

HERITAGE IMPACT STATEMENT

Whitworth Park, Oxford Road, Manchester

1.0 Introduction

1.1 This statement forms part of a planning application for the installation of skateboard deterrents around the stepped entrance to Whitworth Art gallery and around the seating to the rear of the building. The Whitworth Art Gallery is a Grade II Listed Building on Oxford Road. Drawing number 031AA-7387-A001 shows the locations of the building and the proposed areas where the skateboard deterrents are to be installed.

1.2 This statement is to be read in conjunction with the drawing numbers 031AA-7387-A001, A101 Rev A and A102 Rev A which accompany the application. Appended to this statement are existing photographs of the site and materials to be instated:

1. Appendix 1 shows photographs of the site and surroundings.
2. Appendix 2 shows materials to be instated.

2.0 Proposal

2.1 The work proposed is to stop skateboarders using the stone step and bench edges around the WAG as current skateboard activities are damaging the stone. See photo 3 & 9.

Planning permission is sought for the:

- Installation of tactile studs and bars at the base of the main entrance steps and ramp;
- Installation of tactile studs at the base of the stone benching to the rear entrance path.

3.0 Identifying the Heritage Assets.

3.1 WHITWORTH GALLERY.

List entry number: 1246569.

SJ89NW OXFORD ROAD, Chorlton-On-Medlock 698-1/4/615 (West side) 03/10/74
Whitworth Gallery

GV II

Art gallery. c.1895-1900, by J.W.Beaumont; altered. Red brick with bands and dressings of matching terracotta, green slate roofs. Roughly rectangular plan with 2 towers and a large porch projecting to the front plus short wings to left and rear. Free Jacobean style. Two storeys over basements, 1:1:9:1:2 windows; with semi-octagonal pilasters to the corners finished as short Baroque turrets with colonnades, plinth, 1st-floor sill-band, stylised corbel tables, moulded cornice, and parapet. The 9-bay main range has a projected ground floor with cornice and balustraded parapet which sweep out over a large semi-circular porch with

a screen of paired stone Ionic columns and stone frieze, mounted on 4 semicircular steps; round-headed windows to the curved wall in this porch, small 3-light windows to the straight sides of the projection; cross-windows at 1st floor except the centre which has a slightly bowed 6-light transomed window with a balustrade in the parapet (flanked by raised gold lettering "WHITWORTH" "GALLERIES"). The towers flanking the main range have tiered canted oriel windows and low top stages with corner pinnacles and pyramidal roofs. The end bay to the left and the 2 bays to the right have cross-windows to both floors, the lower larger and set in segmental-headed recesses. All windows have small-paned glazing. Small white lantern on roof ridge, with pedimented faces.

4.0 Assessment of Impact and Mitigation.

4.1 The proposed works are to materials introduced in 2014 when the Gallery was made more accessible. No work is proposed to original building materials.

4.2 The staff have so far relied on CCTV, Security and Staff moving skateboards on but, as this is failing to resolve the issue a physical deterrent is considered necessary.

4.3 The studs and bars selected have been chosen to be as discreet as possible while the scale will have little impact on the overall building elevations.

5.0 Conclusion

5.1 The proposals will have minimal impact on the visual appearance of the Grade II listed building but, will reduce the ongoing deterioration of the stone steps and benches.

Christopher Thorley
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University of Manchester
4th October 2018

Appendix 1.

