

Nominate a Heritage Asset

No. 8 Hill Top Road



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	y

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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? Architectural interest: The building was constructed in 2011/12 and designed by Adrian James, a local Oxford Architect with a distinctive modernist style using contrasting modern materials to create strong geometric forms that are bold and uplifting, making interesting use of light and avoiding architectural clichés. The building sits in a narrow plot between two earlier Edwardian style houses, matching their proportions but uses concrete in highly polished precast panels for all of the main structural elements. From the street, the most striking elements are the continuous, ribbed roof and wall surface, large square dormer window and boxed oriel window. The building won the Concrete Awards 2013 Overall Winner (i.e. the best concrete building completed in the country in 2012) and was placed on the shortlist for the RIBA Downland Prize 2012 and the RIBA Stephen Lawrence Prize 2012 (awarded to the best building in the country costing less than £1m).	

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: This is a unique building of a notably high standard of design and construction. It has been carefully designed to fit within the proportions of the street in which it stands but makes a high quality contribution as a modern addition to its architectural character. Not all viewers will share the owners' taste and love of the materials used but it has been recognised by several bodies as attaining a high standard of design and finish.	

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?	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? Group value and Oxford's identity: This is one of a small number of high quality post-war architect designed houses across the city that stand out as examples of the highest quality of architectural design, both by local and nationally renowned architects. These make an important contribution to Oxford's reputation as a centre for excellence in modern architecture and the development of new and ground-breaking technologies. These buildings stand alongside the larger University and college buildings as the architectural legacy that Oxford will leave in the late 20 th and early 21 st century to stand alongside the great buildings of earlier decades and centuries.	