

The New Museums Site Development Framework Supplementary Planning D

Summary of Representations & Council's Initial Response

1. Introduction

1.1.1

1. Introduction

Paragraph 1.1.1

Representation(s)

Nature Appearance Soundness Tests

30709 Sam Smith [5762]

Support

Not Specified

None

Summary:

I fully support the statement that "The New Museums Site (NMS), as shown in Plan 1 below, occupies a prominent location in Cambridge and has an extraordinary history as the historic centre of science in the University of Cambridge."

However, that history is not being approached appropriately given the plans for the Cavendish, hence my objection to 1.4.1. The goals of this submission are entirely laudible, it is the implementation that is currently lacking, but lacking in an entirely correctable manner.

Response

Comments duly noted.

Careful consideration and attention has and will continue to be given towards any alteration or restoration of the site's built heritage.

Action

No further action.

Representation(s)

Nature Appearance Soundness Tests

30692 Dr. Roger Albin [5746]

Support

Not Specified

None

Summary:

As a scientist with a strong interest in history of science, I urge you to preserve as much of Maxwell's pioneering design as possible. His implementation of laboratories for research and teaching were much more important than many better known contemporary events. Maxwell was, by all accounts, a fairly modest man. Preserving much of his innovative laboratory would be a highly appropriate memorial for this great man and also a tribute to his remarkable successors.

Response

Comments duly noted.

Careful consideration and attention has been given towards the restoration of the site's built heritage.

Works to the Cavendish Laboratory as part of the Student Services Centre project, which also impacted the Arts School, were carefully assessed by the City Council and Historic England as part of application 15/0779/LBC and were approved in 2015.

Action

No further action.

Paragraph 1.4.1

Representation(s)

Nature Appearance Soundness Tests

30710 Sam Smith [5762]

Object Not Specified None

Summary:

{this may be a duplicate submission. Disregard if the submission a few minutes ago succeeded -- I got an error message}

A missing "key issue" is the old Cavendish Laboratory, and the proposals for the destruction of that piece of heritage, in conflict with the statement of intent in 1.1.1

The old-Cavendish Laboratory is a key piece of scientific history, and the external view should be retained, within reason, and the style maintained, even as there is large scale refurbishment for a new purpose, in line with 1.4.1.b,c,d,e,f

Response

Comments duly noted.

The key issues section is not considered appropriate to single out individual buildings. There are many other significant buildings of heritage significance that would then need to be listed out herein, this is done later in the document at a more appropriate level of detail.

Action

No further action.

Paragraph 1.5.1

Representation(s)

Nature Appearance Soundness Tests

30688 Mr Ekbal Hussain [5738]

Object Not Specified None

Summary:

You claim that this work is to "safeguard the architectural, urban, historic, cultural and archaeological importance of the site". However I have just read that the plans include demolition of the Mond laboratory and other parts of the Cavendish labs. I urge you to reconsider. Being an alumni of Cambridge and a student of the physical sciences I cannot stress the historical importance of these labs both to Cambridge and the sciences as a whole. The Cavendish section could be better preserved by turning it into a museum to showcase the brilliant historical achievements by the scientists who worked there.

Response

Comments duly noted.

Careful consideration and attention has been given towards the restoration of the site's built heritage. Works to the Cavendish Laboratory as part of the Student Services Centre project, which also impacted the Arts School, were carefully assessed by the City Council and Historic England as part of application 15/0779/LBC and were approved in 2015. Only the Mond annexe is scheduled for demolition.

Action

No further action.

2. Planning Context

Paragraph 2.2.3

Representation(s)

Nature Appearance Soundness Tests

30636 Historic England (David Grech) [1787]

Comment

Not Specified

None

Agent: Historic England (David Grech) [1787]

Summary:

When making reference to the fact that English Heritage has engaged with the preparation of the Masterplan, it would helpful to note in brackets that English Heritage is now known as Historic England (so as to avoid confusion with the English Heritage Trust).

Response

Comments duly noted. Delete all references to "English Heritage" and replace with "Historic England". [No reference to English Heritage is made in the SPD].

Action

Delete all references to "English Heritage" and replace with "Historic England".

Paragraph 2.3.3

Representation(s)

Nature Appearance Soundness Tests

30693 Prof. John Roulston [5747]

Object

Not Specified

None

Summary:

Loses important connection with the Cavendish Lab history. The importance in experimental physics is extreme and the proposal demolishes a large part of this venerable building. It is important to preserve the Lab, designed by James Clerk Maxwell. The proposal ignores the historical significance of the Cavendish lab. WE need to preserve history as an inspiration and challenge for future generations.

Response

Comments duly noted.

Careful consideration and attention has been given towards the restoration of the site's built heritage. Works to the Cavendish Laboratory as part of the Student Services Centre project, which also impacted the Arts School, were carefully assessed by the City Council and Historic England as part of application 15/0779/LBC and were approved in 2015.

Action

No further action.

3. Vision and Objectives

Paragraph 3.1.1

Representation(s)

Nature Appearance Soundness Tests

30737 Dr Shane Lawrence [5783]

Comment

Not Specified

None

Summary:

Ensure the Arts School Building is retained and restored and renovated both inside and out as an important historical artefact and area of the University and science activity of the 20th century.
Ensure that if the demolition of the Examination Hall Building is necessary that the linkage should be retained and the engineering undertaken very carefully.
The style nature and height of the new Student Services Building should be specified in more detail
The Mond Building in general should be retained for offices.
The Shell Building should be retained for laboratories and offices while only the Goldsmiths Laboratory should be demolished for more space at the south end.
The entrance through the renovated and restored Arts School should be undertaken very carefully and the entrance from Pembroke Street should also be considered very carefully both in keeping with the frontage and the engineering aspects.
The future of housing the entire Science Library Collection should be considered from the beginning of the process either in a new purpose built building or in a conversion of an existing building within the area or another area possibly West Cambridge.

Response

Comments duly noted.

-Careful consideration and attention has been given towards the restoration of the site's built heritage.
Only the Mond annexe is scheduled for demolition, as agreed via application 15/0777/FUL & 15/0779/LBC (the second application which consented to the new entrance through the Arts School);
-Plans to house the entire Science Library Collection altogether are under consideration.