Photographs

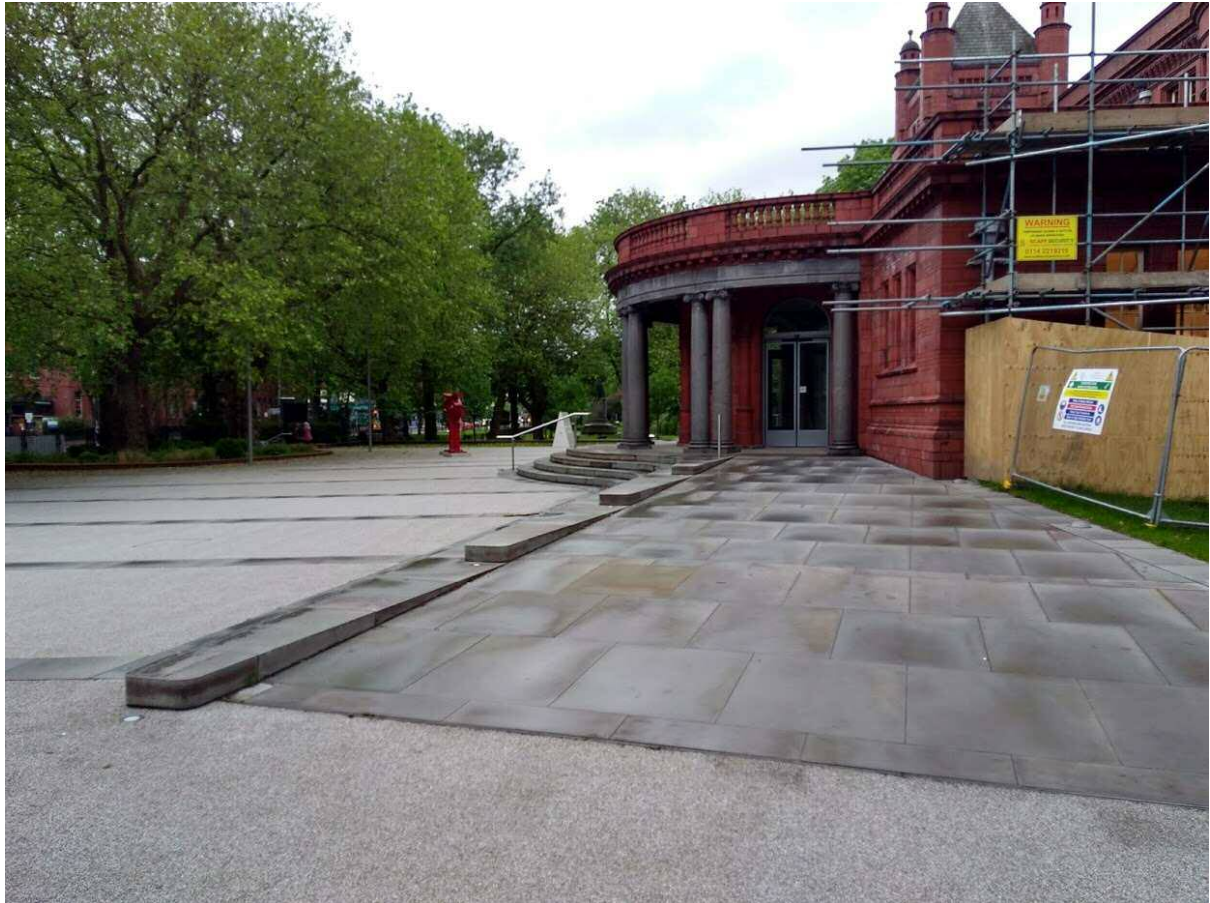


Photo 1. Main entrance - View from Denmark Road



Photo 2. View of steps to side of access ramp



Photo 3. Close up damage to access ramp



Photo 4. Close up damage to steps



Photo 5. Main entrance - View from Whitworth Park



Photo 6. Close up damage to steps



Photo 7. Benches - Viewed from rear entrance

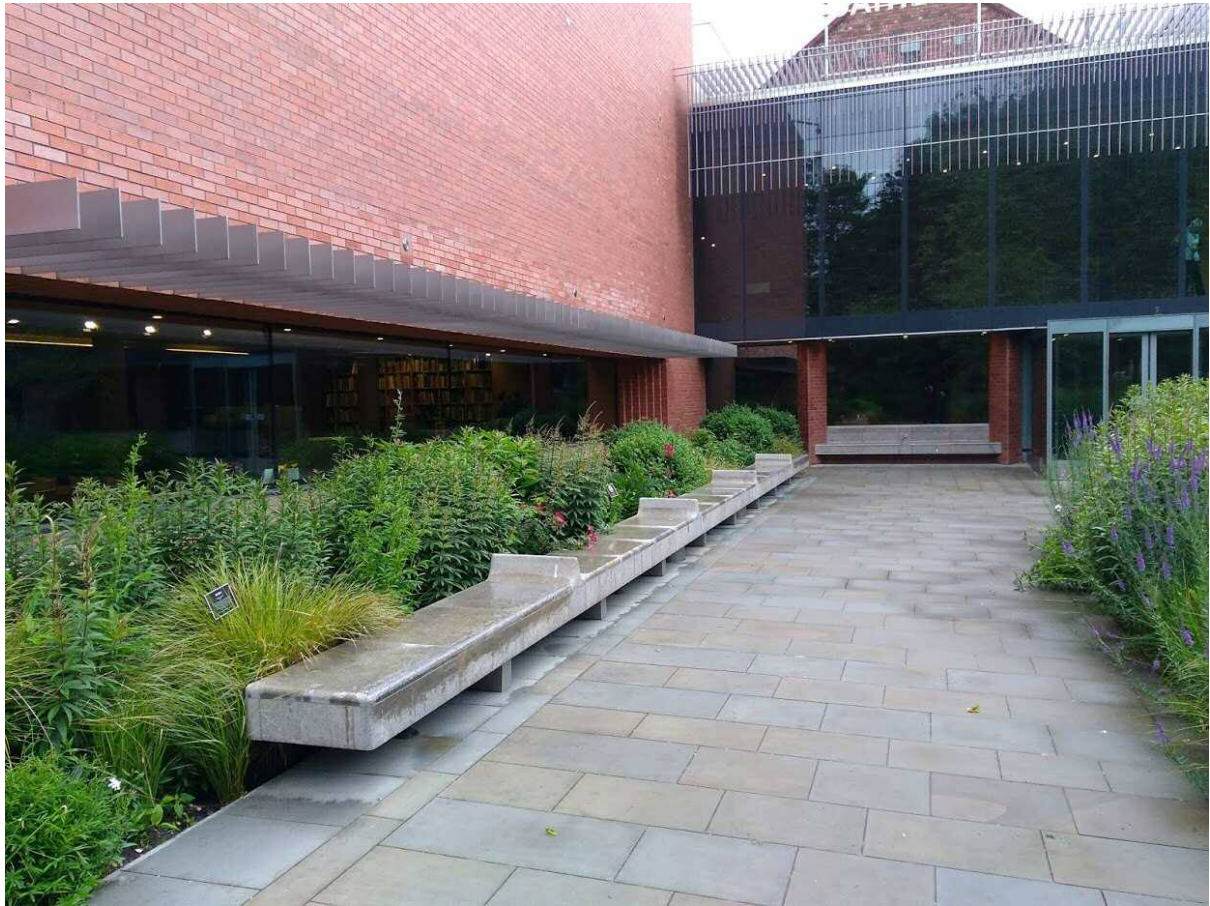


