

Nominate a Heritage Asset

Oxford Blue (formerly Swann Inn), Marston Street



1. WHAT IS IT? Is it one of the following?	Tick
a building or group of buildings	✓
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	✓
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: Meeting place and social focal point, identifies with East Oxford community history dating from the very earliest development of the suburb in the 1860s, when it was recorded as the Swan Inn.	
Architectural interest: Edwardian frontage on extended Victorian building is of architectural interest.	
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	

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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	✓
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? Illustration: The pub is an important part of social history of East Oxford as a focal meeting point, important to the identity of the area as a working class suburb in which public houses provided an space for socialising and entertainment. Aesthetics: The well preserved Edwardian frontage is unique in the local area, forms part of Marston Street's diverse architecture, which makes the street a focal point of the 'Triangle'. Communal: Since its recent renovation, the public house once again performs a function as a popular social space for the local community.	

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?	
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?	
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? Integrity: The exterior character and appearance is well preserved with interesting architectural features. Age: the use as a public house dates from at least the 1860s and therefore forms part of the early development of the suburb providing a connection with the earliest days of its occupation. Oxford's Identity: The Oxford Blue (Swan Inn) is a good example of one of the many public houses that typified the densely developed East Oxford Suburb and formed part of its historic working class character.	