

# HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING REPORT 2024



A PHOTOGRAPHIC BUILDING RECORD OF THE MUSEUM OF THE SPALDING GENTLEMEN'S SOCIETY IN RELATION TO DEMOLITION WORK APPROVED BY SOUTH HOLLAND DISTRICT PLANNING REFERENCE: H16-0932-22

## INDEX

|                                      |    |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| INTRODUCTION                         | 3  |
| HISTORY                              | 3  |
| LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION             | 4  |
| AERIAL & STREET VIEWS                | 5  |
| GROUND FLOOR PLAN OF THE MUSEUM      | 6  |
| <br>                                 |    |
| FIRST FLOOR PLAN OF THE MUSEUM       | 6  |
| GROUND FLOOR IMAGES                  | 7  |
| 1. Front door and porch              |    |
| 2a. Entrance Hall                    |    |
| 2b. Understairs Store                |    |
| 2c. Toilet                           |    |
| 2d. Stairs                           |    |
| 2e. Quarter landing                  |    |
| 3a. Johnson Room                     |    |
| 3b. Side Gallery                     |    |
| 4. Strong Room                       |    |
| 5. Maples Gallery                    |    |
| 6. Maples Room                       |    |
| 7. Cadas Room                        |    |
| 8. Rear Views (via Maples Room Exit) |    |
| <br>                                 |    |
| FIRST FLOOR IMAGES                   | 37 |
| 1. View down staircase               |    |
| 2. Lecture Room                      |    |
| 3. Bailey Room                       |    |
| 4. Librarian's Office                |    |
| 5. Vestibule                         |    |
| 6. Turner Room                       |    |
| 7. Norman Leverett Library           |    |
| 8. Fire Escape views                 |    |

**DATE PUBLISHED: 02/12/2024**

## INTRODUCTION

This record was undertaken in response to planning permission approval from South Holland District Council (Planning Ref: H16-0932-22), prior to the demolition of the mid-twentieth century extension at the rear of the site including the making good of the rear elevation of the building post demolition.

Spalding Gentlemen's Society (SGS) were awarded money in 2024 from The Arts Council via their Museum Estate and Development Fund (MEND) Round 3 grant scheme to undertake the work on recommendation by Historic England.

Condition 3 of the planning permission requires a full photographic building recording of the site, which contains:

- 1. A general view or views of the building in its wider setting.*
- 2. The building's external appearance.*
- 3. The overall appearance of the principal rooms and circulation areas.*
- 4. Any external or internal detail, structural or decorative, which is relevant to the building's design, development and use, with scale where appropriate.*
- 5. Any machinery or other plant, or evidence for its former existence.*
- 6. Any dates or other inscriptions; any signage, makers' plates or graffiti which contribute to an understanding of the building. A transcription should be made wherever characters are difficult to interpret.*
- 7. Any fixtures and fittings.*
- 8. Copies of maps, drawings, views and photographs, present in the building and illustrating its development or that of its site.*

*This photographic building recording should also contain a written account which provides the precise location of the property as an address and in the form of a National Grid Reference, A note of any statutory designations, the date of recording with the name(s) of the recorder(s) and the location of any archive material.*

The report has been prepared by the following Trustees of the Society in association with guidance from Greenwood Projects Limited:

Patrick Wensor – author & additional photography  
Graham Dayes – main photography

Date published: 02/12/2024

## HISTORY

The Spalding Gentlemen's Society was founded in 1710 by Spalding-born lawyer Maurice Johnson and is Britain's oldest surviving provincial learned society. The Society has charitable status and is open to anyone aged eighteen or over.

Maurice Johnson wanted to replicate the coffee house society he had become acquainted with while studying for his legal qualifications in London, where he and his friends had discussed the news, new discoveries and inventions, as well as history, literature, arts and science.

The Society attracted eminent locals and also men of national stature (as corresponding members) such as Sir Isaac Newton. Johnson and his friend William Stukeley were instrumental in re-founding the Antiquarian Society in London.

From its early days, the Society has collected 'curious' things, established an important library and an archive holding. It was donations by members and also specific purchases that made possible the accumulation of many items, some of national and international importance. As a museum collection in Britain, only the Ashmolean in Oxford has a longer history.

The Society's collection was granted Designated Status in 2024 by Arts Council England which recognises its national significance. The Society is also recognised by Arts Council England's Museum Accreditation Scheme.

## LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The Museum of the Spalding Gentlemen's Society is registered as Grade II Listed Building by Historic England. The Official List Entry is located online at:

<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1147350?section=official-list-entry>

Details of the official list entry are as follows:

### Official List Entry

Heritage Category: Listed Building  
Grade: II  
List Entry Number: 1147350  
Date first listed: 20-Nov-1975  
List Entry Name: THE MUSEUM OF THE SPALDING GENTLEMENS' SOCIETY  
Statutory Address 1: THE MUSEUM OF THE SPALDING GENTLEMENS' SOCIETY, BROAD STREET

### Location

Statutory Address: THE MUSEUM OF THE SPALDING GENTLEMENS' SOCIETY, BROAD STREET  
County: Lincolnshire  
District: South Holland (District Authority)  
Parish: Non Civil Parish  
National Grid Ref: TF2481222798

### Details

#### BROAD STREET

1. 5313 (East Side) The Museum of the Spalding Gentlemen's Society TF 2421 1/157
2. Dated 1910. Architect, J B Corby and Sons. 2 storeys in red brick with ashlar dressings and hipped Welsh slate roof. Gabled centre section breaks forward. 1 window of 16 lights, mullion and transom, beneath rectangular drip mould with shield with coat of arms above. Also 3 labels with legends 'Literature' 'Art' and 'Science'. 2 plaques with monograms to sides and centre plaque with frieze of figures above door. Moulded string between storeys. The ground floor of this centre section has 2 windows of 4 lights under rectangular drip moulds. Doorway in stone with carved spandrels and panelled door with mask in rectangular fanlight. The side sections have one 4-light window to each storey to the left, and 1 window of 2 lights to each storey to the right. 2 labels dated 1710 and 1910 respectively. Nos 8. 9 and the Museum of the Spalding Gentlemen's Society form a group

Listing NGR: TF2481222798

### Legacy

Legacy System number: **197247**  
Legacy System: **LBS**



### **AERIAL & STREET VIEWS**

Aerial view of the Museum (red cross-hairs) showing the pent roof of the 1911 building and flat roof of the 1960s extension at the rear (to the north and east) and the Broad Street Business Centre to the south and east, which also wraps around the rear of the Museum.



