

Welcome

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We are very pleased to welcome you to this information event today.

There has been a Science Library associated with John Radcliffe, in Oxford, since the opening of the Radcliffe Camera in 1749.

Today, the Radcliffe Science Library building on the corner of Parks Road and South Parks Road houses library collections and, below ground, will house objects from the University's museums. The purpose of this project is to carry out essential maintenance to achieve appropriate storage conditions for these museum collections.

Located in Oxford's Central Conservation Area, the Grade II listed Radcliffe Science Library building includes the Jackson Wing, built in 1901, the Worthington Wing, built in 1934, and a large basement. The basement extends across two underground floors beneath the Radcliffe Science Library courtyard and the front lawn of the Grade I listed Oxford University Museum of Natural History and Pitt Rivers Museum, and adjacent to the Grade II listed Abbot's Kitchen and Inorganic Chemistry Laboratory.

The upper floor of the basement, the Lankester Room, was named after its architect Philip J Lankester. It was completed in 1975; almost half a century later its external waterproofing protection has failed and essential maintenance work is now needed to safeguard the building and the museum collections it will store.

This event will explain:

- Where the works will take place
- Why essential maintenance works are needed
- What proposed works will take place
- How these may affect the site and nearby buildings
- Next steps and the proposed timeline

Your views...

There is a feedback form available today, and we would be grateful if you would please complete it and submit it to us by 28 June 2019 either in hard copy or online at: public.consultation@admin.ox.ac.uk.

Thank you for attending.



