

## Nominate a Heritage Asset

### No. 91 – 97 Howard Street (odds) (Formerly the Home of Compassion)



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	y
<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	y
<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> This short row of cottages were the first built on Howards Street shortly after the laying out of the road after enclosure of the Cowley open fields in 1852. They were bought in 1866 by the Sisters of Compassion to provide care for mothers and their babies within the Robin Hood Area of the suburb, although they only remained in this use until 1870.	
<b>Architectural interest:</b> This is a row of four cottages built of Headington Stone	
3. <b>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	y

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<b>Illustration:</b> It illustrates an aspect of the area's past that makes an important contribution to its identity or character	y
<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	y
<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>Illustration:</b> The stone buildings stand out in contrast to the later brick buildings surrounding them, illustrating their place as the earliest buildings constructed on the street.</p> <p><b>Association:</b> The buildings are associated with one of the religious orders contributing to the character of East Oxford as an area that attracted religious orders in the 29<sup>th</sup> century. The work of the Sisters of Compassion also provides an association with the conditions of the suburb and the Robin Hood area in particular.</p> <p><b>Aesthetics:</b> The stone buildings contribute to the overall positive character of Howards Street as an area of mid and later 19<sup>th</sup> century 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?	y
<b>Integrity</b> ... Is it largely complete or in a near to original condition?	
<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?	
How does this contribute to its value?	
<p><b>Age and Rarity:</b> This small group of cottages stand out as being considerably earlier than the surrounding buildings (in 1878 they were still four of only nine houses on Howard Street). The contrast of their materials, which has rural character associated with the small villages surrounding Oxford, with the brick of the more familiar urban housing surrounding them serves to highlight their early date.</p> <p><b>Group value and Oxford's identity:</b> These buildings contribute to the group value of buildings across the East Oxford Suburb that provide associations with the religious orders who contributed to the distinctive character of East Oxford as an area that became a focus for these communities in the mid and late 19<sup>th</sup> century. The charitable work of the Sisters of Compassion also contributes to our understanding of the historic character of the Robin Hood Area as a part of the suburb that suffered as a focus of poverty in the mid and later 19<sup>th</sup> century.</p>	