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DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENT PIAZZA PAVILLION - THE BRITISH LIBRARY

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DESIGN AND ACCESS STATEMENT
PIAZZA PAVILION – THE BRITISH LIBRARY

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Prepared by Carter Jonas for and on behalf of The British Library

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

This Design and Access Statement has been prepared for and on behalf of the British Library, in support of the proposed development at the British Library, 96 Euston Road, London NW1 2DB.

The British Library is proactively working to meet the public interest in its work and cultural programme.

The site

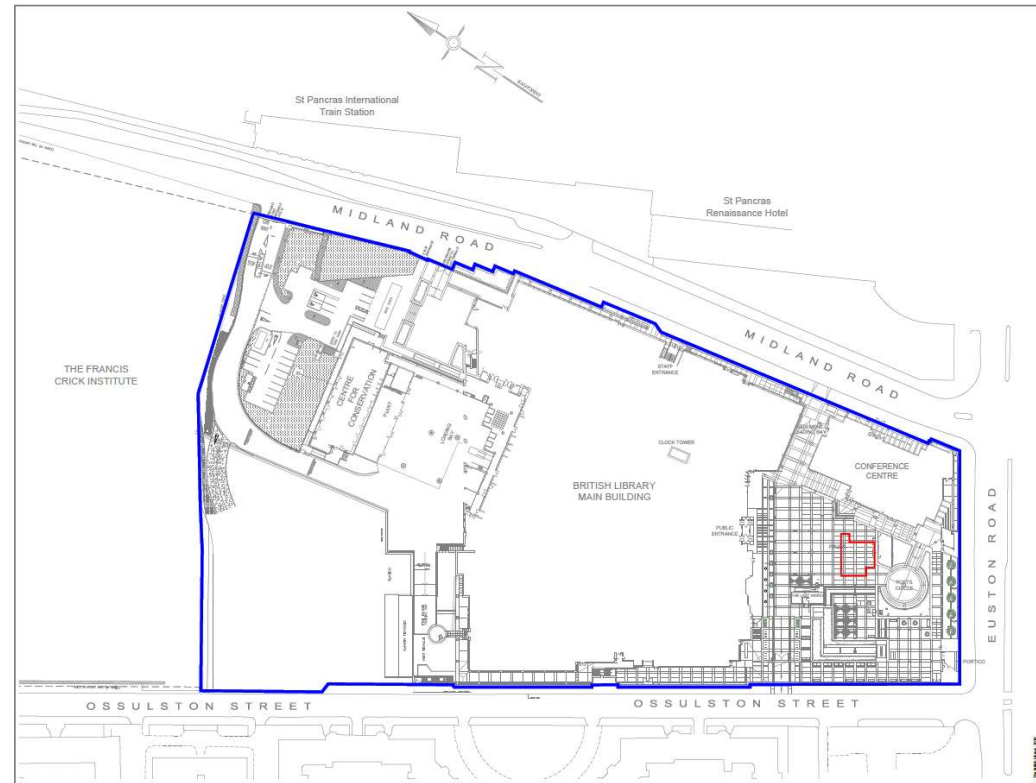
The site comprises a small area (135sqm) of the piazza of the British Library, which is located within the London Borough of Camden. The total area of the piazza is approximately 4000sqm.

The piazza comprises a designated area of Open Space, located within the centre of the British Library buildings. It is used for the enjoyment of visitors to the Library and as a cut through for members of the public, to get to surrounding locations.

The surroundings

The buildings of the British Library form the boundaries of the site, notably the buildings are Grade I listed buildings.

Proposed location of the marquee within the piazza



Plan produced by the British Library. Not to scale.

2.0 THE PROPOSAL

Design and Layout

This application seeks Full planning permission for a temporary period for:

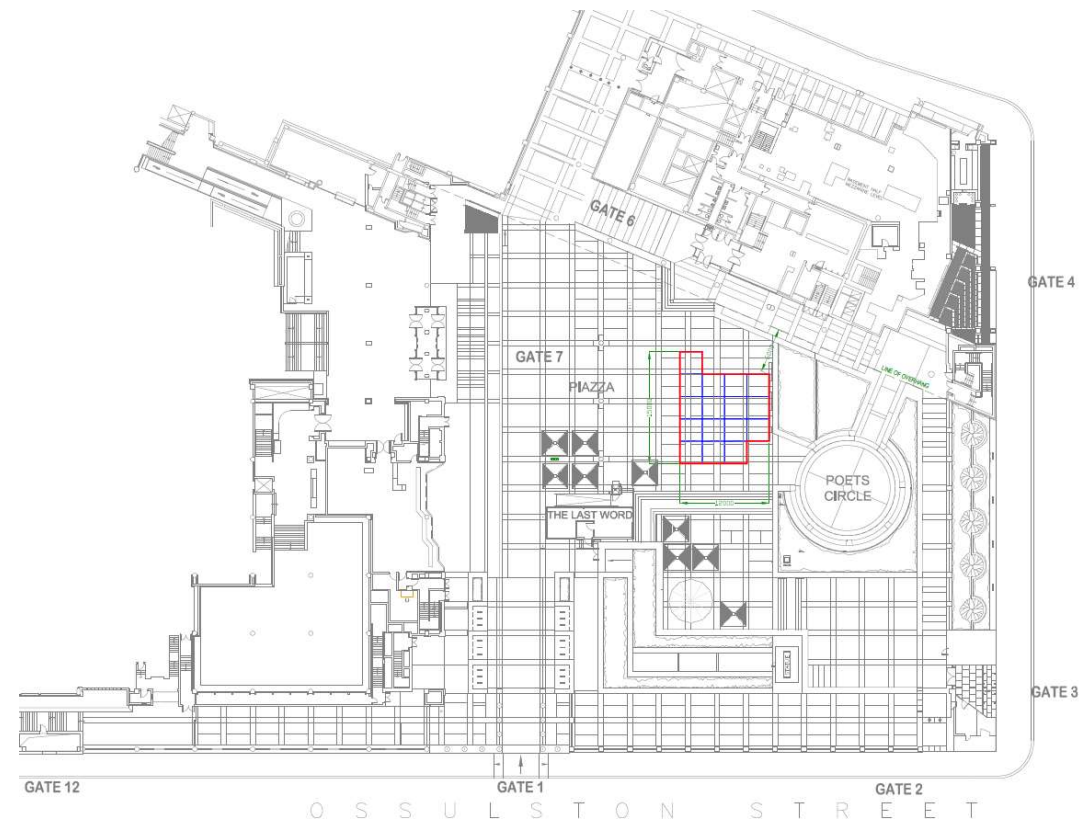
The erection of a marquee structure to provide temporary event space within the British Library's piazza for a period of 8 weeks.

