The RIBA (Royal Institute of British Architects) was founded over 150 years ago for 'the general advancement of Architecture, and for promoting and facilitating the acquirement of the knowledge of the various arts'. *Inclusivity* is a strong aim for the RIBA which is why the Oxford branch is necessary. The idea of the Oxford Centre is to connect *local communities* with architecture; a field that can often be associated with prestige and exclusivity rather than being celebrated for its creativity. Having a physical branch in the centre of Oxford that offers an array of creative facilities for a range of skill-sets, will create a tangible, *accessible connection between architectural education and the community*.



| Articulation of Space | 8. Design Studio | |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Exhibition Space | 9. Drafting + Flat Diorama Workspace | |
| 2. Foyer | 10. Prototyping + Machinery Workshop | |
| 3. Design Classroom | 11. Lunch room + Kitchenette | |
| 4. Public Cafe | 12. Digital Modelling Studio | |
| 5. Physical Modelling Classroom | 13. Library Spaces | |
| 6. Private Learning Zone + Design Library | 14. Meeting Rooms | |
| 7. Lecture Theatre | 15. Communal Seating Areas | |
| | | |

Shoe Lane --

Queen Street



Queen Street

Queen street is largely home to 19th and 20th century buildings inhabited by commercial spaces such as shops and offices. The facades of these buildings have a mixed morphology of modern 20th century style built for commercial purpose and traditional 19th century buildings that







Configuration for Use

On the ground floor the facilities will offer space to hold model making workshops, design classes and a quiet library space for individual learning. Creating a central hub for technical design classes and architectural learning, this tuition will be offered to local schools opening young minds to the opportunities of architecture and design.

Moving to 1st floor, the environment changes to a professional working environment. These spaces contain the facilities to encapsulate an incubation programme that provides post-graduates in the field of architecture and design with an opportunity to pursue an interest in architectural model making, both physical and digital. The space includes a prototyping workshop, a digital modelling studio and designated drafting desks.





Following a Language

The lattice language has followed throughout the space, via the roof structure and light filtration screens. The undulating timber lattice structure also connects other spaces, for example the furnitecture in the form of the drafting space which stems from the lattice structure through a system of columns. Following a language throughout as a connector of scale and space ties the building together, making it an encapsulating form operating at an architectural and furnitectural scale.





(Bishop Edward King Chapel, Oxford, Niall Mcglaulin, 2015)





(Sultan Nazrin Shah Centre, Oxford, Niall Mcglaulin, 2018)



Structural Timber Architecture in Oxford

Timber elements in modern Oxford architecture (specifically CLT, Glulam and Oak) are swiftly becoming popular due to their strength, small environmental impact, cost and aesthetic.





"Furnitecture" ~

An encapsulating infrastructural form connecting scale between the architectural and the Ergonomic.

Drafting Space

To key to form a furnitectural work space was to focus on its encapsulating, collaborative nature whilst also retaining a level of versatility that can facilitate a series of different tasks using adjustable solutions. To do this, it was important to design a flexible and continual space, for example the drawing board that can be collapsed to complete the larger table module, connecting multiple workspaces. With this also came an addition of storage and display space that allows the area to withstand realistic daily use whilst remaining an uncluttered, usable space.





