

Nominate a Heritage Asset

Former Boot Repairing Department, No. 104 St Mary's Road



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	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?	
Historic interest: Built as the Oxford Co-operative Society Boot-Repairing Department in 1933 near the end of the Great Depression and possibly forming part of a labour scheme for the unemployed as well as reducing the cost of footwear.	
Architectural interest: An industrial character building with a large Dutch gabled frontage with the bearing the inscription which reveals its purpose and date of construction.	

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	

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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? Association/Illustration: This building reveals part of the work of the co-operative movement in East Oxford during the economically difficult years of the 1930s within the East Oxford heartland. The building also illustrates the historically mixed, residential, commercial and industrial character of the streets that lay between Cowley Road and Iffley Road (Central East Oxford and the Triangle: East Oxford Second Estate). Aesthetics: despite its utilitarian function the builders of the factory nevertheless invested in giving the building an attractive appearance. This element of the building has been preserved throughout its recent redevelopment as flats.	

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?	
Rarity ... Is it unusual in the area or a rare survival of something that was once common?	y
Integrity ... Is it largely complete or in a near to original condition?	
Group value ... Is it part of a group that have a close historic, aesthetic or communal association?	y
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? Rarity and Group value: The building is one of a small number of surviving industrial buildings in the East Oxford suburb that illustrate its history as a mixed residential and working neighbourhood. These buildings are generally under threat from redevelopment for more profitable housing uses. In this case reuse for housing has successfully retained the character of the building, sustaining its contribution to the value of this group of buildings. Oxford's identity: The building contributes both to the identity of East Oxford as a suburb which historically was a place of work and industry, as well as a residential area and to its connection with the work of the co-operative society and trade Union movements – which has contributed to the theme of collective activism, protest, which is an important part of the neighbourhood's (and community's) identity.	