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0701 – Print Room Café, South Wing Building, University College London

Extracts from the Draft UCL Outline Management Guidelines and Gazetteer, December 2003, by Alan Baxter and Associates

To be read in conjunction with the 0701 UCL Café Design and Access Statement (for the Planning and Listed Building Consent Applications)



Appendix A: Alan Baxter and Associates

12<sup>th</sup> June 2007

ALAN BAXTER AND ASSOCIATES

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON



# **UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON 1. OUTLINE MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES**

Prepared for

DECEMBER 2003

UCL BUILDING NUMBER INDEX 1. KATHLEEN LONSDALE BUILDING 2. 25 GORDON STREET 3. PEARSON BUILDING 4. NORTH WING (SLADE SCHOOL) 5. WILKINS BUILDING (MAIN BUILDING) 6. PHYSICS BUILDING 9. CENTRAL COLLEGIATE BUILDING (BLOOMSBURY BUILDING) 12. SOUTH WING 13. CHADWICK BUILDING 14. FRONT LODGES 15. TRANSIT HOUSES 16. MEDICAL SCIENCES & ANATOMY BUILDING 18. HUT 18 18. HUT 18 19. HUT 19 24. 26 GORDON SQUARE 25. 25 GORDON SQUARE 26. 24 GORDON SQUARE 28. 23 GORDON SQUARE 29. 22 GORDON SQUARE 30. 21 GORDON SQUARE 31. ANECHOIC ROOM 32. 20 GORDON SQUARE 33. 19 GORDON SQUARE 34. HUT AT REAR OF 19 GORDON SQUARE 35. 16, 17, 18 GORDON SQUARE 36. HENRY MORELY BUILDING 37. MEDAWAR BUILDING 38. FOSTER COURT MAINTENANCE HUT (N) 39. FOSTER COURT MAINTENANCE HUT (S) 40. FOSTER COURT 41. EGYPTOLOGY 42. DMS WATSON BUILDING 43. DMS WATSON BUILDING 43. DMS WATSON BUILDING 44. DARWIN BUILDING 45. ENGINEERING BUILDING 46. 1-4 MALET PLACE 47. 33-35 TORRINGTON PLACE 48. 134-136 GOWER STREET 49. WOLFSON HOUSE, 4 STEPHENSON WAY 50. BERNARD KATZ BUILDING 52. ELECTRICITY TRANSFORMER CHAMBER 53. IRC LABORATORY BUILDING 54. GOWER PLACE 95. 23 GOWER PLACE 100. HEALTH CENTRE 101. (OLD MOUSE HOUSE)





Fig. 2 - The Study Area.

# DRAFT

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- Aquired 1900-1940 Purpose built - 1945-2003
- Fig. 3 Summary of construction and acquisition dates

In the south-east corner of the octagon, opposite the new 'principal stair', a more modest and concealed staircase was inserted to allow students to reach the library. In 1847 the college was given the collection of casts and pictures built up by John Flaxman and it determined to display them in the vestibule, on the new principal stair and in an adjoining room<sup>2</sup>. The centrepiece was the large group of *St Michael* conquering Satan which stood on the glazed oculus, beneath the dome. The casts were fixed to the wall. Some minor architectural alterations were needed: the windows of the dome were enlarged to improve the lighting and a niche was created by blocking the doorway to Wilkins' north stair. Donaldson received advice on the decoration from Sir Charles Eastlake (first director of the National Gallery - another Wilkins Building) and the architect C.R. Cockerell. After some debate, the statue of Flaxman, now at the entrance to the south cloister, was positioned on the lower landing of the principal stair.

Paint investigation has recently allowed the reconstruction of the original (and subsequent) decorative schemes.



Fig. 16 - Photograph of *St. Michael conquering Satan* in its original position in the Dome

## UCL 1860-1914: Expansion

By 1860, the College was well established, with a growing academic reputation and ever-increasing student numbers. The late 1860s and 1870s saw a spate of new building including, at last, the north and south flanking wings of the quadrangle. Wilkins' scheme was not carried out. Instead, the designs were carried out by Donaldson's successor as Professor of Architecture, T. Hayter Lewis.

