

DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENT

Date :22.03.2021

Our reference: 1096-20 / S1



**Plas Coch Campus, Wrexham Glyndwr University,
Ventilation and Refurbishments in Block B**

DAY Architectural Ltd.

Studio 1, Lancaster Buildings

77 Deansgate, Manchester, M3 2BW

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

Wrexham Glyndwr University main campus is located on Mold road, Wrexham. The main Plas Coch campus is the main iconic building that is the centre piece of the university. B Corridor is accessed from the main Foyer building which is the focal point to the arrival experience of all building users and visitors alike.

1.2 SITE CONTEXT AND LOCALITY

This main campus building is currently used by a number of academics as private office accommodation. As part of a wider site master planning exercise, the strategic relocation of the staff in this location and the re purposing of this space is giving the student experience a home right in the heart of the campus. Where is should be.

1.3 ASSESSMENT OF NEED

The scope of this project is looking to create a number of interventions to enable the internal space to be used as flexible, futureproofed teaching facilities that will bring an animated frontage to the Campus and hope to bring the Mold road elevation to life. The proposal will look to removal all non-historical works that will be closer to the original intended form of this elevation.

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2 Design Principles

2.1 Inclusive design

Access to provide DDA compliant access to the building for the widest range of people in accordance with Part M of the Building Regulations as far as the constraints of the site will reasonably allow. The removal of the existing walls and small / unconventional room sizes will provide a fully accessible range of rooms that are adaptable and allow the University to respond to student needs with dynamic teaching facilities.

To create an inclusive design, the teaching spaces have all been designed to allow full accessibility and the social learning spaces will have an open design to encourage social learning and interaction between students and staff.

2.2. Mechanical interventions

We have explored a number of alternative ways to create functional teaching spaces along B Corridor. A dynamic thermal modelling exercise has been undertaken to assess the occupancy and use of the spaces along B corridor. The outcome of the study demonstrated a use of mechanical ventilation to support the comfort cooling and occupancy of the space in this area.

This requirement needs careful consideration to the placement and detailing of the louvres that are required to create a functioning modern building. A number of options and locations have been explored in relation to placement and routing of the ductwork and interventions to the existing external fabric of the building.

A minimal intervention to the existing glazing system that is consistent with the works that have been carried out previously are the preferred option due to the minimal disruption to the existing internal fabric of the space and a minimal alternation to the visual appearance to the Mold Road elevation.

2.3 Restoration

The internal works have been designed to retain all the historical features and remove all later construction that was not part of the original construction. The removal of the internal walls that were formed to create office accommodation along B Corridor are proposed to be removed to bring the building back to its original form and proportion. The language of this have been demonstrated in the drawing package in Appendix B.

The internal joinery elements and original doors have been assessed and we intent to retain these elements within the scheme as statement pieces. The careful re decoration and repair to the ironmongery, fixtures and fittings will add value to the historical importance of the scheme and retain the memory of the initial design.

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The construction works are minimal as the principle of the applied strategy is to retain as much of the building's fabric as possible. The interventions and proposed new works are free standing joinery items that can be easily removed where required.

The installation of the new ceiling system has been designed to create modern and functional teaching spaces with low energy lighting and mechanical ventilation systems that are contained within a lay in gird ceiling tile system that will also provide excellent acoustic properties and reduce the overall heating costs of the space to future add to the University sustainability strategy.

The external Louvres have been designed to achieve the required free air designed to provide the various spaces along the corridor.

2.5 Aesthetics

The works have been developed to be in keeping with a historical context and look to make reference to the site's heritage where appropriate.

The internal works around the retention and redecoration of the internal joinery elements and door sets has been based on a sensitive refurbishment of the existing fabric. A heritage dark green / grey paint finish has been selected based on the previous record of the original colour of the joinery.

The Louvre detail will be carried out with slim profile blades and look to match the existing off white, glazing frame colour where possible.

3 Conclusion

The scope of works listed in this statement and supported by the Heritage Impact Statement Prepared by The Environmental Dimension Partnership Ltd and is in keeping with the original historical information we have referenced during the design stage.

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4.1 Mold Road – Main entrance



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4.2 Mold Road – Main entrance



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4.3 B Corridor view



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4.4 B Corridor view



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4.5 B Corridor view



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4.6 B Corridor, Original Door set (B19)



4.7 Example of louvre types (Internal facing)



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4.8 Example of louvre types (Internal facing)

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