



MANCHESTER MUSEUM

KICKSTART PROJECT

DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENT

7011 REVISION (-) OCTOBER 2021

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architecture and interior design

| CONTENTS

1.0

Introduction

2.0

Design

3.0

Access

4.0

Supporting Information

1.0 | INTRODUCTION

THIS DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENT HAS BEEN PREPARED IN SUPPORT OF THE DETAILED LISTED BUILDING CONSENT APPLICATION FOR THE INTERNAL ALTERATIONS AND DECORATION OF THE GRADE II LISTED MANCHESTER MUSUEM.

This Design and Access Statement is intended to allow the Local Planning Authority, the local community others interested in the proposals to understand the design principles behind the development. The statement explains how the current proposals will impact upon the heritage of the Manchester Museum.

The Design and Access Statement should be read in conjunction with the supporting information scheduled in Section 4.0 of this report.

Manchester Museum is currently owned by the University of Manchester and is part of The City Campus situated on Oxford Road.

The Manchester Museum building was originally constructed in 1890 with significant extensions in 1912 and 1927. The Museum was extended again in 1977 into the former dental school. The Museum was further extended in 2003 with a new entrance and exhibition space to the rear of the Oxford Road building.

The museum is currently closed to the public whilst work to the recent extension is finalised, with construction completed in 2021. It will also allow works to create a new entrance on Oxford Road, scheduled to be completed in early 2022, to go undisturbed, in addition to allowing for the cleaning and reorganizing of museum spaces.

Project Kick Start, scheduled to be complete in 2022 will connect the new entrance with the extension and wider museum allowing the Museums spaces to function cohesively. The Museum’s reopening in 2022 will rely on the full completion of these connected projects and the installation of museum exhibits into the new and refurbished spaces.

Project Kickstart comprises work in seven areas of Manchester Museum. The work will complete the reinvention of the Museum commenced in 2020 with the construction of the new gallery and the relocation of the entrance to Oxford Road.

The Project is the delivery of internal works, shaping, refinishing and delivering interior design within the existing listed building. The areas of major input and scope are the fitting out of the new shop, the creation of the family picnic area and the creation of a prayer room in an existing exhibit area. It has been confirmed by Manchester Museum that the Multi faith space will be a prayer room with suitability for Islamic prayer.

The structural works to the entrance and shop areas are to be delivered by the University and a separate consultant team as part of the ‘Oxford Road Entrance’ (ORE) project. The start date for this project has been

delayed, and its completion date is now after the start date for this project.

The Museum have also confirmed to the Project Kickstart Team that the existing shop is to remain open until Christmas to maximise income. It has been noted to Manchester Museum that this may impact on the delivery of the programme for this project.

Location

The project consists of internal works to the existing Manchester Museum building, situated on Oxford Road in Central Manchester.

Purpose

The purpose of the project is to complete the refurbishment of the museum in preparation for its reopening in 2022 following the completion of its extension and new entrance to Oxford road.

The project will provide the museum with high quality and cohesive spaces that are designed to function optimally to its requirements.

2.0 | DESIGN

THIS SECTION ILLUSTRATES THE ALTERATIONS TO THE EXISTING SPACES IN THE MUSEUM WHICH ARE PROPOSED TO BE REFINISHED AS PART OF THIS PROJECT.

The work to most spaces within this project will be limited to internal redecoration and refinishing.

This work includes the making good of existing walls, floors and ceiling and redecorating them to the interior design scheme. The project also includes the provision of loose furniture which will not leave a lasting effect on the buildings original fabric.

All works envisaged in this scheme seek to enhance the existing building fabric by removing redundant modern additions to the original fabric. Some contemporary installations will improve the quality and functionality of spaces.

Works to the picnic space include;

- Removal of modern timber stud lining to bring the space back to its original walls.
- Unblock of original windows by removal of block work.
- Opening up a previously blocked doorway to create direct access to the kitchen prep space from the picnic space.
- Creation of storage area with 4 double door openings by formation of metal stud partitioning with gypsum board lining.
- Suspended plasterboard ceiling sections to conceal services.
- Restoration of existing timber flooring.
- Mechanical ventilation unit concealed at high level in proposed store room, with extraction out via service yard.
- Making good and redecoration of existing walls and ceiling.

