



Appendix I - Statutory List Description

John Rylands Library and attached railings, gates and lamp standards (Formerly Listed as: DEANS GATE Rylands Library)

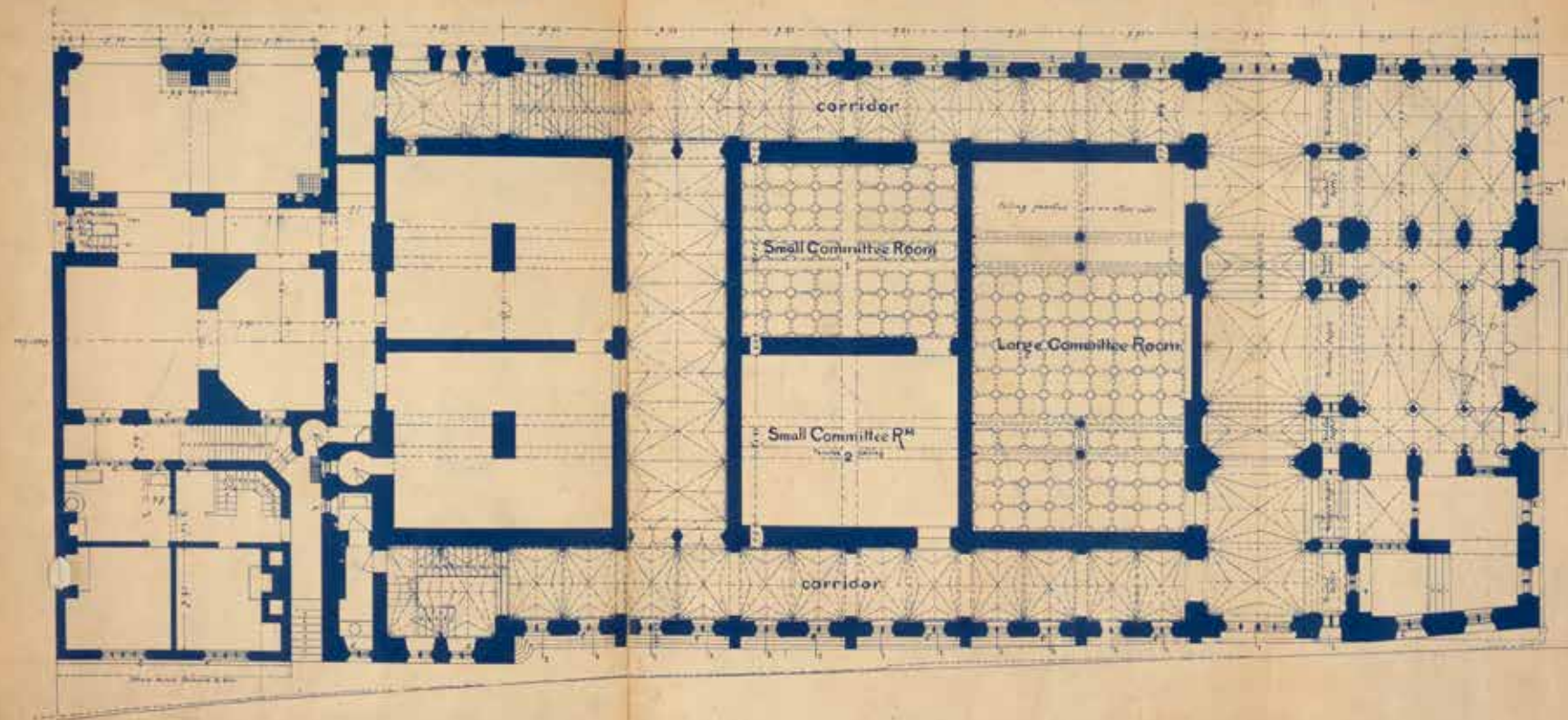
Grade I

Library. 1890-99, by Basil Champneys, for Enriqueta Augustina Rylands in memory of her husband; with back extension 1912, also by Champneys. Red sandstone (roof not visible). Rectangular plan at right-angles to street, plus back extensions. Decorated Gothic style with Arts and Crafts accent. Two unequal storeys with the appearance of 3 storeys, designed like a church raised on a crypt, the facade composed of a 2-storey 3-bay centre (like the gatehouse of a monastery) flanked by square 2-storey 2-bay wings, with an embattled parapet to the whole and large octagonal lanterns over the wings; and, set back behind these, the east window of the reading hall flanked by square towers. The centre has very elaborate Gothic decoration throughout, including a 2-centred arched portal containing coupled doorways with a trumeau, a tall 2-light window each side, 2 small canted oriels above the portal, lacy blind tracery on all surfaces enriched with finely-detailed carving, and open-work arched in the battlements; and the set-back 3-light east window of the hall has delicate reticulated tracery and shafts carried up to a similar open-work parapet. The walls of the wings and the towers, by contrast, are plain except for string courses enriched with grotesques: the wing to the left has tall transomed staircase windows at 1st floor with staggered sills, and low segmental-headed windows below these, that to the right has tall windows at ground floor and short ones above, and both have octagonal corner turrets with flying buttresses thrown back to the octagonal lanterns. The

lanterns have transomed 2-light windows, blind tracery and open-work battlements like those of the centre, and the towers behind them have slender octagonal corner turrets and small 2-light windows above the level of the octagons. Return sides in similar style. Fine bronze forecourt railings with central double gates flanked by lamp standards, all in Art Nouveau style. Interior: very fine vaulted entrance hall and winding vaulted staircase; church-like reading hall with much elaborate decoration, including traceried arcades, rib-vaulted ceiling, panelled reading alcoves with oriel windows, statues of John Rylands and Mrs Rylands, etc. History: built to house the theological library of John Rylands (leading textile manufacturer and philanthropist), subsequently augmented by purchase of other collections, and now one of the finest in the country.

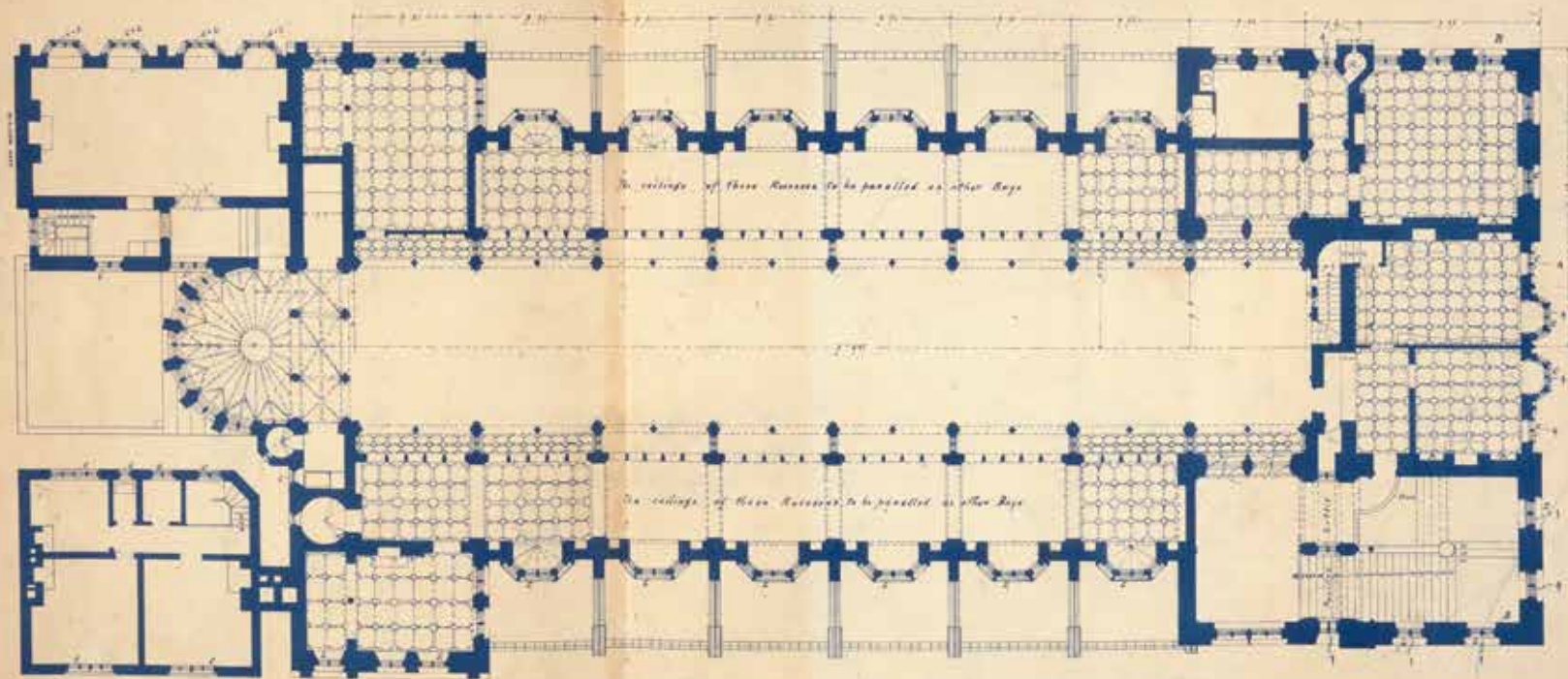


Appendix II – Historic Plans



GROUND FLOOR PLAN
Scale 1/8" = 1 foot

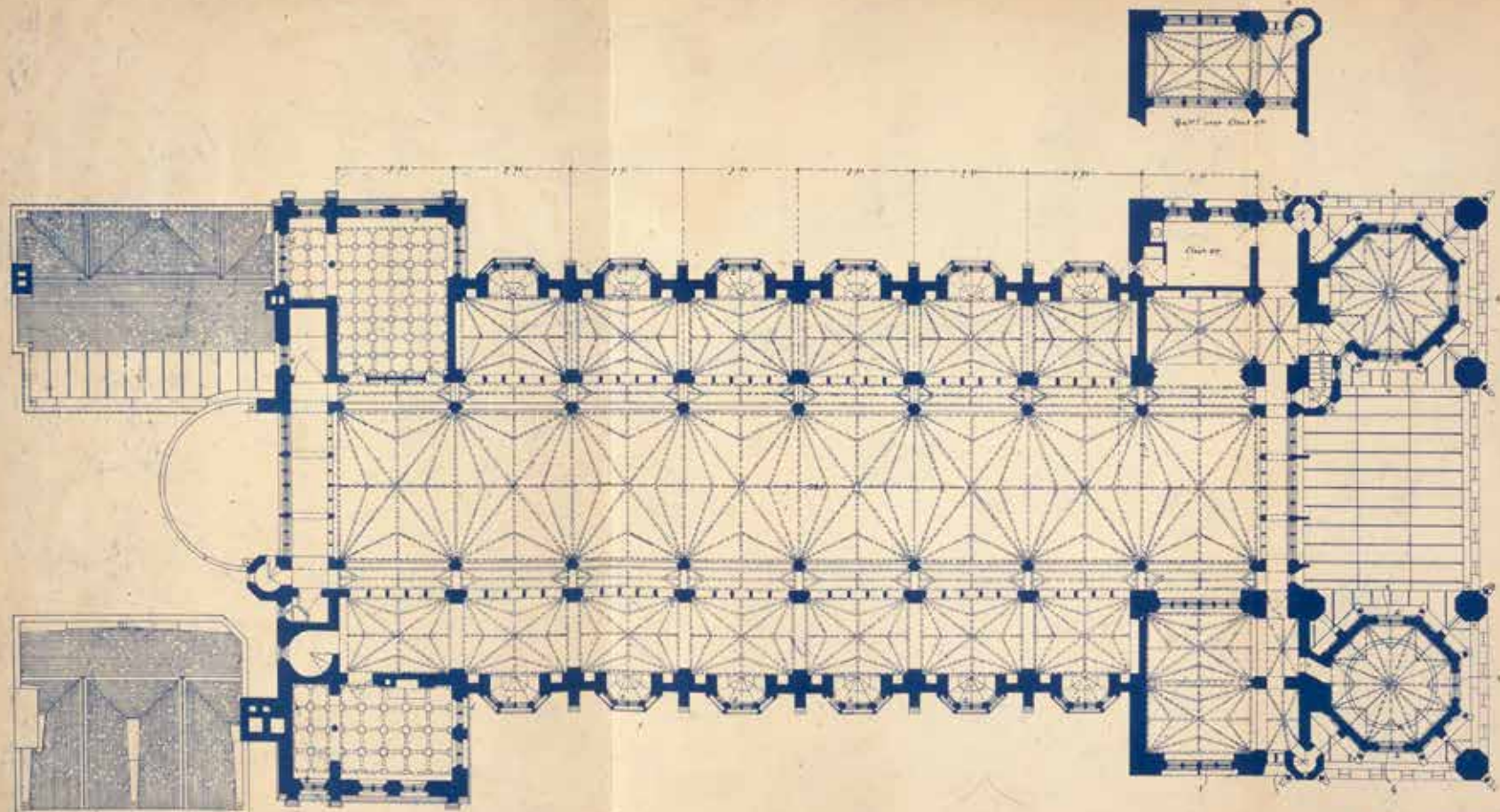
Barclay's Bank
13 Buckingham St.
London W.C.



Readers marked A
taken out in Corridor
B This approach wall
taken into Corridor
to be built 5-6

West Chomney's Arch?
19 Buckingham St
London W.C

LIBRARY PLAN - MAIN FLOOR
Scale 4 in to 1 foot



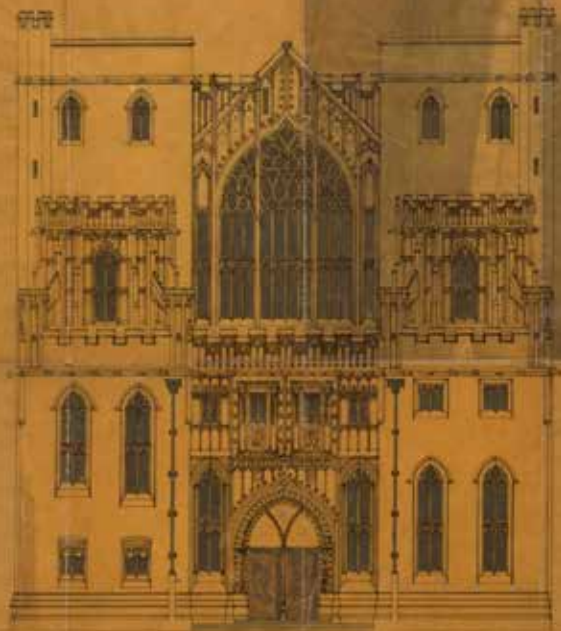
LIBRARY PLAN - GALLERY.
Scale 1/16" To 1'.

Booth Chapman & Associates
19 Buckingham St.
London W.C.



DEANSGATE

MANCHESTER.



Deansgate Elevation.

Scale 8" in to 1 ft

W. B. & L. J. 1851
Architects
Deansgate
Manchester



Appendix III: Gazetteer

Introduction

This Gazetteer is an updated version of the gazetteer within the Conservation Management Plan (2015) by Lloyd Evans Prichard. It provides a summary of each separate space within the building and the elevations, describing its historical evolution, key features and summarising significance. It should be read in conjunction with the full Assessment of Significance within this Heritage Impact Assessment, which contains the criteria for the significance levels.

