**Appendix 3f - Space allocations and exhibition zones**

The shape of the building has gifted us two exhibition areas. While the initial plan was to have the controlled exhibition space on the ground floor, the downstairs of our building is in Flood Zone 2 (pending re-evaluation following completion of flood alleviation works), which would not comply with common Conditions of Loan requirements. In response, the structural engineers recommended that the most cost effective way of getting round this would be to place a controlled exhibition space on the first floor of the building. The decision was made to have two spaces as we felt very strongly that the downstairs exhibition space was the first ‘stepping stone’ to further engagement and if it was tucked away upstairs it would betray this function.

General specifications

* The two spaces need to be linked by colourful graphics and text to ensure that visitors, once they’ve enjoyed and feel comfortable in the downstairs space, venture upstairs.
* The exhibition spaces need to be manageable and easy to change and maintain (usually by one member of staff).
* Some of the text panels will need to be updated or changed several times a year so they need to be easy to produce and install, with templates provided.
* Where audio is incorporated into displays, consideration must be given to reduce sound bleed and provide comfortable listening using directional speakers and/or hearing loops.
* Lighting design must be considered in partnership with the building’s interior lighting and must deliver comfortable exhibit lighting throughout the year.

**Ground floor exhibition space**

The downstairs space is designed to have an open feel so that visitors can wander between the exhibition, reception, learning and café areas without boundaries. We believe this will entice people to look at further elements of the exhibition and to engage more with the building. The exhibition space is also designed to be as accessible as possible with interactives and cases set at a range of heights, plenty of room to manoeuvre and a range of interpretive techniques designed to appeal to a diverse range of audiences. The building has two entrances (opposite each other) so the exhibits need to work equally well when viewed or approached from either direction.

The ground floor exhibition space is divided into zones in order to meet the needs of our users, to encourage exploration and to display material on a number of themes. The tables below are designed to give an overview of the objectives for each exhibition zone, as well as providing information about potential documents and objects to display (which will be decided by the Activity Programme Team) and an outline of what interpretation devices and/or structures there should be in each zone, e.g. number of cases, digital screens, panels, etc.

**Zone 1 History of Redruth Brewery**

Integral to the space, and situated in the heart of it, this zone will reflect the building’s history with a display case, text panel(s) and digital interactives offering audio, videos, photographs, documents and oral histories. This zone is designed to be largely permanent, with some material – such as documents or artefacts related to the brewery – being added or changed periodically.

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| Objectives | Documents / objects | Interpretation /structures |
| Visitors will understand the history of the brewery site and surrounding area. | Documents from the Redruth Brewery collection. | Text and graphic panels will provide an introduction to the brewery. |
| Visitors will enjoy learning about the site. | Maps and photographs of the area. | A themed display will include a digital interactive stocked with oral history interviews, films, documents and a timeline. |
| Visitors will learn more about the community and the people who worked at the brewery. | Objects on loan from the Trevithick Society (e.g. bottles, beer mats, signs, etc.). | One display case will feature a changing display of original documents and objects related to the site. |
| To place the town and the site’s heritage at the heart of the building. |  | The design will be eye-catching and appealing. |
| To appeal to the Redruth community who will feel pride that their heritage is at the heart of the building. |  | Captions and documents will outline tasks carried out on the site, including personal stories and memories along with photos of what the building used to look like. |
| To create a hands-on space that will appeal to younger people. |  |  |

**Zone 2 Family and Local History**

We’re aware that many of our visitors will be researching their family history. This simple zone will introduce them, using digital technology and potentially a text panel and display case, to our most relevant sources as well as signposting them to others. We’ll offer tips for getting started, computers for easy reference checking and research, and inspire visitors to venture further into the archive.

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| Objectives | Documents | Interpretation / structures |
| Non-users will discover what we do. | Scans and facsimiles of parish registers, census, wills, Ordnance Survey maps, photographs, heraldic rolls, tithe maps and much more (all accessed via digital interactive). Material will be added to or changed as appropriate over time. | Users will be taken through step-by-step hints on researching family history. |
| Visitors will learn more about researching family and local history. |  | An interactive will feature high quality scans of common sources. |
| People will be signposted to the range of sources held on-site and elsewhere. |  | Text explanations will improve confidence in using the sources. |
| Users will be offered a ‘quick look-up’ service delivered via computers. |  | One small case will hold an example of the documents featured on the digital interactive. |
| Target audience: the local community, ancestral tourists, general visitors and users. |  | Public computers will be available for people to research family or local history (their procurement and installation is not part of this specification). |

**Zone 3 What’s at Kresen Kernow?**

This zone will feature lots of low tech, hands-on activities designed to attract and engage children and adults with our service, the work we do and the collections we hold. It will be a permanent display, but with a case featuring quirky or eye-catching documents from our collections which will change regularly. This zone will also provide a useful and entertaining space for families and act as an assembly point for school visits.