Above: Radcliffe Science Library



Above: Lankester Room in 1975



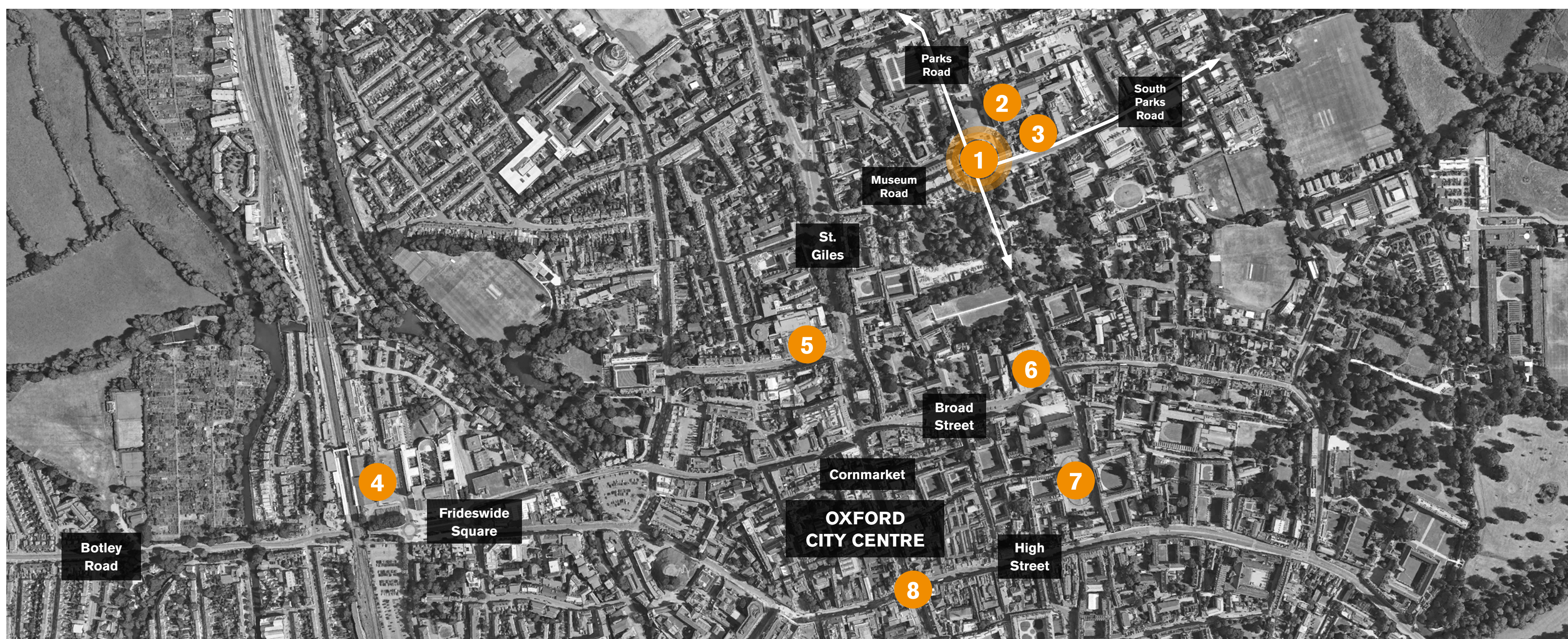
Above: Lankester Room Ceiling in 2019

RADCLIFFE SCIENCE LIBRARY ESSENTIAL MAINTENANCE WORKS



Background

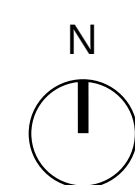
