

## Nominate a Heritage Asset

### The Black Swan St. Mary's 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	y1
<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	y2
<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?

**Historic interest:** The Black Swan is first recorded at the corner of Cross Street and St Mary's Road in Kelly's Directory in 1895, when the license was transferred from another Back Swan at George Street. IT was built at the same time as the surrounding housing providing an important social facility for the developing residential area around it.

**Architectural interest:** The pub is a striking late Victorian building of two storeys in red brick, built as a public house on a prominent street corner site with large canted bay window and robust stone detailing to windows and doors, and more delicate stone string course, as well as a hipped corner to the roof and pyramid roof over the bay window topped with terracotta finials. The tall chimneys in ornamental brickwork. The historic timber-framed sash windows have been preserved to the first floor and the fixed pub windows with transom lights to the ground floor. The building is designed to be impressive and eye-catching, with detailing that makes it distinct from surrounding

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houses, whilst the ground floor windows in particular help to reveal its use.

<b>3. WHY IS IT LOCALLY VALUED?</b> Is the interest of the asset <b>valued locally</b> for any of the following reasons?	Tick / Rank
<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	y4
<b>Communal:</b> It is important to the identity, cohesion, spiritual life or memory of all or part of the community	y3
<p>How is the asset locally valued as heritage?</p> <p><b>Illustration:</b> The building's architectural detailing helps to reveal its age as well as that of the surrounding development, whilst its obvious design as a public house illustrates the combination of uses that were developed to create the Victorian suburb, including places to socialise, as well as housing.</p> <p><b>Association and Communal:</b> The building is associated with the community of the surrounding area but is also an important focus for the area's Irish community.</p> <p><b>Aesthetics:</b> The building contributes to the late Victorian character of the area's architecture, adding details that contrast with the housing.</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?	y
<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?	y
<b>Group value ...</b> Is it part of a group that have a close historic, aesthetic or communal association?	y
<b>Oxford's identity ...</b> Is it important to the identity or character of the city or a particular part of it?	y
<b>Other ...</b> Is there another way you think it has special local value?	
<p>How does this contribute to its value?</p> <p><b>Age and Integrity:</b> The building is part of the original development of Crown Street and St Mary's Road and retains its late Victorian appearance as a purpose-built public house.</p> <p><b>Group value and Oxford's identity:</b> This is one of a group of public houses spread across the East Oxford Suburb and particularly concentrated in the streets between Iffley Road and Cowley Road that preserve evidence of developments in the retailing of beer during the mid and late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century, including the use of architecture to create messages about the status of pubs and their clientele. These buildings provided an important venue for socialising and entertainment for the residents' of these areas in the past and form an important element of its Victorian and Edwardian working class character, which is an important part of its identity. The</p>	