Lewis's design contribution was to devise buildings that

### T. Hayter Lewis (1818 – 1890)

Born in 1818 on 9<sup>th</sup> July, Hayter Lewis was later articled at the offices of Mr. Joseph Parkinson, in Sackville Street, Piccadilly. In 1837, he became a Royal Academy student, and aged 21, won the R.A. silver medal in Architecture in 1839.

Hayter Lewis made a grand tour, sketching in France, Germany, Italy, Sicily and Greece, and publishing his collected sketches. He began practice, and in 1860, succeeded Sir Matthew Digby Wyatt as honorary secretary of the RIBA. He was later elected RIBA Vice-President and examiner. In 1865, Lewis became UCL's Professor of Architecture and Construction. In 1875, he was elected Dean of the Faculty of Arts. He then toured Europe, Algeria, Egypt, and Palestine, and his accounts of these journeys were published in the journals of the RIBA and the British Archaeological Society.

On campus at University College London, T. Hayter Lewis is known principally for designing the North Wing (housing the Slade School of Art) and the South Wing. He is also credited with having built 'other extensive buildings connected with them, many buildings for private and public use in London'. [see p. 166, *The Building News*, 1<sup>st</sup> August, 1890]. He also designed the Alhambra, a building which was originally built for a scientific society. In 1869, Hayter Lewis fell severely ill, and largely had to give up his architectural practice. In 1881, he resigned his full professorship at University College London, becoming Emeritus Professor at 63 years of age. harmonised successfully with the main building, by substituting a Corinthian half rotunda for Wilkins' domes at the mid-point of each facade. Behind the facades, however, the new north and south wings were of a very different character to Wilkins' grand spaces. The south wing, built between 1869 and 1874, was occupied by the school, so it contained a series of classrooms and offices opening off a central corridor over three floors. These were entirely functional in architecture and finishes, reflecting both their utilitarian purpose and the college's continual shortage of money. Only the larger rooms in the rotundas have any pretension to architectural space.

**Footnotes** <sup>2</sup> For the information on the Flaxman Collection, I am indebted to Dr Eckart Marchand, UCL Department of History of Art, who has been researching its history.

# DRAFT

### The Slade School

Across the quadrangle, the North Wing was built for the Slade School of Fine Art in 1871-8. The Slade was intended for the practical training of professional artists and this emphasis shows clearly in the layout of the building. A long corridor lies immediately behind the facade with the central rotunda occupied by the stairs. Opening off the corridor, large studio spaces are flooded with north light through large sash windows. The top floor was occupied by the Physiology Department (Fig. 18).



Fig. 17 - Photograph of the Slade (North Wing) today

## **Further developments**

The school's move into purpose-built accommodation allowed the library to move into the space that Wilkins had intended for it. However, it occupied the space in a very different way: the original double height had possibly already been divided by the insertion of a new  $(2^{nd})$  floor and by partitions into smaller rooms. This arrangement perfectly suited the later 19<sup>th</sup> century academic politics of the library. There was a split between individual professors who had built up their own teaching libraries and wanted them close at hand, and the library (from 1871 once more headed by a librarian) who wanted to impose a measure of central control. Matters came to a head in 1901 with the suggestion that the central library be split up. In the end, however, what the college's history frankly described as 'a working compromise' was 'beaten out': 'the library should be classified and arranged in separate rooms [...] but these rooms should [...] adjoin one another [...] and form one library under the control of the librarian'. The work was carried out in 1907 and the architectural expression of this compromise endures today.



Fig. 18 - Plan of the North Wing for the Slade School of Art, designed by T. Hayter Lewis



Fig. 19 - Building News engraving of the North Wing, by T. Hayter Lewis

# DRAFT

In 1862, the cloister openings of Wilkins' ground floor were glazed.

Wilkins had intended the Gower Street side of the main quadrangle to be closed off by a single storeyed ambulatory and central colonnaded portico. However, by the time that UCL was in a position to contemplate the completion of the quadrangle, the pressure to accommodate the growing student population and the requirements of laboratories demanded a more intensive use of the space.