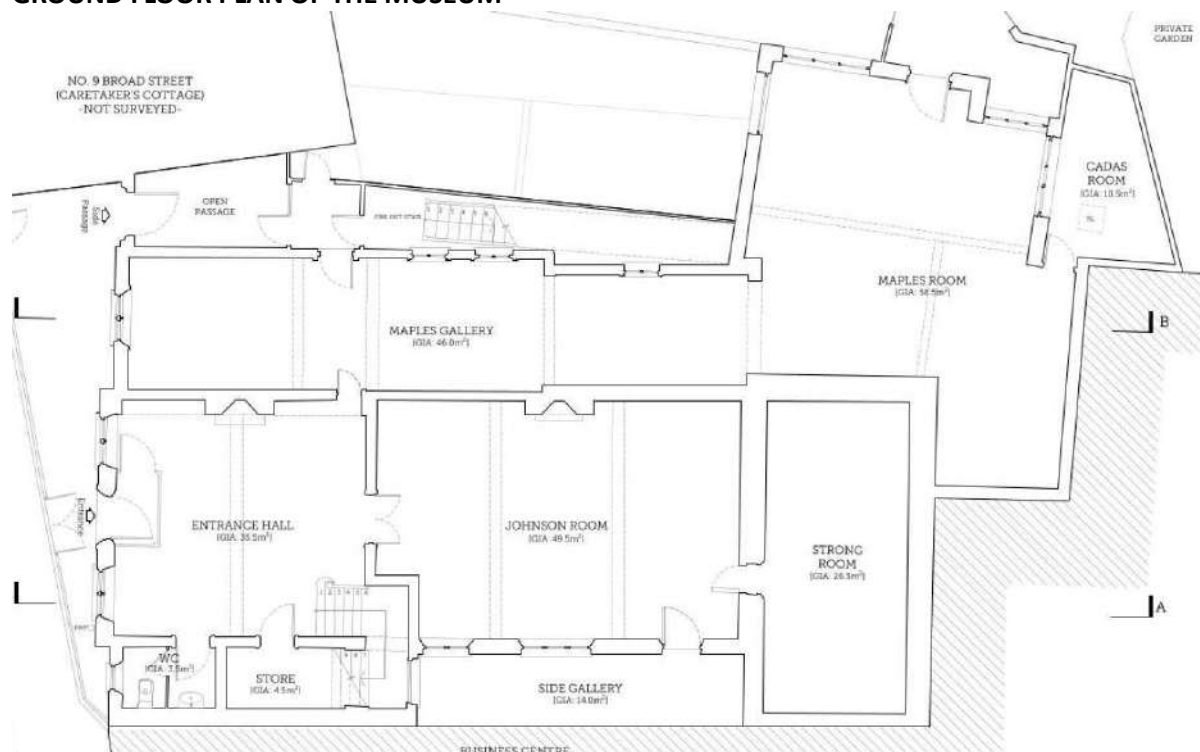
*Copyright © 2024 Apple Inc.*

View of Broad Street looking south from New Road, showing the Caretaker's Cottage (number 9), the Museum and the Business Centre (number 10).



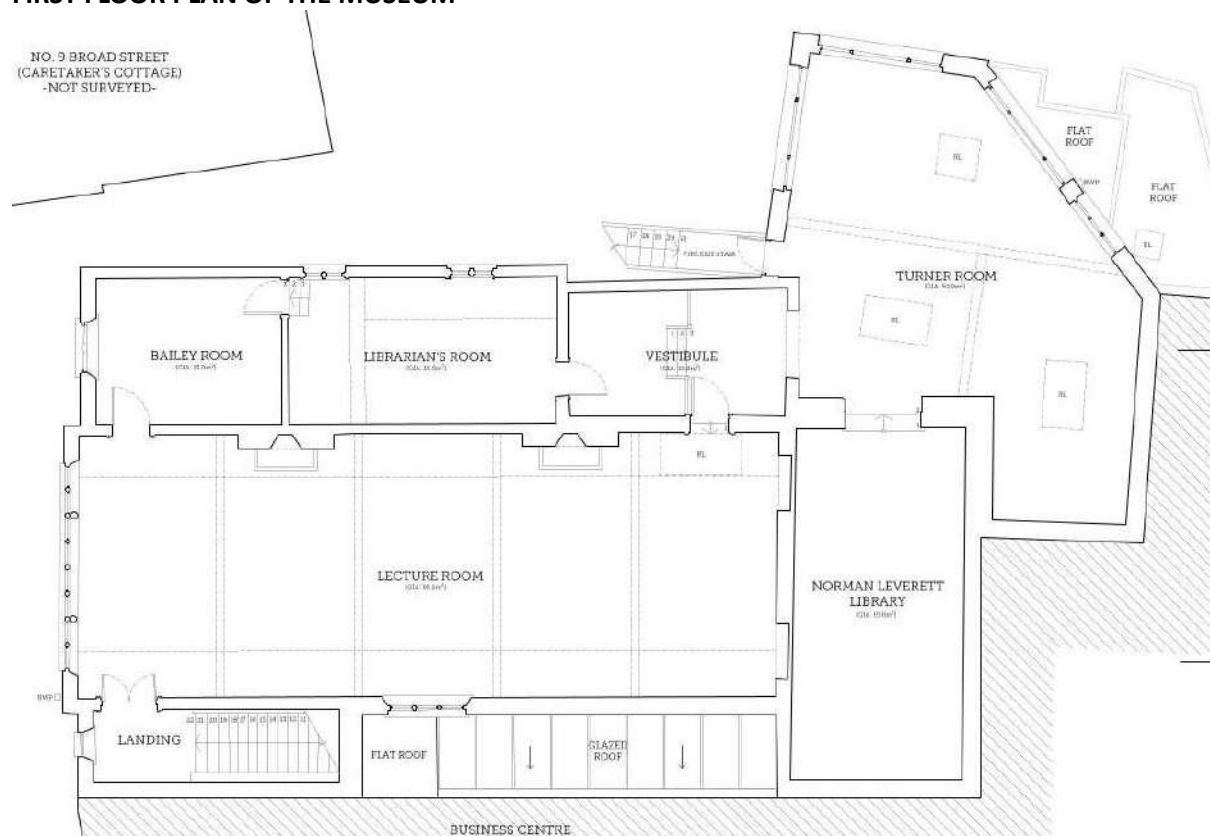
*Image captured May 2023 - Copyright © 2024 Google*

## GROUND FLOOR PLAN OF THE MUSEUM



Ground floor areas to be demolished include the **Maples Room** and **Cadas Room**, and the **Strong Room**.

