

## Nominate a Heritage Asset

### The Old Vicarage, Cowley Road



1. <b>WHAT IS IT?</b> Is it one of the following?	Tick
a <b>building or group of buildings</b>	y
a <b>monument or site (an area of archaeological remains or a structure other than a building)</b>	
a <b>place (e.g. a street, park, garden or natural space)</b>	
a <b>landscape (an area defined by visual features or character, e.g. a city centre, village, suburb or field system)</b>	

2. <b>WHY IS IT INTERESTING?</b> Is it interesting in any of the following ways?	Tick / Rank
<b>Historic interest</b> – a well documented association with a person, event, episode of history, or local industry	y2
<b>Archaeological interest</b> – firm evidence of potential to reveal more about the human past through further study	
<b>Architectural interest</b> – an example of an architectural style, a building of particular use, a technique of building, or use of materials	y1
<b>Artistic interest</b> – 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?	
<b>Historic interest:</b> Built in 1901 to serve as the vicarage and standing next to the church and parish hall ( both of which are listed buildings separately).	
<b>Architectural interest:</b> Designed by Bucknall and Sir Ninian Comper in a Jacobean Revival style with a strong arts and crafts influence, including rendered facades with stone detailing, including stone mullioned windows, capped parapet gables and corner buttresses and bridled plain tile roof. This is a large building set behind the main Cowley Road frontage but seen in views from the churchyard along side the church.	

3. <b>WHY IS IT LOCALLY VALUED?</b> Is the interest of the asset <b>valued locally</b>	Tick / Rank
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for any of the following reasons?	
<b>Association:</b> It connects us to people and events that shaped the identity or character of the area	y2
<b>Illustration:</b> It illustrates an aspect of the area's past that makes an important contribution to its identity or character	y1
<b>Evidence:</b> It is an important resource for understanding and learning about the area's history	
<b>Aesthetics:</b> It makes an important contribution to the positive look of the area either by design or fortuitously	y1
<b>Communal:</b> 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?	
<p><b>Association and Illustration:</b> The building has strong associations with the Anglican community in East Oxford at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and illustrates the work of two notable architects.</p> <p><b>Aesthetics:</b> The building is highly competent, illustrating the influence of the Arts and Crafts movement in Oxford in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. It has some fellow value with other early 20<sup>th</sup> century buildings in the suburb, such as the former Elm Tree Public House (now The Big Society) and housing in the Divinity Road area just to the north east. It makes an important contribution to the Victorian and Edwardian architectural character of the suburb.</p>	

<b>4. WHAT MAKES ITS LOCAL SIGNIFICANCE SPECIAL?</b> Do any of the following features make the heritage significance of the asset stand out above the surrounding environment?	Tick
<b>Age ...</b> Is it particularly old, or of a date that is significant to the local area?	y3
<b>Rarity ...</b> Is it unusual in the area or a rare survival of something that was once common?	
<b>Integrity ...</b> Is it largely complete or in a near to original condition?	y2
<b>Group value ...</b> Is it part of a group that have a close historic, aesthetic or communal association?	y1
<b>Oxford's identity ...</b> Is it important to the identity or character of the city or a particular part of it?	
<b>Other ...</b> Is there another way you think it has special local value?	
How does this contribute to its value?	
<p><b>Group Value:</b> The building forms part of a group of ecclesiastical buildings designed for the parish of St John, Cowley, by William Bucknall and Sir Ninan Comper, which provide a strong character and high architectural value within the suburb (other part of the group include St John's Home and Chapel, St Mary's Road, The Irving Building and The Comper School, Hertford Street).</p> <p><b>Integrity:</b> Recent renovation has sustained and enhanced the exterior appearance of the building, which retains its original appearance outwardly.</p> <p><b>Age:</b> The building dates from the period at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century when Cowley Road was becoming established as the social, civic and commercial focus of the East Oxford suburb.</p>	

### Sources

Graham, M., 1987, On Foot in East Oxford (Oxfordshire County Council)