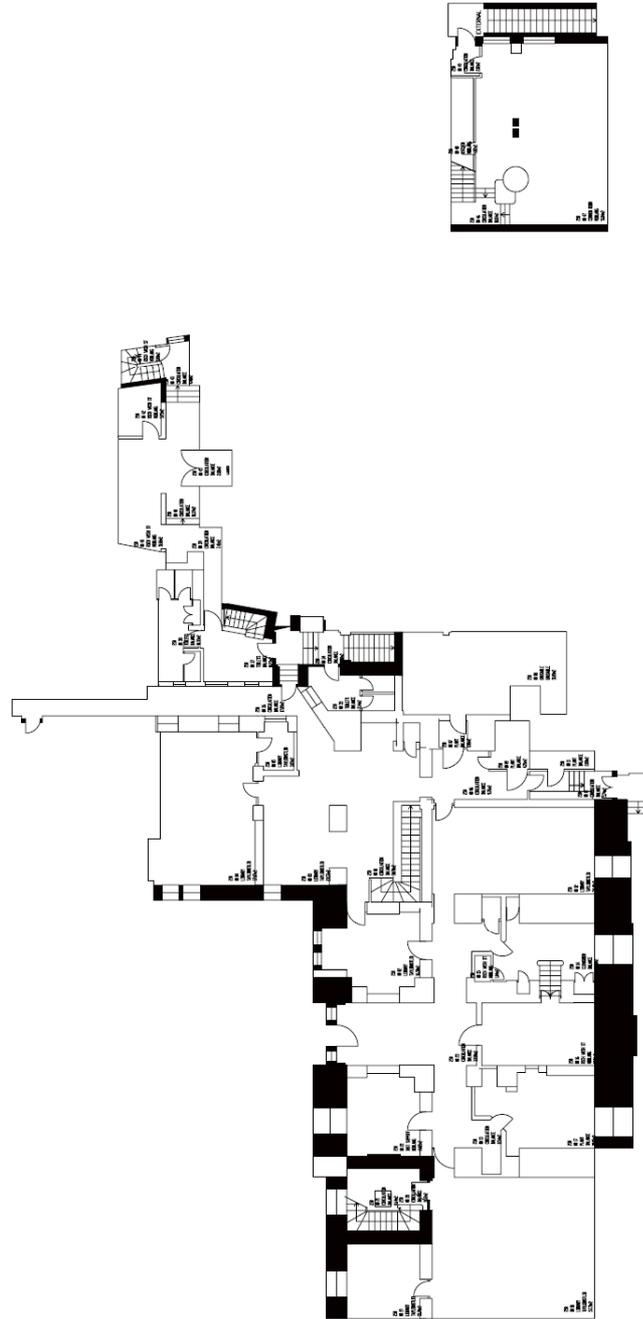
The Council designated a large part of the central area as a conservation area in 1971. An extension taking in the Folly Bridge riverside was designated on 28th May 1974, a second extension covering part of Walton Street, Fisher Row and lower St Aldate's was designated on 23rd February 1981, while a third covering Cornmarket and Queen Street was designated on 29th April 1985. On 9th December 1998, a fourth extension was made to the conservation area taking in part of the St Thomas' area, the University Observatory adjacent to University Parks and Magdalen College School playing field.