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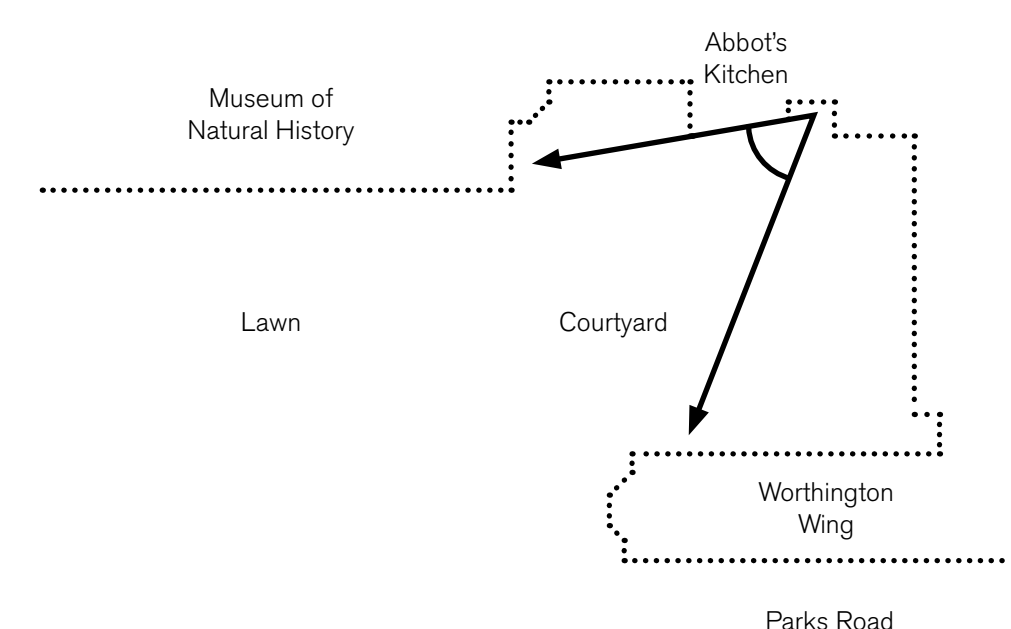
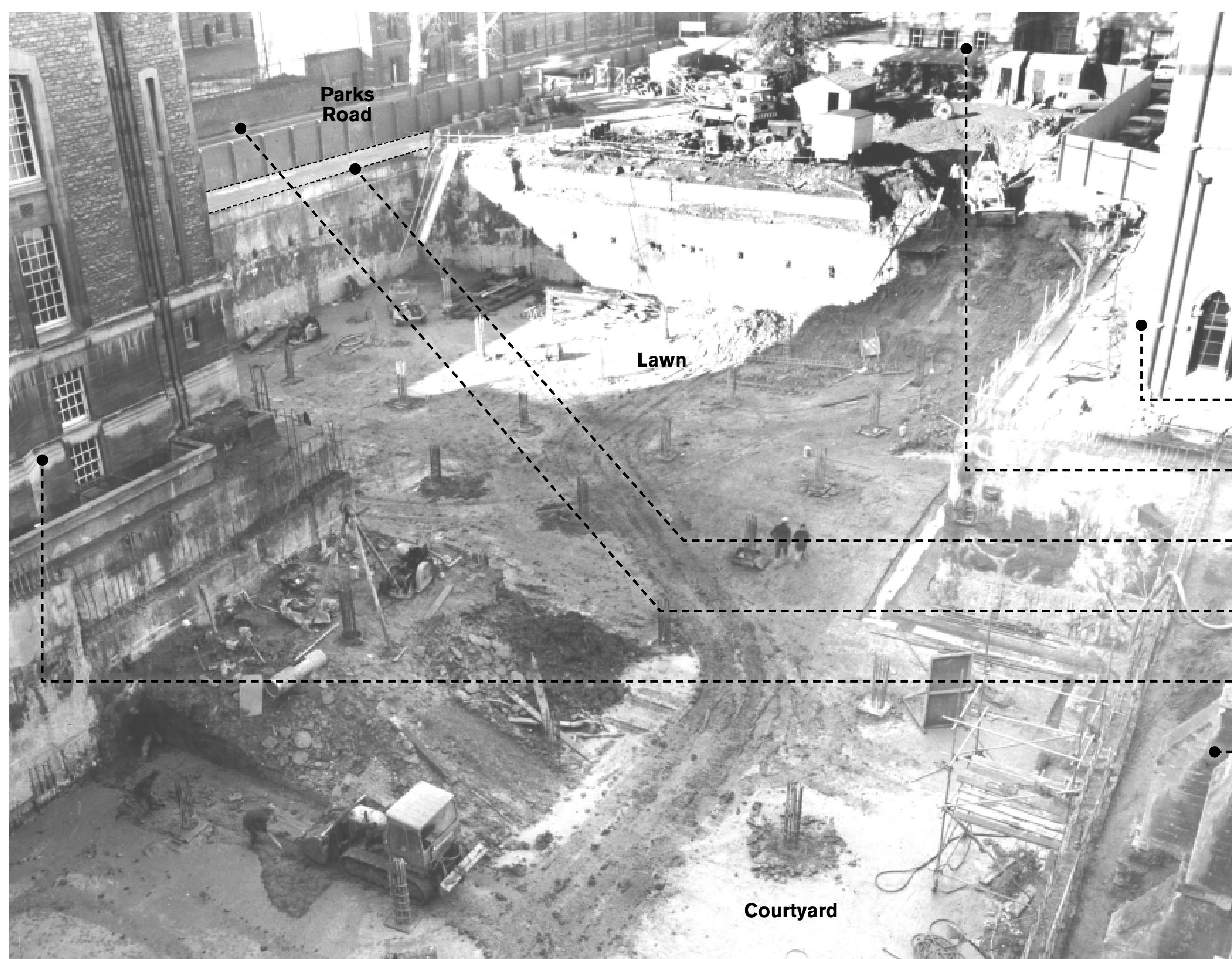
- 1 Radcliffe Science Library. *Proposed Site.*
- 2 Museum of Natural History & Pitt Rivers Museum. *You Are Here.*
- 3 Inorganic Chemistry Laboratory.
- 4 Oxford Rail Station.