Action

No further action.

Objective 1: To capture the history and tradition of the Site

Representation(s)

Nature Appearance Soundness Tests

30694 Rabbi Jeffrey Newman [5748]

Object

Not Specified

None

Summary:

If the university truly wishes to 'create a window into the site's history' they must do it without destroying its most important buildings.

30736 Dr Shane Lawrence [5783]

Object

Not Specified

None

Summary:

A new purpose built building would be the ideal to hold the complete holdings of the Science Library either on the completed New Museums Site or even perhaps more ideally on a new site perhaps on the West Cambridge area of the University.

Response

Comments duly noted.

Plans to house the entire Science Library Collection altogether are under consideration.

Action

No further action.

Objective 1: To capture the history and tradition of the Site

Representation(s)

Nature Appearance Soundness Tests

30696 John Sinton [5749]

Object Not Specified None

Summary:

The need for the university to promote 'working and learning' is not disputed. To do otherwise is to destroy the university.

But to attempt that by the effective destruction of buildings with tremendous historical and scientific significance - and demolition of the ground level facades effectively destroys them - is no less certainly destroying the university, as any meaningful connections to the past are shamelessly discarded.

Response

Comments duly noted. Careful consideration and attention has and will be given towards the alteration of the site's built heritage. Detailed consultation is undertaken with the Council, Historic England and others before any proposals are put forward which could impact on assets of heritage significance, either via their use of design.

Action

No further action.

Objective 3: To retain heritage and quality buildings that contribute to the site and its surroundings

Representation(s)

Nature Appearance Soundness Tests

30637 Historic England (David Grech) [1787]

Comment Not Specified None

Agent: Historic England (David Grech) [1787]

Summary:

I would suggest that a final sentence is added to this paragraph along the lines of 'Some core buildings are of significance and those of greatest significance will be retained.' This will then acknowledge that the Mond Building is listed and will be kept, but allow the Mond Annex (a BLI) to be removed.

Response

Comments duly noted. Agree to amend Objective 3 by adding an additional sentence at the end of this paragraph to read: "Some core buildings are of significance and those of greatest significance will be retained".

Action

Amend Objective 3 by adding an additional sentence at the end of this paragraph to read: "Some core buildings are of significance and those of greatest significance will be retained".

Objective 3: To retain heritage and quality buildings that contribute to the site and its surroundings

<i>Representation(s)</i>	<i>Nature</i>	<i>Appearance</i>	<i>Soundness Tests</i>
30731 Dr Shane Lawrence [5783]	Support	Not Specified	None

Summary:

A new entrance from Benets Yard is proposed through the renovated Arts School presumably to serve as a pedestrian and not vehicular access into the central square and to the Student Services Centre; in keeping with the renovated wing of the Alts School and Benets Yard presumably.

i) The intention to retain the Arts School building is admirable and observably legal as the interior especially the Science Library rooms and staircase etc are also of listed value and as an historical memory of the previous century that is the 20thC of the activities of the University and its' science heritage.

Response

Comments duly noted.

Action

No further action.

Objective 4: To provide a new spatial structure with links to the city

<i>Representation(s)</i>	<i>Nature</i>	<i>Appearance</i>	<i>Soundness Tests</i>
30698 John Sinton [5749]	Object	Not Specified	None

Summary:

There is an internationally recognized context to Cambridge. That context is largely provided by the buildings. Absent the buildings and connection to the past, there is no particular reason for the current and future university to be there at all. There are other rivers, other opportunities to create a 'new town' for the university if that is what is sought.

But to destroy these very connections in order to create a piecemeal 'new town' is to copy everything that was wrong with the original Arndale shopping development. How could we make the same mistakes again?

Response

Comments duly noted.

Careful consideration and attention has and will continue to be given towards any alteration or restoration of the site's built heritage.

Action

No further action.

4. The Existing Site

Paragraph 4.2.5

Representation(s)

30697 Dr Michael Pryce [5750]

<i>Nature</i>	<i>Appearance</i>	<i>Soundness Tests</i>
Object	Not Specified	None

Summary:

The development of the Cavendish labs, or rather their partial demolition, would destroy the space in which much important science was carried out.

As the Cavendish was built in recognition of the importance of the place in which science was carried out to its success, the loss of the building in part or in whole would mean historians and the wider cultural community lose the ability to understand how science of such high calibre was truly done.

Response

Comments duly noted.

Careful consideration and attention has been given towards the restoration of the site's built heritage. Works to the Cavendish Laboratory as part of the Student Services Centre project, which also impacted the Arts School, were carefully assessed by the City Council and Historic England as part of application 15/0779/LBC and were approved in 2015.

Action

No further action.

Paragraph 4.2.6

Representation(s)

30638 Historic England (David Grech) [1787]

<i>Nature</i>	<i>Appearance</i>	<i>Soundness Tests</i>
Comment	Not Specified	None

Agent: Historic England (David Grech) [1787]

Summary:

For the sake of clarity (and to avoid confusion with the current Botanic Gardens) I suggest the final part of the sentence reads 'a good deal of the former Botanic Garden remained undeveloped.'

Response

Comments duly noted. Agree to amend paragraph 4.2.6 to add the word "former" after the words "...of the..." in the final sentence.

Action

Amend paragraph 4.2.6 to add the word "former" after the words "...of the..." in the final sentence.

Paragraph b. Listed Buildings, 4.3.7

<i>Representation(s)</i>	<i>Nature</i>	<i>Appearance</i>	<i>Soundness Tests</i>
30706 Dr Ian Patterson [1997]	Comment	Not Specified	None

Summary:

The Mond and Cavendish buildings are both of too great an historical significance to be partly destroyed.

Response

Comments duly noted.
Careful consideration and attention has been given towards the restoration of the site's built heritage. Works to the Cavendish Laboratory as part of the Student Services Centre project, which also impacted the Arts School, were carefully assessed by the City Council and Historic England as part of application 15/0779/LBC and were approved in 2015. Only the Mond annexe is scheduled for demolition.

Action

No further action.