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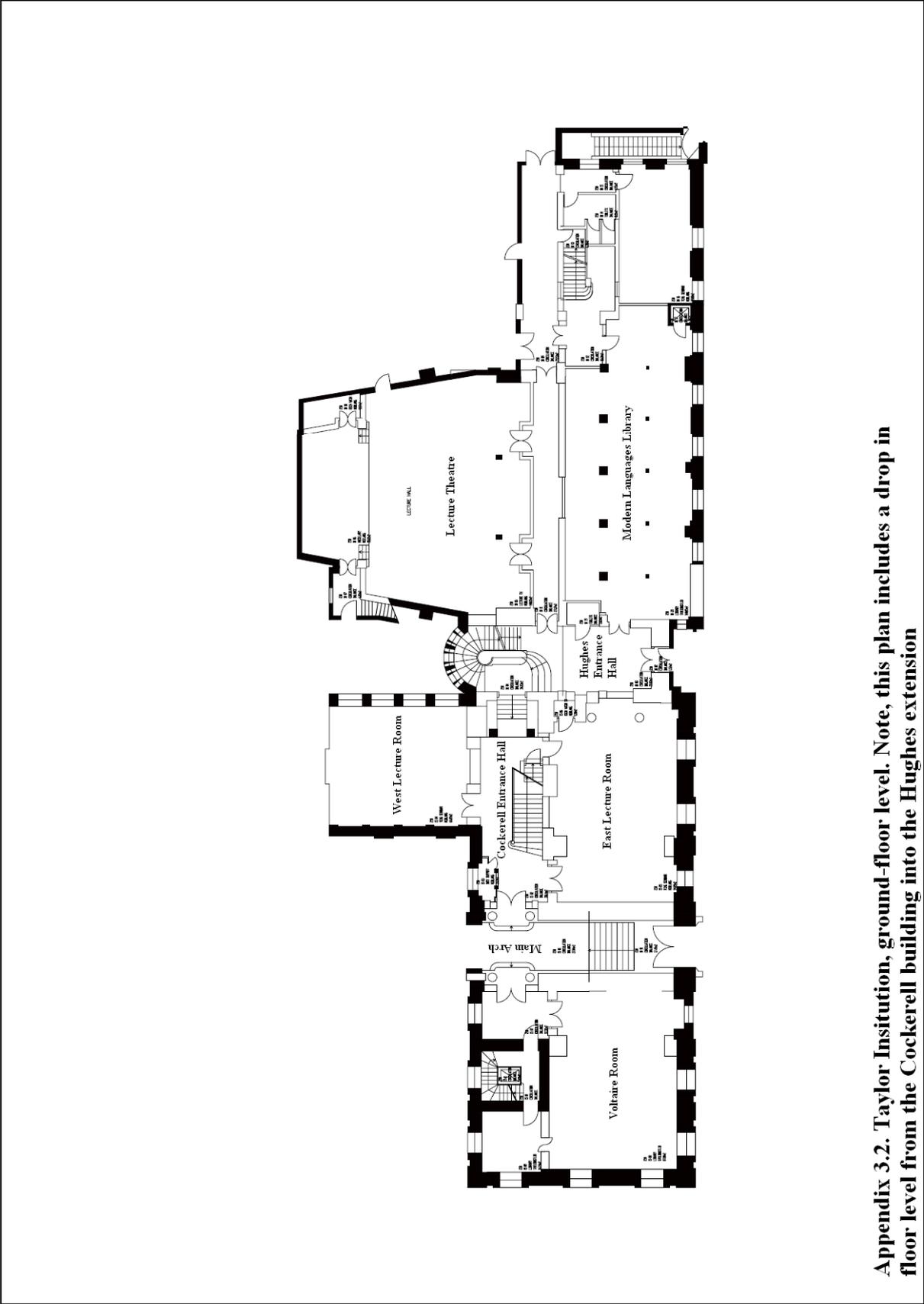
Appendix 3 Floor plans

