



**BISSET  
ADAMS**

# LH006 - London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, Keppel Street

Proposed Glazed Screen & Door to Library Annexe Room Design & Access Statement  
February 2017

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## 01 INTRODUCTION

Bisset Adams has been appointed by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine to investigate incorporating a glazed screen and door to one of the library annexe rooms in their central London building at Keppel Street, to relocate the Chair of Council room. The library is of significant heritage importance, and therefore a sensitive design solution is required which conserves the listed interior of the library, as well as a rationale for the proposals which recognize the role of the library as a working environment.

*We have referred to the The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine Conservation Management Plan (CMP), Draft 4: August 2013 produced by Richard Griffiths Architects in August 2013, which includes the following description:*

The London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine was established in 1924. It grew out of the London School of Tropical Medicine which had been set up in 1899 by Sir Patrick Manson. The main building of the school is a purpose designed facility located in Keppel Street in Bloomsbury. It was built between 1926 and 1929 following an architectural competition won by Percy Morley Horder with the likely assistance of Verner O Rees. The building was Grade II listed in March, 1982 and now lies within the Bloomsbury Conservation Area within the London Borough of Camden.

The creation of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and the design of the Keppel Street building were two aspects of a single process and this link between the institution and its building continues today. The building

contains laboratories, technical facilities, teaching spaces and offices as well as grand spaces which reflect the international eminence of the LSHTM within its field. The location of the building in the centre of Bloomsbury and its continuing attractiveness, are key aspects of the School's identity and its ability to attract students, researchers and funding from all over the world. Maintaining the character of the building into the future is therefore a key issue for the School's corporate direction.

### 02 CONSERVATION

The building is Grade II Listed and lies within the Bloomsbury Conservation area within the London Borough of Camden.

The CMP describes the historic significance of the library interior on page 20:

*The library, including both the main space and its subsidiary rooms, was carefully detailed in oak, with a wrought-iron gallery balustrade of geometrical design. The original clock remains today, as does some of the library furniture. However the lighting – originally large glazed pendant fittings – has been replaced by fluorescent fittings at ceiling level. The original board room and staff room on the south-west corner of the ground floor were also fitted with high-quality oak panelling and door joinery, which remains.*

The CMP State of Significance refers to the link between the grand design of certain areas which was designed to reflect and emphasize the eminence of the School within its specialist field on page 34:

*2. The building contains laboratories, technical facilities, teaching spaces and offices, as would be expected for a major academic building. However it also contains grand spaces (including the library, board room, director's suite and staff common room) which reflect the fact that LSHTM was an international institution eminent in its field, and which express its pride and confidence.*

and

*Geometrical patterns are highly developed in the library gallery and employed in simpler forms elsewhere in the building, for example on stair balustrades.*

### 03 DESIGN PROPOSAL

The proposal is to create a new room for the Chair of Council, by incorporating a glazed screen and door to one of the library annexe rooms.

The library is of high historical heritage architectural importance and our scheme recognises and understands this. All work that is to be done to the historic fabric will be done sensitively and be done so as to as closely match the original work as possible.

#### Proposed Glazed Screen to Library Annexe Room

Room 166 is currently a circulation space between the Main Library 165 and Library Reading Room 167. There is also access to the Main Library Mezzanine via stairs that go up, and a door through to Room 168. Room 166 contains racks of books in their original timber, these are to remain unchanged. There is currently a study desk near the window.

The library is a working one, and LSHTM wish to relocate the Chair of Council room to one of the library annexe rooms - Room 166. So as to make the Chair of Council room suitable, we are proposing to add a glazed screen and door. The glazed screen and door will be located within a suitable existing timber opening.

The existing light that is hung in the opening will be carefully

removed to allow the new glazed screen to be installed. All the associated cables and fixings will be carefully removed and made good. We have submitted two options, one with structural glass system the other with a frame; refer to drawings (PL) 004 Glazed Screen & Door, and (PL) 005 Glazed Screen & Door.

#### Conclusion

The proposed interventions respond to the need to relocate the Chair of Council room, and reflect the role of the library as a key working facility within the LSHTM; therefore a sensitive intervention can be justified to create a space required for working. The interventions must not damage the existing building fabric. A light touch approach must be taken, and all new interventions will be completely reversible.

