## Nominate a Heritage Asset

## The Corridor Public House, Cowley Road (formerly the New Inn)



| I. WHAT IS IT? Is it one of the following?                                | Tick |
|---|------|
| a building or group of buildings  | У    |
| a monument or site (an area of archaeological remains or a structure      |      |
| other than a building)  |      |
| a place (e.g. a street, park, garden or natural space)                    |      |
| a landscape (an area defined by visual features or character, e.g. a city |      |
| centre, village, suburb or field system)                                  |      |

| 2. WHY IS IT INTERESTING? Is it interesting in any of the following ways?        | Tick / Rank |
|--|-------------|
| Historic interest – a well documented association with a person, event, episode  | у           |
| of history, or local industry  |             |
| Archaeological interest – firm evidence of potential to reveal more about the    |             |
| human past through further study   |             |
| Architectural interest – an example of an architectural style, a building of     | У           |
| particular use, a technique of building, or use of materials                     |             |
| Artistic interest – It includes artistic endeavour to communicate meaning or use |             |
| of design (including landscape design) to enhance appearance                     |             |
| What is it about the asset that provides this interest?                          |             |

**Historic interest:** Built as the New Inn and recorded in Kelly's Directory of 1877. It was brewery pub owned by Samuel Allsopp and Sons. Allsopp's were a very large Burton on Trent brewery in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century who made use of the developing railway system to establish a network of public houses across England.

**Architectural interest:** The pub was either rebuilt or refronted in 1916 by the architects Eadle and Meyers, and retains an attractive frontage to the street including parapet gabled returns to the street and faience clad pub frontage.

3. WHY IS IT LOCALLY VALUED? Is the interest of the asset valued locally Tick / Rank for any of the following reasons?

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| Association: It connects us to people and events that shaped the identity or                 | У |
|--|---|
| character of the area  |   |
| <b>Illustration</b> : It illustrates an aspect of the area's past that makes an important    | У |
| contribution to its identity or character  |   |
| <b>Evidence</b> : It is an important resource for understanding and learning about the       |   |
| area's history   |   |
| Aesthetics: It makes an important contribution to the positive look of the area              | У |
| either by design or fortuitously   |   |
| <b>Communal</b> : It is important to the identity, cohesion, spiritual life or memory of all |   |
| or part of the community   |   |
|  | 1 |

How is the asset locally valued as heritage?

**Association and Illustration:** Cowley road developed as the local centre serving the growing working class suburb of East Oxford in the later 19<sup>th</sup> century and became a focus of public houses, although these are also found on many of the side street. The larger breweries sought to attract customers by using architects to make their buildings more attractive and distinctive in the street scene. The former New Inn provides a good example of one of these buildings that both illustrates the character of the suburb as an artisan community for whom public houses were an important resource for socialising, as well as the impact of the railways on the development of commerce and architecture. Its continued use as a bar provides a strong connection with the past of the building and Cowley Road as a place of relaxation and social life for the suburb.

**Aesthetics:** The building occupies a street corner plot and stands out in views along Cowley Road. Whilst it might be regarded as 'masculine' the building has attractive architectural detailing that was designed historically to both stand out and attract customers.

| 4. WHAT MAKES ITS LOCAL SIGNIFICANCE SPECIAL? Do any of the                            | Tick |
|--|------|
| following features make the heritage significance of the asset stand out above the     |      |
| surrounding environment?   |      |
| Age Is it particularly old, or of a date that is significant to the local area?        |      |
| <b>Rarity</b> Is it unusual in the area or a rare survival of something that was once  |      |
| common?  |      |
| <b>Integrity</b> Is it largely complete or in a near to original condition?            | У    |
| <b>Group value</b> Is it part of a group that have a close historic, aesthetic or      | У    |
| communal association?  |      |
| <b>Oxford's identity</b> Is it important to the identity or character of the city or a | у    |
| particular part of it?   |      |
| Other Is there another way you think it has special local value?                       |      |
| How do as this contribute to its value?  |      |

How does this contribute to its value?

**Age:** Dating from the mid 1870s the pub provides evidence of the early development of Coewley Road as the social and commercial focus of the East Oxford Suburb, as well as the influence of the development of rail transport on the character of the commerce within the city, which also affected its architecture.

**Integrity:** The building is well preserved externally, including its distinctive faience pub frontage. **Group value and Oxford's identity:** The building is one of a series of pubs along Cowley Road and in back street areas that, together help to illustrate the historic character of the East Oxford Suburb as a working class community for whom public houses provided an important venue for entertainment and socialising.