- 5 Ashmolean Museum.
- 6 Weston Library.
- 7 Radcliffe Camera.
- 8 Carfax Tower.

Diagram Showing
Site Location.



0 Mile 1/4 Mile



- Museum of Natural History.
- Robert Hooke Building.
- Low-Level Boundary Wall Along Parks Road. Removed During Previous Works.*
- Trees Along Parks Road. Planted After Previous Works.*
- Worthington Wing.
- Abbot's Kitchen.

Photograph Showing
Construction of the Lankester
Room in the 1970s.

RADCLIFFE SCIENCE LIBRARY ESSENTIAL MAINTENANCE WORKS



Proposed works

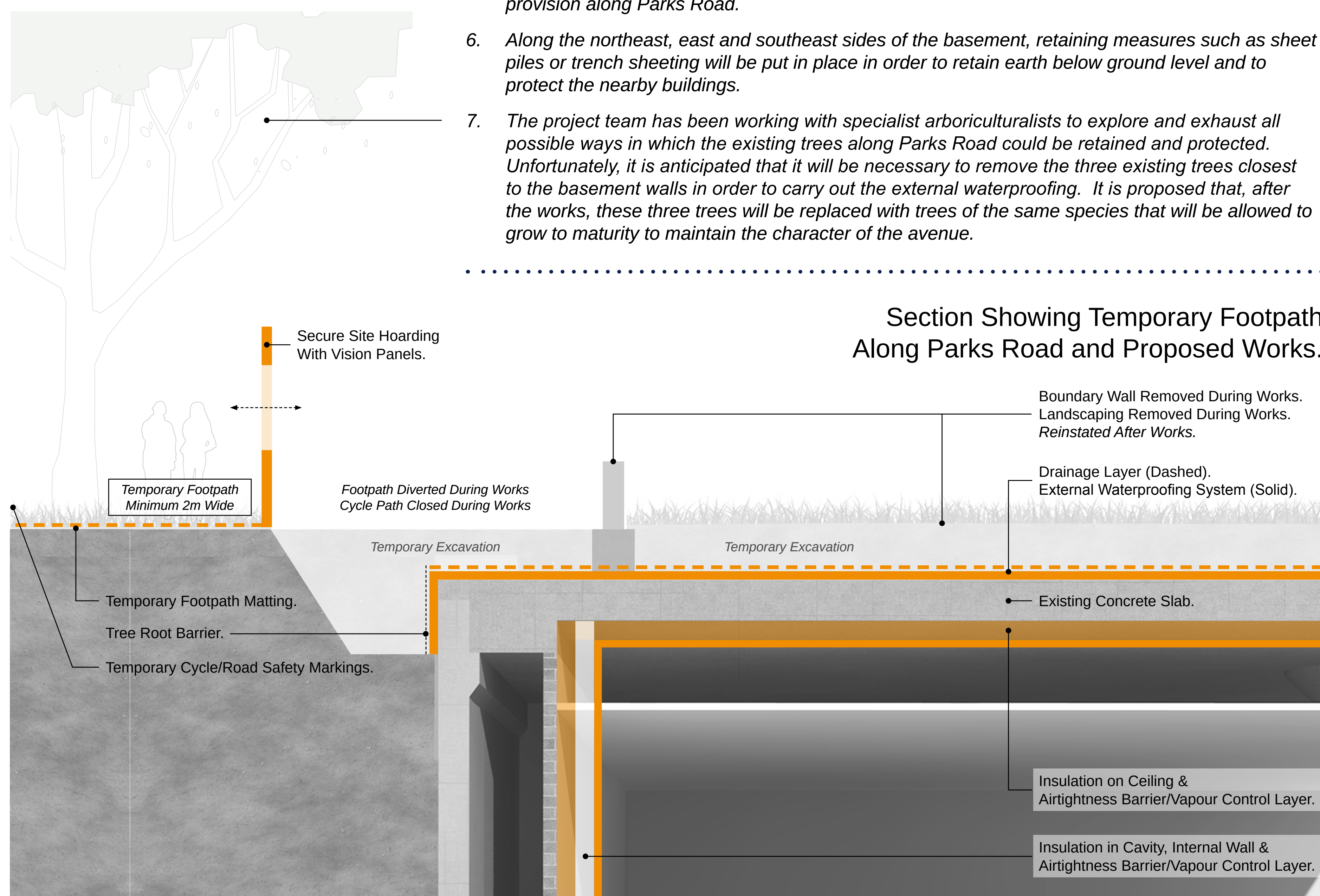
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The essential maintenance work needed is both internal and external. The internal work includes the removal of asbestos, an internal strip-out, and alterations including airtightness and vapour control works, while the external work focuses on a new external waterproofing system that will be applied to the top of the underground concrete slab and to the outside of the underground concrete walls.

In order to carry out these works the contractor will first set up a secure site boundary. Then, working within this boundary, they will remove the existing courtyard landscaping (including part of the low-level boundary wall along Parks Road) and part of the lawn to fully expose the concrete slab and the top of the concrete walls so that they can carry out the external waterproofing, drainage and insulation works. Then, after the external work has been completed, the courtyard landscaping and the lawn will be reinstated.