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| Objectives | Documents / objects | Interpretation / structures |
| To engage non-users or tentative users with the building. | Quills, seals, typewriter, books, parchment, paper, leather microfilm, printing blocks, etc. All of these objects will be presented as ‘hands-on’ items. | Low-tech hands-on interactives will appeal to families and young people (as well as adults). |
| To help people understand archives and their creation. | Quirky items from our collections to engage visitors (e.g. birthday cards). | Lots of things to touch. |
| To encourage visitors to enjoy the building and the exhibitions. |  | Associated learning activities (e.g. seal rubbing, a trail, colouring in etc). |
| To help build an understanding of the building and our work. |  | One display case to feature original, appealing items from our collections. |
| To encourage families to drop in on a rainy day. |  | Text and captions to explain how books are assembled, what parchment is, how ink is made etc. |
| To explain what’s at Kresen Kernow. |  |  |
| To inspire people to make return visits and learn more. |  |  |
| Target audience: families, school groups, young people, new users. |  |  |

**Zone 4 Programmable Exhibition Zone**

This zone will be programmed to reflect the themes that people have told us they are interested in, as well as wider commemorations and celebrations. It will change frequently (every 12 weeks) and is really the heart of our exhibition programme. It will consist of easily changeable text panels, a range of cases and a digital interactive, and will be curated by a wide range of people, including Public History students (as part of their University of Exeter course), volunteers and work experience placements. Each year there will be an umbrella theme, broken down into four sub-themes spread across the year. The digital interactive material will be added to (rather than replaced) every 12 weeks and will also be available online and via social media, to encourage visits to the exhibition as well as remote engagement with it.

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| Objectives | Documents | Interpretation / structures |
| Engage visitors by offering a wider range of documents than they might have expected. | Each year there will be an overarching theme with four sub-themes, which will change every 12 weeks. Documents will relate to the sub-theme. | A flexible display system which allows one large headline panel to be changed annually, explaining the theme and context and featuring engaging images, and further graphic or text panel(s) to be updated every 12 weeks explaining the sub-theme. |
| Alter users to the range of our collections. | This zone will feature original documents and digital copies, related to our chosen themes: e.g., maps, photos, letters, drawings, posters and minute books. | Four different sized/shaped cases with flexible inserts to enable the display of a range of documents. |
| Give students and volunteers an opportunity to contribute to exhibitions through research or digitisation. |  | A digital interactive, linked to the central content management system and featuring a range of document facsimiles. |
| Meet the need for an engaging and inspiring exhibition space. |  |  |
| To create a ‘destination’, a place where visitors can drop in to see the latest exhibition. |  |  |
| Target audience: all visitors and remote users (exhibition content will feature on the website and social media). |  |  |

**First floor exhibition space**

This space is designed to comply with the Conditions of Loan requirements set out by national institutions. These include appropriate security measures, climate control, high-specification display cases, invigilation and much more. This space will truly come into its own during major exhibitions, such as the loan of the Ordinalia from the Bodleian and the Saints’ Plays held at the National Library of Wales, for ‘Out of the Ordinary: the Mysteries and Miracles Exhibition’ (planned for year five of the Kresen Kernow project, 2019-2020). We intend to wait until our third year in the building to stage a major exhibition to give us time to settle in and to provide the relevant environmental readings required from the building to ensure conditions are appropriate for national loans.

The content of the upstairs space will link strongly to that downstairs. The rest of the time it will feature semi-permanent display panels on general themes about Cornwall and our collections. The cases will have internal controls so that they can be switched off when not protecting fragile or precious items. This will reduce costs and environmental impact. When there is not a major exhibition on, this space will be used to display a range of items from our collections. These might be new accessions, or material on a particular topic or theme (e.g. Christmas, Halloween, the Armistice of 1918) or the space might be used as overspill for material and exhibitions displayed on the ground floor. Ideally the two spaces will link and have a joint identity.

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| Objectives | Documents | Interpretation |
| A high-spec space for displaying documents, one that will enable us to borrow items from national collections. | An ever-changing range of documents on any theme, displayed in secure, climate-controlled cases. | At least two sets of text/graphic panels that will provide an overview of Cornwall’s history and Cornwall’s manuscript / language history, via timelines and types of document. |
| Visitors will learn from and engage with a range of items from our own and other’s collections. | Approximately 5-10 originals will be on display at any one time. | One set of panels will be displayed at a time and can be changed twice yearly. |
| Target audiences: all visitors to Kresen Kernow along with remote users. | Loans from national institutions. | An audio visual set up / digital interactive. |
| Challenge: this space is upstairs so we will need visitors to be drawn to it from downstairs. |  | Four secure, climate-controlled cases. |