Fig. 20 - Aerial photograph of College buildings and Quadrangle in the early 1920's. The Chadwick Building was only one storey at this time

As was frequently the case in early UCL building projects, construction did not go smoothly. In 1894 a start was made on a engineering laboratory on the southern part of the Gower Street front. The new building was carried up to full height for the six bays at its southern end, but the remainder was stopped at a single storey. It was built with a classical stone facade, to match Wilkins and give a suitably grand frontage to Gower Street, enclosing an entirely utilitarian interior.

The northern section of the Gower Street block (now the Pearson Building) was built to similar principles by F. M. Simpson, to house the Bartlett School of Architecture. It opened in 1914.

In the meantime, the College's ever-increasing need for space led to further subdivision of Wilkins' ceremonial rooms. A set of plans in the college archive, dated to 1914, shows the extent to which Wilkins' concept of open spaces on his principal floor had been all but destroyed. Only the North Wing remained open to the roof, though the galleries were gradually extended until only two octagonal light wells remained and half of the room had been partitioned off and appropriated as the Science Library.

The 1914 plans show a draft lobby in the main portico, indicating that Wilkins' original principal entrance was still in use (Fig. 72). It also shows the architectural amendments made by Donaldson to house the Flaxman collection and the location of some of the statues. Apparently absent is St Michael conquering Satan, which had been moved to the portico by 1937<sup>3</sup>.

In 1905 the two small observatories were built in the main quadrangle, for teaching surveying and astronomy. It was clear, however, that any further major expansion would have to take place outside Wilkins' original concept. The opportunity for this came in 1909, when University College School moved away. Its classrooms were occupied mainly by administrative offices.



Fig. 21 - The southern Observatory, built c.1905, in the Quadrangle

In the same year the Physiology Department constructed a purpose-built home on the former school playing field, with a link through its centre to Gower Mews to the south. The rectangle between the new building and the rear elevation of the south wing of the main quadrangle formed a new space, known as the 'south quadrangle'. The Physiology Building was extended in 1912 (to the east) and again in 1928 (to the west). Notably, this block broke with Wilkins' Greek Revival classicism and the use of stone for main facades. In architectural style, it is similar to London Board Schools of the 1880s, with prominent windows to provide better natural lighting for classrooms.



were added

In 1912-13, the college expanded for the first time beyond its original land holding. The Kathleen Lonsdale Building (UCL 1), by F. M. Simpson, was built to contain laboratories. It completely occupied the site of a terrace of houses and their rear gardens to the north, on Gower Place. The mews area of Little Gower Place became a service access to the rear of both the Kathleen Lonsdale block and the Slade School of Art. By this date, the surrounding area not taken over by the College was completely developed for terraced housing.

Footnotes closed.

# DRAFT

Fig. 22 - The Physiology Building in c. 1909, before the east and west ends

<sup>3</sup> It was subsequently moved to the Science Library and the north junction, before going to the V&A in 1972. It returned to its current position in 1994, when Richardson's oculus was

# **3. UCL AND ITS BUILDINGS TODAY:**

# **DEFINING THE CHARACTER OF THE PLACE**

### The site as a whole

Although the College now uses a number of buildings in the general area of Bloomsbury, the Study Area remains the heart of UCL, which has the Wilkins Building as its symbol. Particularly during term-time, it is a place of extraordinary activity and movement, principally by pedestrians but also by vehicles bring in and distributing supplies to the laboratories and departments, serving the students' canteens and removing waste.



Vehicle

It is a place of constant change, caused not just by the continual ebb and flow of people and vehicles but also by the cycle of new building (with two major projects on site at the time of writing) upgrading of facilities, repair and maintenance.

It is also a place of contrasts:

Compared with the traffic-dominated environment of the surrounding streets, particularly Gower Street, it is a pedestrian haven, only glimpsed through narrow openings. The relatively small number of entries (Gower Street, Malet Place and Gordon Square) give it an introverted and isolated feel.

