



# Dublin City Library | Parnell Square Cultural Quarter

Architects Design Statement | October 2018



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View Over Parnell Square, Watercolour, James O'Mahony, 19th C

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Interior View From The First Floor Mezzanine Level

# 1 Introduction & Project Background

## 1.1 Purpose of the Report

This Design Statement supports an EIAR submission by Dublin City Council & PSQ Developments Ltd (Joint Applicants) to create the new Dublin City Library and Public Realm at the northern end of Parnell Square, comprising 11,198m<sup>2</sup> of gross internal area set out across eight existing protected Georgian houses together with a proposed new building to the rear of the former Coláiste Mhuire.

This report should be read in conjunction with the Architectural Planning Drawings as well as the Protected Structures Impact Statement and the Public Realm & Landscape Report.

## 1.2 Project Background

Dublin Central Library has outgrown its current home and Dublin City Council has been exploring several options for a new city library during the last few years. The delivery of a 21st century city library for the citizens of Dublin is one of the key civic infrastructural objectives for the capital city, identified in many key corporate policy documents, including the Library Development Plan, and highlighted in the city's successful bid for designation as a UNESCO City of Literature.

Dublin in the 21st century is a city of over half a million people, boasting a rich and diverse cultural life. The existing central library which opened in 1986, is a popular, well used and vibrant space; however its facilities are cramped and out-dated and do not represent an expression of civic pride in the city. They can no longer meet the city's needs in terms of space, access, learning, facilities or sustainability.

By 1996, it was evident that it was not ideally located and was inadequate for the demands being placed on it. Today the facility is in need of total refurbishment and upgrading. As a library of the 21st century, it is inadequate for reasons, which include, poor location, lack of public visibility and on-street presence, all of which are detrimental to maximising the potential for attracting public usage. Equally, there is insufficient space for study or programmed learning or for lecture, tutorial or seminar purposes, all of which are critical aspects of supporting life-long learning through the modern public library. In this context, the opportunity to take full advantage of new technologies is reduced in a space that lacks flexibility.

There is no cafeteria, no public rest-room facilities and no dedicated exhibition space. Additionally, the facility does not reflect a destination of cultural excellence appropriate to its role and responsibilities. Neither does it project a civic presence consistent with the status of the capital city of Ireland renowned worldwide for both its literary heritage and the strength of its contemporary literature.

There is a strong case for a beautiful and highly functional city library for Dublin that will, in addition to the many traditional roles of libraries, fulfil many functions, including helping job seekers, supporting small business entrepreneurs and emerging writers, engaging with readers, and providing orientation and support for newly arrived residents and tourists. The City Library will replace the current central library and will serve the 1.2 million population of the Greater Dublin Area, attracting an estimated 3,000 visitors a day.

## 1.3 Library Vision

The vision for the Dublin City Library is for it to be an icon of literature and learning for all, which will assist in defining and reflecting Dublin's place as a life-long-learning city of the 21st century.

The library will be a window on the world of knowledge and culture, a centre of learning and literature, a commune of research and reading and a hub of ideas and creativity. It will inspire and excite, welcome and include with collections, connections, places, services and programmes for learners, readers, researchers, for children and families, for all citizens. It will be Dublin City's, open and inclusive venue, nurturing the development of critical thinking and an informed citizenry.

It will be at the heart of the literary life of the capital. It will exemplify the key qualities of the 'new library', a place that is always ready to change, a dynamic and constantly evolving space, a library of temporary spaces, meeting spaces, different places. It will imbue in its users a sense of ownership and a sense that they, the citizens, will develop the library through the events that happen there. The atmosphere created will be one of welcome, safety and responsiveness to requirements and aspirations.

The City Library will be saturated with technological potential and provision will be made for an infrastructure that can support future rapid changes in technology. The library will also house a number of complementary functions that will be part of the wider cultural offer, such as music rehearsal and recording spaces, performance spaces, retail spaces and other community and cultural offers.

The City Library will serve, not only as a major destination in itself but will be an anchor, a platform and relationship broker for this range of new cultural places. Activity hubs in the core library will support a diverse user base from individual research and reading through to presentations, performance and larger scale community meetings and events. These hubs will also play a pivotal role in the wider cultural offer providing a shared 'interface' or 'fusion' space between the library's activities and those of other cultural organizations and services in the quarter, community groups and the wider city of Dublin.

## 1.4 The Design Team

The PSCQ Foundation has appointed a design and project management team to realise this vision, these are listed below:

Architects:	Grafton+Shaffrey Architects
Conservation Architects:	Shaffrey Architects
Structural Engineering:	ARUP
MEP Engineering:	ARUP
Acoustic Engineering:	ARUP
Landscape Architects:	BSLA
Fire Engineering & DAC:	MSA
Traffic & Transport:	AECOM
Planning Consultant:	SLA
Quantity Surveying:	KSN
Client PM:	Linesight
Design Team PM:	KCM



Photograph of 1:500 Model Looking North Towards Parnell Square North

# 2 The Brief

## 2.1 A New Central Library For Dublin

The design team were provided with a comprehensive set of briefing documents that clearly set out the vision for the project as well as the space planning and technical requirements. Within the librarians brief there are 7 key concepts/themes that describe the nature of the library.

### 1. Learning at the heart of the library.

The library will support individual and collaborative learning at all stages of life from pre-school to PhD. It will include an IT-rich Learning Suite that will include space for self-directed IT-based learning and small group spaces for mentoring and learning support. Music will be supported through the creation of a Music Hub where music collections will be supplemented with a range of facilities for community use.

### 2. An inspiring place for children, young adults and families.

The library will be child and family friendly, designed to appeal to children, young adults and families throughout its facilities with safe, welcoming and inspiring spaces. Facilities and services will be designed to support family reading, the development of independent reading skills and a love of books and reading that will last a lifetime. The library will welcome children and young people throughout, as they seek access to more of the library's resources, supporting their information needs as they make the transition to adulthood.

### 3. A civic meeting place and hub.

The library will be a hub for citizen access, allowing them to learn, to create and to participate. It will be accessible to all, embracing multiple cultures with collaborative and showcase spaces available to the community. In particular it will welcome and reach out to those who may not see libraries and culture as something for them. It will support these aims by providing a range of new meeting facilities for Dublin, from informal gathering points and a café through to more formal meeting rooms and an auditorium that will allow large groups to meet and will be at the heart of the library lecture and performance programme and the wider cultural quarter programme of activities.

### 4. The StoryHouse: A space for contemporary culture and literature

The new library will be at the heart of the literary life of the capital and the emerging Cultural Quarter. A love of words and a celebration of the life of the imagination will be prioritised through collections, cultural programming, events and activities. It will showcase Dublin's unique literary heritage, its status as a UNESCO City of Literature, and promote its dynamic contemporary scene. It will celebrate writers and writing.

At the heart of the library there will be a literature centre, a StoryHouse, displaying and celebrating the library's special collection of rare editions and research material relating to Irish literature and theatre history. The StoryHouse will offer open access to a rich experience of reading and live literature performance. It will exhibit and interpret the library's literary collections to provide inspiration for learning and for creativity.

It will celebrate Dublin's unique literary culture through the written and spoken word. It will exploit the potential of print, multimedia, performance and other art forms to offer a wide range of high quality experiences and engagements for visitors.

The StoryHouse will be a dynamic space where new ideas in writing, publishing, reading and experience of the written word can be explored and developed through original and creative programming. It will be a hub for writers, translators, illustrators and readers. It will provide spaces for informal and open performances, talks by authors and poets and spaces for residencies covering many aspects of the worlds of literature – for writers, poets, translators, illustrators and more.

It will enhance the city's standing as a cultural destination, a place of which the people of Dublin can be proud. A wide range of high quality experiences and engagements will be possible for visitors. Embodying inclusiveness, it will reflect the public's view; different cultures will be celebrated and no group of users will feel alienated. Above all it will be a space that reflects Dublin's place as the capital city and the economic engine of the country.

### 5. Supporting business and entrepreneurship.

The library will offer spaces that support, encourage and nourish innovation and entrepreneurship in the city. The Innovation Hub will provide business know-how and physical spaces to support start-up businesses as well as formal classes and mentoring services. Practical support in the form of free wifi, work space, specialist reference material and professional guidance will help re-imagine and reinvigorate business services in the City Library. Visitors to the Innovation Hub will be able to access a suite of high quality business resources as well as a 'commons' space for exchange of ideas, support, networking and independent and collaborative co-working.



## 6. Forging relationships, connections and collaboration.

The library will be both an anchor and a catalyst for community activity that connects the range of cultural providers in the quarter. It will broker and facilitate relationships between cultural services and the wider community, providing facilities, expertise and the physical spaces that allow communities and organisations to come together. The library will work with existing cultural providers, including Dublin City Gallery the Hugh Lane and the Irish Writers' Centre, taking advantage of the synergies and shared objectives of these organisations to develop strong cultural partnerships. The library will also work to support emerging cultural facilities through the provision and management of shared 'fusion' spaces, for meeting, performance and collaboration.

## 7. A digital library for the 21st century.

The opportunities offered by new digital technologies will unlock the potential of the City Library's rich resources, providing the engine for enhanced service delivery throughout. The library will be saturated in digital potential, it will be as fundamental to service delivery as the collections and the staff. It will offer 24 hour access to resources online, and the availability of innovative, specially commissioned technologies, bringing unique collections to life and supporting learning. The library will be both content creator and will support the user in content creation. Intelligent building and library technologies will support self service, bookings, payments, way-finding and innovative ways to display and interpret the collections. The design of the library's digital infrastructure will be able to keep pace with user expectations for increasingly sophisticated and increasingly social multi-media access, allowing people to work in groups virtually and physically, both for learning and for recreation.

In summary, the new City Library will be an icon of learning, a space for people to connect, participate and create, a support and resource for business and creativity in the city, a landmark centre for the city's thriving literary culture, and a bold statement of the city's international status as a UNESCO City of Literature.

## 2.2 A New Cultural Quarter

The vision for the Quarter is for transformation of the physical fabric of the Square, and for transformation for the people of Dublin through access to ideas, information, imagination. The objective is to achieve a quality cultural offer coupled with an equality of access and provision that reflects the locality and the city. Opportunities to learn, create and participate will be the overarching themes which will unite the Quarter.

The Quarter aspires to reach world class standards of recognition for cultural provision and services, and has ambitions for a centre of excellence complex on the Parnell Square site, a service envelope that will inspire and excite, welcome and include, with a new City library as the hub and anchor building. To make this work requires structures that encourage and mandate unity. This process of building relationships and collaborative models of service will challenge all parties to engage, united by a sense of common purpose to make life better in Dublin. Public service and public spaces will be key drivers of all developments. A dynamic tableau of changing creative presences and experiences will animate the spaces which will be supported by agencies, associations or other service providers either on site or remotely.

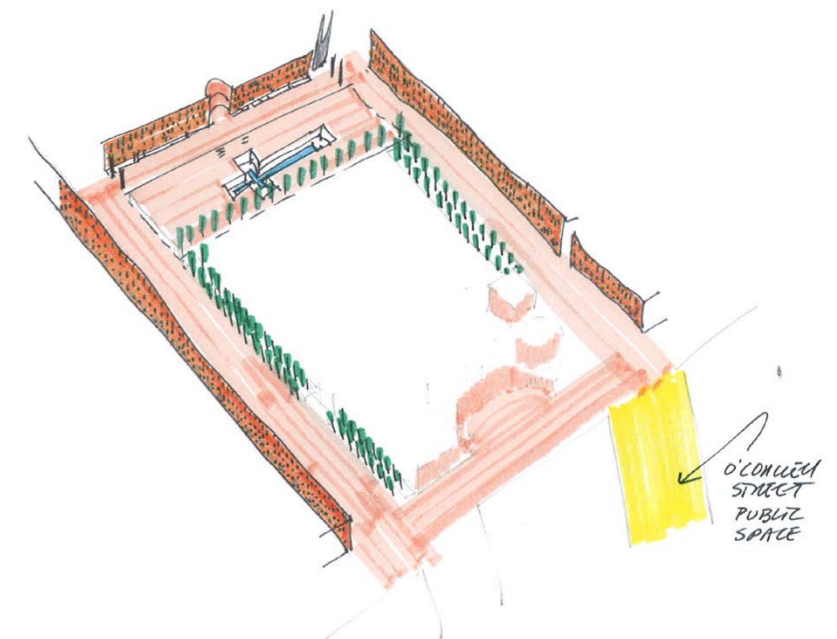
The new City library brief and its diverse service offer of Learning, Literature, Information and Music provision has been developed to provide fusion spaces for meeting, performance and collaboration, and points of intersection with other cultural offers such as a Music Centre, a Design Centre and a space promoting interculturalism.

The Library will work with Dublin City Gallery, the Hugh Lane, the Irish Writers' Centre and other existing cultural providers, taking advantage of the synergies and shared objectives of these organisations to develop strong cultural partnerships. It will broker and facilitate relationships between cultural services and the wider community, providing facilities, expertise and the physical spaces that allow communities and organisations to come together.

## 2.3 A Catalyst For Parnell Square

The City Library, set beside the existing Dublin City Gallery, The Hugh Lane will be at the heart of this dynamic cultural quarter at Parnell Square. The Gallery is acknowledged as one of the most significant city galleries in Europe. Through its diversity of programmes it is a major contributor to the cultural vibrancy of Dublin and to the city's reputation as a leading European cultural capital city.

The City Library and the City Gallery together will be the anchor for a range of complementary creative experiences, from music to media, connected by a new civic plaza. It will be a public place, with opportunities for everyone to participate in the many strands of culture that are fundamental to the city.

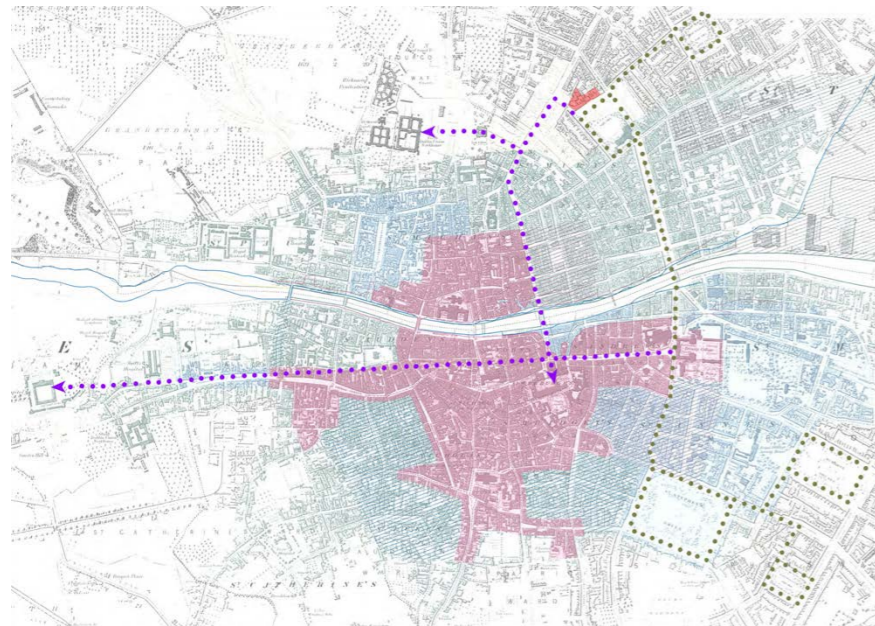


Concept Sketch Illustrating A Unified Parnell Square And Its Connection To O'Connell St

# 3 The Site

## 3.1 Location

Parnell Square is the first of the Georgian residential squares and owes its origins to a combination of quality speculative development aspirations with altruistic social ambition. It lies at the northern end of Dublin's great civic spine which unifies North and South sides of the city and which extends through O'Connell Street to Christchurch embracing College Green, Dame Street, City Hall and Dublin Castle.



Civic Spine & Green-way Promenade

This spine has been described as extending to Kilmainham (IMMA and the former Royal Hospital) and St. Stephen's Green and is a mechanism for understanding the structure of the City along which is located buildings and places of cultural and civic significance.

Along with the Liffey Quays, this structure is at once historic and contemporary. So, the concept of a cultural quarter at one end of this Civic Spine, focussed on the city's Central Library, society's expression of civility, democracy and generosity, is apt.



Overhead View Of 1:500 Planning Model With Street Names Indicated



## 3.2 History

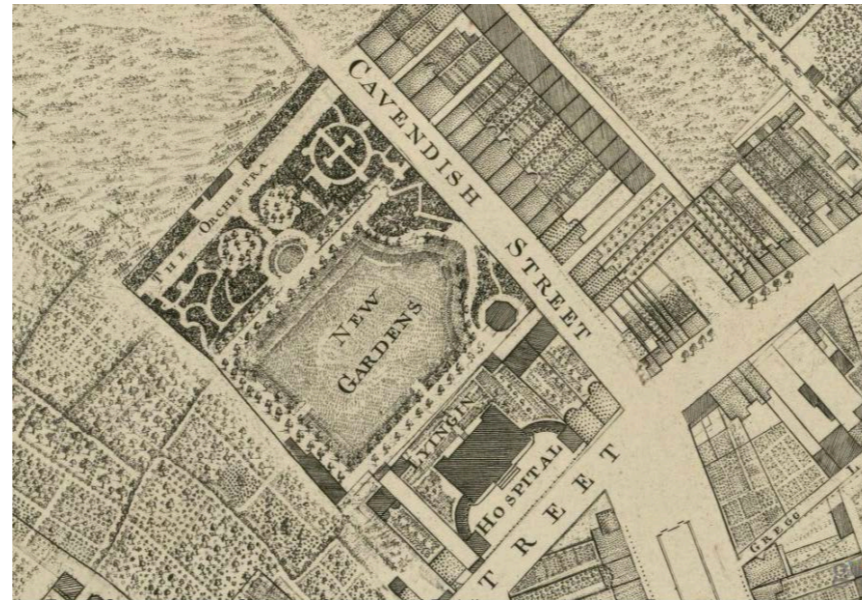
Parnell Square is one of the earliest formal squares laid out in Dublin with pleasure gardens laid out by Bartholomew Mosse to fund the construction and upkeep of his Lying-in Hospital (now the Rotunda Hospital) on Great Britain Street.

The development of Parnell Square was a joint effort between Bartholomew Mosse and Luke Gardiner. The town-houses on the east side, Cavendish Row, were the first to be built around the gardens. By 1758 houses were being built on the west side. The north side was developed in the 1760s as a terrace with a 'palace front' that had Charlemont House at its centre. Originally called Palace Row and opened in 1769, it is the only terrace of this type in Dublin. There was a significant architectural input to its design from John Ensor, who is known to have planned the north side for Mosse as early as 1755, and William Chambers was the architect engaged by Lord Charlemont to design his town house on a double plot in the centre.

Parnell Square is the earliest of Dublin's Georgian Squares with houses of greater size and quality than the later squares. By 1787 it had more grandees in residence there than any other address in Dublin and clients and designers of the highest order were involved in its building. The houses that make up the terraces on either side of Charlemont House were constructed in the 1760s. They are of high quality in terms of both their external appearance as part of a coherent Georgian square.

No. 28, which faces Granby Row, is a house of particular interest because of its unusual plan layout and the high quality of its internal joinery and plasterwork. Charlemont House, designed by Sir William Chambers, is a building of national importance. It has the most impressive setting of any Georgian town-house in Dublin. The views, particularly from the upper floors of Charlemont House, and adjoining houses, are unrivalled in Dublin – looking south from an elevated site towards the Dublin Mountains. For clarity, there are no works proposed to Charlemont House included as part of this application.