<i>Representation(s)</i>	<i>Nature</i>	<i>Appearance</i>	<i>Soundness Tests</i>
30728 Mr David Gibbon [5776]	Object	Not Specified	None

Summary:

The Cavendish Building is of international significance and its Grade II listing understates its intrinsic importance. That it was the first of its kind and that it was largely designed by James Clerk Maxwell put it into a category deserving of far greater respect than the scant regard paid to it by this scheme.

Response

Comments duly noted.
Careful consideration and attention has been given towards the restoration of the site's built heritage. Works to the Cavendish Laboratory as part of the Student Services Centre project, which also impacted the Arts School, were carefully assessed by the City Council and Historic England as part of application 15/0779/LBC and were approved in 2015.

Action

No further action.

Paragraph e. Other Buildings of Heritage Interest, 4.3.12

<i>Representation(s)</i>	<i>Nature</i>	<i>Appearance</i>	<i>Soundness Tests</i>
30732 Dr Shane Lawrence [5783]	Comment	Not Specified	None

Summary:

ii) The need to demolish the Examination Hall as it becomes proximal that is very close to the new Zoology building that is the Attenborough Building as it approaches completion is apparent although this action should not be hurried. The reason for this is that the Examination Building is connected with the Arts School building and the separation of them by means of demolition would be a serious operation which should be very carefully planned beforehand.

Response

Comments duly noted.
The demolition of the Examination Hall has been approved via approval of application 15/0777/FUL

Action

No further action.

Paragraph f. Significance, 4.3.13

<i>Representation(s)</i>	<i>Nature</i>	<i>Appearance</i>	<i>Soundness Tests</i>
30639 Historic England (David Grech) [1787]	Comment	Not Specified	None

Agent: Historic England (David Grech) [1787]

Summary:

Final sentence. Here I suggest adding 'and Augustinian Friary' after King's Ditch at the end of the paragraph.

Response

Comments duly noted. Agree to amend paragraph 4.3.13 to add the words "and Augustinian Friary" after the words "King's Ditch".

Action

Agree to amend paragraph 4.3.13 to add the words "and Augustinian Friary" after the words "King's Ditch".

Paragraph f. Significance, Plan No.7: Heritage Significance

<i>Representation(s)</i>	<i>Nature</i>	<i>Appearance</i>	<i>Soundness Tests</i>
30711 Dr Richard Staley [5763]	Object	Not Specified	None

Summary:

In this plan only part of the original Cavendish Laboratory is designated as being of Very High heritage significance, and no grounds are given for distinguishing the front of the building from the side wing, which held many significant teaching and research laboratories but is here designated as being only of High significance. The proposal to create a new entry to the site through the side wing does not reflect the considerable value of retaining the integrity of the original laboratory building. The purpose built combination of teaching and research spaces was novel, and central to the success of the laboratory.

Response

Comments duly noted. The significance of the Cavendish Laboratory has been carefully considered together with Historic England and the City Council and is considered appropriate.

Action

No further action.

<i>Representation(s)</i>	<i>Nature</i>	<i>Appearance</i>	<i>Soundness Tests</i>
30690 Ms Vicky Morgan [5741]	Object	Not Specified	None

Summary:

The Mond laboratory should be reassigned to high importance. As an alumna of the university and a Cambridgeshire resident, I know that this is a much-loved building rich with symbolism and the history of the great science on this site. The complex of the Cavendish and the two Mond buildings is iconic and the consultants appear to have made their assessment with no understanding of the importance of this place in the history of ideas. Surely this is what the heritage of Cambridge is all about? The modernist parts of the complex are also attractive.

Response

Comments duly noted. Only the Mond annexe (a Building of Local Interest) is scheduled for demolition as agreed under application 15/0997/LBC. The removal of which will enhance the setting of both the Mond Building and the Cavendish Laboratory.

Action

No further action.

Paragraph 4.6.1

Representation(s)

30640 Historic England (David Grech) [1787]

Nature Appearance Soundness Tests

Comment	Not Specified	None
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Agent: Historic England (David Grech) [1787]

Summary:

This states that access to the site is currently very poor. However, I question this and would suggest that what is very poor is the permeability of the site. If you compare plan 10, which illustrates the current access points, with map 13, which shows the proposed access points there is no change. I therefore suggest that the opening sentence of paragraph 4.6.1 reads: 'Access into the site is currently poor and permeability through the site is very poor, as highlighted by Plan 10.'

Response

Comments duly noted. For many users, especially cyclists and pedestrians, access is very poor and often the subject of conflict with vehicles, construction traffic, etc.. Permeability is very poor too, however this is fully recognised and the parameters for change address this in a significant fashion. No change proposed.

Action

No further action.

5. Parameters For Change

Paragraph a. The Urban Block, 5.1.2

<i>Representation(s)</i>	<i>Nature</i>	<i>Appearance</i>	<i>Soundness Tests</i>
30700 Charlotte Schoonman [5751]	Object	Not Specified	None

Summary:

The closed character of the NMS frontage at Pembroke Street contributes to the awe-inspiring beauty of this area of Cambridge, providing a concrete representation of the part of the city regarded as a bastion devoted to study and the pursuit of knowledge. While I agree that the congestion in the area is undesirable, I disagree that the solution would be to open retail outlets. Turning this part of Pembroke St into yet another retail area (of which Cambridge knows no lack) diminishes the non-commercial, academic character of this unique street.

Response

Comments duly noted. The introduction of some specialist retail units at ground level along Pembroke Street is only an option as noted in paragraph 5.1.12, in any event permission for change of use would likely be necessary and would enable detailed assessment of whether such uses were appropriate.

Action

No further action.

Paragraph b. Urban Connectivity, 5.1.5

<i>Representation(s)</i>	<i>Nature</i>	<i>Appearance</i>	<i>Soundness Tests</i>
30721 Universities Superannuation Scheme Ltd (USS) [230]	Object	Not Specified	None

Agent: Deloitte (Ms Julia Chowings) [5530]

Summary:

Paragraph 5.1.5 references the vehicular entrance and exit to the Grand Arcade car park. The SPD states the intention is, if possible, for increased areas of pavement to improve the safety of pedestrians but it is not intended for Corn Exchange Street to become the principal place of arrival for pedestrians or for it to be more than the service road. USS support enhanced connectivity only if there are no future impacts or restrictions for the car parks / Grand Arcade and that access is not restricted as a result of the changes.

