

Fundraising

➔ **To learn more** about The Spencer Building and to take a virtual tour, please visit our dedicated website www.thespencerbuilding.co.uk.

Update

The Spencer Building

Architects Sandy Wright and Kirsty Shankland describe how the project to extend and redevelop the Corpus Library is progressing.

Ground has been broken and construction work begun on The Spencer Building, comprising a new Special Collections Centre and Library extension, which is being delivered to rigorous Passivhaus standards of construction, energy use and environmental control. The College aims to deliver a pioneering and highly sustainable building emblematic of its future development. The design adopts Passivhaus principles of high levels of insulation, airtightness and efficient heat recovery. The appointed contractor Kingerlee Ltd is expected to undertake rigorous construction auditing systems to ensure that sustainability targets are delivered.

The proposal to redevelop the modern Staircase 6 building adjacent to the Old Library derives from a long-standing ambition to provide additional study space for students and Fellows, as well as to create a new and expanded fit-for-purpose specialist archival store and reading room. The redevelopment will also give full disabled access to all parts of the Library, including the historic Old Library, which is currently inaccessible to those requiring a passenger lift. The aim was to develop a design that sensitively integrates the existing historic spaces with the need for modern facilities.

An intricate demolition procedure was implemented to ensure the careful dismantling of the Staircase 6 building both to protect the adjacent structures and to interfere minimally with College life. The team continues to work closely with the Conservation Officer and local planning department as things are uncovered on site and decisions on material selection are made.

Though the new elements of the scheme explore a contemporary architectural language, they take their cues from the existing historic buildings, and the elemental qualities of stone. Moderating daylight and manipulating light and shadow are ways in which thoughtfully designed masonry buildings can create definition on both a civic and human scale. Sandy Wright says, "Our use of materials reflects an understanding of their inherent characteristics which informs the structure, function and meaning of our buildings. We look at what materials can do and we also embrace a culture of craft and making".

External walls are predominantly ashlar stone cladding to match a large, triple glazed window on the north elevation. The new flat roof will be made of lead, but also inset with photovoltaic panels. The roof that pitches towards the Garden Quad will be clad in slates to match the historic Old Library. Internally, a palette of materials such as oak and brass will give pleasure to both eye and hand. Mock ups of key joinery items, such as a sample bookcase and desk, have been provided to allow the College to finalise the internal finishes.

The building is due for completion in 2024.



ABOVE: Visualisation of the Second Floor Reading Room, a pair of desks in the foreground

Recognising our benefactors

We are grateful for the support of our benefactors and endeavour to express our appreciation in a variety of ways. Everyone who gives a donation to the building, of whatever size, will be offered the opportunity to have their name included in a Benefactors' Book. Entry level for inclusion on the Donor Board in the ground floor foyer of The Spencer Building is £25,000. We may also offer naming opportunities for major philanthropic donations. We also look forward to thanking our generous donors in person at the annual Benefactors' Garden Party.

Seeking your support



The generosity of our alumni greatly assists the College in fulfilling an ambitious project such as this.

A transformational lead gift from Lord Michael Spencer (Physics, 1973) has made the establishment of The Spencer Building possible, and we are now seeking additional philanthropy. Old Members and friends have already generously pledged £9.04m towards the project. With a further £3.05m to raise, matched pound for pound from

the College's endowment funds, we will be able to complete this landmark project. With your support we can write this exciting new chapter in the College's history.

To visualise the location of the opportunities below please visit: thespencerbuilding.co.uk/tour. If you are interested in learning more about major philanthropic donations, starting from £25,000, please email Liz Lyle, the Development Director at elizabeth.lyle@ccc.ox.ac.uk.

Gift Amount	Naming Opportunity
£10,000 each	First and Second Floor Bookcase Bays
£7,500 each	Third Floor Group Collaborative Working Desks [four readers], one of which is DDA [Disability Discrimination Act] compliant
£5,000 each	First and Second Floor Reading Rooms Pair of Desks [photo to the left]
£2,500 each	Third Floor Reading Room Single Desk Spaces [long desk area on the video]
£2,000 each	Third Floor Singular Bookcases [behind the long desk area on the video]