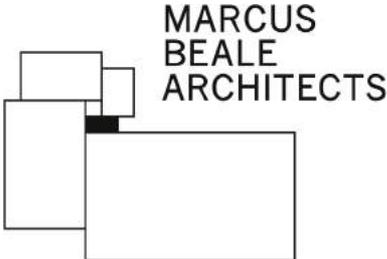


# CONSERVATION

Managing change whilst preserving cultural significance.

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Marcus Beale Architects was established in 1991 to do new things in old places.

MBA make buildings across a wide range of building types, often working in historic and highly protected environments, including inner city areas, Grade I and II\* Listed buildings and landscapes, Conservation Areas, Scheduled Monuments and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

MBA work hard to analyse and understand a place before changing it.

We study the wider picture including topography, landscape, history and culture.

We consult with people who know the place well. We listen.

Thus prepared, surprising design opportunities open up.

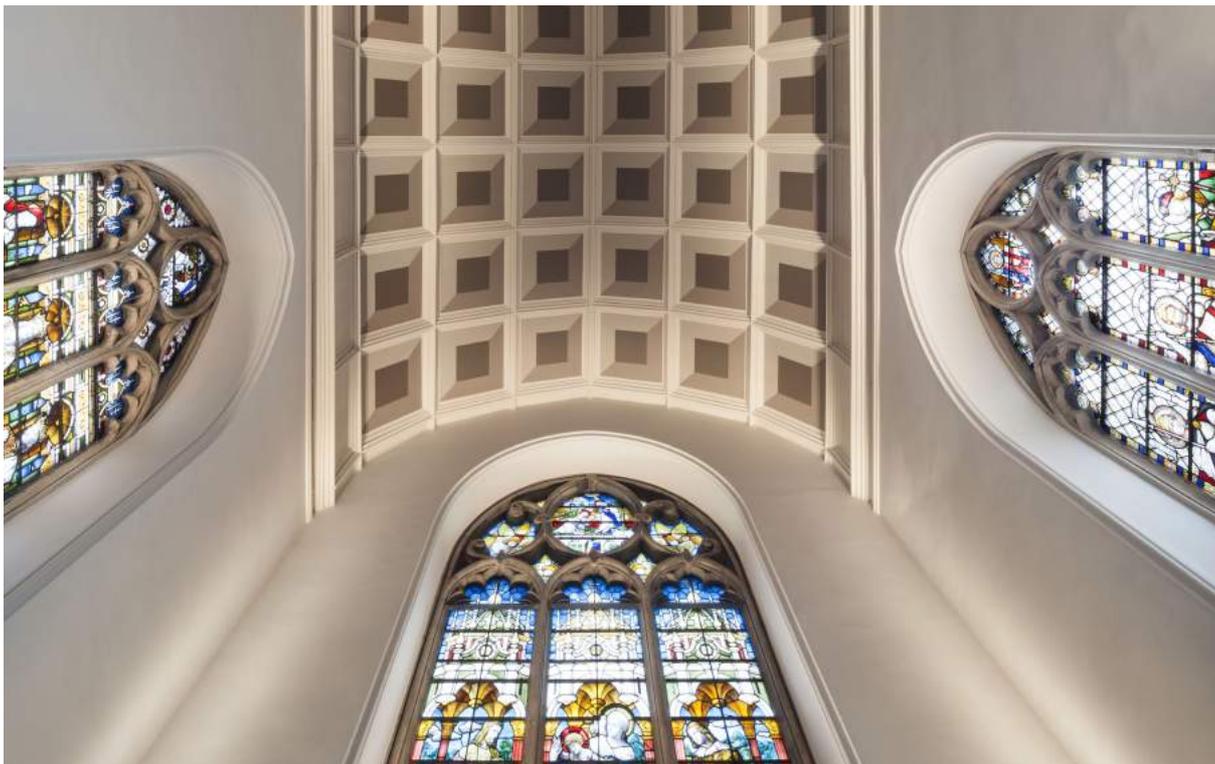
MBA operates across the UK on institutional, commercial and residential projects, balancing these sectors so that skills learnt in one can be applied to the others.

About half our work is new build. We operate across the UK and occasionally overseas, yet have strong roots in our local community.