Unless otherwise stated, all historic photos and architectural plans are reproduced from original archival items held by the University of Manchester Library Special Collections. At the time of writing (Summer-Autumn 2022) these were available publicly at <https://luna.manchester.ac.uk/luna/servlet>. All recent photographs are by Donald Insall Associates, as are the additions indicated by italics.

The gazetteer is arranged by floor, with room numbers for each floor identifiable by the prefixes below.

B2 = Basement Level 2
B1 = Basement Level 1
BM = Basement Mezzanine Floor
G = Ground Floor
F = First Floor
S = Second Floor
T = Third Floor
FF = Fourth Floor

Each section of the internal gazetteer starts with an overall floor plan and a significance plan. The rooms are numbered according to plans provided by the University of Manchester (with minor additions / updates).

Setting

The building lies within the Deansgate/ Peter Street Conservation Area in the City of Manchester. The area is largely commercial but also includes buildings dedicated to religious, public and entertainment uses. Deansgate is one of the principal streets in Manchester – running north-south – and features many prestigious Victorian buildings – many carried out in sandstone, red brick, terracotta or faience. The Rylands Library (Grade I) is a key landmark in the area and is exceptionally significant aesthetically for its distinctive architecture, and culturally for its fine collections. The street also features early-20th century commercial buildings in the Art Deco style and generally larger scale 20th and 21st century developments which form a distinct contrast to the historic properties through their style, scale and materials. Within the setting of the study site are following listed buildings:

- Elliot House, Grade II, 151 Deansgate
- Onward Buildings, Grade II, 205-209 Deansgate
- Royal London House, Grade II, 188-202 Deansgate
- Sunlight House, Grade, Quay Street

- Grade II Listed Buildings
- Grade I Listed Buildings
- Deansgate/Peter Street Conservation Area Boundary





View north along Brazenose Street



Wood Street Mission



129 Deansgate



2 Spinningfields Square



View west along Wood Street



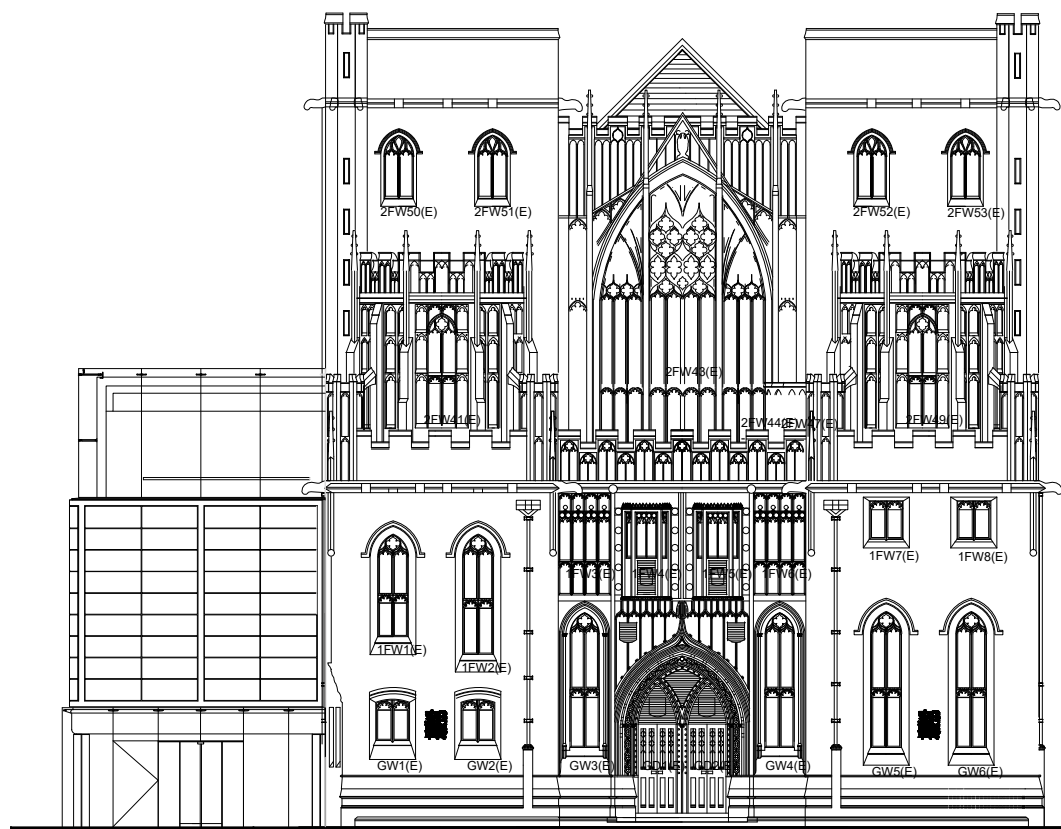
View looking south along Deansgate



Public space Spinningfields Square

Exteriors

Item: Exterior, Front, East Elevation



Item: Exterior, Front, East Elevation

Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1899

Current use: Building Envelope

Access: Public

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- 1890-99 building by Basil Champneys for Enriqueta Rylands
- Principal elevation to Deansgate

Surviving elements/form

- The entire elevation is clearly visible and has very few obvious alterations, closely resembling the appearance in 1900
- Ornate bronzed railings along the frontage are original and by Singers of Frome, like the interior ornamental metalwork

Later Adaptation

- The name of the building is inscribed in gold lettering on the wall to the right of the entrance, an addition of unknown date. Small mounts for notices and posters advertising events are affixed to the railings
- A notice informing visitors how to gain access to the building is affixed to the railings

Significance / Values

- 1899 fabric - exceptional significance for aesthetic, evidential, communal and historic value.
- Minor later adaptations - neutral significance

References

John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for the John Rylands Library, Deansgate' June 2000
1899 elevations

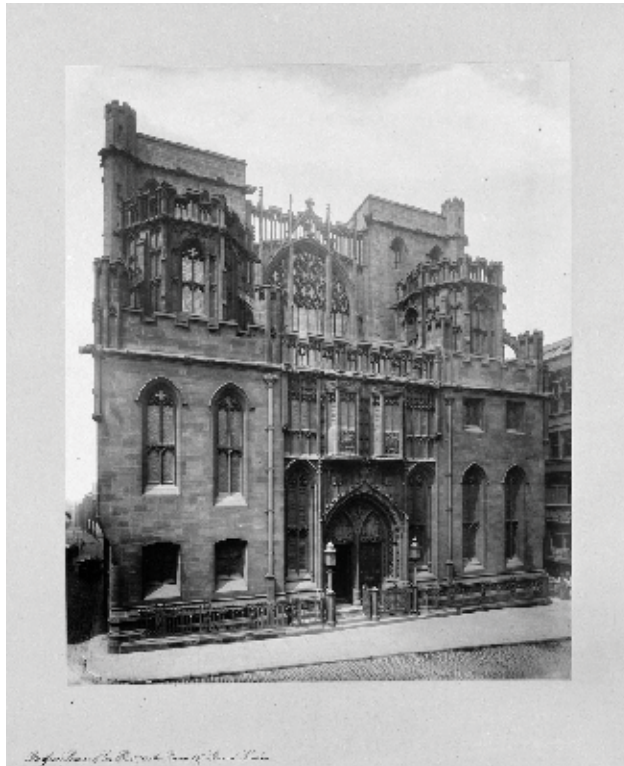
1900 photographs

Archival Images

[R15240 Print 1 (JRL021801bw), Deansgate elevation, 1900]

[Rylands Library Press Cuttings (JRL022688tr), Deansgate elevation, 1890]

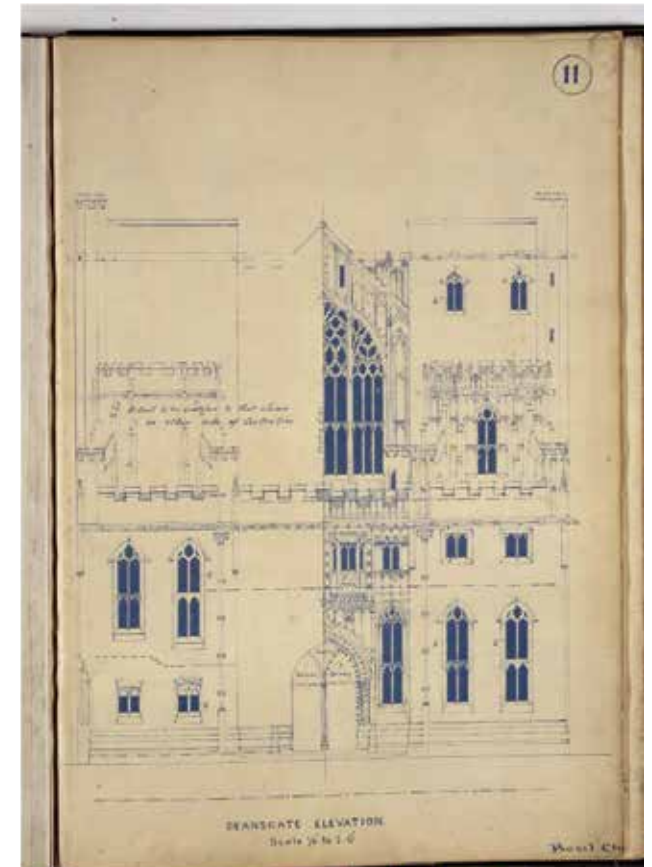
[JRL Archive Plan 11 (JRL022221tr), Deansgate elevation, 1890]



Deansgate elevation, 1900



Deansgate elevation, 1890



Deansgate elevation, 1890



Item: Exterior, North [Wood Street] Elevation

Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1899 and 1923-4

Current use: Building envelope

Access: Public

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- 1890-99 building by Basil Champneys for Enriqueta Rylands
- North elevation to Wood Street

Surviving elements/form

The entire elevation is clearly visible and the first phase elevation closely resembles the design drawing except that the westernmost bays have been altered and extended.

Later Adaptation

- Arched doorways in the westernmost bays of the original building have been turned into windows and the roof lacks the pair of gables shown in the design drawings
- The building was extended and altered in 1913-20 using matching materials. The elevation reflects the interior arrangement of a stair and lift
- Modern bars to windows at basement level
- 'No loading' signage
- Modern bollards and railings, not associated with the

building

- Modern grilles to windows
- Some late-20th century replacements to pavement lights

Significance / Values

- 1899 fabric - exception
- national significance for aesthetic, communal and historic value
- Extension: High significance
- Modern grilles etc. detract

References

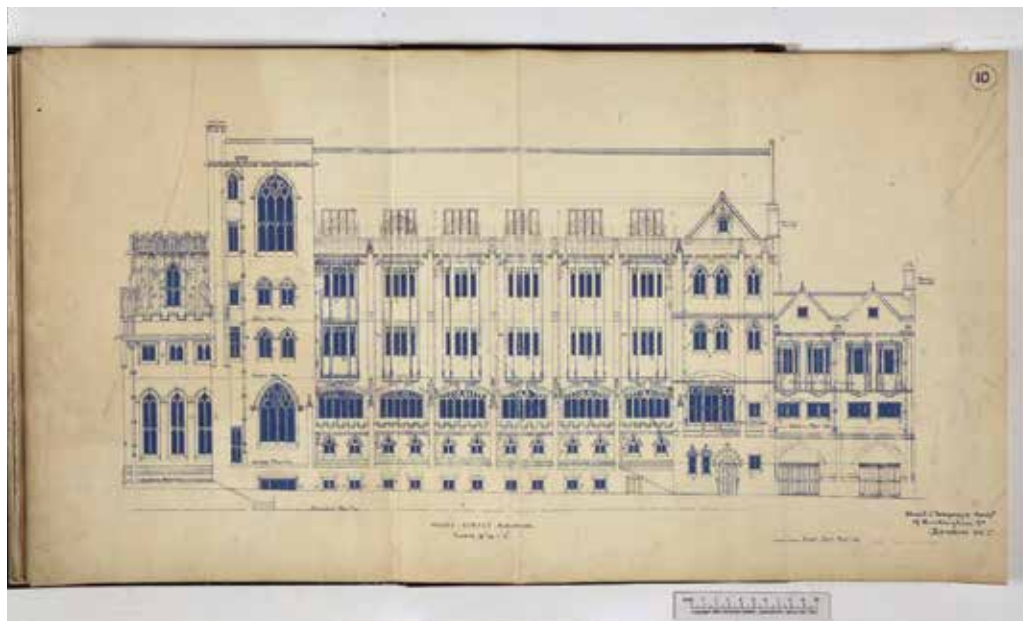
John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for the John Rylands Library, Deansgate' June 2000

1899 elevations

Archival Images

[JRL Archive Plan 10 (JRL022220tr), Wood Street elevation, 1890]

[JRL050409dc, Wood Street elevation, 2005]



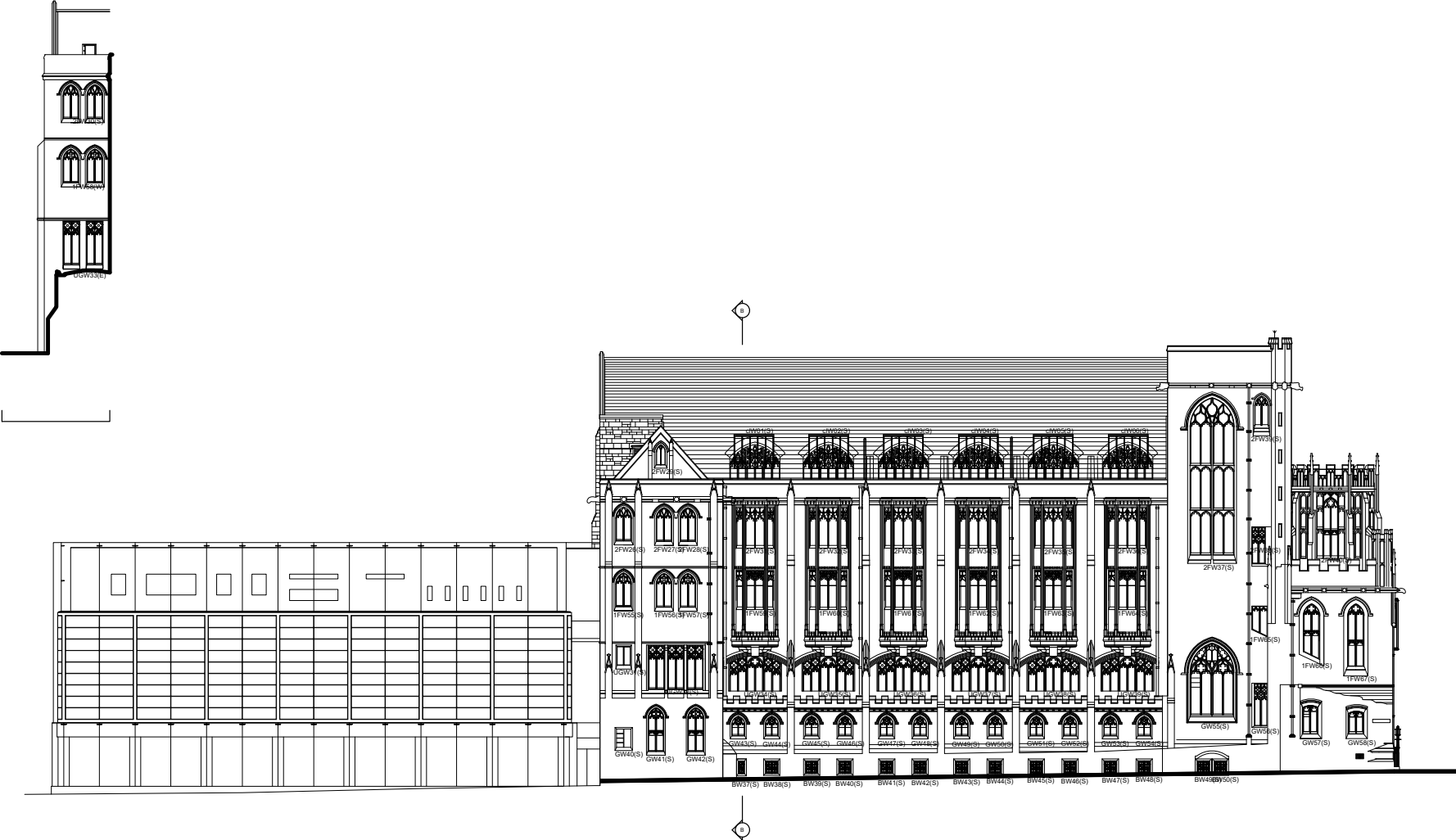
Deansgate elevation, 1890



Wood Street elevation, 2005



Item: Exterior, South [Spinningfield] Elevation



Item: Exterior, South [Spinningfield] Elevation

Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1899 and 2007

Current use: Building envelope

Access: Public

- Possible alteration of downpipes to run along flying buttresses
- Wiring and cables at roof level, probably associated with plant
- Kerb along base of building, associated with landscaping and public realm works

