# Nominate a Heritage Asset



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	

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of design (including landscape design) to enhance appearance

What is it about the asset that provides this interest?

Historic interest: Built in 1904 at the same time as the adjacent church but in a strongly contrasting style the former Sunday School was built to accommodate 500 pupils. Both were built as a response to the popularity of Methodism in Oxford and the growth of the East Oxford Suburb. Oxford has a particular significance to Methodism as the place of education of John, Charles and Samuel Wesley, the founding fathers of the church, who preached often in the city. Architectural interest: The former Sunday School was designed by Stephen Salter FRIBA is a large yellow and red brick building now converted into flats but retaining its historical frontage, which is a large Dutch gabled elevation with buttresses to the corner and at the centre and rows of arch headed first and ground floor windows with timber sliding sashes. The central portion features panels of red brick, which help to divide up the frontage with an oculus above providing a familiar motif used for chapels and other religious buildings.

3. WHY IS IT LOCALLY VALUED? Is the interest of the asset valued locally	Tick / Rank
for any of the following reasons?	
Association: It connects us to people and events that shaped the identity or	у
character of the area	
Illustration: 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	
Communal: It is important to the identity, cohesion, spiritual life or memory of all	
or part of the community	

How is the asset locally valued as heritage?

### **Association and Illustration:**

The building illustrates the role of religious organisations in the provision of education in East Oxford as a working class suburb in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. This is an important theme of the area's history.

Doors to the left and right of the frontage, would originally have been intended to provide separate entrances for girls and boys, illustrating Edwardian concerns for propriety

#### Aesthetics:

The building is an attractive feature in the street due to its interestingly varied colour brickwork and decorative features, such as the large Dutch gable to the road and ball finials. It complements the Edwardian character of the other buildings on Jenue Street, whilst standing out for its different use and design.

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?	
Rarity Is it unusual in the area or a rare survival of something that was once	
common?	
Integrity Is it largely complete or in a near to original condition?	у
Group value Is it part of a group that have a close historic, aesthetic or	у
communal association?	
Oxford's identity 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 does this contribute to its value?

**Group value**: The building has group value with the adjacent listed Methodist church, illustrating another aspect of Methodists in early 20<sup>th</sup> century East Oxford as champions of education for the masses. It also contributes to the collection of buildings created for education by religious organisations across the suburb which is an important positive historic characteristic of the

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Victorian and Edwardian that has had an important impact on its architecture. The building also forms a group with the other prominent historic buildings at the junction of Jeune Street and Cowley Road, including the Oxford Picture House, Cowley Road Methodist Church, former Elm Tree public House (The Big Society) and the Old Music Hall., contribution to the creation of an area of great architectural interest with a distinctive character.

**Integrity:** Despite conversion for residential use it has retained its outward appearance as an Edwardian Sunday School building providing evidence of the former use as part of the area's character.

**Oxford's identity:** The building contributes to the character of East Oxford as a focus of non-religious non-conformism and religious diversity in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, which is continues as a characteristic of the area to the present.