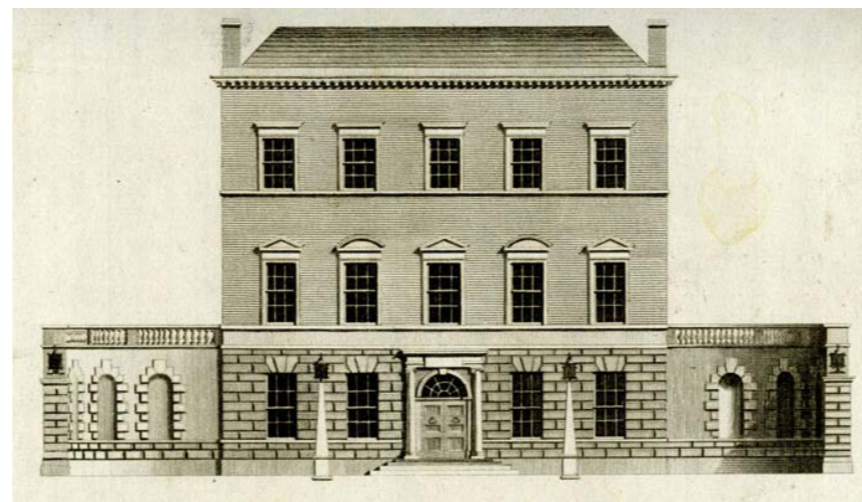
The Protected Structure Impact Statement included as part of this application provides a more detailed description of the history of Parnell Square.



An Exact Survey of the City and Suburbs of Dublin, 1756, by John Rocque



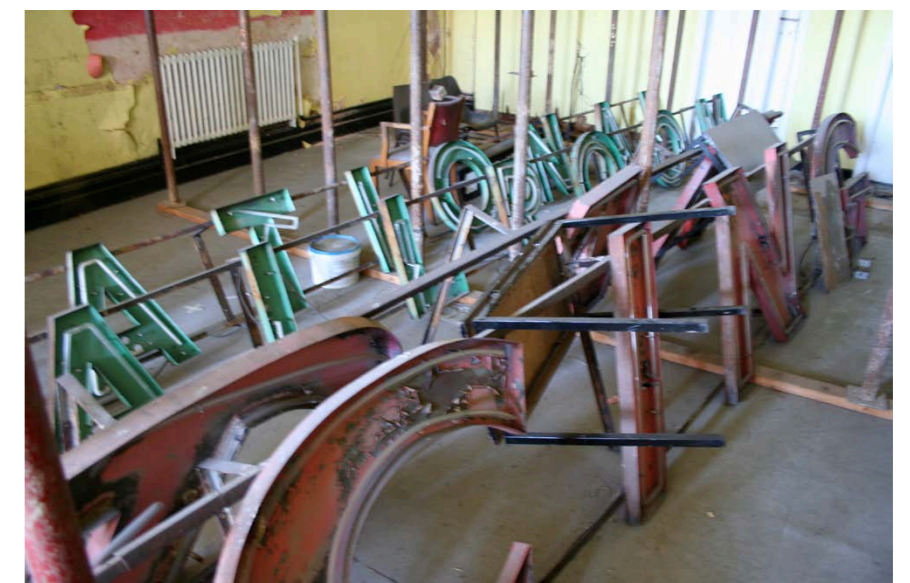
Malton Print of Rutland Square



Charlemont House



The National Ballroom At 20&21 Parnell Square North



National Ballroom Neon Signs Stored In House nos 20&21

# 3 The Site

## 3.3 The Houses

Nos 20-21 and 23-28 are all protected structures. The north side of the Square, called Palace Row, was laid out by 1755 and construction of the houses took place between 1758 and 1766, with Nos 17 & 18 completed by 1773. While the houses have been adapted and altered to varying degrees to accommodate changes in architectural fashion and the requirements of new uses, they all retain the essence of their Georgian plan form and proportions.

The project seeks to guide the regeneration of a place which has strong and innate architectural and urban magnificence which has been somewhat chipped away over the years. Taking eight unused Georgian buildings - with their own interesting histories and architectural qualities and with such fine interiors looking southwards over the city - expanding and enhancing the public realm and, re-imagining the underused and radically altered rear curtilage to the former school buildings, this combination of buildings and public spaces will bring new cultural uses into the area and link these with existing uses to facilitate a potency of culture and heritage for the 21st century city.



View East Along Parnell Square North With Findlaters Church In the Distance



View To The Rear Elevation Of Houses 23-28, The Former Coláiste Mhuire



Public Realm Site Houses 20-21 Houses 23-26 Hugh Lane Gallery  
The Components of the Project



Collage Elevation Of Existing Facade To Parnell Square North, Palace Row

### 3.4 The Site to the rear of Nos 23-28

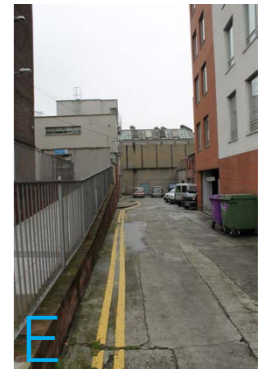
The site to the rear of nos. 23-28 measures approximately 40m by 45m. It is partially covered by cellars, a return to no.23 and retaining walls as well as the 1963 octagonal theatre (Amharclann) by Boyle & Delany Architects. The primary access to the Amharclann is via a link bridge that connects to no. 27. The rear site has access to Frederick Lane North via existing gates as well as connections to Bethesda Place via existing doors to the Amharclann.



View Along Frederick Lane North



Panoramic View Of Rear Site Looking North



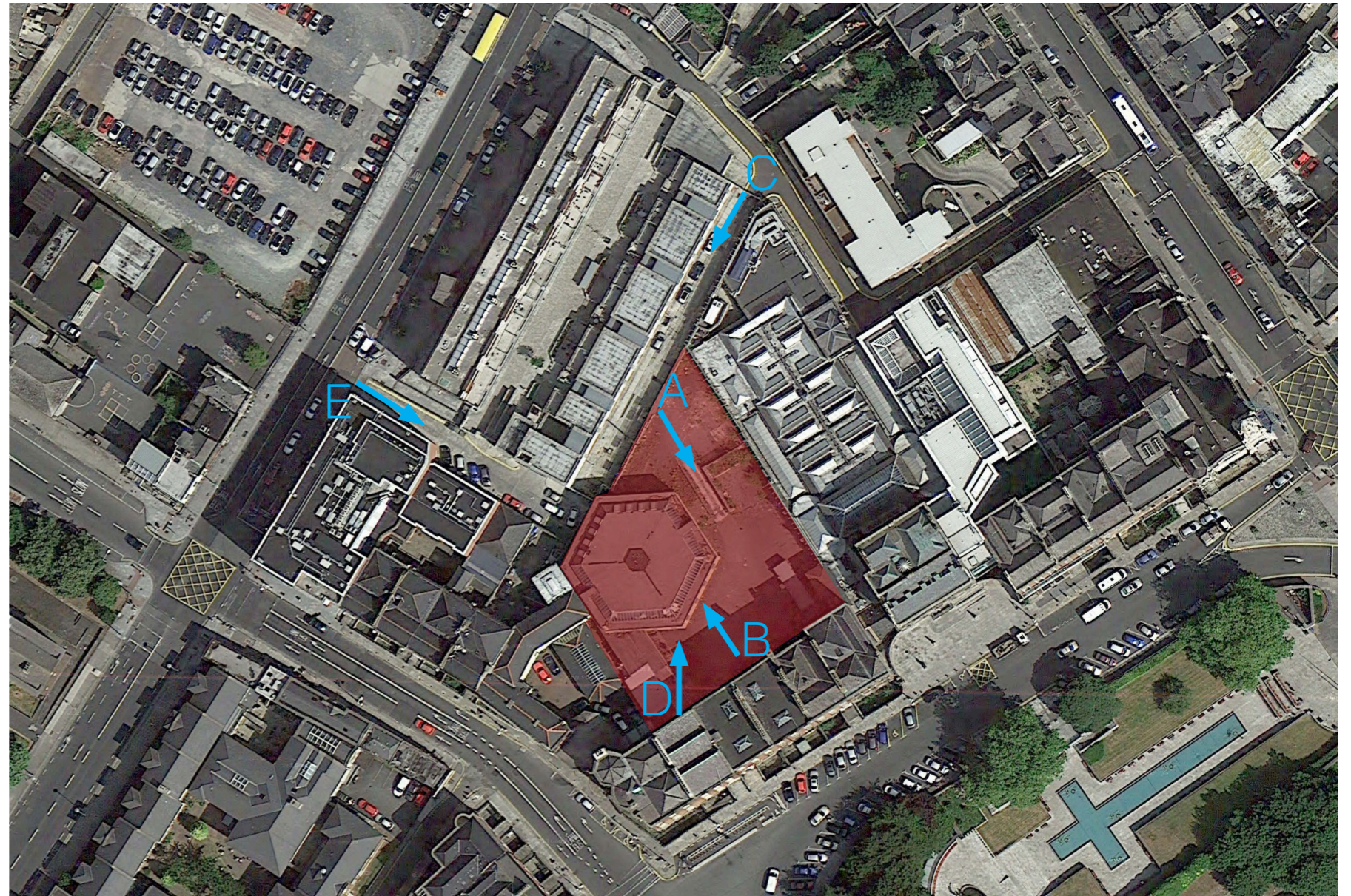
Bethesda Place



View From The Rear Gates To Frederick Lane North Looking South To Houses 23 & 24



The 1963 Octagonal Theatre (Amharclann) by Boyle & Delany Architects



Aerial View With The Rear Site Indicated In Red

# 4 Design Process

## 4.1 The Design Competition

As part of the project procurement process the design team were short-listed for a limited competition and asked to respond with outline themes and key concepts in response to the clients brief and site.

Through the process of design and research into the aspirations of the brief and site we found that the issues that we initially thought of as difficulties were in fact qualities that could be harnessed to capture the particular personality of Dublin. By incorporating the historic spaces of the existing houses, they become invigorated by new life. All library users would have the opportunity to spend time in, and experience these elegant Georgian rooms, with their beautiful light and views out over Dublin city.

The brief asked us to consider the integration of historic fabric and contemporary space, we responded by weaving past and present, thoughts and spaces together as an ensemble experience. Architecturally, we emphasise and harness these particularities, rather than iron them out and neutralize the experience. The following summarises the key concepts identified in the competition design.



The Competition Entry

### Library As Civic Room

A key concept identified in the competition design was to imagine the site to the rear of the houses as an interior public space, a civic room. We thought about the historic large scale spaces embedded in the smaller grain of the urban block in Dublin, such as abbeys, meeting houses, churches, and theatres. Within this tradition we explored the making of a similar grand scale, embedded space for the new Library.

The spatial excitement of the new library space engenders a sense of surprise, discovery, and pleasure. It is proposed as an open framework, a piece of city rather than a building, which will both receive and emit energy. The project imagines and allows for a future when the adjacent streets and square will be rejuvenated by the existence of this open cultural 'engine'. Future physical connections to Dorset Street via Bethesda Lane are envisaged as well as the welcoming address to Parnell Square North.



Library As Market: A Place Of Social & Cultural Exchange

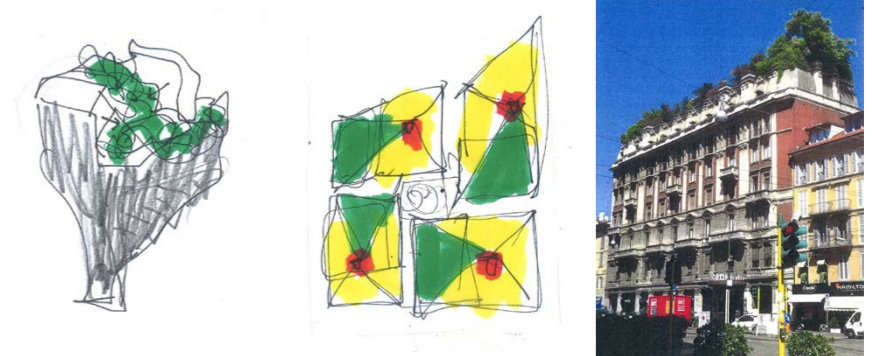


The City Hall Rotunda Re-Imagined As An Embedded Civic Room

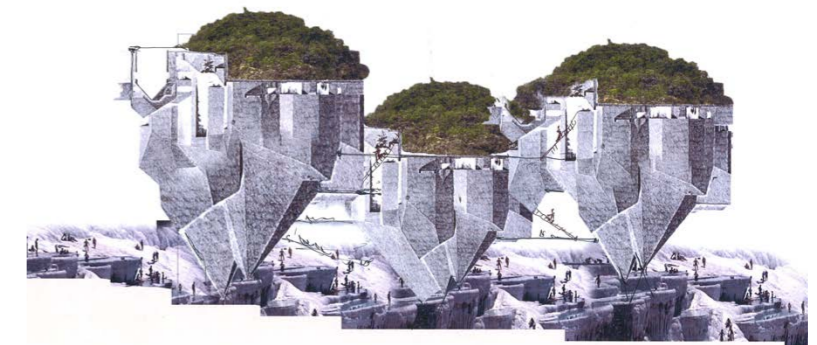
### Pleasure Gardens In The Sky

In the historic maps, Parnell Square North is referred to as 'Palace Row' with 'The Orchestra' running along the northern edge of the Pleasure Gardens (Rocque). We were inspired by these terms and by the potential to make a truly memorable space in the city. We took the opportunity to develop our ongoing exploration and belief in the idea of 'architecture as new geography'. Our proposal for the new library imagined an elevated urban landscape, a pleasure garden in the sky.

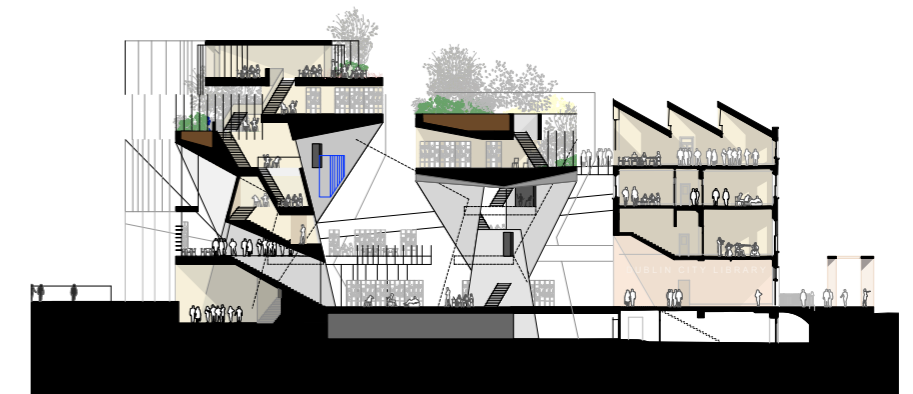
"If you have a garden and a library, you have everything you



Elevated Landscape: Competition Sketches And Reference Image



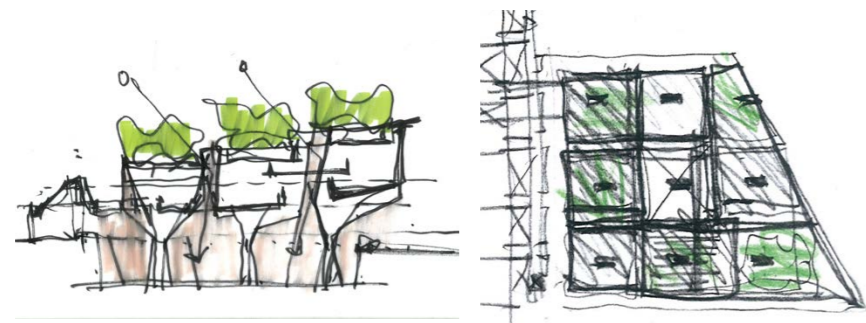
Competition Concept Sketch



Competition Section Illustrating A New Garden Landscape As An Elevated Rooftop

## Zenithal Light

The nature of the rear site is a space embedded in the fabric of the 18th century city. This meant that the building would be somewhat shielded from view and limited in its frontage in terms of incoming daylight. We investigated examples of libraries with zenithal light; light from above. The 19th century St. Genevieve Library in Paris by Henri Labrouste with its beautifully elegant structure and controlled light was a key reference for the project.



Market Hall: Roof-Lit With Large Tree-Like Columns:



St. Genevieve Library Paris: H. Labrouste

## Overlapping the Contemporary & the Historic

The proposed Library acknowledges that cultural space matters; that spaces where people meet, matter. As more and more people meet on social media, actual spaces take on a new responsibility. They have to be worth going to... they have to be worth the effort of getting there. The Brief is trying to bring multiple uses together, so that interesting things can happen in spaces... the unexpected, the chance encounter... Our architectural approach considers these in-between, over-lapping spaces as critical overlapping places of possibility, which we believe is a central objective of the brief. Knowing there are others, curious to find out more, to learn more. We overlap the contemporary with the 18th century, the great Library Hall as public room overlaps with the generous, domestic intimacy of the houses.



A Place To Discover - The Great Hall Of The Library - A New Urban Landscape



Elegant Georgian Rooms: Privileged Views Of City

## The Public Room as extension of the Public Realm

The competition design proposed that the reinvention of the square and a wider strategy for stimulating the public realm could be exercised at a number of scales through a landscape strategy. One part of the strategy proposes that the public realm can be extended beyond the Parnell Square North façades into the library itself, using the language of landscape where new stepped gardens weave through structural elements, creating aerial islands, offering peaceful lacunae, safe and sunny, held above the shaded ground plane. We want to encourage movement through the building, to give the sense that the public realm can flow from exterior to interior and back to exterior space.



Concept section showing the public realm flowing through the existing houses



Cultural Engine: The Library And The Public Space Together

# 4 Design Process

## 4.2 Design Development

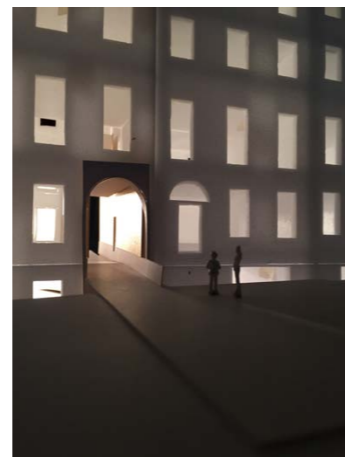
Subsequent to the design teams appointment a design review process was undertaken using the design intent of the competition scheme as a basis for testing adjacencies, suitability of location, character and quality of assigned spaces against the various constraints of the site. The first of many card models was made to illustrate the massing of the competition scheme within the site.

A series of workshops took place with each of the Cultural Quarter user groups. Drawings, card models, 3D views and sketches were used to present our work allowing valuable feedback to be received at each user meeting. This iterative review process led to a refinement of the spatial relationship between the various program elements. Interior 3D views have played an important role in testing the impact of the structural approach and in ensuring that the quality and excitement of the competition scheme was maintained through this process.