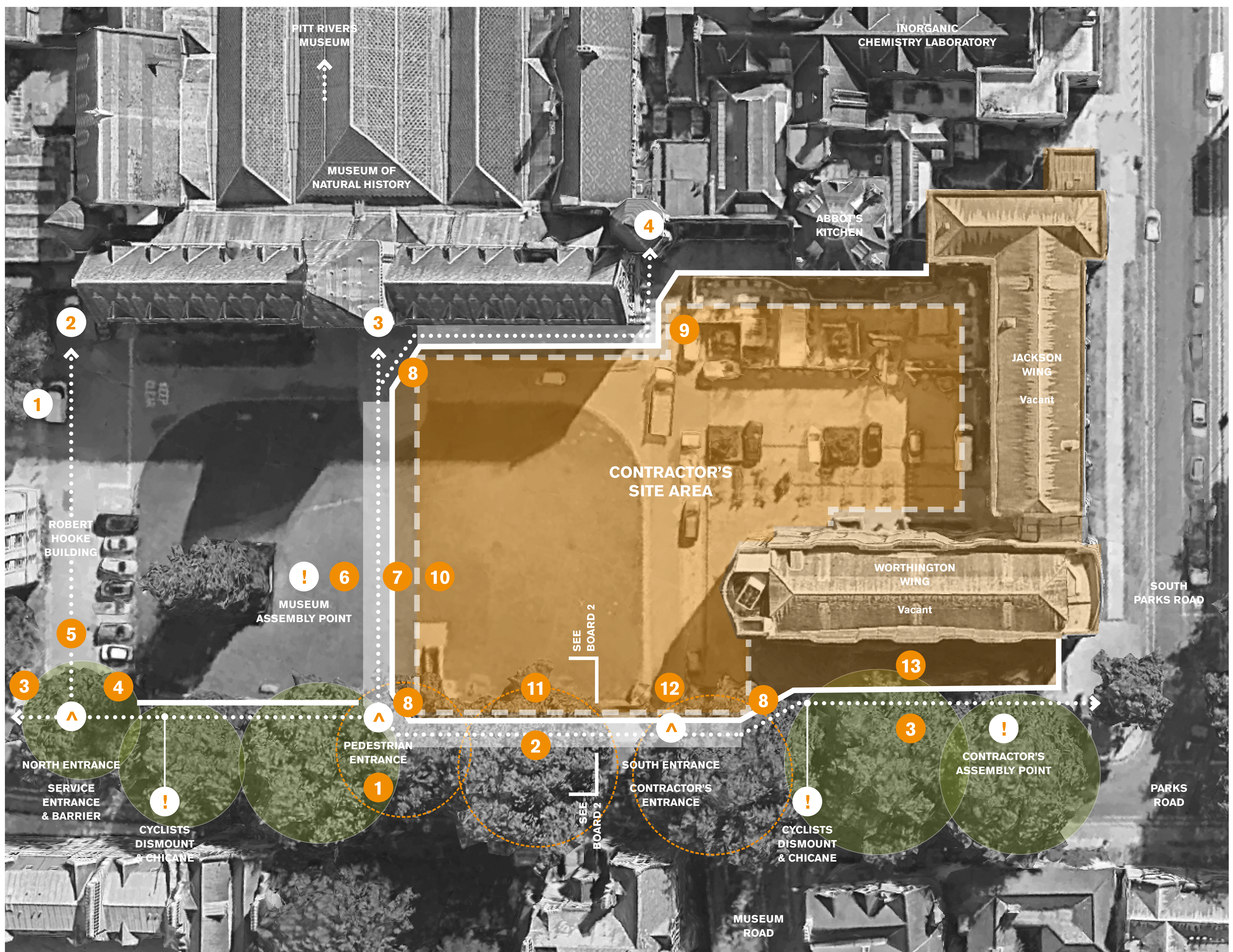
It is interesting to note that, in the construction of the Lankester Room in the 1970s, there is a historical precedent for the removal and reinstatement of the landscaping. This is illustrated in the photograph on the previous board, which shows the extent of the excavation for the construction of the Lankester Room. It also shows that the low-level boundary wall along Parks Road was removed to facilitate these works, and that a number of the existing trees along Parks Road were planted after these works. It is anticipated that these external works will take place between March and August 2020. Given the significance of the adjacent buildings, a series of temporary measures will be put in place during the works to minimise the disruption that they may cause and to ensure clear and safe access to the adjacent buildings and along the footpath on Parks Road. These temporary measures include:

1. A secure site hoarding will surround the contractor's site area during the works and will include project information, graphics, signage and viewing windows to increase visibility and engagement.
2. The underground floors extend beneath the footpath along Parks Road, and so this will be diverted around the secure site hoarding during the works (onto temporary footpath matting laid beneath the canopies of the adjacent trees) and the cycle path will be temporarily closed.
3. An opening will be formed in the middle of the boundary wall along Parks Road during the works, with temporary footpath matting across the lawn towards the Museum of Natural History and Pitt Rivers Museum. The existing entrances to the museums will remain in use, although the width of the route to the museum's accessible and group entrance will be reduced because of the proximity of the external wall of the museum to the underground floors.
4. The existing south entrance from Parks Road will be closed during the works because it will be located inside the contractor's site area. The existing north entrance from Parks Road will remain in use, although it will be restricted to access for accessible parking, deliveries and services.
5. The existing parking and cycle parking in the courtyard will be relocated during the works. Accessible parking for the museums will be relocated to the Robert Hooke Building, and other parking will be relocated to other university sites. Cycle parking will be relocated near the existing provision along Parks Road.
6. Along the northeast, east and southeast sides of the basement, retaining measures such as sheet piles or trench sheeting will be put in place in order to retain earth below ground level and to protect the nearby buildings.
7. The project team has been working with specialist arboriculturalists to explore and exhaust all possible ways in which the existing trees along Parks Road could be retained and protected. Unfortunately, it is anticipated that it will be necessary to remove the three existing trees closest to the basement walls in order to carry out the external waterproofing. It is proposed that, after the works, these three trees will be replaced with trees of the same species that will be allowed to grow to maturity to maintain the character of the avenue.



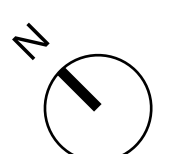
Proposed site setup

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- 1 Opening in Boundary Wall During Works. *Reinstated After Works.*
- 2 Temporary Footpath Matting Along Parks Road. White Fill. *Removed After Works.*
- 3 Relocated Cycle Parking. *Returned to Original Location After Works.*
- 4 Relocated Accessible Parking. *Returned to Original Location After Works.*
- 5 Restricted Access for Accessible Parking, Deliveries and Services Only.
- 6 Temporary Footpath Matting Across Lawn. White Fill. *Removed After Works.*
- 7 Secure Site Hoarding. Solid White Line. *Removed After Works.*
- 8 Project Information, Graphics and Wayfinding.
- 9 Temporary Occasional Route Closures During Works. *Reopened After Works.*
- 10 Basement Walls. Dashed White Line.
- 11 Boundary Wall Removed During Works. *Reinstated After Works.*
- 12 Contractor's Site Entrance with Banksman and Controlled Crossing.
- 13 Contractor's Secure Storage Area.

Diagram Showing Proposed Site Access and Contractor's Site Setup. From March 2020 to August 2020.



0m 25m

- 1 Existing Access to Robert Hooke Building and Prayer Room.
- 2 Existing Exit from the Museums. *Normal Operation.*
- 3 Existing Main Entrance to the Museums. *Normal Operation.*
- 4 Existing Accessible & Group Entrance to the Museums. *Access Route Restricted by Works.*
- ⬆ Site Entrance.
- Existing Trees Removed and Replaced After Works.
- Existing Trees Retained and Protected During Works.

