

Nominate a Heritage Asset

Magdalen Road Church (formerly Magdalen Road Mission Hall)



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	
What is it about the asset that provides this interest?	
Historic interest: The Magdalen Road Mission Hall was built in 1901 and replaced the Magdalen Road Workman's Hall (recorded in 1879).	
Architectural interest: The building has the appearance of a medium-sized non-conformist chapel set gable-end to the street with a central porch and oculus above and tall pointed gothic window and door openings built in yellow brick of the type used for many of the surrounding houses with red brick and stone detailing. The windows in particular retain attractive timber frames with arched glazing bars.	

Nominate a Heritage Asset

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	y
How is the asset locally valued as heritage?	
<p>Association and illustration: The building illustrates the role of religious organisations in undertaking charitable work with the suburb of East Oxford , particularly in the Robin Hood Area, to provide Health and Social Welfare, prior to the development of the Welfare State. That historic association of the site with a workmen's hall suggest an early example of the type of communal enterprise and political activism that has come to be associated with East Oxford.</p> <p>Aesthetics: although a relatively humble building the church was built with decorative features to ensure it made a positive contribution to the appearance of the street. The building now contributes features to the Victorian and Edwardian character of the area that are not provided by the surrounding houses.</p> <p>Communal: The hall has historically provided an important resource that has brought the community together, building community cohesion and identity, as well as providing for spiritual activity including active Christian mission. It is now the home to an evangelical church who continue this tradition and to whom the building also now has a communal value as part of their identity.</p>	

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?	y3
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?	y2
Group value ... Is it part of a group that have a close historic, aesthetic or communal association?	y1
Oxford's identity ... Is it important to the identity or character of the city or a particular part of it?	y1
Other ... Is there another way you think it has special local value?	
How does this contribute to its value?	
<p>Oxford's identity: The building provides evidence of the Robin Hood area's past as one of the poorer areas of the East Oxford suburb in the late 19th and early 20th century, which attracted the charitable organisations to undertake mission work. As a non-sectarian religious building it also reflects the religious diversity of the community of the East Oxford Suburb during the late 19th and early 20th century, which continues to be an important feature of its character and identity.</p> <p>Integrity: The building retains its outward late Victorian appearance and can be readily discerned as an historic building with a religious association due to its architectural detailing.</p> <p>Age: The building is now over a hundred years old and represents a use of the site that reaches back yet further into the area's past.</p>	