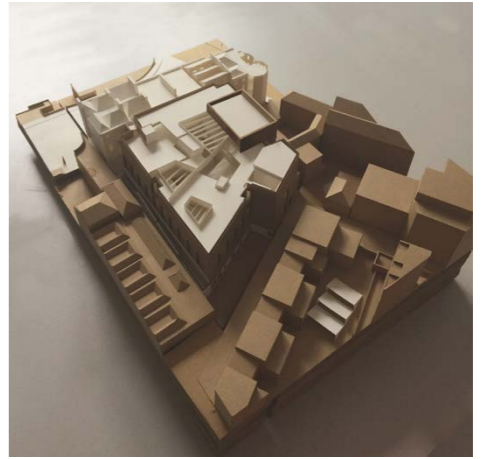
In developing the programme adjacencies some uses were spread between the existing buildings and the new extension. This reflects the provision of varying quality spaces in response to particular requirements of the brief and the type of spaces which exist and can be created. It also underpinned the competition stage design approach which saw a full and meaningful integration of new and existing in creating the new cultural quarter facilities.

Throughout the projects design development and underpinning all the design approaches to adjacency, circulation and spatial character has been an overriding objective for wide inclusivity and access. This was not just about overcoming physical barriers, eg. changes in level, though this is a significant challenge to address at this site. The developed design embraces design attitudes to legibility, light, proximity of essential facilities; environmental quality (comfort), wayfinding and all aspects of Universal Design.

This project has taken shape through years of close collaboration between the community, the librarians and the designers. The following images are included to demonstrate the variety of techniques and methods that were employed by the team to communicate their work and were key to furthering this collaboration.



A Selection Of Design Development Sketches, Models, Drawings & Renderings



# 5 Description Of Proposal

## 5.1 The Design At A Glance

To make a 21st century City Library is to make an Imagination Hub, a place for the democratic gathering of citizens, to provide a facilitator of creative life. The design approach and solutions have been informed by the project brief, in-depth study of the existing context and relevant precedents from Dublin and further afield and in conjunction with the conservation strategy. The Conservation Strategy, which is described in detail in the Protected Structure Impact Statement will continue to underpin design development and, ultimately, the implementation and construction stage.

The project brief proposes an effective village of uses and seeks an open building which is easy to enter and access by all people, irrespective of their language, physical and mental abilities, citizenship, etc. Exploration of the site and wider city context led to the observation of a 17th and 18th century pattern of large gathering spaces embedded within the dense city blocks – often behind or within the residential streets and squares.

Studying the layers of change which the houses had undergone - in particular a number of the former Coláiste Mhuire buildings which had been altered significantly in the 1960's to accommodate the school functions - along with establishing hierarchies of significance with regard to the architectural qualities, features and intactness, has informed where and how interventions, alterations and additions are made.

The scheme proposes a great hall secreted behind the houses which sets out to create a generous new internal world with a high central volume lit from above and by high windows around the sides, with the various functions looking onto this space culminating in the conference centre at the top. This speaks to the tradition of many great library and public gathering spaces within the architectural canon.

The existing houses provide an alternative type of library space to this great hall, with their classically proportioned rooms interconnected to allow for an enfilade of different spaces and functions, including the south-facing front rooms which enjoy light, warmth of the sun and elevated city views.



Section Rendering Through The Proposed Library





# 5 Description Of Proposal

## 5.2 The Existing Public Realm

The buildings that surround Parnell Square East, North and West are coherent, being a strong combination of red brick houses and granite 'specials'. Anchored by the beautiful Hugh Lane Gallery, the northern section of Parnell Square is positioned on a rising section of Dublin, elevated over the city and facing south.

In urban terms, the actual perception of Parnell Square at the moment is of four distinct and separate streets. There is a vague impression of a collection of buildings somehow contained in the middle area. The original aspirations and experiences of the Square were very different. It contained Pleasure Gardens as a focus. To be in one of the houses overlooking the square was a privilege.

At the moment, the south, west and the east sides of the Square are very heavily trafficked. The fact that the west and east sides are sloped gives them a very different character to the relatively flat north and south sides of the Square. The traffic to the south makes the relationship of the Square and O'Connell Street difficult. The edges of the Square have cars parked at right angles to footpaths. The re-thinking of how cars and buses affect the Square is essential to changing the character of the new Cultural Quarter.

The architectural expression of Parnell Square is of brick walls, doors, steps and railings. The main urban question is what will give this project a Civic presence that will register in the public's mind? How will this new facility be described? How will everyone - whether pushing a buggy, on crutches, in a wheel chair, or strolling - be able to enter and use the building? Finding a coherent relationship with levels was for the team a key initial challenge. This analysis was crucial to the project - to ensure the public's right to participate. For us, this project is a call to architecture to play a significant 21st century role in forming a new type of community. This Project calls on architecture to facilitate a community of strangers.



View Of Existing Public Realm Looking East Along Parnell Square North



View Of Existing Public Realm Looking West Along Parnell Square North



The Stepped Entrances To House Nos 26 & 27



The Stepped Entrance To House No 21



Elevated View Looking East Along Parnell Square North Illustrating The Proposed Public Realm Design

# 5 Description Of Proposal

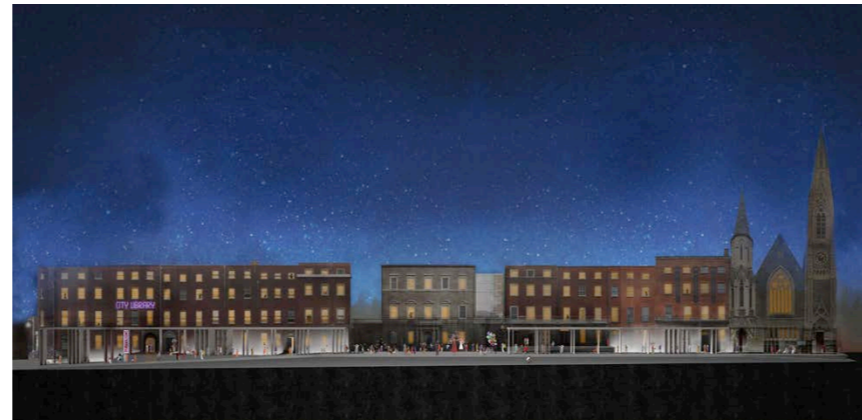
## 5.3 The Proposed Public Realm

The brief called for the enhancing of the public realm immediately in front of the new library – what was called Palace Row, now Parnell Square North - and setting out an intention about the quality of the wider square and surrounding area.

The proposal for the Public Realm is more fully described in the Public Realm & Landscape Report that accompanies this submission. This report considers the wider hinterland as a sphere of influence, which includes the current central library location within the ILAC and stretching to include a large and diverse residential area, the new emerging DIT campus at Grangegorman and southwards to the Nation's 'Main Street'.

The enhanced public realm proposal for Parnell Square proposes a widened expanse of paving – retaining the historic pavement and extending it to create a space for a range of activities and events which includes simply sitting or maybe reading a book and enjoying the sun. This space will also unify the different elements of the library and cultural quarter – the library extends to both sides of the Hugh Lane Gallery. The design approach has been to create a calm surface which increases the space for the pedestrian, acknowledges the formal qualities of the Square and particularly the north side with the Hugh Lane Municipal Gallery/Charlemont House at the centre – a somewhat unique arrangement amongst Dublin's Georgian Squares. The design will accommodate annual events such as the St Patrick's Day Parade as well as regular markets and other outdoor events.

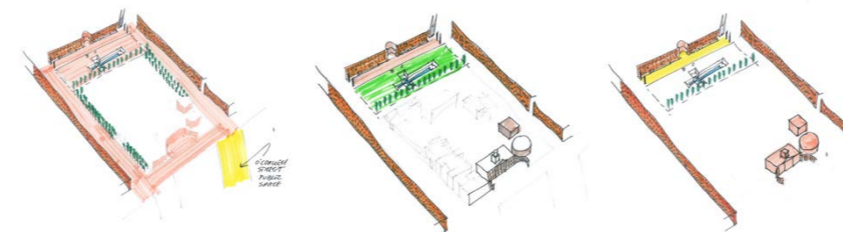
This proposed new Public Realm will be a key element in giving a civic presence to the new City Library. Physically, the new library will assert its presence on Parnell Square North by spilling out onto this space, by the animation and inhabitation of the 18th century brick façade with a variety of activities, and by the transformation of the public realm and the relationship to the Square. We see the potential of making vibrant threshold spaces at the entry points to the square, the potential to blur the boundaries between the streets and the square and the potential to make a more unified cohesive landscape bringing all the disparate elements together as a more legible and pleasurable civic experience.



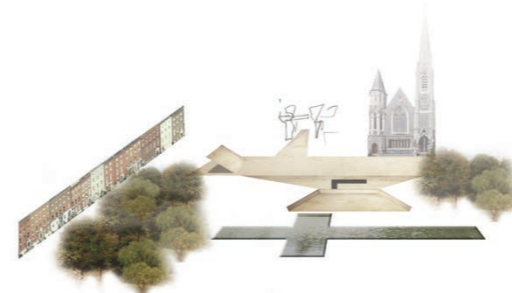
Concept Twilight View Of The Inhabited Houses & Public Realm



Concept View Of Charlemont House At The Centre Of A Reinvigorated Palace Row



Re-imagining The Perimeter Of Parnell Square And The Urban Artefact's Held Within



Civic Connector: The Public Realm & The Public Room



Concept View Illustrating A Unified Cohesive Surface



Before & After Views Of A Long Term Approach To Reconfiguring The Wider Public Realm



Elevated View Looking West Along Parnell Square North Illustrating The Proposed Public Realm On A Market Day

# 5 Description Of Proposal

## 5.4 Massing & Form of New Building

The new building was conceived as a large urban room, a inner public space as an extension of the public realm. The scale and form of the proposed new building are a product of our imagining the spaces in the brief as a marketplace of ideas, with a generosity and volume appropriate to a civic room. An early collage made for the project was to re-imagine the rotunda of Dublin's City Hall sitting behind the enclosure of the houses on Parnell Square North. The volume and scale of the rotunda is similar to the scale of the proposed Library hall.

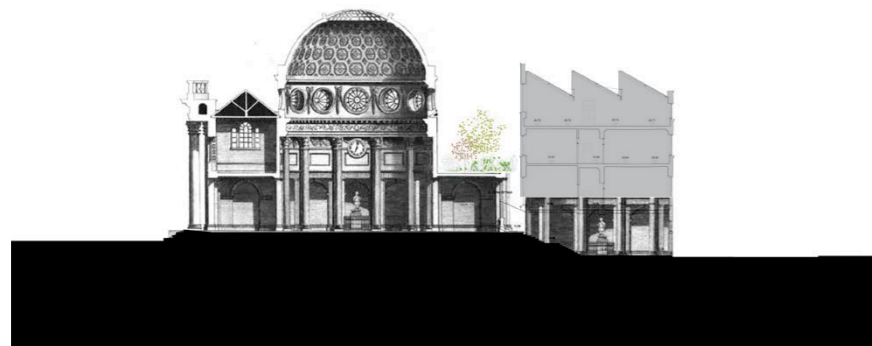
The 18th century houses and other edges to the site form a built enclosure, the proposed new building is contained within. There are glimpses to the rear site that occur between the surrounding fabric. The massing and form of the new building has taken these vantage points into consideration, they are illustrated in the following pages.



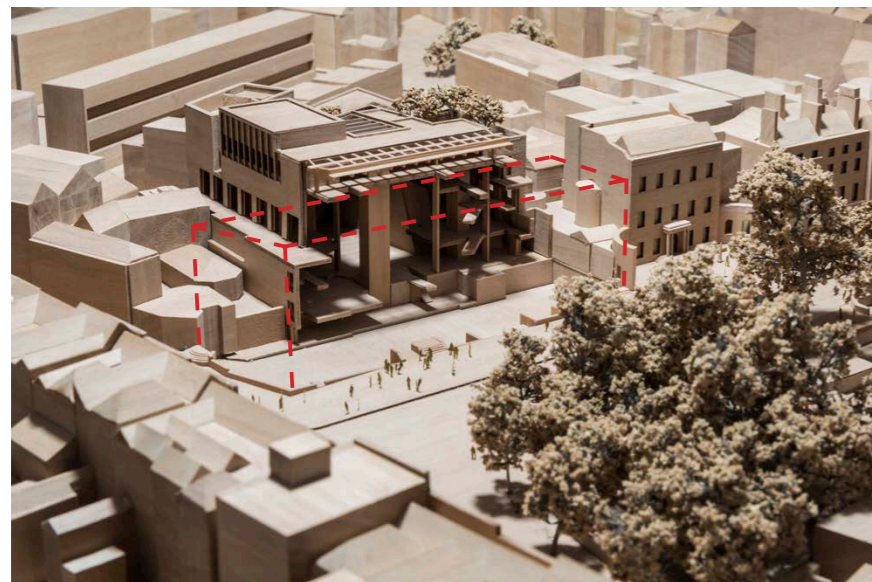
View Of 1:500 Model Looking North



View Of 1:500 Model Looking West



Collage Of The Dublin City Hall Rotunda As A Hidden Room



View Of The 1:500 Model With Houses 23-28 Removed To Reveal The Library Great Hall



Aerial View Of The Application Site With The Built Edges And Glimpses Indicated



View Of 1:500 Model Looking South



View Of 1:500 Model Looking East



Contextual Elevation Along Granby Row

# 5 Description Of Proposal

## 5.5 South Elevation

The new building is effectively obscured from view by the presence of the former Coláiste Mhuire houses, nos 23-28. The new building does make its presence felt from distant views from the low end of the square. From here the fourth floor rooflight that over-sails the rear parapet of the houses can be seen, as well as the proposed roof terrace occupying the roofs of house nos 25 & 26. The occupation of the houses and the activity along the public realm will be the real signifiers of the presence of the Library.



Extract From VIA Chapter Of EIAR: Existing View North Along Parnell Square West



Extract From VIA Chapter Of EIAR: Proposed View North Along Parnell Square West



View Of 1:500 Model Showing South Elevation In Context



Proposed South Elevation



## 5.6 West Elevation

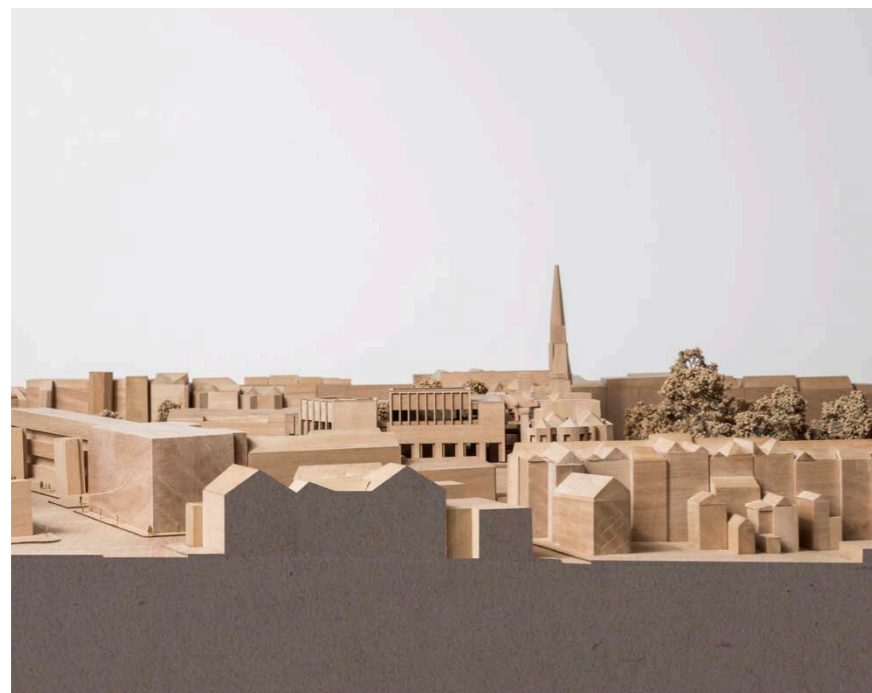
The conference centre is a large space within the library, its elevated position at third and fourth floor gives it a strong presence on the Western Elevation. The space between the gable of no. 28 and the Parnell Court complex of buildings allows views to the western elevation of the proposed new building, here the rhythm of brick piers and clerestory windows will be partially visible. Also visible will be the large west facing window at the connection with the rear facade of the houses. This window is strategically placed to allow low evening light to bathe the rear wall of the houses.



Extract From VIA Chapter Of EIAR: Existing View East Along Parnell Square North



Extract From VIA Chapter Of EIAR: Proposed View East Along Parnell Square North



View Of 1:500 Model Showing West Elevation In Context



Proposed West Elevation, Section Through House No.28

# 5 Description Of Proposal

## 5.7 East Elevation

The Eastern elevation of the proposed new building looks over the rooflights of the 1930's gallery extension to Charlemont House, the Hugh Lane Gallery. The facade is held back by approximately 2.7m as it rises above the parapet of the boundary wall. A rhythm of brick piers and clerestory windows form a band or datum along this facade. These clerestory windows are positioned one floor above the mezzanine gallery, allowing light to penetrate deep into the hall without creating issues of privacy or overlooking.



Extract From VIA Chapter Of EIAR: Existing View North West From Palace Row



Extract From VIA Chapter Of EIAR: Proposed View North West From Palace Row



View Of 1:500 Model Showing East Elevation In Context



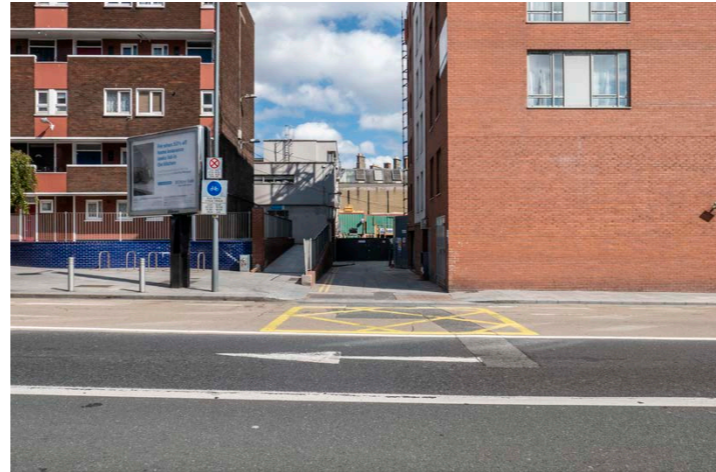
Proposed East Elevation

## 5.8 North Elevation

The Northern elevation is composed of two parts. The first is a taller element that comes further North and makes an alignment with Bethesda Place and signals the Library's presence from Dorset Street. At its base is a lobbied entrance to the Library, the aim is to encourage free circulation through the great library hall and on to Parnell Square, a new short-cut through the city. A large recessed window sits above the lobby. The upper section of this portion of the facade is the Performance Space with its rhythm of floor level windows looking back along Bethesda Place. The second part is lower, it addresses Sheridan Court across the setback of the secure loading area. Careful consideration was given to privacy and overlooking in this area, this is covered in the Boundary Treatments section of this report.



View Of 1:500 Model Showing West Elevation In Context



Extract From VIA Chapter Of EIAR: Existing View South Along Bethesda Place



Extract From VIA Chapter Of EIAR: Proposed View South Along Bethesda Place



Proposed North Elevation

# 5 Description Of Proposal

## 5.9 Identity & Access

At the outset the strategy considered how to transform buildings which were conceived and developed as a series of domestic residences, with high-stepped entrances and cellular plan forms expressive of a socially ordered hierarchy, to the new civic, open, inviting and inclusive ambition for the new library, while retaining the very distinctive qualities of Georgian proportioned rooms within a calm restrained architecture.

