

The Auditorium New Grove Quadrangle Magdalen College, Oxford (1996 - 1998)

- Client: Magdalen College, Oxford
- Construction Cost: £ 2.5 million GBP
- New Construction
- Project Size: 150 seat Auditorium and Exhibition Gallery
- Awards: The Grove Buildings, Magdalen College - The Royal Fine Art Commission *Building of the Year Award Finalist 1997*
- Publications: *Architecture Today*, February 1997; *Country Life Magazine*, October 1999

Magdalen College represents, perhaps, the ideal college townscape. Around its 15th-century Great Tower and Cloister Quad unfolds an assemblage of buildings and spaces varied in scale and character. It is this urban

model of collegiate

Oxbridge planning that we adopted in our design. The new buildings are generally composed around a quad which opens to the east towards the deer park. The Auditorium at Magdalen College is situated at the heart of a series of new buildings we have masterplanned and designed. It is placed close to Longwall Gate thus emphasising its public nature while marking the second most important

entrance to the College. The building provides fully equipped conferencing lecture facilities as well as a venue for musical and cinematic performances and temporary exhibitions.



The contrast in scale and character between the classical of the Auditorium and the Magdalen vernacular of the residential buildings heightens the dialogue between their public and private nature respectively, thus underlining the urban quality of the scheme and its relation to the existing College.