



## Cheltenham College Library and Concert Hall

**Client:** Cheltenham College

**Offer:** Project Management, Building Surveying, Planning, Listed Building Consultancy

**Value:** 1 million

### Overview

The 1843 building houses the main college library, concert hall and reception. Evans Jones was appointed to oversee the wholesale refurbishment of the library, concert hall and backstage areas. This included the management of the main construction contract plus direct works packages for new bespoke library furniture and restoration of the original, a retractable seating system and new stage lighting system to the concert hall to name but a few.



### Challenges



We were first instructed in January so the main challenge was to deliver a complex project in time for the Autumn term following what had already been a lengthy option appraisal period. The first obstacle was to bring together key stakeholders including librarians, teachers, stage technicians, bursary and admin staff to agree a finalised scheme. We managed the process through to a swift conclusion which allowed us to make a detailed listed building consent application for what is a grade II star listed building. During the strip out project a Victorian Frieze was uncovered which resulted in a significant change of plan to the backstage areas requiring further negotiations with the conservation officer.

### Results

By bringing all stakeholders together quickly we were able to make a detailed listed building consent application in February achieving a full consent with no onerous conditions in May allowing us to make a start on site in early July. We also remodelled the backstage offer following discovery of the frieze to create a very attractive green room space with full approval of the local authority Conservation Officer. The project resulted in a complete transformation which has received a commendation from both the Civic Society and School Library Association.

*"We've worked closely with the team at Evans Jones for the past 3 years or so and fully expect to continue doing so. Not only do we receive really attentive, personal service but this is the team that helped us deliver our biggest capital project in a decade bang on schedule and very comfortably within budget."* **John Champion, Cheltenham College**