Two significant interventions are proposed at the front to create enhanced and accessible new entrances to the library and cultural quarter. These occur at No 21 and 27 where the front steps will be removed and the existing door openings enlarged and extended downwards to pavement level. These interventions allow for level entry to the houses with graded ramps entering the buildings.

A key objective of the project is to ensure entrance to the library is clear, easy to use and welcoming. While there is a main entrance at No 27 - an already altered entrance within the most altered building - the intention is to allow for as many of the historic entrance doors to function as feasible and to provide for an entrance and connection to the north via Bethesda Place and Dorset Street. In some instances doors which had been removed by the school are being reinstated, (No 23), in others it is more challenging to meet the standards for universal access and these entrances may operate on an occasional basis (No 28).

A new stone surround to the main Library Door gives this entry point a new status. The volume of the entrance space is both gracious and generous, welcoming the anticipated 3,000 visitors per day. The new volume opens up views to the interior of the Library from the street, and draws the visitor into the heart of the building. It is considered as a continuation of the square, with its stone floor. The intention is to blur the boundary between inside and outside, and to make an easy welcoming open sequence of sociable threshold and entrance spaces. The Library café opens off this space and on sunny days this activity could spill onto the square.

We have established a primary Library Entrance, we have maintained the existing doorways and we propose two new-made entrances. Given the rich variety of 'suites' of spaces in the brief, many with their own reception and information points, this gives the opportunity of making multiple entry points and fostering an open experience.

A new entry point from Bethesda Place creates a strong and attractive pedestrian doorway. This new connection leads on grade to the Parnell Square entrance, allowing and encouraging pedestrian movement from Dorset Street to Parnell Square North through the Library Hall.

The current Library located in the ILAC Centre has a democratic, easily accessible, informal and vibrant quality, which we feel is important to maintain. The overall sense of this new building with its controlled multiple entry points, is that it is open and welcoming to the surrounding communities, to the stranger, to the stakeholders, and to all the constituents of the new cultural quarter.



View Of 1:500 Model Showing Library Entrance From Bethesda Place



Sketch Rendering Showing Library Entrance Looking Back To The Doorway Of No 27



Existing Enlarged Doorway To House 27



Study Model Testing Approach To Library



Concept Rendering Showing Ramp Connecting Footpath To The Library Hall



Interior View From First Floor Mezzanine Looking East Across The Library Hall

# 5 Description Of Proposal

## 5.10 Existing Houses Design Approach

This project requires the integration of historic buildings with a large new building, added to the enhanced and extended external public space of the north side of Parnell Square. The project provides a potential metaphor for how an historic city such as Dublin can interrogate and expand its architectural heritage in a way that is sensitive and coherent yet imaginative and exciting, perhaps challenging, and, above all can be welcoming and long lasting.

The design strategy has assessed the architectural heritage significance of each of the buildings, addressing the tangible and intangible dimensions of heritage as they pertain to the surviving physical fabric. Hierarchies have been established which acknowledge the degree of intervention and change the houses have undergone. The design approach locates the greater interventions associated with the new library within the buildings already more significantly altered. Nonetheless, to accommodate the new uses, ensure compliance with the relevant building regulations and statutory codes, and, meet the objectives of the brief, including providing 'state of the art' technology and IT infrastructure and, high standards of universal design and accessibility for all, considerable interventions will be required.

Externally the building fabric will be repaired, including re-pointing of the brick facades, removal of cementitious renders, repairs to front railings and plinths, windows, doors and stonework.

Internally, the houses are currently interconnected (Nos 20 with 21 and Nos 23-28). Additional openings in the party walls will be created to allow for ramped universal access between houses at all floor levels. New bridge connections to the new rear building will assist in achieving the level circulation where current differences in level between the houses is significant. While the intention is to ensure ease of movement between houses in order to create intuitive routes through the library and its different sections, there is also an objective to retain legibility of the houses, as individual houses. Thus the design of the intervention at each party wall opening, will articulate this threshold. Other techniques such as colour, inscribed identification details and signage will also be used.

The scheme presents the cultural heritage strata - which include Georgian residences; Gaelic League; schools; civic administration; ballroom; amongst other histories - as interwoven layers in combination with the new library and cultural quarter. In tandem with this, determining when it is appropriate to remove, alter or retain and articulate a particular layer is guided by a conservation plan approach which has identified what is significant, established hierarchies of significance and developed solutions in response to these.

The adaptation of the houses for the new library uses will require introduction of new structure, building services and other measures to meet fire safety design requirements. Where possible these will be integrated within the existing floor zones and vertical routes for services will be formed within the existing masonry structure. In other instances this approach will not be possible and so the design strategies have identified such services and other infrastructure and proposes that these will to a large extent be integrated within the new furniture and fittings of the library.

In providing the new uses to the standards expected and required, alterations are necessary, some of which will have significant impact on the existing buildings and architectural heritage context.



Design Development View Showing Interconnected Houses With Ramps

The design approach and strategy has been to ensure that the new architectural interventions are designed and executed with consideration and ambition for quality, durability, coherence and understanding of the inherited qualities of the buildings. With this approach, opportunities to recover some of the currently challenged/damaged heritage, are identified and integrated within the proposals. The plan form of the Georgian houses will be substantially retained and much of the surviving sound historic features and elements – staircases; joinery; decorative cornices, for example. However, it is not proposed to restore these houses to their 18th century Georgian condition and presentation.

Acknowledging the hierarchies of significance relating to the architectural heritage of the site and responding to these in the planning and functional layout of the library uses and circulation through the buildings and site respond to the imperatives of the brief for critical adjacencies. It also responds to the hierarchies of significance of the architectural heritage. Thus, the major interventions and alterations are principally located within the more altered buildings and generally there is an adherence to the inherited plan form of the Georgian houses.

The approach is to repair existing finishes and fabric of architectural significance, including that of the Georgian Houses and also of the subsequent layers of occupation, including the former school uses. Added to these will be the new layers of the new library, creating a form of palimpsest. While this approach will enable legibility between phases, the overall effect is to achieve an architectural integrity and coherence, along with durability and quality of material and detail. A consistency of architectural finish between the new layers within the historic houses and the finishes within the new library building will assist in achieving this coherence. There will also be occasions where strong visual contrast will be required to articulate significant functions of the new use and facility.

The Protected Structure Impact Statement included as part of this application provides a detailed description of the condition of the protected structures and the proposed works to be carried out.



Proposed View Of Georgian House Interior

# 5 Description Of Proposal

## 5.11 Basement Level

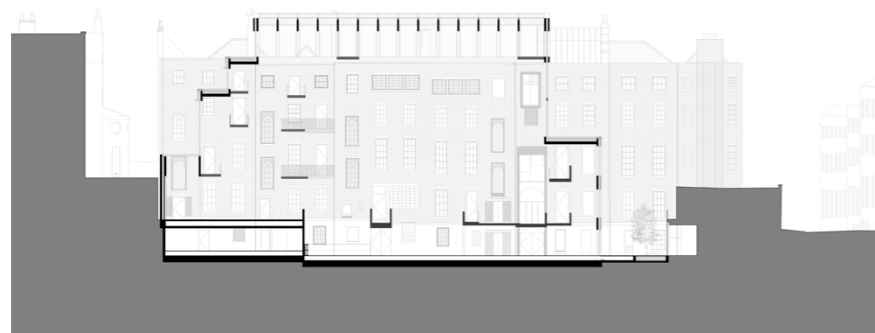
All eight of the Georgian Houses, 20-21 & 23-28, have an existing basement level. These Basement rooms benefit greatly from the southerly aspect of their basement areas, unlike many basements they are good quality, well lit spaces. Our approach generally with regard to the houses and the new build is to create a flow of space between the two. A key way to create this flow is to share components of the library across old and new, this is true of the basement levels as well as the upper floors.

The Basement Levels to Houses 20-21 will have their aspect to the street reintroduced by recovering the basement area. The uses proposed here are associated with the Design Centre as well visitor support facilities. These rooms will also benefit from a rear aspect to the Hugh Lane Gallery landscaped courtyard.

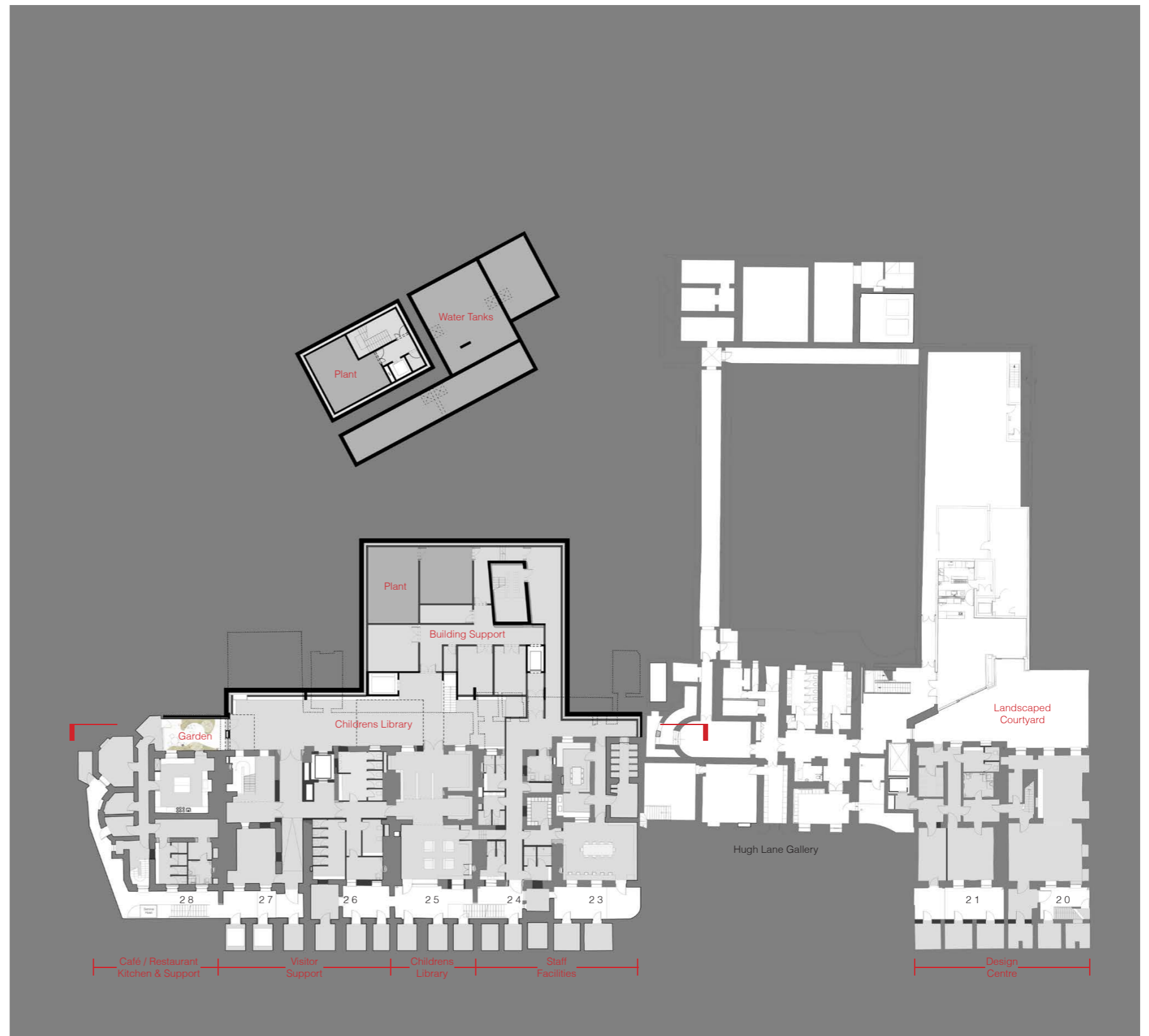
House nos 23&24 will house staff facilities and staff workspaces. House 26 will accommodate the Children's Library, connecting with a rear basement area that will extend along the rear of the houses and sit at the base of the Library Hall. A sunken garden to the rear of House 28 will offer dedicated outdoor space for the Children's Library.

House nos 26&27 will accommodate visitor facilities such as toilets and a nursing mothers room. The basement of house no 28 will support the restaurant on the ground floor with kitchens, stores and staff facilities.

Other support spaces such as plant, water tanks and conference catering support will be accommodated in a part basement constructed within the rear site.



Section At Rear Facade Indicating Bridges, Rooflight & Basement Level







Section Showing Connection Between Public Realm & South Facing Basement Areas



Design Development Images



Design Development Section Indicating Basement Voids At Connection To Houses



Sectional Perspective View Showing Connection Between New Building & The 18th Century Houses

# 5 Description Of Proposal

## 5.12 Ground Floor Level

The primary entry to the Library is via the already enlarged entrance at House no 27. A gently sloping ramp connects the historic footpath with a orientation space just inside the rear wall to the houses. From here library users can plan their visit with a variety of lifts and stairs available depending on the chosen destination. As well as House no 27 there are two other primary, universally accessible entrances to the Library, one at Bethesda Place, another important point of access to the Library, and lastly at House no 21 where another ramp is made to afford access to the interconnect houses 20-21.

The Ground Floor of the new building is the base of the Library Hall. Housing the General Lending collection, it is an active, vibrant space, a market hall of ideas occupying a flowing terrace of terrazzo flooring. Connections are encouraged to Dorset Street via Bethesda Place

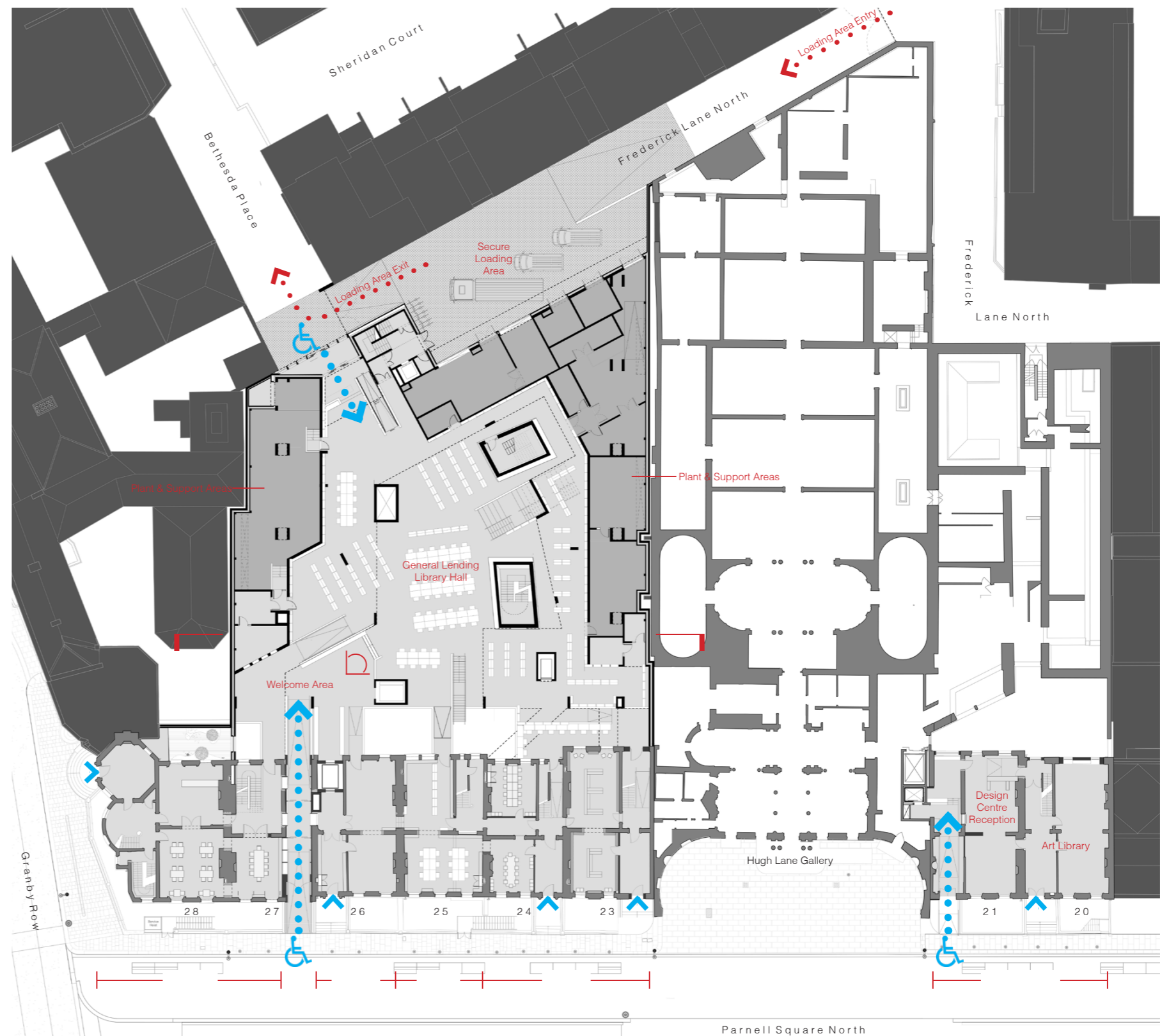
The ground floor of house no 28 is the Library Restaurant / Café with two interconnected dining spaces facing south and viewing down the length of Parnell Square West. To the other side of the main entrance through house no 27 is the main Library Exhibition space. House 25 is an extension of the General Lending Library, an alternative space in which to read a book and look out to the square.

The ground floor of Houses 23-24 will be the Innovation Hub. It was an important aspect of the brief that certain Library services would have their own identity; the existing doors to the houses offer that opportunity.

A secure loading area is created to the rear of the new building at a newly formed connecting point between Frederick Lane North and Bethesda Place. Proposed ramps will negotiate the current change in level of approximately 1.1m.



Section Looking South Towards House Nos 23-28





Interior View Of The Great Library Hall With Ground Floor Level Daylit From Above

# 5 Description Of Proposal

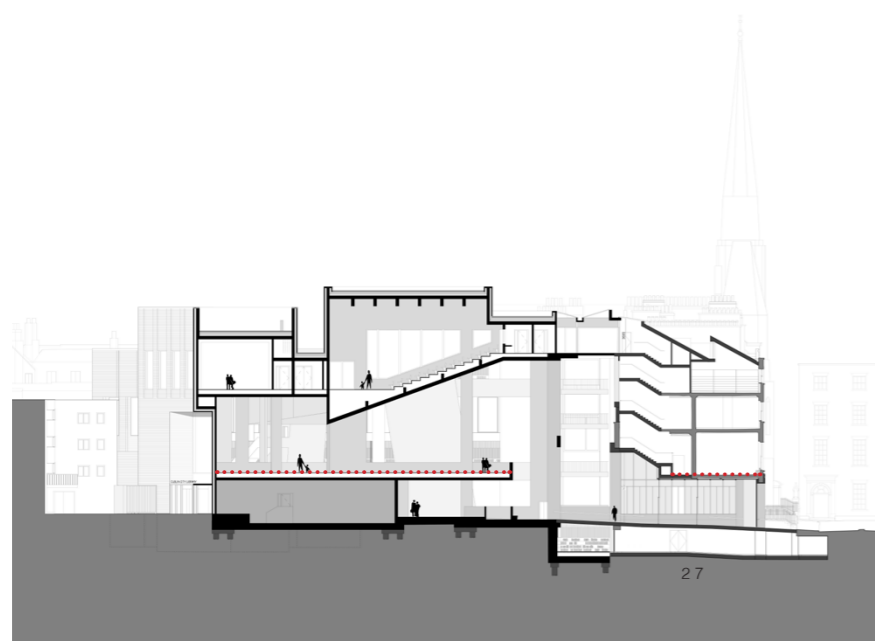
## 5.13 First Floor Level

At first floor level a mezzanine floor wraps around three sides of the void to the Library Hall. This will accommodate General Lending, Online Learning and the Reference Library. The Theatre Archive is also found at this level occupying a narrow strip on the western side of the Mezzanine. Store-front like display cabinets will allow the archivists to show a rotating display of items held in the collection such as costumes and play bills.

