

Nominate a Heritage Asset

Old Church Hall and No. 60 Percy 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	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	
<p>What is it about the asset that provides this interest?</p> <p>Historic interest: The church hall was built in 1898 as the Church of the Divine Love by the independent church's minister U. V. Herford. The adjacent house was built for a quasi- Franciscan religious order named The Order of the Christian Faith. Both buildings were bought in 1913 as a parsonage and church hall for St Alban's Church.</p> <p>Architectural interest: The church building was designed as a small Gothic Revival style chapel with steeply pitched arched door opening that is a familiar feature from religious buildings, helping to convey the building's use. The house rises to three storeys with distinctive late-Victorian polychromatic brickwork to the arched heads of the windows which retain their timber framed sash windows. The decorative bargeboards to the gables are also a feature that is distinctive of better quality later Victorian and Edwardian houses within the suburb.</p>	

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	
<p>How is the asset locally valued as heritage?</p> <p>Association and Illustration: The building provides an association with one of the many small religious orders who made East Oxford their home in the late 19th and early 20th century, whilst the small church illustrates their activity as a building designed to have the appearance as a place of worship.</p> <p>Aesthetics: The buildings are of a similar later 19th century character to the surrounding townscape but are of high quality with well preserved decorative features, that are also intended to convey make them attractive features of the townscape and convey meaning about the historic use of the church hall.</p>	

4. WHAT MAKES ITS LOCAL SIGNIFICANCE SPECIAL? Do any of the	Tick
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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?	y
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?	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?	
<p>How does this contribute to its value?</p> <p>Rarity, Group value and Oxford's identity: The buildings are a rare example of an independent church chapel associated with a small non-denominational religious order, which are nevertheless two buildings that contribute to the wider distinctive character of the East Oxford suburb as an area that became the focus of religious communities in the late 19th and early 20th century. This also reflects the role of Oxford as a focus of the Anglo-Catholic Oxford Movement in the mid and later 19th century.</p> <p>Integrity: The buildings retain much of their historic appearance including their decorative detailing.</p>	