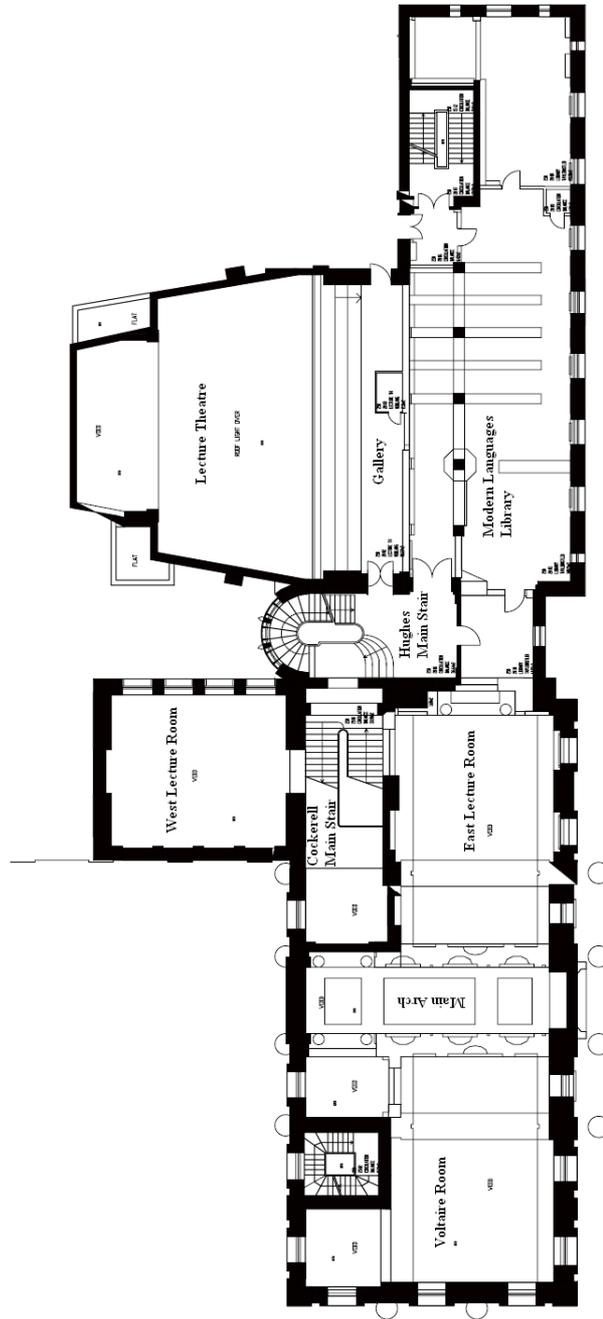
The original Cockerell building and the Hughes extension have different floor levels, with the Cockerell building having higher ceilings throughout. The Hughes extension has a total of three levels above ground, whereas the Cockerell building has only two. As a result, the floor plans tend to show the nearest levels of each phase on the same plan, with only **Appendix 3.3** cutting across any floors.

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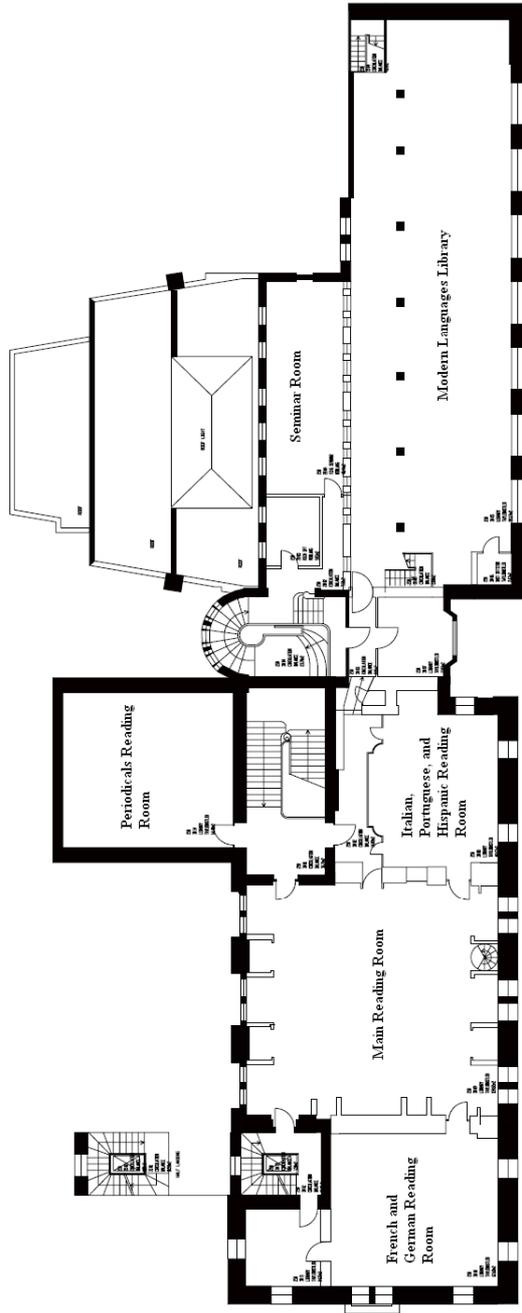


