



**Design, Access and
Heritage Statement**

at

**Hornsey Library
Haringey Park
London N8 9JA**

**Prepared
on behalf of**

**Haringey
Council**

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

This Design, Access and Heritage Statement is prepared on behalf of Haringey Council, the freehold owners of Hornsey Library.

This statement has been prepared to support the listed building application as submitted by ig9 on behalf of Haringey Council. The statement briefly analyses the characteristics of the site and surrounding areas and is to read in conjunction with the associated proposed planning drawings.

The brief for the proposed works is for the refurbishment of the existing fountain located in the public realm area at Hornsey Library together with refurbishment of the surrounding paved areas.

This document is to be read in conjunction with the following documentation:

- Condition Survey
- Proposed location plan

2.0 BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Hornsey library comprises a Grade 2 listed building with associated public realm areas, including a number of mature trees, a disused fountain, public WC facilities and paved areas. The full address of the site is Hornsey Library, Haringey Park, London, N8 9JA.

To the left hand side of the library building there is a fountain structure, which has a sculpture sitting in the fountain pool, mounted on a pedestal. Below is a summary of the historic relevance of the sculpture:

Huxley-Jones was born in Staffordshire and studied at the Wolverhampton School of Art from 1924 to 1929 and then, until 1933, at the Royal College of Art in London where his tutors included both Gilbert Ledward and Henry Moore. After graduating, Huxley-Jones held the post of head of sculpture at Gray's School of Art in Aberdeen.

Working in bronze, ivory and terracotta, Huxley-Jones exhibited statuettes and reliefs at the Royal Academy, at the Royal Scottish Academy, at the New English Art Club, with the Society of Scottish Artists and the Royal Birmingham Society of Artists. Huxley-Jones received a large number of public commissions for his sculptures, which were often elegant compositions with a smooth surface and a simple profile.

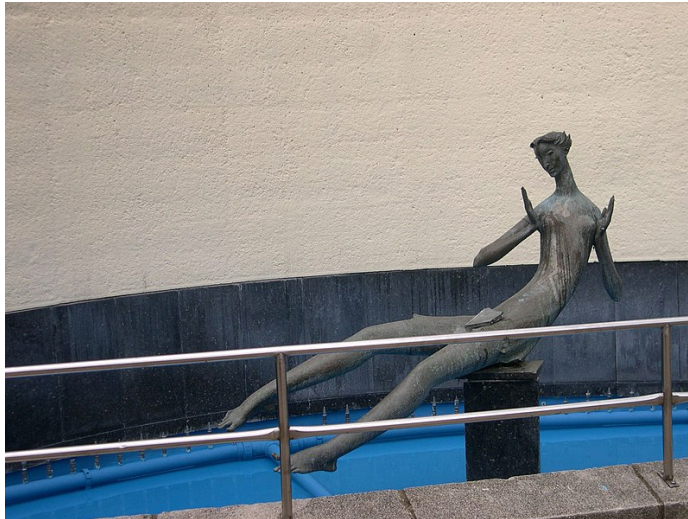
These public works include the statue of Helios at BBC Television Centre in London and the 1963 Joy of Life Fountain in London's Hyde Park. He also created Mother and Child for Chelmsford's Central Park Memorial Gardens which won an award from the Royal Society of British Sculptors in 1966 and was renovated in 2009.

Huxley-Jones was married to the artist Gwynneth Holt and lived at Chelmsford in Essex and died near there, at Broomfield. Aberdeen and Wolverhampton art galleries hold examples of his work. Letters to Huxley-Jones from the architect Graham Richards Dawbarn are preserved at the Essex Record Office.

Name: Hornsey Library Fountain

Location; Haringey Park, Crouch End, Haringey N8 9JA

Materials: Concrete, Bronze, Granite, composite pond materials
Sculptor: Thomas Bayliss Huxley-Jones (1908-1968)
Year: 1963-65



Photograph of the sculpture taken in 2009

3.0 PROPOSAL

Rear concrete wall

Preparation

Temporarily remove for re-fixing at a later date the existing plaques and transport to studio.