Significance / Values

- 1899 fabric - exceptional significance for architectural, communal and historic value
- Extension: neutral significance
- Modern light fittings, alarm boxes etc.: neutral or detracting

References

John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for the John Rylands Library, Deansgate' June 2000

1899 elevations

1900 photographs

Archival Images

[JRL Archive (JRL022687tr), Spinningfield elevation, 1890]

[JRL Archive Plan 9 (JRL022219tr), Spinningfield elevation, 1890]

[R12540 Print 3 (JRL021803bw), Spinningfield elevation, 1900]

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- 1890-99 building by Basil Champneys for Enriqueta Rylands
- South elevation to Spinningfield

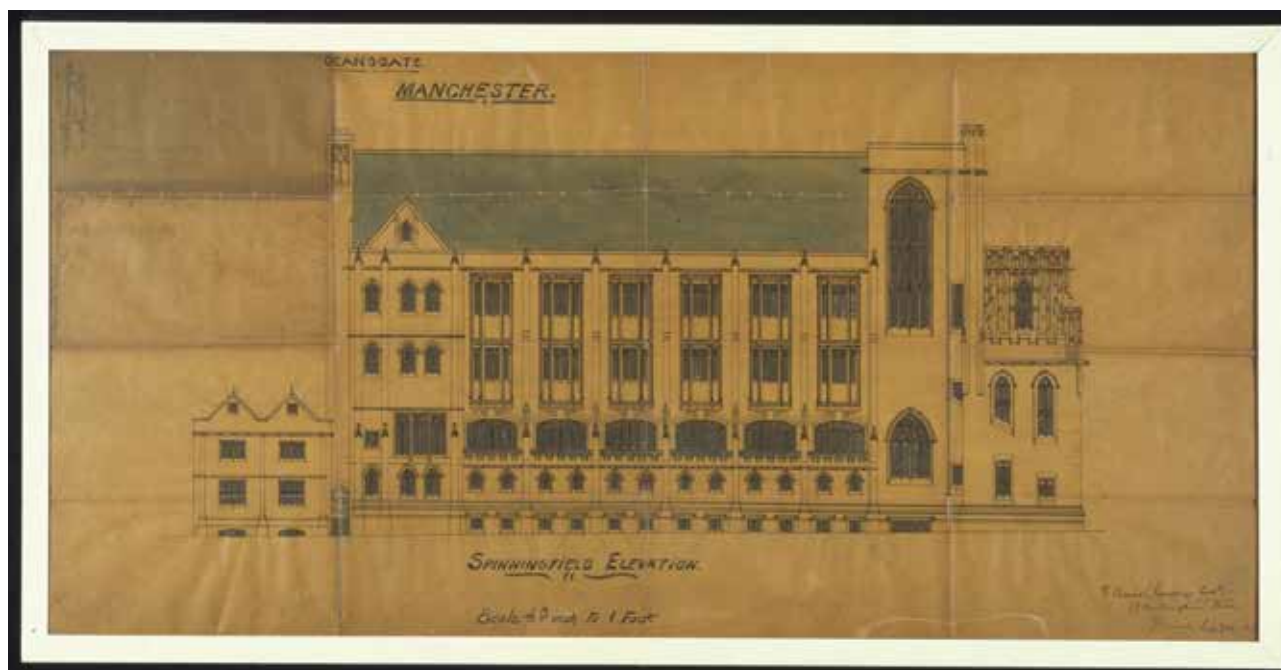
Surviving elements/form

- The entire elevation is clearly visible and the original work has few obvious alterations, closely resembling the appearance in 1900
- Spiral staircase off the octagon, running to roof level

Later Adaptation

The building was extended in 2007 in differing materials and style. The extension is set back from the line of the original elevation and clearly distinguished from it.

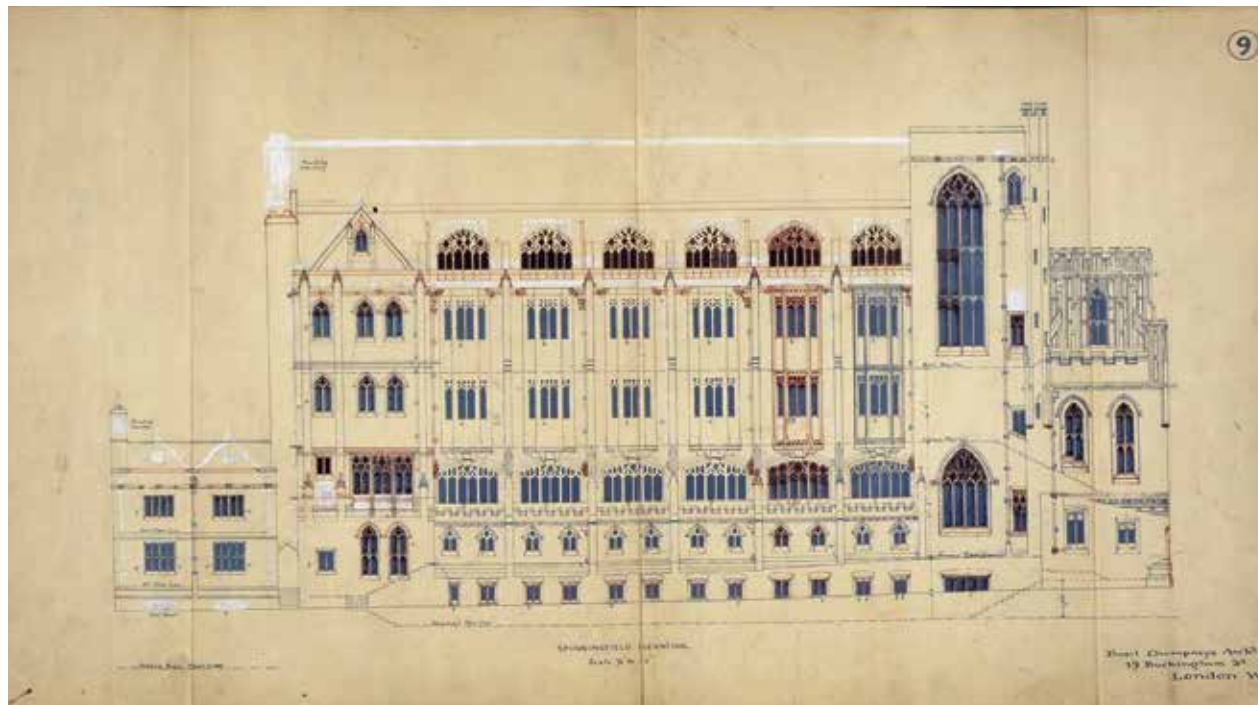
- Patch repairs to west side of south tower, in brick
- Modern bars to basement-level windows
- Modern lighting
- Intruder alarm box
- Security camera at interface of modern and historic buildings



Spinningfield elevation, 1890



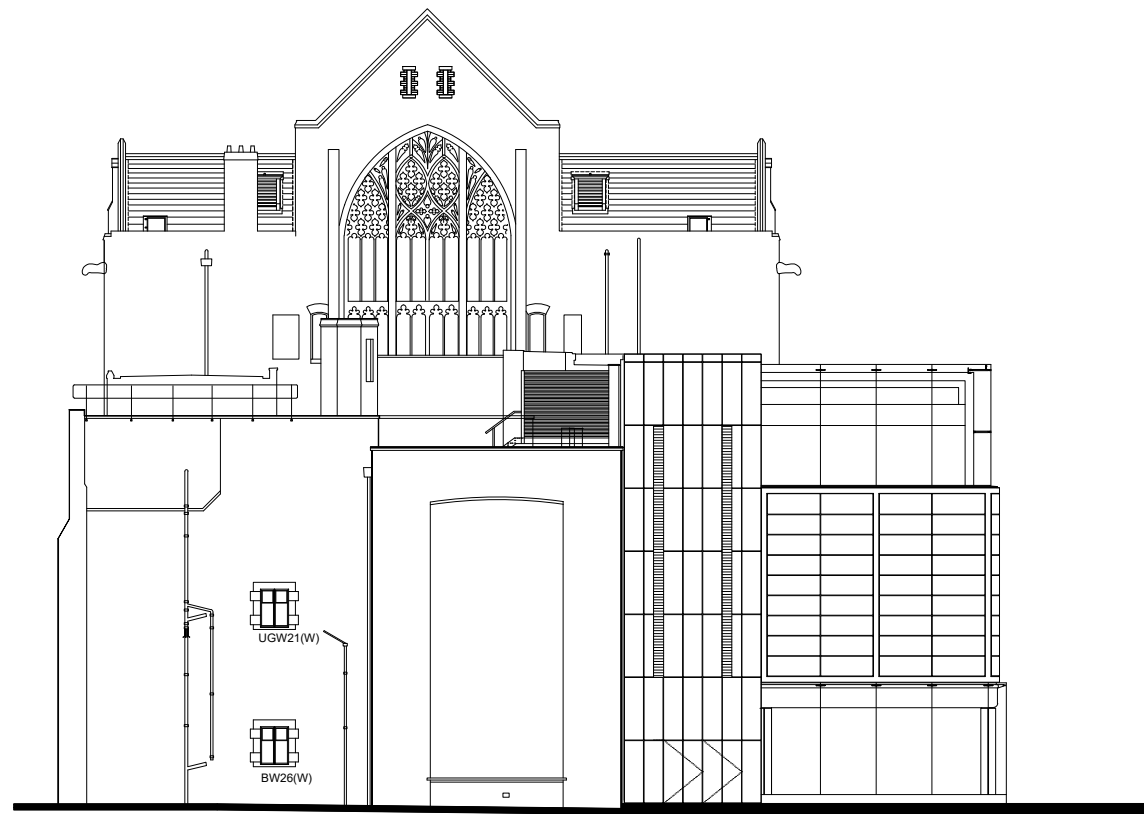
Spinningfield elevation, 1890



Spinningfield elevation, 1890



Item: Exterior, Rear, West Elevation



Item: Exterior, Rear, West Elevation

Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: circa 1920, 1960s, 2007

Current use: Building envelope

Access: Public

References

John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for the John Rylands Library, Deansgate' June 2000

Archival Images

[JRL Archive Plan 12 (JRL022222tr), Rear elevation, 1890]

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- The original work is obscured by later additions on this side

Surviving elements/form

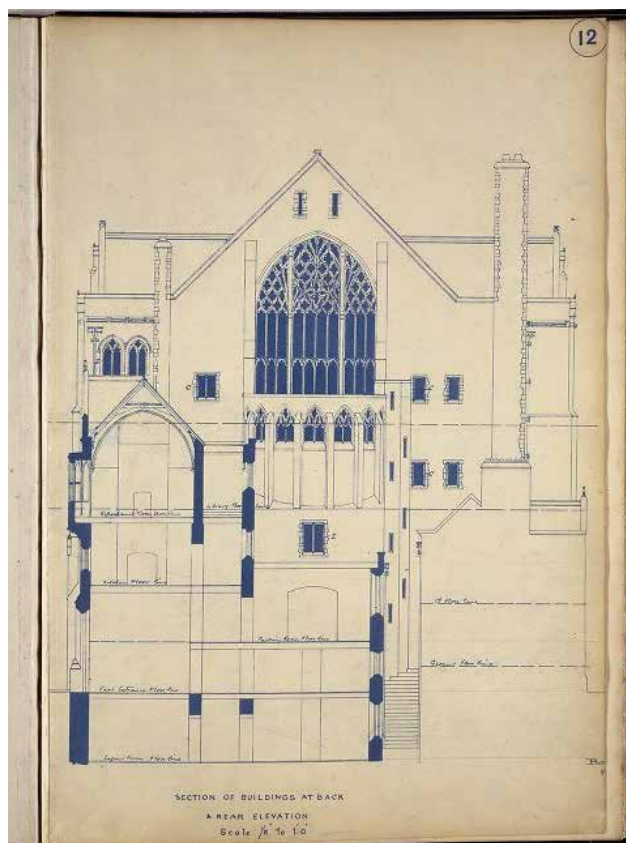
Nothing visible

Later Adaptation

- North side: the plastered rear wall of the 1913-24 phase, left like this to allow for further extension
- The brick Wolfson Building elevation of 1960s date
- The rear of the 2007 extension

Significance / Values

The 1920s work is unfinished to provide for unrealised extension and is of low or negative significance; 1960s rear elevation of low significance
2007 work of neutral significance



Rear elevation, 1890

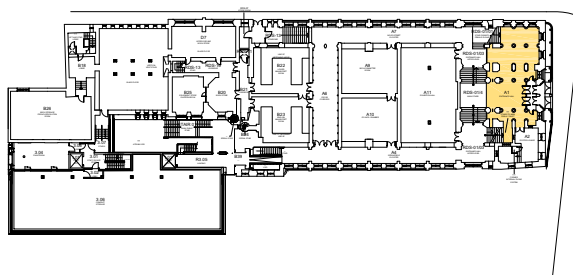


Interiors

Floor: First Floor

Item: Entrance Hall

Ref No: A1



Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1899

Current use: Circulation and exhibition

Access: Public

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- 1890-99 building by Basil Champneys for Enriqueta Rylands
- Designed as the public entrance to the library and executed on a grand scale with exceptionally free expression of architectural effect
- The space also acts as a circulation area connecting with the main porters' room and with access to the original public lavatories
- The space appears almost wholly as illustrated in photographs of 1900

Surviving elements/form

- Double-height volumes
- Draught lobby
- Lit by double-height windows and by light borrowed via the staircase
- Vaulted ceiling
- Exposed surfaces of stone throughout
- Includes a notable sculpture by John Cassidy commissioned for the space
- Services: Original fixtures include electroliers, electrical trunking, radiator grilles, etc.

