

Case Study...

Bodleian Library

Client

Oxford University Estates

Project Location

The Bodleian Library, Oxford - Upper Reading Room South Wing.

Product Details

Thermafleece – sheep's wool insulation slabs installed between and over joists.

Design and Installation Criteria

- Materials to act in sympathy with structure and durable within the life expectancy of the roof.
- Above average level of thermal insulation performance and hygral stability.

Project Outline

The library was insulated using Thermafleece sheep's wool in the roof of the South Wing of the Upper Reading Room which is the principal research reading room for access to printed books and periodicals published after 1640.

Project Details

The Bodleian Library is one of the most prestigious buildings in Oxford. The Bodleian first opened to scholars in 1602 and is still actively used by students and scholars. The library now houses over 8 million books and manuscripts including rare and incomparable collections.

The building was entirely re-roofed using copper with a lifespan of approximately 150 years. The existing timbers were in good condition and didn't need replacing. Repairs to stonework were made when the scaffolding was in place. The historic references for the building meant that the Surveyors could determine where the original stone was sourced and obtain similar stone from the relevant area.

250mm Thermafleece was installed between the timber roof joists over an area of 500 m². A spokesperson for Oxford Estates reported the ease of installation of Thermafleece within the uneven spaces of the roof. The compatibility of Thermafleece, as a natural product, fitted with the historic fabric of the building. This, along with the breathability of the insulation, absorbing and releasing moisture was a significant factor in choosing Thermafleece.

Benefits

- 21st century energy efficiency using materials that worked within a 17th century structure.
- Insulation designed to last the life of the structure.
- Natural fibres provide a moisture buffer helping regulate humidity levels.

For further details of the products and support we offer visit our web site www.thermafleece.com or call us on **01768 486285**.

