



Bristol  
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**DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENT**  
**FOR**  
**THE PHILIPS BUILDING**  
**THORNHAUGH STREET**  
**LONDON**  
**WC1 H0XG**  
**ON BEHALF OF**  
**THE SCHOOL OF ORIENTAL AND AFRICAN STUDIES**



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## DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENT

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### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 The Site and Building

The Philips Building is part of the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) and is a Grade II\* Listed Building. Located in the Bloomsbury area just off Russell Square. The famous English architect Denys Lasdun designed the Philips Building in around 1960 as part of the expansion of the University of London.

#### 1.2 Surrounding Buildings

The Philips Building is surrounded with a number of heritage assets including Senate House, a grade II\* listed building and the Old Building a grade II listed building also designed by Charles Holden.

### 2.0 DESIGN PRINCIPLES

#### 2.1 Office sub-division works

SOAS propose to sub-divide a number of larger offices into 11 smaller academic offices. This is to be achieved by using metal furring stud partitions with a plasterboard finish, that will match the existing finishes within the rooms. The use of MF stud partitions will minimise any alterations to the existing walls and finishes and would allow the works to be reversed at a later date. As part of these works it is proposed to block up four existing openings between offices. These openings are through dense concrete block work and it is proposed that these will be in filled with new dense concrete block work. Walls are to be finished to match the existing finishes and like for like materials are to be used. It is proposed to form one new opening through an existing block work wall to provide access to one of the proposed sub-divided offices. All finishes are to match existing and like for like materials are to be used.

#### 2.2 Room Refurbishment

It is proposed to replace the existing interlocking hidden grid suspended ceiling which is in a poor condition with a new metal furring plasterboard ceiling system. This proposed finish is common through out the teaching rooms on the fifth floor and as such does not affect the architectural significance of the building. These proposed works are to be undertaken with rooms 559 and 563 on the fifth floor and to room L67 on the lower ground.

### 3.0 ACCESS

#### 3.1 All access arrangements will match the existing arrangements where the proposals affect access.