Appendix 3.1. Taylor Institution, basement level

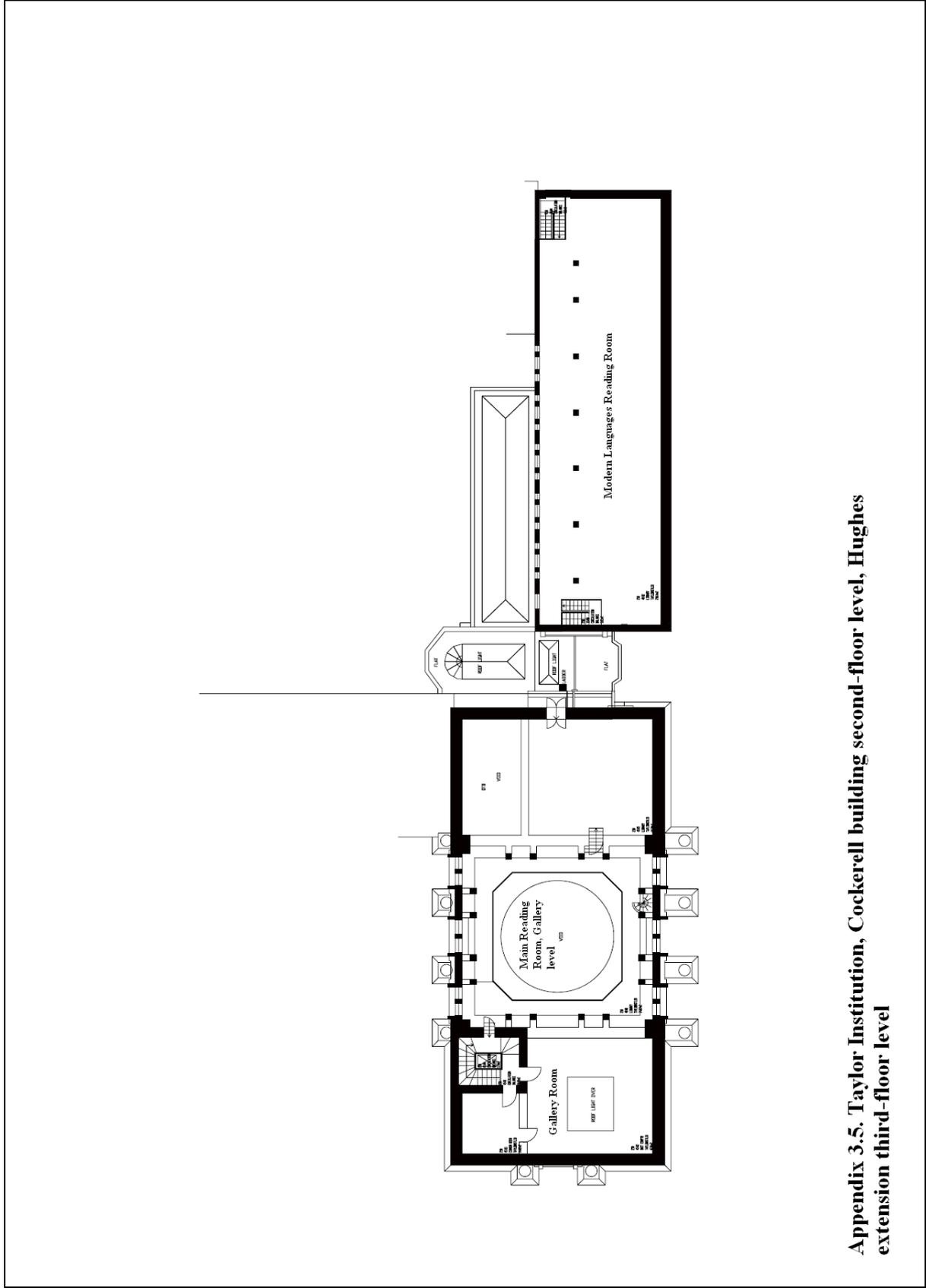




Appendix 3.3. Taylor Institution, Hughes extension first-floor level. Note this is mid-way through the ground-floor level of the Cockerell building



