



BLACK RESEARCH FUTURES FAIR 2022

**UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM
21 SEPTEMBER 2022**

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THE BLACK RESEARCH FUTURES FAIR IS AN ONLINE AND IN PERSON CREATIVE SPACE FOR BLACK HERITAGE RESEARCHERS TO IMAGINE ALTERNATIVE FUTURES FOR THEMSELVES IN RESEARCH SPACES. RESEARCHERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD AND FROM ALL DISCIPLINES WILL COME TOGETHER TO NETWORK, SHARE AND WORK TOWARDS BUILDING RESEARCH SPACES THAT ARE RADICALLY OPEN AND EMPOWERING FOR BLACK RESEARCHERS.



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WELCOME

Welcome to the Black Research Futures Fair 2022. We are glad to be welcoming you to the University of Birmingham campus for the first ever iteration of the fair. Imagined, developed, and led by the interns of the Fi Wi Road Internship, the Black Research Futures Fair is a space for collaboration, exploration, and recognition. It is also a space for the radical reimagining of what safe research spaces could look like for Black people. These spaces are essential, and have been absent for too long.

We hope that this event will instil in you a hope for the future of research, a future which will be built together and which leaves no one behind.

BLACK FUTURES FAIR 2022 IS POSSIBLE THROUGH THE SUPPORT OF:



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

RACE, CULTURE
AND EQUALITY
WORKING
GROUP



INSPIRATIONS

WHO AND WHAT ARE THE PEOPLE, IDEAS, SPACES WHICH INSPIRE US. THOSE THINGS WHICH DRIVE US TOWARDS OUR GOALS. IN ACKNOWLEDGING OUR INSPIRATIONS WE CAN MAP THOSE WHO HAVE COME BEFORE US, AND WHO HAVE LAID THE FOUNDATIONS FOR THE WORK WE DO NOW.

ASPIRATIONS

OUR COLLECTIVE AND INDIVIDUAL ASPIRATIONS LIE AT THE COHESIVE MIDDLE GROUND BETWEEN INSPIRATION AND DIVERSION. WHAT ARE OUR HOPES? WHAT ARE WE LOOKING TOWARD? HOW WILL YOU TAKE YOUR INSPIRATIONS AND SHAPE A NEW AND EXCITING FUTURE?

DIVERSIONS

HOW DOES OUR WORK DIVERT US, OTHERS, OUR INSTITUTIONS AND FIELDS? OUR DIVERSIONS ENABLE US TO CHALLENGE TRADITION AND EXPAND EXPECTATIONS AND NORMS WITHIN ACADEMIA. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE UNAPOLOGETIC AND OUTSPOKEN – TO CREATE NEW SPACES RATHER THAN WAIT FOR A SEAT AT THE TABLE?

TIMETABLE

12PM	FAIR OPENING
12.30 - 13.00	PANEL SESSION 1
13.00 - 13.30	PANEL SESSION 2
13.30 - 14.00	PANEL SESSION 3
14.00 - 14.30	FOOD & REFRESHMENTS
14.45 - 15.15	PANEL SESSION 4
15.15 - 15.45	KEYNOTE: JAMES ESSON
4PM	FAIR CLOSING

KEYNOTE SPEAKER (15.15 - 15.45, G13)

JAMES ESSON

ERASE AND SILENCE: A BLACK GEOGRAPHER'S REFLECTIONS ON UNETHICAL CITATIONAL PRACTICE IN BRITISH ACADEMIA



James Esson is Reader in Human Geography at Loughborough University. His research cuts across development, political and population geography. He is also interested in higher education as a field of inquiry, particularly racism in the academy and questions around citational practice and plagiarism. James is currently a trustee of the Geographical Association and the Royal Geographical Society.

MODERATOR: BRYCE MATHURIN-LINDSAY

PANEL SESSION 1 (12.30 - 13.00, G13)

BLACK CREATIVITY AND COLLECTIVITY

JAY



I'm an expressionist artist – I like to create art as a form of expression or to show a certain expression, I also like to design graphics (specifically clothing) this is what I'd like to push in the future, as well as painting. I am an artist, designer, person with too much to express.