## FIRST FLOOR PLAN OF THE MUSEUM

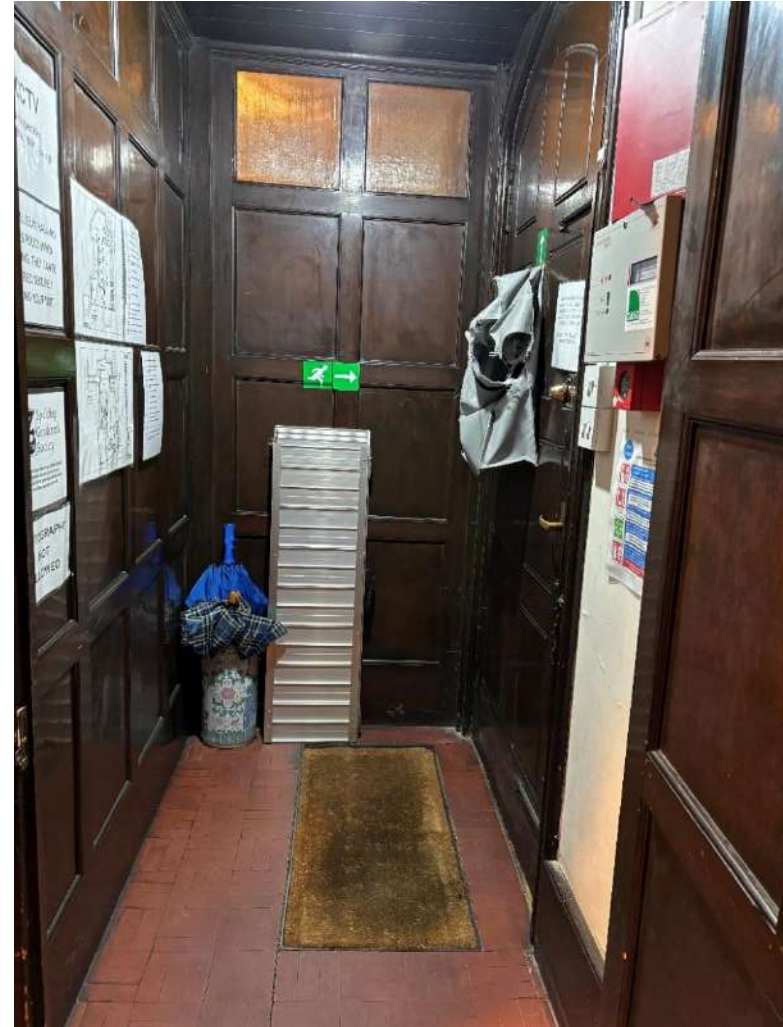


First floor areas to be demolished include the **Turner Room** and **Norman Leverett Library**

## GROUND FLOOR IMAGES

N.B Refer to Floor Plan on Page 6 for room location names and positions

### 1. Front door and internal porch





Internal porch looking from toilet doorway

## 2a. Entrance Hall



View facing the front of the building, showing the internal panelled porch



Detail of rotten window frame on right-hand side of entrance



View showing the staircase and door to the understairs store cupboard



View from quarter landing



Left hand: encased fireplace that houses the boiler. Straight ahead: doors to Johnson Room