Appendix 3.4. Taylor Institution, Cockerell building first-floor level, Hughes extension second-floor level. Note this plan includes a slight rise in level between the Cockerell building and the Hughes extension



Appendix 3.5. Taylor Institution, Cockerell building second-floor level, Hughes extension third-floor level

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Appendix 4. Chronology of the Taylor Institution

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 1788 | Sir Robert Taylor dies leaving a bequest for ‘a foundation for the teaching and improving [of] the European languages’. |
| 1834 | Taylor’s son, who had contested his will, died, allowing the University access to £65,000 in promised funds |
| 10 th June 1839 | Competition to the design the Taylor Institution and University Galleries announced |
| January 1840 | C.R. Cockerell’s design is chosen from amongst the 27 submitted |
| April 1841 | Baker and Son of Lambeth begin construction work |
| 1845 | The Taylor Institution is completed |
| 1847 | The first Taylor Librarian, Mr John Macray, is appointed |
| 1849 | The Taylor Institution library opens |
| 1871 | The second Taylor Librarian, Dr Heinrich Krebs, is appointed |
| 1903 | Faculty of Mediaeval and Modern Languages founded, focussed on the Taylor Institution |
| 1909 | Negotiations begun to purchase the four shops to the north of the Taylor Institution to allow for expansion. These are opposed by the Ashmolean |
| 1927 | New plans made to expand northwards along St. Giles’s |
| 1931 | The first stage of Hughes’ extension is constructed |
| 1932 | HRH the Prince of Wales opens the Hughes building, bemoaning the fact that £15,000 was still required to complete it |
| 1938 | The second stage of Hughes’ extension is constructed following the purchase of the northernmost two of the shops on St. Giles’s. |
| 1943 | The exterior iron railings are melted down by order of the Ministry of Works |
| 1975 | The Voltaire Room is opened |
| 1989 | The Modern Languages Faculty Library extends into the Hughes buildings |

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Appendix 5

CHECKLIST OF SIGNIFICANT FEATURES

This checklist is intended for the use of those working or planning work on the building. It highlights features of architectural significance within the Taylor Institution; these may be original features or new additions that nevertheless contribute positively to the character of the building. As this is a Grade I and II listed building any repair or alteration work to factors that contribute to the significance of the building will require listed building consent in order to avoid prosecution under the Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990. **If planned work will likely affect any of the aspects featured in the list below advice should immediately be sought from the Building Conservation Team at Estates Services.**

The checklist lists both general significant features that affect the building as a whole and which should be held in mind if working in any space, and specific features of particular significance that should receive special regard if working in these particular spaces. The Further Information column refers to the relevant page reference in the Conservation Plan proper.

| The Taylor Institution, Building # 250 | | |
|---|----------|----------------------------------|
| SIGNIFICANT FEATURE | ✓ | Further Information |
| General: | | |
| External elevations | | p. 23-27, 35, 47 |
| External and internal stone work | | p. 17, 23-27, 35, 36, 39, 47, 48 |
| External and internal wood work | | p. 25, 35-41, 48 |
| Internal metal work | | p. 17, 25, 36-40, 48 |
| Internal plaster detailing | | p. 37, 39 |
| Any original fixtures and fittings | | |
| Doors and door settings throughout | | p. 37, 39-40, 47 |
| Windows throughout | | p. 17, 24-25, 40 |
| Any carved or moulded details | | p. 23-27, 35, 37-39, 47 |
| | | |
| Specific Features: | | |
| External Elevations: | | |
| Cockerell building | | |
| -Any stone detailing | | p. 17, 23-27, 35, 47 |
| -Bath stone walls | | p. 17, 23-27, 35, 47 |
| -Windows | | p. 24 |
| -Rusticated foundations | | p. 23-27 |
| -Portland stone balustrade | | p. 23-27 |
| -Portland stone columns and Ionic capitals | | p. 23-27 |
| -Portland stone pilasters and Doric capitals | | p. 23-27 |
| -Portland stone window settings and entablature | | p. 23-27 |