LECK

Yonko Leck is a promising young artist to keep an eye on due to his dynamic delivery, prolific writing abilities, relatable subject matters, and captivating production. Leck, who was born in Libreville, Gabon and moved to Chelmsford, Essex (at the age of two), currently lives in Birmingham, has been writing since he was a child, beginning with short stories and progressing to songs and production at the age of ten. Leck grew up listening to a wide range of musical genres and has included them into his creative process since he believes genre boundaries are designed to be broken. He is an overall visionary and creative power house that portrays imagery and expressive story telling through many forms of writing and media (films, music and novels).



MODERATOR: REGAN MCDONALD

PANEL SESSION 2 (13.00 - 13.30, G13)

RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT

SAFIYA HAMIS



I am a PhD student in the school of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences University of Birmingham. My research interest focuses on Feminisms in Muslim societies. The research attempts to explore muslim women's rights and gender equality in Northern Nigeria with a view of mainstreaming their role in Muslim society.

My current thesis title is 'Caribbean Cuisine: The Unseen Scene of Superdiversity'. I am researching how Caribbean restaurants and takeaways use their signage to attract the superdiverse community of the Ladywood constituency in Birmingham. In addition to the research, I'm hoping to promote the idea that 'poor does not mean dangerous' in relation to the inner city, showcase the positives of the areas in the thesis and put forward the idea of research using a multidisciplinary crossover between a linguistic research method and a geographical/sociological topic

CHARLENE ROSE



MODERATOR: BRYCE MATHURIN-LINDSAY

ROOM G19

FAIR SPACE

RUSH ME INTERACTIVE EXHIBITION



Rush Me is a new digital experience by Sonia E Barrett curated and commissioned by UP Projects for This is Public Space.

Rush Me investigates narratives including migration, belonging, identity and hybridity and builds greater empathy with the Windrush Generation by contextualising the British Government's invitation in the 1940's to come and help the "motherland" in new ways. It takes a long view of the myriad ways people of Caribbean descent have moved and been moved to serve British interests. Recontextualising "Windrush" in terms of both historical and contemporary movement, "rush me" is a meditation on help, need, peril and service.

Upon entering the interactive environment, visitors encounter a short film, created by Barrett, which is composed of film clips that span British popular culture to narrate a poem written by the artist. They can then go on to navigate the first room which addresses the theme of healthcare.

You'll have the freedom to navigate this virtual space during the fair, but you can also [explore Rush Me ahead of time here.](#)

UP
PROJECTS

**THIS IS
PUBLIC
SPACE**

PANEL SESSION 3 (13.30 - 14.00, G13)

JOURNEYS THROUGH ACADEMIA

MARGARET KIDIRI



My name is Margaret. I am British of Nigerian descent. I completed my first degree in Nigeria and my Masters degree at Imperial College London where I was a Shell Centenary scholar. My doctoral research was at Queen Mary University of London, and I am a physical geographer/environmental scientist. Currently, I am a lecturer in the Geography Department at King's College London and my research focuses on renewable energy technologies and their impacts on the environment. Prior to working at King's, I worked at the Hydro-environmental Research Centre in the School of Engineering at Cardiff University as a Research Associate. I identify as a Black professional whose upbringing, family values and belief system contribute to who I am. I am very proud of my identity including my love of jollof rice and I am grateful for all my achievements including my jollof rice recipe.

ELIAS YASSIN

Elias Yassin (he/him) is a disabled Black and queer PhD researcher at King's College London's Geography department and is funded by LISS-DTP. He is researching vegetal rhythms and whether attuning to plant liveliness in everyday encounters can offer ways for people to collaborate with plants to challenge the mechanical rhythms of the Anthropocene city and imagine possible vegetalised futures for London. Alongside his PhD research, Elias is an artist; a student representative for LISS-DTP; an LGBTQ+ ambassador for the Neurodiversity and Mental Health Society and the current Chair of the KCLSU Disability, Accessibility and Inclusion Network.

