

**WALDEGRAVE SUITE**  
**SILKS REPLACEMENT**  
**DESIGN, ACCESS & HERITAGE STATEMENT**



St Mary's  
University  
Twickenham  
London

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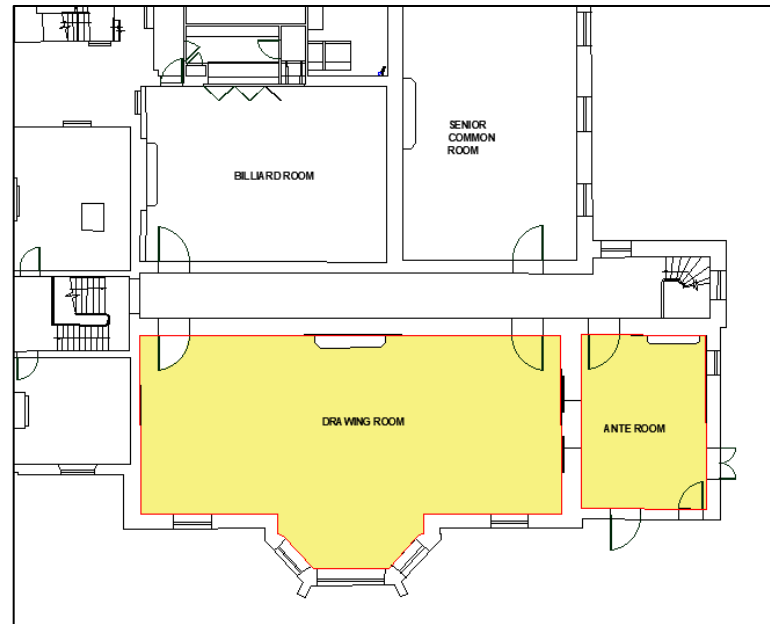
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## 1. Introduction

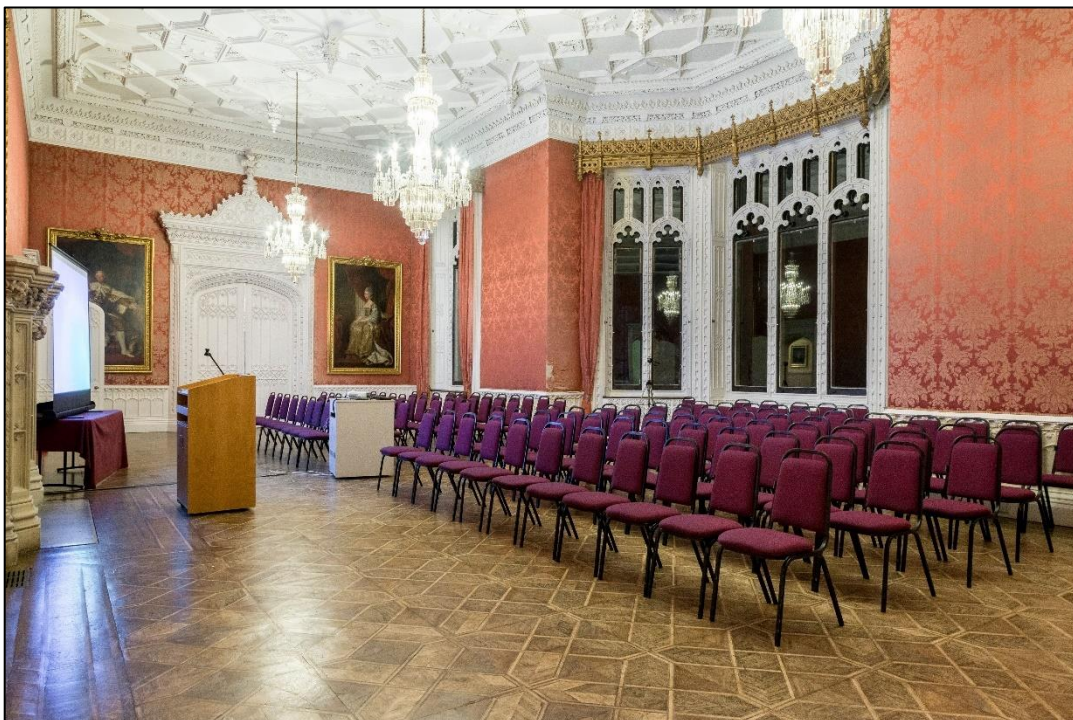
The Waldegrave Suite (“the suite”) is a collection of rooms located on the first floor of Block D at St Mary’s University, Twickenham.