| | |
|--|-------------------------|
| -Portland stone window settings and pediments on S elevation | p. 23-27 |
| -Portland stone architrave and dentils | p. 23-27 |
| -Portland stone banding and meander detailing | p. 23-27 |
| -Portland stone friezes | p. 23-27 |
| -Statues | p. 14, 23-27 |
| -Portland stone urns | p. 23-27 |
| -Portland stone corbels, rosette detailing, and cornice | p. 23-27 |
| -Meander patterns, medallions, and wreaths on main arch | p. 23-27 |
| -Portland stone pillars and pilasters beneath main arch | p. 23-27 |
| -Stone steps beneath main arch | p. 23-27 |
| -“Knitted” detail on architraves | p. 23-27 |
| -Portland stone arches | p. 23-27 |
| -Balconies and wreathed medallions | p. 23-27 |
| -Portland stone chimneys and entablature | p. 23-27 |
| Hughes extension | |
| -Any stone detailing | p. 17, 24-27, 35, 47-48 |
| -Bath stone walls | p. 17, 24-27, 35, 47-48 |
| -Main doors, settings, and entablature | p. 17, 24-27, 35, 47-48 |
| -Windows | p. 17, 24-27, 35, 47-48 |
| -Rusticated Clipsham stone ground floor | p. 17, 24-27, 35, 47-48 |
| -Modillions and banding | p. 17, 24-27, 35, 47-48 |
| -Portland stone window settings, meander patterns, and entablature | p. 17, 24-27, 35, 47-48 |
| -Portland stone engaged urns | p. 17, 24-27, 35, 47-48 |
| -Portland stone wreathed medallions | p. 17, 24-27, 35, 47-48 |
| -Bunched feather detailing | p. 17, 24-27, 35, 47-48 |
| -Portland stone banding | p. 17, 24-27, 35, 47-48 |
| -Bath stone arches | p. 17, 24-27, 35, 47-48 |
| -Cornice and lion’s-head carvings | p. 17, 24-27, 35, 47-48 |
| | |
| Internal features: | |
| Entrance hall (Cockerell building) | |
| -Wooden door settings | p. 35-41, 47-48 |
| -Porter’s lodge | p. 35-41, 47-48 |
| -Light fittings | p. 35-41, 47-48 |
| -Plaster detailing on ceiling, arch, and underside of stairs | p. 35-41, 47-48 |
| -Stone stairs | p. 17, 24, 35-41, 47-48 |
| -Iron newel and banisters | p. 17, 24, 35-41, 47-48 |
| -Wooden handrail | p. 17, 24, 35-41, 47-48 |
| -Piers and plaster capitals | p. 35-41, 47-48 |
| Main staircase and landings (Cockerell building) | |
| -Stone stairs | p. 17, 25-27, 36-37 |
| -Iron newel and banisters | p. 17, 25-27, 36-37 |