Doorway through to Maples Gallery



View of toilet door and Wedgewood cabinet



ABOVE: View of covered fireplace, concealing the boiler



LEFT: View of the bottom of the stairs and window into the Side Gallery

## 2b. Understairs Store



Outward-opening door and interior of store cupboard

## 2c. Toilet



LEFT: Toilet showing interior partition

BELOW: Detail of glazing in the partition



## 2d. Stairs



View up staircase and landing with doors to Lecture Room

## 2e. Quarter landing



### 3a. Johnson Room



View towards back wall



View from opposite angle towards the entrance doors



Closer view of Strong Room door and Grundy Map cabinet

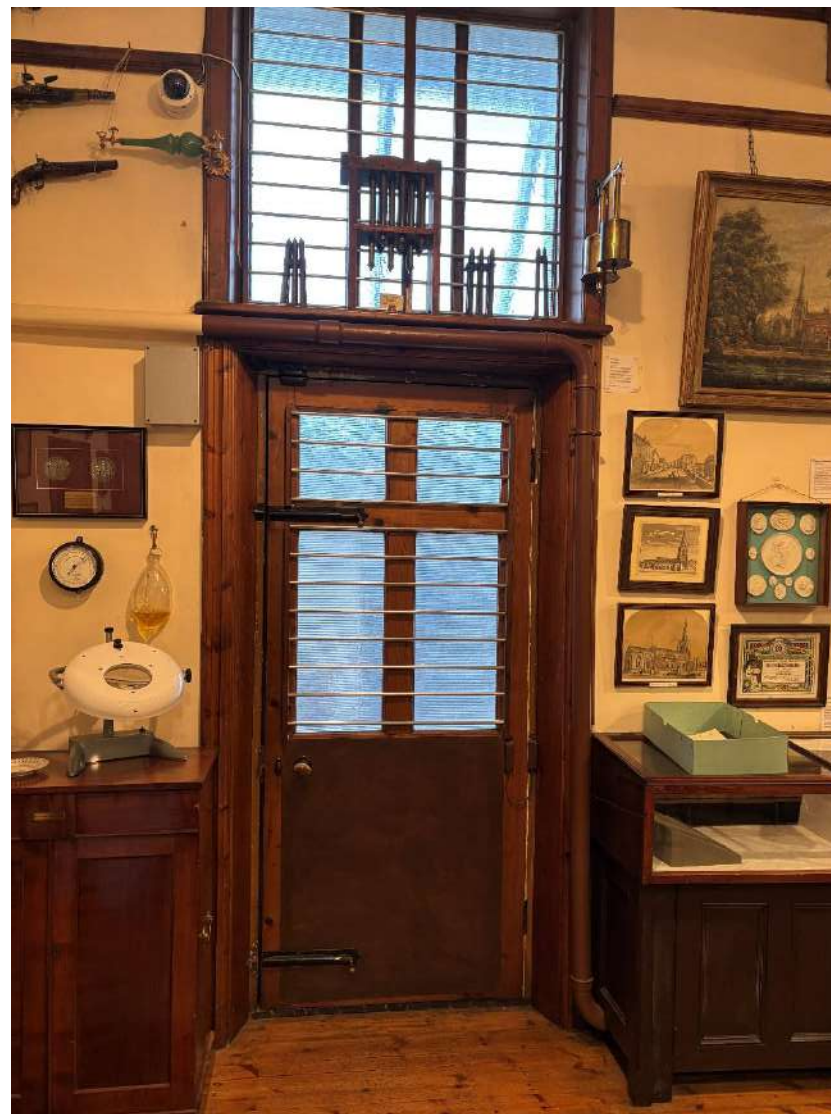


Grundy Map cabinet





Detail of Strong Room Door



Door from Johnson Room to Side gallery

### 3b. Side Gallery





Fireplace from Orme hall, Kirton, Lincs.

#### 4. Strong Room



View from doorway





Looking from either end with door to Johnson Room



## 5. Maples Gallery



View down the gallery with door to Entrance Hall on right-hand side





Door to Entrance Hall on left and exit to link corridor and Caretaker's Cottage on right



Transition from Maples Gallery to Maples Room



View from doorway into Maples Room looking back towards the front of the Maples Gallery



End wall of Maples Gallery leading to Maples Room (1960s extension)