Works to the Prayer room include;

- Full strip out of modern exhibition set partitions and associated doors and fixtures. This will reveal original windows and walls.
- Strip out of modern overlaid floor to reveal original floor level.
- Strip out of redundant services including air conditioning units, lighting racks and lighting controls.
- Formation of metal stud partitions with openings to create a separate store room and prayer room with cubicles. Full height and width doors to the store room to blend in with wall.

- Relining of wall with metal stud independent lining with gypsum board lining to protect and preserve existing fireplace.
- Installation of new suspended plasterboard ceiling to conceal services and create neutral ceiling.
- Proposed neutral vinyl floor finish.
- Two ablutions for foot washing in the prayer room.
- Decoration of newly exposed windows and surrounds.
- Making good and redecoration of existing walls.

Works to the main hall include;

- Limited removal of modern partition wall below main stair to form shop store and reduce wasted space.
- Replacement of out dated pendant lights with spot lights to match the existing installations.
- Fixing of projector and screen to the ceiling though the modern ceiling rafts.
- Formation of curved metal stud partition wall with gypsum board lining and door opening to provide access to fire escape stair. Wall to follow the curved profile of the original stair landing above, creating a contemporary backdrop for the main hall and storage for the proposed shop.
- Ecophon Solo acoustic ceiling panels fixed to existing modern ceiling rafts and underside of stair.
- Ecophon Akusto wall panels to be fixed to sections of the walls between columns. Sized to blend in with original walls. Colours to suit interior design scheme.

2.0 | DESIGN

| EXISTING

THE FOLLOWING PAGES ILLUSTRATE AND EXPLAIN THE EXISTING CONDITIONS OF THE AREAS INCLUDED IN PROJECT KICKSTART. THE AREAS ARE SPREAD THROUGHOUT THE MUSEUM AND ARE OF DIFFEREING CONDITIONS. SOME OF THE SPACES WILL BE PARTIALLY FINISHED OR STRIPPED AS PART OF WORKS TO THE EXTENSION AND OXFORD ROAD ENTRANCE.

Of the spaces included within this project, only the Picnic and Multi faith spaces will require major reworks to the existing condition.

The Cafe, Hall, Shop and Entrance spaces will require making good and redecoration works to the walls, ceiling and floors.

In the Belonging Gallery, making good and redecoration will be required to the walls and ceiling with a new flooring to replace the existing carpet.

The existing spaces have previously been used for public displays and exhibitions. However all spaces included, with the exception of Multi faith and cafe, have been closed in areas to the public to allow construction works to the extension and for the proposed entrance. The cafe will retain its existing function with the removal of the shop.

Refinishing works and updates to the furniture will allow the cafe to fulfill its maximum potential.

VIEWS OF PROPOSED ENTRANCE (EXISTING)



View towards location of the proposed entrance lobby (by others)



View of the Main stair



View looking south toward location proposed for welcome desk



View of partial western facade

The proposed Entrance has yet to be created, however, prior to the works proposed in this report, a new entrance lobby will be formed and the partition wall dividing the space will be removed.

The route through the entrance and shop is on axis with the center of the Main stair and this route is to be left clear of furniture and displays. The spaces are naturally lit from two sides and have high ceilings making them fell bright and airy.

VIEWS OF PROPOSED SHOP (AS EXISTING)



View down corridor between partition wall and Oxford Road facade looking towards Main Hall



View of northern elevation framing Main stair



View looking south towards partition between Shop and Entrance



View of Main stair from entrance to Main Hall

The shop is situated between the proposed Entrance and Hall, it will function as the main route into and out of the Museum.

The space is similar in appearance and in a similar condition to the entrance with the addition of a glass block partition wall creating a corridor along the Oxford Road facade which has been removed as part of a separate project.

2.0 | DESIGN
| EXISTING

VIEWS OF MAIN HALL (AS EXISTING)



View from bottom of Main Stair



View looking west towards back of the Hall



View looking east towards main stair and Shop entrance



View of back of Hall space, behind columns

The Main Hall is defined by its high ceilings and a historic staircase. This staircase will form the main access to the Museum galleries at first floor level.

An acoustic survey has determined the requirement for acoustic treatment in the space.