The Waldegrave Suite is used by the University as function and event space and is also available for hire by external customers.

The application in question relates to the replacement of the silk wall coverings (“the silks”) in two rooms in the suite, the Waldegrave Drawing Room and the Ante Room. These rooms are identified in the image below, shaded yellow.



The image below shows the Waldegrave Drawing Room as it is now.



## 2. Drawings

This application provides the following reference drawings:

- Site plan
- Room plan (rooms shaded blue)
- Internal elevations

## 3. The building and its heritage

The suite is closely linked with the grade 1 listed Strawberry Hill House. That building has a List Entry Number of 1261987 and was first listed in September 1952. We believe it is established that the Waldegrave Suite falls within that listing. The older part of the building which is relevant to this application can be identified by the stucco render and battlemented parapet. This was originally developed during the late 18th Century.

## 4. Relevant planning/listed building consent history

There are two relatively recent listed building and planning applications made in respect of the suite. These reflect our approach of undertaking works to improve the suite to improve its usability whilst respecting its listed status and heritage.

### **a) B Block Toilet and Corridor Refurbishment and Alteration Works in the Basement under the Grade I Listed Waldegrave Suite**

Application: 24/0029/LBC

Date granted: 15<sup>th</sup> March 2024

### **b) Conversion of an existing fire exit on the western side of the building into a new entrance, including reinstatement of an existing window, and creation of screening and signage, internal modifications to this double height entrance area to create space for a platform lift, and internal modifications to the first floor area to create an accessible toilet, and link the lift and new entrance through to the main corridor of The Waldegrave Suite.**

Application: 22/1503/LBC

Date granted: 1<sup>st</sup> August 2022

## 5. Use

This application does not propose any change of use to the existing building. In addition, there is no impact on the exterior of the building and as such it is considered that an application for planning permission is not required in this instance.

## 6. Flood risk

The application site falls within flood risk zone 1 which denotes areas with a low probability of flooding. As the site is not deemed to be at any special risk of flooding and the proposal will not increase the likelihood of flooding, it is not necessary to produce a full flood risk assessment.

**7. The silks**

The suite is a busy working space and over time some of the silks have become damaged as well as discoloured. The purpose of this application is to support the replacement of the silks with a like for like product. The images below show the existing silks close up:



We believe the current silks were fitted sometime in the 1970s to replace earlier silks. With the assistance of specialist weavers, the silks have been identified as follows:

Room	Catalogue ref/silk pattern
Waldegrave Drawing Room	970 Strawberry Hill
Ante Room	2890 Hampton Court Damask

**8. Replacement silks**

It is our intention to remove all of the existing silks from the Waldegrave Drawing Room and the Ante Room. These will be replaced with hand crafted like for like replacements which will be supplied by a weaving specialist and installed by an experienced upholsterer. The images below show the patterns referred to in section 6 above.

Waldegrave Drawing Room	Ante Room



Note that the images show the pattern to be used, not the final colour contrast. To confirm, 970 as shown is a dark pattern on a light background but our existing fabric is a light pattern on a dark background. We confirm the order we place with the weaver will match the existing colour contrast.

In addition to replacing the silk, we will also replace the braids with like for like material and colours.

## 9. Proposed works

Installation works will comprise the following:

- removal of existing silks and lining material;
- install a new fire resistant bump interlining;
- stretch new silk fabrics across the walls and staple to the perimeters;
- heat glue a braid to all the edges to hide all fixings around wall edges.

## 10. Conclusion

Our intention is to restore the silks to reflect how they would have looked at the time of the last installation using like for like materials. We believe this is a worthwhile measure to maintain the appearance and heritage of the suite.

G N Hindley FRICS  
Estates & Campus Services  
November 2024