MODERATOR: BRYCE MATHURIN-LINDSAY

PANEL SESSION 4 (14.45 - 15.15, G13)

RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT 2

NATHANIEL TÉLÉMAQUE



Nathaniel Télémaque is a North West London born & raised visual artist, writer & PhD researcher who photographs and writes about 'everyday things' in various urban settings. His Project 'Everyday Things: Generations 88-97' Geography (Practice-Related) PhD visualises the experiences of a kinship collective of young Black adults living in the White City, Shepherds Bush, West London. The project combines two main methodologies. The first is an archival focused work, aimed at recovering the estate's former imperial and colonial site, the Great White City Exhibition (1908) but also more recent histories of the estate. The second is a form of collaborative photographic research undertaken with the kinship collective and their social peers. His practice-related research facilitates site-specific dialogues, focused on contemporary and archival visualisations of White City. This body of work also engenders photographic practices capable of intervening in West London based representations of Black life.

PRECIOUS KENNEDY-HAMILTON

I graduated from the University of Manchester in July 2022 with a First Class honours degree in Politics and Latin American Studies. My research interests include Black radical politics, diaspora studies, racial violence/securitisation and transnational feminist perspectives. My own Caribbean heritage has inspired me to produce work that highlights marginalized voices and actors in International Relations. Drawing from multilingual sources, expressive cultures and postcolonial studies, my research disrupts methodological nationalism by engaging with diaspora as a site of analysis. I recently presented my dissertation - 'Black is a Country: Pan-African Liberation as Decolonial Praxis' - at the MANCEPT conference, and I am applying for funding to start a 1+3 Masters/PhD in October 2023.



MODERATOR: REGAN MCDONALD

SPEAKER SCHEDULE

12.30 **PANEL SESSION 1: BLACK CREATIVITY AND COLLECTIVITY**

JAY

Jay is an expressionist artist – creating art as a form of expression or to show a certain expression.

LECK

Leck is a promising young artist based in Birmingham. Leck formed an independent collective/record label called >THEM. in 2021.

13.00 **PANEL SESSION 2: RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT**

SAFIYA HAMIS

Safiya's research attempts to explore Muslim women's rights and gender equality in Northern Nigeria with a view of mainstreaming their role in Muslim society.

CHARLENE ROSE

Charlene's research explores the popularity of and engagement with Caribbean cuisine in Ladywood, Birmingham.

13.30 **PANEL SESSION 3: JOURNEYS THROUGH ACADEMIA**

MARGARET KIDIRI

Margaret is a lecturer in the Geography Department at King's College London.

ELIAS YASSIN

Elias Yassin is a disabled Black and queer PhD researcher in King's College London's Geography department.

14.45 **PANEL SESSION 4: RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT 2**

NATHANIEL TÉLÉMAQUE

Through collaborative photographic research Nathaniel's work focuses on contemporary and archival visualisations of White City.

PRECIOUS KENNEDY-HAMILTON

Precious will be presenting 'Black is a Country: Pan-African Liberation as Decolonial Praxis'.

15.15 **KEYNOTE SPEAKER: JAMES ESSON**

ERASE AND SILENCE: A BLACK GEOGRAPHER'S REFLECTIONS ON UNETHICAL CITATIONAL PRACTICE IN BRITISH ACADEMIA

GETTING HERE

VENUE:

Room G13 & Room G19
Nuffield Building
University of Birmingham
Edgbaston.
Birmingham
B15 2TT

BY CAR

If you are arriving by car there is visitor parking available at North East Car Park Multi Storey Floors 1-5 (Postcode B15 2SA) This can be accessed via Pritchatts Road.

