



Saltaire Collection



Museum Design Consultancy Brief: Saltaire World Heritage Education Association (SWHEA)

Saltaire's Heritage: Bright Future

Design Consultancy Purpose

SWHEA is seeking proposals from museum and exhibition designers to develop design concepts for a planned new museum in Saltaire. The museum site is central within the village, with building work due to begin in Spring 2025 and complete in 2026. The successful Designer/s will work to establish display and design concepts for the exhibition space within the museum and for two external spaces.

The current and potential future audiences for Saltaire's include visitors to the cultural spaces in Salts Mill (which is commercially owned), tourists interested in heritage, district visitors to the annual programme of art and community events in Saltaire, families, Saltaire residents, school groups from the Bradford area, community groups, students from Shipley College and researchers.

Many local visitors have gained information about Saltaire and its founder over time but have no access to its long historical legacy, the purposes of the public buildings, social changes over time and the stories of workers, residents and local traders and businesses.

The museum design must meet the needs of new visitors with little prior knowledge of Saltaire's founder and his purpose in creating an industrial community and the need for a much deeper understanding of its social, economic and cultural legacy.

SWHEA has also been working with several community groups who had not previously engaged with the Collection. These include the Disabled People Action Group, the Dominica Association and WomenZone. A critical role for the successful Designer/s is to collaborate with these community groups and key stakeholders, including collection volunteers, as you work to establish concept designs that are engaging and accessible to a wide range of people.

SWHEA's trustees, volunteers and key partners are currently working on an interpretation plan, which will be made available to Designers shortlisted in advance of interview.

Background

SWHEA is a charitable incorporated organisation, founded in 2014 with the object of advancing education, for the public benefit, relating to the industrial heritage of

Saltaire. SWHEA was established to manage the Saltaire Collection of historical objects for Shipley College who hold it in trust for the community. A perennial management agreement between SWHEA and Shipley College exists for this purpose.

The Collection consists of over 6,000 objects, plans, documents, maps, and images that support interpretation of Saltaire's history, and it is currently housed in a designated space, within Shipley College's Exhibition Building's Learning Resource Centre. Access to the collection therefore is necessarily by appointment only at present.

SWHEA is in receipt of a National Lottery Heritage Fund Grant to begin to prepare for the new museum spaces and this brief is a key component of the work funded.

An options appraisal and a feasibility study have been completed by the Museum Development Project Manager, indicating the best location for the Saltaire Collection. The outcome is to locate the Collection within a space accessible to the public in a new building planned by Shipley College called the Community, Arts, Heritage and New Technology Centre (CAHFT).

This location will include exhibition spaces (both indoors and outdoors), a community classroom, collections storage and an office/research area. This Design brief primarily relates to the internal and external exhibition and display areas (architect drawings of the physical space included as Appendix 1).

As the museum building has not yet been erected the Designer/s will need to work closely with the architects to comprehend the space available.

We will require:

- The initial concept for the selected location to be produced with detailed proposals and design specification.
- Indicative costs for the museum design and fit-out need to be drafted in a tight time frame of 10 weeks, which includes presentation and consultation of initial Design concepts to collection volunteers and community partners including students at Shipley College. Feedback from this consultation will inform final design concepts, report and costings.

Please note that this contract includes the following deliverables:

- Concept plans and overall design for internal and external exhibition spaces.
- Production of detailed concept drawings.
- Identification and costing of indicative cases, stands and other display infrastructure and materials including interactive exhibits and technology.
- Indicative lighting requirements for the museum displays, plus control of humidity within the larger cases where needed with indicative costs.
- Digital display infrastructure installation and costs.
- Advice on specialist installation needs for museum artefacts such as textiles.
- A final report with detailed final design concepts with indicative display ideas and draft costs for the implementation of the agreed design concept.

This brief is by no means exhaustive, and we remain open minded and prepared to adapt to new creative ideas, so long as the museum design reflects SWHEA's vision:

'The role of the aspiring museum is to "excite curiosity", widen engagement with Bradford District's diverse communities and to promote understanding and appreciation of the cultural heritage of Saltaire'

These should support the overall Collection aims below:

- To support the Saltaire Collection's future location as a museum that can deliver a locally recognised center for family and lifelong learning.
- To support formal and informal learning through the imaginative and innovative use of the collections, exhibitions, information and displays inspiring people to enjoy and appreciate the endeavors of previous generations.
- To encourage repeat visitors by offering opportunities for changeable displays, themes and media.
- To increase the use of the museum by all target groups for formal and informal education and develop new audiences encouraging local communities to become active partners in the development and use of the museum.
- To be accessible and inclusive by addressing barriers for people with impaired mobility, sensory impairments, neurodiversity and perceptual barriers of Saltaire of young people and minority ethnic communities in the Bradford District.

Contract Management

The contract will be managed by the Museum Development Lead, Jennie Crawford. Jennie will support introductory meetings with relevant SWHEA Trustees, Saltaire Collection volunteers, architects (3xa Design) and the advisory groups of community representatives.