Later Adaptation

Date: late C20

Insertion of sensors, fire alarm points, emergency lighting within the radiator grilles.

Date: 2007

The front entrance on Deansgate was superseded as the main entrance by a new entrance block in Spinningfield with loss of the primary function of the space.

Date: c.2016

New handrails to stairs

Significance / Values

- 1899 fabric - exceptional significance for aesthetic, communal and historic value. The space is one of the

most impressive of the building, with incorporation of fixtures of the highest quality and complex interaction of the circulation areas leading up to the Reading Room

- Minor later adaptations - neutral significance

References

John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for the John Rylands Library, Deansgate' June 2000

1899 floor plans

1900 photographs

Archival Images

[R15240 Print 4 (JRL021804bw), Main entrance, 1900]

[R15240 Print 5 (JRL021805bw), Entrance Hall (right), 1900]



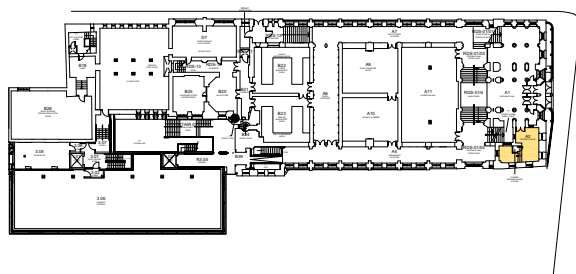
Main entrance, 1900



Entrance Hall (right), 1900



Floor: First Floor
Item: Porters' Lodge
Ref No: A2



Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1899

Current use: Porters' Room and storage

Access: Staff

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- 1890-99 building by Basil Champneys for Enriqueta Rylands
- Designed as the principal porters' lodge with direct access to the main entrance hall
- The space is divided by an area at slightly higher level on the south side, where the steps to the gents' lavatory lead down below. A window in the west wall lends light to that stair
- The space acted as a 'nerve centre' with a switchboard relating to the original internal telephone system, a voltmeter, etc.

Surviving elements/form

- Single height space, plastered, with exposed underside of main stair visible in the ceiling
- Arched doorway with original door to the main entrance hall
- Lit by windows with bullseye glass in exposed stone architraves
- Wood block floor, stone steps
- Remains of the original voltmeter
- Original clock by Batty of Manchester
- Probably original telephone kiosk
- Services: Original fixtures include electroliers, electrical trunking, plain radiator grilles, etc.
- Possibly original cleaners' area with Belfast sink
- Possibly original coat hooks with brass number plates

Later Adaptation

Date: 1913-24

Telephone switchboard

Date: Late C20

Insertion of modern electrical services, control boards, etc.

Date: 2007

The front entrance on Deansgate was superseded as the main entrance by a new entrance block in Spinningfield.

Thus the porters' room no longer acts as the first point of interaction between visitors and staff.

Significance / Values

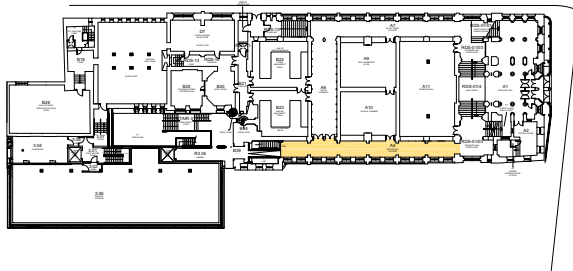
- 1899 fabric – exceptional significance for communal and historic value. This is an interesting example of porters' accommodation with good original fixtures and fittings including some of special interest to the original services and functioning of the building
- Minor later adaptations - neutral significance

References

John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for the John Rylands Library, Deansgate' June 2000
1899 floor plans



Floor: First Floor
Item: Spinningfield Cloister
Ref No: A4



Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1899

Current use: Circulation

Access: Public

- Exposed surfaces of stone throughout
- Decorative metalwork gates
- Services: Original fixtures include electroliers, radiator grilles, etc.

Later Adaptation

Date: 1970s

The gates to the cross corridor moved to the present position

Date: Late C20

Insertion of sensors, fire alarm points, emergency lighting, etc.

Date: 2007

Insertion of glass floor and connection to the extension (see B39)

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- 1890-99 building by Basil Champneys for Enriqueta Rylands
- Designed as a circulation area connecting principal spaces at first-floor level

Surviving elements/form

- Vaulted corridor with richly carved detailing including carved stone bosses
- Lit by small traceried windows with bullseye glazing

Significance / Values

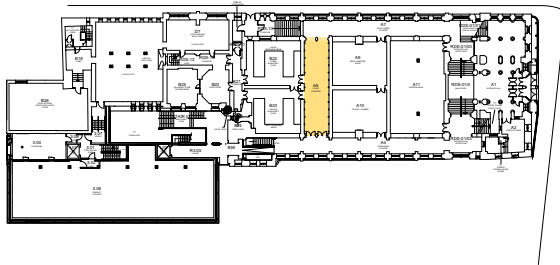
- 1899 fabric - exceptional significance for aesthetic, communal and historic value. The space is one of the principal public thoroughfares carefully executed and richly executed
- Minor later adaptations - neutral significance

References

John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for the John Rylands Library, Deansgate' June 2000
1899 floor plans



Floor: First Floor
Item: Cross Corridor
Ref No: A6



Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1899

Current use: Circulation and display

Access: Public

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- 1890-99 building by Basil Champneys for Enriqueta Rylands
- Designed to connect the Cloisters and give access to the Crawford and Spencer Rooms

Surviving elements/form

- Wide cross passage aligned north-south
- Accessed via pairs of pointed arched doors directly from the Cloisters, with bronze gates to south
- Stone floor laid to geometric pattern, coursed ashlar walls

- Stone 6-bay vaulted ceiling with moulded ribs and bosses
- Oak doors in arched panels lead to Spencer and Crawford Rooms (English Manuscript and Lower Manuscript Rooms)
- Services: Original fixtures include bronze wall lamps, four cast-iron radiator grilles etc.

Later Adaptation

Date: 2007

Insertion of sensors, spot lights, electrical sockets, display cases

Significance / Values

- 1899 fabric - exceptional significance for aesthetic, communal and historic value, as a high quality gothic revival space
- Minor later adaptations - neutral significance

References

John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for the John Rylands Library, Deansgate', June 2000

1899 floor plans

1900 photographs

Archival Images

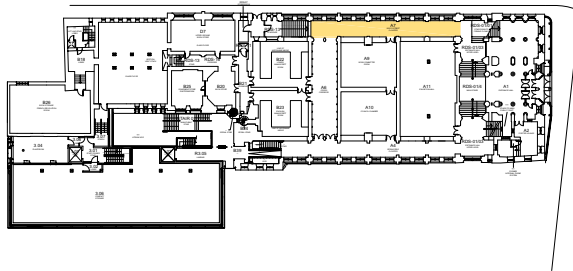
[R15240 Print 9 (JRL021809bw), Cross corridor, 1900]



Cross Corridor, 1900



Floor: First Floor
Item: Wood Street Cloister
Ref No: A7



Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1899

Current use: Circulation

Access: Public

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- 1890-99 building by Basil Champneys for Enriqueta Rylands
- Designed as a circulation area connecting principal spaces at first-floor level

Surviving elements/form

- Vaulted corridor with richly carved detailing including carved stone bosses
- Lit by small traceried windows with bullseye glazing

- Arched doorways to the Exhibition Hall and Book Committee Room
- Ironwork gates
- Exposed surfaces of stone throughout
- Services: Original fixtures include electroliers, radiator grilles, etc.

Later Adaptation

Date: 1970s

The ironwork gates to the cross corridor moved to the present position

Date: Late C20

Insertion of sensors, fire alarm points, emergency lighting within the radiator grilles security bars fitted to the windows.

Freestanding exhibition plinths

Significance / Values

- 1899 fabric - exceptional significance for architectural, communal and historic value. The space is one of the principal public thoroughfares carefully executed and richly executed to contrast with taller spaces of the main rooms
- Minor later adaptations - neutral significance
- Security bars - low significance

References

John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for

the John Rylands Library, Deansgate' June 2000
1899 floor plans
1900 photographs

Archival Images

[R15240 Print 8 (JRL021808bw), Wood Street cloister, 1900]



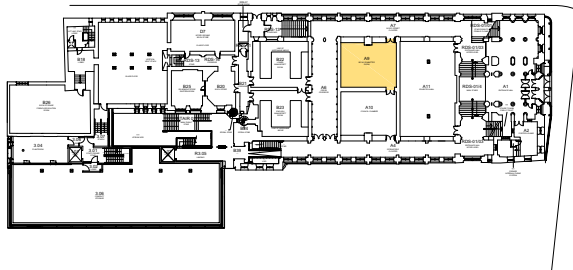
Wood Street Cloister, 1900



Floor: First Floor

Item: Book Committee/Education Room

Ref No: A9



Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1899

Current use: Education Room

Access: Mainly school visits

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- 1890-99 building by Basil Champneys for Enriqueta Rylands
- Designed as the Book Committee Room

Surviving elements/form

- Rectangular room entered from Wood Street Cloister and linked via double doors to A10 (similar design and form)
- Lit by two high-level 6-light traceried windows from the south, with stained glass by Kempe in the tracery

and traceried stone panels below

- oak (Polish) dado panelling to walls windows and linenfold panelling to high level
- Flat plaster ceiling with 17th century style moulded decoration, between oak beams
- Richly carved oak panelled arched doors with bronze fittings
- Services: Original fixtures include large bronze chandelier, bronze light switch panel, bronze radiator grilles and a clock by Stephen Kemp

Later Adaptation

Date: 2007

Insertion of sensors, track with spot lights, electrical sockets

Date: Unknown

- Insertion of ties to secure the curtain cords., insertion of laminate floor
- Modern soundproofing

Significance / Values

- 1899 fabric - exceptional significance for aesthetic, communal and historic value, as a high quality education room space
- Minor later adaptations - neutral significance

References

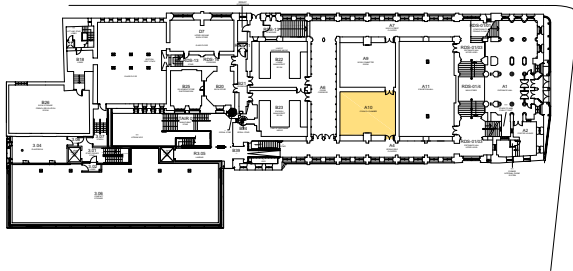
John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for the John Rylands Library, Deansgate', June 2000
1899 floor plans



Floor: First Floor

Item: Christie Room (Council Chamber)

Ref No: A10



Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1899

Current use: Meeting room and events

Access: Public

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- 1890-99 building by Basil Champneys for Enriqueta Rylands
- Designed as the Council Chamber

Surviving elements/form

- Rectangular room entered from Spinningfield Cloister and linked via double doors to A9 (similar design and form)
- Lit by two high-level 6-light traceried windows from the south, with stained glass by Kempe, traceried

stone panels below

- Oak block floor, oak (Polish) dado panelling to walls windows and linenfold panelling to high level
- Flat plaster ceiling with 17th century style moulded decoration, between oak beams
- Richly carved oak panelled arched doors with bronze fittings
- Fitted oak cupboards with bevelled glass doors, and sets of drawers to west wall
- Services: Original fixtures include large bronze chandelier, bronze light switches, bronze radiator grilles, clock by Stephen Kemp on east wall
- Loose furnishings – 1899 oak chairs and tables

Later Adaptation

Date: 2007

Insertion of sensors, track with spotlights, electrical sockets

The clockface has been covered or removed

Significance / Values

- 1899 fabric - exceptional significance for aesthetic, communal and historic value, as a high quality meeting room space
- Minor later adaptations - neutral significance / detracting

References

John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for

the John Rylands Library, Deansgate', June 2000

1899 floor plans

1900 photographs

Archival Images

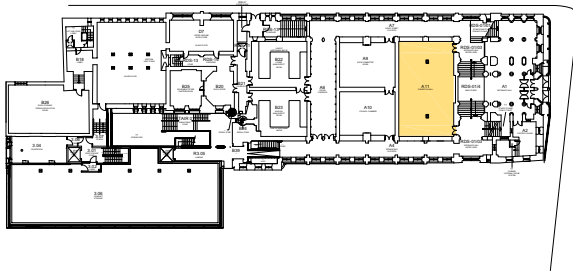
[R15240 Print 27 (JRL021827bw), Council Chamber, 1900]



Council Chamber, 1900



Floor: First Floor
Item: Exhibition Hall
Ref No: A11



Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1899

Current use: Exhibition

Access: Public

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- 1890-99 building by Basil Champneys for Enriqueta Rylands
- Named as a conference room or large Committee Room in archival records, also described and originally laid out as a lecture hall

Surviving elements/form

- Divided into three unequal bays by a pair of arcaded stone screens with paired columns and arches with traceried soffits
- Lit by windows set high in the walls with stained glass

by Kempe in the tracery

- Accessed via a door from each side of the upper entrance hall
- Block wood floor and three-quarter height panelling, exposed stone above
- Flat ribbed ceiling with moulded plasterwork decoration
- Original features include a clock in a decorative timber surround and a very elaborate timber canopy
- Services: Original fixtures include electroliers, consoles with light switches, radiator grilles, etc.

Later Adaptation

Date: 1992

Lecturers' podium beneath canopy removed 1992.

Date: 1992

Modern trunking inserted

Date: Late C20

Insertion of sensors, fire alarm points, emergency lighting within the radiator grilles, electrical sockets etc. The room is fitted with free-standing exhibition cases.