This car park isn't free, and [further information about hourly rates can be found here](#). Parking fares cannot be paid in cash. **Please note that this car park does not have a lift.**

BY TRAIN

The main campus is directly served by its own rail station, called University. You can get a direct train from Birmingham New Street station, with trains arriving on campus 6 times an hour.

[Find out more about rail travel to campus here.](#)

BY BUS

Eight routes directly serve campus: 1A, 61, 63, X64, 76, X20, X21, X22. These link the university to the City Centre, local train stations and neighbourhoods, and the circular 11 route runs nearby. National Express is the main service provider.

[Further information about travel by bus can be found here.](#)

If you require financial assistance to facilitate you attending the Fair please get in contact with us at internships@blackgeographers.com.

Edgbaston Campus Map

Red Zone

- R0 The Harding Building
- R1 Law Building
- R2 Frankland Building
- R3 Hills Building
- R4 Aston Webb – Lapworth Museum
- R5 Aston Webb – B Block
- R6 Aston Webb – Great Hall
- R7 Aston Webb – Student Hub
- R8 Physics West

R9 Nuffield

- R10 Physics East
- R11 Medical Physics
- R12 Bramall Music Building
- R13 Poynting Building
- R14 Barber Institute of Fine Arts
- R15 Watson Building
- R16 Arts Building
- R17 Ashley Building
- R18 Strathcona Building
- R19 Education Building
- R20 J G Smith Building
- R21 Muirhead Tower
- R23 University Centre
- R24 Staff House
- R26 Geography
- R27 Biosciences Building
- R28 Murray Learning Centre
- R29 The Alan Walters Building
- R30 Main Library
- R31 Collaborative Teaching Laboratory
- R32 Teaching and Learning Building
- R33 Fry Building
- R34 Cuore

Orange Zone

- O1 The Guild of Students
- O2 St Francis Hall
- O3 University House
- O4 Ash House
- O5 Beech House
- O6 Cedar House
- O7 Sport & Fitness

