RLB | Rider Levett Bucknall

DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENT

Dalton Nuclear laboratory

The University of Manchester, Granby row, MANCHESTER

SEPT 2012

Prepared By:
Rider Levett Bucknall UK Limited | 8 Exchange Quay | Salford Quays | Manchester | M5 3EJ
T: +44 (0)161 868 7700 | F: +44 (0)161 868 7701

AUTHORISATION

This report has been prepared by:



Sam Bensky MRICS

CONTENTS **PAGE NO.**

1. INTRODUCTION 1
2. USE 1
3. AMOUNT 1
4. LAYOUT 1
5. SCALE 2
6. LANDSCAPING 2
7. APPEARANCE 2
8. ACCESS 2

1. INTRODUCTION

The Sackville Building was constructed late 19th and early 20th century. The listing entry number is 1247609.

The building is categorised as a grade II listed building. Sackville Street can be accessed via Fairfield Street coming of the Mancunian way and is approximately half a mile away from the centre of the city centre.

The Dalton Nuclear Institute which is within the basement of the Sackville building, provides the Nuclear AMRC with extensive manufacturing, testing and analytical research facilities. An £8 million expansion and upgrade of a disused laboratory in a listed building at The University of Manchester has been completed, creating a new world-class research facility. The works that form part of this Listed Building Application form the second phase of this upgrade, which is to create a 'Creep' Testing Laboratory, which must operate at a constant temperature of 21 degrees, with a fluctuation no greater than +/- 2 degrees.

2. USE

The building was purpose built as an educational facility and continues to perform this function to this day. The basement accommodates the Dalton Nuclear Institute, within which a number of teaching and office spaces are located within the basement accommodation, alongside areas dedicated to research; all of which house pieces of equipment similar to those proposed within the Creep Laboratory. The space proposed to be given over to form the Creep Laboratory is currently largely unused, with only isolated pieces of equipment stored within the space.

3. AMOUNT

The works primarily comprise the construction and installation of a new preformed partition to form a temperature controlled testing facility ,this new partition is to create a laboratory environment where the temperature within will not fluctuate any more than 2degrees above or below the required temperature. The partition will not follow the existing line of the current caged partition, instead it will be stepped into the room approximately 500mm to facilitate service space around the equipment housed within the room. It is proposed to use the same composite panel construction to return back into the gantry. It is proposed to surface fix the ceiling element of the partition into the front face of the gantry. The partition will feature a sliding door, and vision panels to allow visitors to watch experiments carried on within the Laboratory.

One essential element which will be retained, is the original glass block detail alongside the gantry this will be completely unaffected by the works. All adjacent elements walls/ceilings will be unaffected as part of the works.

4. LAYOUT

As shown on the drawings attached to the Listed Building Application, the general layout of the building will not be changed, although as mentioned above, the line of the existing caged partition will not be replicated.

5. SCALE

The scale of the development is in keeping with the policies and principles set out within the National Planning Policy Framework (Section 12). Upon studying the Listing Summary, reference is made to the construction of the building, and also the Architect responsible for the design. The building was originally constructed as an educational facility and this is not proposed to be changed as part of this application. Furthermore the construction details to which the listing refers will also remain unaffected as part of the works. The development set out within this application will not affect the significance of this building, furthermore it is felt that these works; which will rejuvenate a currently unused area of the building, further ensuring that the Sackville Street Building remains in use as originally proposed.

The size of the partition is approximately 10metres in length, and 2.7metres in height to tie into the existing gantry. The Creep Laboratory will occupy approximately 60m2 of the floor space in the basement, which totals 285m2.

6. LANDSCAPING

There are no amendments to the landscaping of the site.

7. APPEARANCE

The new partitioning system is to be Polyisocyanurate (PIR), which is a common material used to construct thermal partitions. The partitions will be self-finished, white in colour. The partition will be very similar in appearance to the room that houses laser equipment currently installed on the Mezzanine level, adjacent, and above the proposed Creep Laboratory.

8. ACCESS

Access to the site will not be altered as part of this project.