

Superseded

Heritage Impact Statement

Proposed Bar Refurbishment at Margam Orangery Bar

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Figure 1, Margam Orangery

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1. Introduction

This document has been prepared to accompany an application for Listed Building Consent in connection with a Proposed Bar Refurbishment within Margam Orangery. The existing Bar was installed in the 1970's and has aged in terms of appearance, function and efficiency.

Design intention is to retain separation between the Bar and the Main Function Suite by confining the works to an established utility space aback of existing folding doors and panels.

2. Designation

Entry Name: Margam Orangery
Listing Date: 12 November 1952
Last Amended: 25 April 2000
Grade: I
Source: Cadw
Source ID: 14152
Building Class: Gardens, Parks and Urban Spaces

The Cadw Listing description notes:
'The main range has been converted for new uses. A glass screen divides a banqueting hall to the W which includes the large rear doorway and further doors to the kitchen areas,

3. Site

The site is within Margam Country Park and predominantly rural with intermittent residential properties located around its boundaries. The local district centre of Margam is to the south with good access to Port Talbot. There are also good links to wider communities and visitors via the M4 corridor and A48 arterial roads. Its popularity is indicated by the large areas for onsite parking.

The Orangery is sited within the Park and is a long single story building in classical style that was restored in the 1970's for use as a venue space. Its main range comprises of a banqueting hall and exhibition area divided by a glass screen with pavilions to the west and east.

There is a lean-to construction of rubble stone to the rear of the main range, housing utility spaces such as Kitchen, Toilets and Bar as well as administration offices. The utility areas are generally sub-divided by contemporary partition walls and doors.

Separation between the Bar and main range is defined by three sets of raised and fielded timber folding doors. There are additional timber r&f panels fixed to the face of bar units. The folding doors are designed to retain the visual impact of the interior space and can be opened to serve beverages and table service during events.

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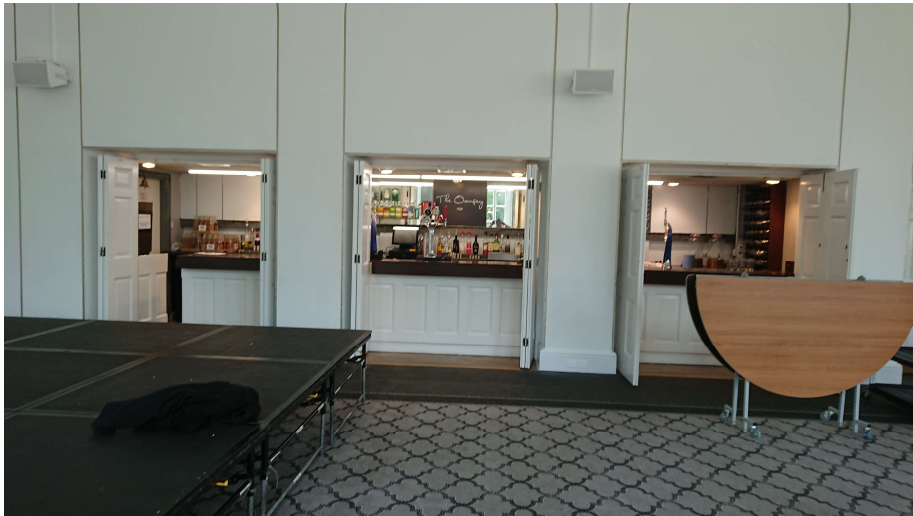


Figure 2, Bar Openings as seen from Banqueting Hall

Doors are generally in their closed position and can be opened when functions are in progress
Note that the front of the bar top is hinged over the lower panels to allow the doors to close.



Figure 3, Folding Door in Closed Position

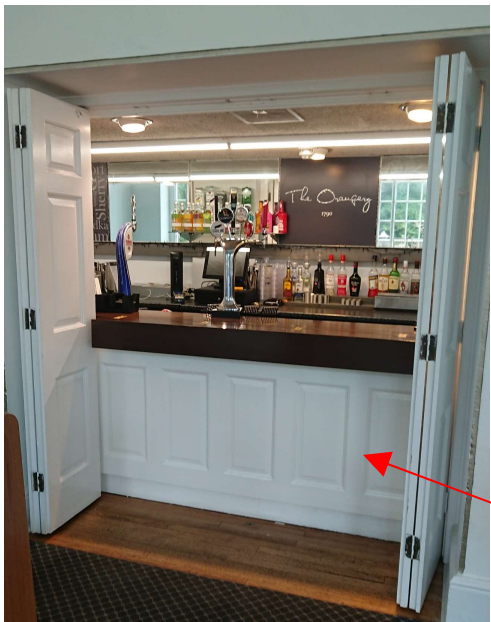


Figure 4, Folding Doors in Open Position

Lower raised and fielded panels to be retained and fixed to new Bar Units

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4. Constraints

4.1 Scheduling

The Orangery has proven to be successful venue for private events such as weddings where the bar and kitchen contribute essential income. Event activity tends to be seasonal with closure for maintenance during January and February. It is highly unlikely that the Bar refurbishments could be carried out at any other time of the year without adversely limiting events and income.

4.2 Visual Impact

- The proposed design retains the existing folding doors, which reveal the Bar when opened.
- Lower timber panels at the Bar Front are to be retained and include an adjustment to Unit 1 for the purpose of safe passage and efficiency
- The visible Bar top is to be replaced with a similar hinged design with aged brass finish as an improvement to the quality of existing formica
- The proposed interior of the bar is a contemporary design with rearrangement of the shelving to improve functionality and refresh its visual impact.

4.3 Installation and fixings

- Back of the Bar is fixed to a contemporary partition within the utility area. Drawings note that fixings are to be visible with brass screw caps to indicate their locations and assist any future maintenance needs.
- A timber plinth is to be fixed down to the concrete floor of the utility space to provide:
 - o Fixing point (anchor) for the base units
 - o Continuity of a service void in the floor and management of service runs such as drinks pythons
- Design includes hidden service runs in the bar units for the purpose of mechanical and electrical installations.

5. Conclusion

The proposed design recognises that the existing Bar is in need of renewal for the purpose of practical and visual improvement. The design is considered to be in the spirit of the original 1970's restoration and subsequent Listing of the Orangery by retaining the historic features of the Banqueting Room and visual separation aback of timber folding doors.