Date: C21

Fire extinguishers

Significance / Values

- 1899 fabric - exceptional significance for aesthetic, communal and historic value. The space represents a very richly decorated room with fixtures of the highest quality
- Non-matching replacement stays for blind cords negative significance
- Minor later adaptations - neutral significance

References

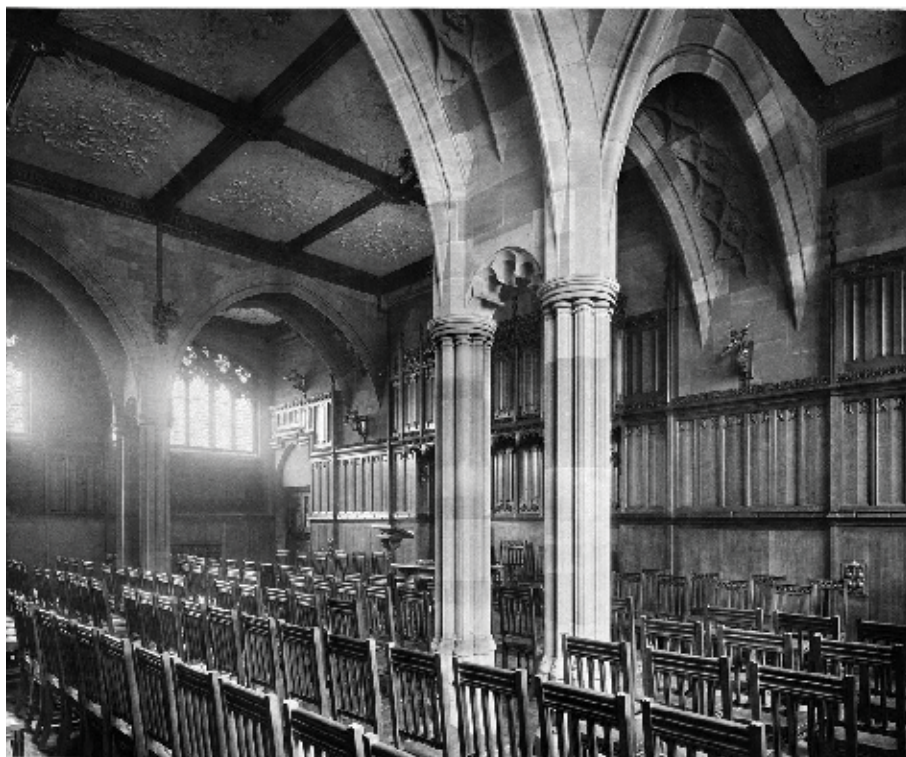
John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for the John Rylands Library, Deansgate' June 2000

1899 floor plans

1900 photographs

Archival Images

[R15240 Print 28 (JRL021828bw), Conference Room, 1900]

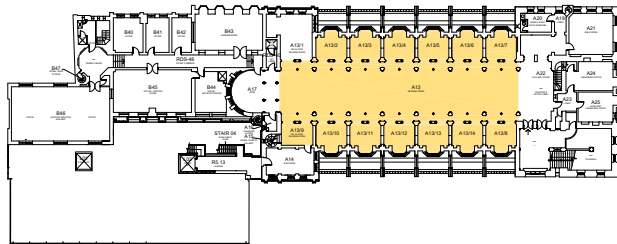


Conference Room, 1900





Floor: Third Floor
Item: Reading Room
Ref No: A13



Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1899

Current use: Reading room and exhibition

Access: Public

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- 1890-99 building by Basil Champneys for Enriqueta Rylands
- Designed as the principal public space of the building and executed on a grand scale with a complex iconography and exceptionally free expression of architectural effect

Surviving elements/form

- A double height space flanked by galleries on two levels. These provide a complex architectural

interplay as a counterpoint to the soaring main space

- Lit by very large traceried windows at each end with stained glass by Kempe
- Aisle bays lit by a canted bay windows with bullseye glass
- Arcades and vaulted ceilings of exposed stone, including upper gallery ceilings and pierced balustrade
- Aisle alcove ceilings are flat with timber ribs and plasterwork decoration (lower level)
- Wood block floor
- Original fixed bookcases
- Services: Original fixtures include wall mounted electroliers and pendant lamps, highly decorative radiator grilles to twelve different designs, decorative metalwork gate to stairs
- The east end of the space gives to librarian and other specialist accommodation and circulation to upper areas
- The west end is apsidal (A17) and is also a focus of circulation. Doors lead off on the north side and on the south side there is a cleaner's cupboard (A16) and spiral stair to cellar Another stone spiral stair (A15) with elaborate metalwork gate leads up to the upper gallery
- Statuary designed for the space by John Cassidy and Robert Bridgman
- Original furnishings including exhibition cases, reading desks and bookcases in the alcoves

Later Adaptation

Date: Circa 1920s

Lift (RDS 40) inserted with door to the reading room

Date: Late C20

Insertion of sensors, fire alarm points, emergency lighting within the radiator grilles, etc.

Date: 2007

Public circulation was changed so that visitors now arrive through the west end of the room via the Map Room.

Date: Unknown

Some doors retain faded gilded lettering denoting use, it is not known when this was introduced.

Date: C21

Fire extinguishers.

Significance / Values

- 1899 fabric - exceptional significance for aesthetic, communal and historic value. The space is the culmination of the grand entrance sequence with incorporation of fixtures, statuary and glass of the highest quality
- Minor later adaptations - neutral significance

References

John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for the John Rylands Library, Deansgate' June 2000

1899 floor plans

1900 photographs

Archival Images

[R15240 Print 14 (JRL021814bw), Reading Room, 1900]

[R15240 Print 15 (JRL021815bw), Reading Room, 1900]

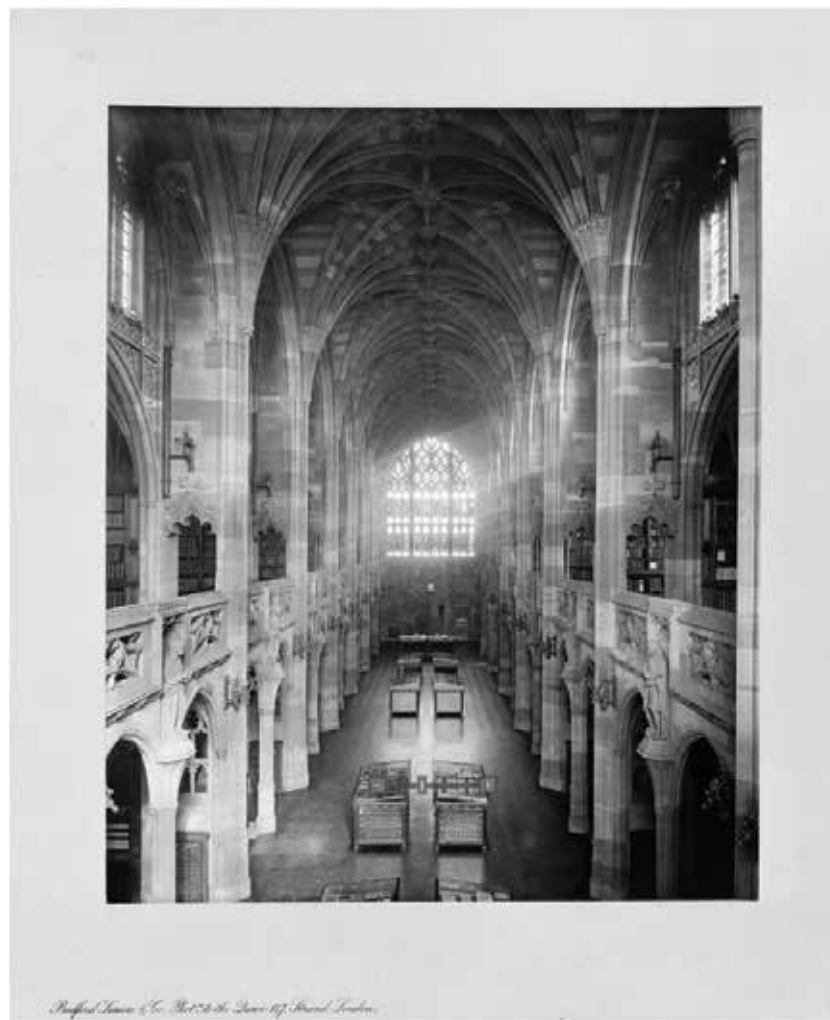
[R15240 Print 18 (JRL021818bw), Reading Room, 1900]



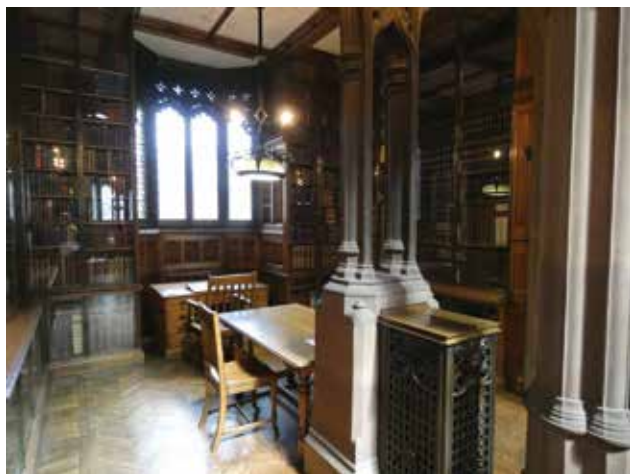
Reading Room, 1900



Reading Room, 1900



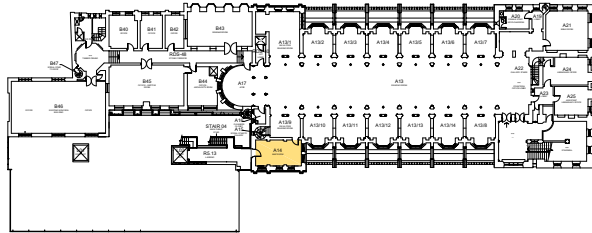
Reading Room, 1900



Floor: Third Floor

Item: Map Room

Ref No: A14



Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1899

Current use: Exhibition, collections and circulation

Access: Public

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- 1890-99 building by Basil Champneys for Enriqueta Rylands
- Named as Map Room on archive plans

Surviving elements/form

- Lit by traceried windows with bullseye glass and sparing stained glass by Kempe in the tracery lights
- Accessed via a door directly from the Reading Room and another to the 2007 extension
- Wood block floor and linenfold panelling

- Flat ribbed ceiling with moulded plasterwork decoration
- Full-height fitted shelves, north and west sides, map chests with traceried fronts beneath the windows, south and east sides, all purpose built for the room
- Services: Original fixtures include bronze pendant lamps and switches

Later Adaptation

Date: Late C20

Insertion of sensors, fire alarm points, electrical sockets etc.

Date: 2007

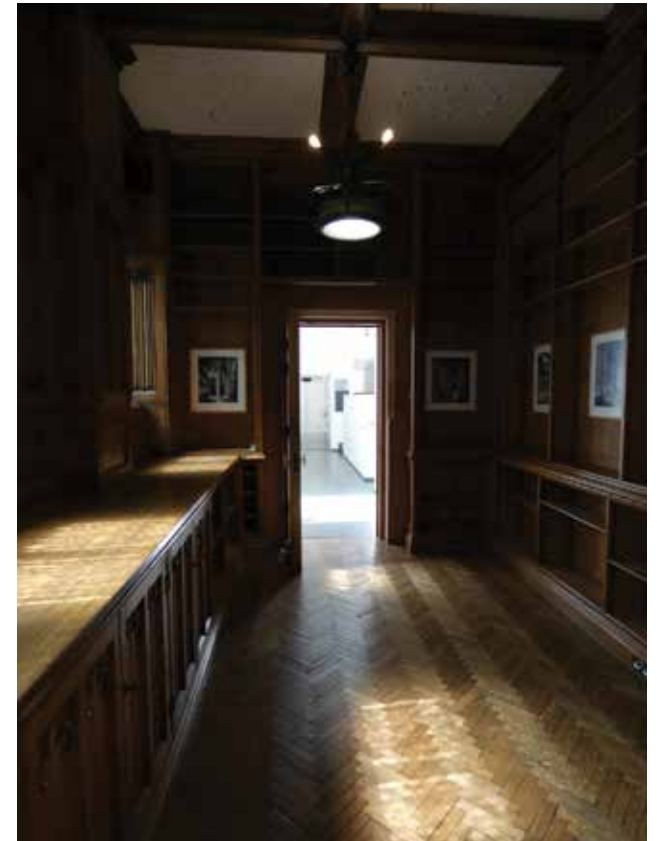
Creation of door in the west wall to connect with the new work on this side and provide a point of access to this level for visitors so the space is experienced primarily as a circulation area

Significance / Values

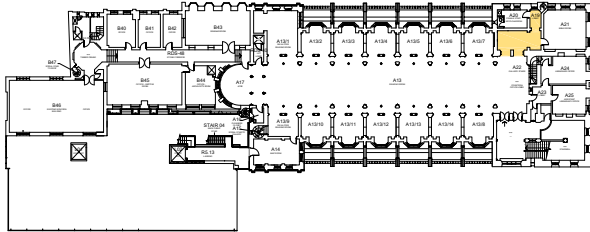
- 1899 fabric - exceptional significance for aesthetic, communal and historic value. The space represents a richly decorated room with fixtures of high quality
- Minor later adaptations - neutral significance
- 2007 doorway - neutral significance

References

John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for the John Rylands Library, Deansgate' June 2000
1899 floor plans



Ref No: A19



Access: Staff

- Oak panelled doors in moulded stone architraves
- Herringbone oak block floor
- Decorative flat plaster ceiling divided into compartment by oak beams
- Fittings: Oak desk and counter for library staff
- Services: pair of bronze and glass pendant lamps with Art Nouveau styling

Significance / Values

- 1899 fabric - exceptional significance for aesthetic, communal and historic value, as part of the Reading Room

References

John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for
the John Rylands Library, Deansgate', June 2000
1899 floor plans

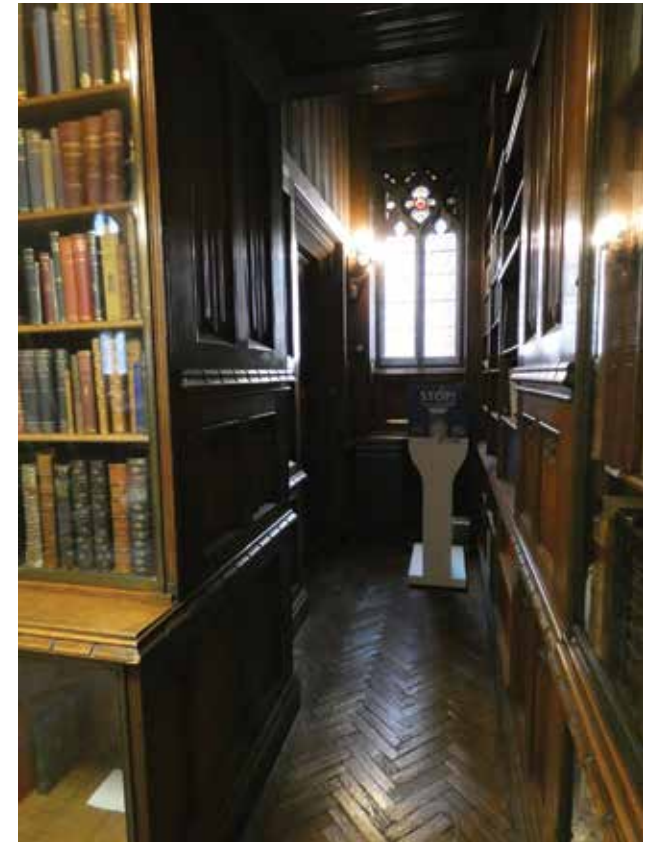
History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- 1890-99 building by Basil Champneys for Enriqueta Rylands
- Designed as lobby serving the Bible Room (A21) and private staff WC (A20)

Surviving elements/form

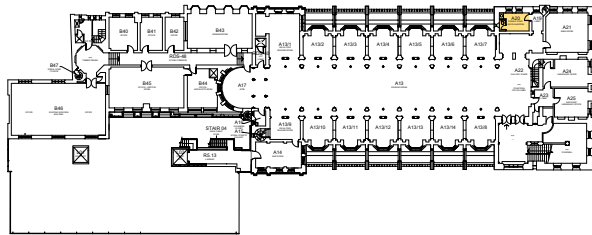
- L-plan lobby space off NE end of Reading Room
- Pair of pointed arches to south side from Reading Room
- Full-height oak book presses to N and W walls, with bronze and glass doors



Floor: Third Floor

Item: Staff Ladies Cloakroom

Ref No: A20



Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1899

Current use: Ladies WC

Access: Staff

- Herringbone oak block floor
- Flat plaster ceiling
- Services: Original fixtures include bronze radiator grille, marble sink top with later porcelain sink with brass taps, pine cistern with original product name 'HAWK', lead pipes and porcelain WC bowl with wooden seat. Fire-fighting hoses mounted on oak panel

Later Adaptation

Surface-mounted services, e.g. the towel dispenser

Significance / Values

- 1899 fabric - high significance for aesthetic, communal and historic value, as a high quality ancillary space
- Minor later adaptations - neutral significance

References

John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for the John Rylands Library, Deansgate', June 2000
1899 floor plans
1900 photographs

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- 1890-99 building by Basil Champneys for Enriqueta Rylands
- Designed as a private WC for library staff

Surviving elements/form

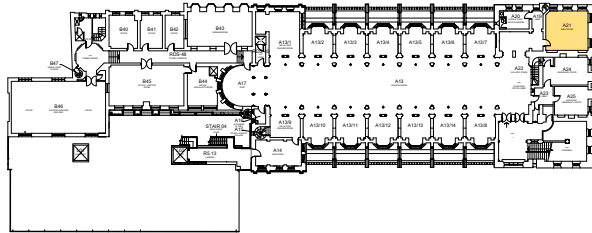
- Rectangular room entered from lobby A19, with WC cubicle to SW corner
- Oak panelled doors, full-height oak tongue and grooved lining to partition and walls
- Lit by 2-light gothic windows from the north



Floor: Third Floor

Item: Bible Room

Ref No: A21



Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1899

Current use: Reading room

Access: Staff

- Inner ashlar wall is arcaded so that the ceiling plan is octagonal
- Oak panelled door from A19 in moulded stone architrave
- Herringbone oak block floor
- Decorative flat plaster ceiling divided into compartment by oak beams
- Fittings: Two-tier oak book presses to all walls, with bronze and glass doors, linenfold panelling and brattishing to top rails - purpose-designed for bible collection
- Services: bronze chandelier with Art Nouveau styling, surface-mounted metal conduit
- Furnishings: oak rectangular table and chairs

Significance / Values

- 1899 fabric and fittings - exceptional significance for aesthetic, communal and historic value, as part of the Reading Room

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- 1890-99 building by Basil Champneys for Enriqueta Rylands
- Designed to house an exceptional collection of bibles, the room occupies the NE corner of the Reading Room floor. Original use continues

Surviving elements/form

- Square room it from north and east by 2-light gothic windows with glass roundels.