## 6. Maples Room (to be demolished)



RHS: Painted oak panel on Strong Room wall



Fire Exit door on middle left of image



Area of Maples Room to the rear of the Strong Room





External door/fire exit

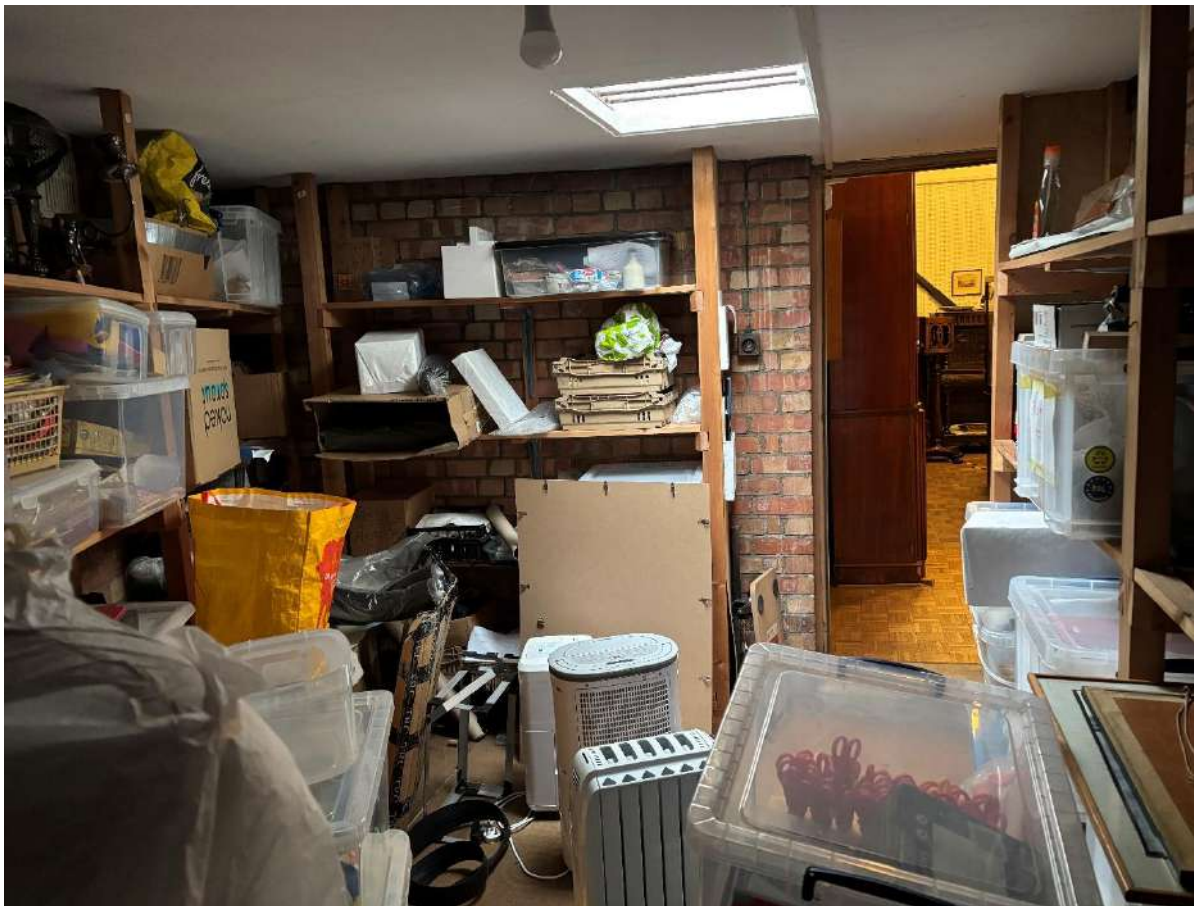
**7. Cadas Room (to be demolished)**



Entry from Maples Room



Interior of Cadas Room



## 8. Rear Views (via Maples Room Exit)



View of Maples Room (fire escape) exit from passage leading to Westlode Street.  
Wooden boards on RHS are the back of the barber's shop (8 Broad Street)



View of Cadas Room exterior (red brick) and Maples Room exterior



Rear of barber's shop showing exterior of Maples Room and the wall between numbers 8 & 9