It is anticipated that the marquee will be erected in the piazza from 1st May 2018-27th June 2018 and be used to host public talks and small performances, for the enjoyment of visitors to the British Library. The maximum hours of operation will be 09:00-21:00 on any given day.

The positioning and size of the marquee has been carefully considered, given the sites designation and surrounding heritage assets. As shown on the supporting plan (right), the marquee is positioned on the edge of the piazza on the boundary opposite the main entrance point to the Library, north of the entrance point from Poet's Circle.

The marquee will be 135sqm in size, meaning that it will use only a small part of the wider piazza area.

Dimensions of the proposed marquee within the piazza



Plan produced by the British Library. Not to scale.

Proposed structure

The proposal comprises one marquee structure (9x9), with seven (3x3) additional pods attached to the southern and western sides of the main structure.

It will be constructed from lightweight aluminium tubing with a flame retardant polyester shell, anchored to a wooden floor, as shown on the supporting photos. The structure will not be fixed to any part of the existing British Library building.

As shown in the photos, a marquee has been provided in the piazza in the past, albeit for a shorter period of time, and it did not have a significant impact on the surrounding character or the public open space. The proposal requires planning permission this time, as due to the success of the marquee last year, the British Library wishes to erect the marquee for more than 28 days.

Within the marquee there will be a small amount of LED lighting, including spotlights for stage lighting and a sound PA suited to talks and conversations and low level music. It considered that the level of noise and lighting within the marquee will not have a negative impact on the surrounding area.

Photo of the marquee within the piazza last year



Photo of the inside of the marquee, showing fixture to wooden flooring



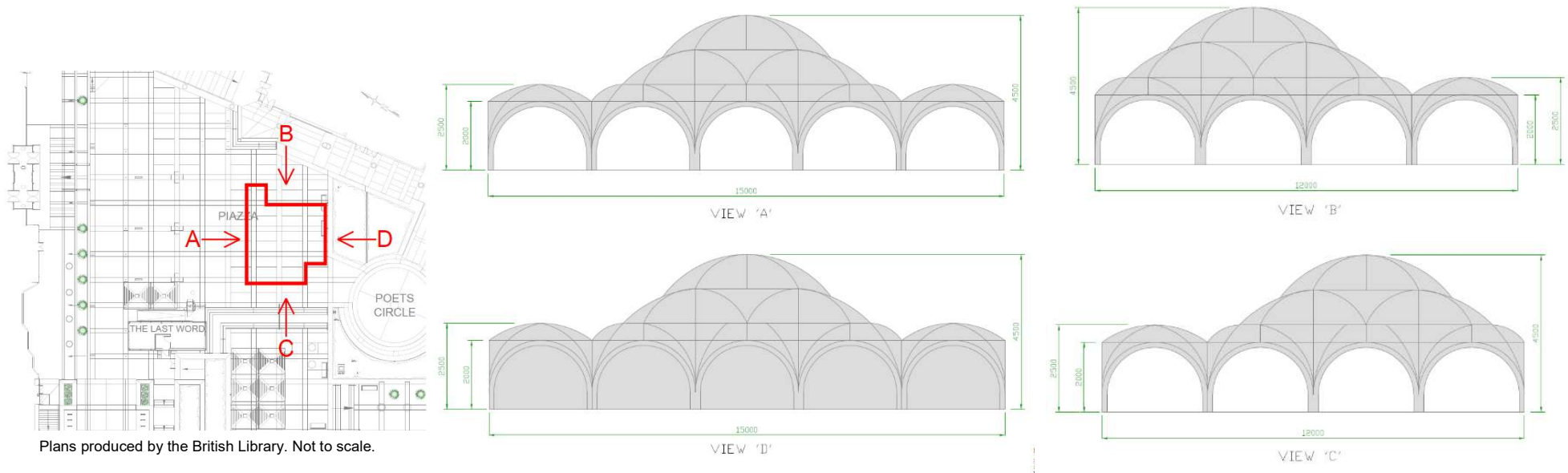
Elevation

The marquee will be approximately 4.5m in height at its highest point, as shown on the elevation drawings for the site. This is considered a reasonable height for the marquee, as it will not exceed the height of the surrounding British Library buildings and therefore have no impact on the wider surrounding area.

Access

The marquee will be located as to not obstruct any access points into the piazza. The marquee itself will also be suitable for disability access.

Elevation plans of the proposed marquee



Plans produced by the British Library. Not to scale.

3.0 SUMMARY

In summary the proposed temporary development is considered a suitable development and use for the site, which will enhance the piazza and service offer of the British Library, providing a greater enjoyment for visitors to the site for the period of time it is in place.