Green Zone

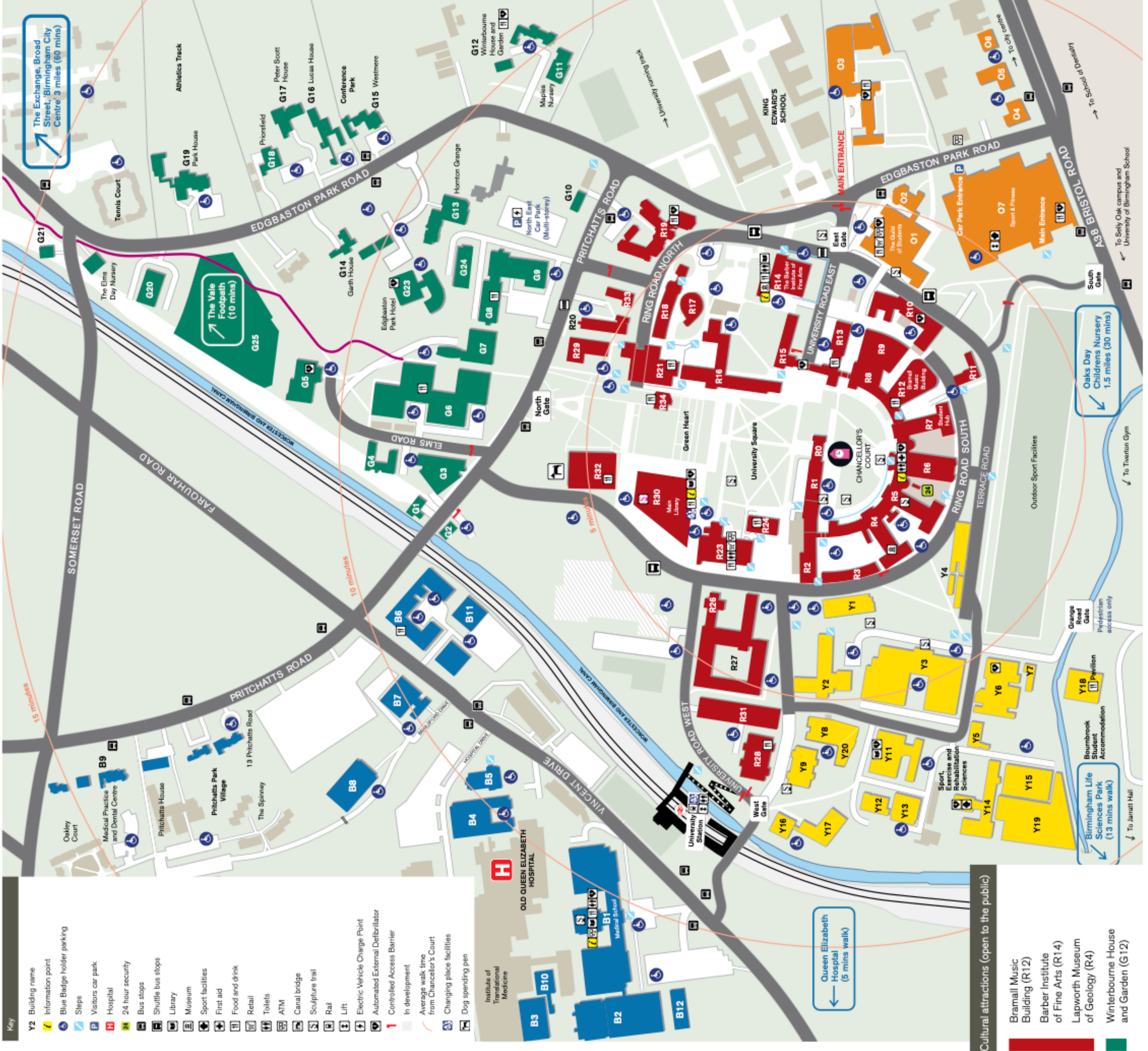
- G1 32 Pritchatts Road
- G2 31 Pritchatts Road
- G3 European Research Institute
- G4 3 Elms Road
- G5 Computer Centre
- G6 Metallurgy and Materials
- G7 IRC Net Shape Laboratory
- G8 Gisbert Kapp Building
- G9 52 Pritchatts Road
- G10 54 Pritchatts Road – Institute for Global Innovation
- G11 Maples Nursery
- G12 Winterbourne House and Garden
- G13 Hornton Grange
- G14 Garth House
- G15 Westmere
- G16 Lucas House
- G18 Priorsfield
- G19 Park House
- G20 Wolfson Advanced Glasshouses
- G22 Elms Day Nursery
- G23 Edgbaston Park Hotel
- G24 Centre for Human Brain Health and Conference Centre
- G25 EcoLab

Blue Zone

- B1 Medical School
- B2 Institute of Biomedical Research including IBR West
- B3 Wellcome Clinical Research Facility
- B4 Robert Aitken Institute for Clinical Research
- B5 CRUK Institute for Cancer Studies and Denis Howell Building
- B6 Research Park
- B7 90 Vincent Drive
- B8 Henry Wellcome Building for Biomolecular NMR Spectroscopy
- B9 Medical Practice and Dental Centre
- B10 Advanced Therapies Facility
- B11 BioHub Birmingham
- B12 Health Sciences Research Centre (HSRC)

Yellow Zone

- Y1 The Old Gym
- Y2 Haworth Building
- Y3 Engineering Building
- Y4 Terrace Huts
- Y5 Estates West
- Y6 Maintenance Building
- Y7 Grounds and Gardens
- Y8 The School of Engineering
- Y9 Computer Science
- Y11 Chemical Engineering
- Y12 Biochemical Engineering
- Y13 Chemical Engineering Workshop
- Y14 Sport, Exercise and Rehabilitation Sciences
- Y15 Civil Engineering Laboratories
- Y16 Institute of Occupational and Environmental Medicine
- Y17 Public Health
- Y18 Bournbrook Student Accommodation
- Y19 NBIF
- Y20 UKRRIN