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| -Wooden handrail | p. 17, 25-27, 36-37 |
| -Plaster detailing on ceiling, walls, and around doors | p. 17, 25-27, 36-37 |
| -Light fittings | p. 17, 25-27, 36-37 |
| -Wooden panelling | p. 17, 25-27, 36-37 |
| -Wooden doors and settings | p. 17, 25-27, 36-37 |
| -Stone setting and dedication, and plaster and wooden entablature, over arch | p. 17, 25-27, 36-37 |
| -Arch and window | p. 17, 25-27, 36-37 |
| Entrance hall (Hughes extension) | |
| -Art deco light fittings | p. 25, 39-40 |
| -Main doors and stone setting | p. 25, 39-40 |
| -Stone skirting | p. 25, 39-40 |
| -Pilasters and plaster capitals | p. 25, 39-40 |
| -Prince of Wales carving, and stone and plaster setting | p. 25, 39-40 |
| -Plaster detailing throughout | p. 25, 39-40 |
| -Stairs | p. 25, 39-40 |
| -Polished stone pillar, barrier, and decoration | p. 25, 39-40 |
| -Bronze banisters and handrail | p. 25, 39-40 |
| Main staircase and landings (Hughes extension) | |
| -Stairs | p. 25, 39-40 |
| -Plaster detailing | p. 25, 39-40 |
| -Light fittings, notably hanging light | p. 25, 39-40 |
| -Bronze banister and handrail | p. 25, 39-40 |
| -Separate hexagonal bronze handrail | p. 25, 39-40 |
| -Vertical western windows | p. 25, 39-40 |
| -Apsidal roof light and plaster border | p. 25, 39-40 |
| Main Reading Room | |
| -Wood work throughout, especially any carved or detailed elements | p.30, 35, 37-38, 48 |
| -Wooden panelling, bookcases, and pilasters | p.30, 35, 37-38, 48 |
| -Wooden doors and settings | p.30, 35, 37-38, 48 |
| -Plaster ceiling | p.30, 35, 37-38, 48 |
| -Wreath decorations at ceiling level | p.30, 35, 37-38, 48 |
| -Wooden modillions at ceiling level | p.30, 35, 37-38, 48 |
| -Original fireplace, fittings, and setting | p.30, 35, 37-38, 48 |
| -Spiral staircase | p.30, 35, 37-38, 48 |
| -Iron and brass railing at gallery level | p.30, 35, 37-38, 48 |
| -Windows and wooden settings | p.30, 35, 37-38, 48 |
| Gallery Room | |
| -Fireplace | |
| Periodicals Reading Room | |
| -Bookcases | |
| -Wooden doors and settings | |
| Italian, Portuguese, and Hispanic Reading Room | |
| -Bookshelves | |

| | | |
|--|--|-------------------|
| -Plaster cornice | | |
| -Windows and settings | | |
| French and German Reading Room | | |
| -Plaster details | | |
| -Windows and settings | | |
| -Wooden door and setting | | |
| Voltaire Room | | |
| -Wooden doors and settings | | p. 18, 30, 41, 48 |
| -Windows and settings | | p. 18, 30, 41, 48 |
| -Pilasters and engaged columns, and plaster capitals | | p. 18, 30, 41, 48 |
| -Cornice and dentils | | p. 18, 30, 41, 48 |
| -Friezes and medallions | | p. 18, 30, 41, 48 |
| -Codex, sunburst, and wreath decoration on ceiling | | p. 18, 30, 41, 48 |
| -Fitted wooden bookcases | | p. 18, 30, 41, 48 |
| Lecture Theatre | | |
| -Carved wood on gallery | | |
| -Wooden piers | | |
| -Plaster banding and cornice | | |
| -Ceiling and roof light | | |
| East and West Lecture Rooms | | |
| -Wooden doors and settings | | p. 41, 48 |
| -Windows and settings | | p. 41, 48 |
| -Plaster work throughout | | p. 41, 48 |
| -Columns and Ionic capitals | | p. 41, 48 |
| -Pilasters and engaged piers, and plaster capitals | | p. 41, 48 |
| -Fitted wooden bookcases | | p. 41, 48 |
| -Pilasters and engaged columns, and plaster capitals | | p. 41, 48 |
| -Medallions and friezes | | p. 41, 48 |
| -Cornice and dentils | | p. 41, 48 |
| -Codex, sunburst, and wreath decoration on ceiling | | p. 41, 48 |
| | | |

PRIOR TO UNDERTAKING ANY REPAIRS OR ALTERATIONS ON THE ABOVE-LISTED ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES, CONTACT THE CONSERVATION TEAM AT ESTATES SERVICES ON (01865) (2)78750

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