Response

Concerns duly noted. Early consultation with neighbouring and, or potentially concerned site users, to be consulted prior to formal planning application submission to overcome cited concerns.

Action

No further action.

Paragraph b. Urban Connectivity, 5.1.11

Representation(s)

Nature Appearance Soundness Tests

30632 Caitlin Alvey [5723]

Comment	Not Specified	None
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Summary:

Yes to making pedestrians a priority. Please don't forget people on bikes. You must do something to ease the amount of traffic, or cars will still dominate the space, no matter how pretty it looks.

Response

Concerns duly noted. Section 5.1 of the SPD sets out strategies to address issues of access and traffic management. Equally section 5.2 sets out improvements to the public realm to create significant new areas of open space will be achieved.

Action

No further action.

Representation(s)

Nature Appearance Soundness Tests

30722 Universities Superannuation Scheme Ltd (USS) [230]

Object	Not Specified	None
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Agent: Deloitte (Ms Julia Chowings) [5530]

Summary:

Paragraph 5.1.11 proposes changes to the design of the paving and the introduction of trees and a system of controlling traffic queues for the car park during busy periods. Moving forward, USS would resist restrictions on the car parks that will impact upon their operational requirements therefore request that we discuss proposals and potential impacts as they emerge to ensure that USS' requirements are taken into consideration.

USS would resist future restrictions on current operations as a result of any proposals. Due to the proposals set out above and in light of the proximity of Grand Arcade and the exit of car parks on to Corn Exchange Street, USS seek to engage with Cambridge City Council to further understand the aspirations for the public realm improvements and any alterations to highways as proposals develop in the future.

Response

Concerns duly noted. Works to the east side of the site on Corn Exchange Street are nearing completion, however early consultation with neighbouring and, or potentially concerned site users, to be consulted prior to any future formal planning application submission to overcome cited concerns.

Action

No further action.

Paragraph b. Urban Connectivity, 5.1.12

Representation(s)

Nature Appearance Soundness Tests

30641 Historic England (David Grech) [1787]

Comment **Not Specified** **None**

Agent: Historic England (David Grech) [1787]

Summary:

As part of testing the appropriateness of introducing small specialist retail outlets into the Pembroke Street frontage, I suggest that the implication for signage and advertising would need to be carefully examined (though would not wish to prejudge the impact).

Response

Comments duly noted. This matter would be given due consideration at the planning application stage.

Action

No further action.

Paragraph c. Site Permeability, 5.1.13

Representation(s)

Nature Appearance Soundness Tests

30705 Rachel Engler [5760]

Comment **Not Specified** **None**

Summary:

I do not support new entrances on Pembroke Street and Free School Lane. The current entrances are adequate for pedestrians and cyclists. Both streets are part of the few visually appealing streets left in the city centre. The proposal that new entrances would be sensitive to historical surroundings is vague and easily ignored in today's planning environment. The B'enet Street and Corn Exchange entrances could be widened and made the main public entrances. There are more pedestrians in that area anyway. The Whipple Museum main entrance could be in the new courtyard which is proposed.

Response

Comments duly noted. Section 5.1 explains the objectives and constraints to the Pembroke Street access. It is made clear that the entrances are not adequate nor do they support the creation of a better connected, more legible environment for both public and university use. The other entrances are equally part of the wider site access arrangements that either have, or will be, considered in detail. Careful consideration of the impact on building fabric and heritage assets will be undertaken before any works requiring planning permission are granted.

Action

No further action.

Representation(s)

Nature Appearance Soundness Tests

30730	Robyn Arianrhod [5778]	Object	Not Specified	None
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Summary:

This iconic laboratory - whose first director and co-designer was James Clerk Maxwell, one of the greatest (and most under-celebrated) geniuses in the history of science - is important to science lovers throughout the world. I would like to see it as a museum celebrating the Laboratory's incredible achievements, but the proposed development would impact not only the front facade but also the original layout and design of what is one of the first purpose-built academic laboratories in the world. Also, perhaps the exterior of the "plain" back wall can be used for an additional display celebrating the Laboratory's proud and colourful history.

Response

Comments duly noted.
Works to the Cavendish Laboratory as part of the Student Services Centre project, which also impacted the Arts School, were carefully assessed by the City Council and Historic England as part of application 15/0779/LBC and were approved in 2015.

Action

No further action.

Representation(s)

Nature Appearance Soundness Tests

30729	Basil Mahon [5777]	Object	Not Specified	None
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Summary:

I agree with Simon Schaffer that "there is, perhaps, no other scientific building in this country as important as the original Cavendish".

Not only was the building designed by one of the greatest scientists who ever lived, the Cavendish's founding director James Clerk Maxwell, it has been the site of some of the most important scientific discoveries, including the electron and the structure of DNA. Among the world-leading scientists who have worked there are Cavendish's second director Lord Rayleigh, its third director J.J. Thomson, and Ernest Rutherford.

It is a historic and irreplaceable building, which should be lovingly restored, not mutilated.

Response

Comments duly noted.
Careful consideration and attention has been given towards the restoration of the site's built heritage. Works to the Cavendish Laboratory as part of the Student Services Centre project, which also impacted the Arts School, were carefully assessed by the City Council and Historic England as part of application 15/0779/LBC and were approved in 2015. Only the Mond annexe is scheduled for demolition.

Action

No further action.

Representation(s)

Nature Appearance Soundness Tests

30726	Prof. Hasok Chang [5758]	Object	Not Specified	None
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Summary:

I would be very concerned about any plans to demolish any part of the original structure of the Old Cavendish Laboratory. It would be a great irony if an effort to make the New Museums Site more accessible and better known to the public ended up damaging THE most iconic and important historical site in the whole site.

Response

Comments duly noted.

Works to the Cavendish Laboratory as part of the Student Services Centre project, which also impacted the Arts School, were carefully assessed by the City Council and Historic England as part of application 15/0779/LBC and were approved in 2015.

Action

No further action.

Representation(s)

Nature Appearance Soundness Tests

30725	Paul Joseph Moore [5775]	Object	Not Specified	None
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Summary:

Clark Maxwell's contribution to modern science cannot be overstated and his lab original design, here under threat, was a groundbreaking departure whose integrity MUST be respected

The epoch-making discoveries made here are widely acknowledged as part Maxwell's legacy, in addition to his own immense contributions. make this a uniquely iconic site.

