



Florida State University

ARF News Special Feature

November 2017



FSU

The London Study Centre Campus

by
Tom Hart



Located a few minutes from the Study Centre lies not only the West End, the major theatre district of London, but Trafalgar Square, Piccadilly Circus, the National Gallery, and opera and ballet theatres. The esteemed British Museum is only one block away.





In 1685, Thomas Tufton, Earl of Thanet, acquired a plot of land on the north side of Great Russell Street. On this land he built his grand terrace home, Thanet House. These buildings were constructed in the Georgian style of the time.

Buildings adjacent to the original Thanet House were built some time between 1685 and 1693. By the late 1600's these buildings, along the fringe of fashionable Bloomsbury, were frequented by members of the aristocracy and gentry. Indeed, both the Peacock Room and the Adams Room were once drawing rooms for the elite of London and both once had beautiful long country views to the north, up towards Highgate and Hampstead.

In December 1992, after 21 years of a wandering existence, the Florida State University purchased a freehold to four adjoining buildings in Great Russell Street, Bloomsbury. Registered on the British National Heritage list, this restored, refurbished, and redesigned, seven-building complex comprises a coherent and permanent home for our London Study Centre. Several features from these original buildings are still preserved within the modern surroundings.



This small oval window is in the stairwell. It was for the servants to observe the guests arriving to prepare for their special needs.



Adjacent to the Stairwell is the entrance to the Main Office.



The Main Office



Students enjoy the historic architecture along with comfortable flats (apartments), classrooms, a lecture hall/theatre, a library, three computer labs, and Wireless Internet throughout the building. The Study Centre is monitored by a 24 hour reception/security staff and requires secure swipe-card access. The building also provides a student lounge with vending machines and free laundry facilities.



The Study Centre complex includes 26 self-contained flats. These multi-roomed apartments are modern, light, spacious, and are fully equipped with everything students reasonably need, including showers and bathrooms, a flat screen television, full kitchen with microwave oven, electric range, refrigerator and freezer, bed linen, towels and more.



Possible London Vacation?

During the months of August and December, when the students are not in residence, the University makes a limited number of flats available to the general public at reasonable rates. If you are interested in spending a week in London--at a prime location--you can get more information from Patti Wilmer [pwilmer@fsu.edu; (850) 644-1058], at FSU's Office of International Programs.

The Library and Computer Labs





The Study Centre offers students a fully working library and three computer labs, operated by a professional librarian, IT, and library assistants. The library has a wide variety of material that includes movies, books, music, travel guides, and more. There is also a conservatory for quiet studying. To further accommodate students with laptop computers, the Study Centre has implemented wireless Internet Access throughout the building and flats.



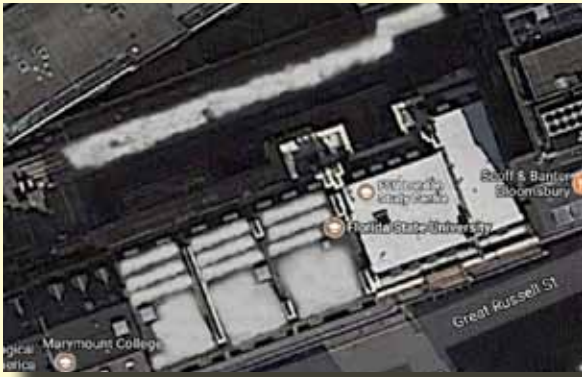
Performance room for Dance and Theater Classes.

Other Colleges and Universities located at the FSU Centre



Location of the Center





Restaurant where we ate a very good and reasonable lunch, less than 2 blocks from the Centre.