The Hall is mostly clear, with with some building material and redundant furniture to be cleared

VIEWS OF PROPOSED PICNIC SPACE (AS EXISTING)



View Into space from the entrance



View of north elevation



View looking east towards entrance to the space



View from circulation space into the Main Hall

Work to the space has commenced by Kier as part of their works. This space was subsequently omitted from their scope of works, leaving the space unfinished.

The space has been stripped of plasterboard to the walls and ceiling, leaving exposed studs and ceiling services.

The space currently has two windows to the north elevation and a larger window to the east, all of which have been blocked up.

These windows will be unblocked as part of the scheme to allow natural light and ventilation into the space, providing immediate improvement to the existing space.

EXISTING VIEWS CAFE



View of Cafe counter upon entering the space from Oxford Road

The Cafe currently shares its space with the Museum Shop. Once the Shop is relocated, the space will function solely as a cafe.

The existing furniture in the Cafe is a varied mixture of different styles and aesthetics, appearing as a collection of different objects which do not relate to each other.

The scheme will look to address this and produce a cohesive and functional space with visual connections to the wider Museum.



View of the servery, the face of which is to be refinished.

The Design Team have spoken with the Museum cafes Graphic Designer and will consult with them to create a space which integrates the cafe branding.



View of Museum shop from centre of space



View of existing historic shop counter

Views of Proposed Belonging Gallery (as existing)



View from main stair landing up to Gallery

The belonging Gallery will remain largely as existing.

Existing display cases around the perimeter of the space will contain artefacts with the theme of belonging.

The center of the space will be left clear for circulation as the space will lead people from the ground floor through to the extension and wider Museum galleries.



View from top of main stair looking west towards route through to new extension

The Gallery will require a new, hardwearing floor and redecoration to brighten the space.



View from top of stair towards lift circulation space



View from centre of space looking east towards main stair

IEWS OF PROPOSED MULTI FAITH SPACE (AS EXISTING)



View from corridor looking south towards multi faith space



View from corridor into multi faith space



View into exhibition which will become the multi faith space



View of service space behind display partitions

The Multi faith space is currently open to the public, accomodating a temporary exhibition next to the Museums Living Worlds Gallery.

Following the removal of Museum artifacts, the space will be stripped of its partitions, redundant services and raised floor.

The space will become a blank canvas to accomodaate the Multi faith space and events storage. The museum has advised that space will be required for Buddha display off the corridor, recessed into the storage space.

The floor is currently raised with ramped access. The proposal will look to address this to allow the floor to run level with the corridor.

3.0 | ACCESS

THE PROJECT DOES NOT PROPOSE ANY CHANGES TO THE BUILDING ACCESS.

The entrance to Oxford Road, as part of a different project will provide ramped access into the building, with all spaces at ground floor directly accessible. The Belonging Gallery and Prayer Room at first floor will be accessible via existing lifts.

Emergency access

The buildings existing fire strategy will not be affected by the proposals in this scheme with emergency access points retained and accessible.

4.0 | SUPPORTING INFORMATION

THIS DOCUMENT IS TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE OTHER SUPPORTING INFORMATION FORMING THE PLANNING APPLICATION SUBMISSION. THE FOLLOWING DRAWINGS AND DOCUMENTS ARE SUBMITTED IN SUPPORT OF THIS APPLICATION.

Drawings;

- 7011 L(00)01 Location plan (01)
- 9011 L(1-)03 Work Areas (03)
- 7011 L(1-)40 Entrance Existing (-)
- 7011 L(1-)41 Shop Existing (-)
- 7011 L(1-)42 Main Hall Existing (-)
- 7011 L(1-)43 Picnic Existing (-)
- 7011 L(1-)44 Cafe Existing (-)
- 7011 L(1-)45 Belonging Gallery Existing (-)
- 7011 L(1-)46 Prayer Room Existing (-)
- 7011 L(1-)50 Entrance Proposed (-)
- 7011 L(1-)51 Shop Proposed (-)
- 7011 L(1-)52 Main Hall Proposed (-)
- 7011 L(1-)53 Picnic Proposed (-)
- 7011 L(1-)54 Cafe Proposed (-)
- 7011 L(1-)55 Belonging Gallery Proposed (-)
- 7011 L(1-)56 Prayer Room Proposed (-)
- 7011 L(2-)02 Main Hall Internal Elevation (01)

Supporting documents;

- Application forms
- 7011 Heritage Statement LBC

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