Maxwell's birthplace in Edinburgh and his home in Galloway were both long neglected but are now being protected and restored. Please see sense and respect his legacy in your own establishment. Would this be considered if the lab were Newton's or Einstein's. Maxwell deserves no less respect.

I feel the use of the word "vital" on the side of the proposed works betrays a bias towards the work and I'd say instead it is VITAL that Maxwell's legacy be respected.

Response

Comments duly noted.

Works to the Cavendish Laboratory as part of the Student Services Centre project, which also impacted the Arts School, were carefully assessed by the City Council and Historic England as part of application 15/0779/LBC and were approved in 2015.

Action

No further action.

Representation(s)

Nature Appearance Soundness Tests

30724	Dr Isobel Falconer [5770]	Object	Not Specified	None
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Summary:

The paragraph overlooks the heritage value of this wing of the Cavendish Laboratory, where J J Thomson discovered the electron and the isotopes of neon, Rutherford used alpha particles to probe the structure of the atomic nucleus, and Chadwick discovered the neutron. The new entrance will destroy internal arrangements, including Rutherford's personal laboratory and pre-empt plans for the restoration of the Old Cavendish as a science heritage centre and visitor attraction.

Response

Comments duly noted. Works to the Cavendish Laboratory as part of the Student Services Centre project, which also impacted the Arts School, were carefully assessed by the City Council and Historic England as part of application 15/0779/LBC and were approved in 2015.

Action

No further action.

Representation(s)

Nature Appearance Soundness Tests

30723	James Clerk Maxwell Foundation (David Forfar) [5772]	Object	Not Specified	None
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Summary:

This paragraph is highly misleading. Blank, plain wall is not at all blank. The proposed new entrance would actually involve the destruction of two pairs of windows on opposite sides of the building, together with the historically important site of (Nobel Laureate) Lord Rutherford's personal laboratory! The Old Cavendish is a building of great historical significance, but this is not reflected in the description. No destruction to the fabric of this building must be permitted, and consideration should be given to raising its grade. It is incumbent upon both the City and the University to ensure that it is appropriately refurbished to the highest standards and put to a good, scientifically related, use. To destroy any part of its core fabric may only be described as cultural vandalism, and would also appear to contravene Policy 61 and Policy 62 of the Cambridge Local Plan 2014.

Response

Comments duly noted. Careful consideration and attention has been given towards the restoration of the site's built heritage. Works to the Cavendish Laboratory as part of the Student Services Centre project, which also impacted the Arts School, were carefully assessed by the City Council and Historic England as part of application 15/0779/LBC and were approved in 2015. Only the Mond annexe is scheduled for demolition.

Action

No further action.

Representation(s)

Nature Appearance Soundness Tests

30720	The Rt Hon Alex Fergusson [5774]	Object	Not Specified	None
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Summary:

I wish to strongly object to the plans to partially demolish the Cavendish Laboratory. As someone who has tried to champion the life, works and achievements of James Clerk Maxwell, whose family estate lies within my Scottish Parliamentary constituency of Galloway and West Dumfries within which he is buried, I believe that he is one of the most understated geniuses in our history. He designed the Cavendish Laboratory and was its first head, and it was under his leadership that the Cavendish spawned what a recent article called 'one of the greatest crop of experimental scientists the world has known'.
 This building simply must be preserved. As others have pointed out, "Elsewhere historically insignificant buildings are being kept for no good reason, yet there is perhaps no other scientific building in this country as important as the original Cavendish, perhaps no laboratory as aesthetically pleasing as the Mond. If the university truly wishes to 'create a window into the site's history' they must do it without destroying its most important buildings".
 I whole-heartedly concur.

Response

Comments duly noted.
Careful consideration and attention has been given towards the restoration of the site's built heritage. Works to the Cavendish Laboratory as part of the Student Services Centre project, which also impacted the Arts School, were carefully assessed by the City Council and Historic England as part of application 15/0779/LBC and were approved in 2015. Only the Mond annexe is scheduled for demolition.

Action

No further action.

Representation(s)

Nature Appearance Soundness Tests

30719	Dr John Reid [5773]	Object	Not Specified	None
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Summary:

The proposals as submitted, though formulated with good intentions, will clearly have detrimental unintended consequences. The original appearance of the building will be altered, as well as incurring the loss of Rutherford's personal laboratory. They should be refused in their present form and returned for further consideration.

 The Cavendish Laboratory has iconic status for science and society at large. In a way it is unfortunate for the University and the City that the Cavendish has this iconic status, for with it comes the obligation to consult very widely on proposed changes both internal and external before plans are submitted. This has clearly not been done. The University feels it could do more with the Cavendish Laboratory. Excellent. One example they should study is the sympathetic restoration and re-purposing of their historic laboratories by the University of Coimbra, celebrating 750 years of history. More sympathetic development of the Cavendish than the submitted plans is possible and should be investigated urgently before the tabled, well-meaning but detrimental, proposals are acted on.

Response

Comments duly noted.
Careful consideration and attention has been given towards the restoration of the site's built heritage. Works to the Cavendish Laboratory as part of the Student Services Centre project, which also impacted the Arts School, were carefully assessed by the City Council and Historic England as part of application 15/0779/LBC and were approved in 2015.

Action

No further action.

Representation(s)**Nature Appearance Soundness Tests****30718** Dr Adam Hart-Davis [5769]

Object

Not Specified

None

Summary:

This sounds an absolute disaster. For every scientist in the world the Cavendish Lab represents the most important building in the entire history of science. More Nobel Prizes have come to the Cavendish than to anywhere else on earth.

You cannot destroy this building. It must be preserved.

Response

Comments duly noted.

Careful consideration and attention has been given towards the restoration of the site's built heritage. Works to the Cavendish Laboratory as part of the Student Services Centre project, which also impacted the Arts School, were carefully assessed by the City Council and Historic England as part of application 15/0779/LBC and were approved in 2015.

Action

No further action.

Representation(s)**Nature Appearance Soundness Tests****30717** Mr Dick Middleton [5754]

Object

Not Specified

None

Summary:

I learned with incredulity that as part of the above development you are planning significant alterations to the Cavendish Laboratory.