Services:

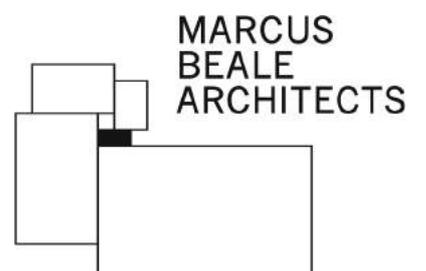
- architectural service from conception to post-completion
- conservation and management plans
- master-planning
- conceptual design
- detailed design of fixtures, metalwork and joinery.

MBA is an ISO 9001:2008 Registered Firm.



Chapel,  
Oriel College  
Grade I Listed  
Oxford  
2014

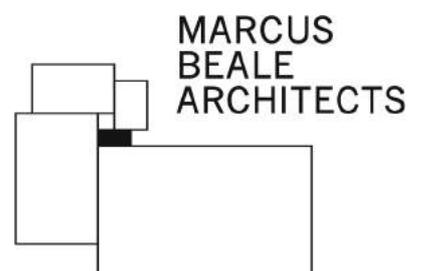
The chapel ceiling is formed by two magnificent timber ribbed barrel vaults. No record of the original decoration survives, but based on contemporary precedents, the baroque love of perspective depth, and with a nod to Borromini whose San Carlino is almost exactly contemporaneous (consecrated 1646) MBA introduced trompe l'oeil coffers which gives the ceiling an appropriate stone-like heaviness and the illusion of depth and space beyond.





Rhodes Building  
Oriel College  
Grade II\* Listed  
Oxford  
2015

The Rhodes Building project demonstrates that significant changes can be made to highly protected listed buildings if the cultural significance is preserved: over-layering with a fresh history, respecting context and setting. Research supported by evidence, genuine need, working 'with the grain' and lateral thinking can create space from nowhere: simple forms made in bright copper, following the logic of the building, turning brown and eventually green, etched by chance and time.





Rhodes Building  
Oriel College  
Oxford  
2015

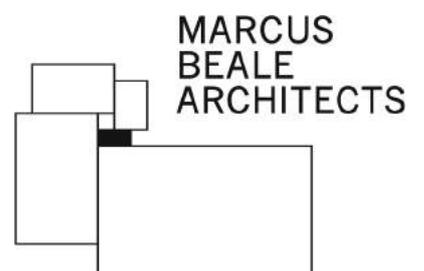


Oriel College  
Master-plan  
Oxford  
2008

MBA have been advising Oriel continuously since 2003, when we won an invited competition to redesign the college entrance and porters lodge.

The project achieved full wheelchair accessibility to the grade I listed quad, previously judged impossible, made a new opening in grade I listed fabric, unprecedented in Oxford at the time.

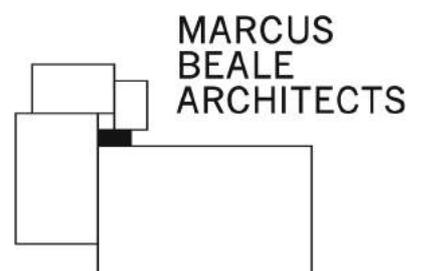
This led to a long collaboration with Oriel on a variety of projects, including the development of the Conservation and Management Plan and Master Plan for the college.





Pantin Library  
Oriel College  
Grade I Listed  
Oxford  
2012

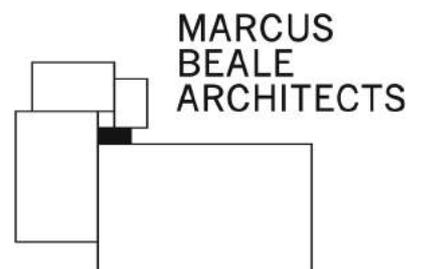
The project involved remodeling the surrounding areas including the 'snake' passage to make the ground floor fully accessible, as well as developing a new layout for the library entrance. One aspect of this project was to make it welcoming, and accommodating. For this reason, the new furniture is light oak and light grey, deliberately contrasting with the historic interior. MBA designed a new desking system and other bespoke joinery for this project, touch kind and ergonomic.