Photo 8. Benches - Viewed from Whitworth Park



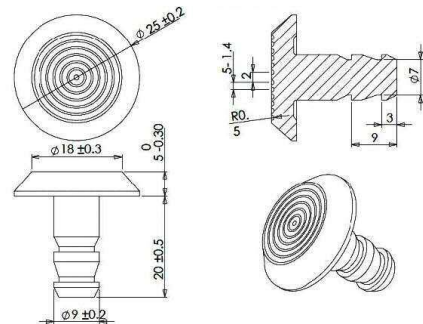
Photo 9. Close up damage to bench

Appendix 2.

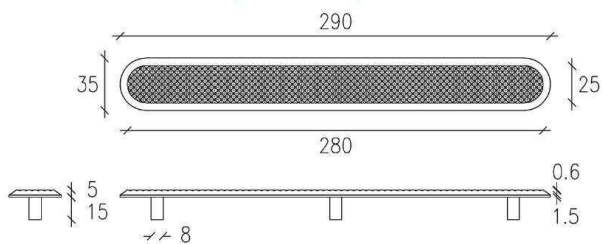
Materials

Tactile Stud M146 (TS1156)

Tactile indicator stud in Stainless Steel with grooved surface.
Marine grade 304 / 316 stainless steel 25 x 25 x 5mm



Tactile Bar M130 (TB5007B)



Tactile indicator strip
Grater Bar
Stainless Steel with
knurled surface.

290 x 35 x 5mm

