



Kellogg College
University of Oxford

A short history of Kellogg College





Founded on St David's Day in 1990, Kellogg College is the largest graduate college in the University with over 800 Students and more than 100 Fellows of various categories.

Kellogg was originally established to provide a collegiate base for mature students studying part-time for post-graduate qualifications and matriculated its first students in 1992. It rapidly expanded to embrace students of all ages in a wide range of academic disciplines. Students are admitted from some 200 courses across the University. Approximately 190 students study full-time and 40 of these live in the College. The students are drawn from over 70 countries throughout the world in fulfilment of the College's mission to create more opportunities for lifelong learning and to give more people access to Oxford and a higher education. It has already established a reputation for high academic achievement and for involvement with the University's wider community through sports teams and societies.

In the first two years of its existence the College was known as Rewley House, in deference to its original home in Wellington Square but in 1992 it was renamed Kellogg in recognition of the generosity of its original benefactor, the W K Kellogg Foundation of Battle Creek, Michigan.

After a lengthy search for suitable premises, the College secured a four acre site in a prime location in Norham Manor to which it moved in 2006. The Norham Manor Estate was developed by St John's College in the second half of the nineteenth century and the Kellogg site contains a number of the original villas set within spacious gardens. Most of them are listed as buildings of special architectural or historic interest and the whole campus is included in the first conservation area designated by Oxford City Council in 1968.

The three villas on the Banbury Road frontage set back behind low brick walls, originally with iron railings in conformity with the 1860 master plan drawn up by

William Wilkinson for St John's, have a strong individual character within a broad Gothic architectural idiom. No. 60, designed by Wilkinson himself, was built in 1865-6 for a chemist, Thomas Cousins. It was extended to the rear in 1902. Nos. 62 and 64 were both designed by E G Bruton.



60 Banbury Road

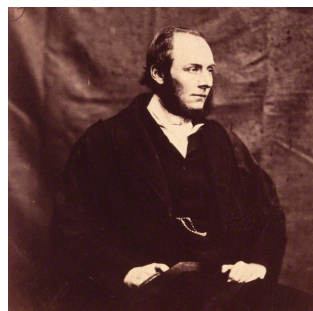


62 Banbury Road



64 Banbury Road

No. 62 was built in 1864-5 for the Rev R St John Tyrwhitt who was vicar of St Mary Magdalen and a distinguished artist. He was a friend of William Morris and John Ruskin and his paintings can be seen on the walls of the University Museum, where he decorated the Geology room and in the Christ Church collection. No. 64 was built in 1868 and was leased in 1873 to J W Weaving, a corn merchant. It was extended in 1891 for Professor J Burdon Sanderson to the designs of the London architect Gerald Horsley.



Rev Richard St John Tyrwhitt

The northern and eastern boundaries of the College are defined by houses in Bradmore Road and Norham Road. All of them were built between 1872 and 1874 and were designed by John Galpin. Galpin was a colourful character in the business world of Victorian Oxford. By training as a carpenter, he became a surveyor, auctioneer and a builders' merchant. In 1866 he founded the Oxford Building Company, which became the biggest developer in the city before collapsing in bankruptcy in 1883 following a public protest meeting in Gloucester Green, which attracted a crowd of 6,000 people who planned to burn him in effigy.

The original leaseholders of the College houses were a characteristic mix of businessmen and clergymen. There was a photographer at 38 Norham Road, a timber merchant at 7 Bradmore Road and a postmaster at No. 9. No.10 was occupied by the Rev William Bebb and no. 11 by the sole don, the Rev. Henry DeBrisay, Fellow of University College. 12 Bradmore Road was built in 1873 to the design of John Galpin and was occupied by him before his bankruptcy.



11 Bradmore Road



12 Bradmore Road

The single storey building with its distinctive “egg box” roof at the rear of 60 and 62 Banbury Road, was designed by the University Surveyor, and was opened in 1986 as the Balfour Building (after the first curator of the Museum) to house part of the Pitt-Rivers Collection. The original intention had been to move the whole museum to the Banbury Road in a spectacular circular building with a central tropical hot house under a great glazed dome. The design, dated 1967, was by the Italian engineer Pier Luigi Nervi in collaboration with Powell and Moya. Although it received planning permission, it failed to find sufficient funding and the much more modest Balfour Building was built in its place. It now forms the college dining room, kitchen and bar.



Proposed circular building



Balfour Building

When the college moved to the Banbury Road in 2006 it commissioned a new building in the gardens at the centre of the site from Fielden, Clegg, Bradley but the subsequent acquisition of No. 60 allowed the adaptation of the Balfour Building to provide the necessary facilities and this was sensitively carried out in 2008 by the local architectural practice of Berman Guedes Stretton.

In its present configuration, the entrance to the college is through double doors in the middle of the link building. Here can be found the College Reception from which one can reach the various parts of the College. The Dining Hall, College Bar and kitchens are to the right behind No. 60 Banbury Road. No. 60 houses the College Library, workrooms, Middle Common Room and provides office space for a research centre. Off to the left, No. 62 houses the College's various offices. The principal meeting/seminar rooms are that in No. 62 and the Mawby Room in the link building. No. 64 is currently leased back to the University but will offer further academic opportunities for the college within the next decade. Forty full-time residential students of Kellogg are housed in 7, 9, 10 and 11 Bradmore Road. There is additional accommodation in 12 Bradmore Road and 38 Norham Road mainly for part-time students during visits to Oxford.

The most recent building in the College is the College Hub, which was opened in 2017. Designed by Feilden Clegg Bradley, it was the first building in the University to incorporate Passivhaus technology. It contains a generous meeting space and a café, which is open to the general public as well as the College community.