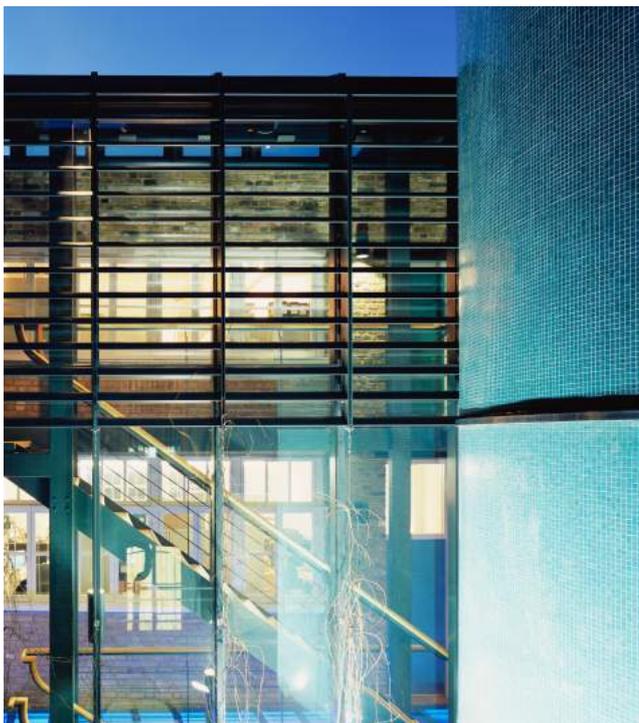
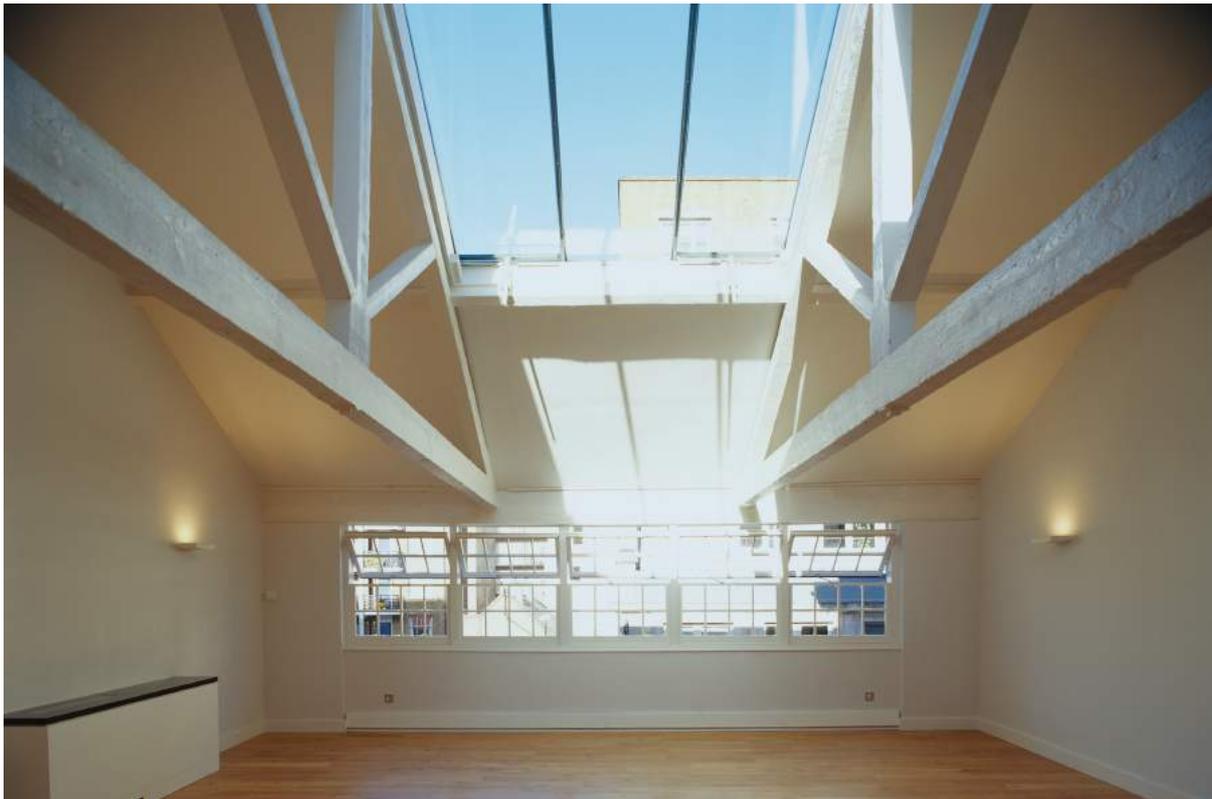