There are contrasts too within the site. The formality and scale of the public spaces vary hugely. There is the formal architectural set piece of the Main Quadrangle, triumphantly proclaiming UCL's secular ideals and academic aspirations. By contrast, there is the informality of Malet Place Mews, the product of a long and random historical evolution. In between, geographically and architecturally, is the south quadrangle. It is framed to the north by the plain back of F. Hayter Lewis' south wing, and to the south by the main elevation of the Physiology Building. Other public spaces were created almost by chance. For example, the garden walls of the Gordon Square terraces were removed, converting separate, private spaces into a quiet communal 'courtyard' area, lacking formality.

Finally, there is the contrast between the buildings purposebuilt for UCL, from the Main Quadrangle through to Corfiato's Engineering Building, and those acquired and adapted for college use (like Shoolbred's warehouse). The former proclaim UCL's presence; the latter have had it imposed upon them. It is these contrasts which give UCL its character today.

The site is also defined by a combination of fixed, or hard elements - the buildings and spaces - and its more intangible, or soft elements - the people and their ideas. To a greater extent than many other institutions, UCL's character stems from the interaction between the buildings, the students and the professors. The constant flux of movement, in itself, is a vital character of UCL. However, this inherent fluidity makes its character difficult to define.





Fig. 46 - Pedestrian and vehicle movement patterns

# DRAFT

Fig. 47 - The South Cloister lawn: a valuable quiet space



Ground Floor





Fig. 78 - Slade School: ground, first and second floor significance

# The South Wing (UCL 12)

The following areas have been identified:

# **Highly Significant Areas**

The main quadrangle elevation, as T. Hayter Lewis' first addition to Wilkins' concept, is highly significant.

Internally, the planning and detailing was totally functional and appropriate to the wings use by the school. The principle staircase, the ground, first and second floor corridors and the ground floor apse room are significant spaces. The general plan form, represented by the principle structural walls, is significant.

# The Chadwick Building (UCL 13)

The following areas have been identified:



Fig. 78 - The Chadwick Building from Gower Street. The three phases of construction are indistinguishable

## **Highly Significant Areas**

Despite being built in 3 phases (1894, 1924 and 1984-5) the main quadrangle and Gower Street elevations display complete uniformly and harmony with the rest of the quadrangle. They are highly significant.

The interior of the building, built to house the engineering laboratories, has always been totally functional and is of no significant.





Fig. 80 - Chadwick Building - Significance

# The Lodges (UCL 14)



Fig. 81- The Lodges as rebuilt by Casson & Conder

Although not listed in their own right, and not legally curtilage structures, the lodges are clearly a highly significant part of the overall composition, being based on those originally erected by Wilkins as a temporary entrance, pending completion of his planned portico.

Their interiors, however, are not significant.

Neutral

# DRAFT

### The Conservation Area

As noted above, Conservation Areas are designated to protect local townscape and urban environment. In determining applications for planning permission within a Conservation Area, the London Borough of Camden has a duty to ensure that the character of the Conservation Area is preserved or enhanced.

An essential prerequisite to this process is an understanding of the character of the Conservation Area.

The very varied character and appearance of the Bloomsbury Conservation Area has recently been defined by the London Borough of Camden in a revised Conservation Area Statement. Within the UCL site, it identifies two character areas:

### Sub Area 3: Gordon/Woburn Square/Byng Place

Gordon Square is characterised as having a variety of building types, yet being 'a strong unifying element with a particular character that provides a setting for the buildings around its edges. The mature trees around the square are very significant components in the streetscapes, filtering and framing views across and around the space [...]. The streets on the north, east and west sides are narrower and guieter than the Southern boundary – a busy cross-route'.

### Sub Area 4: London University/British Museum

Within this, the 'Northern University Area' 'contains a concentration of University buildings that generally have long frontage wings that address the street. Many have classical detailing and a repeated pattern of vertically proportioned fenestration. The buildings enclose quiet, largely pedestrian courtyard spaces of varying sizes. Buildings are constructed in a variety of materials with stone predominating along Gower Street and Gower Place, and brick with decorative terracotta and some stone detailing within the courtyard areas to the rear of the Gower Street frontage'.

The Conservation Area Statement also maps those buildings identified as either contributing positively to, or detracting from, that character (Fig 68).