This laboratory building is of extraordinary historic value in the context of modern scientific development and progress. It was designed by the somewhat unknown mathematical genius James Clerk Maxwell. Maxwell is man whose insights laid the foundation for all modern physics including radio, x-rays, light, radio astronomy, quantum physics and so on. Many Nobel Laureates (29 according to the university website) are from the Cavendish laboratory and benefited from Maxwell's work - Rutherford, Crick & Watson (DNA) to name just the best known.

Maxwell was a forward thinker and knew the importance of practical science. His design for the Cavendish Laboratory was revolutionary and was instrumental in the development of many of the most important 20th century scientists. It is a truly unique and historic building. Possibly one of the most important buildings in Cambridge. It is surely part of the heritage you are trying to preserve.

Please, I strongly object to your plan to develop this building.

Response

Comments duly noted.

Careful consideration and attention has been given towards the restoration of the site's built heritage. Works to the Cavendish Laboratory as part of the Student Services Centre project, which also impacted the Arts School, were carefully assessed by the City Council and Historic England as part of application 15/0779/LBC and were approved in 2015.

Action

No further action.

<i>Representation(s)</i>	<i>Nature</i>	<i>Appearance</i>	<i>Soundness Tests</i>
30716 Prof Tom McLeish [5757]	Object	Not Specified	None

Summary:

The paragraph suggests that the proposed development merely destroys an 'almost blank and very plain back wall of the [old] Cavendish Laboratory'. It fails to say that on the other side of this way is an ivy-covered frontage which is undoubtedly one of the most iconic scientific buildings in the world.

This is the building where the electron was discovered, the atom first split by deliberate bombardment, the structure of DNA discovered. The destruction of this building unique to the highest points of 20th century physics is unacceptable.

Response

Comments duly noted.

Careful consideration and attention has been given towards the restoration of the site's built heritage. Works to the Cavendish Laboratory as part of the Student Services Centre project, which also impacted the Arts School, were carefully assessed by the City Council and Historic England as part of application 15/0779/LBC and were approved in 2015.

Action

No further action.

<i>Representation(s)</i>	<i>Nature</i>	<i>Appearance</i>	<i>Soundness Tests</i>
30715 The Rt Hon Patrick Jenkin [5767]	Object	Not Specified	None

Summary:

I wish to object to the proposals to redevelop part of the original Cavendish Laboratory designed by James Clerk Maxwell.

The Applicants do not appear to recognise that this building is of great historic and scientific significance. Its design and construction in the 19th Century marked a major turning point in the development of science in the world, when scientific research became a matter for the hard, sequential, logical search for provable evidence. James Clerk Maxwell was one of the most significant leaders of this revolution in science.

My interest is that my Great-Grandfather, Prof HC Fleeming Jenkin, the first Professor of Science at Edinburgh, was a close associate of and collaborator with James Clerk Maxwell; their joint work on defining the ohm, for instance, was largely undertaken in this laboratory.

If those who are planning the modernisation of this part of Cambridge University were aware of the truly historic significance of this original Cavendish Laboratory, I feel sure that their otherwise admirable proposals could be largely achieved while at the same time preserving the essential character of the entirety of this original Cavendish Laboratory.

Response

Comments duly noted.

Careful consideration and attention has been given towards the restoration of the site's built heritage. Works to the Cavendish Laboratory as part of the Student Services Centre project, which also impacted the Arts School, were carefully assessed by the City Council and Historic England as part of application 15/0779/LBC and were approved in 2015.

Action

No further action.

<i>Representation(s)</i>	<i>Nature</i>	<i>Appearance</i>	<i>Soundness Tests</i>
30714 Paul Davey [5768]	Object	Not Specified	None

Summary:

As I understand it, the plan is to go through the ground floor of the Cavendish Lab. This is poor treatment of such an historic building. As regards its listed status, although the back wall is "very plain" and might not be a great loss, the opposite wall where the route would emerge is far from being plain.

Response

Comments duly noted.

Careful consideration and attention has been given towards the restoration of the site's built heritage. Works to the Cavendish Laboratory as part of the Student Services Centre project, which also impacted the Arts School, were carefully assessed by the City Council and Historic England as part of application 15/0779/LBC and were approved in 2015.

Action

No further action.

<i>Representation(s)</i>	<i>Nature</i>	<i>Appearance</i>	<i>Soundness Tests</i>
30713 Prof Wilson Poon [5766]	Object	Not Specified	None

Summary:

Paragraph suggests that the development merely destroys an 'almost blank and very plain back wall of the [old] Cavendish Laboratory'. But on the other side is an ivy-covered frontage that is undoubtedly one of the world's most iconic scientific buildings. It is unclear how nearby buildings will be affected, notably the Mond Laboratory. Destroying this heritage is vandalism on a par with what ISIS is doing elsewhere right now. As a senior academic, I understand the need for space. But it should be possible to satisfy these needs without irreparably damaging the integrity of one of the top 10 historic scientific sites in the world.

Response

Comments duly noted.

Careful consideration and attention has been given towards the restoration of the site's built heritage. Works to the Cavendish Laboratory as part of the Student Services Centre project, which also impacted the Arts School, were carefully assessed by the City Council and Historic England as part of application 15/0779/LBC and were approved in 2015. Only the Mond annexe is scheduled for demolition.

Action

No further action.

<i>Representation(s)</i>	<i>Nature</i>	<i>Appearance</i>	<i>Soundness Tests</i>
30703 Dr Boris Jardine [5759]	Object	Not Specified	None

Summary:

Alterations to the Old Cavendish should be kept to an absolute minimum. The building is one of the very first purpose-built scientific laboratories in the country, and as such is amongst the most important scientific buildings in the world. There is a huge body of historical scholarship that backs up this statement. The benefit of opening the site up at the north end is not at all clear -- one stated intention is to 'reveal buildings of interest', but this cannot be justified if the main 'building of interest' on the entire site is disfigured.

Response

Comments duly noted.

Careful consideration and attention has been given towards the restoration of the site's built heritage. Works to the Cavendish Laboratory as part of the Student Services Centre project, which also impacted the Arts School, were carefully assessed by the City Council and Historic England as part of application 15/0779/LBC and were approved in 2015. Only the Mond annexe is scheduled for demolition.

