

HUGHBROUGHTONARCHITECTS

PRESS RELEASE

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The Harley Gallery, Welbeck Estate: new building now on site

Works are now starting on the latest addition to The Harley Gallery on the Welbeck Estate in North Nottinghamshire. Designed by Hugh Broughton Architects, the new 800 square meter gallery will provide exhibition space for the display of fine and decorative arts from the historic Portland Collection. The practice won the project in an invited competition organised by Malcolm Reading Consultants in 2012.

Visitors will enter the new gallery through a glazed entrance pavilion set within the grounds of the existing Harley Gallery, built in 1994 and honoured with a Civic Trust Award the following year. The architecture is simple and restrained, contained as much by its context as by its glazed elevations and floating roof planes. Within this space the original stone walls will be left exposed to view. Stairs will descend through a toplit space to toilets, lockers and service areas at basement level.

The gallery will be housed within the walls of the Tan Gallop, a structure previously used for training race horses. Externally, walls exposed to view will be crisply detailed in handmade brick, which will both contrast and complement the rougher stone of the old walls. Protruding barrel-vaulted roofs provide a dynamic roofline, referencing the silhouettes of the Abbey and hinting at the drama within. Internally, the galleries have been designed as a place of delight and surprise, which evoke the spirit of Welbeck through their materiality, changing scales and texture. The architectural concept creates a structure for John Ronayne's exhibition design and allows placement of The Portland Collection at centre stage, whilst also celebrating light, space and volume.

Details of the new gallery, as well as insight into the design process, will be presented to the public in an upcoming exhibition, 'A behind-the-scenes look at architecture'. Open from 11 June until 10 August at The Harley Gallery, the exhibition will include models, sketches and visualisations by Hugh Broughton Architects and exhibition designer John Ronayne.

The Harley Galley now comprises three galleries that host changing exhibitions of contemporary visual art and craft, and a fourth gallery dedicated to displaying work from The Portland Collection. The Collection represents generations of the Cavendish-Bentinck family assembling the most highly-regarded work of their era.

Anticipated opening: Early 2016

Ends.

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Facts

Address: Welbeck, Worksop, Nottinghamshire, S80 3LL
Contract dates: 2012 - 2016 (ongoing)
Value: £5 million
Gross internal area: 800 sq m

Credits

Client: The Trustees of the Harley Foundation
Project Team: Hugh Broughton Architects
Malcolm Reading Consultants (design managers)
Ronayne Design (exhibition designers)
Price & Myers (structural engineers)
AECOM (services engineers)
Dominic Cole (landscape architects)
Spiers and Major (lighting designers)
Ridge (quantity surveyors)
Caddick Construction (main contractor)

Hugh Broughton Architects

Hugh Broughton Architects was formed in 1996 and has developed a reputation for carefully crafted contemporary architecture. The practice has designed projects for many high profile clients including The British Council, The National Galleries of Scotland, The Henry Moore Foundation and the TUC. Maidstone Museum East Wing, which the practice completed in 2012, has received an RIBA award, three AJ Retrofit awards and a Civic Trust Commendation. In 2005, working with AECOM, Hugh Broughton Architects won the international competition to design Halley VI Antarctic Research Station on the Brunt Ice Shelf, an extraordinary project which has led to numerous other international polar commissions, and officially opened in February 2013. The multiple award-winning Halley VI continues to receive accolades, most recently two 2014 Civic Trust Awards, a 2014 Architizer A+ Award in the category of Higher Education Institutions & Research Facilities (both Jury and Public votes) and Engineering News-Record 2014 Best Global Projects Award in the Education/Research category.

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