Highly significant elevation Highly significant space Significant elevation Significant space → Key view Neutral space / elevation

Fig. 110 - Elevations, spaces and views which contribute to the character of the Conservation Area



# J Ζ

Our analysis of the history of UCL and of today's townscape leads us to propose a different list, which also identifies more precisely what elements of the buildings contribute most positively (Table 7 and Fig. 110).

Views and open spaces are also key components of the Conservation Area and these too have been defined on Fig. 110 and, for spaces, on Table 8.

UCL No.	Building Name	Highly positive contribution	Positive contribution
1	Kathleen Lonsdale Building	Gower Place façade and railings	
2	25 Gordon Street		Gower Place and Gordon Street facades
3	Pearson Building	Main quadrangle and Gower Street facades and railings	
4	Slade School	Main quadrangle façade and railings	North elevation
5	Wilkins building	Main quadrangle façade	Rear elevation and Donaldson library elevations
6	Physics Building	2 314 10	Bridge to Kathleen Lonsdale Building and Gordon Street elevation
12	South Wing	Main quadrangle façade and railings	South quadrangle elevation
13	Chadwick Building	Main quadrangle and Gower Street facades and railings	
16	Anatomy	Gower Street facade	
16	Physiology	South quadrangle facade	Malet Place elevation
24-35	16-25 Gordon Square	Gordon Square façade	Rear elevations
36	Henry Morley Building		East elevation (facing Dr Williams' Library)
2. <del></del>	Relocated doorway	Doorway attributed to Wren	
37	Medawar Building		Foster Court facade
40	Foster Court Building		Foster Court and Malet Place elevations
44	Darwin Building		Gower Street facade
47	35-7 Torrington Place	Torrington Place façade	Malet Place and east elevations
50	Bernard Katz Building		North elevation

Table 7 - Building elevations contributing to the character of the Conservation Area

Name	Charact
Highly significant	-0
Main Quadrangle	Principa
	institutio
	Framed
	classica
	restricte
	soft land
Significant	
South Quadrangle	Origina
south Quantingie	by main
	the space
	formal
	busy la
	importa
	to bo la
Malet Place	The orig
Malet Flace	Course
	Gower .
	largely i
	closed t
	busy an
	access t
P (1( ) ( )	hard lar
Rear of 16-24 Gordon Square,	Rear an
up to the Morley Building	demolis
	and feel
	paths ar
	point of
	for infor
	route.
South Cloister lawn	An oasi
	routes a
	Wilkins
	Bernard
	which c
	students
	to the ea
	plant ho
Service Areas	
Physics Yard	The prin
na an a	the cam
	pedestri
	exclusiv
	function
	compac
Foster Court	The inte
	wareho
	seconda
	becontai

Table 8 - The character of spaces in the Conservation Area

### ter

al gateway to UCL, a planned formal and ional space at the heart of the college. I by buildings following Wilkins' neoal concept. A busy pedestrian area with ed parking and vehicle movement. Hard and dscaping emphasises the portico.

al UCL School playground, now surrounded nly later buildings. Physiology looks onto ce, but others back on to it, so it lacks any architectural effect. Nevertheless, a very argely pedestrian space at the crossing of ant routes. Currently a construction site, but indscaped.

ginal mews serving the terraced houses on Street and Shoolbred's warehouses, it is flanked by late 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings and to the north by Physiology. Now, as then, a nd vital through route for pedestrians and for vehicle deliveries, with appropriately ndscaping.

nd dividing garden walls have been shed, but the area retains a domestic scale el, emphasised by soft landscaping and trees, nd gravel. The area provides the principal f access to the terraced houses and is used rmal recreation. It is not on a major through

is of peace, away from principal movement and formed by the rear elevation of the s building, the Donaldson Library and the d Katz Building. The current area of lawn, contains the memorial to the early Japanese s, will be enlarged when Panopticon is built east and removes the need for the current ouse.

ncipal service yard for the northern part of npus was created by Richardson. There is no ian through route and the area is used vely for deliveries and service-related ns (such as hazardous waste and waste ction).