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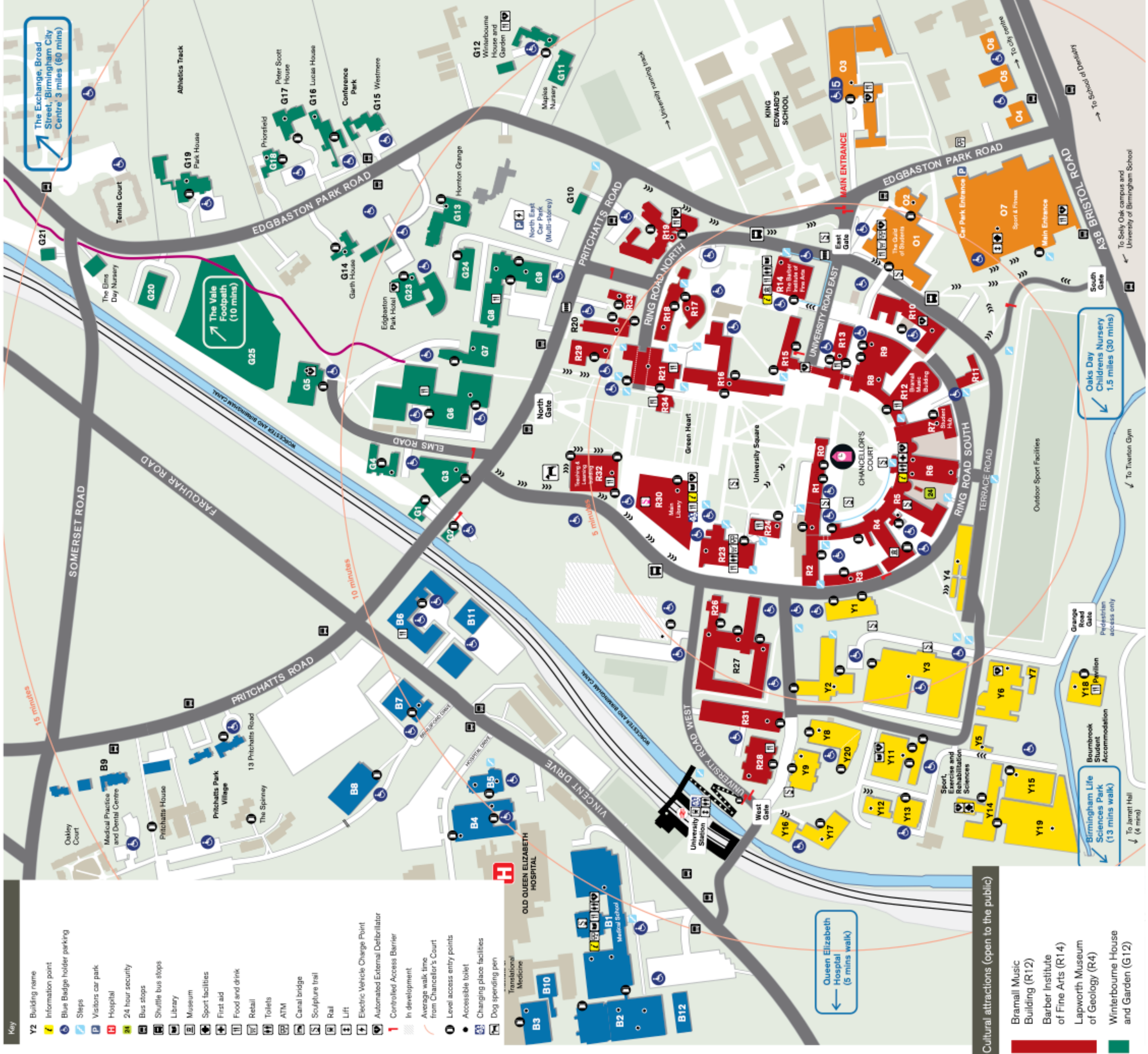
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