

Nominate a Heritage Asset

Nos. 50 and 51 Marston Street



1. WHAT IS IT? Is it one of the following?	Tick
a building or group of buildings	y
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 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 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	y
What is it about the asset that provides this interest?	
<p>Architectural and Artistic interest: These two houses were designed by the locally notable architect H. G. W. (Harry) Drinkwater, who was diocesan architect as well as working for several of the local breweries as a designer of public houses, which are seen across the city. They were built in 1879 in red brick and of three storeys they stand at the bend in the street and have access from porches at the side and distinctive frontages with box-bay windows to the front with substantial brick mullions separating two-over two pane sash windows first floor windows have low pitched gables over. A large chimneystack rises from the crest of the roof on the party wall and is an eye-catching feature. Drinkwater's style isn't particularly refined but takes on elements of the Queen Anne Revival style which was starting to replace Gothic Revival as the most popular style in Oxford's suburbs.</p>	

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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	
Illustration: It illustrates an aspect of the area's past that makes an important contribution to its identity or character	
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	
How is the asset locally valued as heritage? Aesthetics: These two houses stand out in the streetscene for the quality of the architectural composition and interesting decorative details. Illustration: Drinkwater's use of Queen Anne Revival style motifs illustrates the development of the architecture of the Oxford, particularly when seen in contrast to 53-65 Marston Street, just east built only two years earlier in a strident Gothic Revival style.	

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?	y
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?	y
Group value ... Is it part of a group that have a close historic, aesthetic or communal association?	
Oxford's identity ... Is it important to the identity or character of the city or a particular part of it?	y
Other ... Is there another way you think it has special local value?	
How does this contribute to its value? Integrity: Both buildings retain their original appearance to the front providing a high degree of integrity. Age and Oxford's Identity: The Victorian architecture of Drinkwater's houses contributes well to the identity of East Oxford as a Victorian and Edwardian suburb that includes individual development of architect designed housing alongside the more numerous mass built houses of speculative developers..	