Refer to 05 Appendix, III. Drawings



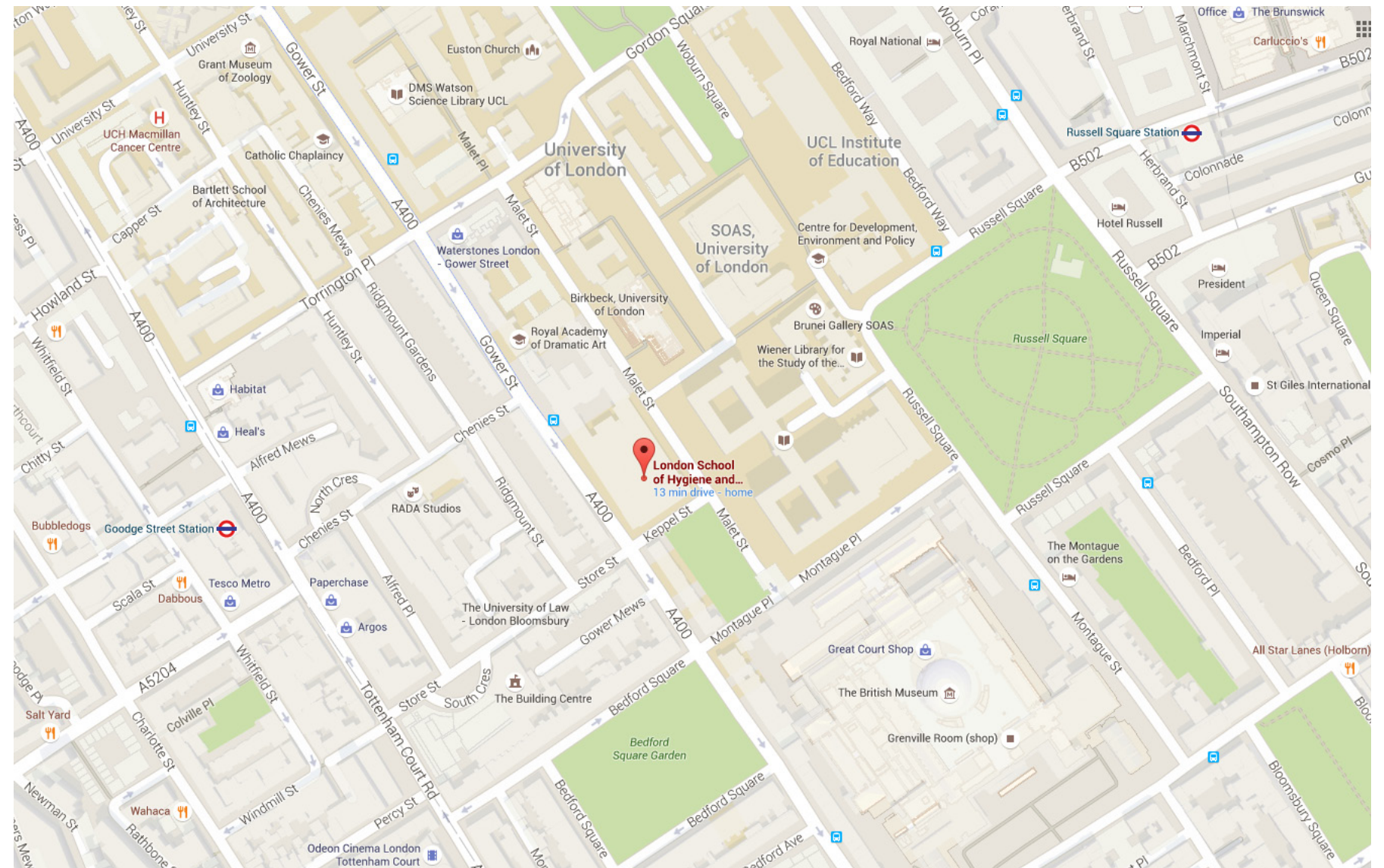
## 04 ACCESS

We are not changing the access to the area of refurbishment significantly, and the additional door and glazed screen will conform to the below regulations.

As this is an existing Listed building there are limitation to what can be done with regards to access. However, within these constraints the following best practice guidelines (with regard to accessibility at the third floor of Senate House) have been considered and adhered to wherever possible.

