

LINCOLN COLLEGE LIBRARY

*Studying in this stunningly beautiful
reading room is a true privilege*

DESIGNED BY HENRY ALDRICH
BUILT IN 1720
OXFORD, UK



The books of Lincoln College, Oxford, really do reside in hallowed halls: the library of one of this college, one of the 39 that make up the famous university, is located in the former All Saints Church, which was rebuilt in the early 18th century and converted to its current purpose in the 1970s. These major renovations included installing an intermediate floor to create space for several reading rooms. Today, this space is poised between the past and the future, amid church bells and Wi-Fi boosters. The upper hall, the exquisite Cohen Room, is an especially glorious setting to get stuck into a book and immerse oneself in study. The ornate

ceiling makes this one of the most beautiful reading rooms in the world. Bright daylight floods through the tall, latticed windows and onto the long, communal table. When darkness falls—the library stays open until 2 a. m. most evenings, to cater to the students—one is reminded of lyrics by Leonard Cohen, who shares the room's name, in his iconic song “Hallelujah”: “There’s a blaze of light in every word.”