The internal courtyard for the former Shoolbred's warehouse, it currently functions as an important secondary storage and delivery area. It is not on a principal pedestrian through route.

ALAN BAXTER AND ASSOCIATES

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON



# **UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON** GAZETTEER

Prepared for

DECEMBER 2003

UCL BUILDING NUMBER INDEX 1. KATHLEEN LONSDALE BUILDING 2. 25 GORDON STREET 3. PEARSON BUILDING 4. NORTH WING (SLADE SCHOOL) WILKINS BUILDING (MAIN BUILDING) 5. PHYSICS BUILDING 6. 9. CENTRAL COLLEGIATE BUILDING (BLOOMSBURY BUILDING) 12. SOUTH WING 13. CHADWICK BUILDING 14. FRONT LODGES FRONT LODGES
TRANSIT HOUSES
MEDICAL SCIENCES & ANATOMY BUILDING
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# DRAFT

GAZETTEER





Ground Floor

# Name of Building: South Wing

Location:	Main Quadrangle

**Statutory Protection:** 

## **Brief history:**

Built 1869-74 by T. Hayter Lewis to continue Wilkins' architectural concept (though not his actual design) for the College. The building initially housed University College School. When the School moved out in 1907, it passed to College use.

# Use:

Administrative offices

# **Brief description:**

Long, narrow building enclosing the south side of the main quadrangle, in a neo-Classical style using Portland stone. The centre point of the building is marked by a semi-rotunda. The basement area is lined with original railings and stone piers. The internal treatment is austere, with rooms opening off both sides of tall, central corridors. The semi-rotunda contains larger, more formal rooms.

# Significance:

The principal significance lies in the way in which the quadrangle façade successfully complements Wilkins' architectural concept for the College. Internally, the finishes (intended for the school) were always austere and, with the exception of the main corridors and the ground and first floor rooms in the semi-rotundas, are not significant.

**Listed Description:** 

See UCL No. 5

Highly significant

Some significance

Significant

Neutral

# DRAFT

# UCL No. 12

Grade I, Bloomsbury Conservation Area



# Name of Building: Medical Sciences Building

Location:	Gower Street

Bloomsbury Conservation Area

# **Brief history:**

**Statutory Protection:** 

Mainly Greco-Roman style Medical Sciences block extending Chadwick Building. Built as the Anatomy building in 1922-3 by A. E. Richardson, to original designs by F. M. Simpson. An Egyptian detail (lotus leaves carved behind acanthus leaves on Composite capitals of front portico) inspired by Professor Sir Grafton Eliot-Smith, reflecting his belief that all culture ultimately derived from Ancient Egypt.

## Use:

**Medical Sciences** 

# **Brief description:**

A neo-Classical building in Portland stone, with the main entrance off Gower Street in a projecting central bay with pedimented entablature. Mainly Greco-Roman style throughout, with Anthemion details internally and externally. Medical motif prominently centred in main pediment.

Original railings survive on Gower Street.

# Significance:

The Gower Street façade makes a positive contribution to the Conservation Area. The rear façade is plain and has been disfigured by plant and extractor flues.

# DRAFT

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# Name of Building: Institute of Physiology



### Location:

South Quadrangle

**Statutory Protection:** 

# **Brief history:**

Built over part of the University College School playing field in three phases, the main block was built in 1909, with wings added in 1912 and 1923. It contained the Departments of Physiology and Pharmacology. Designed by F. M. Simpson.

# Use:

Pharmacology and Physiology.

# **Brief description:**

A long, narrow brick building. The principal, south quadrangle façade is symmetrically arranged around the central, slightly projecting and rusticated bay. This also contains the entrance, which is set slightly forward, rusticated and raised up and approached by curving steps to allow a passage to pass through to Gower Mews. The bays on either side have spare detailing and large square and round-headed windows. The added bays have pediments. The rear elevation is largely utilitarian and has been marred by signs, vents and other items of plant.

# Significance:

The south quadrangle façade, with its central entrance stairs, makes a positive contribution to the character of the Conservation Area. The rear elevation, although plain, makes a positive contribution in closing of the end of Gower Mews.

# DRAFT

Bloomsbury Conservation Area