Our expectation is that the design consultants will hold meetings and workshops with these participating groups, to ensure design is inspired by the stories told through the collection, and that accessibility of the space is influenced by diverse and inclusive needs. These sessions will help to further build on requirements for messaging and target audiences, which should be incorporated into the final design.

Access to the collection catalogue is on our website:
(<https://explore.saltaircollection.org/s/p/page/collection>).

Budget available: £11,100

Payment Schedule

Payment 1 on completion of site visits and familiarisation days.
Payment 2 on production of initial concept drawings and community consultation.
Final payment on delivery of final designs, report and costings.

Timetable:

Brief issued	27 January 2025
Proposals due	4 March 2025
Candidates informed of interview and issued with draft interpretation plan	7 March 2025
Interviews	w/c 24 March 2025
Candidates informed of interview outcome	By 28 March 2025
Contract start	1 April 2025
Consultation on initial design concepts with SWHEA team and community groups	w/c 6 May 2025
Final designs, costing and reports due	6 June 2025

Award Criteria

Proposals should include the following:

- The approach and methodology planned for delivery of the contract.
- Details of consultant's prior experience in delivering similar projects, particularly involving diverse community participants.
- Examples of 2 completed projects of a similar scale and appropriate references.
- Details and CVs of each member of the team involved, the daily charging rate, number of days on the contract.
- Confirmation that the timescales of the project can be met.

Please submit proposals to Jennie Crawford by 5pm on 4 March.

jennie@museummatters.co.uk

Appendix 1: Community, Arts, Heritage and Future Technology Centre

The Towns Fund of £25m has been secured for Shipley. £5.39m has been made available for a new Community, Heritage & Future Technology Centre on Caroline Street to support the Colleges expansion with T Level or equivalent courses, plus other community uses.

The building will consist of:

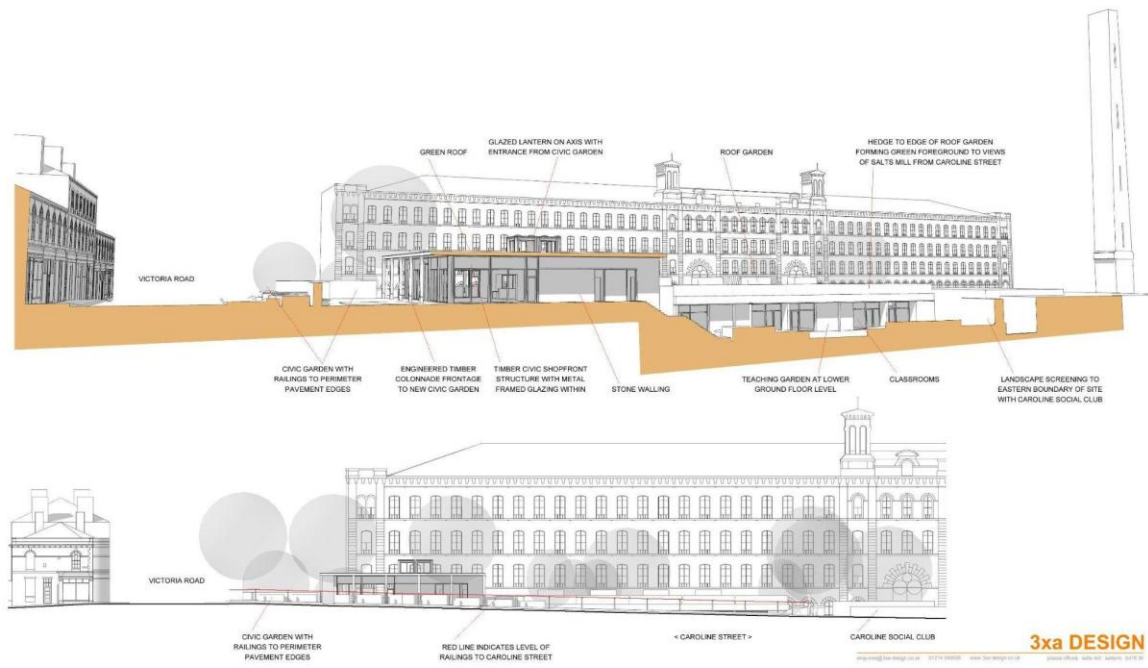
- (i) Future Technology Centre: will focus on T-level qualifications, in particular multimedia, digital, medical technology and business. The project would provide five additional College classrooms and include our Registry and Reception services.
- (ii) Heritage Hub: will include a tourist information point, and permanent and temporary exhibition space. The permanent space will host the Saltaire Collection, a collection of items that reflects all aspects of living in the village since its creation in the 1850s. There will also be a community classroom for groups of visiting school children and other groups.