Action

No further action.

Representation(s)**Nature Appearance Soundness Tests****30691 Mr Simon Lock [5744]****Object****Not Specified****None****Summary:**

The modification of the exterior of such a significant building as the old cavendish laboratories seems misguided. This is one of the most scientifically significant buildings in the world. It should be preserved to as great a degree as possible as a lasting monument to the achievements achieved within its walls and the systems of scientific learning established there.

Response**Comments duly noted.**

Careful consideration and attention has been given towards the restoration of the site's built heritage. Works to the Cavendish Laboratory as part of the Student Services Centre project, which also impacted the Arts School, were carefully assessed by the City Council and Historic England as part of application 15/0779/LBC and were approved in 2015.

Action**No further action.****Representation(s)****Nature Appearance Soundness Tests****30702 Dr William Tobin [5756]****Support****Not Specified****None****Summary:**

Boris Jardine's article in The Guardian alerted me to the proposal to improve pedestrian access to the Old museums Site by piercing the back wall of the oldest part of the Old Cavendish Laboratory (the East Wing).

While recognising and approving of the respect for heritage, and feeling that there is insufficient respect for scientific and industrial heritage, my belief is that we must not let the past stifle the present. So long as "existing window openings [are] sensitively adapted and possibly enlarged" this seems to me an appropriate compromise between past and present.

Response**Comments duly noted.****Action****No further action.****Paragraph a. Public Realm within the site, 5.2.1****Representation(s)****Nature Appearance Soundness Tests****30734 Dr Shane Lawrence [5783]****Comment****Not Specified****None****Summary:**

iv) When it comes to the buildings in the centre of the square area the central area would be enhanced by more pedestrianisation and trees in the centre which would justify the demolition of the centrally placed Rolls Royce Laboratory.

Response**Comments duly noted.**

Sufficient space has been catered for space across three new squares for a variety of uses.

Action**No further action.**

Paragraph a. Public Realm within the site, 5.2.2

Representation(s)

Nature Appearance Soundness Tests

30735 Dr Shane Lawrence [5783]

Comment Not Specified None

Summary:

v) The adequate space provided within the central area (between the Austin Building and the Attenborough Building) will not require any demolition or removal of any part of the Austin Building.

vi) The retained Mond Building fits with the increased pedestrianised space although the purpose of the reduced Mond Building is not indicated.

vii) To the south of the area it is envisaged demolishing the Shell Building and the Goldsmiths Laboratory to enable 'greening of the area around a new entranceway from Pembroke Street. Again this would contribute to the increased space between the Attenborough Building and the Old Metallurgy Building which it is intended to retain.

viii) The necessity of demolishing both the Shell Building and Goldsmiths Laboratory to attain such a space is not clear. If the size of the Attenborough Building annexe is only as is almost completed at the moment then adequate pedestrian space by the removal of the Goldsmiths Laboratory only and not the Shell Building as well would be a better and more realistic plan.

ix) The making of a new entrance through the Heycock Wing into the central area should be very carefully considered as this frontage onto Pembroke Street is also of listed nature and the engineering difficult. Could not the existing entrance from Pembroke Street be slightly altered to serve as the entrance?

Response

Comments duly noted.

-Demolition of the Shell Building or the Goldsmiths Laboratory are required to achieve public realm as anticipated in the university master plan and which the SPD supports; and

-Comments regarding careful treatment of the Pembroke Street façade are noted and any changes to this elevation will be considered as part of any works to the 1907 building. Note these buildings are not however statutorily listed.

Action

No further action.

Representation(s)

Nature Appearance Soundness Tests

30642 Historic England (David Grech) [1787]

Comment Not Specified None

Agent: Historic England (David Grech) [1787]

Summary:

Creating the third court would require the loss of the Mond Annexe, a building of local interest but, on balance, the benefits to enhancing the setting of both the Mond Building and the Cavendish Laboratory (and thereby better revealing the significance of these two listed buildings) would more than outweigh the harm of the loss of this BLI.'

Response

Comments duly noted.

Action

No further action.

<i>Representation(s)</i>	<i>Nature</i>	<i>Appearance</i>	<i>Soundness Tests</i>
30727 Prof. Hasok Chang [5758]	Object	Not Specified	None

Summary:

It is not clear from this description what exactly will be done to the Mond Building, but it is an important historical site, both in its own right as a pioneering laboratory and as part of the Cavendish Laboratory complex.

Response

Comments duly noted.

The Mond Building will be retained, only the Mond annexe is scheduled for demolition.

Action

No further action.

<i>Representation(s)</i>	<i>Nature</i>	<i>Appearance</i>	<i>Soundness Tests</i>
30704 Dr Boris Jardine [5759]	Object	Not Specified	None

Summary:

The Mond annexe was designed and built to be part of a suite which includes the Mond Laboratory. As such it cannot be considered as a separate and subordinate building. Photographs in the architectural press dating from the opening of the Mond Lab give just as much prominence to the annexe as to the tower and crocodile. There is no evidence that the architect H.C. Hughes or his contemporaries thought of the annexe as anything other than *part* of the suite of Mond buildings. It must be kept for the same reasons that the Mond Lab is being preserved.

Response

Comments duly noted.

The Mond Building will be retained, only the Mond annexe is scheduled for demolition as approved under 15/0779/LBC

Action

No further action.

<i>Representation(s)</i>	<i>Nature</i>	<i>Appearance</i>	<i>Soundness Tests</i>
30701 Charlotte Schoonman [5751]	Object	Not Specified	None

Summary:

I oppose the destruction of these historic parts of the Old Cavendish laboratory and the Mond Laboratory for the sake of 'the public realm' for the following reasons:

- 1) While I am unsure that the lack of "clarity, cohesion, and spatial identity" is a bad thing, I believe that a tasteful, spacious solution to the cluttered feel of the NMS can be found without demolishing the spaces where such incredible discoveries and scientific advances were made.
- 2) The conservation of these precious, culturally significant laboratories is more important to the public than the 'realm' their destruction might create.

Response

Comments duly noted.