## FIRST FLOOR IMAGES

N.B Refer to Floor Plan on Page 6 for room location names and positions

### 1. View down staircase



## 2. Lecture Room



View from entrance across to Bailey Room door



Leaded window on front elevation





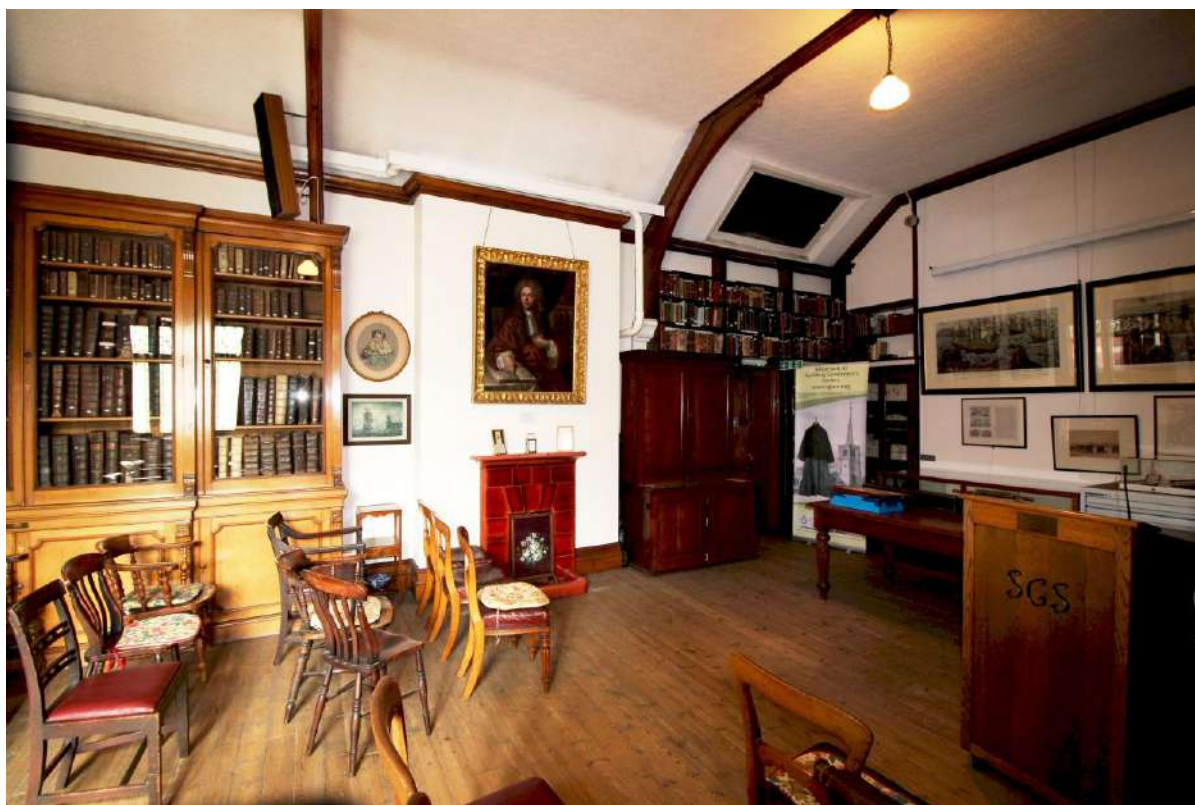
Everard Green Bookcase



Parish Library bookcase



Rear views of Lecture Room





View from doorway to Vestibule

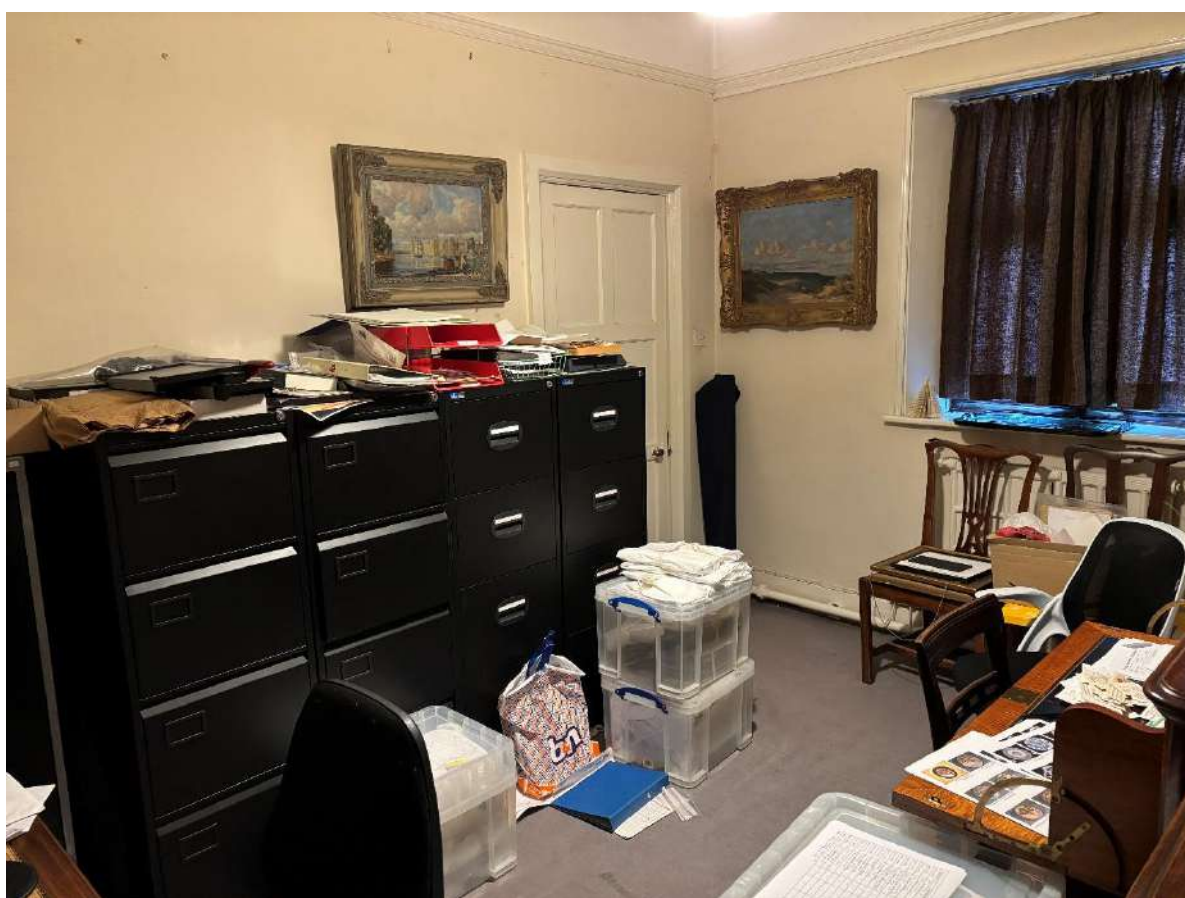


View from doorway to Vestibule

### 3. Bailey Room



View towards Librarians Office



View towards Lecture Room

#### 4. Librarian's Office



View from vestibule towards Bailey Room



Door to Vestibule

## 5. Vestibule



ABOVE: Stairs down to  