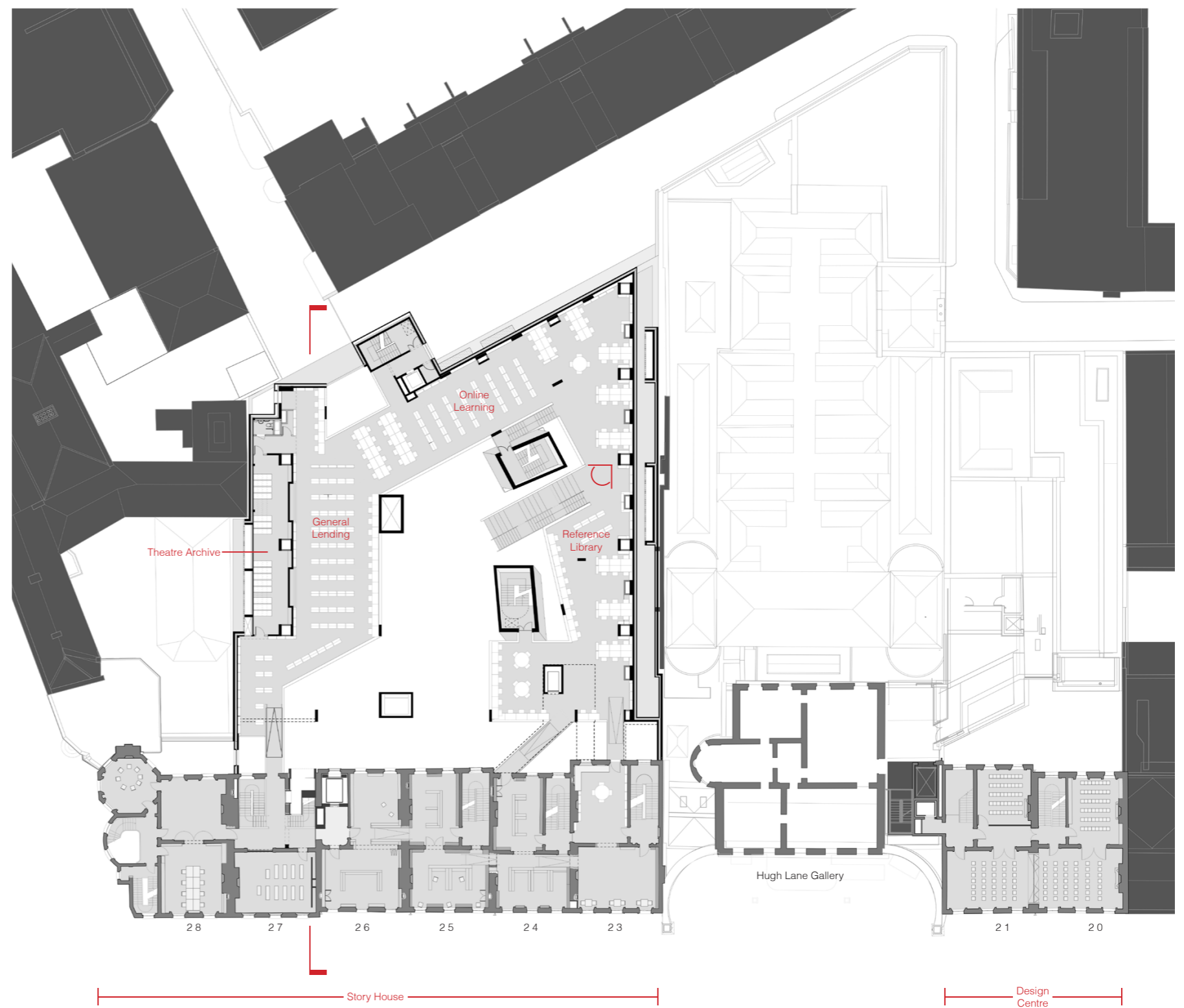
The new building and the existing houses are linked by bridges and the intention is that the library moves seamlessly between the old and the new. The houses form the fourth side to the mezzanine, setting up a loop of space moving from the new to the old and back again.

First Floor Level within house nos 23-28 is the StoryHouse. This will be a creative hub, supporting and fostering writers, literature groups and literature organisations within the wider Dublin area. A performance space for the StoryHouse is located in the front room to house no 27.

The two existing interconnected Piano Nobile rooms in house nos 20&21 will be used as the Design Centre gallery. This unique space with its six tall Georgian windows looking south towards the Garden Of Remembrance will be a multi functional space for talks, exhibitions and events centred around the promotion of design culture within the city.



Section Looking East Towards The Hugh Lane Gallery





Interior View From The First Floor Mezzanine Level

# 5 Description Of Proposal

## 5.14 Second Floor Level

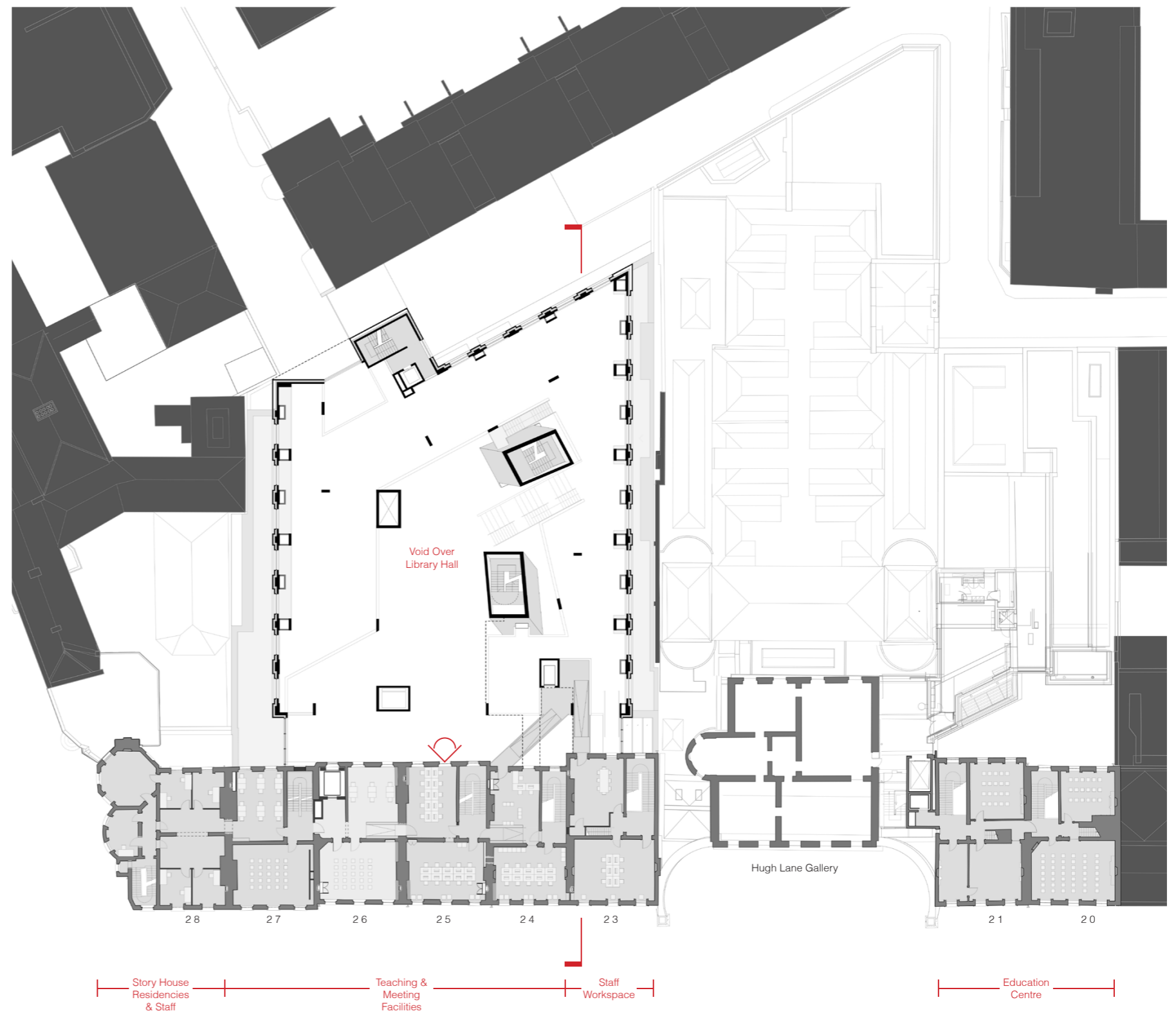
Library services at Second Floor Level are entirely located within the existing houses. Within the new building we are at the level of the clerestory windows that encircle three sides of the Library Hall, the fourth side being the street frontage like rear elevation to the houses.

House nos 20&21 will accommodate Education Facilities at this level. House 23 is somewhat remote from the other interconnected houses by virtue of a more substantial change in level than is commonly found within the houses. Staff workspaces are proposed for these rooms. House nos 24-27 will be the primary meeting and teaching facilities for the Library.

House no 28 at Second Floor Level will become the StoryHouse writers in residence spaces as well as Librarian staff spaces.



Section Looking West Towards Granby Row





The Library Hall As Viewed From The Second Floor Of the Houses

# 5 Description Of Proposal

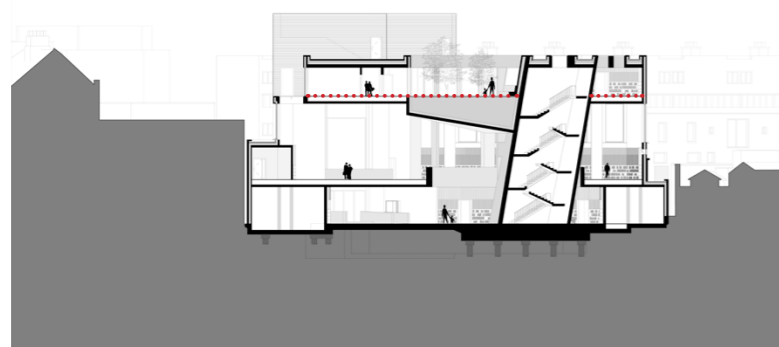
## 5.15 Third Floor Level

The Music Centre is found at the Third Floor Level within the new building. The Music Centre is envisioned as a space for music and spoken word performance, recording, rehearsal and creation. There are also strong synergies between the Music Centre and the Dublin City Library's music collection. Spatially, this service is accommodated in a ribbon of spaces beginning with House no 23, wrapping around the Library Hall void and continuing up to the fourth floor level via the raked floor of the Conference Centre.

Rehearsal spaces for local bands and musicians are provided in a narrow strip of rooms in the North East corner. A large performance & recording space is located on axis with Bethesda Place. At the centre of the music hub is a pocket garden. This outdoor space sits atop an inclined concrete structure with a depth of soil suitable to support a verdant garden with mature trees and planting.

A 200 seat multi-purpose conference / auditorium space suitable for both spoken word and musical performances is located at this level. It is designed so that the space can be used for casual reading or impromptu performance outside of scheduled conference times.

House nos 24&25 at this level will become the Teens & Young Adults section of the Library. House nos 26-28 will be the Cultural Quarter Education Centre, it will provide a high quality studio type space for 'making' activities of many kinds that will be able to accommodate classes for up to 40 students. To support use by schools a lunch room is provided as well as dedicated lockers and washroom facilities



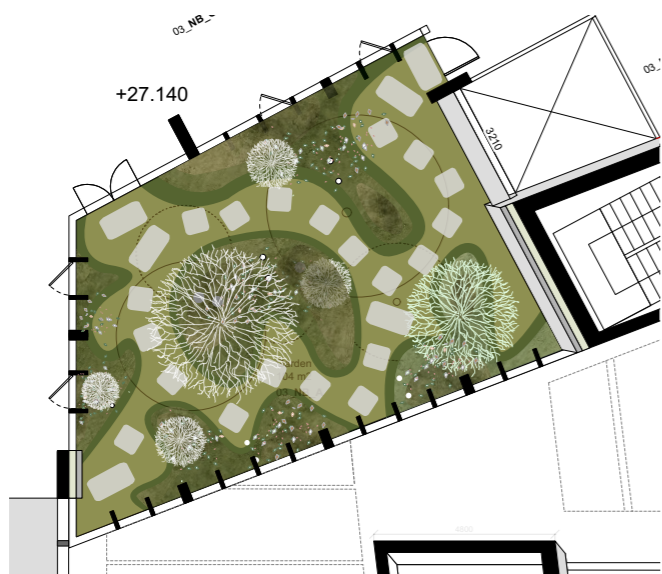
Section Looking North Towards Dorset Street







View Of Conference Stage At Third Floor Level



Plan Of Third Floor Pocket Garden



View Of Third Floor Pocket Garden



Design Development View Of Conference Space As Viewed From The Third Floor Pocket Garden

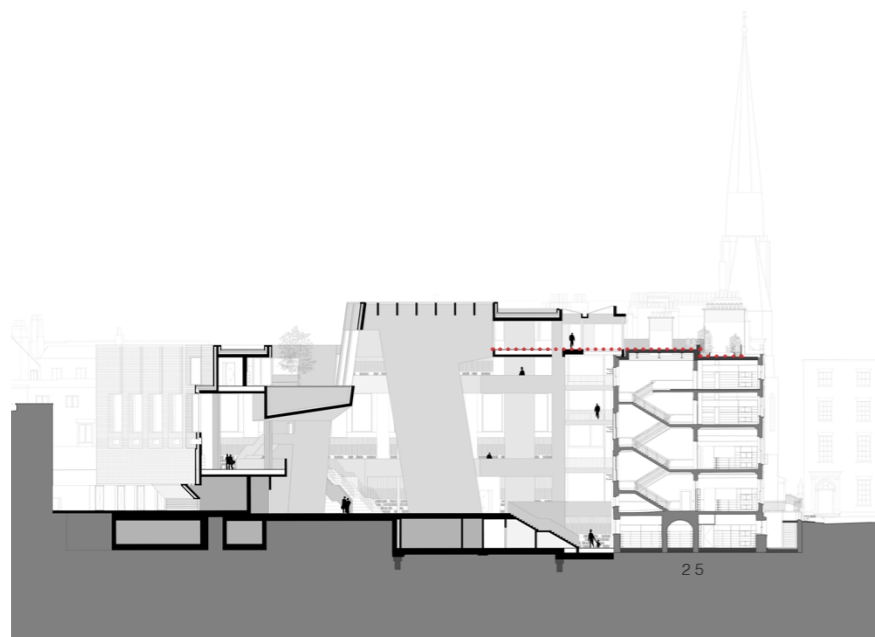
# 5 Description Of Proposal

## 5.16 Fourth Floor Level

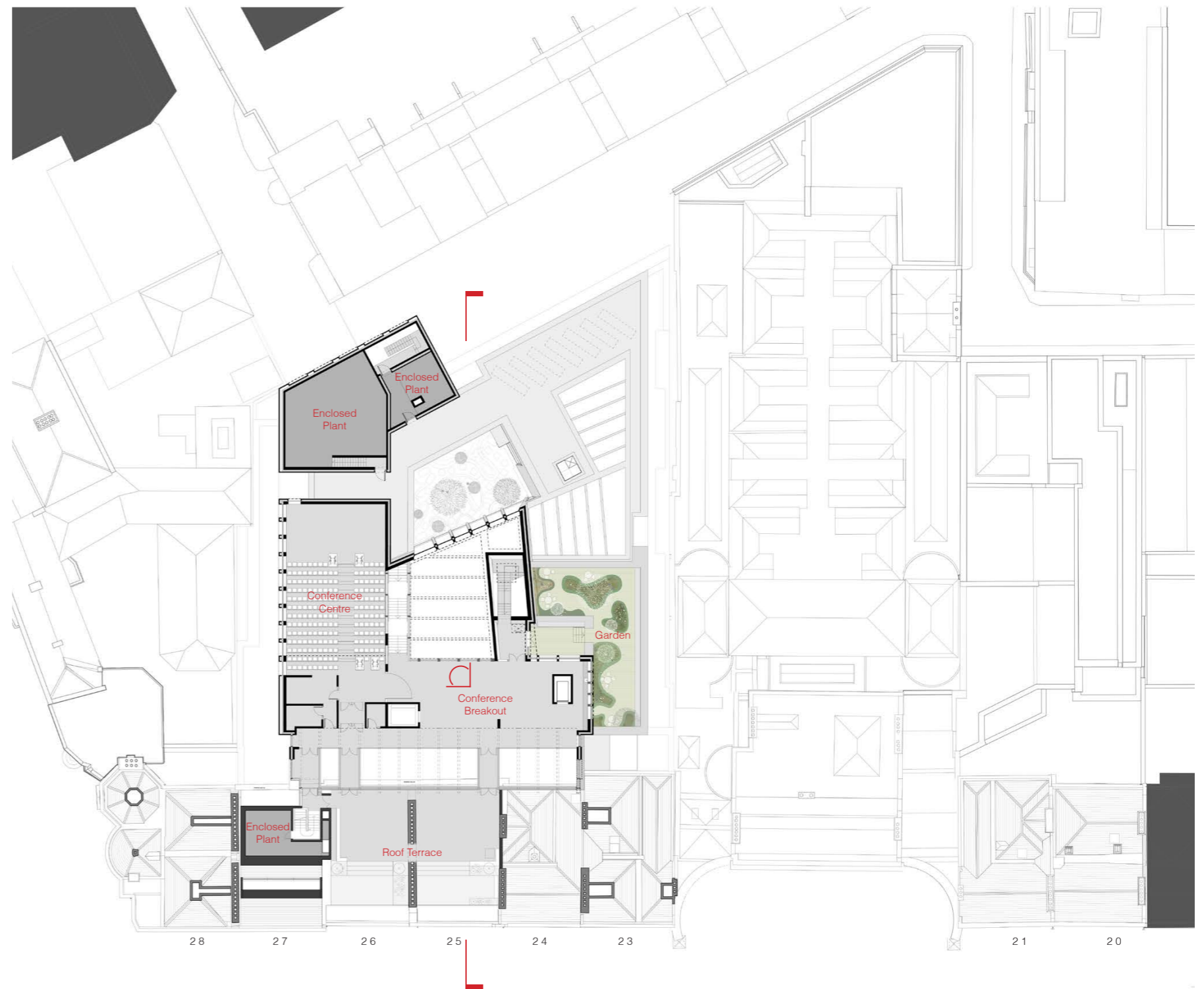
The upper level of the Conference Centre is at fourth floor level. Conference delegates will make their way directly to the fourth floor via a large dedicated elevator that connects basement, ground and fourth floor. Visitors will descend into the conference room from this upper level. Breakout space for the conference facility is provided from a bridge like section of floor that sits between houses 23-28 and the main Library void. From here panoramic views over the city will be available.

