



CLIENT

Marlborough College

LOCATION

Marlborough, Wiltshire

VALUE

£4.6M

DATE

July 2017
June 2018

CASE STUDY

Marlborough College Memorial Hall.

About the project.

In 1843 a group of Church of England clergymen, with the backing of the Archbishop of Canterbury, were looking to found a boarding school with the prime purpose of educating sons of the clergy. Hearing that the Castle Inn at Marlborough was vacant, they took a lease on it and so Marlborough College started in August 1843 with the admission of its first 199 boys. Present day Marlborough College is a co-education of pupils aged 13 to 18.

Our project at the College comprised the internal remodelling and refurbishment of the grade II listed Marlborough College Memorial Hall. The Memorial Hall was built to commemorate the 749 Old Marlburians who were killed in World War I. Following World War II, the names of those killed in that war were added to a memorial panel in the entrance hall.

The hall is a semi-circular auditorium of stepped seats, with a stage at the front. Below the seats with access from the outside rear are a number of music practice rooms. The façade of the hall towards the forecourt and road has two entrance lobbies linked together by eight stone columns and the forecourt is paved with stone.

The hall holds about 800 people so can no longer be used for assemblies for the entire school. It is now most often used for concerts and theatrical productions where the whole school is not expected to attend.

However, nearly a hundred years of constant use had taken its toll on the Memorial Hall. At the most basic level, the building was in need of substantial repair, it no longer kept out the elements, the lower floor was prone to flooding and the lighting system was antiquated.

Brymor were engaged to restore the Hall to its former glory. The works included:

- Structural alterations
- Technical theatre equipment upgrade and installation
- Building services renewal upgrade
- Reconfiguration and minor external repairs and maintenance
- Internal finishes included bespoke acoustic joinery, a GRG acoustic reflector on the ceiling, a restored proscenium arch using moulds from the original and refurbished and re-upholstered bench seating
- Externally included new stone ramps and walls to improve accessibility and a stainless-steel plaque with the names of the donors to the project