Librarian's Office



LEFT: Opposite view  
through to Turner Room,  
with door to Lecture Room  
visible on the right

## 6. Turner Room (to be demolished)



Norman Leverett Library through arch (above the Strong Room) and Vestibule on the left



Views of Turner Room



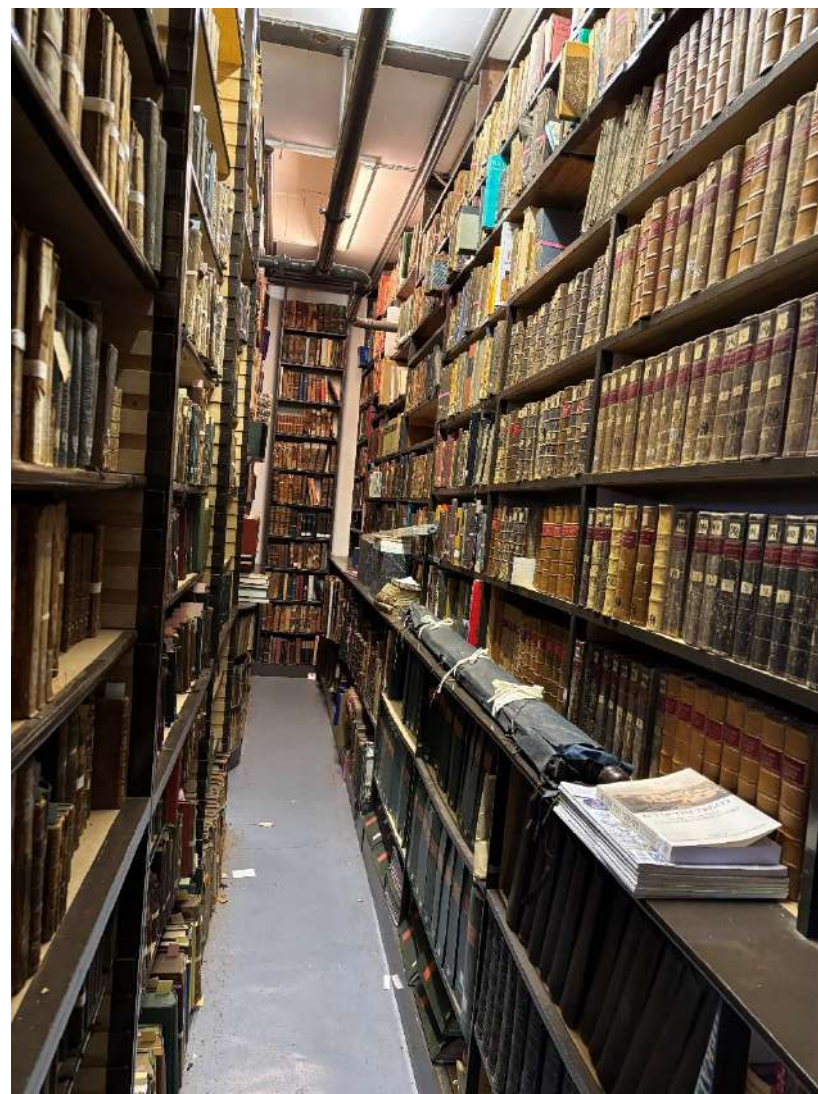
**7. Norman Leverett Library (to be demolished)**



View through archway



Left-hand stacks



Right-hand stacks

## 8. Fire Escape views



LEFT: View through fire escape door down to the link passage between the Maples Gallery and the Caretaker's Cottage, with the front gate beyond.

BELOW: Fire escape stairs showing the 1960s extension (to be demolished).