References

John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for the John Rylands Library, Deansgate', June 2000
1899 floor plans
1900 photographs

Archival Images

[R15240 Print 24 (JRL021824bw), Bible Room, 1900]



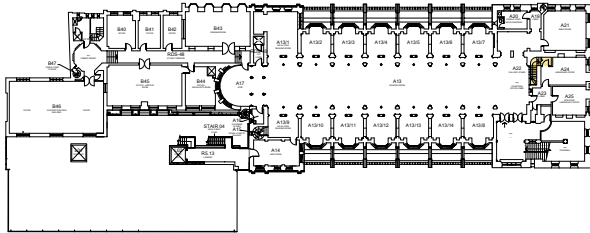
Bible Room, 1900



Floor: Third/Fourth Floor

Item: Gallery Stairs

Ref No: A22 / RDS-44



Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1899

Current use: Circulation

Access: Staff

is by means of small traceried windows.

- Lit by foiled mullioned-and-transomed windows with bullseye glass
- Lit by original electroliers, elaborate metalwork gate to entrance
- Conduit

Significance / Values

- 1899 fabric - exceptional significance for aesthetic, communal and historic value. An example of a small space given highly elaborate decorative treatment
- Minor later adaptations - neutral significance

References

John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for the John Rylands Library, Deansgate' June 2000
1899 floor plans

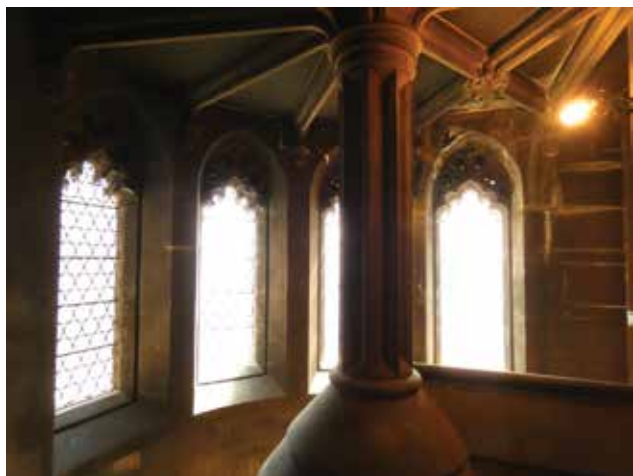
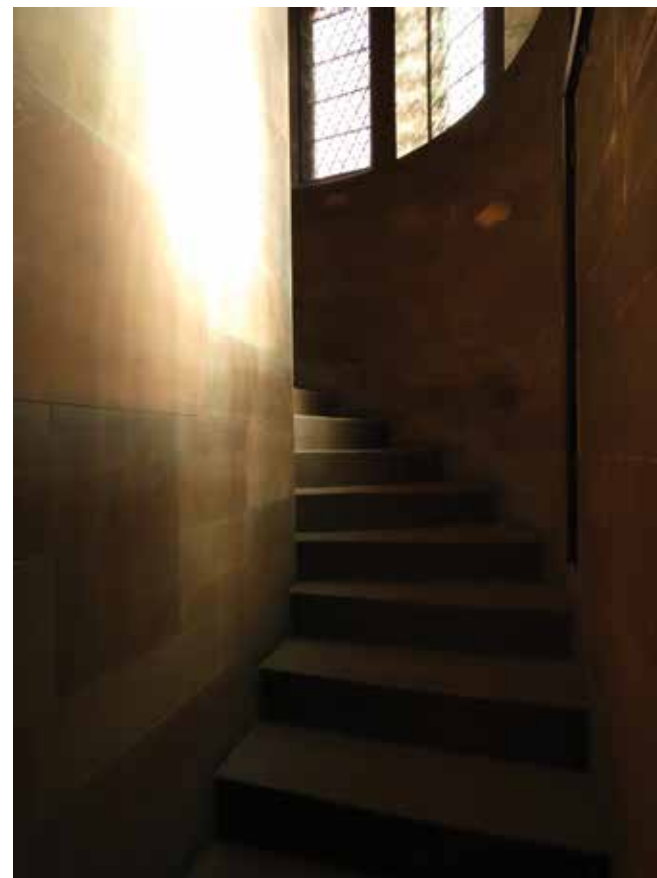
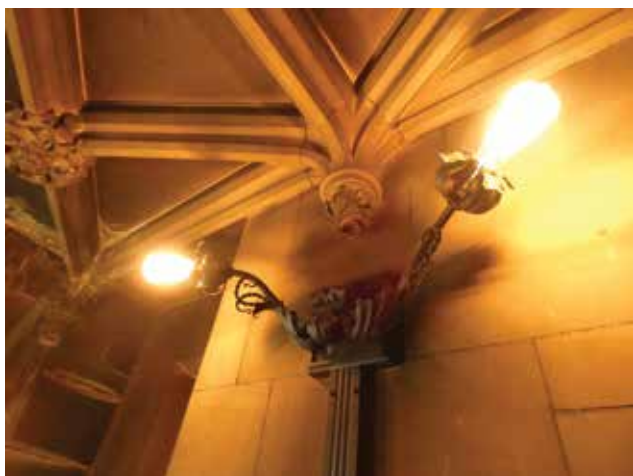
History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- 1890-99 building by Basil Champneys for Enriqueta Rylands
- Gives access to the upper reading room galleries and ancillary rooms

Surviving elements/form

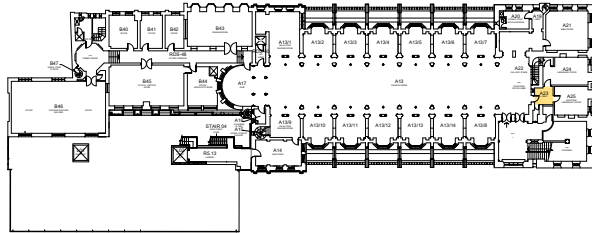
- Accessed via an opening in the stone screen at the east end of the Reading Room
- Rises to fourth floor level where the central newel is extended to support a vaulted ceiling and the lighting



Floor: Third Floor

Item: Lobby

Ref No: A23



Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1899

Current use: Lobby

Access: Staff

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- 1890-99 building by Basil Champneys for Enriqueta Rylands
- Designed with rich decorative details and fittings, as a waiting area and lobby serving the offices of the Librarians (A24 and A25)

Surviving elements/form

- Small rectangular space behind the library counter at the east end of the Reading Room, also entered from the principal staircase landing, via a door and side lobby from the south

- Oak panelled doors lead north, south, west and east, set in full-height oak panelling
- Herringbone oak block floor
- Flat plaster ceiling with 17th century style moulded details and oak cornice to east side, oak panelled soffit to west side.
- Fittings: fitted oak bench with curved end against west wall, oak key cupboard and oak cloakroom board with brass number plates and hooks for disc tokens
- Services: bronze and glass pendant lamp with Art Nouveau styling; bronze electric switches

Later Adaptation

Date: Circa 1920

Brass telephone to N wall

Date: Late C20

Sensors, etc.

Late 20th century light panel or switchboard

Significance / Values

- 1899 fabric and fittings – high significance for aesthetic, communal and historic values as part of a suite of spaces designed for senior library staff, with high quality decorative finishes and original fittings

References

John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for

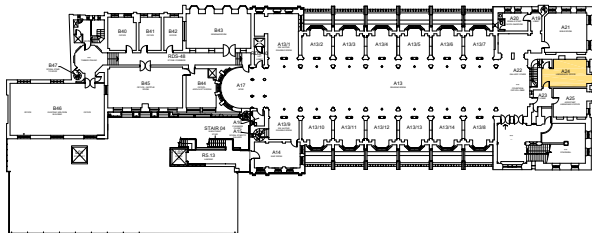
the John Rylands Library, Deansgate', June 2000

1899 floor plans

1900 photographs



Floor: Third Floor
Item: Librarian's Office
Ref No: A24



Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1899

Current use: Office

Access: Staff

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- 1890-99 building by Basil Champneys for Enriqueta Rylands
- Designed with rich decorative details and fittings for the office of the Librarian; one of a pair (with A25) of high status offices

Surviving elements/form

- Rectangular room lit from east by a 2-light gothic window set in an arched reveal and an oriel window to its south, both with gothic lights (all glazed with

glass roundels)

- Oak panelled door from A23
- Herringbone oak block floor
- Flat plaster ceiling with moulded details and oak cornice
- Fittings: open oak book shelves to N, S and W walls, above fitted drawers with bronze handles; fitted oak table within oriel; panel on N wall contains portrait of 2nd Earl Spencer who assembled the Spencer collection (copy of 1829 painting, dated 1893); Chatwood's safe built into NW corner of room adjacent to small walk-in cupboard
- Services: bronze and glass pendant lamp with Art Nouveau styling (as in A25); bronze radiator case below north window; original telephone in oak case, and buzzers mounted on wall next to safe

Significance / Values

- 1899 fabric and fittings - exceptional significance for aesthetic, communal and historic values as one of the finest staff rooms in the Library, with a lavish set of fittings that include a portrait of 2nd Earl Spencer integrated into the panelling

References

John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for the John Rylands Library, Deansgate', June 2000
1899 floor plans
1900 photographs

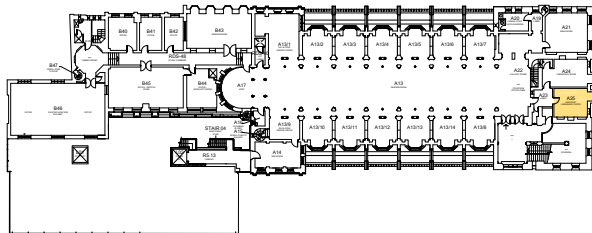




Floor: Third Floor

Item: Assistant Librarian's Office

Ref No: A25



Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1899

Current use: Office

Access: Staff

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- 1890-99 building by Basil Champneys for Enriqueta Rylands
- Designed with rich decorative details and fittings for the office of the Sub-Librarian, a high status member of staff

Surviving elements/form

- Rectangular room lit from east by a 2-light gothic window set in an arched reveal and an oriel window to its north, both with gothic lights (all glazed with glass roundels)

- Oak panelled door from A23 in with glazed top panels
- Herringbone oak block floor
- Flat plaster ceiling with moulded details and oak cornice
- Fittings: open oak book shelves to N, S and W walls, above fitted drawers with bronze handles and a small fitted safe; fitted oak table within oriel
- Services: bronze and glass pendant lamp with Art Nouveau styling (as in A24); bronze radiator case below south window

Later Adaptation

Date: Late C20

Insertion of sensors, electrical sockets, etc.

Significance / Values

- 1899 fabric and fittings - exceptional significance for aesthetic, communal and historic values as one of the finest staff rooms in the Library, with a lavish set of fittings

References

John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for the John Rylands Library, Deansgate', June 2000
1899 floor plans

Archival Images

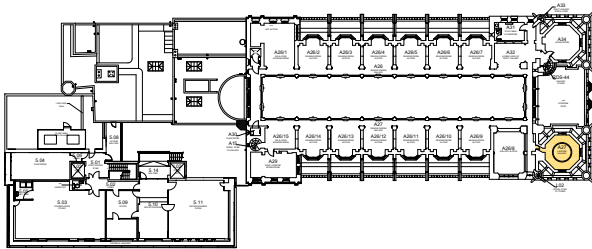
[Room A25 (University of Manchester, undated, likely c.1900, no reference)]



Office of the Sub-Librarian, likely c.1900, undated



Floor: Fourth Floor
Item: Lantern Gallery
Ref No: A27



Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1899

Current use: To lend natural light to the stair and impart aesthetic value

Access: Staff, visible from public areas

Room upper floor gallery

- Lit by paired windows with sparing stained glass in the traceried lights
- Vaulted ceiling with carved bosses
- Stone floors, walls and ceiling throughout
- Original wall lamps served by trunking

Significance / Values

- 1899 fabric - exceptional significance for aesthetic, communal and historic value. The space represents a very little altered richly decorated space

References

John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for the John Rylands Library, Deansgate' June 2000
1899 floor plans

