

Nominate a Heritage Asset

Rectory Road Hall of Residence, Oriol College, Rectory Road. Formerly Nazareth House.



1. WHAT IS IT? Is it one of the following? a building or group of buildings	Tick y Goldie Wing, Larmenier House and Boundary Walls
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)	y garden
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 of history, or local industry	y
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 particular use, a technique of building, or use of materials	y
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? Historical Interest: The two surviving buildings of the former Home of the Poor Sisters of Nazareth who ran a home for children and the elderly here from 1875. The high boundary wall surrounding the garden reflects the character of the complex as a religious community and contributes to the tranquillity of the gardens, set on the busy Cowley Road frontage.	

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Architectural Interest: Larmenier House has the appearance of a town house of the later 19th century and may already have existed. The Goldie Wing was more certainly built as part of the religious use of the site to provide accommodation for homeless children in 1901/2. The building has a bold Jacobean Revival style in red brick with well –preserved stone detailing to windows and doors including a niche with religious sculpture over the main door. Both buildings have been remodelled internally to serve as college accommodation. Nevertheless they maintain their external appearance including their relationship with the large garden space that occupies the corner of the site.

A chapel and wash houses also existed but were demolished in the 1990s, allowing the construction of the new James Mellon Hall as part of the reuse of the site by Oriel College.

3. WHY IS IT LOCALLY VALUED? Is the interest of the asset valued locally for any of the following reasons?	Tick / Rank
Association: It connects us to people and events that shaped the identity or character of the area	y
Illustration: It illustrates an aspect of the area's past that makes an important contribution to its identity or character	y
Evidence: 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 either by design or fortuitously	y
Communal: It is important to the identity, cohesion, spiritual life or memory of all or part of the community	y
How is the asset locally valued as heritage?	
Association and Illustration: The buildings illustrate the development of East Oxford as a focus for the settlement of communities of religious in the late 19 th century (a feature that continues elsewhere in the suburb to the present), often choosing this part of Oxford because of the social issues and potential for benevolent missionary work. It also illustrates the history of the provision of health care and social welfare facilities that is an important theme in the history of the Victorian and Edwardian suburb.	
Aesthetics: The Goldie Wing stands out as a high quality building on Cowley Road.	
Communal: There is potential that the buildings have a communal value for people who were cared for within the institution as children.	

4. WHAT MAKES ITS LOCAL SIGNIFICANCE SPECIAL? Do any of the following features make the heritage significance of the asset stand out above the surrounding environment?	Tick
Age ... Is it particularly old, or of a date that is significant to the local area?	y1
Rarity ... Is it unusual in the area or a rare survival of something that was once common?	y2
Integrity ... Is it largely complete or in a near to original condition?	y3
Group value ... Is it part of a group that have a close historic, aesthetic or communal association?	y1
Oxford's identity ... Is it important to the identity or character of the city or a particular part of it?	
Other ... Is there another way you think it has special local value?	
How does this contribute to its value?	
Age: The buildings contribute to the Victorian and Edwardian character of the East Pxford Suburb	
Rarity: This is the only surviving Victorian orphanage in East Oxford and possibly in Oxford as a whole.	
Integrity: Externally both Larmenier House and the Goldie Wing are well preserved, buildings retaining many of their historic architectural details and attractive qualities. They retain their relationship with the courtyard garden and high boundary wall that makes the site a tranquil enclave within the suburb. However the loss of he chapel and other buildings is considered to have detracted from the overall integrity of the site.	

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Group Value: The buildings contribute to the value of buildings and sites across the East Oxford suburb that record the provision of health care and social welfare from the middle ages into the 20th century.