A garden is located adjacent to the eastern boundary. In thinking about how the Parnell Square Cultural Quarter might, through the public realm works and the architecture, recover the "Pleasure Gardens" of Bartholomew Mosse's "New Gardens" within Parnell Square, the concept for gardens and open spaces at the upper and roof levels emerged, thus creating a diversity of publicly accessible spaces animated by cultural activities, or simply a quiet space to read a book.

In addition to this garden space an alternative type of outdoor space is proposed. At the top of the houses a new public terrace which will overlook the city is located on the roof of house nos 25 & 26. These roofs were substantially altered in the 1960s. The proposed roof terrace will be level with the proposed fourth floor conference breakout space. Bridges will cross the South facing rooflight and connect with the roof terrace. The majestic chimney stacks will give shelter to these new outdoor rooms.



Section Looking East Towards The Hugh Lane Gallery





Interior View From Fourth Floor Level Adjacent To Rooflight Void

# 5 Description Of Proposal

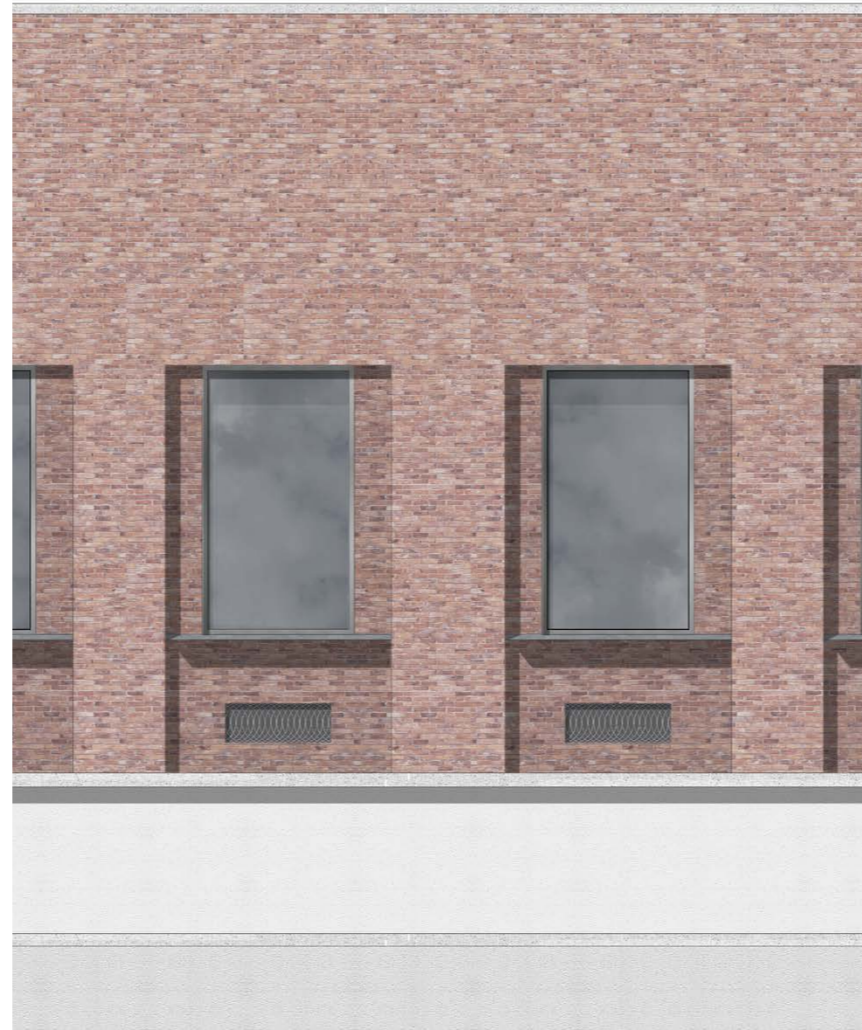
## 5.17 Facade Design & Materials

The embedded nature of the proposed new building informed the expression of the library's outer enclosure as well as the material selection. The facades are conceived as modest enclosures to a vibrant inner world. The key design considerations for the facades are focussed on achieving appropriate levels of daylight and natural ventilation for these embedded spaces. As such a more mute approach was taken with the exterior expression, both in form and material.

A simple brick wall with clear glazed naturally anodised aluminium windows is proposed for all facades. The material palette is deliberately restrained so that the new building can recede within its 18thC context, creating a backdrop rather than a frontage.

Large fixed glazed openings form a ring of clerestory windows at one floor level above the mezzanine level, thereby providing good quality daylight without creating issues for overlooking or privacy. Beneath these fixed windows are discrete cast iron grilles concealing an actuated inward opening vent for natural ventilation purposes.

Architectural precast concrete cladding and structural elements are introduced at roof top level as support and enclosure to the rooflights to the main library hall and the cantilevered rooflight that over-sails houses 24-27.



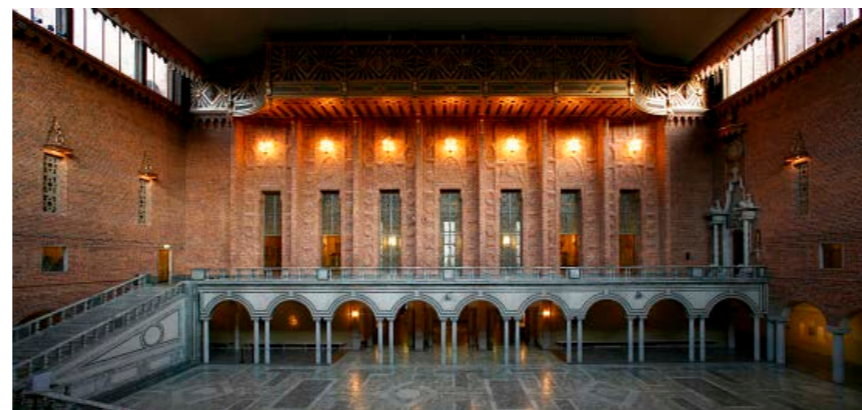
Rendered Part Elevation Indicating Proposed Material Palette



Rendered Part Elevation Of Interior Treatment To Facade



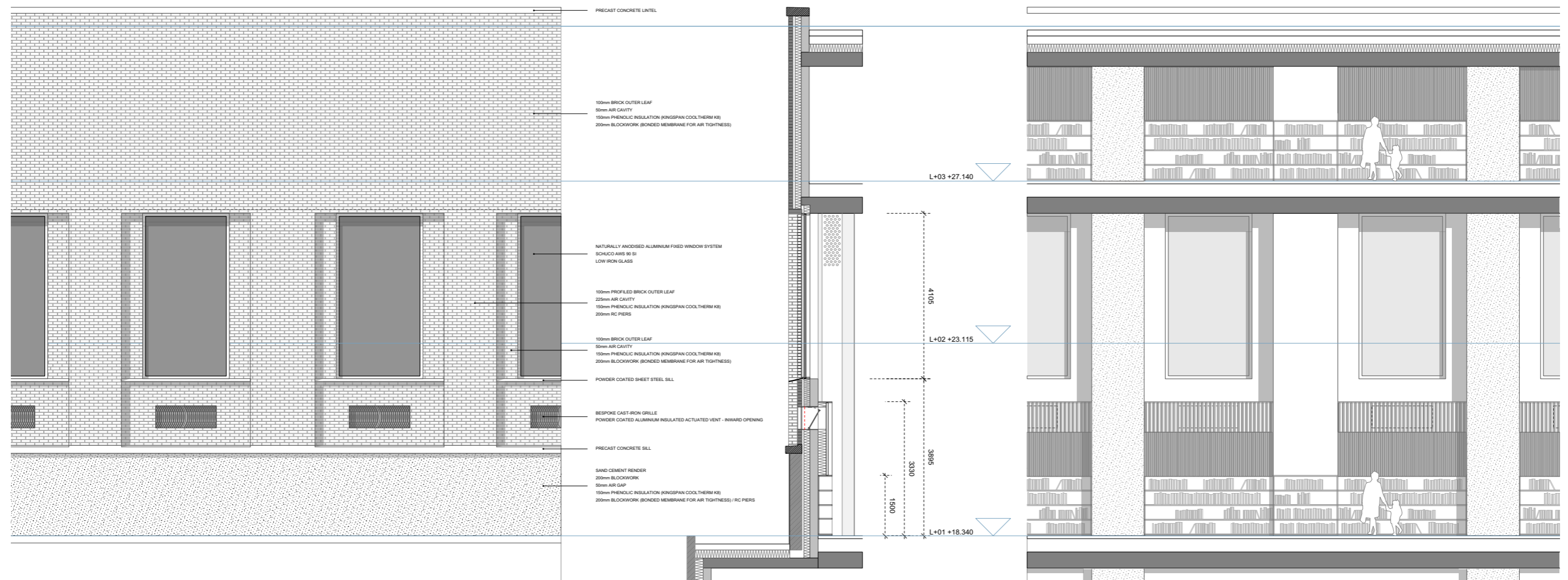
The Existing Houses & The Proposed Public Realm As The Public Face Of The Library



Reference For Clerestory Windows: Blue Hall, Stockholm City Hall



Reference For Restrained Brick Enclosure: First Unitarian Church, Louis Kahn



Elevation, Cross Section & Interior Elevation Of Typical Facade



Material Reference: Architectural Precast Concrete



Material Reference: Brickwork

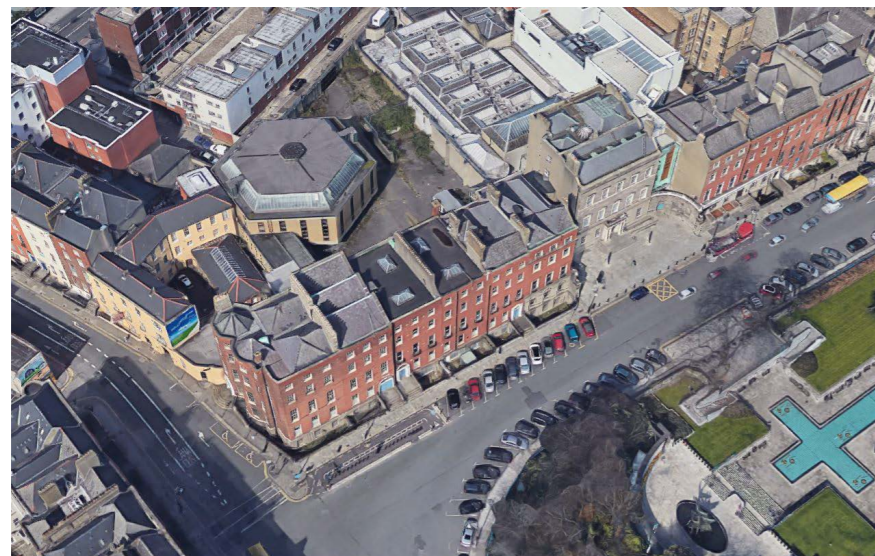
# 5 Description Of Proposal

## 5.18 Boundary Treatments

This section of the report describes a combination of strategies that have been employed in the proposed design to allow the new building to sit comfortably within the setting of the neighbouring buildings as well as to ensure that issues of daylight / sunlight and privacy are optimised.

Facade setbacks have been employed on all proposed elevations in order to minimise the impact on daylight / sunlight to the neighbouring properties as well as to reduce the overall Visual Impact of the new building. The Visual Impact of the proposed development is assessed in detail as part of the EIAR that accompanies this submission.

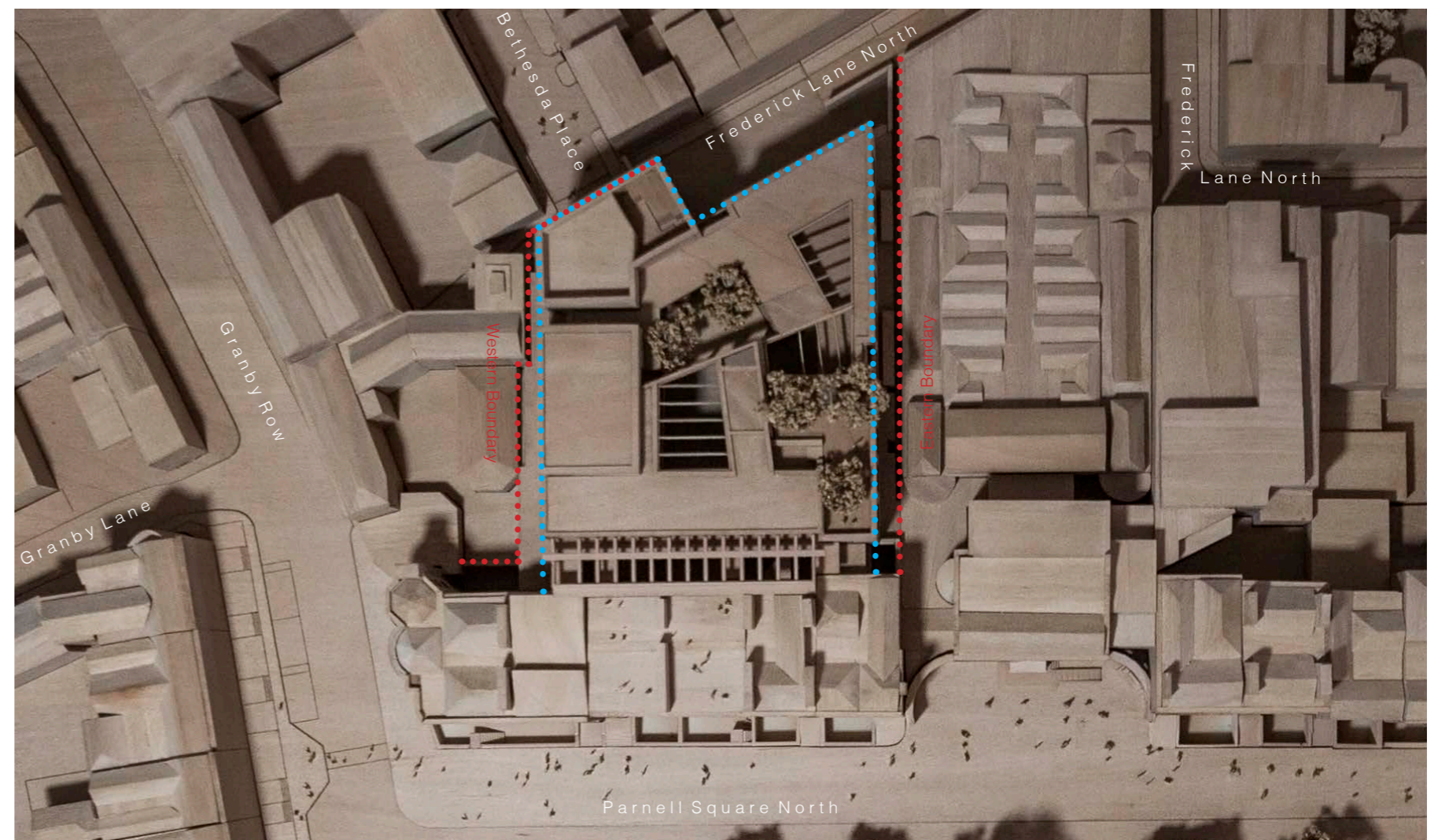
The Eastern boundary of the site shares a party wall with the 1930's extension to the Hugh Lane Gallery. At the ground floor level a independent party wall is proposed to enclose plant and backup spaces at the perimeter of the Library Hall. Above ground floor level the facade will set back approximately 2.7m for the full height of the building. A flat roof over the plant area will only be accessible for maintenance purposes. Large clerestory windows are proposed at one level above the first floor level, providing good levels of daylight without causing issues with regard to overlooking or privacy.



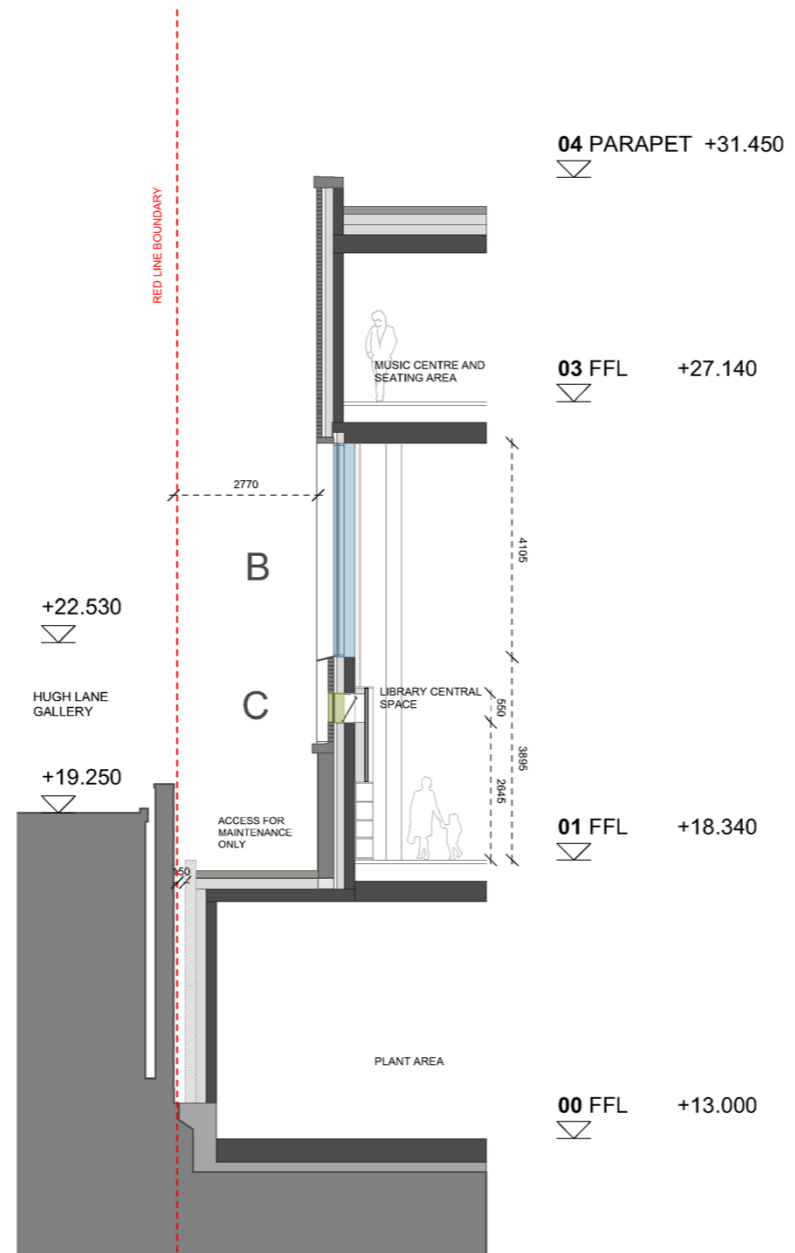
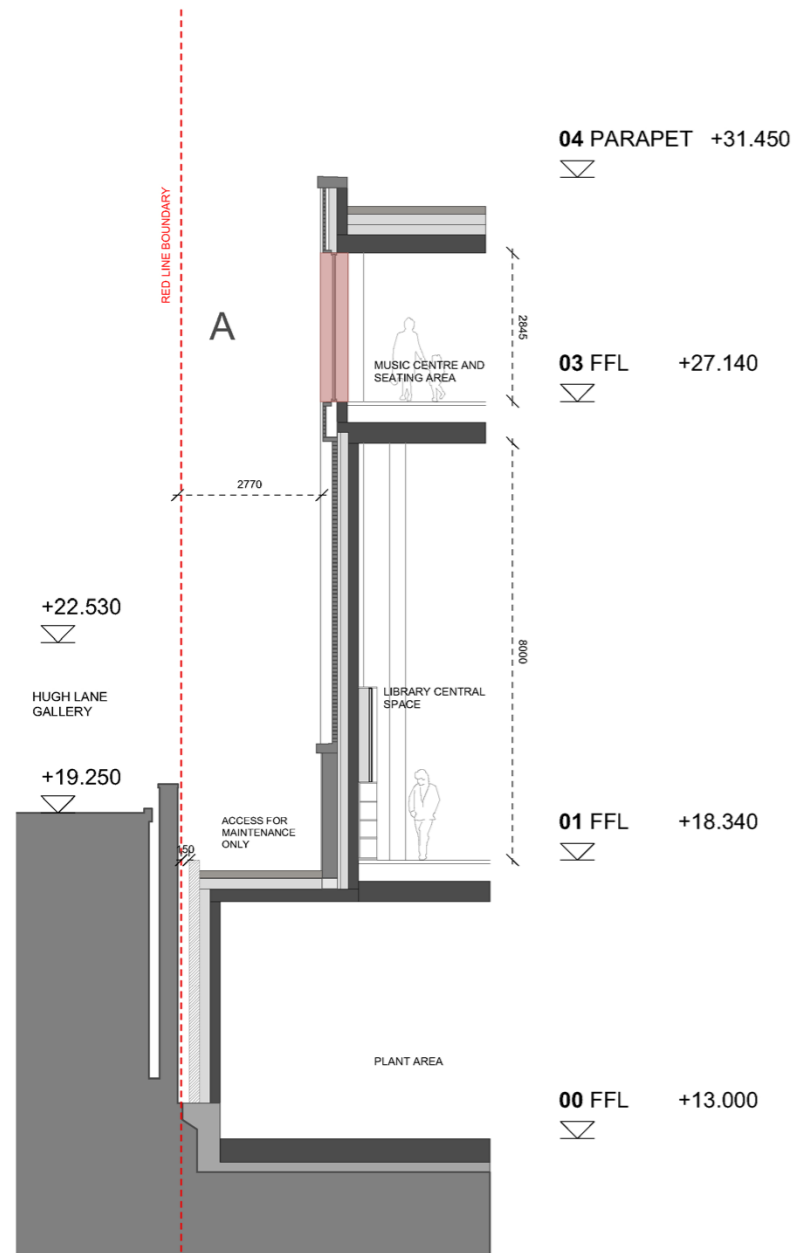
Birdseye View Of Site