Things to look out for

The sculpture over the door of No. 62

This is almost certainly by John Hungerford Pollen who also designed the entrance portal to the University Museum in 1860. The Rev. Richard Tyrwhitt, the first occupant of 62 Banbury Road, contributed to the decoration of the Museum and they both shared a friendship with William Morris and John Ruskin. Pollen had decorated the roof of the chapel at Merton College in 1856 and had worked with Morris and his friends on the decorative paintings in the debating hall at the Oxford Union in 1857. The sculpture illustrates a quotation from the Book of Proverbs, XXX.29.



There be three things which go well, yea, four are comely in going: a lion which is strongest among beasts, and turneth not away for any; a greyhound; an he goat also; and a king, against whom there is no rising up.

Quite why Tyrwhitt chose this particular theme to adorn the entrance to his new home is not clear but it might be appropriately adapted to characterise some of the qualities of Kellogg students.

W K Kellogg

The bronze cast on the wall in the hall of No. 62 is a portrait of William Keith Kellogg (1860-1951), the founder of the breakfast cereal company and the charitable foundation whose generous benefaction helped to establish the College.



Gothic Arch

The doorway between Tyrwhitt's villa and the link building marks the transition between the old and the new buildings. It has been adapted from a beautiful window which was discovered concealed within the wall during the building works in 2008. It matches the other ground floor windows in the 1865 villa but is located in the south wall of the 1901 extension, so had already been moved from its original position before being covered up in 1986.



Portrait and other Art Work

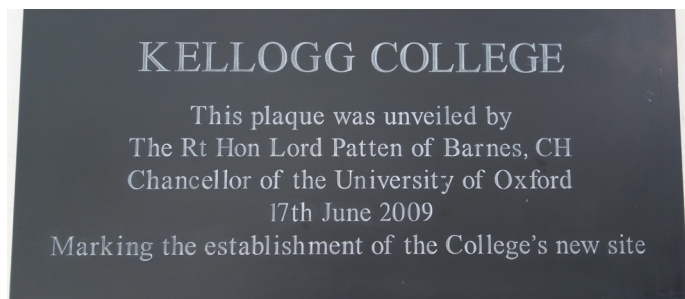
The striking portrait hanging in the link building is of Dr G P Thomas, the founding President who served the College from 1990 to 2008. It was executed at the time of his retirement by the distinguished portrait painter, Keith Breedon.

A large number of paintings hang on the walls of the College's buildings. These include displays by local artists, including alumni of the College, and gifts from various members of the College; some given by Fellows upon their retirement and others by alumni or supporters of the College.



Plaques

The plaque on the wall facing the main entrance marks the official opening of Kellogg College on its new site in June 2009. On the wall next to the doors of the College Bar, a board lists the names of the College's Benefactors. Many of the rooms around College bear plaques showing names selected to commemorate these and others who contributed to the creation of the College.



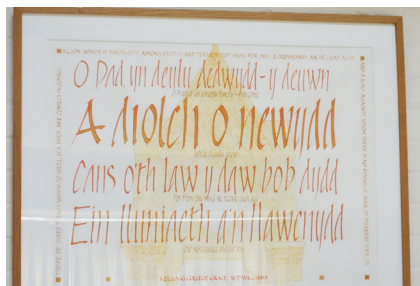


Dining Hall

Its distinctive form was created out of the original museum building by the Oxford firm of architects, Berman Guedes Stretton. It is deliberately non-hierarchical as a reflection of the ethos of the College with no raised dais nor a high table. Students, staff, fellows, alumni and their guests take lunch and dinner together throughout the year.

The furniture was especially commissioned and made by the local firm of Bates and Lambourne of Milton Common.

Hanging on the west wall is the College grace. It has the distinction of being the only grace in the Welsh language in the University. It was chosen to commemorate the foundation of the College on St David's Day (and the ancestry of the Founding President).



The Welsh text, written by W D Williams, reads: *O Dad, yn deulu dedwydd – y deawn A diolch o newydd, Cans o'th law y daw bob dydd Ein lluniaeth a'n llawenydd*

Which can be translated as: *O Father, as a happy family – we come With thanks anew, For from thy hand we receive each day Our sustenance and ourjoy.*

The representation, which also shows the sculpture over the original main entrance at No. 62, was designed and executed in 2008 by the calligrapher Andy Moore and was the gift of Professor Malcolm Airs on his retirement as Acting President.

Setting

The three villas on the Banbury Road front are all set back from the street with front gardens that were originally bounded by low brick walls topped by iron railings. Most of the railings were removed during World War II but two panels survive in front of No 64.



The Coat of Arms



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The College coat of arms is displayed in a number of places around the College. It is most prominently displayed behind the College Reception and in the Dining Hall in the form of a carvings created by John Acton and etched in the glasswork of the link building.

In heraldic terms it is described as Per pale indented argent and azure on the argent a chevron enhanced gules in base a book azure leaved argent on the azure an ear of wheat palewise or the whole within a bordure gules.

The chevron on the left hand side is a stylised depiction of a gothic arch from Rewley Abbey which gave its name to the original home of the College in Wellington Square. Passing through the arch is the open book of learning symbolising the access to knowledge which is at the heart of Kellogg's mission. On the right is an ear of corn in recognition of the original benefactor of the College. The jagged line that divides the two halves represents the marriage between benefaction and learning and the points add up to the number of the 11 Founding Fellows.



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60-62 Banbury Road | Oxford | OX2 6PN | 01865 612000 | www.kellogg.ox.ac.uk