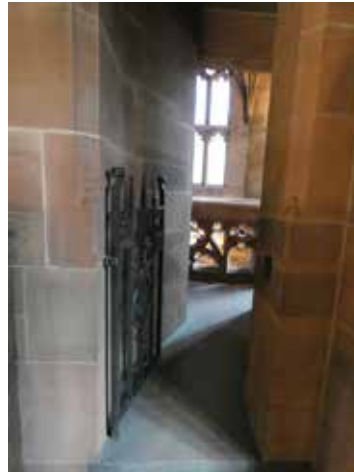
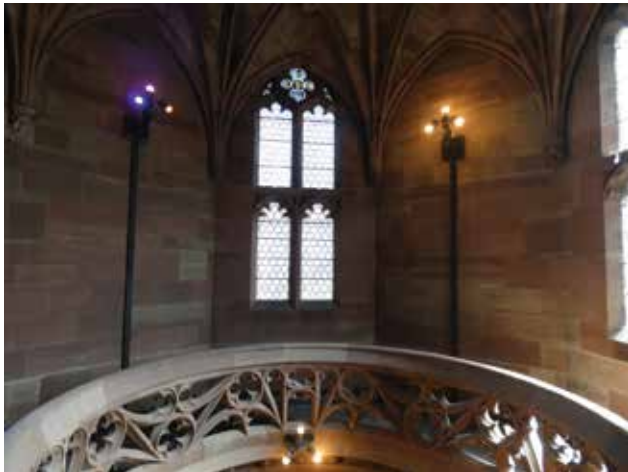
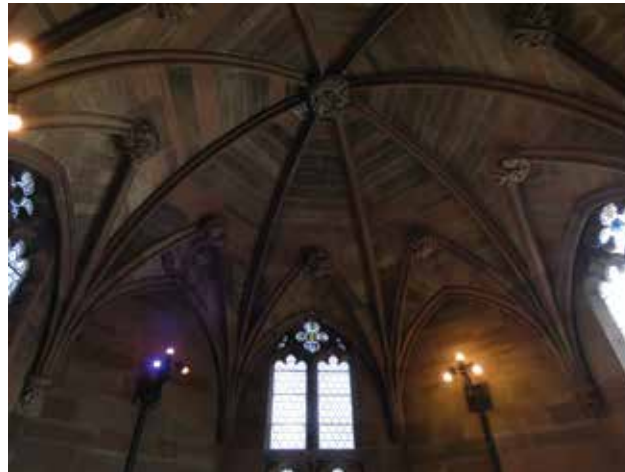
History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- 1890-99 building by Basil Champneys for Enriqueta Rylands
- The function of the space is to lend light to the main stair, but it is architectonic and decorative in purpose and execution

Surviving elements/form

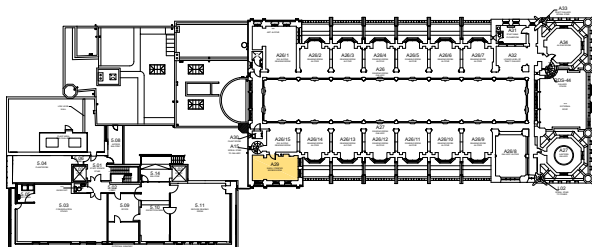
- A gallery with traceried balustrade over the main staircase
- Accessed via a metalwork gate from the Reading



Floor: Fourth Floor

Item: Early Printed Books Room

Ref No: A29



Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1899

Current use: Office and collections

Access: Staff

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- 1890-99 building by Basil Champneys for Enriqueta Rylands
- Named as Early Printed Books Room on archive plans

Surviving elements/form

- Lit by traceried windows with bullseye glass and sparing stained glass in the tracery lights
- Accessed via a traceried door directly from the Reading Room upper level

- Wood block floor and linenfold panelling
- Flat ribbed ceiling with moulded plasterwork decoration
- Full-height fitted glazed bookcases purpose built for the room
- Services: Original fixtures include bronze pendant lamps, light switch console, etc.

Later Adaptation

Date: Late C20

Insertion of sensors, fire alarm, electrical sockets etc.

Bronze inserts to bookcase

Significance / Values

- 1899 fabric - exceptional significance for aesthetic, communal and historic value. The space represents a richly decorated room with fixtures of high quality
- Minor later adaptations - neutral significance

References

John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for the John Rylands Library, Deansgate' June 2000

1899 floor plans

1900 photographs

Archival Images

[R15240 Print 23 (JRL021823bw), Printed Books Room, 1900]

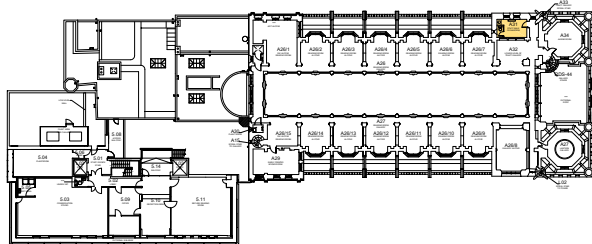


Bulford Lovers & Co., Ltd., to the Town of Bristol, London.

Books Room, 1900



Ref No: A31



Access: Private

- 1890-99 building by Basil Champneys for Enriqueta Rylands
- Staff WC

- Lit by traceried windows with bullseye glass
- Accessed via a door marked 'Fire Apparatus' from the Reading Room upper gallery
- Flat plastered ceiling

- Boarded timber floor
- Walls lined with full-height matchboard panelling
- Original fixtures include radiator grille, marble sink top on timber stand with later porcelain sink with brass taps, pine cistern case, lead pipes and porcelain WC bowl with wooden seat.
- Services: Original fixtures include pendant electroliter and fire-fighting equipment

Later Adaptation

Date: Late C20

Insertion of sensors, fire alarm points, electrical sockets etc. Late C20: towel dispenser.

Late 20th century towel dispenser has now been removed

Significance / Values

1899 fabric - exceptional significance for aesthetic, communal and historic value. The space represents a room with early and original fixtures of high quality

Minor later adaptations - neutral significance

References

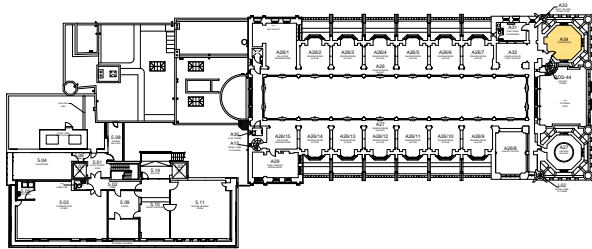
John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for
the John Rylands Library, Deansgate' June 2000
1899 floor plans



Floor: Fourth Floor

Item: Aldine Room

Ref No: A34



Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1899

Current use: Collections

Access: Staff

- Wood block floor and linenfold panelling
- Vaulted timber ceiling
- Fitted glazed bookcases with cresting purpose built for the room
- Services: Original fixtures include pendant electrolier, plain lattice radiator case, etc.

Later Adaptation

Date: Unknown

Insertion of narrow slits in the base of the door

Date: Late C20:

Insertion of sensors, electrical sockets etc.

Significance / Values

- 1899 fabric - exceptional significance for aesthetic, evidential, communal and historic value. The space represents a richly decorated room with fixtures of high quality
- Minor later adaptations - neutral significance

References

John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for the John Rylands Library, Deansgate' June 2000
1899 floor plans
1900 photographs

Archival Images

[R15240 Print 25 (JRL021825bw), Aldine Room, 1900]

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- 1890-99 building by Basil Champneys for Enriqueta Rylands
- Designed to accommodate the Aldus Manutius (Aldines) part of the Spencer collection

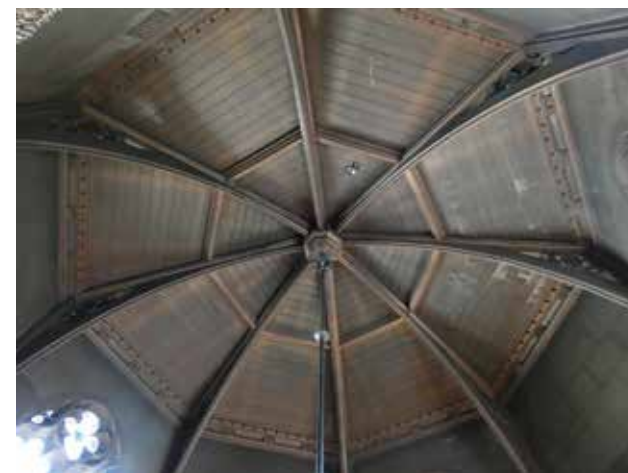
Surviving elements/form

- Octagonal room in the northern turret
- Lit by foiled mullioned-and-transomed windows with bullseye glass
- Accessed via a door from the Reading Room upper level



Bedford Terrace & Co. Phot. to the Duke of Devon, 1877. Original London.

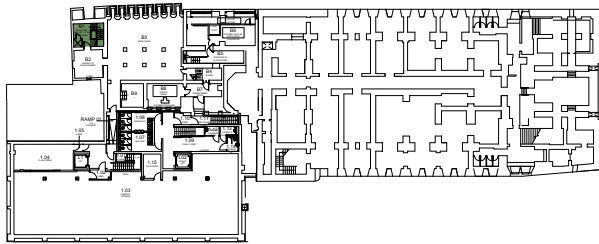
Aldine Room, 1900



Floor: Basement Mezzanine, Basement Level 2, Ground, First, Second and Third Floor

Item: Wood Street Staircase

Ref No: B1 and RDS-12



Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1920

Current use: Circulation

Access: Staff

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- 1920 addition by Basil and Amian Champneys
- Secondary staircase connecting book stacks to side entrance to Wood Street

Surviving elements/form

- Concrete open well cantilever staircase
- Plain plastered walls
- Small oblong windows, upper levels
- Plain steel balustrade with stick balusters and

moulded oak handrail

- Services: lift/hoist in steel cage to SW corner and oak corner cupboard with cleaners' sink to NW corner of each upper landing
- Lift machinery adjacent to sink, enclosed within panelling

Later Adaptation

Date: Late C20

- Emergency lighting
- Third Floor: Modern sensors, light switches, strip lights and fire exit sign
- Late-20th century lift panel and door
- Screed surface to floor

Significance / Values

- 1920 fabric – medium significance for aesthetic, communal and historic value, as a secondary staircase retaining decorative lift railings and cleaners' cupboards
- Minor later adaptations - neutral significance

References

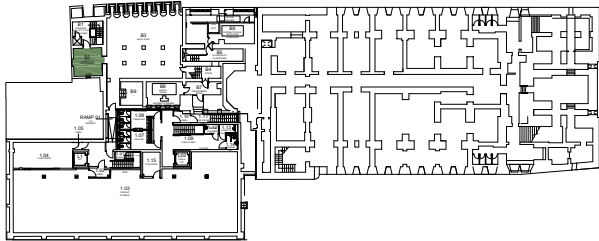
John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for the John Rylands Library, Deansgate', June 2000
1913-14 floor plans



Floor: Basement Level 2

Item: Landing to Sub-basement

Ref No: B2



Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1920

Current use: Lobbies/storage

Access: Staff

- Glazed tiles to walls

Later Adaptation

Date: Late C20

Lighting and surface-mounted M&E services

Late 20th or early 21st century ply door opening to plant room

Significance / Values

- Low significance for aesthetic, communal and historic values as a secondary circulation space. The book presses are low significance

References

John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for the John Rylands Library, Deansgate', June 2000
Plans for 1920 building

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- 1920 - lobby between Wood Street staircase and the stacks (B3), in addition designed by Basil and Amian Champneys

Surviving elements/form

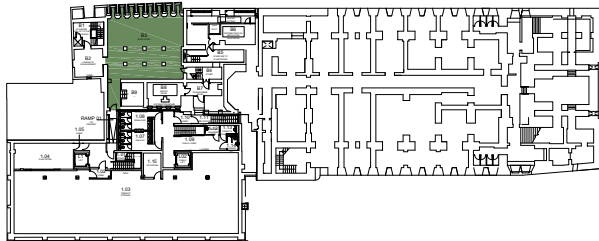
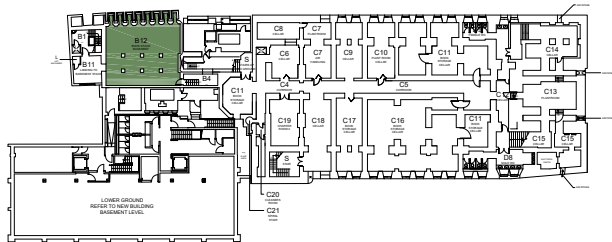
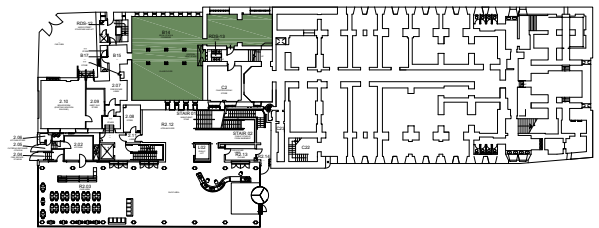
- Small rectangular space with doorways to north and east, part-glazed oak door to staircase
- Concrete floor, low painted concrete ceilings
- Oak panelled plant room enclosure in NW corner
- Oak book presses in NE and SW corners, up to soffit of ceiling



Floor: Basement Mezzanine, Basement Level 2, Ground Floor

Item: Book Stacks

Ref No: B3, B12, B14



Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1920

Current use: Book stacks

Access: Staff

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- 1920 - part of NW addition built to provide three floors of book stacks, designed by Basil and Amian Champneys

Surviving elements/form

- Large rectangular floor plans interrupted by six steel columns (encased in render)
- 8 gothic single-light windows recessed between masonry piers to north wall, with corrugated and roundel glazing
- Glass panelled floors in B12 and B14 (also forming ceilings) set in steel grid, with woodblock floor to south side of B14
- Concrete floor to B3
- Glazed square tiling to internal walls, except for fair-faced ashlar to window bays of north wall in B14
- Brass rails across windows in B12

Later Adaptation

Date: Late C20

- Emergency lighting
- Patch repair to glazed tiles

Significance / Values

- Glass floors and steel stacks - high significance for aesthetic, communal and historic values
- Minor later adaptations - neutral significance

References

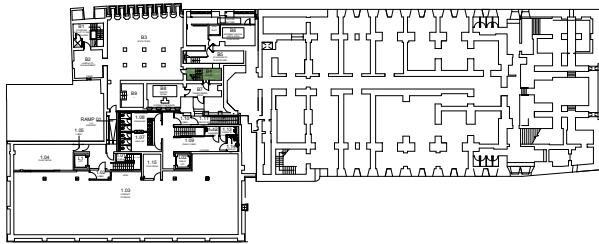
John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for the John Rylands Library, Deansgate', June 2000
1913-14 floor plans







Ref No: B4



Access: Staff

- Concrete staircase with green-painted steel balustrade

Date: Late C20

Lighting and surface-mounted M&E services

- Low significance for aesthetic, communal and historic values as a secondary circulation space

John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for
the John Rylands Library, Deansgate', June 2000
Plans for 1920 building in JRUL collection

Primary phase & original use

- 1899 – east end of space within 1899 basement
- 1920 – lobby extended to the west with internal staircase to stacks (B3), in addition designed by Basil and Amian Champneys

Surviving elements/form

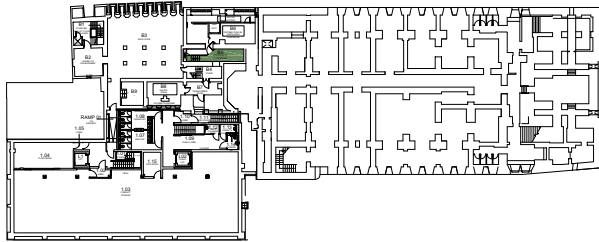
- Small rectangular space with doorways to north and south (steel doors to south)
- Concrete floors, painted concrete ceilings
- Glazed brick to walls (English bond), east wall is battered to lower courses



Floor: Basement Level 2

Item: Lobby and staircase to plant rooms

Ref No: B5



Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1899/1920

Current use: Lobby/storage

Access: Staff

balustrade

- Boarded door leads to B6 plant room

Later Adaptation

Date: Late C20

Lighting and surface-mounted M&E services

Significance / Values

- Low significance for aesthetic, communal and historic values as a secondary circulation space

References

John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for the John Rylands Library, Deansgate', June 2000
Plans for 1920 building