The Western boundary of the site shares a party wall with mixture of residential and office uses. As per the eastern boundary, at ground floor level an independent party wall is proposed to enclose plant and backup spaces at the perimeter of the Library Hall. Above ground floor level the facade will set back approximately 4.6m for the full height of the building. A flat roof over the plant area will only be accessible for maintenance purposes. The clerestory windows wrap around at the same level as the eastern boundary. At fourth floor level there are further clerestory windows to the conference space.

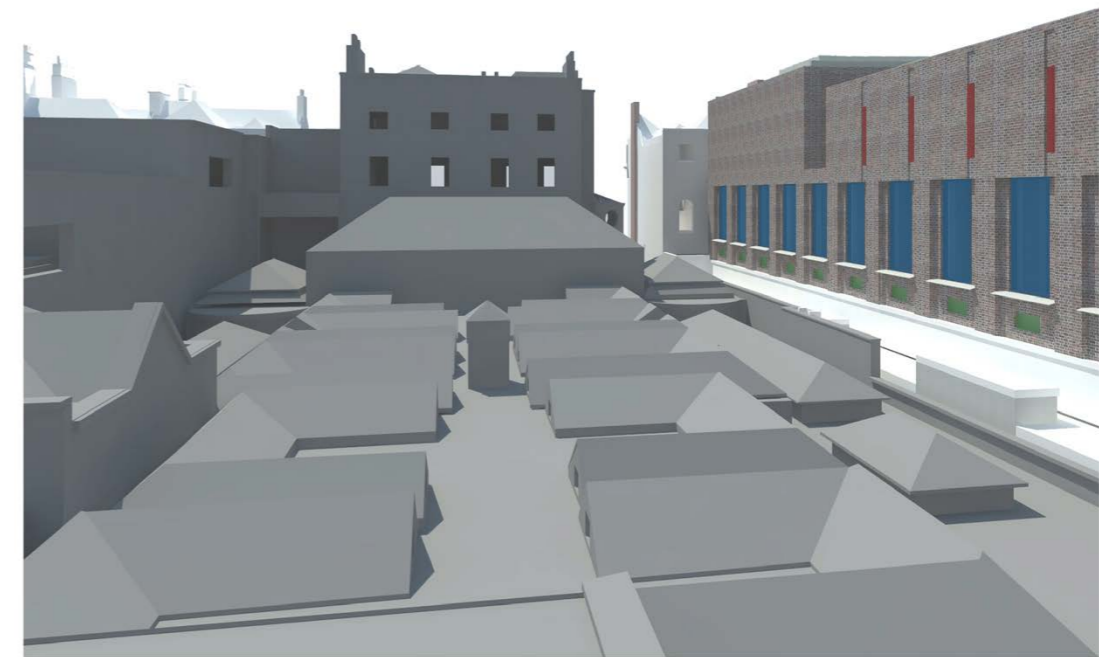
The Northern boundary has two primary conditions, a boundary fronting onto Bethesda Place and a different treatment where the building fronts onto Frederick Lane North and faces towards the Sheridan Court apartment complex. The boundary to Bethesda place comes tight to the property boundary and is designed to give a civic presence to the Library from Dorset street. This element is taller than the Frederick Lane North Boundary, which also sets back approximately 6.5m from the property boundary giving a total distance of approximately 13.3m between Sheridan Court and the Library. The drawings and illustrations in this section describe how the windows have been carefully designed so as to reduce overlooking and privacy issues to the neighbouring apartments.



View Of 1:500 Model With Boundaries & Facade Positions Indicated



- Floor level window openings
- Large openings to central space
- Ventilation openings
- Clerestory windows
- A - Third floor windows
- B - Clerestory windows to central library space
- C - Ventilation openings

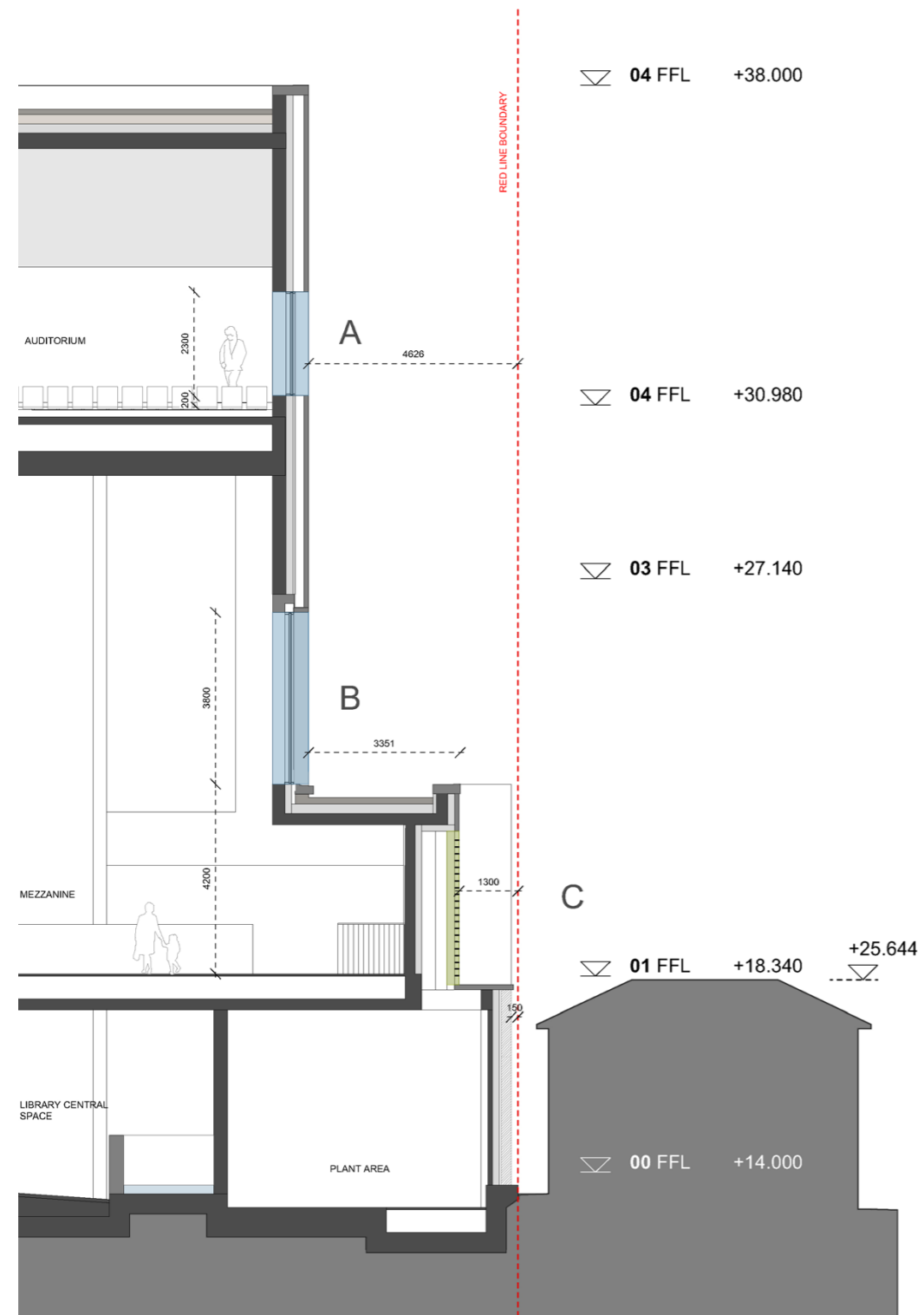


Eastern Boundary: Cross Sections Indicating Setbacks And Window Types

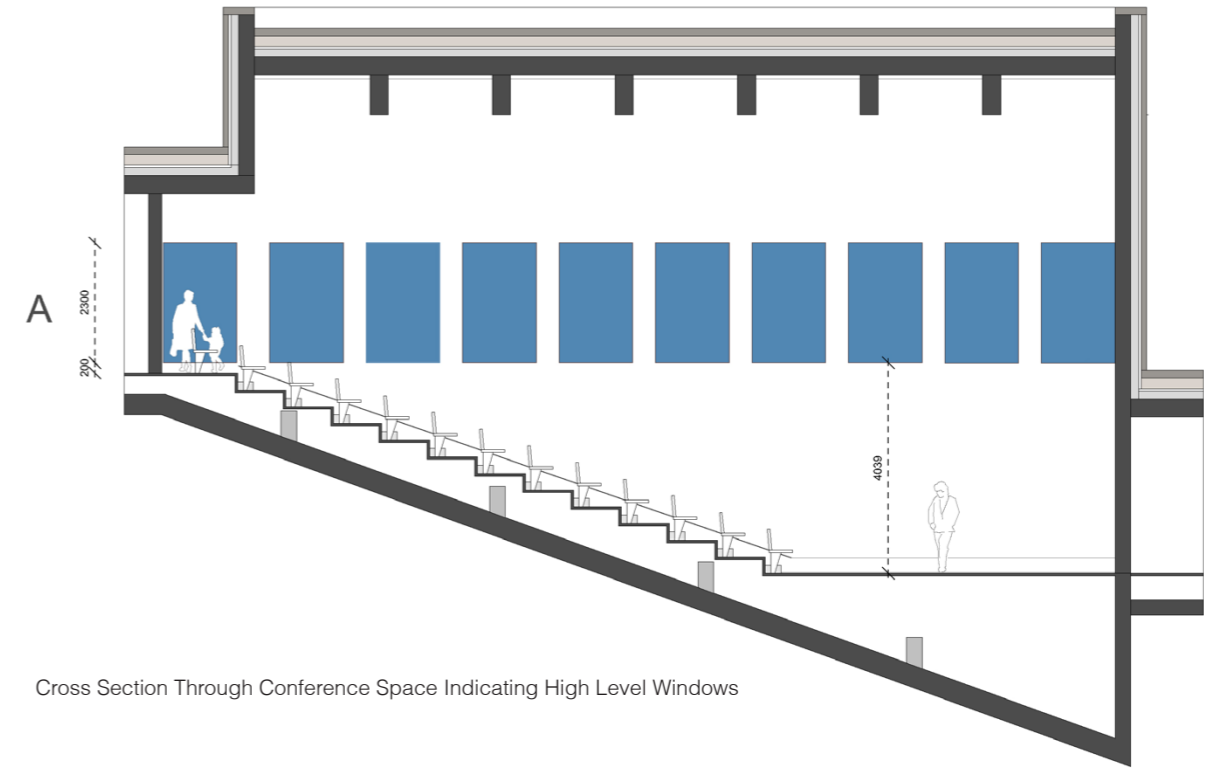
View To Eastern Boundary Looking Towards The Hugh Lane Gallery

# 5 Description Of Proposal

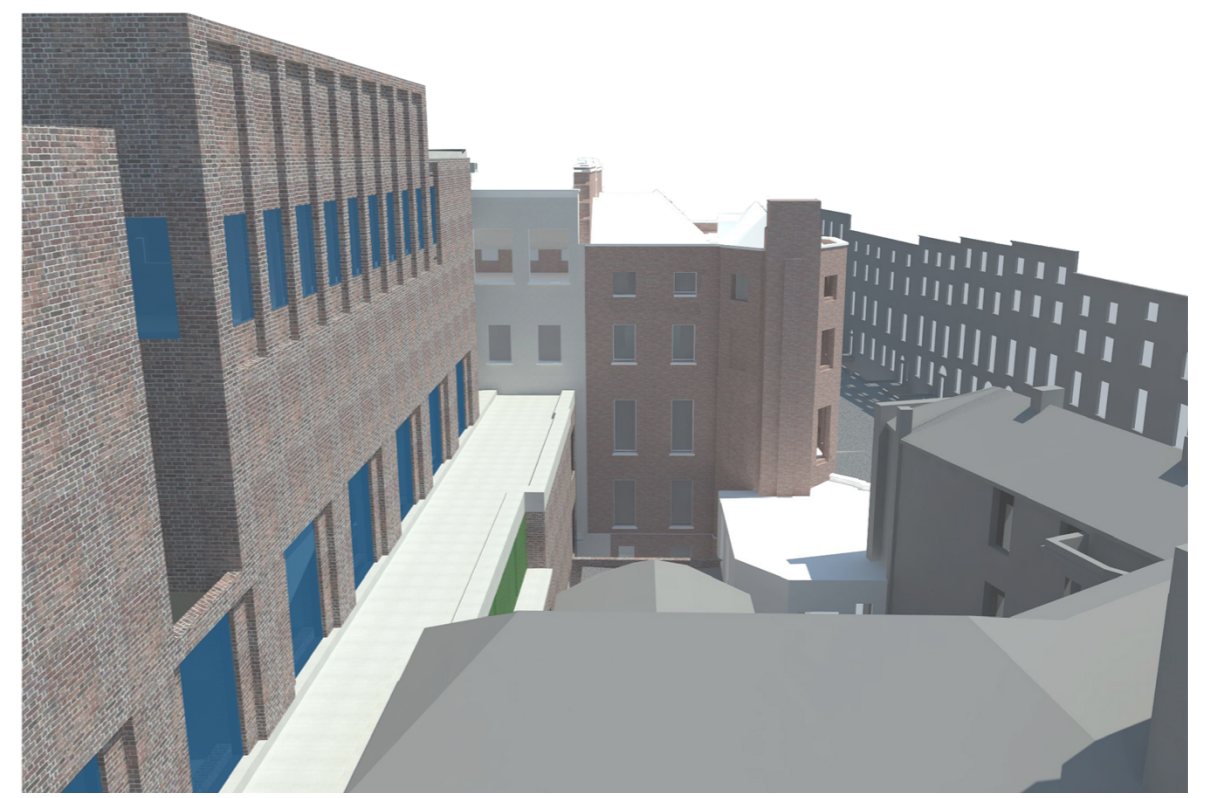
## 5.20 Western Boundary



Western Boundary: Cross Sections Indicating Setbacks And Window Types

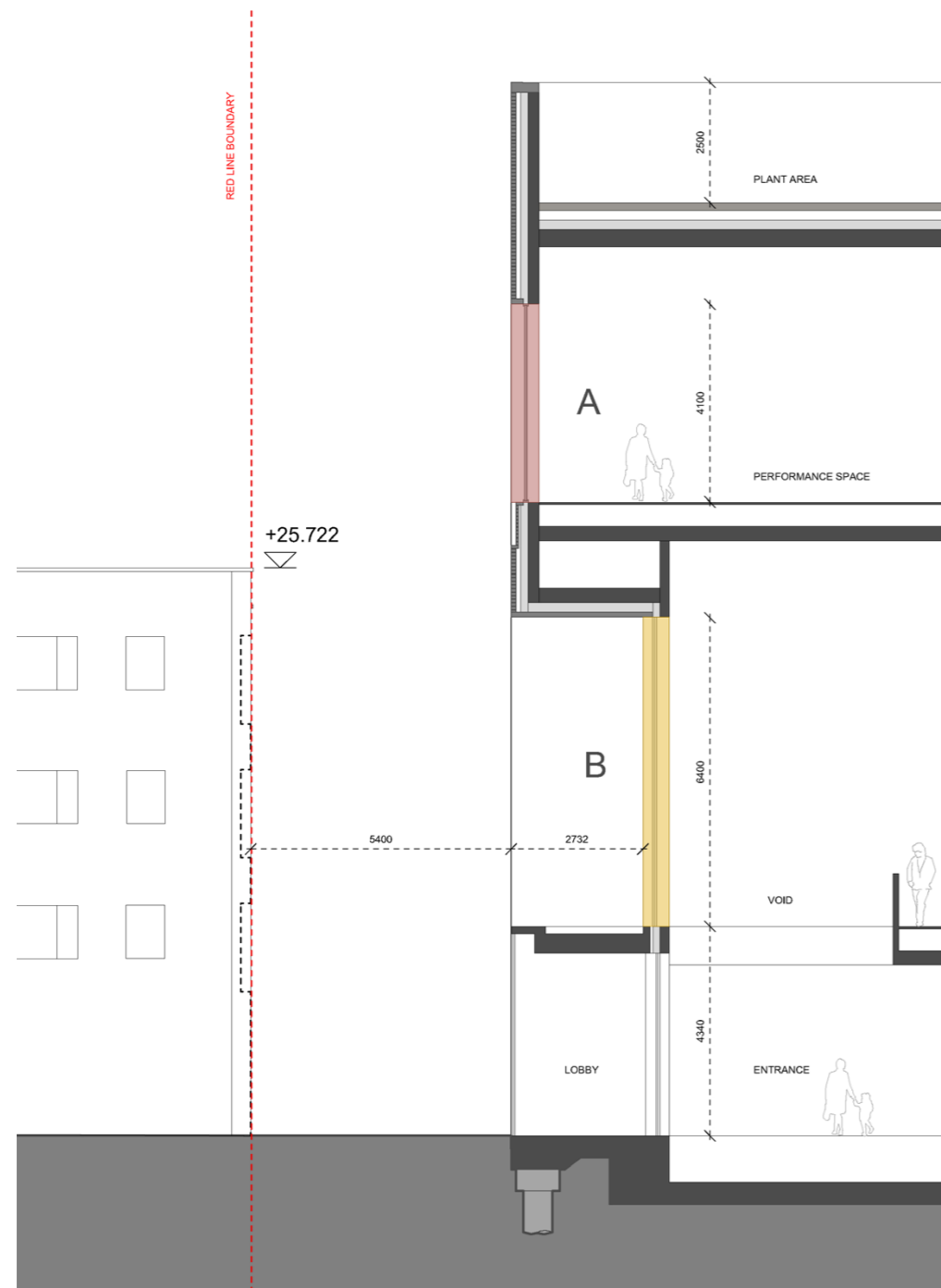


Cross Section Through Conference Space Indicating High Level Windows



View To Western Boundary Looking South Towards House No.28





Northern Boundary To Bethesda Place: Cross Sections Indicating Setbacks And Window Types