Porter's Lodge  
Grade I Listed  
Oriel College  
Oxford  
2016

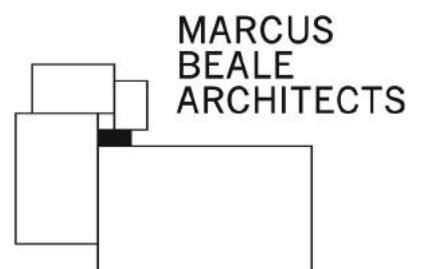
Oriel College wished to improve the quality of the first experience of the college, and form a C21 porters lodge, allowing the many functions to operate smoothly. The project involved repaving and relighting the gateway facing Oriel square, forming a new doorway between the vaulted gateway and lodge, removing internal partitions to create a single large space, adjusting floor levels, and constructing a new piece of furniture in solid oak and phosphor bronze, incorporating automatic sliding glass doors, which subdivides the room and provides desk, pigeonholes, and secure areas.





60 Parker Street  
London  
Grade II Listed  
2001

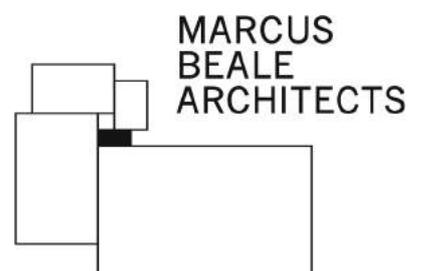
Finding new uses for old. A new glazed stairwell at the rear of a utilitarian building from the 1820s transforms a semi-derelict building into energy-efficient, modern, high value offices with a historic feel. An example of lateral thinking which can be applied to a number of nineteenth century buildings in inner city locations. Natural light, ventilation and a roof garden incorporating deciduous solar shading ensure workers are aware of the seasons and the time of day and connected to the natural environment in Covent Garden, central London.





Staple Inn  
Grade I Listed  
High Holborn  
London  
2014

This is one of the most prominent tudor facades in London, behind which are two courtyards re-lined in brick, a small garden and a Hall. The original building from 1585 was once the wool staple, where wool was weighed and taxed. It survived the great fire of London, was refaced in the 17th century, restored in the 19th and 20th centuries. The hall was damaged by bombing in 1944. Adjacent to the west and included within the estate, a terracotta-clad Waterhouse office building from the 1880s.



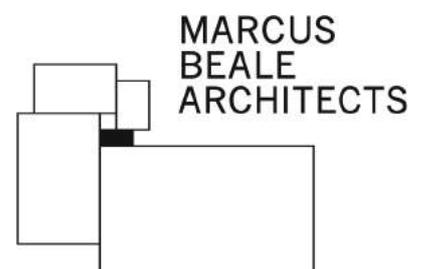


St. George's Gate  
Oxford  
1995

St George's Gate is a new development of student housing for St. Peter's College adjacent to the eleventh century tower of Oxford Castle.

The project was highly commended for excellence in housing in the Brick Design Awards, and for its contribution to the character of Oxford by the Oxford Preservation Trust.

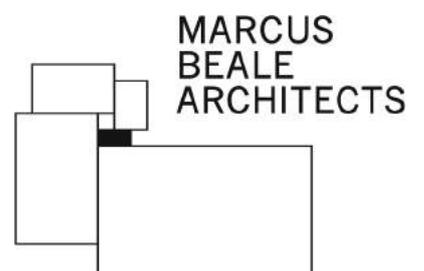
This new accommodation provides 33 new study bedrooms, a common room and kitchen. The building sits on Quaking Bridge above the remains of a medieval wall and adjoining Castle Tower.