In addition:

- Toilets available to the public, to respond to Saltaire visitors' demand. Note that Shipley Town Council have allocated an additional £88k capital to fund the public toilets and will commit to revenue spending for future cleaning costs.
- A changing space for outdoor enthusiasts.
- A rooftop public exhibition garden.
- The open space at the front of the building will provide a public civic square and garden space.

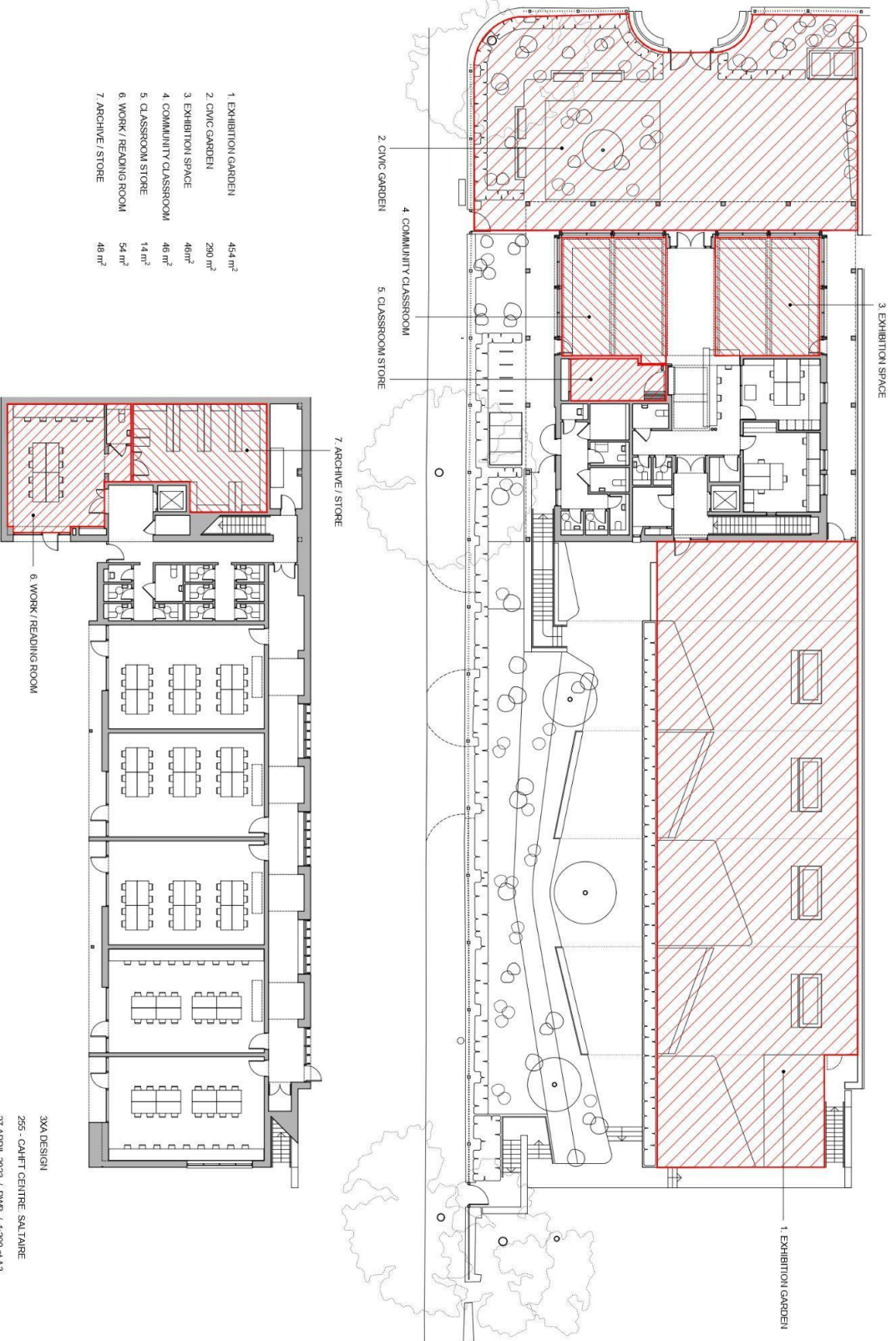
Concepts from architects (3Xa Design)





3xa DESIGN

project CAHFT CENTRE
 location SALTIRE
 client SHIPLEY COLLEGE
 drawing MODEL - ELEVATION VIEWS (1)
 scale nts @ A3
 date JAN 2023
 drawn RWB
 reference 255 - SK-102
 version -



- 1. EXHIBITION GARDEN 454 m²
- 2. CIVIC GARDEN 290 m²
- 3. EXHIBITION SPACE 46m²
- 4. COMMUNITY CLASSROOM 46 m²
- 5. CLASSROOM STORE 14 m²
- 6. WORK / READING ROOM 54 m²
- 7. ARCHIVE / STORE 48 m²

3XA DESIGN
 295 - CAHFT CENTRE SALTARE
 27 APRIL 2023 / RWB / 1200 at A3