Careful consideration and attention has been given towards the restoration of the site's built heritage. Works to the Cavendish Laboratory as part of the Student Services Centre project, which also impacted the Arts School, were carefully assessed by the City Council and Historic England as part of application 15/0779/LBC and were approved in 2015. Only the Mond annexe is scheduled for demolition.

Action

No further action.

Paragraph a. Public Realm within the site, Plan No.15: Proposed Open Space & The Public Realm

<i>Representation(s)</i>	<i>Nature</i>	<i>Appearance</i>	<i>Soundness Tests</i>
30644 Historic England (David Grech) [1787]	Comment	Not Specified	None
<i>Agent: Historic England (David Grech) [1787]</i>			
<i>Summary:</i> Identify courtyards A, B and C on this plan			

Response

Comments duly noted.
Agree to amending Plan 15 to annotate courtyards A, B and C (or First, Second and Third, respectively)

Action

Amending Plan 15 to annotate courtyards A, B and C (or First, Second and Third, respectively)

Paragraph a. Public Realm within the site, 5.2.5

<i>Representation(s)</i>	<i>Nature</i>	<i>Appearance</i>	<i>Soundness Tests</i>
30643 Historic England (David Grech) [1787]	Comment	Not Specified	None
<i>Agent: Historic England (David Grech) [1787]</i>			
<i>Summary:</i> I recommend that signage is added to the list of items needing a consistent treatment in the design of opens spaces.			

Response

Comments duly noted.
Agree to add the words "signage" in paragraph 5.3.5 after the word "materials,".

Action

Add the words "signage" in paragraph 5.3.5 after the word "materials,".

Paragraph a. Public Realm within the site, 5.2.6

<i>Representation(s)</i>	<i>Nature</i>	<i>Appearance</i>	<i>Soundness Tests</i>
30645 Historic England (David Grech) [1787]	Comment	Not Specified	None
<i>Agent: Historic England (David Grech) [1787]</i>			
<i>Summary:</i> Whilst the introduction of underground storage for storm water attenuation may be desirable, there would first need to be a full understanding of the implications for buried archaeology.			

Response

Comments duly noted.
Any planning application to provide storm water attenuation facilities would need to provide an archaeological assessment which would be a condition of any planning application/consent.

Action

No further action.

Paragraph b. New Buildings, 5.3.4

Representation(s)

Nature Appearance Soundness Tests

30733 Dr Shane Lawrence [5783]

Comment Not Specified None

Summary:

iii) The exact nature of the new Student Services Building on the site of the Examinations Hall is not completely specified although it seems to be envisaged as 3 storey and of ultramodern construction and style. Therefore the retention and care of the Arts School building should be seriously considered and planned for in detail from the beginning of work on the Examinations Hall.

Response

Comments duly noted. The Arts School building is to be retained and incorporated into the new approved proposal for the Student Services Centre approved under 15/0777/FUL

Action

No further action.

Paragraph b. New Buildings, 5.3.5

Representation(s)

Nature Appearance Soundness Tests

30646 Historic England (David Grech) [1787]

Comment Not Specified None

Agent: Historic England (David Grech) [1787]

Summary:

When considering the impact of new buildings on the quality of external spaces through daylight and sun path modelling; this will need to include both spaces within the New Museums Site and the adjacent public realm.

Response

Comments duly noted. Paragraph 5.3.5 does note the word "site" in reference to the public realm, hence no change to the text is considered necessary.

Action

No further action.

Paragraph b. New Buildings, 5.3.9

Representation(s)

Nature Appearance Soundness Tests

30633 Cambridge Live (Mr Neil Jones) [5725]

Comment Not Specified None

Summary:

Existing build creates operational difficulties for the Cambridge Corn Exchange.

Response

Concerns duly noted however it is not for this SPD to seek to address existing operational difficulties with existing conditions. Co-ordination between the City Council and the university will be necessary as part of any new development and during construction and later operations phases.

Action

No further action.

Paragraph a. Sustainability, 5.4.1

Representation(s)

Nature Appearance Soundness Tests

30699 John Sinton [5749]

Object Not Specified None

Summary:

It is well seen that conservation of historical assets is last on the list of sustainability considerations. Truly good plans would find a better balance of sustainability objectives.

It is tempting to compare the planned destruction here to that at historical sites by ISIL. In their view, pressing current needs override any obligation to respect the history.

While the comparison sounds with ISIL sounds overdone, I struggle to see a substantial difference. Cambridge believes their rationale for destruction is simply even more righteous, but the end result in both cases is unnecessary and undesirable destruction.

Response

Comments duly noted.

Careful consideration and attention has and will be given towards the alteration of the site's built heritage. Detailed consultation is undertaken with the Council, Historic England and others before any proposals are put forward which could impact on assets of heritage significance, either via their use of design.

Action

No further action.

Paragraph 5.5.2

Representation(s)

Nature Appearance Soundness Tests

30634 Cambridge Live (Mr Neil Jones) [5725]

Comment Not Specified None

Summary:

Careful joined-up planning of large vehicular access will be required in dialogue with the Cambridge Corn Exchange and Cambridge Arts Theatre to ensure that both arts venues can continue to ensure load ins for shows.

Response

Concerns duly noted. Early consultation with neighbouring and/or potentially concerned site users would be necessary and who would be consulted prior to a formal planning application submission with the objective to overcome cited concerns.

Action

No further action.

6. Planning Obligation

Paragraph 6.1

Representation(s)

Nature Appearance Soundness Tests

30712 Cambridge Live (Mr Jeremy Newton) [5765]

Comment	Not Specified	None
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Summary:

The Cambridge Corn Exchange (CCE) adjoins the New Museums Site and plays a vital function for both university and city. I propose either a 'Planning Obligation' to ensure a contribution towards its capital development costs (in order to better serve both town and gown) or, preferably, an active partnership between the NMS project team and the Cambridge Live team responsible for CCE to plan an ambitious programme of shared facilities and activities.

Response

Comments duly noted.

Such a planning obligation would require detailed consultation and agreement likely outside the remit of this framework or at the very least via a shared building or public realm project between the university and the council. The planning obligations set out in this SPD are considered appropriate and proportionate to the impact of the development on its surrounding, notably the need for future improvements in and around the main entrance to the site off Downing Street.

Action

No further action.