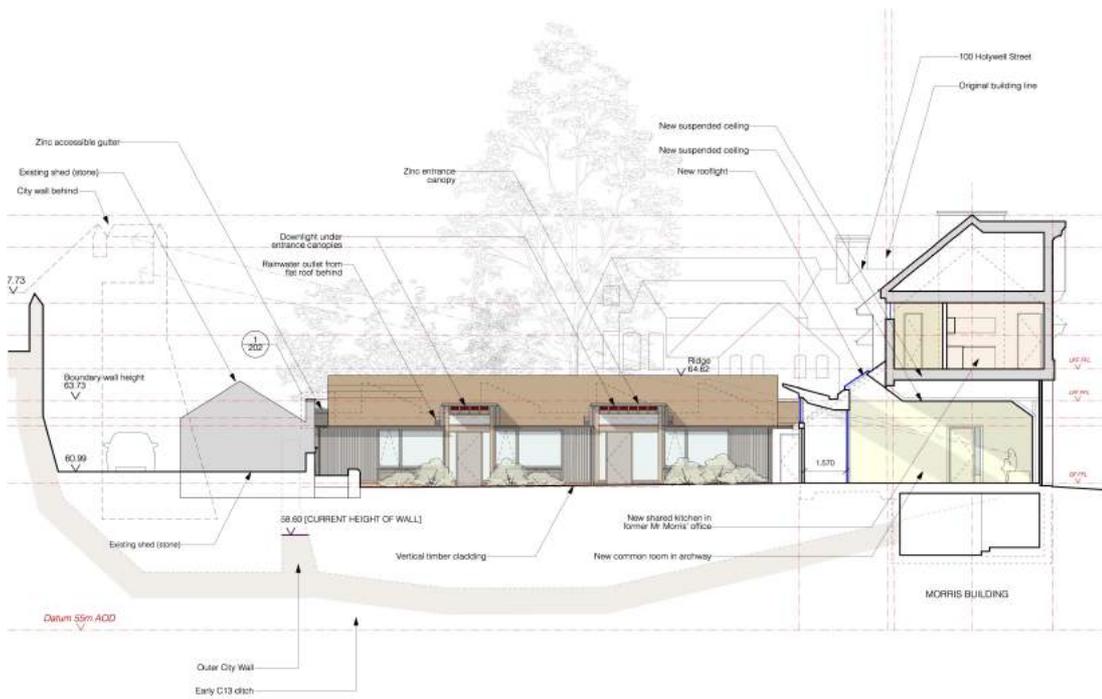




Westminster Abbey  
Chapter House  
Grade I Listed  
UNESCO heritage site  
2009

Repairs to the Chapter House were undertaken by MBA's conservation arm in 2020-2011 for clients English Heritage, then their largest in house project, delivered on time and under budget. Since winning the chapter house project, we advised on EH on several projects at Dover Castle and Osborne House, as well as two further listed building projects for the Dean and Chapter of Westminster Abbey within the World Heritage Site.

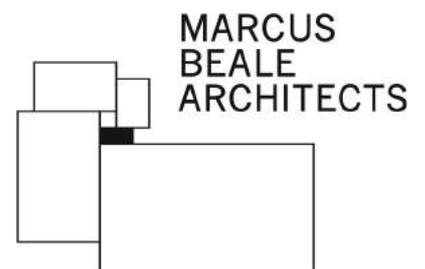




Morris Building  
Oxford  
Grade II Listed  
Due 2018

The scheme includes a new garden building providing fully accessible rooms, the conservation of four adjacent listed buildings, re-landscaping the Morris Yard, adjusting the collegiate offer to provide improved student accommodation and cluster flats including three fully accessible suites.

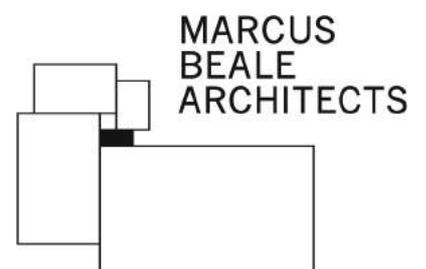
The new Garden building sits within the area of the outer ditch of Oxford's medieval City Wall which dominates the New College campus.





Archery Road  
St. Leonards  
Grade II  
2014- Current

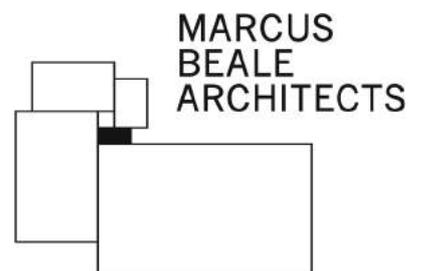
The design takes its form, layout and a restrained neo-classical language from the listed Decimus Burton Villas, where MBA have designed a new answering crescent. New housing is in clusters of stuccoed villas, carefully placed to maximise sea views. At the upper part of the site a multi storey car park provides a podium at the base of four small towers of flats, carefully aligned to look through and over the lower development towards the sea.





Innholders Hall  
London  
Grade II\*  
1888-1990

Marcus Beale with  
Green Lloyd Architects





Innholders Hall  
London  
Grade II\*  
1988-1990

Marcus Beale with  
Green Lloyd Architects