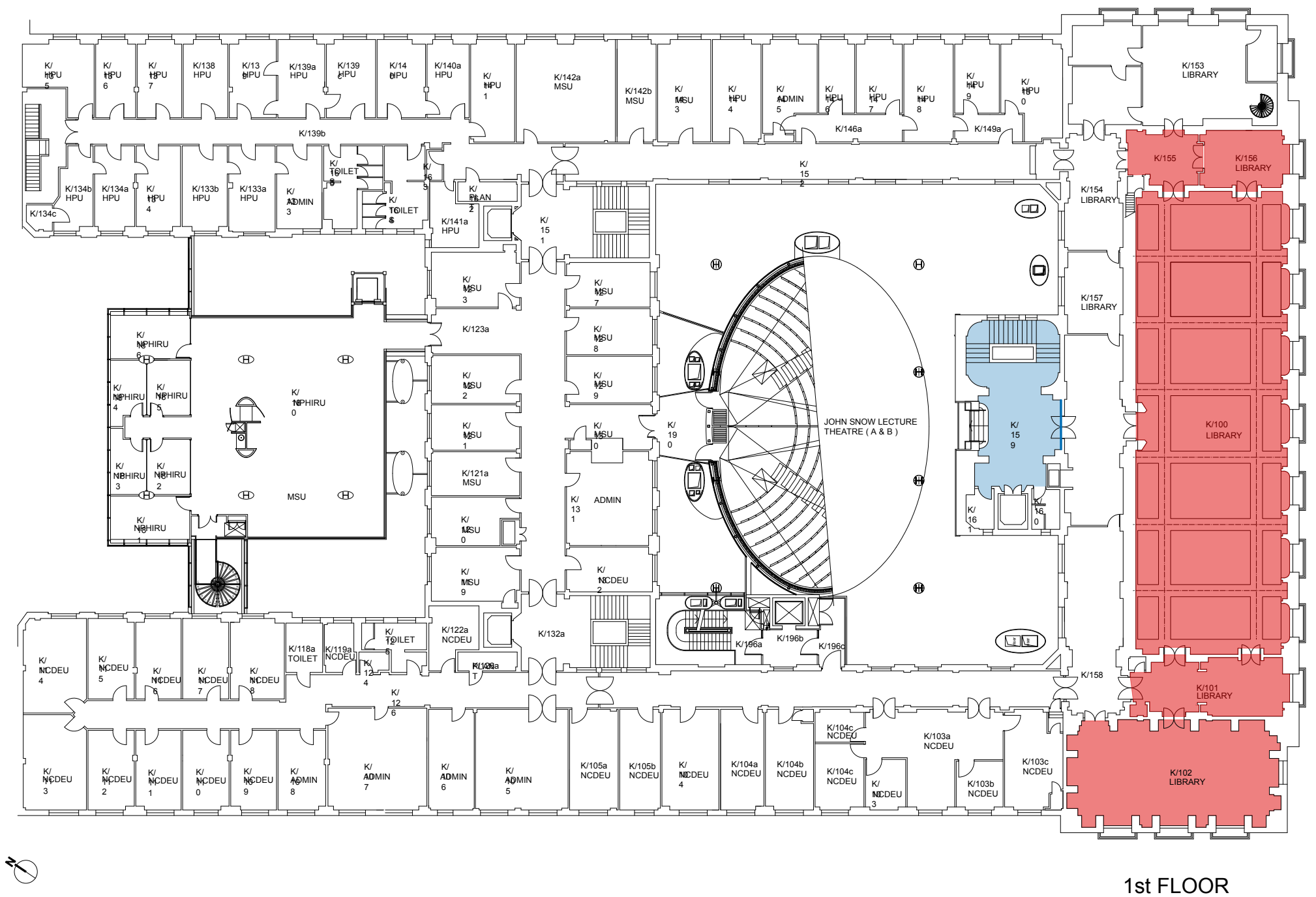
- Disability and Discrimination Act 1995
- Building Regulations—Approved document M (access to use of buildings).
- Building Regulations—Approved document K (protection from falling, collision and Impact).
- BS 8300:2001 - Design of buildings and their approaches to meet the needs of disabled people Code of Practice.

## I. Drawing: Site Location



Above, site is located in Bloomsbury between Goodge Street and Russell Square Underground stations, (Google Maps).  
For the history of the site refer to page 6 of the CMP.

## II. Drawing: LSHTM First Floor



*Above, First Floor Plan showing the highly significant areas - the main library and annexes as stated throughout the CMP and indicated on pages 45, 59 to 62.*



### III. Drawings: (attached separately):

(PL) 001 Site Location Plan

(PL) 002 Site Plan

(PL) 003 Existing Plans

(PL) 004 Glazed Screen & Door

(PL) 005 Glazed Screen & Door



IV. Photographs: Library Annexe Room

Photos 1 to 6 to the right, photos of the Annexe Room 166 as existing.





### V. Report: Richard Griffiths Architects

Conservation Management Plan (attached separately)

The Richard Griffiths Architects Conservation Management Plan outlines the history of the school and building, the school today, statement of significance, risks and opportunities, and conservation policies.

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