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- 1899 – east end of basement with internal staircase to plant rooms
- 1920 - plant room access remodelled

Surviving elements/form

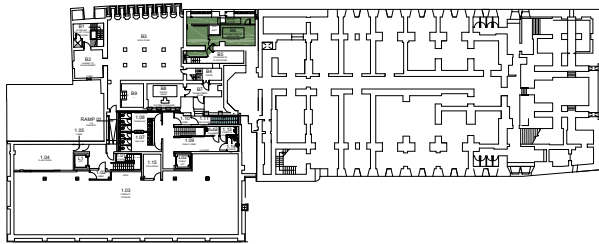
- Narrow linear space with staircase rising from west end
- Concrete floors, painted concrete ceilings
- Painted brick to walls
- Concrete staircase with green-painted steel



Floor: Basement Level 2

Item: Plant Room

Ref No: B6



Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1899

Current use: Ventilation plant room No. 3

Access: Staff

- Boarded door from B5 lobby and between internal spaces
- Ventilation fan in metal cage connected to metal duct
- Steel screen and doors to west space

Later Adaptation

Date: 1920

Belt-driven fans installed to draw air from roof-level intakes to basement plant room and ducts

Date: 1970s

Ventilation fans replaced (AAF Ltd) and circulation altered so that this plant room supplied some key rooms instead of the primary unit below the entrance hall

Date: C21

Surface-mounted M&E plant

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- 1899 – secondary fan room at east end of basement, connected to plenum ducts

Surviving elements/form

- Group of three small rectangular spaces
- Concrete floors, painted concrete ceilings
- Glazed brick to walls (English bond) with battered lower courses and arched opening in wall between east rooms

Significance / Values

- Low significance for aesthetic, communal and historic values as a plant room, but ventilation plant has some historic significance as part of the sequence of historic air handling for the library

References

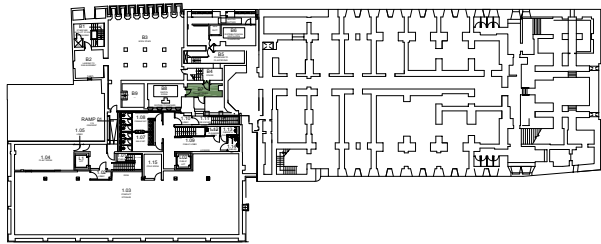
John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for the John Rylands Library, Deansgate', June 2000
Plans for 1920 building



Floor: Basement Level 2

Item: Transformer Room

Ref No: B7



Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1899

Current use: Transformer room (disused)

Access: Staff

Later Adaptation

Transformer upgraded in 1950, to transform 240 volts to 110 volts, discontinued when mains introduced in 1992

Date: C21

M&E

Significance / Values

- Medium significance for aesthetic, communal and historic values as a plant room in the 1899 building, but the retained electrical plant has high historic significance. The library was one of the earliest public buildings in the city (and the UK) to be lit by electricity, with its own generator for the 110 volt system

References

John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for the John Rylands Library, Deansgate', June 2000

Plans for 1920 building

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- 1899 – electrical plant room at east end of basement

Surviving elements/form

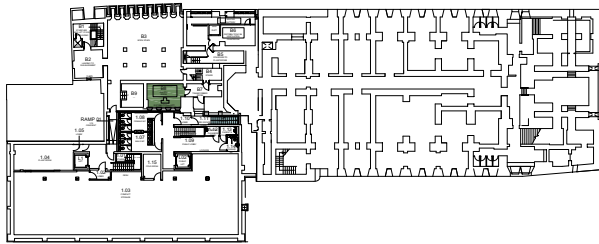
- Linear plant room reached via lobby B4 from north, and connected to switch room B8 to west
- Concrete floors, painted concrete ceilings
- Glazed brick to walls (English bond)
- Window to south wall



Floor: Basement Level 2

Item: Switch Room

Ref No: B8



Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1920

Current use: Switch room

Access: Staff

Later Adaptation

Date: C21

M&E plant upgraded

Date: C21

Brick infill to former windows on south side

Significance / Values

- Low significance for aesthetic, communal and historic values as a secondary plant room

References

John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for the John Rylands Library, Deansgate', June 2000
Plans for 1920 building

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

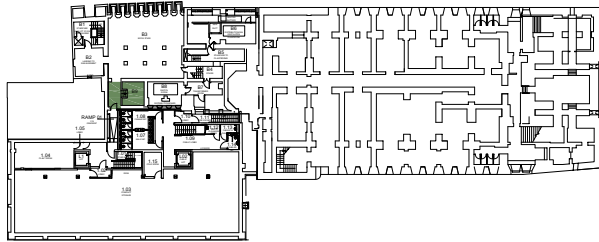
1920 electrical plant room

Surviving elements/form

- Rectangular plant room reached via B7 from the east
- Oak herringbone floor, painted flat concrete ceilings
- Glazed brick to walls and arched openings (Flemish bond)



Floor: Basement Level 2
Item: Plant room and lobby
Ref No: B9



Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1920

Current use: Plant room and lobby

Access: Staff

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- 1920 plant room and lobby on south side of the stacks (B3)

Surviving elements/form

- Small rectangular spaces on split levels connected by concrete steps to upper east level
- Concrete floors, painted concrete ceilings
- Glazed brick to walls (Flemish bond)

Later Adaptation

Date: c1970s

Square glazed tiles to internal walls and doorway reveals

Date: C21

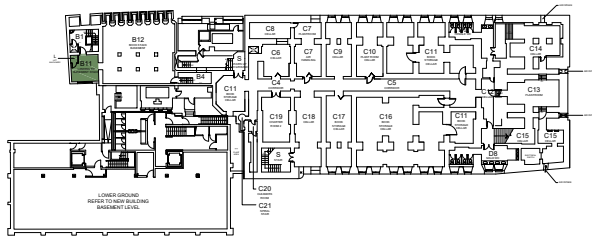
- Surface-mounted M&E plant installed and circulation altered to south addition
- Door to corridor, red brick infill / concrete lintel
- Significance / Values
- Low significance for aesthetic, communal and historic values as an altered plant room

References

John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for the John Rylands Library, Deansgate', June 2000
Plans for 1920 building



Floor: Basement Mezzanine
Item: Landing to Basement Stack
Ref No: B11



Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1920

Current use: Lobbies/storage

Access: Staff

- Glazed tiles to walls

Later Adaptation

Date: Late C20

Lighting and surface-mounted M&E services
Late 20th or 21st century lighting and surface-mounted M&E services

Significance / Values

- Low significance for aesthetic, communal and historic values as a secondary circulation space. The book presses are low significance

References

John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for the John Rylands Library, Deansgate', June 2000
Plans for 1920 building

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- 1920 - lobby between Wood Street staircase and the stacks (B12), in addition designed by Basil and Amian Champneys

Surviving elements/form

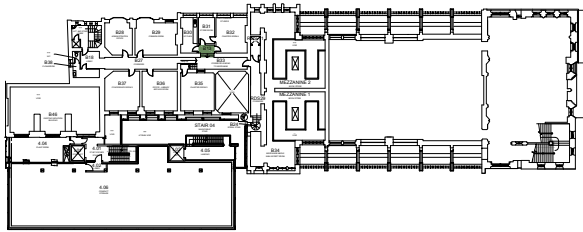
- Small rectangular space with doorways to north and east, part-glazed oak door to staircase
- Concrete floor, low painted concrete ceiling
- Oak book presses in NE and SW corners, up to soffit of ceiling



Floor: Second Floor

Item: Lobby

Ref No: B13



Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1899

Current use: Circulation

Access: Staff

Later Adaptation

There are steps down to this lobby from the corridor not shown on the 1899 plans, suggesting they were created in the 1913-24 phase of work

Date: Late C20

Insertion of sensors, electrical trunking etc.

Significance / Values

- 1899 fabric -medium significance for communal and historic value. The space was designed as a service area and has been altered
- Minor later alterations: neutral significance

References

John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for the John Rylands Library, Deansgate' June 2000
1899 floor plans

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- 1890-99 building by Basil Champneys for Enriqueta Rylands
- Lobby serving a suite of rooms, which probably served the former refreshment room above

Surviving elements/form

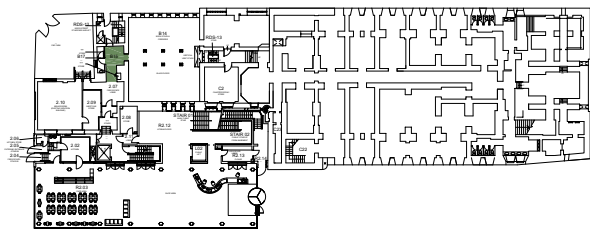
- Accessed via the Mezzanine Corridor B33
- Wood block floor, plaster ceiling and walls
- Connecting doors to B30, B31 and B32
- Electrical trunking



Floor: Ground Floor

Item: Lobby

Ref No: B15



Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1920

Current use: Lobby

Access: Staff

(cleaners store B17)

Later Adaptation

Date: Late C20

- Surface-mounted services including strip lighting and emergency lighting
- Solid core door to sink and double doors to R2.07

Significance / Values

- Low significance for aesthetic, communal and historic values as a secondary circulation space
- 1920 oak door to north has high significance
- Minor later adaptations - neutral significance

References

John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for the John Rylands Library, Deansgate', June 2000
1913-14 floor plans

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

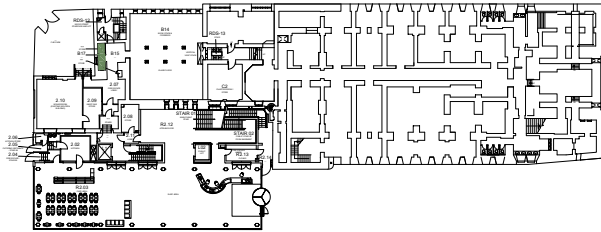
- 1920 - lobby in NW addition connecting Wood Street staircase with book stacks, designed by Basil and Amian Champneys

Surviving elements/form

- Small rectangular space with openings leading to other spaces on all sides
- Concrete floors, low painted concrete ceiling
- Plain plastered walls
- Part-glazed oak panelled door to Wood Street staircase, flush post-war doors to south and west



Floor: Ground Floor
Item: Cleaner's Store
Ref No: B17



Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1962

Current use: Cleaner's store

Access: Staff

Significance / Values

- Low significance for aesthetic, communal and historic values as a secondary service space
- Minor later adaptations - neutral significance

References

John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for the John Rylands Library, Deansgate', June 2000
1913-14 floor plans
1962 floor plans

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- c.1962 - lobby B15 sub-divided on west side to create WC/wash room, as shown on plan by Francis Jones & Sons

Surviving elements/form

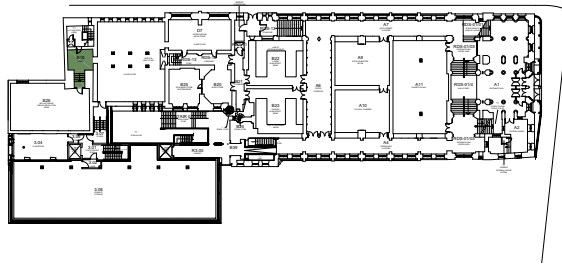
- Narrow 2-cell space with internal partition, lit by small frosted glass window to west
- Flush timber door from B15
- Concrete floors, low painted concrete ceiling
- Plain plastered walls



Floor: First Floor

Item: Lobby

Ref No: B18



Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1920

Current use: Lobby & book storage

Access: Staff

- Concrete floor and plain plastered low ceiling
- Fitted oak shelves up to ceiling soffit line all walls between openings

Significance / Values

- Low significance for aesthetic, communal and historic value, as a plain secondary space whose only few features are the plain fitted shelves
- Minor later adaptations - neutral significance

References

John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for the John Rylands Library, Deansgate', June 2000

1913-14 drawings and plans

1956-62 drawings and plans

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- 1920 addition, designed by Basil and Amian Champneys
- Designed to provide book storage ancillary to the stacks

Surviving elements/form

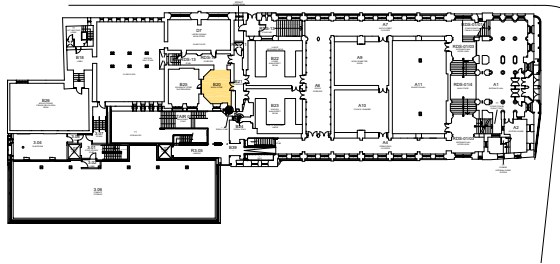
- Square lobby connecting west end of 1920 stacks to the Wood Street staircase, via part-glazed oak door from the north
- Concrete steps lead up to B26 in the Wolfson Building



Floor: First Floor

Item: Book Store

Ref No: B20



Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1900

Current use: File storage

Access: Staff

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- 1890-99 building by Basil Champneys for Enriqueta Rylands
- Designed as the ante room for the Dante Room, part of book reception

Surviving elements/form

- Small double-height room with canted west wall, accessed from B21
- Plain plastered walls and high flat ceiling
- Herringbone oak block floor

- Lit from south by 4-light window (now overlooking the Atrium)
- Open plastered archway connects room to corridor RDS-16 to north (part-blocked by shelving)
- Double part-glazed oak doors in segmental-headed arched doorway to B21, similar single door into B25
- Services: Original surface-mounted metal conduit on east wall
- Loose fittings include oak card index storage

Later Adaptation

Date: Late C20

Strip lighting and emergency lighting

Significance / Values

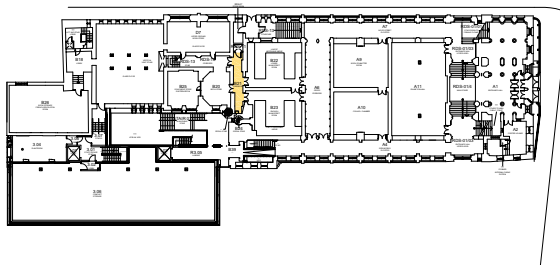
- 1899 fabric – medium significance for aesthetic, communal and historic value, as a secondary book store room
- Minor later adaptations - neutral significance

References

John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for the John Rylands Library, Deansgate', June 2000
1899 floor plans
1900 photographs



Floor: First Floor
Item: Service Corridor
Ref No: B21



Summary

Listed Grade I

Date/phase: 1899

Current use: Circulation

Access: Staff

- No windows
- Oak doors in stone surrounds to B22 and B23, plain segmental-headed doorways to west side
- Services: and electrical switch gear and copper conduit on east wall, four pendant lamps with scalloped glass shades possible dating from the 1913-24 phase

Later Adaptation

Date: 1913-24

Original surface-mounted telephone

Date: 2007

Insertion of new services

Date: 2015

Lift to north end of corridor upgraded

History and Description

Primary phase & original use

- 1890-99 building by Basil Champneys for Enriqueta Rylands
- Secondary corridor designed to connect the B21 and B22 (Crawford and Spencer Rooms) with book stacks

Surviving elements/form

- Narrow corridor aligned north-south
- Plastered walls and flat ceiling
- Herringbone oak block floor

Significance / Values

- 1899 fabric – medium significance for aesthetic, communal and historic value, as a secondary circulation space, retaining some original services of exceptional significance
- Minor later adaptations - neutral significance

References

John Rylands University Library, 'A Conservation Plan for the John Rylands Library, Deansgate', June 2000
1899 floor plans