Next steps

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2019

June

- Consultation with local planning authority
- Public information event on 21 June

July

- Feedback from consultation and the public information event reviewed by the University
- Submission of full planning application and listed building consent

October

- Expected decision on the full planning application and listed building consent
- Contractor's site area set up
- Internal maintenance works begin

2020

March

- Contractor's site area enlarged
- External maintenance works begin

August

- Expected completion of maintenance works
- Museum lawn reinstated and reopened
- Contractor's site area reduced

Below: Contractor's site area from October 2019

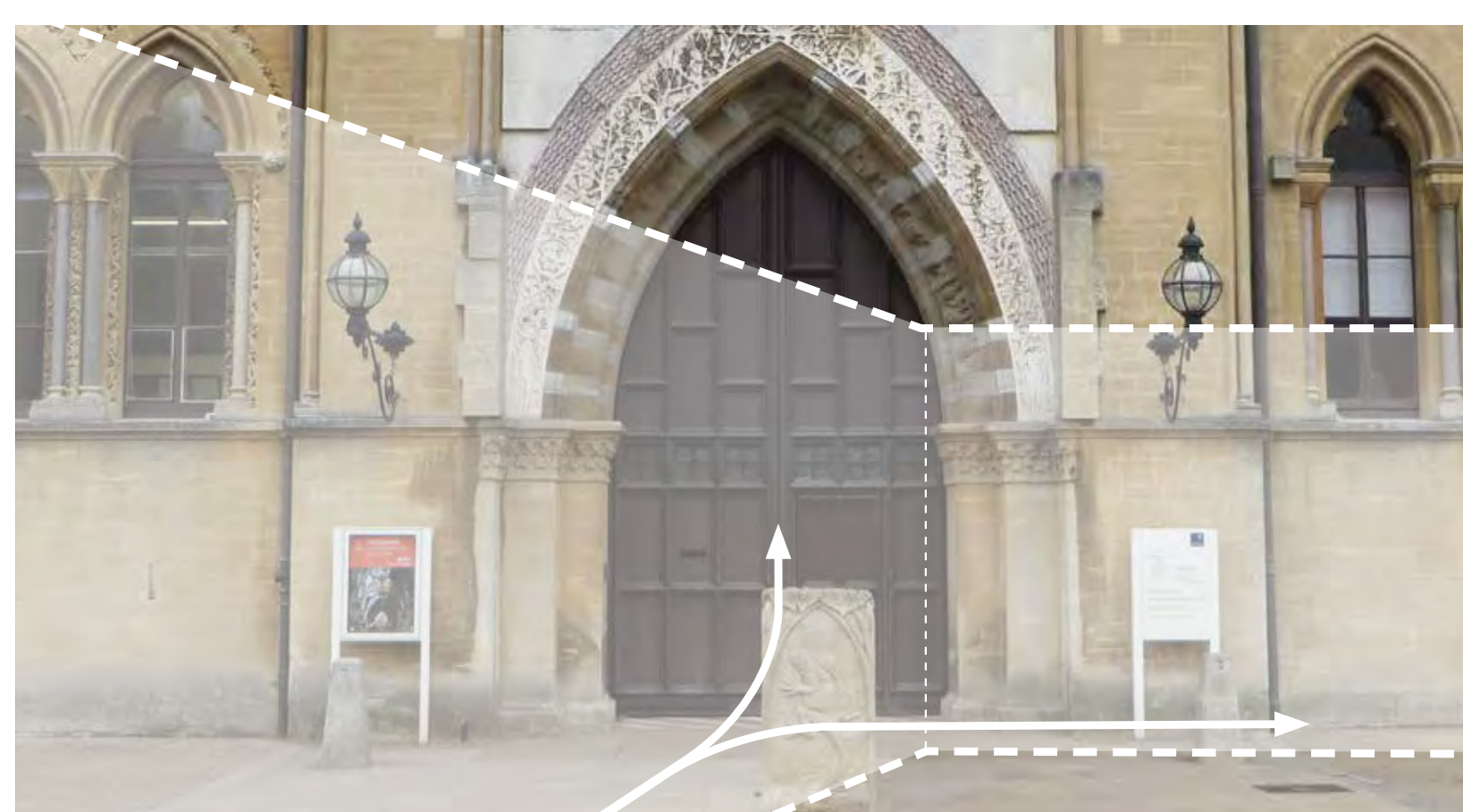


Above: Contractor's site area from March 2020

Site area diagrams

Site hoarding perspectives

Below: Looking north on Parks Road



Above: Looking towards the entrance to the Museum of Natural History and Pitt Rivers Museum

RADCLIFFE SCIENCE LIBRARY
ESSENTIAL MAINTENANCE WORKS