The wall will be stripped off the existing flaking paintwork by DOFF cleaning the wall completely throughout. This is a system that is used to gently clean the surface using pressurised steam which will reduce any impact to the rendered surface.

This cleaning system is successful at applying concentrated pressurised steam, without the need to apply high volumes of water with the benefit being that the cleaning medium evaporates harmlessly and does not saturate the surfaces. This enables accurate and effective cleaning without damage incurred. The level of cleaning can be accurately monitored with the DOFF steam cleaning system, not only is there no resultant damage to the cleaned substrate but patinas of the historic surface can be retained as necessary. In this case the intention will be to work with a combination of increased temperature to remove biological growth, and reduced pressure to avoid damaging the historic stonework.

Making good

Following removal of the paint from the concrete wall, it will be re-painted using the KEIM solidat paint system which is specific for application to concrete surfaces.

The Granite panels

Preparation

The existing granite panels will be removed to allow for the new lining to terminate behind the reinstated panels. The panels will be cleaned and polished with appropriate treatment.

Making Good

The panels will be reinstated after the lining is installed. The installation will include new concealed stainless steel fixings and brackets. A combination of mechanical and chemical fixings to be included in the reinstatement. Any damaged or missing panels will be replaced with new with as close a match to the existing as possible.

The Statue

Preparation

The Bronze statue will be carefully removed and taken to a studio off site for repairs, cleaning and polishing. This will be reinstated on completion.

The concrete plinth holding the sculpture will be tested for structural integrity, repaired and rebuilt if deemed necessary to the existing dimensions. The panels will be reinstated on completion as per the wall panels noted above.

Fountain lining

Preparation

The existing pond waterproofing membrane will then be removed using a method of DOFF cleaning / jet washing the surfaces to provide a key coat. The existing cracks will be repaired prior to the new lining being installed. Any loose / defective cement mortar will be removed and reinstated.

Making Good

A new GRP lining will be moulded and adhered to the existing formed pond. The lining will be colour matched to the existing.

Concrete Kerb

Preparation

The stainless-steel rail will be temporarily removed to allow access to the statue and kerb. Existing defective pointing will be raked out and the kerbs re-aligned and set in position.

Making Good

On re-alignment, the kerbing is to be repointed with a sand and cement mix throughout. This will allow for a uniform appearance on completion.

4.0 ACCESS

The existing access arrangements for the library will be maintained. Public realm paved areas will be lifted and re-laid which will ensure level surfaces are provided to all areas, including the public WC facility to the rear left hand corner of the site.

5.0 DRAINAGE

There is an area of public realm paving to the left hand side of the fountain in the square whereby enhancements to the existing drainage provision will be required to prevent a build up of water.

The works will not alter the connections to the existing below ground drainage system and that new drainage to the public realm will be connected to it.

6.0 SUSTAINABILITY

Given the nature of the proposals, being predominantly the refurbishment of the existing fountain structure, consideration to sustainable elements will be restricted to the installation of modern, more efficient effective pumps in the fountain itself.

7.0 HERITAGE IMPLICATIONS

The proposed works include for the restoration of the fountain structure, with the intention being to replicate the previous finishes wherever possible.

The works have been sensitively thought through and the proposals will preserve the character and appearance of the existing fountain and surrounding areas.

The proposed materials and design will match that of the existing structure and surrounding areas.

8.0 CONCLUSION

The proposed refurbishment works have been considered so as to minimise any visual differences to the refurbished fountain structure itself. Replacement materials will primarily consist of the fountain pumps / pipework and jets together with a replacement lining and granite panels where damaged.

The public realm areas will be enhanced by replacing previously lifted and renewed, non matching slabs and extending planter areas to reduce the paved areas and allow for the re-laying of the listed slabs in smaller areas.