



Client Representation

UK SUPREME COURT LONDON

Malcolm Reading Consultants provides independent advice and hands-on support to clients involved in capital projects.

This can range from drawing up feasibility studies and business cases, to resolving project problems and acting as the client's representative throughout the course of the project.

We have a reputation for achieving outstanding design for high-profile organisations.

We are also the leading private organiser of architectural competitions in the UK.

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Reinventing the old Middlesex Guildhall as the new Supreme Court (the final UK court of appeal for all civil and criminal cases) has been an inspired project, accomplished to a strict timetable of constitutional and legislative change. The original building, designed by Gibson and Skipwith and opened in 1913, was notable for its Gothic Revival style and sculpture-encrusted Portland stone. It occupies a prime site on the north-west corner of Parliament Square.

Malcolm Reading Consultants was originally appointed by the Department of Constitutional Affairs, now the Ministry of Justice, to write the design brief for the new UK Supreme Court (UKSC).

Our principal role was to reconcile the operational requirements that could be accommodated in the Grade II* listed building with the specific aspirations of the Law Lords, (now known as Justices) and other stakeholders. We worked alongside the architect, Foster + Partners, assisted by conservation architect, Feilden + Mawson, to establish a final brief for the building. As the Court was assuming a new legal and constitutional role, the refurbishment needed to provide a distinct identity and be worthy of media and public scrutiny.

The specification and procurement stages ran concurrently with the refurbishment of the building and we were subsequently retained to advise on a major Art programme which involved high profile artists such as Sir Peter Blake and the former Poet Laureate, Andrew Motion. We also project managed the high-specification fit-out which included bespoke furniture and joinery, curtains and textiles, signage and security installations.

PROJECT DETAILS

Value £59 million

Won by Ministry of Justice, the Law Lords and United Kingdom Supreme Court