▽ 04 PARAPET +35.840

▽ 03 FFL +27.140

▽ 01 FFL +18.340

▽ 00 FFL +14.000

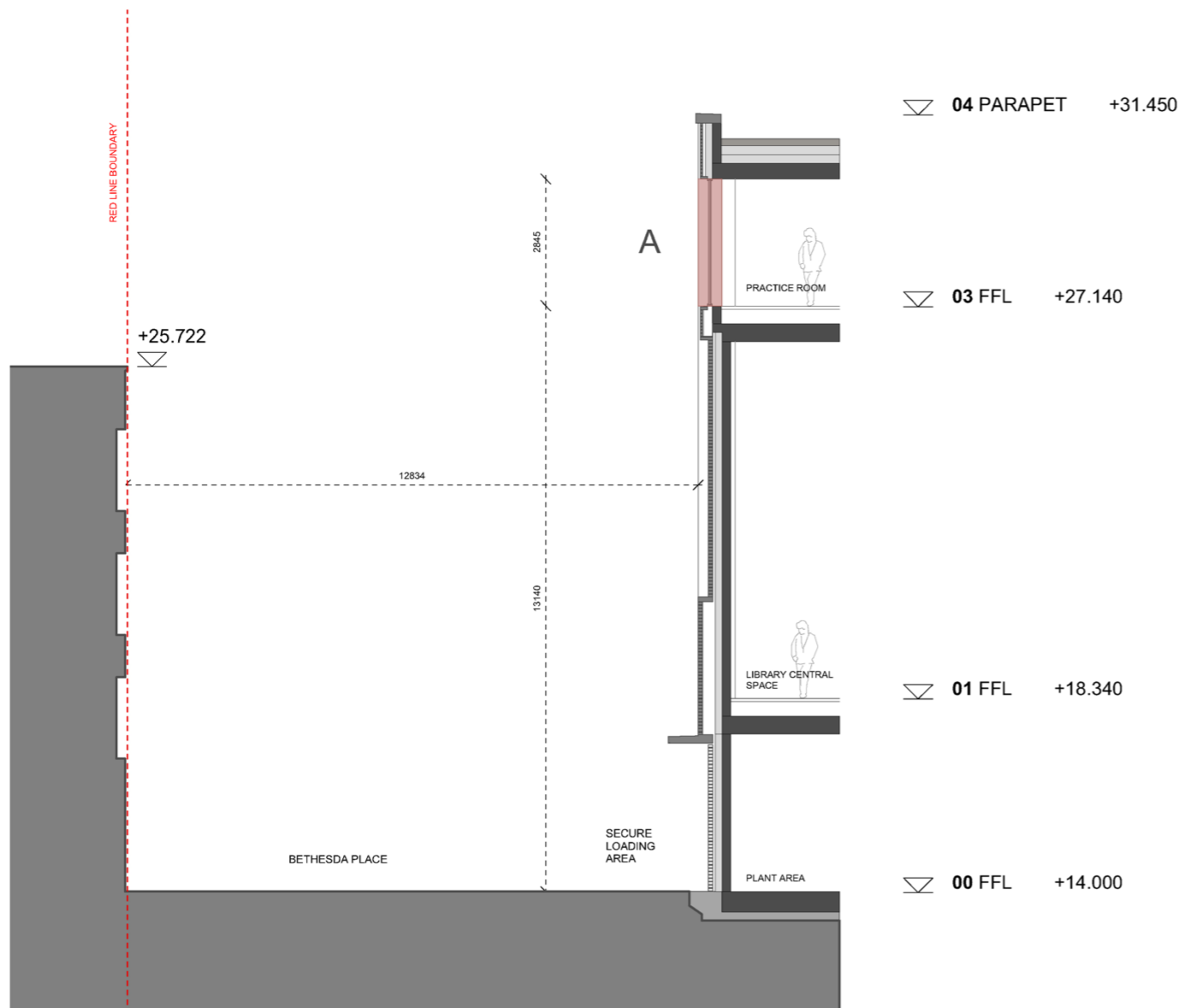
- Floor level window openings
- Large openings to central space
- Ventilation openings
- Clerestory windows
- A - Third floor windows
- B - Clerestory windows to central library space
- C - Ventilation openings



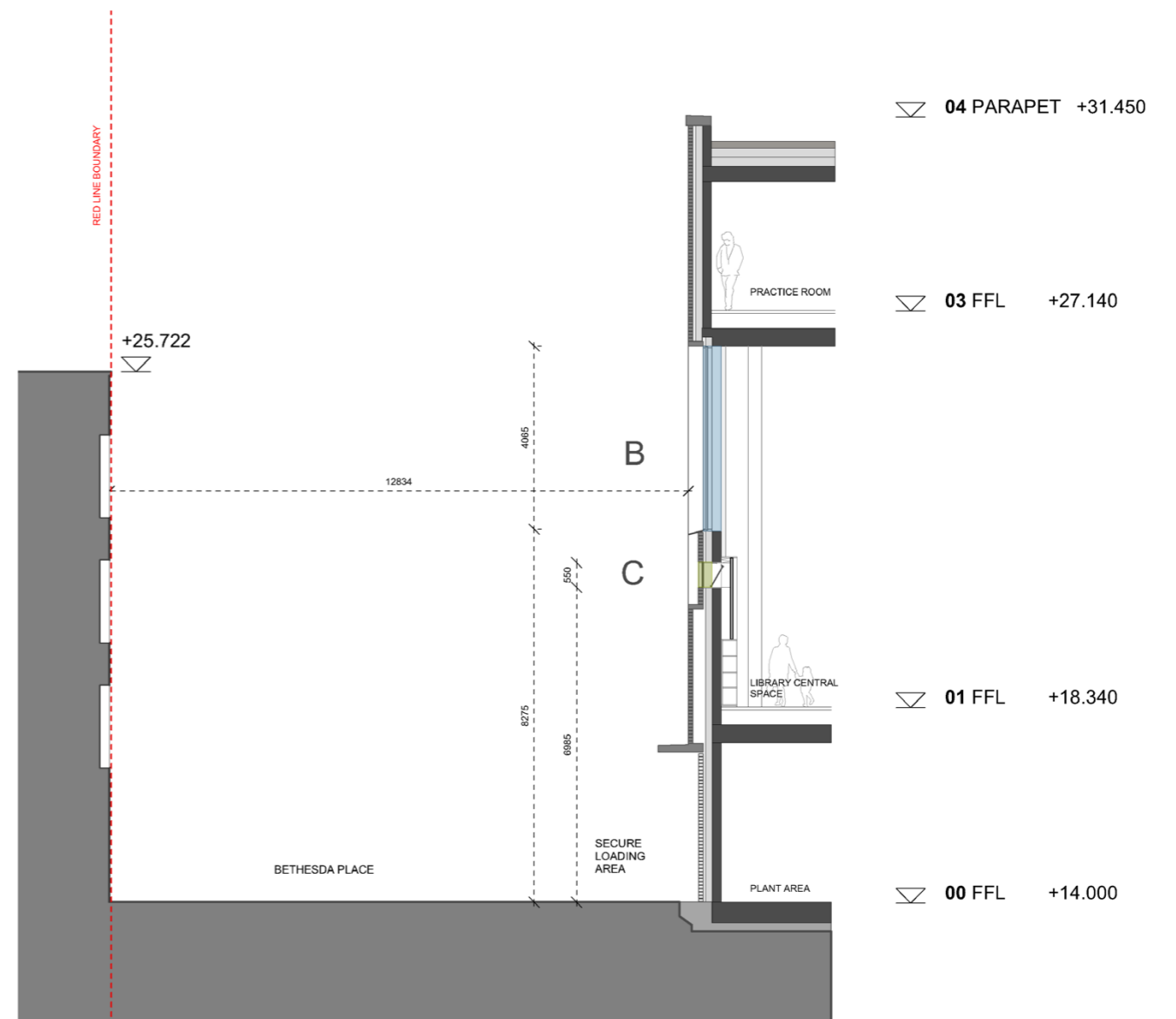
View To Northern Boundary To Bethesda Place

# 5 Description Of Proposal

## 5.22 Northern Boundary To Frederick Lane

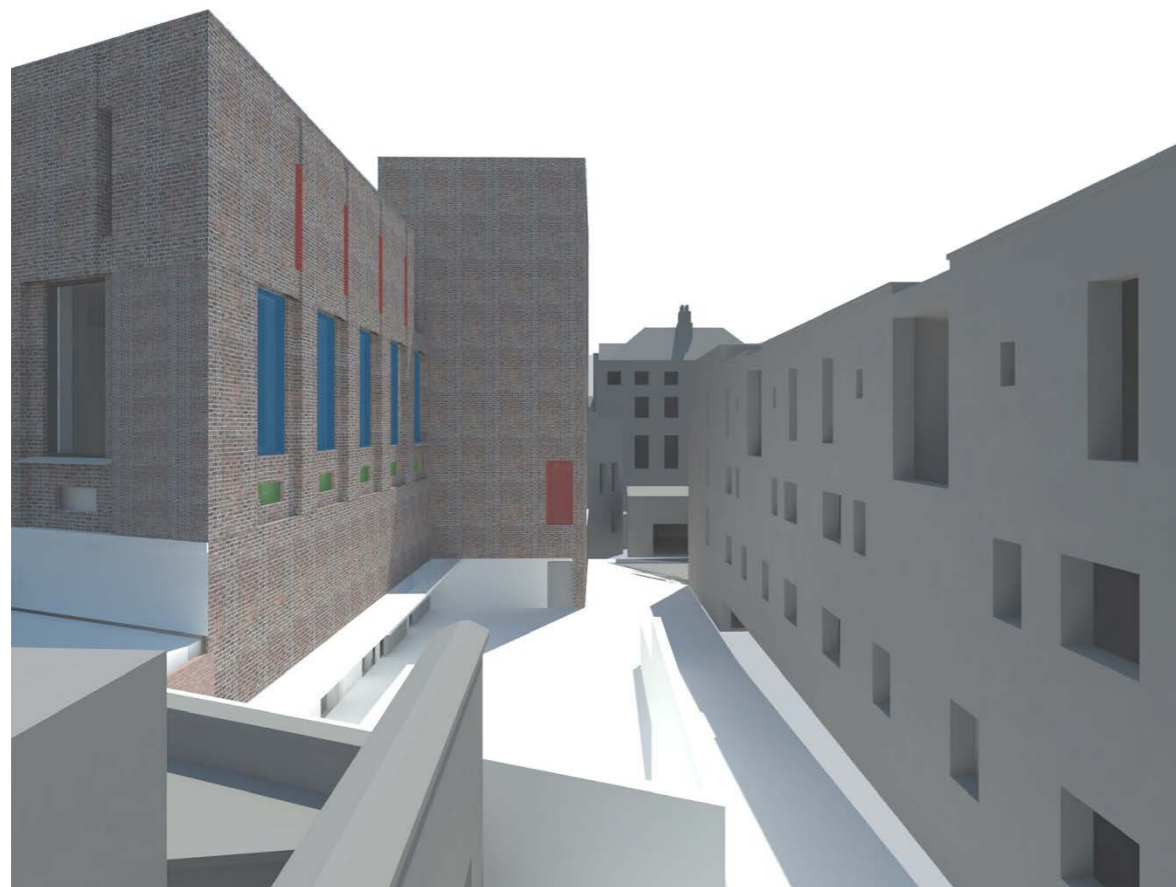


Northern Boundary To Frederick Lane North: Cross Section Through Third Floor Windows



Northern Boundary To Frederick Lane North: Cross Section Through Clerestory Windows

- Floor level window openings      A - Third floor windows
- Large openings to central space      B - Clerestory windows to central library space
- Ventilation openings      C - Ventilation openings
- Clerestory windows



View To Northern Boundary At Frederick Lane North Indicating Setback Relative To Sheridan Court Apartments

# 5 Description Of Proposal

## 5.23 Planning Submission Area Schedule

Parnell Square Cultural Quarter - Planning Submission Area Schedule - Rev B - August 30th 2018							
Area Schedule							Site Area / 9900m2
Floor	Existing Houses 20-21 & 23-28		New Build		Cars	Existing Houses 20-21 & 23-28 Uses	New Build Uses
	Gross m2	Nett m2	Gross m2	Nett m2			
Basement -01	1154	602	779	655	--	Library / Restaurant Kitchen / Garden	Library / Restaurant Kitchen / Plant Area
Ground	1080	971	1983	1751	--	Library / Restaurant	Library / Plant Area
First	1079	932	1208	1054	--	Library	Library
Second	1076	949	58	50	--	Library	Library
Third	1089	951	1074	937	--	Library	Library / Roof Garden
Fourth			618	500	--	Roof Terrace / Enclosed Plant Area	Library / Conference / Roof Garden / Enclosed Plant Area
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>5478</b>	<b>4405</b>	<b>5720</b>	<b>4947</b>			
<b>Sub Total Gross</b>	New Building = 5720m2						
<b>Sub Total Nett</b>	New Building = 4947M2						
<b>Total Gross</b>	New & Existing Building = 11198m2						
<b>Total Nett</b>	New & Existing Building = 9352m2						
<i>Note:</i>							
*Excluded from total							
The total site area = 9900m2							
Floor area of existing buildings on site = 7443m2							
Floor area of buildings to be demolished on site = 2000m2							
Floor area of proposed buildings retained on site = 5478m2							
Floor area of new buildings on site = 5012m2 Gross excluding Ground Floor & Fourth Floor Plant							
Floor area of new buildings on site = 5720m2 Gross including Ground Floor & Fourth Floor Plant							
Floor area of new and existing buildings on site = 10462m2 Gross excluding basement and ground floor plant							
Floor area of new and existing buildings on site = 11198m2 Gross including basement and ground floor plant							

## 5.24 Planning Submission Drawing Issue Sheet

Parnell Square Cultural Quarter										Application October 2018	
Drawing Number		Drawing Title								Scale	Size
<b>Existing Plans</b>											
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	B01	DR	A	010100	Existing Basement Plan_23-28		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	L00	DR	A	010101	Existing Ground Floor Plan_23-28		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	L01	DR	A	010102	Existing First Floor Plan_23-28		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	L02	DR	A	010103	Existing Second Floor Plan_23-28		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	L03	DR	A	010104	Existing Third Floor Plan_23-28		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	L04	DR	A	010105	Existing Roof Plan_23-28		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	B01-L01	DR	A	010106	Existing Basement, Ground & First Floor Plans_20&21		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	L02-L04	DR	A	010107	Existing Second, Third & Roof Plans_20&21		1:100	A0
<b>Existing Sections</b>											
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	ZZ	DR	A	010200	Existing Section A		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	ZZ	DR	A	010201	Existing Section B		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	ZZ	DR	A	010202	Existing Section C		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	ZZ	DR	A	010203	Existing Sections G&H		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	ZZ	DR	A	010204	Existing Section I		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	ZZ	DR	A	010205	Existing Sections J&K		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	ZZ	DR	A	010206	Existing Sections L&M		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	ZZ	DR	A	010207	Existing Section N&O		1:100	A0
<b>Existing Elevations</b>											
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	ZZ	DR	A	010300	Existing Contextual Elevations South (E1) & North (E2)		1:250	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	ZZ	DR	A	010301	Existing North Elevation (E2)_23-28		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	ZZ	DR	A	010302	Existing South Elevation (E1)_23-28		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	ZZ	DR	A	010303	Existing East Elevation (E4)_23-28		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	ZZ	DR	A	010304	Existing South (E1), North (E2), West (E6) & Basement Area (E7) Elevations_20&21		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	ZZ	DR	A	010305	Existing Basement Area South Elevation (E7)_23-28		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	ZZ	DR	A	010306	Existing Basement Area West Elevation (E8)_23-28		1:100	A0
<b>Site Drawings</b>											
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	ZZ	DR	A	020000	Site Location Plan		1:1000	A1
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	0	DR	A	020001	Site Layout Plan		1:250	A0
<b>Proposed Plans</b>											
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	B01	DR	A	020100	Proposed Basement Plan_23-28 & New Build		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	L00	DR	A	020101	Proposed Ground Floor Plan_23-28 & New Build		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	L01	DR	A	020102	Proposed First Floor Plan_23-28 & New Build		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	L02	DR	A	020103	Proposed Second Floor Plan_23-28 & New Build		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	L03	DR	A	020104	Proposed Third Floor Plan_23-28 & New Build		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	L04	DR	A	020105	Proposed Fourth Floor Plan_23-28 & New Build		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	L05	DR	A	020106	Proposed Roof Plan_23-28 & New Build		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	B01-L01	DR	A	020107	Proposed Basement, Ground & First Floor Plans_20&21		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	L02-L04	DR	A	020108	Proposed Second, Third & Roof Plans_20&21		1:100	A0
<b>Proposed Sections</b>											
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	ZZ	DR	A	020200	Proposed Section A		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	ZZ	DR	A	020201	Proposed Section B		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	ZZ	DR	A	020202	Proposed Section C		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	ZZ	DR	A	020203	Proposed Sections D&E		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	ZZ	DR	A	020204	Proposed Section F		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	ZZ	DR	A	020205	Proposed Sections G&H		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	ZZ	DR	A	020206	Proposed Section I		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	ZZ	DR	A	020207	Proposed Sections J&K		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	ZZ	DR	A	020208	Proposed Sections L&M		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	ZZ	DR	A	020209	Proposed Section N&O		1:100	A0
<b>Proposed Elevations</b>											
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	ZZ	DR	A	020300	Proposed Contextual Elevations South (E1), North (E2) & West (E3)		1:250	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	ZZ	DR	A	020301	Proposed North Elevation (E2)_23-28 & New Build		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	ZZ	DR	A	020302	Proposed South Elevation (E1)_23-28 & New Build		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	ZZ	DR	A	020303	Proposed East Elevation (E4)_23-28 & New Build		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	ZZ	DR	A	020304	Proposed Bethesda Place (E9) & Frederick Lane North (E5) Elevations_23-28 & New Build		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	ZZ	DR	A	020305	Proposed South (E1), North (E2), West (E6) & Basement Area (E7) Elevations_20&21		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	ZZ	DR	A	020306	Proposed Basement Area South Elevation (E7)_23-28		1:100	A0
PSCQ	P	GASA	XX	ZZ	DR	A	020307	Proposed Basement Area West Elevation (E8)_23-28		1:100	A0